



Mr and Mrs. N.
Australian Journey
Especially Prepared by
Essential Downunder Travel

Aussie Travel Reservations

Australian Contacts

Head Office: (xx) xxxx xxxxx

After Hours: xxxx xxx xxx

Meals included indicated by:

(LB) Light Breakfast

(B) Breakfast

(L) Lunch

(D) Dinner

Note: names of hotels and some tour operators have been omitted from the itinerary published on the website. Please inquire for details.

SEPTEMBER

Mon 22

Depart LAX

10:30 p.m. QF 12 departs LAX. Please re-confirm your flights at least 72 hours in advance and be at the airport at least 2 hours before departure. You will cross the international dateline.

Wed 24

Welcome to Sydney/Australia!

06:10 a.m. Upon arrival into Sydney on board Qantas Airways flight QF12, you will be met and welcomed by your local Essential Downunder Travel representative (waiting under the "Limousine Meeting Point" sign) who will hand over your touring documentation, run through your arrangements and assist with your self transfer to the hotel.

Please Note Important Information:

- Due to your early arrival flight your room may not be available for your immediate occupancy. Your luggage may be stored with reception until your room is ready for occupancy.

Today, Sydney is without doubt one of the best holiday cities in the world. It has the glamour and excitement of an international city, with its designer bars, restaurants, world-class galleries, superb colonial architecture and excellent shopping. But it also has an extraordinary range of natural features, so you never to need feel constricted by the fast pace of city life. Magnificent native bushland rings the city on three fronts, and on the fourth front, there is the sparkling spectacle of the Pacific Ocean complete with some of the coast's best surf beaches.

Built in 1886 refurbished in 1991 and heritage listed your accommodation has 26 Rooms (no private ensuites – 19 shared bathrooms). Friendly and central, it provides ideal stopover facilities for visitors to Sydney in need of simple budget accommodation, clean, comfortable, but without luxuries.

Just a few minutes walk from your hotel room:

- Darling Harbour, Ferries, Fish Markets, Aquarium Power House Museum, Mono Rail, Convention Centre, Sydney Casino, Paddys Markets, Art Gallery, Exhibition Centre, Light Rail.

Accommodation: XXXX

**Thu 25 -
Fri 26**
(LB)

Days at Leisure, Sydney

A light breakfast will be provided for you daily at the hotel in Sydney.

Spend these days at your own leisure. If you wish to book any activities, please feel free to contact our office for assistance. Suggested sights to visit are:

- Art Gallery of New South Wales - one of the most comprehensive collections in the country.
- Circular Quay - watch the action on the harbour from the waterfront walkway.
- Darling Harbour - an impressive complex with its National Maritime Museum, Sydney Aquarium and Powerhouse Museum.
- Ferry trip on the harbour - the best way to appreciate one of the world's great harbours.
- Opera House - a building like no other on earth, the Opera House is Sydney's most popular attraction.
- Queen Victoria Building - an elegant, Victorian-era shopping arcade.
- Royal Botanic Gardens - beautiful, historic gardens curled around the foreshore of Sydney Harbour.
- View from the top of the Centrepoint Tower - for a stunning panoramic view of this extraordinarily scenic city.

Accommodation: XXXX

Sat 27
Saturday
(LB,D)

Sydney to Heron Island via Brisbane and Gladstone – (Fly/Launch)

Please make your own transfer arrangements to the airport for your departure flight.

Please Note: We suggest you check-in no later than 1 to 1½ hours prior to your departure time.

06:05

Depart on board Qantas flight QF500 to Brisbane.

07:30

Upon arrival into Brisbane please make your way to your connecting flight.

08:40

Depart on board Qantas flight QF2308 to Gladstone.

09:55

Upon arrival into Gladstone Airport please make your way to the XXXX courtesy coach for check in.

10:30

The coach transfer departs the Gladstone Airport.

11:00

Your catamaran launch departs for Heron Island.

Upon arrival into Heron Island, you will be met by a Heron Island representative, assisted with check-in procedures and accompanied to your room.

Located 72 kilometres north east of Gladstone and 539 kilometres north of Brisbane, Heron Island is a small coral cay which is part of the Great Barrier Reef. Both Captain Cook (1770) and Matthew Flinders (1802) failed to locate Heron Island. It wasn't until January 12, 1843 that the HMS Fly anchored off the island and the ship's naturalist, Joseph Bette Jukes, noting the reef herons, named it after the herons which are part of the rich bird life which inhabits the island. The island is also home to flocks of mutton birds and terns. The island is part of the Great Barrier Reef National Park and as such is the headquarters for a University of Queensland marine geology survey and research team as well as having protected areas where the visitor can experience the beauties of the Barrier Reef removed from the impact of modern

civilisation. In June the Humpback Whales northern migration begins and they are often seen passing through waters around the Island. An average Humpback weighs 40 tonnes and measures 16 metres.

