

## 66 DAY GRAND AUSSIE ADVENTURE



*Join us on this 'Grand Adventure' and visit some of the most beautiful and iconic sights Australia has to offer. See vivid outback landscapes, flora and fauna and a tropical 'Top End' paradise. In the Kimberley, one of the World's last great wilderness areas, discover spectacular gorges, waterfalls and cave systems and pockets of lush rainforest. In the Pilbara, see deep rocky canyons, peaceful plunge pools and a glorious coastal paradise. Delight in the Western Australian wildflowers, renowned as being one of the most spectacular wildflower displays in the world. Discover the delights of the southwest region, cross the vast expanse of the Nullarbor Plain, marvel at the views of the Great Southern Ocean and the Great Australian Bight. Explore the 'wild west' coast of the idyllic Eyre Peninsula. Be enthralled by Australia's Red Heart with its awesome monoliths, ancient mountain ranges with rugged tops, deep ribbon folded canyons and Dreamtime legends. The scenery will certainly come alive on this tour, without a doubt it is 'one of the greatest shows on Earth'!*

Fitness Level: M – Moderate

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

### **DAY 1 BRISBANE – ROCKHAMPTON LD**

Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> July: Departing Brisbane, make our way north to Maryborough and welcome aboard our Wide Bay passengers. Enjoy lunch at Miriam Vale Hotel before continuing north to Rockhampton. Stay Kortess Resort

### **DAY 2 ROCKHAMPTON – BOWEN BMLD**

Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> July: Continuing north, travel along the Hibiscus Coast stopping at Sarina Sugar Shed for lunch and a guided tour. Bypass Mackay, often referred to as Australia's 'sugar capital' as it produces one-third of the nation's sugar crop. Onward to Bowen, town of the 'Big Mango' to settle into our accommodation. Stay Castle Motor Lodge Motel

### **DAY 3 BOWEN – CHARTERS TOWERS BMD**

Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> July: Turning inland make our way to Charters Towers for a truly unique experience with a Texas Longhorn Safari Tour at Leahton Park. Get up close (and sometimes personal) with the spectacular herd of genuine full-blood Texas Longhorns including the longest horned cattle in Australia. Finish our visit with a delicious Aussie Bush smoko under the big shade trees near the homestead. Stay Cattlemen's Rest Motor Inn

### **DAY 4 CHARTERS TOWERS – RICHMOND BMLD**

Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> July: This morning travel along the Dinosaur Trail to Hughenden to visit the Flinders Discovery Centre followed by lunch at the Great Western Hotel. After lunch, continue to Richmond where we visit Kronosaurus Korner. Step back in time to when half of Australia was underwater and meet the carnivorous creatures that dominated life below the surface. Stay Ammonite Inn

### **DAY 5 RICHMOND – MT ISA BMLD**

Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> July: Our first stop this morning is at the John Flynn Place Museum & Art Gallery. The museum honours an Australian visionary and those who joined his campaign for better living conditions in remote Australia. Also incorporated in the museum is the Fred McKay Art Gallery which houses an impressive art collection. Onto Mt Isa for a visit to the Outback @ Isa Centre before settling into our motel. Stay Ibis Styles Mt Isa

**DAY 6 MT ISA – TENNANT CREEK BMLD**

Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> July: Travel the Barkly Highway, crossing the border at Camooweal with a stop at the Barkly Roadhouse for lunch. At Three Ways, turn south along the Stuart Highway to Tennant Creek. Stay Bluestone Motor Inn

**DAY 7 TENNANT CREEK – KATHERINE BMLD**

Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> July: Trek further along the Stuart Highway for lunch at the historic Daly Waters Historic Pub. Visit the Elsey Homestead replica of 'We of the Never Never' fame and swim in the famous Mataranka Thermal Pools before continuing to Katherine. Stay Contour Hotel Katherine

**DAY 8 KATHERINE – DARWIN BLD**

Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> August: Enjoy a swim or short walk at Edith Falls before heading to Pine Creek for lunch. Visit the Adelaide River War Cemetery which is a sobering reminder of the impact World War II had on this part of Australia. On to Darwin to settle into our accommodation. Three night stay Doubletree on Hilton Hotel Esplanade

