



## **BOURKE, LIGHTNING RIDGE & ST. GEORGE**

8 Days / 7 Nights

Tour begins and ends in Charleville

Cost: \$2250.00 Per Person (twin share)(excludes rail)

Single Supplement \$315.00

**Booking conditions apply - Non-Smokers only**

Departure Dates: 7 May and 11 June 2010

### **DAY 1 - FRIDAY (LUNCH & DINNER)**

Options to join this tour include travelling on The Westlander train, which arrives at 11.45am on the Friday, fly with Qantaslink or self-drive (car/caravan parking available whilst you are on tour).

12.00noon – Tour commences at either Charleville Railway Station where you will be met off The Westlander by Graham and Deb from Travel West or as pre-arranged. Enjoy lunch around the campfire at Graham & Deb's before a town tour and some free time to wander around Charleville.

Accommodation: Warrego Motel x 1 night.

### **DAY 2 - SATURDAY (BREAKFAST, MORNING TEA, LUNCH & DINNER)**

Departing Charleville we'll travel south on the Matilda Highway to Cunnamulla and enjoy smoko with the "Cunnamulla Fella", then its south to the border of NSW for lunch at Barrington. Travel through Enngonia before arriving in Bourke and visiting the recently completed Back O' Bourke Exhibition Centre. For the next two nights we will be guests of John and Sipa at the historic Bourke Riverside Motel.

Accommodation: the beautiful Bourke Riverside Motel x 2 nights.

### **DAY 3 - SUNDAY (BREAKFAST, LUNCH & DINNER)**

Enjoy breakfast before meeting Stuey, a local identity who

will show & tell you all there is to know about Bourke. We'll enjoy a BBQ lunch in the beautiful grounds of the Riverside Motel before cruising along the Darling River on the "PV Jandra" paddleboat. Bourke was at one time the largest inland river port in the world! Dinner this evening will be a Chinese banquet at the Bourke Bowling Club.

### **DAY 4 - MONDAY (BREAKFAST, MORNING TEA, LUNCH & DINNER)**

Following breakfast we depart for Lightning Ridge via Mt Oxley and Brewarrina. Rising from the perfectly flat landscape, Mt Oxley offers spectacular views over hundreds of kilometres of outback plains. Whilst at Mt Oxley enjoy smoko and a chat with station owners Bill and Denise. Then it's onto Brewarrina for a look around and lunch at the last remaining original authentic Greek café in Australia and a visit to the recently reopened Aboriginal Cultural Museum. Then we're off to step back in time as we travel through the opal mining community of Sheeppark before arriving in Lightning Ridge, famous for its spectacular black opal. Accommodation: Wallangulla Motel x 2 nights

### **DAY 5 - TUESDAY (BREAKFAST, MORNING TEA, LUNCH & DINNER)**

After breakfast we will depart on a town tour followed by a visit to an underground opal mine where you will have the opportunity to view opal cutting and polishing. Enjoy lunch in town before some free time this afternoon to explore. There are a number of opal shops to browse through including Down to Earth Opals, Lost Seas Opals, John Murray's Art Gallery and perhaps take a look at Cooper's Cottage, an historical miners cottage built in 1916.



**DAY 6 - WEDNESDAY (BREAKFAST, MORNING TEA, LUNCH & DINNER)**

This morning we will visit the amazing Black Queen before traveling back into Queensland via Hebel. After lunch we'll continue onto Dirranbandi where we'll have a look around town and then head out to the entrance of Cubbie Station. Arrive in St. George late this afternoon. Accommodation: Riverland Motor Inn x 2 nights

**DAY 7 - THURSDAY (BREAKFAST, MORNING TEA, LUNCH & DINNER)**

Enjoy a continental breakfast in the restaurant before we head out for a town tour with a local guide and later we'll show you something very 'unique' in St. George, before lunch and some free time to explore. We'll finish the day with wine tasting at Riversands Vineyard.

**DAY 8 - FRIDAY (BREAKFAST, MORNING TEA & LUNCH)**

We'll depart St. George and head to Mitchell for a look around and then onto "Bonus Downs" where we will have lunch with our hosts, Lyle & Madonna. Bonus Downs is one of the finest and oldest established properties in this area offering good old fashioned country hospitality in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere. Our hosts will also provide a tour of the fully restored homestead and workers accommodation before we head off via Morven to Charleville where this adventure will end.

**TOUR INCLUSIONS:**

- Fully escorted by Graham & Deb, owners and operators of Travel West Outback Tours
- All touring including entrance fees to attractions where applicable
- 7 nights ensuite motel accommodation
- All meals (continental breakfast, lunch, 2-course dinners and smokos along the way)
- Half day tour with Mateship Country tours in Bourke
- "Jandra" cruise on the Darling River
- Underground mine tour at Lightning Ridge
- See "Cubbie Station"
- Tour and lunch at Bonus Downs

**NOT INCLUDED:**

- Travel to/from Charleville (options include the train, self-drive, greyhound or Qantaslink)
- Drinks & souvenirs

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