



CORNER COUNTRY ADVENTURE

ALICE SPRINGS – ADELAIDE

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 – Alice Springs

Today you will be collected by your friendly and professional Tour Directors. Enjoy some free time to explore Todd Mall before checking in to the Mercure Alice Springs Resort where we will be staying for the next two nights.

For our first evening together, we head out into the East McDonnell ranges for a unique and authentic dining experience. The 'Original Outback Bush BBQ' dinner show is a fun filled evening of entertainment and outback cuisine, taking place around a large campfire under a star filled territory sky. Enjoy timeless Australian songs from a bush balladeer and gain some insight from the local cattlemen's talk. The dinner includes a sumptuous 3 course meal and all beverages. (D)

DAY 2 – Alice Springs Sightseeing

Today we take a leisurely tour around Alice Springs which includes a visit to the Alice Springs Desert Park, The Royal Flying Doctor Base Museum and the Old Telegraph Station. Those who have previously experienced these attractions can spend the day at their leisure. (B,L,D)

DAY 3 – Alice Springs - Northern Territory / Queensland Border - Boulia

This morning we make an early start and commence our journey to Boulia in Western Queensland along the Plenty Highway. We pass through Gemtree and Harts Range, before crossing over the Northern Territory / Queensland border. We arrive late afternoon and check in to the Boulia Desert Sands Motel or the Australian Hotel for our overnight accommodation. (B,L,D)

DAY 4 – Boulia - Bedourie - Birdsville

Boulia is known as the capital of the Channel Country and is known for the mysterious Min Min Light which has now been sighted for almost half a century. This morning we visit the Min Min Encounter Centre where we enjoy a unique theatrical experience and learn the story of the Min Min Light.

We depart late morning and pass through Bedourie. Bedourie is the main administrative centre for the Diamantina Shire, the second largest shire in Queensland after the Cooktown Shire. We arrive into Birdsville mid afternoon and check in to the Birdsville Hotel. Enjoy two nights here in quality accommodation with friendly Outback hospitality. (B,L,D)

DAY 5 – Simpson Desert & "Big Red"

Birdsville was originally named Diamantina Crossing in 1881 after the Diamantina River, which runs to the east of the town. However, the township was renamed Birdsville in 1885 by the owner of Pandie Pandie Station who was amazed by the diversity of birdlife which inhabited the area. The town only has a population of around 100 people, but during the Big Red Bash and the Birdsville Races it swells to over 7,000!

Birdsville is also situated on the edge of the Simpson Desert National Park, which is characterised by huge red sand dunes. There are approximately 1,100 sand dunes running North-South across the Simpson, the most famous being 'Big Red', also known as Nappaneric. This massive sand dune is a popular place for tourists to put their four-wheeldrive vehicles to the test.

This morning we'll have a look round town and visit the Wirrarrri Visitor Centre, home to an extensive gallery. This afternoon, visit 'Big Red' before returning for our second and final night in Birdsville. (B,L,D)

DAY 6 – Birdsville - Mungerannie – Leigh Creek

Today we embark on the famous Birdsville Track. This outback trail traverses three deserts along the route, the Strzelecki, Sturt Stony and Tirari Deserts. The track was opened in the 1860's to walk cattle from northern Queensland and the Northern Territory to the nearest railhead in Port Augusta, which was later moved to Marree.

Outback Spirit



CORNER COUNTRY ADVENTURE

Over the years it became one of the country's most isolated and best-known stock routes, as well as the mail route made famous by outback legend Tom Kruse. This was eventually replaced in 1963 by air services.

We enjoy a visit to Mungerannie before arriving into Marree. From here we continue through to Leigh Creek, arriving late afternoon for our overnight stay. (B,L,D)

DAY 7 – Lyndhurst - Strzelecki Track - Innamincka

This morning we depart Leigh Creek and travel north along the Oodnadatta Track through to Lyndhurst. From here we traverse another famous track, the Strzelecki Track through to Innamincka.

This famous outback track was created by infamous cattle thief Harry Readford in 1870, who blazed the trail out of necessity whilst attempting to move 1,000 head of cattle from Queensland into South Australia. He learned to navigate by the stars from the local Indigenous, earning him the nickname of Captain Starlight!

Today the track is named after Polish explorer, Paul Edmund de Strzelecki. The explorer and scientist arrived in Australia in 1839 to complete a geological survey across New South Wales and the Australian Alps to name the highest point on mainland Australia.

