

Outback NSW Station Stays Broken Hill to Griffith

Departs
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\$6,950 pp

Twin-share, excludes
domestic flights or trains
Single supp \$1,200



OUTBACK NSW STATION STAYS ALONG THE DARLING RIVER, BROKEN HILL TO GRIFFITH

Welcome to outback NSW, and a journey taking you to historic homesteads, private properties, remarkable heritage sites and award-winning gardens. Along the way, you'll enjoy homestays with some wonderful regional hosts. You'll get an insight into daily life on a working property, take guided tours of the farm, and in the evening, after sundowners, sit down to a delicious home-cooked meal with ingredients sourced primarily from local producers.

You will visit World Heritage areas, guided by Aboriginal guides where possible. You'll encounter Australian wildlife almost daily, including kangaroos, emus, echidnas and a colourful range of spectacular birds. There will be opportunities to taste some award-winning wine and foods direct from the farm, with time to relax, unwind and meet the locals.

Many of the roads you will travel on are unsealed dirt or gravel. Although it doesn't rain much in the outback when it does unsealed roads are likely to be closed to traffic. Bindara and Mungo are dry weather only. Our route and itinerary will be adjusted in the event of wet weather.

Fitness Level: Low to reasonable level of fitness required. Some short hikes to be expected. Bring hiking poles if you normally use them.

This tour will be limited to a maximum of 6 guests and you'll be in the hands of tour leader and driver Bill of Outback Beds.



Day 1, Monday 14th October
Arrive Broken Hill

Fly from your capital city or travel by train to Broken Hill from Sydney for the beginning of the tour. Bill will collect you on arrival in the late afternoon. If you arrive earlier, make your way to the hotel. Check in to the Imperial Fine Accommodation (or similar) in Broken Hill.



Day 2, Tuesday 15th October
Broken Hill

You will find your fix-yourself breakfast (which is included), in the guest kitchen. After breakfast at 9 am head straight to Silverton.

Silverton is almost a ghost town but it predates Broken Hill as a thriving silver mining town. When the silver was almost mined out, new deposits were found in Broken Hill. There are pictures in the Silverton Gaol Museum of houses from Silverton being hauled on carts to Broken Hill by camels. Silverton was more recently made famous by the Mad Max movies and just about every beer commercial that features an outback pub. In the 1970s-80s, Silverton and Broken Hill established a vibrant art scene, which was later donned by the Brushmen of the Bush movement. While it's cooler in the morning, we will walk on the Heritage Trail to the Monks Lookout. The view from Monks Lookout is as broad as the horizon (in fact you can see the earth's curvature from here). You can see across the Mundi Mundi Plains

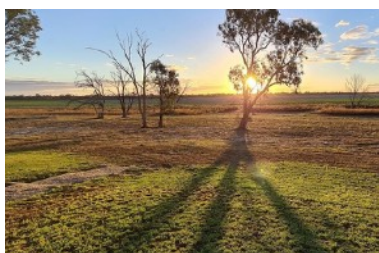
to the Flinders Ranges. We will head to the Silverton Pub for lunch and a stroll around Silverton and visit the Silverton Gaol Museum and visit a gallery. On the way back to Broken Hill, we will call in at the sculptures, which have a fabulous setting at the top of a ridge with 360-degree views. The sculptures resulted from an international symposium where sculptors worldwide were invited to Broken Hill to turn the hard Wilcannia sandstone into works of art. Tonight we will have a welcome dinner at the Palace Hotel. The Palace was made famous by the film Priscilla Queen of the Desert. The Palace is now the HQ of Broken Hill's annual Broken Heel festival. *B/L/D*

Day 3, Wednesday 16th October
Broken Hill

8:00 am, awake, breakfasted and packed. Next stop will be the vast Menindee Lakes. This natural flood lake system was augmented in the 1950s with weirs and channels from the Darling River to form permanent lakes that would secure Broken Hill's water supply. Water is pumped from here to Broken Hill over 100 km away. (Note: we have lost a half hour by entering the Eastern Time Zone again). The lakes are also a recreation destination for Broken Hill residents and home to a vast array of birds. We will incorporate a boat trip on the Lakes. After the cruise, we will have a picnic



lunch by the lakes. We return to Broken Hill for a visit to the top of the Line of Lode mining area and Miner's Memorial. Dinner will be at the Saltbush Restaurant or similar and then back to The Imperial. *B/L/D*



