

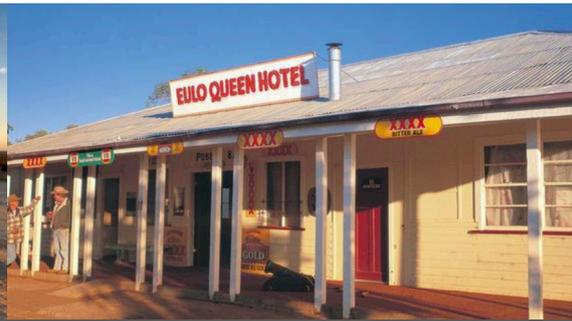


PLATINUM JOURNEYS

ICONIC OUTBACK PUBS

15 days - Wednesday 19th May to Wednesday 2nd June 2021

Join us on this exciting 15 day tour to some Australia's most iconic outback pubs. Although we visit lots of iconic pubs it's not just about the pubs ... it's the beauty of the outback with amazing sunsets and wonderful scenery.



DAY 1: MELBOURNE TO SWAN HILL Wed 19 May 21 (D)

Welcome to the Iconic Pubs of the Outback tour. Our amazing journey features some of the most famous Australian pubs including the Royal Mail Hotel, Toompine Pub and Birdsville Hotel. We have a travel day ahead. Chat to your fellow adventures or watch the scenery roll by your window as we arrive in Swan Hill for our welcome dinner. Lunch at own expense | dinner at accommodation

Overnight: Comfort Inn Campbell Motor Inn, Swan Hill

DAY 2: SWAN HILL TO MUNGO Thu 20 May 21 (BLD)

This morning we uncover the starkly beautiful landscape of ancient dry lake basins, sand formations and towering dunes of Mungo National Park. This area is rich with Aboriginal stories and significant archaeological discoveries. We take a giant leap back in time and enjoy the day exploring this remarkable location with a local expert. Walk the Walls of China, explore the historic woolshed and be amazed at the landscape from a lookout. Breakfast, lunch & dinner at accommodation

Overnight: Mungo Lodge

DAY 3: MUNGO TO BROKEN HILL Fri 21 May 21 (BLD)

Following the Darling River, we stop off at the Pooncarie Pub – a watering hole for river fisherman. Our drive then takes us to the Menindee Lake and the historic town of Menindee. Here we see the Maidens Hotel known for its role in the Burke & Wills expedition. We continue onto Broken Hill, a living, breathing time capsule where the great mining prosperity of yesteryear blends seamlessly with the rising modern art scene. Enjoy dinner this evening at Mario's Palace Hotel. Breakfast at accommodation | pub lunch included | dinner at the Palace Hotel

Overnight: Desert Sands Motor Inn, Broken Hill

DAY 4: BROKEN HILL Sat 22 May 21 (B)

We begin our Broken Hill touring at the Line of Lode Lookout & Miners Memorial, a unique structure which is a memorial to those who lost their lives working in the Broken Hill mines. Afterwards witness the spiritual quality of the outback captured at the Pro Hart Gallery before delighting our visual senses at the International Sculpture Symposium - nestled amongst the Barrier Ranges, twelve sandstone artworks highlight the skyline and all have a story to tell. Located on a majestic hilltop, this unusual attraction on was created by the finest sculptors from around the world. Early afternoon we travel to Silverton, a remote outpost north of Broken Hill. See the unique art galleries and visit Mundi Mundi Plains Lookout before arriving at the iconic Silverton Pub which shot to fame appearing in the Mad Max films and enjoy dinner here this evening (own expense). Breakfast at accommodation | lunch & dinner at own expense

Overnight: Desert Sands Motor Inn, Broken Hill

DAY 5: BROKEN HILL TO FLINDERS RANGES Sun 23 May 21 (BD)

We travel through Peterborough and Orroroo, stopping at Magnetic Hill, famous for its ability to make vehicles feel as though they are rolling uphill. We continue to Wilpena Pound, set in Ikara-Flinders Ranges National Park, is a natural amphitheatre of mountains, covering eight times the area of Uluru and is 300 metres higher, such an awe-inspiring vision to be held! Breakfast & dinner at accommodation | lunch at own expense

Overnight: Wilpena Pound Resort, Flinders Ranges

DAY 6: FLINDERS RANGES Mon 24 May 21 (BLD)

Uncover the dramatic gorges and spectacular peaks of the Ikara-Flinders Ranges National Park. We meet our local guide who will take us on an insider's tour of this stunning national park. Our touring will include Brachina Gorge and Razorback Lookout (subject to weather conditions). We enjoy a visit to Gumcreek Station for lunch before returning to Wilpena Pound mid-afternoon. Breakfast & dinner at accommodation | lunch included

Overnight: Wilpena Pound Resort, Flinders Ranges

Day 7: FLINDERS RANGES TO MARREE Tue 25 May 21 (BLD)

Travelling to Parachilna, we stop at the legendary Prairie Hotel for their signature 'Feral Mixed Grill'. Enjoy a delicious antipasto platter made with a variety of conventional and unique bush foods before continuing to Farina. Once a thriving town that served a huge area of meal runs reaching as far away as Innamincka and Cordillo Downs. We have time to wander the old town, walk through the ancient rooms and read the informative storyboards. We continue to Marree the town famous for being the junction of the illustrious Oodnadatta and Birdsville Tracks. Once a thriving centre for transport and communication, relics of a bygone era remain. The local Marree Pub - like to many in remote parts of Australia - is the social centre of this community and is also where we'll be staying. Tonight, make sure you look into the night sky, it's like a blanket of stardust and twinkly stars. It's a true outback experience. Breakfast & dinner at accommodation | pub lunch included

