

LAWN HILL, LONGREACH, GULF TOUR

An Amazing Outback Adventure

Spectacular Coach Touring with Kennedy's Tours

17 Days / 16 Nights

Tour Departs Friday 8th June – Sunday 24th June, 2012



Tour Cost from: \$4495.00 per person Twin Share (\$1100.00 single supplement)

Minimum 25 Paying Passengers - Maximum 40 Paying Passengers

Tour Price is Valid for June 2012. Please note that itinerary is subject to change without notice.

Single Accommodation is very limited and at some locations shared facilities are only available.

Deposit of \$300 is required (non refundable 90 days prior to departure)

Balance to be paid by 23rd April 2012 (non refundable 45 Days prior to departure unless seat sold)

Payments by cheque to be made out to Kennedys Tours P/L, Credit Card Payment will incur additional surcharge of 1.5%

The Itinerary

Day 1. Friday 8th June 2012: Nowra – Gunnedah

MEALS: L, D

This morning we meet our friendly coach captain and fellow travellers and depart home for our overnight destination of **Gunnedah** in Country NSW. We break for lunch today at **Mooney Mooney Club**. Nestled on the shores of the Hawkesbury River, near Fisherman's Rock you'll find the tranquil setting of the Mooney Mooney Club. Enjoy the serenity with great facilities and spectacular views across the river towards Brooklyn. We arrive into Gunnedah this evening where we enjoy **Dinner** at the **Gunnedah Serviceman's & Bowling Club**.

Overnight: Mackellar Motel Gunnedah

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Day 2. Saturday 9th June 2012: Gunnedah – Mitchell **MEALS: B, L, D**

After a cooked breakfast we farewell our hosts and travel north through **Moree** and up to **Mungindi**, which is uniquely situated on both sides of the NSW and Queensland Border. Divided by the Barwon River, it is the only border town in the Southern Hemisphere with the same name in two states. We break for lunch here and enjoy a **packed lunch** before continuing through to **Mitchell**, the town which marks the Gateway to Queensland's Outback. The town, on the banks of the Maranoa River, was named in honour of Sir Thomas Mitchell whose exploration of south-west Queensland led to the establishment of several towns in the region.

Overnight: Berkley Lodge, Mitchell

Day 3. Sunday 10th June 2012: Mitchell – Longreach **MEALS: B, L, D**

This morning we depart early for our journey to **Longreach**. We break to stretch our legs at **Tambo**, home of the famous Tambo Teddies before reaching **Blackall** to have some **lunch at Barcoo Hotel**. Blackall is also home of the original **Black Stump**. We travel further north along the Landsborough Highway where we pass through Barcaldine which was known for the Tree of Knowledge. Sadly it was poisoned in 2006 and did not recover. However a memorial has been created since then. We arrive into Longreach this afternoon where we check in and freshen up before dinner in the motel restaurant tonight.

Overnight: Jumbuck Motel, Longreach

Day 4. Monday 11th June 2012: Longreach **MEALS: B, L, D**

This morning after a hot breakfast we visit the famous Stockman's Hall of Fame, developed to honour the pioneer's contribution to the settlement of the outback. The museum incorporates five themed galleries proudly display the history behind some of Australia's greatest and bravest explorers, stock workers, pastoralist, and Aborigines. The exhibits comprising an eclectic mix of objects, images, touch screens, audiovisual presentations and open displays, allowing visitors to interpret the outback story in their own unique way. After time in the museum we enjoy The Outback Stockman's Show. The Show tells the story of real life stockmen and women who work on the land. Our performer, Luke Thomas, is a known horse breaker, drover, bush poet and raconteur as well as one of the last bullockies. The Outback Stockman's Show encompasses the modern day aspects of being a stockman, as well as telling the tales of what it used to be like in the past. We sit down to lunch in the Cattlemen's Bar and Grill before visiting the Qantas Museum. The Qantas Founders Museum is a wonderful example of a community getting together to honour the achievements of a group of remarkable men. The Founders of Q.A.N.T.A.S. not only established a company which grew to become internationally recognised as a leader in the field of world aviation, but also made an enormous contribution to the people living in the isolated communities of the Australian Outback by adapting and developing the technology of the day to great effect. After a guided tour around the museum we head back to our accommodation for some time to rest before joining a relaxing evening cruise on a Thomson River Cruise. Join the crew on the west's only paddle wheeler - the 'Thomson Belle' for a memorable evening. Enjoy a two-course Drivers style meal, Be entertained by the Country Music singer and bush poetry around the campfire. Cap the night off with a cup of genuine Billy tea, some fresh damper and a chance to see the carpet of stars above in the outback sky.