**DAY 9 DARWIN SIGHTSEEING BD**

Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> August: Be prepared for a great day of sightseeing as we explore Darwin. Our first stop is the Territory Wildlife Park. Observe the Top End's wildlife in their natural habitats, standing nose-to-nose with a saltwater crocodile, and glimpsing elusive nocturnal creatures. Next, the Australian Aviation Heritage Centre. If you like aircraft and you like 'em big, you're going to love this place! For a little art and culture, we visit the Museum & Art Gallery of the NT, followed by the Defence of Darwin Experience where you can uncover the story of Darwin's role in World War II through iconic objects from the Bombing of Darwin, firsthand accounts, and multimedia presentations. Return to our motel for a well-earned rest.

**DAY 10 JUMPING CROCODILES BMLD**

Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August: This morning experience the thrill of jumping crocodiles on an Adelaide River cruise and observe primeval saltwater crocodiles - commonly referred to as 'salties' - as they leap from the water to snatch food that your boat guide dangles from above. We lunch at the Humpty Doo Hotel – a classic top end pub made famous by Slim Dusty then, head back to Darwin to prepare for our magnificent sunset cruise aboard a traditional fishing ketch. Enjoy a delicious dinner including a selection of locally caught seafood while you relax and enjoy Darwin's picturesque coastline which is even more magical in the evening hours.

**DAY 11 DARWIN - KAKADU BMLD**

Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> August: A special day of sightseeing ahead of us today as we make our way to Kakadu National Park. Our morning adventure takes us to Mamukala Wetlands for morning tea and a chance to spot the birdlife then onto the Aboriginal rock art sight of Ubirr Rock which offers spectacular escarpment views. Enjoy a 30 minute flight (own expense) over Kakadu NP and Arnhem Land. From winding rivers to sunburnt escarpments and stunning waterfalls, Kakadu's timeless landscape will take your breath away. Next, inspect magnificent Nourlangie Rock to view ancient Aboriginal rock art before settling into our accommodation. Stay Cooina Lodge

**DAY 12 KAKADU NP – KATHERINE BMD**

Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> August: Join an early morning cruise along the tranquil Yellow Waters Billabong as your guide provides expert commentary on the region's natural history, abundant flora and wildlife. Departing Kakadu NP make our way to Nitmiluk NP for lunch (own expense) and some free time to browse the centre then it's all aboard for your NitNit Dreaming Two Gorge Cruise. Cruise down Katherine River as the large rock formations of the gorge tower over the calm water. Stay Contour Hotel Katherine

*Please note: A walk of approximately 500 metres over rocky terrain is required in both directions between the First and Second Gorges. It is suggested a good level of mobility is required to participate in this excursion.*

**DAY 13 ABORIGINAL CULTURAL EXPERIENCE B**

Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> August: Dip your toes in the Katherine Hot Springs this morning. These natural thermal springs are situated on the banks of the Katherine River and comprise of a series of clear pools framed by native vegetation. Then, immerse yourself in a genuine Australian Aboriginal cultural experience that allows you to see, feel and experience the Aboriginal culture. Join Manuel Pamkal who will tell stories about life in the bush and let you experience aboriginal practices such as rarrk painting using a reed brush, fire lighting with two sticks and spear throwing with a woomera. After lunch in Katherine (own expense) head northward bound for Darwin. Tonight experience a melting pot of cultures at the Mindil Beach Sunset Market. See the congregation of over 200 unique stalls. The combination of amazing food, arts and culture, set to the backdrop of the spectacular sunset, creates an electric atmosphere. Three night stay Doubletree on Hilton Hotel Esplanade  
*Please note: Dinner tonight is at your own expense at the Markets.*

**DAY 14 DARWIN FREE DAY BD**

Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> August: Enjoy a free day today to take in the sights at your leisure.