Please Note:

- Your 4 night Holiday Package includes breakfast, lunch and dinner daily. Breakfast and lunch are buffet style while dinner is usually a 4 course set menu. The restaurant is open for breakfast from 7.30am - 9.30am, lunch is served from 12.30pm - 2.00pm & dinner is served 6.30pm - 9.00pm. On arrival, the Maitre D' will allocate a table which will be yours for the duration of your stay.

Accommodation: XXXX

Sun 28
Tue 30
(B,L,D)

Days at Leisure, Heron Island

Today is free for you to spend at leisure.

Complimentary Activities Include: interpretative Reef walks (operate daily subject to tides), island ecology walks, birdlife walks, turtle nesting tours (At peak nesting times), star gazing, wildlife presentations, snorkelling lessons in swimming pool, Tennis (night & day), Reef Creature interpretative workshops, Research station walks and Nightly entertainment.

Other Activities (charges apply): Snorkelling excursions to the reef edge, Heron Kids Junior Ranger Program, Semi-submersible coral viewing cruises - commentary by reef interpreter, Guided glass bottom surf ski tours, Scuba diving, Night dives, Adventure dives, Discover Scuba (1 day resort course) 6 day Open Water dive course, 6 day Open Water dive course Learn to Dive courses, Fishing trips, Scenic helicopter flights, Full day barbeque cruises to Wilson Island (up to 30 guests), Sunset wine & cheese cruises, Wine & cheese tastings and Therapeutic massage.

Please note: Some time during these days please re-confirm with reception the departure time for your catamaran transfer to the Gladstone Airport on Wednesday the 1st October.

Accommodation: XXXX

OCTOBER
Wed 01

Heron Island to Cairns via Gladstone and Brisbane - (Launch/Fly)/Coach transfer to Port Douglas

(B,L)

Please check out of your resort room this morning. (Your luggage may be stored with reception until your launch departure this afternoon).

Spend the remainder of the day at your own leisure.

14:30

Catamaran launch to Gladstone. Upon arrival into the Gladstone Marina you will be transferred to the Gladstone Airport.

Please note:

Courtesy coach departs Marina to connect with all flights departing Gladstone Airport from 4.20pm and onwards.

17:25

Depart on board Qantas Airways flight QF2307 to Brisbane.

18:35

Upon arrival into Brisbane please make your way to your connecting flight to Cairns.

19:05

Depart on board Qantas Airways flight QF786 to Cairns.

21:20

Upon arrival into Cairns please make your way into the arrivals hall. Here you will be met by your XXXXX Coach driver for your seat in coach transfer to Port Douglas.

Just 73 kilometers North West of Cairns, along one of the most scenic coastal drives in Australia, Port Douglas offers the contrast of cosmopolitanism in a tropical mountain setting beside the Coral Sea. Once a small village, Port Douglas has become an international tourist destination. The town, off the main highway, is

surrounded by lush vegetation and pristine rainforests. This setting, along with its proximity to the Great Barrier Reef, makes it an ideal holiday destination.

Accommodation: XXXX

**Thu 02 -
Sun 05**

Days at Leisure, Port Douglas

Spend these days at your own leisure in Port Douglas.

Suggested sights that you may like to visit:

- The Tourist Information Centre by the water at the end of Dixie Street is a good place to start your exploration of the area. It has pamphlets and maps which will direct you to a series of brass plaques which explain the past history of the area.
- The Shipwreck Museum is one of the town's highlights is Ben Cropp's Shipwreck Museum on the wharf at Port Douglas. This collection of material from shipwrecks includes everything from ballast to coins. A section of the decking has been opened up so that visitors can view pieces of wreckage in the sea below the wharf, and, of course, there is a continuous video featuring Cropp's remarkable underwater photography.
- Lookouts: there are two locations which capture the essence of Port Douglas. Flagstaff Hill (known simply as 'The Lookout') can be reached by turning right at the end of the main street and following the signs. It offers an excellent view over Four Mile Beach and superb views over the Coral Sea.
- Courthouse: located in Wharf St this is the only old building (dating from 1879) to survive a devastating cyclone that struck in 1911.

Important note:

Some time during these days please call Tour Time Coaches on telephone XXXX XXXX, to reconfirm pick up time for your coach transfer to the airport on Monday 06th October.

Accommodation: XXXX

Mon 06

Port Douglas to Cairns (coach)/Cairns to Darwin - (Fly)

00:00

Please meet your Express Coach driver in the hotel foyer this morning for your seat in coach transfer to Cairns Airport. (pick up time to be advised).

