

CHARLEVILLE, TIBOOBURRA, CAMERON CORNER, INNAMINCKA & QUILPIE

2008 Tour Dates: 2 May, 30 May, 25 July and 5 September 2008
Cost: \$1987.00 PP (twin share) (excludes rail) Single Supplement \$315.00

~~Booking Conditions Apply~~

Friday (lunch & dinner)

12.00noon – Tour commences at either Charleville Railway Station where you will be met off The Westlander or for those that self-drive we will meet at the Warrego Motel. After checking into your accommodation we will enjoy some lunch together before a town tour. You will have some free time this afternoon to wander around Charleville before an evening with a difference! Overnight at the Warrego Motel.

Saturday (breakfast, smoko, lunch & dinner)

7.30am –Departing Charleville we'll travel south on the Matilda Highway to Cunnamulla and enjoy smoko with the "Cunnamulla Fella" before heading to Eulo for a look around – see some beautiful opals, visit Pikey's date farm to hear about all the things you can do with dates, including a taste of date wine before lunch at the Eulo Queen Hotel. Departing Eulo we'll travel onto to the unique township of Yowah for smoko and then Scott will take us on a tour of this interesting little place before we head for Thargomindah for our overnight stay at the Oasis Motel.

Sunday (breakfast, lunch, smoko & dinner)

Perhaps enjoy an early morning walk along the Bulloo River before breakfast and then we head off to Tibooburra. Travel west to the historic Noccundra Hotel for morning tea before continuing onto Tibooburra via Warri Gate (Qld/NSW border) with a picnic lunch along the way. See some magnificent scenery as we travel through Sturt National Park, which was formerly five pastoral properties and is now the premier National Park of the Corner Country. Arrive in the tiny town of Tibooburra to enjoy two nights at the Tibooburra Family Motel. Dinner will be at the Family Hotel where some time ago a few artists, fascinated by the desert, came to the town to paint. Any flat surface was fair game and there are still original works by Clifton Pugh, Russell Drysdale and Rick Amor on the hotel's walls.

Monday (breakfast, lunch & dinner) Breakfast will be at the Corner Country Store before we head south to the village of Milparinka, which today is being reinvented with a number of historic buildings waiting to be explored. Enjoy a look around and morning tea before returning to Tibooburra for lunch and a free afternoon to explore this unique little town. Dinner this evening at the Family Hotel.

Tuesday (breakfast, smoko, lunch & dinner)

Following breakfast at the Corner Country Store, we travel west to Cameron Corner, which is the junction of New South Wales, South Australia and Queensland and was surveyed in 1880 by James Cameron. We'll have some lunch at "the corner" before we travel over some interesting country with a few peaks and troughs. Travel past Merty Merty Station before our journey up the Old Strzelecki Track passing by a number of gas and oil installations, including the Hot Fractured Rock Project before arriving at Innamincka for a two-night stay at the Motel.

Wednesday (breakfast, smoko, lunch & dinner)

This morning after breakfast we'll spend the morning touring in and around Innamincka, sharing the Burke and Wills story at King's Marker and see Burke's Grave before we enjoy a nature walk alongside the Cooper. This afternoon is at leisure. Late this afternoon, we'll get together by Cooper Creek for sunset chardonnay and nibbles!

Thursday (breakfast, smoko, lunch & dinner)

After an early departure from Innamincka, travel through Nappa Merrie Station and over the Burke and Wills Bridge where we will visit Australia's most famous Coolibah tree - the Burke and Wills Dig Tree. This Coolibah tree is believed to be over 200 years old and still has the three blazes on the trunk put there over 140 years ago by the base camp party that Burke and Wills missed by 6 hours. Breakfast will be served at this historic location. Continue heading east crossing over the massive flood plain of Cooper Creek and passing by Jackson Oil Field, Australia's largest onshore oilfield. After some lunch we'll continue onto Eromanga and then Quilpie for our overnight stay.

Friday (breakfast, lunch and smoko)

After a leisurely start, we'll take a look around Quilpie – the heart of opal country. This most colourful semi-precious stone is Australia's national gemstone and the Quilpie mining district is the largest producer of boulder opal in the world. Enjoy lunch at the local hotel before we depart Quilpie and head to "Myendetta" Homestead for afternoon tea and tour. The endless verandah of Myendetta homestead is the perfect setting to hear the history and anecdotes of four generations of the Agar family. Then it's off to Charleville where your tour will end at Charleville Railway Station or the Warrego Motel.

Tour inclusions and highlights:

- ✓ Local owner/operator Graham and Deb and touring in their modern airconditioned bus
- ✓ All accommodation including 2 nights at Tibooburra and 2 nights at Innamincka
- ✓ All meals (continental breakfast, lunch and 2-course dinners) and morning teas along the way
- ✓ Town tours in Cunnamulla, Thargomindah, Tibooburra and Quilpie.
- ✓ Story of Timothy O'Hea, a winner of the Victoria Cross Medal
- ✓ Sturt's Story at Tibooburra
- ✓ "The Corner" Story
- ✓ Chardonnay and nibbles at sunset by the mighty Cooper at Innamincka
- ✓ Touring around Innamincka including King's Marker, Burke's Grave and the Hot Fractured Rock Project.
- ✓ The Dig Tree
- ✓ "Myendetta" Homestead