**DAY 15 DARWIN FREE DAY BD**

Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> August: Enjoy a free day today to take in the sights at your leisure.

**DAY 16 DARWIN – KATHERINE BMLD**

Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> August: Fawelling Darwin, make our way to Litchfield National Park. A photo stop at the amazing Magnetic Termite Mounds before continuing to Florence Falls. Stroll along the Shady Creek walk, spot colourful birds and enjoy the ambience. Next, lunch at the Litchfield Café followed by a visit to the stunning Wangi Falls. Leaving Litchfield NP, make our way to Katherine to settle in and prepare for our special evening at Marksie's Stockman's Camp Tucker. Dine by the campfire of a traditional territory stock camp which includes a traditional camp oven meal cooked over a bed of hot coals and be entertained with stories and hands-on displays. Stay Contour Hotel Katherine

**DAY 17 KATHERINE – KUNUNURRA BLD**

Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> August: Travel the Victoria Highway to Victoria River. The settlement itself is little more than a roadhouse and camping ground, but the scenery along the highway as it winds past immense escarpments split by the mighty Victoria River ranks as some of the most stunning in the Territory. Crossing the border into Western Australia, make our way to Waringarri Aboriginal Arts, for a tour with an artist. Learn the history of the centre, view artists at work and chat with local Indigenous staff while tasting delicious homemade damper, then settle into our accommodation. Three night stay Kimberley Croc Motel

**DAY 18 ORD RIVER CRUISE & LAKE ARGYLE BLD**

Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> August: Cruise the stunning waterway this morning and marvel at the spectacular scenery, wildlife, flora and fauna found along the way and maybe even spot a crocodile! Relax a while as we stop at the Riverside Camp for a sumptuous buffet lunch before cruising up to the Ord Top Dam – an incredible sight when at the waterline base on the Lake Kununurra side. Board the coach for a drive across the Ord Top Dam and stop at a scenic lookout. Leaving Lake Argyle, we make a short stop at the historic Durack Homestead Museum. The Museum was constructed as a replica of the original family Homestead. Re-boarding the coach, return to our accommodation.

**DAY 19 KUNUNURRA SIGHTSEEING BD**

Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> August: Meet our guide for an Ord River Farming District Tour. The tour includes a stop at the Diversion Dam, Ivanhoe Crossing, an Indian Sandalwood Plantation, The Sandalwood Shop

and Café. After the tour, return to Kununurra for some free time in town to purchase your lunch and explore.

#### **DAY 20 KUNUNURRA – HALLS CREEK BLD**

Saturday, 13th August: Up and away this morning on our flight over the Bungle Bungles. Departing Kununurra, the flight heads south over Lake Kununurra, the Packsaddle Irrigation area and the upper Ord River onto Lake Argyle, flying over vast cattle stations, the Osmond Ranges, and onto the imposing sight of Bungle Bungle Range. The orange and black ribbons across the beehive-like mounds are clearly visible as you approach from the north. We sweep further over the range, and its hidden world of gorges before setting course for the Argyle Diamond Mine, the birthplace of the spectacular Argyle pink diamond. Leaving Kununurra, stop at Warmun Roadhouse for lunch then on to Halls Creek. Stay Kimberley Hotel

#### **DAY 21 HALLS CREEK – FITZROY CROSSING BMLD**

Sunday, 14th August: This morning view the unusual China Wall, a natural vein of sub-vertical white quartz rising up to 6 metres above the surrounding country in places. Continue to Fitzroy Crossing where you will cruise the exquisite Geikie Gorge with its unusual white banded walls. Keep an eye out for local wildlife including sawfish, stingrays and freshwater crocs. Stay Fitzroy River Lodge

#### **DAY 22 FITZROY CROSSING – BROOME BMLD**

Monday, 15th August: Away early for a day exploring the unique areas of the Kimberley. Pause for morning tea at Tunnel Creek. At striking Windjana Gorge time to discover the area's sheer cliffs, water pools and wildlife, then take the Gibb River Road to Derby where huge 11 metre tides commonly occur. See the Circular Wharf, the famous Boab Prison Tree and adjacent to Myalls Bore view the longest cattle trough in the world. Two Night Stay Oaks Broome Hotel