18:35

Depart on board Qantas Airways flight QF800 to Darwin.

20:35

Upon arrival into Darwin please make your own way to your accommodation.

Darwin, a modern tropical capital set on a harbour twice the size of Sydney's, is Australia's most successful multicultural city. More than 50 nationalities are among the Darwin region's population of around 105,000, including the Larrakia Aboriginal people. As the capital of the Northern Territory and one of the major centres in northern Australia, Darwin is well served in terms of communications, transportation, technology and other facilities and resources. Originally named Palmerston, Darwin has come a long way since it was a tiny outpost that existed only to serve South Australia's desire for a settlement in the north. The establishment of an Outback Telegraph Station in the 1870s, followed by a minor gold rush which attracted thousands of Chinese (outnumbering the European population at the time), further entrenched the settlement - but it is the disasters that have really shaped Darwin's character.

Accommodation: XXXX

Tue 07

3 Day Kakadu/Katherine Tour

(L,D)

07:20

Please meet your XXXX Tour representative in front of your accommodation for departure on your tour.

After pick up from your hotel or accommodation, we head out to Kakadu. We travel across the Murrumbidgee flood plains and on to the Adelaide river for a boat cruise where we spot crocodiles, bird life and explore the tidal river system. Continuing on in to

Kakadu we cross the South Alligator river before proceeding to Ubirr/Obiri Rock where we see classic examples of Aboriginal Rock art and spectacular 360 degree views. After watching sunset over the escarpment we travel to our campsite at Kakadu Lodge where we enjoy a hearty dinner.

Accommodation: XXXX

Wed 08
(B,L,D)

Kakadu to Katherine (On Tour)

Breakfast to the dawn chorus of birdlife around the camp before heading off to Barramundi Gorge. Relax in the cool, clear, safe waters or explore this beautiful sandstone gorge. On the way to Nitmiluk (Katherine Gorge) we stop off at Edith Falls for a refreshing swim. Our route takes us through the historic mining region around Pine Creek until we settle in Katherine for another night under the stars.

Accommodation: XXXX

Thu 09
(B,L)

Katherine to Darwin (On Tour)

The choice is yours this morning. Enjoy the spectacular Gorge either by canoe or a two hour cruise. The gorge is a canoeists paradise with sandstone cliffs and crystal clear waters. The waters are safe for swimming and the area is rich in the history of the Jawoyn Aboriginal people. Lunch at the Gorge and travel up the track to Darwin.

Please note:

Please call XXXX Cruises on XXXX XXXX some time today to reconfirm your Darwin sunset cruise tomorrow afternoon.

Accommodation: XXXX

Fri 10

Day at Leisure, Darwin/Afternoon Darwin Sunset Cruise

Spend today at your own leisure in Darwin.

16:30

This afternoon please make your way to "Yots Café" located at Cullen Bay Marina in Darwin to board your Australian Harbour Cruise. NOTE: Boarding is no later than 4.30pm for a 4.45pm cruise departure.

16:45

Depart onboard the 'Starchaser' this afternoon for your 3 hour 'Sails in the Sunset' Cruise.

'Starchaser' carries a maximum of 22 people and provides real luxury. A 47 foot sailing Ketch owned, built and operated by Mal Soutar & Janne Stewart. She was launched in 1993 and has competed in several ocean races including 1st place in the Coral Sea Classic cruising division. Built of western red cedar, she has lovely traditional lines and is luxuriously fitted out with solid timber. Her teak decks and polished teak rails afford comfort, luxury and safety.

After passing through the Cullen Bay lock you immediately set sail for the sheltered waters of the inner harbour. Enjoy the silence of sail and the breeze in your hair as Starchaser glides through the calm waters. Should you be interested your skipper and hostess will describe points of interest and reveal the history of the harbour which is twice the size of Sydney Harbour.

Darwin sunsets are second to none and you will enjoy the very best seat in town for the view. Your Starchaser hostess will serve you a complimentary glass of champagne and hors d'oeuvres while all you have to do is relax and soak up the atmosphere.

20:00

At the end of the cruise you will be returned to Cullen Bay Marina.

Please make your own transfer arrangements back to the hotel. Or you may to treat yourself to dinner at one of Cullen Bay's many choices of cafes & restaurants! (own expense).

Accommodation: XXXX

Sat 11

Darwin to Alice Springs (Fly)

Make your own way to the airport. Please Note: We suggest you check-in no later than 1 hour prior to your departure time.

06:20

Depart on board Qantas flight QF1945 to Alice Springs.

