

## OUTBACK SOUTH AUSTRALIA & KANGAROO ISLAND

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#### SAMPLE ITINERARY

*This is a sample itinerary and may be subject to change. We may need to alter or amend itineraries, excursions, accommodation, or sightseeing arrangements from those published, with little or no notice. This may be due to road conditions, weather, cultural considerations, safety factors and other operational considerations or government regulations. Final itineraries are sent to passengers approximately 2-3 weeks before travel.*

#### DAY 1 – Adelaide - Kangaroo Island

Today you will be met by your friendly and professional Tour Directors. If you are arriving into Adelaide Airport please collect your baggage and make your way to the café located at the bottom of the escalator by 11.00am.

Departing Adelaide, we make our way to Hahndorf in the Adelaide Hills. Take a stroll through this charming and picturesque village before heading down the Fleurieu Peninsula to Cape Jervis, the departure point for Kangaroo Island. Enjoy the 45 minute ferry ride across Backstairs Passage before heading around to Kingscote. We spend the next three nights at the Aurora Ozone Hotel, perfectly positioned along the foreshore with views over Nepean Bay. (L,D)

#### DAY 2 – Exploring Kangaroo Island

This morning we visit Seal Bay Conservation Park, home to Australia's largest colony of breeding Sea Lions. Here we'll take a guided beach walk with a local expert to observe these magnificent creatures up close and learn about how they hunt, surf, rest, interact with their pups and defend their territory. A boardwalk will lead us down through the dunes to the beach, with breathtaking views of the colony and majestic coastline. Sometimes we'll pass sea lions snoozing in the dune system, or even lying in the middle of the beach path!

Later this morning we continue our journey to the west of the island to Flinders Chase National Park. After a delicious BBQ lunch, we'll visit the huge and mystifying granite formations known as Remarkable Rocks. Then head to Cape du Couedic to visit the lighthouse and Admiral's Arch,

where on sunny afternoons the stalactites can be seen silhouetted against the deep-blue Southern Ocean.

We return to Kingscote late afternoon. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 3 – Marine Cruise & Sightseeing

This morning we enjoy an exceptional eco-adventure cruise with Kangaroo Island Ocean Safari. Step on board the custom vessel for an informative look at the natural biodiversity of Kangaroo Island and it's spectacular coastline. You'll see marine life up close and spot Sea Eagles, Little Fairy Penguins, Petrels, Terns, Oyster Catchers and more!

Afterwards we'll do some local sightseeing around Kangaroo Island, including a tour to the Emu Ridge Eucalyptus Distillery, Kangaroo Island Spirits and the Island Beehive to taste some delicious local honey. We then return to Kingscote for our final night on the island. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 4 – Kangaroo Island - Adelaide

Today we take the ferry back to the mainland and travel through the Adelaide Hills to arrive in the city early this afternoon. Enjoy a tour of Penfolds Magill Estate before checking in to the Stamford Grand Hotel overlooking the ocean in Glenelg. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 5 – Adelaide - Wilpena Pound

This morning we head north to Port Augusta, known as the Gateway to the Flinders Ranges and home to the award-winning Wadlata Outback Centre. Visitors can step back in time and learn about the early explorers and their brave expeditions into the unknown.

From Port Augusta we'll journey through to Quorn and Hawker before arriving at the Wilpena Pound Resort for our two night stay. Nestled at the entrance to Wilpena Pound, the resort stands amid stately Red Gums and Native Pines on the banks of the Wilpena Creek. (B,L,D)

#### DAY 6 – Exploring Wilpena Pound and the Flinders Ranges

Wilpena Pound is characterised by spectacular scenery and is home to nearly half of South Australia's species of plants.

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Today we enjoy a guided walk into Wilpena Pound to Hills Homestead, one of South Australia's oldest and best preserved pastoral settlements. Wander along Wilpena Creek past magnificent stands of river red gums with stunning views of the Pound wall in the distance. Longer walks are available for those who wish to explore further on foot.

This afternoon we head to Stokes Hill Lookout to enjoy 360-degree views of the Flinders Ranges. We then return to the Wilpena Pound Resort for dinner. (B,L,D)

Note: This morning there is an opportunity for scenic flights to be taken over Wilpena Pound at a cost of approximately \$265.00 per person for a 30 minute flight (own expense).

### **DAY 7 – Brachina & Bunyeruo Gorges - Parachilna - Arkaroola**

Travel through the picturesque Brachina and Bunyeruo Gorges to arrive at Parachilna late morning. Here we enjoy lunch at the delightful Prairie Hotel before travelling through the northern Flinders Ranges to Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary. Spend the night here and enjoy an intergalactic tour from Arkaroola's accredited astronomical observatories. (B,L,D)

### **DAY 8 – Arkaroola Ridge Top Tour - Marree**

Today, explore some of the most spectacular and rugged country on earth! Travelling in open back 4WD vehicles with expert guides, the Ridge Top Tour is a true highlight of the Arkaroola experience and not to be missed!