*Please note: a very strong torch and a second pair of shoes suitable for wading through water are required for Tunnel Creek.*

#### **DAY 23 BROOME SIGHTSEEING & FREE TIME BMD**

Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> August: This morning enjoy a sightseeing tour of Broome including the Wharves, Gantheaume Point and Roebuck Bay then on to Willie Creek Pearl Farm for an informative tour and delicious morning tea before your crew drop you in town for lunch (own expense) and an afternoon of leisure to explore the tropical town of Broome. At the end of the day join your fellow travellers and sit back, relax and enjoy the spectacular sunset over Cable Beach followed by a scrumptious dinner.

#### **DAY 24 BROOME – PORT HEDLAND BMLD**

Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> August: Skirt the edge of the Great Sandy Desert stopping for a little shell collecting at the glorious Eighty Mile Beach. On arrival in Port Hedland a major shipping outlet for the mineral rich Pilbara region, stop at the Visitors Centre, then on to our overnight accommodation. Stay Hospitality Inn Port Hedland

#### **DAY 25 PORT HEDLAND – KARIJINI NP – TOM PRICE BLD**

Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> August: Today we travel into Karijini National Park. Explore its spectacular gorges, waterfalls and rock pools, created by millions of years of erosion - a striking contrast to the stark red landscape of the Pilbara. Stay Tom Price Hotel Motel.

#### **DAY 26 RIO TINTO MINE TOUR & HAMERSLEY GORGE BLD**

Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> August: Put on your hard hat and get ready for your fascinating Pilbara Iron Mine Tour. Farewell Tom Price and make our way to Hamersley Gorge with its dramatic colours, textures and reflections; with a beautiful waterfall to complete the brilliant scenery before continuing on to Karratha. Two night stay Ibis Styles Karratha.

**DAY 27 KARRATHA & DAMPIER SIGHTSEEING BMD**

Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> August: Today our first port of call is Dampier. After a photo stop with the famous Red Dog statue visit the North West Shelf Project Visitors Centre where you will see Australia's largest natural resource development. After lunch (own expense) in Karratha we head out in the opposite direction to visit Cossack and the Old Roebourne Gaol and museum.

**DAY 28 KARRATHA – EXMOUTH BLD**

Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> August: Today we continue the journey southwest stopping at Learmonth for a picnic lunch and a walk along the Jetty. This afternoon travel to Exmouth on the boundary of Cape Range National Park and the Ningaloo Marine Park. Stay Potshot Hotel.

**DAY 29 EXMOUTH – NINGALOO REEF – CARNARVON BMD**

Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> August: Journey down the coast, admiring the fantastic coastal scenery of white sand and sparkling blue ocean. Travel to Coral Bay, a quaint seaside town, where you join a sub-sea viewer and cruise over the Ningaloo Reef, Western Australia's largest coral reef. Observe the abundance of marine life that inhabits these tropical waters and marvel at the brilliant display of colourful coral formations. Stay Carnarvon Motel.

**DAY 30 CARNARVON – MONKEY MIA BLD**

Tuesday, 23<sup>th</sup> August: Travel to World Heritage listed Shark Bay, where we view the world's oldest living organisms, the stromatolites at Hamelin Pool. Visit Shell Beach, one of only two in the world, formed from billions of shells up to ten metres deep. Explore the Shark Bay World Discovery Centre, an informative display covering all of Shark Bay's natural and cultural features. Stay RAC Monkey Mia Dolphin Resort.

**DAY 31 MONKEY MIA – KALBARRI BLD**

Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> August: This morning, discover Monkey Mia, where wild Bottlenose Dolphins come close to shore (as dolphins are wild, their appearance can't be guaranteed), then on to Kalbarri National Park, famous for its extraordinary river gorge scenery. We stop at Hawk's Head Lookout for a spectacular view of the Murchison River Gorge. Stay Kalbarri Edge Resort.