Overnight: Jumbuck Motel Longreach

Day 5. Tuesday 12th June 2012: Longreach – Cloncurry **MEALS: B, L, D**

After a great few nights in Longreach we depart with fond memories and sit back and relax on the coach as we travel through to **Cloncurry**. Our first stop today will be **Winton, home to the Waltzing Matilda Centre**. The Centre is the world's only tourism attraction dedicated to a song. With 'homestead' buildings nestled around a peaceful billabong, the centre pays tribute to the life of the swaggie, and the true spirit of the Australian character.

Lunch today will be **Kynuna** at the **famous Blue Heeler Hotel** which also claims to be home to this iconic song. Continuing north we have a short stop for photo opportunities from the lookout before arriving at McKinlay Hotel as seen in Crocodile Dundee before arriving into the mining and cattle town of Cloncurry. Dinner will be served in the restaurant later tonight.

Overnight: Gidgee Inn Motel Cloncurry

Day 6. Wednesday 13th June 2012: Cloncurry – Adels Grove **MEALS: B, L, D**

After a full breakfast we board the coach and get closer to the **Gulf of Australia** as we make our way through to **Lawn Hill** for our destination for the next 2 nights. We enjoy a comfort stops along the way including a **packed lunch** before arriving at **Adel's Grove** this afternoon. The property now known as Adel's Grove, was originally gazetted in 1904 as a Miners Homestead Lease. After settling into our tents we make our way to the restaurant where we enjoy a 2 course dinner.

Overnight: Adel's Grove –Accommodation is in the form of Erected Tents – Share bathroom facilities approx 20 – 120 mts walk. No power or lighting is available and you must bring your own torches.

Day 7. Thursday 14th June 2012: Lawn Hill **MEALS: B, L, D**

This morning we enjoy breakfast before starting our **Half day tour** of the **World Heritage Riversleigh Fossil Fields**. The extensive fossil deposits at Riversleigh are encased in hard, rough limestone, which was formed in lime-rich freshwater pools. They span a record of mammal evolution of at least 20 million years in length, providing the first records for many distinctive groups of living mammals, such as marsupial moles and feather-tailed possums, as well as many other unique and now extinct Australian mammals such as 'marsupial lions'. The tour includes local history, an informative interpretive walk around 'D Site' and morning tea on the magnificent

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Gregory River. We arrive back at Adel's Grove around midday and sit back to a nice lunch before having the afternoon at leisure to relax or why not take one of the short walks in the immediate vicinity of Adel's Grove. Dinner will be served later tonight in the restaurant.

Overnight: Adel's Grove –Accommodation is in the form of Erected Tents – Share bathroom facilities approx 20 – 120 mts walk. No power or lighting is available and you must bring your own torches.

Day 8. Friday 15th June 2012: Lawn Hill – Karumba

MEALS: B, L, D

After breakfast we travel to **Normanton**, famous for the **Purple Pub** and meet the big crocodile. In 1957 at MacArthur Bank of the Norman River the largest crocodile being nearly 29ft long was shot! A life size model now stands in Henry Park. We enjoy a **packed lunch** along the way before arriving into **Karumba**, known as the **Outback by the Sea**. We check into our accommodation and then head next door to the **Sunset Tavern** for **Dinner and a spectacular sunset**.

