

Channel Country Explorer - accommodated & camping safari

Winton - Boulia - Diamantina National Park - Windorah - Jundah - Stonehenge - Longreach

8 Days/7 Nights ex Brisbane

Discover the world's largest collection of **Australian dinosaur fossils**, learn the mystery of the **Min Min Light** and see the last recognized **Corroboree tree** of the **Pitta Pitta** tribe. Explore Diamantina, one of Australia's **top 10 National Parks** and climb the stunning red dunes at Windorah. **Experience a working station** in Longreach.

Day 1 - Brisbane to Winton

- Journey:** Morning flight Brisbane to Longreach..... (QantasLink)
Longreach to Winton..... approx. 180km / 2 hrs
- Highlights:** Australian Age of Dinosaurs; Waltzing Matilda Centre; Royal Open Air Theatre
- Morning:** On arrival in Longreach, we will join our coach for a short 1.5-hour drive to **Australian Age of Dinosaurs**. See fossil technicians working on real dinosaur bones and view assembled dinosaurs in the Collection Room. If time permits, you might also become a Junior Palaeontologist, where you will **"Prep-A-Dino"** - using air-tools to chisel through rock to discover dinosaur bones.
- Afternoon:** Visit the **Waltzing Matilda Centre**, the world's only museum dedicated to a song! Pull up a stump by the Billabong, where the swagman ghost tells his side of the story. Tonight watch a movie in the **Royal Open Air Theatre** under the stars in old-styled canvas seats.
- Accommodation:** Diamantina Gardens Dormitory, Winton. Ph: (07) 4657 1466

Day 2 - Winton to Boulia

- Journey:** Winton to Boulia..... approx 362km / 4hrs 5mins
- Highlights:** Middleton Hotel; Min Min Encounter; Stonehouse Museum and Marine Reptile Fossil Display; Corroboree tree of the Pitta Pitta tribe
- Morning:** Our drive to **Boulia** includes a stop at the **Middleton Hotel**, built during the **Cobb and Co. era** and one of the most isolated pubs in Queensland. As we continue our drive, Mesa rock formations or **'Jump-ups'** are visible on either side of the road with **Cawnpore Lookout** (our photo stop) offering spectacular panoramic views of the surrounding Lilleyvale Hills.
- Afternoon:** Arriving in Boulia we visit the **Min Min Encounter** for a unique theatrical experience incorporating animatronics and high-tech wizardry in a tribute to the long honoured bush yarn, all based around the famed Min Min light phenomenon. Visit the well-preserved **Stonehouse Museum**, one of the first homes built in Western Queensland and explore the **Marine Reptile Fossil Display**. See the last recognised **Corroboree tree** of the Pitta Pitta tribe - a distinctive **Waddi tree**.
- Evening:** Dinner at our accommodation.
- Accommodation:** Boulia Caravan Park. Phone: (07) 4746 3320 OR Boulia Desert Sands Motel. Phone: (07) 4746 3000

Day 3 - Boulia to Diamantina National Park

- Journey:** Boulia to Diamantina National Park..... approx 183km / 2hrs 30mins
- Highlights:** Diamantina National Park
- Morning:** Driving east we make a picturesque lunch stop en route to **Diamantina National Park**.
- Afternoon:** We arrive at Diamantina National Park, one of Australia's top 10 national parks, as named by the Worldwide Fund for Nature. While in the park, sample a range of outdoor activities to include canoeing on **Hunters Gorge**, wildlife spotting, exploring the **Warracoota Ruins** and taking in the sights at **Janets Leap Lookout**.

Evening: Campfire dinner under the stars.

Accommodation: Diamantina National Park camping. Phone: 13 QGOV (13 74 68)

Day 4 – Diamantina National Park

Highlights: Explore Diamantina National Park

Spend the day in this 507,000 hectare park with opportunity to **spot local wildlife** including bilbies, kowaris and two ground-dwelling birds. Learn the importance of wetlands for resident and migratory birds and hear stories of past pastoral land owners including the legendary Sir Sidney Kidman.

Understand the strong spiritual connections of the **Maiawali and Karuwali Aboriginal people** who moved through every part of this landscape.