**DAY 11 KALBARRI – GERALDTON BMLD**

Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> August: Enjoy a leisurely breakfast this morning then on to the Rainbow Jungle which is regarded as Australia's most beautiful parrot habitat. At Port Gregory, stop at the Pink Lake Lookout to view the extraordinary, coloured lake then on to Northampton for lunch. After lunch continue to Geraldton for a sightseeing tour including the HMAS Sydney II Memorial which commemorates the loss of the HMAS Sydney II and the ships company of 645 men on 19<sup>th</sup> November 1941. The greatest single tragedy in Australian Naval History and dedicated to the lost Crew and their families. Stay Best Western Hospitality Inn.

**DAY 12 WILDFLOWER EXPLORING BMLD**

Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> August: A leisurely sightseeing day today as we follow the Art Drive in search of wildflowers, especially the wreath flower. On our way to Mullewa, visit some of the 22 various art installations enroute, each depicting farm life, wildflowers and Aboriginal culture. Leaving Mullewa, make our way to Coalseam Conservation Park then, continue on to Cervantes. Stay Cervantes Pinnacles Motel.

**DAY 13 CERVANTES – PERTH BMLD**

Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> August: Our first stop this morning is at Lake Thetis where the rocks are not quite what they seem. They are actually living things, Stromatolites, the oldest living lifeforms on the planet. Next, observe the stunning ocean view from the wooden boardwalk at Thirsty Point Lookout. On to Nambung NP, home of the Pinnacles. Made from limestone, these pillars provide an almost eerie landscape before making our way to Seabird for 'lunch with a view' at the Seabird Tavern. After lunch, catch sight of a koala or two amongst the branches of the trees from the Koala

Boardwalk at Yanchep NP and enjoy a guided tour of the Yanchep Crystal Cave where you will discover the cave's history, geology and the ecosystem that lies beneath. Continue on to Perth. Four night stay Crown Promenade Perth

**DAY 35 PERTH FREE DAY BD**

Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> August: Enjoy a free day in Perth today. The day is yours to undertake an optional tour, relax, shop or visit friends in the Western Capital.

**DAY 36 PERTH FREE DAY BD**

Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> August: A free day today to take in the sights at your leisure. Tonight, enjoy dinner with your travelling companions.

**DAY 37 ROTTNEST ISLAND BD**

Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> August: Explore the beauty and tranquillity of Rottnest Island from the comfort and relaxation of an air-conditioned coach. Our tour stops at key vantage points around the island, where passengers can hop off the coach and stretch their legs as they soak up some of Rottnest's world-famous views. Chances are, while you're there, you're going to meet a quokka or two.

**DAY 38 PERTH – MARGARET RIVER BD**

Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> August: Departing Perth, arrive at Busselton Jetty, the longest timber piled jetty in the Southern Hemisphere. Enjoy a train ride to the end of the jetty for a guided tour of the Underwater Observatory. Leaving Busselton, make our way to Canal Rocks for spectacular seascape views across the Indian Ocean, then on to Margaret River Chocolate Company to tantalise the taste buds. Stay, Stay Margaret River

**DAY 39 MARGARET RIVER – PEMBERTON BD**

Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> September: Travel to Hamlin Bay this morning for a photo stop and a chance to interact with the stingrays if they are about. On to Jewel Cave for morning tea (own expense) and a guided tour of this magnificent cave. Next, enjoy a guided tour of Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse. Cape Leeuwin is one of only two places in the world where two great oceans meet. After lunch in Augusta (own expense) make our way to the Gloucester NP to view the Gloucester Tree, a magnificent Karri housing the world's highest fire lookout. Stay Best Western Pemberton Hotel

**DAY 40 PEMBERTON – ALBANY BLD**

Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September: Leaving Pemberton, travel to the Valley of the Giants. Walk along the Treetop Walk taking you through spectacular Tingle trees, 40 metres above the forest floor. After lunch at the Denmark Tavern continue to Albany where we visit the Torndirrup NP to capture breathtaking coastal formations including the 'Blowholes', 'Natural Bridge' and 'The Gap', a huge granite bridge-like suspension. Stay Ace Accommodation