Overnight: Edge of the Road Motel Karumba

Day 9. Saturday 16th June 2012: Karumba

MEALS: B, D

After a sleep in and leisurely breakfast we make our way to the **Barramundi Discovery Centre**. This is a working **Barramundi Hatchery** and is a non profit organisation relying heavily on volunteer workers and donations. The hatchery provides Barra fingerlings for restocking the Gulf waterways - important work - 'Fish for a Fishing Future'. We enjoy a tour here where we find out all sorts of amazing facts - including feeding some very big barra as part of the tour. We have some free time today and the chance to purchase some lunch (own expense) before joining the **Croc & Crab Tours** for our **Sunset Cruise this evening**. Watch the sky and sea turn into fire with this peaceful and relaxing cruise, whilst enjoying **freshly cooked prawns and refreshments**. We arrive back in time for dinner this evening.

Overnight: Edge of the Road Motel Karumba

Day 10. Sunday 17th June 2012: Karumba – Undara

MEALS: B, L, D

We depart the Gulf early this morning and travel through to Normanton where we board the famous **'Gulflander'**. A journey on the **Gulflander** is a tour back in time. To times when padded seat was luxury and roads were bullock tracks. To an era where gold was the currency and home was a canvas & sapling humpy. To generation where children were born in the dust and education was the school of hard knocks. We enjoy a one hour journey to Critters Camp where our coach meets us & we travel onto **Croydon** where we **break for lunch** before arriving into **Undara** this evening. Our lodgings tonight are beautifully **restored heritage train carriages**. It was in the late '80's when Undara Experience founder, Gerry Collins, drove past some old railway carriages on a disused siding adjacent to the Mareeba North Queensland Sale Yards. The idea was born and the turn of the century Queensland railway carriages were lovingly restored to their former glory. They now lie beneath tall, shady gum trees, the very trees this unique style of accommodation was designed to preserve.

Overnight: Undara Lava Lodge – Bathrooms are situated at the end of each carriage.

Day 11. Monday 18th June 2012: Undara – Townsville

MEALS: B, L, D

Awaken your taste buds at the famous bush breakfast in the Ringer's Camp. Set apart from the main complex under tall gums and waking kookaburras, we have one of the most memorable breakfasts you are likely to experience in North Queensland. After a unique breakfast we embark on the The Archway Explorer Tour. This is an excellent concentrated visit to the lava tubes, plus other interesting environmental, geological and historical features pointed out and explained on the trip to and from the tubes. Lunch will be at the Three Rivers Hotel at Greenvale, made famous by Slim Dusty singing Stan Costers Golden Guitar winning song. We continue through to Charters Towers the town they call 'The World' .

Overnight: Charters Towers Heritage Lodge

Day 12. Tuesday 19th June 2012: Charters Towers - Emerald

MEALS: B, L, D

This morning we have a brief introductory to **'The World'** with our **experienced local guide** where we will uncover many significant sites and facts about Charters Towers history. We will witness such things as the **Murals, Towers Hill Lookout** and stop at **Miners Cottage**, a mini museum that offers an experience set back in time. We have an early lunch this morning before and travelling south to **Emerald** with a comfort stop along the way. The town is named after 'Emerald Downs Hill', a lush emerald green hill located just north of town. Emerald is now considered the 'hub' for the Central Highlands and the 'gateway' to the Sapphire Gemfields; the largest, and one of the richest, sapphire fields in the southern hemisphere.

Overnight: Maraboon Motor Inn Emerald

Day 13. Wednesday 20th June 2012 Emerald – Bundaberg

MEALS: B, L, D

We depart Emerald after a cooked breakfast and make our way to the coast to make a stop along the way at **Rockhampton**. Rockhampton is known as the **Beef Capital of Australia**. We visit the **Rockhampton Heritage Village** where you will step back in time at this friendly township museum showcasing the rich, colourful history of the Rockhampton district 1850 – 1950. We enjoy a **light lunch** and a **cuppa** at **Arnolds Store** before joining the Bruce Highway and travelling south to Bundaberg this afternoon. We arrive at our accommodation and sit down to dinner in the restaurant later tonight.