08:40

Upon arrival into Alice Springs please make your own way to your accommodation.

At the very heart of Australia lies the historic town of Alice Springs - the pioneering gateway to a mysterious land of natural monuments, colourful outback culture, and ancient Dreamtime lore. Central Australia blooms like the Territory's own flower, the Desert Rose. Situated 462 kilometers from Ayers Rock/Uluru and positioned between the East and West MacDonnell Ranges, Alice Springs makes both a great touring base and a great holiday destination. The early history of Alice Springs is carefully preserved in several museums, and a visit to the School of the Air and Royal Flying Doctor Service reveals two of the facilities necessary for every day life in remote locations.

Situated overlooking the banks of the Todd River, your accommodation provides a unique option for the Alice Springs visitor, yet it is only walking distance to the town centre and the major areas of interest. Your apartment features full air conditioning and modern kitchen appointed with the latest appliances, so you can cook a complete meal in comfort, or just heat up some take-away. Your apartment has washing, ironing and drying facilities and all the creature comforts that we take for granted in our home and find lacking in traditional hotel-style accommodation. You can also enjoy the landscaped pool, barbecue area and games room, which includes pool table, video games and internet kiosk for their fun and relaxation. Spend the remainder of the day at your own leisure.

Please note:

Please call XXXX Tours on XXXX XXXX some time during the day to reconfirm your camping safari departure pick up tomorrow.

Accommodation: XXXX

Sun 12

(L,D)

3 Day Ayers Rock / Olgas / Kings Canyon Camping Safari

06:45

Please meet your XXXX Tours representative in the hotel foyer for departure on your tour.

Please note:

- Please keep luggage to minimum of an overnight bag. Remainder of your luggage may be store with reception at your Alice Springs accommodation.
- We recommend you bring along a torch, towel, pillow and 1.5 litre bottle of water, toiletries, hat, sturdy walking shoes, sun screen, camera and film, warm clothing in winter months, wet weather gear.
- Includes camping equipment at permanent safari camps (tents, off the ground camp beds, sleeping bags/sheets), camp fees, toilet/shower facilities, all meals (vegetarian by prior request), entrance fees including Uluru / Kata Tjuta park entry fees.
- Camping facilities include Hot/cold showers, toilets, permanent camps with camp beds in 2 person tents already erected.

Travel south through the picturesque James and Waterhouse Ranges, stopping at the Outback Camel Farm where you can enjoy a short camel ride (own expense). Heading westward we view the striking Atila (Mt. Connor) and the salt pans. On arrival at Ayers Rock Resort, approximately 1.00pm, we have lunch at our permanent safari camp. This afternoon we travel to the majestic Kata Tjuta (Olgas) with a hike through the "Valley of the Winds". We return in time to view the sunset over Uluru (Ayers Rock). Return to our camp for a traditional Aussie meal. Sleep on camp beds in tents or on a clear night, under the brilliant starry desert sky.

Accommodation: Camping

Mon 13
(B,L,D)

Ayers Rock to Kings Creek Station (On Tour)

This morning you can see the sunrise on the Rock before tackling the challenge of the climb. Uluru (Ayers Rock) is 348 metres above the desert floor. The climb is 1.6 km, but even if you decide not to climb, the surrounding landscape is spectacular. This is followed by a base tour exploring ancient caves where Aboriginal paintings, eroded rock faces and unusual rock formations can be seen. Return to Ayers Rock Resort where time is allowed for an optional 30 minute scenic flight over the Uluru/Kata Tjuta (Ayers Rock/Olgas) at own expense. After lunch we depart for Kings Creek Station, a working cattle/camel station and our overnight camp. A range of optional activities is available here. Tonight is an excellent night to swap yarns around the campfire under the beautiful star filled skies of Central Australia while enjoying a hearty bush dinner cooked over a crackling fire.

Accommodation: Camping

Tue 14
(B,L)

Kings Creek – Alice Springs (On Tour)

An early rise to travel out to Kings Canyon, a geological jewel nestled at the western end of the George Gill Ranges. We spend the next 4 hours exploring the canyon. View the "Amphitheatre", "the Lost City", the striking north and south walls and the beautiful "Garden of Eden". Return to Kings Creek Station for lunch before returning to Alice Springs travelling through sand dunes and majestic desert oaks country.

Accommodation: XXXX

Wed 15

Alice Springs to Adelaide (Fly)

Self transfer to the airport. Please Note: We suggest you check-in no later than 1 hour prior to your departure time.

17:30

Depart on board Qantas flight QF722 to Adelaide.

19:25

Upon arrival into Adelaide please make your own way to your accommodation.