Evening: Campfire dinner under the stars.

Accommodation: Diamantina National Park camping. Phone: 13 QGOV (13 74 68)

Day 5 – Diamantina National Park to Windorah

Journey: Diamantina National Park to Windorah..... approx 227kms / 2hrs 55mins

Highlights: Windorah Sandhills; Windorah Solar Farm; JC Hotel Ruins

Morning: Take the Diamantina Development Road to Windorah. Visit the **Windorah Solar Farm** – the first solar farm trial by Ergon Energy. Explore **JC Hotel Ruins**, the remains of the small town of Canterbury, established in 1884.

Afternoon: Take a short 10 minute drive out of town to the **Windorah sandhills**. The colours of the dunes change during the day to a deep red at sunset. Watch the sun go down, feeling the sound of silence, or perhaps we'll try some **adventure sand tobogganing!**

Evening: Dinner at our accommodation.

Accommodation: Windorah Caravan Park. Phone: 07 4656 3063



Diamantina National Park



Ancient rock formations in Stonehenge

Day 6 – Windorah to Longreach

- Journey:** Windorah to Longreach..... approx. 313km / 4 hrs 40 mins
- Highlights:** Swanvale Lookout, Barcoo Shire Museum, The Native Well, Stonehenge formations; M.V. Longreach Explorer Cruise
- Morning:** Departing for Jundah, we'll stop and boil the billy at **Swanvale Lookout** before a visit to the **Barcoo Shire Museum** for a glimpse into the region's pioneering past. See the Native Well, a valuable source of water for local Indigenous people in days gone by. Spot interesting rock holes, ghostly white gum trees and ancient rock formations in **Stonehenge**.
- Afternoon:** In Longreach, we board the **M.V. Longreach Explorer** for an afternoon cruise on the majestic Thomson River. Learn how Longreach was named, hear stories of famous characters like Captain Starlight and discover the Indigenous and cultural links.
- Evening:** Drover's Camp Oven themed dinner on the banks of the Thomson River with bush poetry and games
- Accommodation:** Longreach Tourist Park ph: 1800 356 099 or Longreach Pastoral College ph: 1800 888 710

Day 7 – Longreach

- Highlights:** Longreach School of Distance Education; Qantas Founders Museum and Jet Tour; Nogo Station tour; Outback Stockman's Show
- Morning:** Witness a totally different way of schooling at **Longreach School of Distance Education**. Visit the **Qantas Founders Museum** and take a guided interpretive tour of the 747 and 707 jets.
- Afternoon:** At **Nogo Station** we experience a working cattle, horse and sheep property owned by the Kinnon Family. Here we'll be treated to great country hospitality, see a working shearing shed, learn the function of Outback grasses and water and hear the stories of growing up on the land.
- Evening:** At 5.00pm we'll head to the Stockman's Hall of Fame to watch the **Outback Stockman's Show** followed by dinner.
- Accommodation:** Longreach Tourist Park ph: 1800 356 099 or Longreach Pastoral College ph: 1800 888 710

Day 8 – Longreach to Brisbane

Morning: After breakfast you will be transferred to Longreach Airport for your connecting flight home.

Tour Highlights:

- Australian Age of Dinosaurs
- Waltzing Matilda Centre & the Royal Open Air Theatre
- Middleton Hotel and Cawnpore Lookout
- Min Min Encounter and Stonehouse Museum
- Corroboree tree of the Pitta Pitta Tribe & Diamantina National Park
- Windorah Sandhills and Windorah Solar Farm
- JC Ruins and Swanvale Lookout
- Barcoo Shire Museum, The Native Well & Stonehenge rock formations
- Longreach School of Distance Education
- Qantas Founders Museum and Jet tour
- MV Longreach Explorer cruise on the Thomson River
- Stockman's Hall of Fame Outback Stockman's Show
- Nogo Station visit

Related Fact Sheets: 1-4, 12, 14-15, 17, 19, 21, 24, 27

BOOKINGS AND ENQUIRIES

Outback Aussie Tours

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www.outbackaussietours.com.au

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