Overnight: Comfort Inn Bert Hinkler Bundaberg

Day 14. Thursday 21st June 2012: Bundaberg**MEALS: B, L, D**

This morning after our cooked breakfast we visit **The Hinkler Hall of Aviation** one of the major tourist attractions. Themed around the adventures and achievements of local pioneer solo aviator Bert Hinkler, this attraction provides visitors with a fascinating insight into early aviation, and the contribution made by local pioneers. We **enjoy lunch at Café 1928** before visiting **Bundaberg Rum Distillery** for a **guided tour**. On the tour we will see, smell and taste our way through the rum production progress. We enjoy a video presentation, extensive tour, personal sampling, historical displays and opportunity to purchase merchandise and some unique souvenirs. Next we visit **Bundaberg Barrel, home of Bundaberg Ginger Beer**. Here we have time for a self guided tour through the interactive True Brew Experience Tour. Use the interactive touch screens to see what happens to the humble ginger root as it's mashed, crushed, brewed and fermented to make the world's finest ginger beer. We have some time to freshen up and relax before dinner tonight.

Overnight: Comfort Inn Bert Hinkler Bundaberg**Day 15. Friday 22nd June 2012: Bundaberg – Gold Coast****MEALS: B, L, D**

We farewell our hosts this morning and say goodbye to Bundaberg as we travel south along the coast to the **Gold Coast**, travelling through Maryborough before stopping at the famous **Ettamogah Pub** for **lunch** which was built in 1989 and the word "ettamogah" is Aboriginal for "place of good drink!" Now one of Queensland's leading tourist attractions it stands at an impressive 18m in height. It's a must to visit due to its quirky shape and caricature appearance. On arrival to our accommodation we have time to freshen up, before making our way to discover the Outback Spirit with **Australian Outback Spectacular 2**, an evening dinner show presented by **R.M. Williams**; filled with outback music, drama and action. The new show '**Heroes of the Light Horse**' retains all the fun, charm and skill of the original but with an important difference, this time we celebrate the link between our stockmen and the legendary **Australian Light Horse**.

Overnight: Radisson Resort Gold Coast**Day 16. Saturday 23rd June 2012: Gold Coast – Port Macquarie****MEALS: B, L, D**

After breakfast we board the coach and sit back as we travel the coast via Tweed Heads, Byron Bay, Ballina and onto **Tucabia** where we stop at **Squatters Rest**. Enjoy a step back in time at the unique outdoor historical attraction with good old fashioned bush hospitality. We enjoy lunch here today before arriving into the coastal town of **Port Macquarie**, nestled between the **Pacific Ocean** and **Hastings River**. After check in we meet in the restaurant for our last dinner as a group whilst on tour.

Overnight: Port Macquarie**Day 17. Sunday 24th June 2012: Port Macquarie – Nowra****MEALS: B, L**

Enjoy a fully cooked breakfast before loading the luggage and heading home. We break for a comfort stop before arriving into **Wyong** where we enter into **the Leagues Club** for **lunch**. We rejoin the Sydney –Newcastle freeway for the last stretch of road before arriving home this afternoon after a wonderful 17 days away on our Adventure into the Queensland Outback & Gulf of Australia.

For information and bookings contact: Freecall: 1300 133 477

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Important Notes

- Itinerary is subject to change without notice.
- Price subject to change until full payment is received to tour office.
 - Price based on Twin/Double Share.
 - If you prefer not to share – single supplement is applicable.
- Cancellation Fees may apply. Terms & Conditions are as per those published on our website or can be provided on request
 - Travel Insurance is strongly recommended.
- DUE TO RTA WEIGHT CONSTRAINTS PASSENGER LUGGAGE MUST BE LIMITED TO 23 KILOGRAM

Please Note

This Tour was prepared by Trade Travel in conjunction with Kennedys Tours. Kennedy's Tours & Trade Travel accept no liability for the failure of principles to provide services as outlined in this tour itinerary. We will of course endeavour to provide a suitable alternative in the unlikely event of such occurring. Minimum numbers of 20 are required for the operation of this trip.

Enjoy the Experience

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