Adelaide is a city perched on the edge of great tracts of farmland and desert, in the driest State in the driest continent in the world; a city that has blossomed because of its geography rather than despite it. Historically it has never felt the need to turn to the larger capitals to lead the way. Over the last century and a half it has carved out its own distinctive path and has in fact led the way in many areas such as planning, social reform and the arts. A gracious, well-planned city surrounded by parkland. It is set 10 kilometres inland from the coast of Gulf St Vincent, on the banks of the River Torrens. The city straddles a narrow coastal plain that gives way in the east to the rolling hills of the Mount Lofty Ranges. The suburbs, in the Australian tradition, sprawl far and wide, out along the coast, up into the ranges and north towards the famous wine-growing region, the Barossa. Adelaide, with its population of just over a million, is Australia's fifth largest city.

Accommodation: XXXX

Thu 16
(L,D)
00:00

2 Day / 1 Night Kangaroo Island Tour (Fly)

You will be met by a representative of Smartcar for you transfer to the General Aviation Terminal (pick up time to be advised).

Please Note:

- We request that you check-in and collect tickets at approximately at least 30 minutes prior to departure.
- Please note that you will be required to provide identification in order to collect your tickets.
- Emu Airways have a 10 kilograms (22 lb) luggage per person limit, so please restrict luggage to an overnight bag. There are storage facilities available in the terminal building.

09:15 Depart on board Emu Airways flight 245 to Kingscote.

09:45 On arrival you will be met by a tour representative and will be given an orientation to Kangaroo Island, describing its history, layout, and the days itinerary. One of the most important features for the Island is the wildlife in their natural habitats. On day one guests can hope to see Kangaroo Island kangaroos, koalas, echidnas, sea lions, Tamar wallabies, a variety of bird life, wildflowers and eucalyptus forests. Each season offers something different. Visit Seal Bay - home of the Australian sea lions, private properties where we take you off the beaten track to enjoy wildlife in wild places. Lunch is a gourmet picnic, arranged in the most suitable setting for the day - in the bush with koalas in the trees above or by the sea.

Evening Penguin tour is included in today's arrangements.

Accommodation: XXX B&B

Fri 17 **Kangaroo Island Touring / Return to Adelaide (Fly)**

(B,L)

The second day takes in more of the islands exciting wildlife experiences and highlights of the Island which includes – Flinders Chase National Park - 74,000 hectares of natural bushland, and with the absence of rabbits and foxes Kangaroo Island's environment is unique. It also features the spectacular erosive formations of Remarkable Rocks and Admirals Arch. Guests will also be delighted by the antics of the New Zealand fur seals of the surrounding headlands. One of the last stops for the day is the habitat of the kangaroo, where time is spent exploring their environment and enjoying the peace and tranquillity in the hope of seeing them come out to graze. The main feature of our touring is to view wildlife in the wild and taking side trips off the beaten track to encounter natural bushland sanctuaries away from the mainstream tourist.

18:10 Depart on board Qantas Airways flight 256 to Adelaide.

18:40 Upon arrival into Adelaide you will be transferred to your accommodation.

Accommodation: XXXX

Sat 18 **Free Day in Adelaide**

Spend today at your own leisure.

Accommodation: XXXX

Sun 19 **Adelaide to Barossa Valley (Self Drive with Rental Car)**

08:00

Please make your own transfer arrangements to the Adelaide XXXXX airport depot for collection of your Medium 4WD (RAV4 Manual- Group V) rental vehicle (a road map will be provided for you in your touring kit).

Please self drive to the Barossa Valley. The Barossa is Australia's best known wine-producing area. Along with nearby Eden Valley, it offers a landscape of vine-covered hills dotted with historic villages, stone cottages, and the grand buildings of old wine estates. It is also a place of rich culture. These traditions are based on a 150-year history of German settlement and can be seen in every aspect of life, from the spires of the Lutheran churches to the local German breads and pastries. Only an hour from Adelaide, and boasting some of the best restaurants and

accommodation of any regional area, the Barossa is a popular weekend destination.

Accommodation: XXXX

Mon 20 Barossa Valley to Wilpena Pound (Self Drive with Rental Car)

Please self drive to your accommodation in the Flinders Ranges. The most scenic route is via the Clare Valley Wine Valley, Gladstone, Melrose and Wilmington. The Quadong Café in Clare puts on a rather good lunch, and do try the Quadong pie.

At Hawker, stop at the petrol station and have a look at their little exhibit – and purchase your detailed road map of the Flinders. They are always up-to-date on local road conditions too. Your accommodation is the ideal base from which to explore and discover the best of the Flinders Ranges. The resort nestles unobtrusively against a backdrop of ragged mountains, right at the entrance to Wilpena Pound.

