

Desert Edge Tours

Birdsville Desert Safari – accommodated & camping safari

6 Days/5 Nights ex Brisbane – price on application

Journey to the **Diamantina** where the **desert meets the channel country**. Meet the traditional owners and Elders of the local **Wangkangurru Yarluyandi Tribe**. Follow the **Burke and Wills trail** to Innamincka and **cruise the Cooper Creek**. Swim in the Birdsville Billabong, stand atop **Big Red sandhill** and visit a historic cattle station.

NB: Teachers – We recommend downloading Apps – Skywalker Astronomy Guide & Geocaching

Day 1 Thursday – Brisbane to Birdsville

- Journey:** Flight Brisbane to Birdsville(REX Airlines flight)
- Highlights:** Team games on the banks of the Birdsville Billabong; Campfire dinner under the Outback Stars
- Morning:** In Brisbane we start our adventure by boarding our flight bound for Birdsville
- Afternoon:** On arrival into Birdsville, we will be transferred to our campsite on the banks of the Birdsville Billabong - a great place to swim, kayak and view fabulous sunsets. This afternoon, we'll relax and join in some outdoor team games on the banks of the Billabong, followed by a cool swim before dinner.
- Evening:** Campsite dinner under the stars before bed.
- Accommodation:** Birdsville Caravan Park, Birdsville. Ph: (07) 4656 3214

Day 2 Friday – Birdsville

- Highlights:** Birdsville Bakery; Birdsville Town Tour; Big Red Sandhill; Two Boys Dreaming Trail
- Morning:** Join a local for an insider town tour of Birdsville. Visit the local school, heritage listed **Australian Inland Mission Hospital**, the **Old Courthouse** building and the **Royal Hotel ruins**. We'll hear the amazing story of Tom Kruse, the legendary **Birdsville Track Mailman** and see the famous Birdsville Racetrack! Follow the **Two Boys Dreaming Trail** at Thutirla Pula Aboriginal Story Place.
- Be prepared to be awestruck with a scenic tour to the top of **Big Red sandhill**, perched on the edge of the Simpson Desert. Feel the fine red sand between your toes, learn about the lay of the land and for the adventure seekers, perhaps some sand tobogganing! Sausage sizzle or picnic lunch at the bottom of Big Red Sandhill.
- Afternoon:** Pass **cattle yards** and learn the story of bronco branding. Time for a swim at Birdsville Billabong's **Pelican Point**. Perhaps an opportunity to try your hand at yabby pots?
- Evening:** Dinner at the **Birdsville Bakery** – Storytelling around the fire whilst enjoying some famous local BFC (Birdsville Fried Chicken).
- Accommodation:** Birdsville Caravan Park, Birdsville. Ph: (07) 4656 3214

Day 3 Saturday – Birdsville to Innamincka

- Journey:** Birdsville to Innamincka..... approx 417km / 6hrs
- Highlights:** History of Burke and Wills; Cadelga Ruins; Cordillo Downs; iconic Dig Tree; Cooper Creek punt cruise; Possible Geocaching competitions en route
- Morning:** Today we'll follow the Burke and Will's trail to Innamincka. We'll get an insight into the hardships encountered by early pastoralists at the Cadelga Ruins then visit the heritage listed Cordillo Downs shearing shed - Australia's largest – where a record 85,000 sheep were sheared in the 1880's. Enjoy a picnic lunch under the Coolibah Trees.
- Afternoon:** En route to Innamincka, we'll visit the 200-250 year old **Dig Tree** and site of Burke's grave. Take a scenic cruise on **Cooper Creek** to see Wills' grave and witness the amazing local birdlife.

Evening: This evening we will have a mini golf competition after dinner

Accommodation: Innamincka Trading Post, Innamincka. Ph: (08) 8675 9900



Big Red Sandhill, Birdsville

Day 4 Sunday – Innamincka to Birdsville

Journey: Innamincka to Birdsville..... approx 398kms / 5hrs

Highlights: King’s Marker; Page Family Grave and Pandie Pandie Station; Walkers Crossing; Birdsville Track

Morning: Returning to Birdsville we see **King’s Marker**, the site where the sole survivor of the ill-fated **Burke and Wills expedition** was found. We traverse Cooper Creek on the Walkers Crossing, named after the man who rebuilt the regularly flooded crossing.

Afternoon: We will drive on a portion of the famous **Birdsville Track**, originally a 517km cattle track that is now a popular tourist route. See the **Page Family Grave**, a sobering reminder to respect the environment. Drive past the airstrip and old Bronco branding yards at **Pandie Pandie Station**, and put a foot in each state at the Border Fences.

Evening: Dinner at our campsite around the fire with a damper making activity or possibly try some choc chip bananas?

Accommodation: Birdsville Caravan Park, Birdsville. Ph: (07) 4656 3214

Day 5 Monday – Birdsville

Highlights: Traditional Welcome to Country; Aboriginal cultural activities; Roseberth Station

Morning: This morning we head to the **Warrarri Visitor Information Centre** to meet Jean or Betty, Traditional owners and Elders of the local Wangkangurru Yarluyandi Tribe. Following a **traditional Welcome to Country**, we’ll wander to **the Meeting Place**, where they will share fascinating stories about their family, culture and local Aboriginal bush medicine. If time permits, students will have the opportunity to participate in traditional art workshops or fun activities to learn the basics of traditional language.

Afternoon: Following lunch we’ll take a drive out to **historic Roseberth Station*** on the Diamantina River where we’ll learn what its like to manage a 1.3 million acre property.

**Subject to owner availability. Bookings essential.*

Evening: Delicious BBQ dinner at Pelican Point

Accommodation: Birdsville Caravan Park, Birdsville. Ph: (07) 4656 3214

Day 6 – Birdsville to Brisbane

Journey: Birdsville to Brisbane flight..... (REX Airlines)

Morning: After breakfast and a final team activity, we will board our return flight to Brisbane.

Tour Highlights

- Birdsville Bakery
- Birdsville Town Tour
- Big Red Sandhill
- Burke and Wills history
- Cadelga Ruins
- Cordillo Downs
- The iconic Dig Tree
- Cooper Creek punt cruise
- King's Marker
- Walkers Crossing
- Birdsville Track
- Page Family Grave
- Birdsville Cultural Tour
- Two Boys Dreaming Trail
- Geothermal Power Station
- Birdsville Hotel

Relevant Fact Sheets: 3, 24, 27

BOOKINGS AND ENQUIRIES

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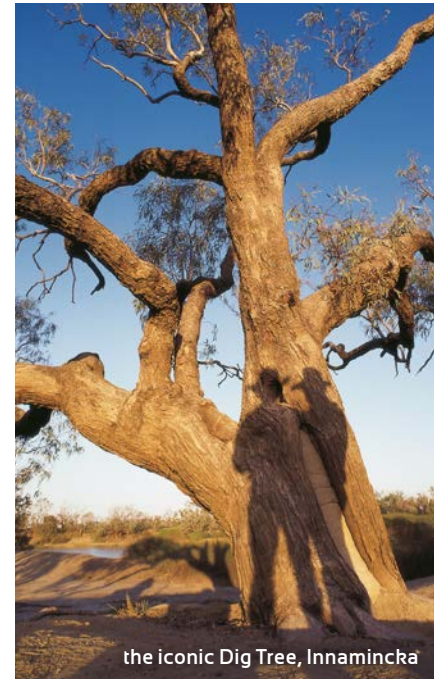
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Swimming at Pelican Point, Birdsville



the iconic Dig Tree, Innamincka