Later this afternoon we depart for Marree where we'll spend the next two nights at The Marree Hotel. (B,L,D)

### **DAY 9 – Lake Eyre (Kati Thanda) - Kalamurina Wildlife Sanctuary**

This morning it's time for our scenic flight over Lake Eyre. Our flight path takes us over Lake Eyre South before crossing over Lake Eyre North, the larger of the two lakes. Fly over Belt Bay and follow the Warburton Groove up the middle of the lake and into the Warburton Creek system. From here we follow the creek to Kalamurina Wildlife Sanctuary, landing late morning.

Kalamurina is a 1.7 million-acre property owned and managed by Australian Wildlife Conservancy. This vast desert wilderness stretches from the northern shores of Kati Thanda - Lake Eyre to the southern boundary of the Simpson Desert and provides a haven for several endangered species like the Dusky Hopping Mouse, Mulgara and Ampurta.

After landing at Kalamurina we head to the banks of the Warburton Creek for a guided tour. Learn about the transformation of this country from cattle country to wildlife haven and gain an insight into AWC conservation programs. We then travel by coach down the Birdsville Track, crossing Cooper's Creek before arriving back into Marree late this afternoon. (B,L,D)

Note: Today the tour splits into two groups. Group 1 will take the morning flight as per the itinerary above, while Group 2 travels north to Kalamurina by coach along the Birdsville Track. Group 2 passengers then return to Marree via the scenic flight over Lake Eyre.

### **DAY 10 – Oodnadatta Track - William Creek & Painted Hills - Coober Pedy**

After breakfast this morning we depart Marree and follow the legendary Oodnadatta Track to the tiny outback settlement of William Creek. The track itself is steeped in history, natural wonders and rich cultural heritage and is regarded as one of the best outback drives in Australia. It follows a traditional Aboriginal trading route and, because of the availability of water, was chosen for the Central Australian Railway, the original route of the Old Ghan.

This morning we stop off at Coward Springs siding, a fully restored and heritage-listed railway site displaying history and remnants of the 'Old Ghan'. Arrive into William Creek for lunch at the iconic William Creek Hotel before enjoying a special one hour scenic flight over the 'Painted Hills'. This rocky outcrop of large and small hills, which emerge suddenly out of a flat desert landscape, can only be accessed by air due to its fragility and natural beauty.

This afternoon we trek on to Coober Pedy and spend the next two nights at the award-winning Desert Cave Hotel. (B,L,D)

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Note: Underground rooms at the Desert Cave Hotel cannot be guaranteed.

### DAY 11 – Coober Pedy Sightseeing

Due to the heat in summer, much of Coober Pedy's population live underground. The town is known as the opal capital of the world, supplying 70% of the world's precious opals. This morning we enjoy a guided tour of the Umoona Opal Mine, where you're also free to do some fossicking of our own. In the afternoon, head out to the Breakaways Reserve and admire the colourful low hills separated from the Stuart Range. We then return to the Desert Cave Hotel to explore its many galleries. (B,L,D)

### DAY 12 – Woomera - Port Augusta

Travelling south today we head to Woomera, home to the Woomera Range Complex operated by the Royal Australian Air Force. The complex is a major Australian defence and civil aerospace facility that is both a working military airbase and a testing ground for ADF materials. Enjoy a visit to the Woomera Interactive Rocket Range Museum and view historical displays relating to the Woomera Range and closed Joint Defence Facility at Nurrungar.

This afternoon we continue on to Port Augusta where we visit the Aridlands Botanic Gardens, before checking in to the Standpipe Golf Motor Inn. (B,L,D)

### DAY 13 – Port Augusta - Adelaide

After breakfast we head south to the Clare Valley. Well known for its Riesling, the area also produces exceptional Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz varieties which together account for nearly half of all wine from the area. After a tour through the region, we'll visit a local winery for a relaxed lunch and wine tastings, a great way to wind down as we approach the end of the adventure.

This afternoon, we arrive back into Adelaide and check in to the Stamford Grand Hotel in Glenelg. We enjoy our final dinner together at the hotel restaurant. (B,L,D)

### DAY 14 – Adelaide

After a leisurely morning you will be dropped off at the airport or your CBD hotel. (B)

*Every effort will be made by your crew to ensure that the above itinerary is followed. However, Outback Spirit reserves the right to alter the itinerary once on tour as required due to weather and track conditions or other operational considerations.*