

15 Day Birdsville & Lawn Hill Gorge



This is a truly exceptional tour combining two of Australia's iconic destinations. If you love the outback and have a sense of adventure, the rewards of this fully accommodated tour will be extremely gratifying as we discover some of Australia's very unique and remote landscapes. Deep in the far west and heart of wild and isolated country, the amazing frontier town of Birdsville sits at the end of the famous Birdsville Track. Spend time at the spectacular Lawn Hill Gorge National Park. The park is a pristine area of magnificent scenery, precipitous cliffs, crystal clear waters and lush vegetation. Now's the time to tick these two iconic destinations off your bucket list... you won't be disappointed!

Departing: Tuesday, 28th September 2021

Fitness Level: M - Moderate

Meals: B = Breakfast, M = Morning Tea, L = Lunch, A = Afternoon Tea, D = Dinner

DAY 1 HERVEY BAY – MILES D

Tuesday, 28th September: Departing Hervey Bay pick up passengers enroute to Brisbane. Interstate, Brisbane and Gold Coast passengers join in Brisbane City (location to be advised). Travel west along the Warrego Highway to Toowoomba then to Miles where we visit the Miles Historic Village & Museum. Stay Swagsman Motor Inn.

DAY 2 MILES – CHARLEVILLE BMLD

Wednesday, 29th September: Travel to Roma for morning tea and time to explore the Big Rig. After a delicious picnic lunch at Morven, make our way to Charleville where we visit the Charleville Visitors Centre before checking in to our motel. After dinner, it's off to the Cosmos Centre to do a little stargazing. Stay Mulga Country Motor Inn.

DAY 3 CHARLEVILLE – QUILPIE BMLD

Thursday, 30th September: Start our day with a visit to the Charleville Bilby Experience for an 'Up Close & Personal Tour' with these adorable little creatures. Enjoy the rare and unique experience of meeting a Bilby face to face and have the opportunity to pat a Bilby in the keeper's arms while learning what is happening to save these Aussie Outback Battlers from extinction. Then, off to Quilpie for lunch and some exploring. Visit the opal shops and St Finbarr's Altar. The altar, lectern and font are beautifully made of opal. Stay Quilpie Motor Inn.

DAY 4 QUILPIE – BIRDSVILLE BMLD

Friday, 1st October: Travel the Diamantina Development Road to Windorah for morning tea then along the Birdsville Development Road arriving in Betoota for a late lunch. Continue to Birdsville. Stay Birdsville Hotel.

DAY 5 BIRDSVILLE – BOULIA BMLD

Saturday, 2nd October: Departing Birdsville travel through Cuttaburra Crossing, an amazing wetland area, to arrive at Bedourie for lunch. Moving north of Eyre Creek where the Channel Country meets the desert, we arrive into Boulia mid-afternoon. Stay Desert Sands Motel and Australian Hotel.

DAY 6 BOULIA – MT ISA BMD

Sunday, 3rd October: Moving north arrive in Dajarra, the largest trucking depot in the world, for morning tea then on to Mt Isa in time to purchase lunch before a visit to the Outback @ Isa Centre. Stay Ibis Styles Mt Isa Verona.

DAY 7 MT ISA – ADELS GROVE BMLD

Monday, October: Strikeout across vast isolated Spinifex plains to the World Heritage-listed Riversleigh Fossil Fields where we have the opportunity to explore. On to our base camp at Adels Grove where we settle into our cabins for the next two nights. Stay Adels Grove.

DAY 8 LAWN HILL GORGE BMLD

Tuesday, October: A day to relax in the clear waterways of Lawn Hill Gorge with plenty of opportunities for canoeing or taking a boat ride (own expense) and bushwalking to view the gorge's sandstone formation. To fully enjoy your stay in this pristine national park we recommend stout walking shoes, sunscreen, swimmers, water bottle and backpack. The park is a pristine area of magnificent scenery, precipitous cliffs, crystal clear waters and lush vegetation. After an exhilarating visit return early to camp.

DAY 9 ADELS GROVE – CLONCURRY BMLD

Wednesday, 6th October: Leaving Adels Grove follow the Wills Development Road through the small township of Gregory to the Burke & Wills Roadhouse for morning tea, then onward to Cloncurry for lunch. Following lunch visit the John Flynn Museum which honours an Australian visionary and those who joined his campaign for better living conditions in remote Australia. Incorporated within the Museum is the Fred McKay Art Gallery, which houses an impressive art collection. Stay Gidgee Inn.

DAY 10 CLONCURRY – LONGREACH BMD

Thursday, 7th October: Follow the Landsborough Highway to Kynuna for morning tea at the Blue Heeler Hotel. The song Waltzing Matilda was first sung here in 1896 after the fire at Dagworth Woolshed. At Winton enjoy some free time to purchase your lunch and explore the town centre before visiting the Waltzing Matilda Centre. Three night stay Albert Park Motor Inn.

DAY 11 LONGREACH SIGHTSEEING BMLAD

Friday, 8th October: This morning experience the Cobb & Co Stagecoach Experience in a restored stagecoach, first at a leisurely pace, then full-tilt along a stretch of the original Longreach-Winton route. After this exhilarating experience stop for a traditional smoko followed by a classic Australian movie in retro cinema seats and a hilarious hour of entertainment featuring animals, stockmen and improvised live theatre at the Harry Redford Old Time Tent Show. Following a 'Billy Can' lunch, we farewell our hosts and make our way to Longway Station for a tour and home-cooked afternoon tea. Return to our motel.

DAY 12 LONGREACH SIGHTSEEING BD

Saturday, 9th October: Our first visit this morning is to the Stockman's Hall of Fame, a spectacular tribute to the people of outback Australia. At 11 am it's time for the Outback Stockman's Show. Meet a real stockman and his animals in a one of a kind show. After lunch, make our way to the Qantas Founders Museum for a guided tour. Late afternoon board the 'Thomson River Belle' for a sunset cruise followed by a Drover's stew and dessert at the 'Sheraton on the Thomson'. Enjoy music and bush poetry around a blazing campfire followed by the 'Starlight's Spectacular Sound & Light Picture Show' – a unique big-screen presentation of the amazing adventures of the notorious cattle thief known as 'Captain Starlight'.

DAY 13 LONGREACH – EMERALD BMLD

Sunday, 10th October: Off to Barcaldine for morning tea and a photo opportunity at the Tree of Knowledge, then on to the Australian Worker's Heritage Centre. Journey through exhibition space which celebrates the extraordinary legacy of working Australians, telling a vitally important part of our nation's history through its working life via interactive displays, film, photographs, artefacts and recreated historical work settings. After lunch at the Ironbark Inn continue to Emerald. Stay Emerald Maraboon Motor Inn.

DAY 14 EMERALD – ROMA BMLD

Monday, 11th October: Leaving Emerald we make our way to Arcadia Valley Escape. Be guided through the ins and outs of the cattle industry including a live demonstration in the cattle yards and watch the working dogs doing their thing! Farewelling our hosts, continue to Roma to prepare for our final night together. Stay Roma Explorers Inn.

DAY 15 ROMA – HOME BM

Tuesday, 12th October: All too soon we are heading home. Pause at Chinchilla for morning tea then on to Toowoomba for lunch before arrival in Brisbane mid-afternoon and in the Wide Bay early evening.

Adult: \$6090 pp

Pensioner: \$6060 pp

Past Passenger: \$6045 pp

Single Supplement: \$1343 pp

Final Payment Due: 14th August 2021