Please Note:

- South Australia will be experiencing day light saving time this time of the year. You will also be experiencing some great weather, however we always advise visitors to pack a hat, sunscreen, good walking boots, plenty of water, a light jacket or jumper.

Spend today at your own leisure exploring the region.

Covering 83 square kilometres in the more remote, undeveloped northern section of the Flinders Ranges, 400 kilometres north of Adelaide, Wilpena Pound rises as an immense, crater-like fusion of stark purple ridges and overhanging bluffs, strewn with tough and colourful vegetation, in jarring contrast to the flatness of the surrounding plains. The interior of the Pound has been a stamping-ground for hiking enthusiasts for decades. The kangaroos and euros (small wallaby-like marsupials) bound between rampantly yellow wattle trees (in Spring). Pampas grass, wildflowers (the best blooming season is spring) and other flora making for a scene reminiscent of the 'lost world'. In season, you'll find the brilliant reds and pinks of Sturt's desert pea, Flinders Ranges bottlebrush, hopbush and Sturt's desert rose. It is also a birdwatchers paradise with ninety-seven species of birds catalogued in the area.

Accommodation: XXXX

Tue 21 Wilpena to Arkaroola (Self Drive with Rental Car)

Self drive to Arkaroola today.

Arkaroola is a remote settlement, founded 1968, in the northern Flinders Ranges, about 660 kilometers North of Adelaide (or 231 kilometres North of Wilpena Pound). It is set on Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary, a privately owned property. The Arkaroola Resort and Wildlife Sanctuary is a 610 square kilometre property of spectacular rugged mountains in South Australia's remote 'Outback' which offers a unique range of nature and science based tours and activities.

Arkaroola Village was purchased by the current owners in 1968. Until then, the area was made up of a series of degraded pastoral leases infested with vermin; these were eradicated, and today Arkaroola is a fine example of a privately-run sanctuary. The scenic waterholes of Nooldoonooldoona, Bolla Bollana, Arkaroola, Stubbs and Bararranna are well worth a visit.

Arkaroola (Mount Painter Sanctuary) is a private resort and a source of fuel, provisions, meals, rooms and a campsite. Scene of Australia's most recent volcanic activity, the area is a geologist's paradise: Paralana Hot Springs (two hours away in a 4WD) bubble out radioactive radon gas, and if you take walks into the rough hills surrounding the resort you'll come across lots of fossils and semiprecious minerals. The area is so rugged that conventional mining isn't really a profitable venture – drilling rigs are airlifted in, then ferried around on the lower half of a Chieftain tank –

and the mining giant CRA Zinc concentrates on mapping uranium and copper deposits in order to show progress and keep their licence.

Please Note:

- A lot of your driving will be on dirt roads. Please slow down on these roads (recommended speed 80 kilometres/hour) and allow for varying conditions when passing other vehicles.

Important:

- Because Arkaroola is a wildlife sanctuary; pets, swimming or camping at waterholes and shooting are not permitted.
- Bar and Restaurant 'Pick and Shovel' Lounge Bar is an ideal place to relax. The 'Native Pine' restaurant offers superb cuisine where you can experience the flavours of the Australian outback. Open for breakfast and dinner. Counter lunches are available (all meals own expense).

Accommodation: XXXX

Wed 22 Free at Arkaroola(Self Drive with Rental Car)

Day at leisure at Arkaroola.

Accommodation: XXXX

Thu 23 Arkaroola to Iga Warta (Self Drive with Rental Car)

(L,D)

Please Self drive from Arkaroola to Iga Warta today. Iga Warta is set amongst the mountains in the Northern Flinders Ranges in the north of South Australia.

The cultural tourism centre at Iga Warta is the natural environment and our interpretive centre is the arid lands eco systems. Visitors have the opportunity to become part of the environment and learn first hand the importance of this area to the Adnyamathanha people.

Included in your stay:

Camping with swags
All meals as specified
Plant Tour
One evening campfire
Malki Rock art site
Climbing Hill

Iga Warta means place of the native orange tree in Yura Ngawarla, the language of the Adnyamathanha people, the traditional owners of the area. Iga Warta is set amongst the magnificent mountains in the Northern Flinders Ranges and is owned, managed and staffed totally by Aboriginal people. Clem Coulthard, had a vision and always talked about tourism as the way of the future. He passed away four years before we set up Iga Warta but his spirit haunted us to do it. Here, we provide an opportunity for other people to come and experience our ways and break down the barriers between white and black. We are also keeping our culture alive by showing people and letting them be a part of it and passing it on to the next generations.

