Stars, Parks & Legends - accommodated & camping safari

6 Days/5 Nights ex Brisbane – price on application
Discover the wonder of the night skies at Charleville’s Cosmos Centre. Tour the Quilpie Powerhouse Museum and enjoy historic Ray Station, a living museum. At Welford National Park, dine on a claypan and track critters at the sandhill. Visit Windorah’s Solar Farm and climb the red sandhills. In Longreach, join a guided tour of the Qantas 747 and 707 jets and ride an authentic Cobb & Co. coach through the scrub.

Day 1 – Brisbane to Charleville

**Journey:** Flight Brisbane to Charleville................................................................. (QantasLink or Rex Airlines)
**Highlights:** Cosmos Centre and Observatory
**Afternoon:** We “Journey to Infinity” at the **Cosmos Centre and Observatory**, hold meteorites in our hands during a guided ‘show and tell’ session and hear why Pluto was taken out of the Planet Club.
**Evening:** Experienced night sky guides take us on a journey through the Cosmos as we explore the night sky with the aid of the powerful Meade telescopes.
**Accommodation:** Bailey Bar Caravan Park, 196 King Street, Charleville. Ph: (07) 4654 1744

Day 2 – Charleville to Quilpie & Ray Station

**Journey:** Charleville to Quilpie................................................................. approx 212kms / 2 hrs 30 mins
**Highlights:** Charleville School of Distance Education; Charleville Royal Flying Doctor Base; Quilpie Powerhouse Museum; Ray Station
**Morning:** This morning we visit the **Charleville School of Distance Education** and learn how these vital services have sustained Queensland’s Outback communities for generations. Discover the valuable service to the people of Queensland’s Outback by the **Charleville Royal Flying Doctor Base**.
**Afternoon:** Travel to Quilpie, visit the **Quilpie Powerhouse Museum** and learn how Quilpie became the first town to have a Powerhouse. Around 75km out of town we arrive at the historic Ray Station, once owned by pioneers of the district - the Tully and Durack families. Here we view some early film footage, visit the Pioneer cemetery, and get hands-on with opal fossicking.
**Evening:** Tonight we enjoy **Ray Station** Homestead hospitality with dinner, music and poetry around the campfire.
**Accommodation:** Ray Station, Quilpie. Ph: (07) 4656 4737 or 0428 377 921

Cosmos Centre and Observatory, Charleville
Day 3 – Quilpie to Welford National Park (via Windorah)

Journey:
- Quilpie to Windorah .............................................................. approx 244kms / 3hrs
- Windorah to Welford National Park ............................................ approx 110kms / 1hrs 10mins

Highlights:
- Windorah Solar Farm; Windorah Sandhills; Welford National Park

Morning:
- Departing Ray Station, we travel to Windorah and visit the Windorah Solar Farm, the first solar farm trial by Ergon Energy. Time to explore the majestic red dunes just out of town.

Afternoon:
- Travel to Welford National Park with its red river gum and coolibah-lined waters, golden-green spinifex, and white-barred ghost gums against a backdrop of red sand dunes. Here we'll discover a rare (rammed earth) original grazing homestead and keep an eye out for local birdlife, red and grey kangaroos and wallaroos.

Evening:
- Dinner tonight on a claypan, the perfect vantage point to watch the shadows created at night!

Accommodation:
- Little Boomerang Waterhole Campsite, Welford National Park Ph: 13 QGOV (137468)

Day 4 – Welford National Park

Highlights:
- Explore Welford National Park

This morning with the help of the Park Ranger (if available), we’ll track the critters at the Sandhill, seek out the varied habitats for local wildlife and discover remnants of Aboriginal heritage and use, including water wells and stone arrangements. Enjoy some fun afternoon water activities at one of the large permanent waterholes.

Tonight we have the rare opportunity to watch the sun set and the moon rise at the same time over the Barcoo River.

Evening:
- Campfire dinner under the stars.

Accommodation:
- Little Boomerang Waterhole Campsite, Welford National Park Ph: 13 QGOV (137468)

Day 5 – Welford National Park to Longreach

Journey:
- Welford National Park to Longreach............................................. approx 217kms / 3hrs

Highlights:
- Barcoo Shire Museum; The Native Well; Stonehenge; Qantas Founders Museum; Kinnon & Co.’s Royal Mail Gallop

Morning:
- After breakfast we will drive to Jundah and visit the Barcoo Shire Museum, with its impressive collection of pioneering era relics. Visit the Native Well, a valuable source of water for Indigenous people in days gone by. En route to Stonehenge we’ll spot interesting rock holes, ghostly white gum trees and intriguing rock formations sculptured over millions of years.

Afternoon:
- Arriving in Longreach we visit the Qantas Founders Museum where we will learn the history of Australia’s national airline. Experience a WWI simulator, take a guided tour of the 707 and 747 jets and discover hands-on historical exhibits.

Join Kinnon & Co. for a 20-minute ride in an authentic replica Cobb & Co. coach pulled by a team of four horses. We’ll learn about the history of Cobb & Co. while getting a glimpse of what public transport was like from the mid 1800s.

Evening:
- Dinner at our accommodation.

Accommodation:
- Longreach Tourist Park. Ph: 1800 356 099 or Longreach Pastoral College Ph 1800 888 710
Day 6 — Longreach to Brisbane

Journey: Flight Longreach to Brisbane................................................................................................. (QantasLink)

Highlights: Australian Stockman’s Hall of Fame

Morning: At the Australian Stockman’s Hall of Fame explore the five themed galleries to discover the history behind some of Australia’s greatest and bravest explorers, stock workers, pastoralist, and Aborigines.

Tour Highlights
- Cosmos Centre and Observatory, Charleville School of Distance Education and Charleville Royal Flying Doctor Base
- Quilpie Powerhouse Museum and historic Ray Station (overnight stay)
- Windorah Solar Farm and a two night Welford National park bush camp
- Barcoo Shire Museum, The Native Well and Stonehenge
- Qantas Founders Museum & Jet Tour, Kinnon & Co.’s Royal Mail Gallop and Australian Stockman’s Hall of Fame

Relevant Fact Sheets: 1-4,14-15, 17-18, 22, 25

BOOKINGS AND ENQUIRIES
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