Overnight: Marree Hotel Motel

Day 8: MARREE TO BIRDSVILLE Wed 26 May 21 (BD)

Today we travel the Birdsville Track and see the remains of settlements, missions and stations that once dotted this busy stock route. We continue to Birdsville for our two-night stay. Deep in the heart of wild and isolated country, Birdsville is one of the Outback's most recognised towns. This evening enjoy a cold drink at the iconic Birdsville Hotel. Breakfast & dinner at accommodation | lunch at own expense

Overnight: Birdsville Hotel

Day 9: EXPLORING BIRDSVILLE**Thu 27 May 21 (BD)**

A local guide joins us this morning as we learn the history and unique characters of Birdsville on a town tour. We head to Big Red, the tallest sand dune (40 metres high) in the Simpson Desert. We also travel out of town toward Bedourie and see the rare desert Waddi trees, some said to be 1000 years old. Our afternoon is at leisure. You may like to visit the beautiful Birdville Billabong, try a camel pie at the Birdsville Bakery or view local artwork in the gallery. Breakfast & dinner at accommodation | lunch at own expense

Overnight: Birdsville Hotel

Day 10: BIRDSVILLE TO INNAMINCKA**Fri 28 May 21 (BD)**

Today we see the historic woolshed on Cordillo Downs Station before we go off the beaten track through picturesque breakaway country to Innamincka. Located along the old Strezlecki Track on the edge of Cooper Creek, Innamincka is where travellers and explorers can discover the real beauty of Australia's outback. Breakfast & dinner at accommodation | lunch at own expense

Overnight: Innamincka Hotel Motel

Day 11: INNAMINCKA – NOCCUNDRRA – THARGOMINDAH Sat 29 May 21 (BLD)

We make our way to the Dig Tree, the site of national icons, Burke & Wills expedition and an enduring reminder of the pioneering spirit and extreme harshness of the outback. From here we call in at the historic Noccundra Hotel, the only original surviving building in the township. The hotel was built from locally quarried sandstone, and transported to Noccundra by Camel Train. This afternoon we push through to Thargomindah. Breakfast & dinner at accommodation | pub lunch included

Overnight: Thargomindah Oasis Motel

Day 12: EULO & TOOMPINE**Sun 30 May 21 (BLD)**

Located on the banks of the Bulloo River, Thargomindah's traditional source of industry is sheep and wool. In recent times, petroleum/oil and gas make up a large part of the region's economy. As we drive around the town, look out for the old mud brick hospital and the artesian hydro power plant, thought to be the oldest working unit in Australia. Thargomindah is also the perfect launch pad to discover nearby iconic pubs. We travel to Eulo for lunch where the local pub is named after colourful character, Isobel Gray, notoriously known as the "Eulo-Queen", due to her business ventures in town and her fine taste in jewellery. Our afternoon stop will be at a "pub without a town". Toompine was once a thriving community serviced by Cobb & Co's regular coach service. As with many outback pubs, Toompine is a great place to have a beer or two and a good yarn. Stop in and enjoy the unique atmosphere that includes unbeatable friendly service, entertaining locals and interesting stories. Breakfast & dinner at accommodation | pub lunch included

Overnight: Thargomindah Oasis Motel

Day 13: THARGOMINDAH – HUNGERFORD – BOURKE**Mon 31 May 21 (BLD)**

We visit the tiny town of Hungerford, which features a large boarder gate that doubles as a wild dog and dingo fence. We stop at the historic Royal Mail Hotel which was originally a Cobb & Co Staging Post where weary horses and travellers could rest from the harsh heat, road conditions and infrequent floods. This afternoon we head to Bourke, on the banks of the Darling River. Breakfast & dinner at hotel | pub lunch included

Overnight: Darling River Motel, Bourke

Day 14: BOURKE TO GRIFFITH Tue 1 Jun 21 (BD)

At the Back o' Bourke Exhibition Centre, hear tales of early exploration and the paddleboat trade. We also learn about the local aboriginal people of the region, farmers, stockman, bush poets, bushrangers and Afghan cameleers. We continue to Griffith check into our accommodation and relax before our farewell dinner. Breakfast & dinner at accommodation | lunch at own expense

Overnight: Econolodge Griffith Motor Inn

Day 15: GRIFFITH TO MELBOURNE Wed 2 Jun 21 (D)

With a good book in hand and our bags packed we head for home, arriving in Melbourne in the late afternoon. Breakfast at accommodation | lunch at own expense

(B) Breakfast. (L) Lunch. (D) Dinner. Alterations to the itinerary may occur – a final confirmed itinerary will be provided with your travel documentation approximately 3 weeks prior to departure.

**Tour cost Twin Share/Double per person \$6450
Solo Traveller \$7450**

Tour cost based on a minimum of 14 passengers.

TOUR COST INCLUDES:

Air conditioned, restroom equipped vehicle travel with experienced crew
Twin share accommodation with ensuite facilities
Meals as per the itinerary
All entry fees to sightseeing activities as listed in the itinerary

TOUR COST DOES NOT INCLUDE:

Travel insurance – please enquire for a quote or to purchase a policy
Items of a personal nature eg laundry/phone and any optional extras/trips
Alcoholic & non-alcoholic beverages plus meals not listed in the itinerary

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CONDITIONS OF BOOKING

All bookings must be accompanied by a deposit of \$600.00 per person
The balance and final payment must be received 90 days prior to departure.

CANCELLATION POLICY

More than 90 days notice : refund less \$600.00 deposit
90 - 60 days before tour : 50% refund
Less than 60 days: no refund

ALTERNATIVE CREDIT OPTION

For cancellations with more than 30 days notice
75% credit towards a future tour

**Platinum Journeys strongly recommend all passengers
take out travel insurance in case of unexpected illness or accident**