**Day 4, Thursday 17th October
Broken Hill to Bindara Station**

The entire city of Broken Hill, also known as the Silver City, was National Heritage listed in 2015. Today is a day for visiting the quite

remarkable collection of Broken Hill museums and galleries, including The Royal Flying Doctor Centre and the fabulous Regional Gallery, and the Geocentre if there is time. Alternately, at any time you can pull out of the gallery hopping tour to have some free time to wander the main streets of Broken Hill and to purchase your big chunk of Broken Hill silver or another souvenir. Around 2 pm, we drive on to Bindara Station (1-2 hrs half of it on a dirt road). After settling in, we will enjoy sundowners around the campfire (alcohol is an additional cost) and Barb's home-cooked meal where Barb uses as much homegrown and locally produced organic food as possible. *B/D*

**Day 5, Friday 18th October
Bindara Station**

After a relaxing campfire breakfast, we will join the owner of Bindara, Barb, on a 1-2 hour guided walking tour of the property along the Darling River. As we walk Barb will point out the Aboriginal cultural markers including the canoe trees and talk about the early river history of the land. After lunch at Bindara there are a few hours to relax by the Darling River and enjoy the peace and quiet of Bindara. Later in the afternoon we will have another guided walk around the property's old buildings, cemetery and biodynamic gardens. *B/L/D*



**Day 6, Saturday 19th October
Bindara on the Darling, Wentworth/
Mildura and Burraburoon Farmstay**

Today we travel along the Darling River to it's

end where it joins the mighty Murray River at Wentworth. We will take a nature stroll to the confluence of the two rivers before retreating to the historic Weir and Lock (or similar) for lunch. In the afternoon we relax on the Murray River for a 2 hour paddle steamer ride. After our river journey we head to Burraburoon Farmstay. Burraburoon is a little over 300km away, so chill out in the car or take a nap as we roll through expanses of Mallee woodland and sheep and wheat country. At Burraburoon we will join owners Ken and Tertia for sundowners on the deck over the lake followed by a South African flavoured camp oven dinner cooked by Tertia (Sth African expat and editor, journalist, production manager and everything else of the local newspaper). Our dinner will include Ken's coal-baked bread.

Burraburoon is a unique property and you are assured a welcome visit, there is limited accommodation so everyone will need to share bathrooms at Burraburoon. *B/L/D*

**Day 7, Sunday 20th October
Burraburoon Farmstay**

After a lazy breakfast we join Ken (an Ag college lecturer in a previous life) on a stroll through his farm and an overview of local Aboriginal



heritage sites and modern agricultural practices. After Ken's tour and lunch at Burraburoon we head to the Hay Cotton Gin for a comprehensive guided tour given by Will, Ken and Tertia's son. The facility is the most technologically advanced gin in the Southern Hemisphere, and the size and speed of the ginning machines are quite mind-boggling. The word "gin" is an abbreviation for "engine". Invented by Eli Whitney in 1793, the cotton gin was an important invention because it significantly reduced the time it took to separate cotton seeds from the cotton fibres. The cotton gin revolutionised the American textile industry, and the subsequent increase in the production of processed cotton became a pivotal time in world history. After the tour we head back to Burraburoon for a South African brai dinner. *B/L/D*

**Day 8, Monday 21st October
Burraburoon to Lake Paika Station**

Today we depart Burraburoon for the 50km drive to Hay. We will have a half day in Hay visiting Shear Outback (Australia's Shearer's Hall of fame - all things from the golden wool era including shearing demonstrations). We'll have lunch at on site cafe (or similar), before heading to the Dunera Museum, where German Jews and other refugees fleeing Nazi-occupied Europe were interned from 1940. Next stop is Lake Paika Station (1.5hrs). At Lake Paika we will join owner Di and Iain for afternoon tea and drinks in their beautiful homestead garden (drinks included). Tonight, weather permitting, we will be dining alfresco under the stars and on the shores of their lake (or close-to, depending of water levels). *B/L/D*

**Day 9, Tuesday 22nd October
Mungo National Park**

After breakfast we head to Mungo National Park for the day (1.5 hour drive). We will have a tour of Mungo National Park and the Willandra Lakes World Heritage



site. Mungo Man and Mungo Woman that were found at Mungo National Park have been carbon dated to over 40,000 years old and have led to the World Heritage listing. The Walls of China Boardwalks are open to public access. Supervised access to the Walls of China beyond the boardwalk is available only through

