Day 1 – Brisbane to Mitchell

Morning: We begin the day with an early departure from Brisbane en route to Toowoomba. Following a pleasant 1hr 50 min drive, we will enjoy morning tea at Picnic Point, located on the edge of the Great Dividing Range in Toowoomba.

Next we will travel to Miles, where lunch will be provided in a local park. Miles was originally named Dogwood Crossing and was established on a track blazed by the explorer Ludwig Leichhardt in 1884.

Afternoon: After lunch we continue our journey to our overnight stop at Mitchell, known as 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. Just out of Mitchell we arrive at Bonus Downs Farmstay and receive a warm welcome from the station hosts. After setting up camp in the shearer’s quarters, we sit down to a well deserved dinner followed by a campfire and star gazing.

Our campsite: Bonus Downs Farmstay, via Mitchell. Ph: (07) 4623 1573.

(Included Meals: Morning Tea; Lunch; Dinner)
Day 2 – Mitchell to Longreach

Journey:
- Mitchell to Augathella: approx 182km / 2 hrs, 10 mins
- Augathella to Blackall: approx 219km / 2 hrs, 35 mins
- Blackall to Longreach: approx 214km / 2 hrs, 30 mins

Morning:
- We are up early this morning for a hearty campsite breakfast. Everybody chips in to help pack up the campsite and we continue our journey towards our next overnight stop at Longreach.
- We will arrive in Augathella for a refreshing morning tea. Augathella, with its fascinating history of bushrangers, bullockies and bullock teams, has some memorable Outback experiences.

Afternoon:
- Our lunch break is scheduled in Blackall. Famous for many reasons, blade shearer Jack Howe put Blackall on the map in 1892 when he set a world record by shearing 321 sheep in seven hours and 40 minutes. It took 58 years for anyone to match this feat. It’s also the home of the Black Stump which marks the original Astro Station established in 1887. Anything west of this point is said to be “beyond the black stump.”

Early Evening:
- We will arrive in the legendary town of Longreach late afternoon and set up camp.
- Campsite dinner tonight, followed by showers and bed.

Our campsite: Longreach Tourist Park, 12 Thrush Road, Longreach.
(Included Meals: Breakfast; Morning Tea; Lunch; Dinner)

Day 3 – Sightseeing in and around Longreach

Highlights:
- Longreach School of Distance Education
- Australian Stockman’s Hall of Fame
- Outback Aussie Tours – Drover’s Sunset Cruise

Morning:
- We are up early this morning for a hearty campsite breakfast. Today we get the chance to explore Longreach, its pioneering history and its unique Queensland’s Outback attractions.

Experience: Longreach School of Distance Education, Sir James Walker Drive, Longreach.
- At the Longreach School of Distance Education you will learn how students who live in Queensland’s most remote regions go to school. Follow the fascinating history of Distance Education from the way it used to be to what it has become today. A morning tea stop is scheduled after our visit.

Experience: Australian Stockman’s Hall of Fame, Landsborough Highway, Longreach.
- The Australian Stockman’s Hall of Fame is the best place in the country to learn about the nation’s pioneering history and the great contributions of Australian stockmen and women. See the RM Williams Outback Show featuring Rusty Frame, a true Queensland’s Outback character and legend.

Afternoon/Evening:
- We return to our campsite for lunch.

Experience: Outback Aussie Tours – Drover’s Sunset Cruise, Longreach.
- View the glorious western landscape upon the deck of the MV Longreach Explorer. Keep watch for abundant wildlife on the upper deck while overlooking the timeless waterhole. Be mesmerised by the afterglow, colours and incredible reflections of the coolabahs as the light fades into the starry Outback sky. Savour the flavours of the Outback camp oven cuisine at the Drover’s Dinner Camp before sitting back and enjoying bush poetry under the stars.
  (Maximum capacity 48 passengers)

Our campsite: Longreach Tourist Park, 12 Thrush Road, Longreach.
(Included Meals: Breakfast; Morning Tea; Lunch; Dinner)
Day 4 – Sightseeing in and around Winton

Journey: Longreach to Winton .................................................................................................................................. approx 180km / 2 hr, 10 mins

Highlights: ➖ Waltzing Matilda Centre and Australian Age of Dinosaurs

Morning: After breakfast, we break camp and make our way to Winton. The town is best known as the place that AB (Banjo) Paterson wrote “Waltzing Matilda” in 1895, whilst staying outside Winton. The first performance of the ballad was reported to be at Winton’s North Gregory Hotel on 6 April of the same year. Winton is recognised as the ‘home’ of Australian bush poetry, hosting the annual Bronze Swagman Award, one of the country’s most prestigious literary awards.

Experience: The Waltzing Matilda Centre, Elderslie Street, Winton.

The Centre is dedicated to the nation’s favourite unofficial anthem "Waltzing Matilda". The song, penned by Banjo Paterson, embraces Australian culture and the Centre uses technology and interactive displays to interpret the song.

Afternoon: Enjoy a picnic lunch in Winton followed by free time to explore the Opal Wall, Winton’s Musical Fence and Arno’s Wall.