**DAY 41 ALBANY – WAVE ROCK - HYDEN BMLD**

Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September: The rugged beauty of the Stirling Ranges NP awaits us as we journey northward through the botanic reserve abounding with wildflowers. On arrival enjoy a guided tour of the unusual Wave Rock. Also see Hippo's Yawn, a giant yawning mouth cast in solid rock. Stay Wave Rock Motel

**DAY 42 HYDEN – PERTH BMD**

Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> September: Farewelling our hosts, get the cameras ready as we travel the Tin Horse Highway which offers an array of seriously unique equine sights and experiences along the way. After lunch in York (own expense) return to Perth for a guided walk of Kings Park then on to our accommodation. Two night stay Crown Promenade Perth

**DAY 43 PERTH FREE DAY BD**

Monday, 5th September: Enjoy a free day in Perth today. The day is yours to undertake an optional tour, relax, shop or visit friends in the Western Capital.

**DAY 44 PERTH – KALGOORLIE BMLD**

Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> September: Farewelling Perth, travel the Great Eastern Highway, pausing at Southern Cross for lunch, then on to the mining ghost town of Coolgardie, the birthplace of the gold rush that fuelled the largest mass migration of people in Australian history. We pause here in this beautifully preserved town to explore, then on to Kalgoorlie. Two night stay Plaza Hotel

**DAY 45 KALGOORLIE – BOULDER SIGHTSEEING BD**

Wednesday, 7th September: Throw on a high visibility vest and safety glasses this morning as we experience a tour of Australia's largest gold producing mine, the Super Pit. View the mining and milling operations through the Fimiston Milling Plant from the safety of the Mine-Spec Bus (air-conditioned). Be amazed by the size of the 793 dump trucks as we travel along the haul roads on-site with the trucks. The view of the Super Pit from Harvey Hut will take your breath away as you see the old miner's workings with old shafts and view the modern mining machinery working in the pit. Following our tour enjoy some free time in town to purchase your lunch then back on board for our Gold Discovery Town Tour where our guide will uncover the hidden secrets of Kalgoorlie-Boulder past and present.

**DAY 46 KALGOORLIE – ESPERANCE BMLD**

Thursday, 8th September: Travel south this morning to Esperance for lunch at the Pier Hotel. Enjoy a visit to the Cindy Poole Glass Gallery, see the kiln-fired glasswork, stunning designer glass jewellery, bespoke and conceptual glass objects and sculptures. Next, sightseeing to the magnificent Twilight Cove and the Pink Lake Lookout before making our way to our motel. Stay Hospitality Inn Esperance

**DAY 47 ESPERANCE – NORSEMAN BMD**

Friday, 9th September: Experience the unique and beautiful Recherche Archipelago on our cruise this morning. This stunning Archipelago off the coast of Esperance, with its pure white sand melting into turquoise water, has some amazing wildlife including sea eagles, colonies of sea lions and fur seals that go there to breed, dolphins and whales (seasonal). After lunch (own expense), make our way to Norseman for a sightseeing tour before settling into our home for the night. Stay Norseman Eyre Motel

**DAY 48 NORSEMAN – BORDER VILLAGE BMLD**

Saturday, 10th September: Venture across the Nullarbor Plain. Our journey eastward to Border Village takes us through Balladonia, made famous when NASA's Skylab debris showered the town in 1979 and Cocklebiddy. Near Eucla visit the Old Telegraph Ruins now almost completely buried by shifting white sands and see the tiny outpost settlement of Eucla. Stay Border Village Hotel Motel.