The cultural tourism centre at Iga Warta is the natural environment. We interpret the land through the Adnyamathanha culture and use the mountains, plants, animals and painting sites to share our ancient but vibrant culture. We have people stay as part of the community so they can immerse themselves in the Aboriginal lifestyle and culture. We teach them, by experience how our living culture is as relevant today as it was before non-Aboriginal people arrived.



Accommodation: Camping

Fri 24
(B)

Iga Warta to Parachilna (Self Drive with Rental Car)

Make your own way to Parachilna today.

Parachilna has an official population of just seven but its remoteness adds to the pleasure of its one and only hotel. The Prairie Hotel is truly an oasis on the plains of the Flinders Ranges, some of the most ancient and fascinating formations on Earth. From the hotel, you can enjoy magnificent views of both the Ranges and the vast red desert plains sweeping toward Lake Torrens. Inside the hotel, you'll find great character, charm and creature comforts – topped off with superb cuisine. And all this still only 30 minutes drive from the famous Parachilna and Brachina Gorges of the Flinders Ranges National Park.

Accommodation: XXXX

Sat 25

Parachilna to Adelaide (Self Drive with Rental Car)

Make your own way to Adelaide.

Please Note:

Rental car must be dropped off at the suburb of Klemzig (North Adelaide).

Accommodation: XXXX

Sun 26
08:00

Adelaide to Robe (Self Drive with Rental Car)

Please make your own transfer arrangements to the Hertz Adelaide depot for collection of your Ford Laser (Group H - automatic) rental vehicle and self drive to Robe (a road map will be provided for you in your touring kit).

Important Note:

- Please call XXXX B & B today on XXXX XXXX for directions to the property for your stay this evening.

- *Please also call XXXXX today on XXXX XXXX for directions to the property for your stay tomorrow evening.*

A small, historic town on Guichen Bay, south of Adelaide. Robe is a fishing port and holiday centre. The rugged, windswept coast has many beautiful and secluded beaches. Lagoons and salt lakes surround the area and wildlife abounds. In the 1850s, Robe was a major wool port. During the gold rush, 16 500 Chinese disembarked here and travelled overland to the Victorian goldfields to avoid the Poll Tax.

Centrally located in a beautiful cottage garden, Robe House is a short stroll to fine art galleries and restaurants. Meander around nearby Lake Butler, home to Robe's fishing fleet, or take a longer walk along the craggy cliffs of the Limestone coast. At Robe House you will find an activity right on the doorstep. Robe House is also an ideal base to explore the hinterland, being only 1 hour away from the world heritage listed Naracoorte Caves. Experience bird watching at Bool Lagoon, or visit the many world class wineries at Coonawarra.

Accommodation: XXXX B & B

Mon 27
(B,D)

Robe to Grampians Area (Self Drive with Rental Car)

Today make your way from Robe to Thermopylae Farmstay, The Grampians National Park. Stay at Thermopylae, a 3000 acre working sheep property on the edge of The Grampians National Park in Western Victoria, three hours north west of Melbourne. Thermopylae runs 7000 Merino and Corriedale sheep, an Angus cattle herd and a small vineyard. Almost half of the property is native bushland which abounds in native flora and fauna. Many kangaroos and emus can be viewed on any day grazing amongst the sheep.

Your hosts, Tom and Sarah XXXX, will show you around the property and depending on the time of year, you will see shearing, mustering, feeding stock, lambing, working sheep dogs and lots of wildlife.

The station is located on the edge of the Grampians National Park which makes it very convenient to see its rugged mountain ranges and spectacular flower displays, as well as examples of aboriginal history dating back 5000 years.

Please note: dinner, breakfast and farm activities are included in your stay at Thermopylae.

Accommodation: XXX Farmstay

Tue 28
(B)

Grampians to Warrnambool (Self Drive with Rental Car)

Self drive to Warrnambool today. Warrnambool is a coastal city located on Lady Bay 260 km south-west of Melbourne via the Princes Highway and 21 metres above sea-level. It is bounded by two rivers: the Merri to the west and the Hopkins to the east. Both reach the ocean on opposite sides of the city. Warrnambool is an important manufacturing and distribution centre although it has managed to retain a relaxed seaside feel. Its natural advantages render it a popular family destination in summer and tourism is certainly a major aid to the local economy. The current population is 28 000.

Accommodation: XXXX

Wed 29

Warrnambool to Melbourne (Self Drive with Rental Car)

Self drive to Melbourne today. Please make your way to the XXXXX Melbourne city depot to return the rental vehicle.

Please make your own arrangements to the your accommodation.

Accommodation: XXXX

Thu 30 -
Fri 31

Free Days in Melbourne

Spend these days at your own leisure in Melbourne.