Discovery Tours or a licensed tour operator. The tour takes a little over 2 hours. After the tour, we drive back to Lake Paika Station for dinner. Di is a great cook. **B/L/D**



**Day 10, Wednesday
23rd October
Lake Paika to
Corynnia Station**

Today we depart Lake Paika for the 3 hour drive to Corynnia Station. We will pull in at nearby Yanga

National Park to visit the unique homestead and woolshed. En route to Corynnia Station we will pass through Hay again and have a break and a quick visit Bishop's Lodge historic house and the heritage rose garden. We press on to Corynnia Station stopping at the Carrathool pub for lunch. At Corynnia Station we will settle into the accommodation and at around 4 pm, we'll join owner Bruce and Julie for informal sundowners in their garden or on the patio (your first drink is complimentary). Tonight's dinner will be a homestead dinner prepared for you by Julie. We will have dinner at the homestead. **B/L/D**



**Day 11, Thursday
24th October
Corynnia Station**

After a leisurely breakfast at Corynnia Station, we will join owner Bruce as he gives you a tour of their busy 17,000-acre

busy working station, where you will learn a little of their technologically advanced farming practices in growing the world's best quality and highest-yielding rice, cotton, ryegrass and wool. After the tour and lunch, some downtime to take in the beauty and surroundings of Corynnia, with its many activities including walking trails, canoeing, bike riding or wildlife spotting. There are often sightings of goannas, wallabies, emus, kangaroos, and many species of birdlife. Overnight and dinner at Corynnia **B/L/D**

**Day 12, Friday 25th October
Corynnia Station to Griffith**

After breakfast at Corynnia, we head to Griffith. Over the next two days, we will take a food and wine tour of Griffith. First is a visit to the Italian Immigration Museum at the interesting Pioneer Park Museum, which is located in a lovely setting. Next is a visit to the Piccolo Family farm for a tour of their Visitor Experience Centre, a wine tasting and lunch in their beautiful gardens. After lunch, it is back to Griffith and a little time to wander the main street and pick up some dinner if you are still hungry (we recommend visiting Bertoldo Pasticceria and Panetteria for a little something or maybe a homemade gelato). **B/L**

**Day 13, Saturday 26th
October
Griffith**

After breakfast at Limone we continue our tour of Griffith (note that we may change the order of our tours around Griffith

depending on the weather, people's interests and the pace at which the group moves). The first stop is a Murray Cod fish farm and tasting of fresh cod products. Next a walk through the surprising and beautiful Emri's Garden at De Bortoli's winery. Emri De Bortoli, a passionate gardener, developed this large and established garden. We'll be taken on a private tour of this garden by Emri's daughter-in-law Margot. The walk is followed by a tasting at the De Bortoli Winery (Home of the Noble One), accompanied by a lunch tasting platter. Dinner will be at Zecca (where they make their own pasta) or similar. **B/L/D**



**Day 14, Sunday 27th October
Griffith and Piccolo Family Farm Long Lunch**

It is Sunday morning in a country town, not much happens on a Sunday morning in country towns so we encourage you to

sleep in relax, take a wander through town and find yourself breakfast. Lunch today is a tour highlight, back at Piccolo Family Farm and catered by Limone Dining. Limone is one of Griffith's most celebrated top-notch

Italian eateries, and chef Luke was a 2018 finalist in the Appetite for Excellence award, one of Australia's major competitions for young chefs, waiters, and restaurateurs. Luke went on to become the winner of the Young Restaurateur for 2019. We don't think that you will need dinner after our lunch. Dinner is at your leisure. **L**



**Day 14, Monday 28th October
Tour End Lunch**

Early start to catch your train, flight, or bus service home from Griffith. **B**

NOTE: The accommodation on this tour will offer the best level of comfort available. At times, we stay at unique character-filled properties. These properties have been hand-selected by Bill of Outback Beds in keeping with our philosophy and intention to support tourism to regional areas. If you join the tour as a single traveller and purchase a single supplement, you will receive your own room. However, depending on the configuration of the tour group, occasionally travellers may be required to share a bathroom. There may also be times when the group are accommodated at separate campuses. We will advise you at the time of booking. We trust you will understand these circumstances.