**DAY 49 BORDER VILLAGE – CEDUNA BLD**

Sunday, 11th September: At the Head of Bight Whale Watch Interpretive Centre follow a cliff-top boardwalk to a whale viewing platform from where migrating whales may be seen. The majesty of the escarpments and the pounding of the Great Australian Bight by the Great Southern Ocean will have you mesmerised. Various stops will be made to allow photographs of the beautiful coastal scenery. Stay East West Motel

**DAY 50 CEDUNA – PORT LINCOLN BMLD**

Monday, 12th September: Today head south through Streaky Bay to Murphy's Haystacks then on to Elliston for lunch. Continue east along the coastline with spectacular views of the rugged coastline to Port Lincoln. Two night stay Port Lincoln Hotel

**DAY 51 PORT LINCOLN SIGHTSEEING BMLD**

Tuesday, 13th September: Port Lincoln is Australia's tuna fishing capital. Learn about the industry this morning with a Boston Bay cruise. On our return, enjoy a delicious lunch at the Marina Hotel before a guided tour of Whalers Way with its sensational views of coastal scenery, flora, fauna and blowholes.

**DAY 52 PORT LINCOLN – ADELAIDE BMD**

Wednesday, 14th September: Heading north to Lucky Bay we board the ferry 'Aurora' for our Spencer Gulf crossing. Take a break with a fresh brewed coffee and lunch (own expense) from the on-board cafe, enjoy movies on the wide-screen plasma TV or take in the endless ocean views on our two hour journey. Disembarking at Wallaroo make our way to Adelaide. Three night stay Adelaide Inn

**DAY 53 ADELAIDE FREE DAY BD**

Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> September: Enjoy a free day to undertake an optional tour, relax or do some sightseeing.

**DAY 54 BAROSSA VALLEY SIGHTSEEING BLD**

Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> September: Start our day with a drive through the Adelaide Hills to Mount Lofty for a magnificent view of Adelaide and surrounds before making our way to the quaint German village of Hahndorf. Enjoy some free time to explore and purchase morning tea, then on to the South Australian Company Store for a unique food and wine experience. Next, visit the Barossa Valley Chocolate Company, our final stop for the day. Here you will taste house made chocolates paired with Vineyard Road's handcrafted wines which will be a great way to finish off our delightful day in the Barossa Valley.

**DAY 55 ADELAIDE – PORT AUGUSTA BMD**

Saturday, 17<sup>th</sup> September: Departing Adelaide, make our way to the historic town of Burra for morning tea then on to the railway town of Peterborough for lunch (own expense). Arriving in Port Augusta we make our way to the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Gardens for a guided tour and time permitting a walk to view the Red Cliffs. Stay Standpipe Golf Motor Inn

**DAY 56 PORT AUGUSTA – COOBER PEDY BMLD**

Sunday, 18th September: Travel the Stuart Highway with a morning tea stop at Woomera, site of cold war testing of long-range rockets and missiles. The Prohibited Area remains in business and the town is flourishing with tourists. After lunch at Glendambo continue to the opal town of Coober Pedy with its fabulous luna landscape. Two night stay Opal Inn

**DAY 57 ARCKARINGA STATION & PAINTED DESERT BMD**

Monday, 19th September: Make our way to Arckaringa Station for morning tea then, get your cameras ready as we travel through the ancient inland seabed that is the Painted Desert. The slopes and shapes include many different colours and shades of orange, yellow, white and deep red. Return to Coober Pedy for lunch (own expense). After lunch, visit the Umoona Opal Mine to discover how opal is formed and visit the underground jewellery shop. Then, enjoy a guided tour of Coober Pedy before returning to our accommodation.

**DAY 58 COOBER PEDY – ERLDUNDA BMLD**

Tuesday, 20th September: An early start this morning for a photo stop at fabulous Breakaways then continue onto Kulgera for lunch. Arriving in ERLDUNDA mid-afternoon with time to settle in and meet Carlotta, the resident camel and Cluck Norris the rooster. You may also like to check out the Kangaroo Farm and Emu Enclosure and not to be missed is the sunset viewing platform which offers the opportunity to capture the breathtaking Northern Territory sunset and sunrise. Stay ERLDUNDA Roadhouse