Step back in time about 100 million years, as we travel to the Australian Age of Dinosaurs – home to the world’s largest collection of Australian dinosaur fossils and the site of the biggest fossil preparation laboratory in the Southern Hemisphere! The world class facility is located on top of a huge mesa plateau called ‘The Jump-Up’ with huge rocky outcrops, cliffs, canyons and spectacular distance views. We will enjoy tours of the dinosaur collection and fossil preparation laboratory.

Evening: Back to the campsite for dinner and bed.

Our campsite: Longreach Tourist Park, 12 Thrush Road, Longreach. Ph: (07) 4658 2667

(Included Meals: Breakfast; Morning Tea; Lunch; Dinner)
Day 5 – Longreach to Barcaldine

Journey: Longreach to Barcaldine....................................................approx 107km / 1 hr, 15 mins

Highlights: ➔ Qantas Founders Museum
➔ Kinnon and Co. Royal Mail Gallop
➔ Australian Workers Heritage Centre
➔ Tree of Knowledge Memorial

Morning: After our campsite breakfast, we have the opportunity to experience some of Queensland’s Outback adventure activities.

Experience: Qantas Founders Museum, Longreach Airport, Sir Hudson Fysh Drive, Ph: (07) 4658 3737
They say Longreach is where Australia learned to fly. Now find out how at the Qantas Founders Museum. Visit the original 1922 Qantas hangar and explore a range of the original Qantas aircraft, including a decommissioned 747 and 707. Option: Add Wing Walk experience.

Experience: Kinnon and Co. – Royal Mail Gallop, 126 Eagle Street, Longreach.
Experience a ride on a Cobb & Co. Coach, which were the lifeline of Queensland’s Outback for communication and transport until motor vehicles arrived in 1924. Visit the Station Store, which was an original Cobb & Co. stop, where you will see a video of the History of the Cobb & Co. as well as get a chance to step on board a horse drawn carriage.

Afternoon: Experience:
Tree of Knowledge Memorial and Australian Workers Heritage Centre, 94 Ash Street, Barcaldine.
Visiting the Tree of Knowledge Memorial and the Australian Workers Heritage Centre, we pay tribute to our early history. Barcaldine is home to the infamous Shearers’ Strike of 1891. The location of the Tree of Knowledge Memorial is known as the place where the Labor Party was formed.

Evening: Enjoy lunch back at camp before packing up and travelling through to Barcaldine.

Our campsite: Wanpa-rda Matilda Outback Education Centre, Ash Street, Barcaldine.
(Included Meals: Breakfast; Morning Tea; Lunch; Dinner)

Day 6 – Barcaldine to Mitchell

Journey: Barcaldine to Blackall ..............................................................approx 107km / 1 hr, 15 mins
Blackall to Mitchell.................................................................................approx 399km / 4 hrs, 40 mins

Morning: Up early this morning for our campsite breakfast. Today we say goodbye to Barcaldine and begin our journey home.

Afternoon: Stopping for morning tea in Blackall. We continue our journey to Mitchell with a picnic lunch en-route.

Experience: The Great Artesian Spa, 2 Cambridge Street, Mitchell.
The Great Artesian Spa promises a unique Outback experience. There are two large pools of thermal mineralised artesian waters to enjoy. One spa has naturally heated waters from the Great Artesian Basin. The other one is designed for those that prefer a cooler experience.

Early Evening: We arrive at Mitchell for our campsite dinner.

(Included Meals: Breakfast; Morning Tea; Lunch; Dinner)

Day 7 – Mitchell to Brisbane

Journey: Mitchell to Miles..............................................................................................................................................................................approx 228km / 2 hrs, 50 mins
Miles to Toowoomba................................................................................approx 210km / 2 hrs, 40 mins
Toowoomba to Brisbane..............................................................................approx 126km / 1 hr, 50 mins

Morning: We enjoy our last campsite breakfast then continue our journey home to Brisbane. We will stop for morning tea en-route to Miles.

Afternoon: We arrive in Miles for a picnic lunch then make our way towards Toowoomba for our afternoon comfort stop.

Late Afternoon: We leave Toowoomba and make our way back to Brisbane arriving early evening.
Tour Inclusions:
- All coach travel in an air-conditioned luxury tour coach with seatbelts
- Coach features: TV, DVD, radio, P.A. and CD player
- Tent accommodation throughout
- Full catering kitchen and caterers for all meals as specified
- Entrance fees to all attractions and experiences as specified

Items not included:
- Sleeping bag and pillow
- Items of a personal nature
- Personal travel insurance

Tour Highlights:
- School of Distance Education, Longreach
- Qantas Founders Museum, Longreach
- Australian Stockman’s Hall of Fame, Longreach
- Sunset River Cruise, Longreach
- Tree of Knowledge Memorial, Barcaldine
- Australian Workers Heritage Centre, Barcaldine
- Waltzing Matilda Centre
- Kinnon & Co. Royal Mail Gallop, Longreach
- Longreach
- Australian Age of Dinosaurs
- Great Artesian Spa Bath

Relevant Factsheets:
1-4, 7-8, 12, 14-15, 17, 19, 21