Arriving late afternoon, we spend the next two nights at the Innamincka Hotel. (B,L,D)

DAY 8 – Innamincka Sightseeing - Cooper Creek Cruise

Innamincka is a small village with a population of no more than fifty people. The township once played a major role in early explorations of Australia's unknown interior. With its reliable water source, it made an ideal base camp or resting place for expeditions and cattle drives from the east and the south.

This morning we cross the border into QLD to visit the 'Dig Tree', located on the banks of Cooper Creek. This is where explorers Burke and Wills returned to after their expedition to the Gulf of Carpentaria, only to discover their party had left just nine hours earlier.

After returning to Innamincka for lunch at the hotel, we embark on a cruise of Cooper Creek. The cruise operates for an hour and a half and is a highlight of your expedition through the Corner Country. Enjoy expert commentary from your cruise guide and learn about this incredibly unique river system – one of the last unregulated systems in the world.

We return to the hotel late afternoon for our second and final night at the Innamincka Hotel. (B,L,D)

DAY 9 – Cameron Corner - Tibooburra

We depart Innamincka and travel along part of the Strzelecki Track to Cameron Corner, where QLD, NSW and SA all meet. The area was first surveyed by James Cameron from the NSW Lands Department in 1879. It's also home to the longest fence in the world, The Dog Fence, stretching from the Great Australian Bight to Jimbour near Brisbane (5600km). Arrive in Cameron Corner in time for lunch before continuing on to Tibooburra.

Late this afternoon we arrive at the small outback village of Tibooburra where we spend the night at the Family Hotel, Tibooburra Hostel or the Granites Motel. (B,L,D)

Please note that there are a selection of different room types in Tibooburra, all with private bathroom facilities.

DAY 10 – Tibooburra - Milparinka - Broken Hill

This morning we head south along the Silver City Highway and visit some of the old buildings at Depot Glen, named by Captain Charles Sturt on his 1845 expedition to find an inland sea. The stranded expedition team camped at this waterhole for months on end, waiting for the summer heat to abate.

We then travel to Milparinka. Here we'll visit some of the town's old colonial buildings, including the courthouse and police barracks, that have been lovingly restored as part of the Milparinka Heritage Precinct.

This afternoon we arrive into Broken Hill, the 'Capital of the Outback', and visit the Line of Load Miners Memorial. Straddling the mullock heap that dissects the city of Broken Hill, the memorial was built for the 800 or more miners who lost their lives on the job.



CORNER COUNTRY ADVENTURE

We then check in to the Royal Exchange Hotel for our overnight stay. This charming boutique hotel dates back to 1889 and has been tastefully refurbished over the years. (B,L,D)

DAY 11 – Exploring Broken Hill

After breakfast this morning we visit the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) Visitor Centre, which also acts as a working RFDS base. Enjoy a tour of the base and learn about one of the largest and most comprehensive aeromedical organisations in the world.

Enjoy the rest of the day exploring Broken Hill, the 'Capital of the Outback' and the surrounding areas, visiting the Albert Kersten Mining and Minerals Museum for an insight into Broken Hill's unique geology.

From here we head to Silverton, the star of countless films including Mad Max II, Mission Impossible II and the Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert. After a good look around, we return to Broken Hill and visit the Sulphide Street Railway & Historical Museum, followed by the Living Desert Reserve and Sculpture Symposium before returning to the Royal Exchange. (B,L,D)

DAY 12 – Broken Hill - Menindee - Mungo National Park

After leaving Broken Hill we travel to Menindee, a town of 1,000 people on the banks of the Darling River and home to the 'Menindee Lakes'. The town has ties to several Australian Explorers, including Burke and Wills, Charles Sturt and Major Mitchell.

We travel through Pooncarie and on to Mungo National Park where we explore Mungo National Park which was World Heritage Listed in 1981 in recognition of its rich Aboriginal heritage. Remains of the earliest humans to inhabit the Australian continent have been found in Mungo National Park and have recently been dated at more than 60,000 years old. We overnight at the Mungo Lodge. (B,L,D)

DAY 13 – Mildura - Renmark - Adelaide

We depart Mungo and head towards Mildura. En route we visit Renmark where we have a picnic lunch on the banks of the Murray River. We then head south through the Barossa Valley and Gawler to arrive into Adelaide where we spend

the last night of our tour at the Stamford Grand Hotel overlooking the ocean in Glenelg. Tonight we celebrate our trip through the Corner Country and enjoy our final dinner together. (B,L,D)

DAY 14 – Adelaide

This morning enjoy a town tour before being dropped off at the airport or your CBD hotel. (B)

Please Note: Your town tour is dependent upon your flight departure time.

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.