**DAY 59 ERLDUNDA – KATA TJUTA & ULURU FIELD OF LIGHTS BMD**

Wednesday, 21st September: A fabulous sightseeing day today as we make our way to Kata Tjuta (Olgas) where you will have time to explore before returning to the Uluru-Kata Tjuta Cultural Centre for lunch (own expense). This afternoon, tour the base caves of Uluru, see ancient Aboriginal rock painting and picturesque waterholes. Return to our accommodation to prepare for our special Field of Lights Experience. With magnificent views of Uluru at sunset, a three-course bush tucker menu, premium selection of Australian wines and beers, fascinating star talk and a self-guided walk through the Field of Light art installation, your 'A Night at Field of Light' experience is complete. Stay Desert Gardens Hotel

**DAY 60 YULARA – CURTIN SPRINGS – ALICE SPRINGS BMLD**

Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September: Leaving Yulara, make our way to Curtin Springs Roadhouse where we pause for morning tea and a Paper Tour. Observe how the native grasses are harvested, pulped and pressed to create a distinctive and beautiful souvenir of Central Australia. Continuing our journey to Alice Springs with a stop at the John Flynn Grave Historic Reserve. Three night stay Aurora Alice Springs

**DAY 61 STANLEY CHASM, SIMPSONS GAP & TREPHER GORGE BMLD**

Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> September: Travel through the distinctive landscapes of the West MacDonnell Ranges. View a kaleidoscope of earth reds, yellow, oranges and purples, enhanced by the Central Australian sun. Visit Stanley Chasm and Simpsons Gap, then change direction and head to the East MacDonnell Ranges for lunch at Ross River Resort, followed by a visit to Trephina Gorge before returning to Alice Springs.

**DAY 62 ALICE SPRINGS SIGHTSEEING BD**

Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> September: A delightful day of sightseeing today beginning with a drive to Anzac Hill for an overview of 'The Alice'. Visit the fabulous Alice Springs Desert Park for some free time to explore and purchase your lunch. Next, enjoy time at the National Road Transport Hall of Fame & Ghan Museum. Tonight, experience the 'Spirit Of The Outback' at Earth Sanctuary's award winning dinner & show. From spectacular sunset over the Eastern MacDonnell Ranges to an awe-inspiring canopy of stars your hosts will captivate you with stories ranging from local ecology, culture and astronomy.

**DAY 63 ALICE SPRINGS – BOULIA BMLD**

Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> September: Trek homeward across the seldom travelled Plenty Highway. Experience a diversity of scenery from the protruding peaks of the Harts Range to the large station properties which dominate the highway. The scenery is dramatic and provides a perfect backdrop for any photograph, giving just another glimpse at the splendour of Australia's wild heart. Cross back into Queensland at Tobermorey and continue east to the far-flung settlement of Boulia. Stay Desert Sands Motel & Australian Hotel.

Please note: longer than average travel day.

**DAY 64 BOULIA – LONGREACH BMD**

Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> September: Travel the lonely Kennedy Highway through the heart of the Channel Country and head east towards Winton. At Middleton enjoy morning tea and the outback hospitality of the Middleton Hotel. At Winton enjoy a visit to the Waltzing Matilda Centre and free time to purchase your lunch and explore the town centre. After lunch, play a tune on the Musical Fence before making our way to Longreach. Tonight, enjoy Smithy's Outback Dinner & Show. Stay Longreach Motor Inn.

**DAY 65 LONGREACH – ROMA BMLD**

Tuesday, 27th September: On our travel to Roma today we pass through Isisford, Blackall – famous for the wool scourers, Tambo, town of the Teddies and onto Roma to enjoy a farewell dinner. Stay Roma Explorers Inn.

**DAY 66 ROMA – HOME BM**

Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> September: Homeward bound after our wonderful great western adventure. Farewell your new friends who have shared this wonderful holiday with you. All too soon we are back in familiar territory with arrival in Brisbane mid-afternoon and Wide Bay early evening.

Adult: \$28,693 pp

Pensioner: \$28,561 pp

Past Passenger: \$28,495 pp

Single Supplement: \$7,814 pp

Final Payment Due: Friday, 10th June 2022