- Some suggested sights not to be missed are:
- Crown Casino - gloriously decadent, Australia's largest casino is part of a huge entertainment complex on the banks of the revitalised Yarra River.
 - Melbourne Cricket Ground - this spectacular venue is testament to the city's renowned sporting passions
 - Royal Botanic Gardens - an exemplary example of late nineteenth century garden design.
 - Southgate - Melbourne's riverside centre for wining, dining, shopping and strolling.
 - Royal Melbourne Zoo - Australian and exotic species vote this one of Australia's most animal-friendly zoos, and it's not bad for the humans either.
 - Rialto Towers Observation Deck - sweeping views of the city and beyond make this an excellent visitor orientation post.
 - Colonial Tramcar restaurant - the ultimate two in one: see the sights and dine in style aboard this mobile Melbourne icon.
 - National Gallery of Victoria - this austere bluestone giant houses the nation's most comprehensive collection of Australian art.
 - Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre - the largest integrated sports recreation centre in Australia.
 - Queen Victoria Market - if not the heart of Melbourne then surely its stomach, the Queen Vic. is arguably one of the world's best open-air markets.

Accommodation: XXXX

NOVEMBER

Sat 01

Melbourne to Devonport (Fly)/Self drive to Lake St Claire

Please make your own transfer arrangements to the airport. Please Note: We suggest you check-in no later than 1 hour prior to your departure time.

08:35

Depart on board Qantas flight QF2711 to Devonport.

09:50

Upon arrival into Devonport please make your way to the XXXX airport depot for collection of your Ford Laser (Group H – automatic) rental car and self drive to Lake St Claire (a road map will be provided for you in your touring kit).

Lake St. Clair stretches over 17 Kilometres into the heart of Tasmania's World Heritage Area. The lake is ringed by mountain ranges, dominated by Mt Olympus - at 1447 metres - and forested to the shoreline with sassafras, myrtle, native pines and beeches and a whole range of endemic alpine flora.

Accommodation: XXXX

Sun 02 -
Mon 03

Day at leisure (Self Drive with Rental Car)

Spend today at your own leisure.

Accommodation: XXXX

Tue 04

XXXX Lodge to Freycinet National Park (Self Drive with Rental Car)

Self drive to Freycinet National Park.

Freycinet Peninsula projects eastward from the Tasmanian mainland and is mostly comprised of a National Park. It is a unique and exciting wilderness containing a melting pot of natural habitats. Craggy granite peaks thrust dramatically from the ocean, overlooking sandy white beaches and crystal clear blue water - a dramatic backdrop for an unusual variety of eco-systems ranging from wetlands through heathlands, coastal dunes, dry eucalypt forests to the underwater magic of these southern temperate oceans.

Please note:

- National Park Fees payable at the station AUD 10.00 per vehicle per day.

XXXX Lodge is situated across the bay from the Freycinet Peninsula. The B&B is located in the heart of historic Swansea, the oldest rural municipality in Australia. The central location makes it an easy walk to all amenities: shops, restaurants, hotel, club, golf course, jetty and beach fishing, tennis courts, museum and the magnificent walking track around Waterloo Point.

Accommodation: XXXXX

Wed 05

(B)

Free Day in Freycinet National Park (Self Drive with Rental Car)

Full breakfast will be provided by your accommodation.

Spend today at your own leisure in Coles Bay with your rental vehicle.

Accommodation: XXXX

Thu 06

(B)

Coles Bay to Hobart (Self Drive with Rental Car)

Drive to Hobart today. Hobart, Australia's second oldest and most southerly city is a small metropolis with a huge appeal. Sheltering beneath the slopes of the majestic Mount Wellington and straddling the banks of a glittering estuary, the place has the shape and scenery of a European city, an impression born out by the invigorating climate, complete with a hint of snow in the winter months.

Spend the remainder of the day at your own leisure.

Accommodation: XXXX

Fri 07

(B)

Day at Leisure Hobart (Self Drive with Rental Car)

Spend today at your own leisure in Hobart with your rental vehicle.

Accommodation: XXXX

Sat 08

(B)

Depart Australia!

Self drive to the Hobart airport counter to return the rental vehicle in time for your departure flight. Please Note: We suggest you check-in no later than 1 hour prior to your departure time.

10:20 am

Depart on board Qantas flight QF1712 out of Hobart.

12:10 p.m.

Arrive Sydney. Please transfer to the international terminal.

3:35 p.m.

QF 11 departs Sydney

10:00 a.m.

Arrive LAX. Please collect your luggage to go through customs and immigration; then put the luggage on the conveyor belt to your flight home. Own arrangements for flight home.