



victor tours



All Inclusive price is \$

Day 1 (D): VICTOR HARBOR TO BROKEN HILL: Monday June 2019

Welcome to **Victor Tours** 9 day tour featuring **Lightning Ridge** in the north west of New South Wales – just 70 kilometres south of the Queensland border. This will not be the only feature throughout our nine days though. Today we travel through to our overnight destination of **Broken Hill**, with several stops along the way. Arriving late this afternoon we check into our motel and freshen up for dinner. *(Dinner included)*

Desert Sand Motor Inn, Broken Hill (08 8088 4122) subject to availability

Day 2 (BLD): BROKEN HILL TO TRILBY STATION: Tuesday June 2019

Following breakfast we continue travelling through some pretty remote countryside to reach Louth and our unique destination of **Trilby Station** – our base for the next two nights. This station is a 130,000 acre working sheep and cattle station. Tomorrow we experience genuine local touring. *(Breakfast, lunch and dinner included)*

Trilby Station, Bourke (subject to availability)

Day 3 (BLD): STATION LIFE: Tuesday June 2019

We have a fascinating day ahead of us. Just up the road, towards Louth, is **Dunlop Station**, the first shed in the world to complete a mechanical shearing, back in 1888 (shearing 188,000 sheep!!). Trilby was once a part of the million acre Dunlop Station and the history there is amazing. We have arranged morning tea and a tour of the homestead and shearing shed. We return to **Trilby** for lunch and then enjoy an easy walking/talking tour with Liz Murray (owner) down to the river, past the homestead and up to the hangar. As Liz says "its more about story telling than walking - giving visitors a woman's perspective about life in the outback". There will also be time to take a swim or walk along the river. (*Breakfast, lunch and dinner at Trilby Station*)

Trilby Station, Bourke (subject to availability)



Trilby Station

Day 4 (BLD): BOURKE TO LIGHTNING RIDGE: (NOT MON) Wed June 2019

This morning after breakfast we travel for a couple of hours before stopping to take a look at **Bourke** and what really is at the back of it! There are some wonderful historic buildings here including the Carriers Arms Inn, frequented by Henry Lawson in the early 1890s and mentioned in some of his stories. While we are here we visit the **Back of Bourke Exhibition Centre** that will bring to life the story of Outback New South Wales and of course the back o' Bourke. We continue in true country style by having lunch at the pub – **The Port of Bourke Hotel** to be exact. There is an interesting piece of aboriginal history at the **Brewarrina Fish Traps**. Estimated to be over 40,000 years old these are one of the oldest man-made structures on earth. This elaborate network of rock weirs and pools stretch for around half a kilometre along the riverbed and were built by ancient tribes, to catch fish as they swam upstream. **Lightning Ridge** is our destination and we aim to get there late afternoon. This is a three night stop so unpack and get comfortable. (*Breakfast, lunch and dinner included*)

Wallangulla Motel, Lightning Ridge (1800 247 376) subject to availability

Day 5 (BD): LIGHTNING RIDGE: Thursday June 2019



Lightning Ridge is the only place in Australia (and one of the few places in the world) where the precious and highly prized **Black Opal** is found. The black opal has carbon and iron oxide trace elements in it producing a very dark stone with hints of blue, green and red. To enhance our day we are joined by a **local guide** who will introduce us to this interesting town. After breakfast we head to the **Walk-In-Mine** to experience the atmosphere of an underground mine. We also have a **tour** including a video presentation and explanation about opal mining. We then visit the

showroom to view the opals that came from the mines in this area. Next is a visit to the **John Murray Art Gallery**, well worth a visit. John has been kept busy adding to his mural on the outside wall of the Gallery, affectionately named "Billygoat Lane". We now have some free time for lunch before an afternoon visit to the **Chambers of the Black Hand**. At 11.2m underground, this unique attraction by local artist Ron Canlin has created the most amazing paintings and sculptures. There is The Last Supper, Archangel Gabriel and the Chinese Terracotta Warriors. Ron is constantly carving new work, such as a samurai warrior so there are changes every day. The second level is a mine that has been worked for over 100 years, and all the old shafts and drives that were dug by the old timers are still there. On this level a geology tour will give us the different strata's opal formation - an experience not to be missed. Overall, it is a very unique visit. Our last stop for the day is to meet our local opal expert at the **Opal Cave**. He will show us how the opal is cut and polished. Completing our fascinating day, we return to our motel. *(Breakfast and club dinner included)*

Wallangulla Motel, Lightning Ridge (1800 247 376) subject to availability

Day 6 (BLD): THE GRAWIN AND SHEEPYARD OPAL FIELDS: Friday June 2019

No trip to Lightning Ridge would be complete without a trip to **The Grawin**. We'll see interesting places like **The Pub in the Scrub**, **The Glengarry Hilton** and **Sheepyard Flats**. Located about 70 kilometres west of Lightning Ridge, **The Grawin** was established in 1908 with the discovery of the opal at "Hammond Hill". Further discoveries in 1920 at "Richards Hill" put the unofficial village on the map. It was at Grawin that the largest opal 'Light of the World' was found in 1928. Since the first discovery of opal in the region, people have come and gone in tides with each new strike, seeking their fortune in search of the rainbow in the rock. It is believed that a field at Grawin was discovered in 1905, but it wasn't until the 1970s became a major field in its own right. The Mulga Rush, which began in 2000, is the biggest opal rush since the Coocoran was discovered in the early 1900s. The Sheepyard area was named after a fin of opal near the fence of the old Sheepyards. A **local guide** joins us on a day's touring including **lunch** at the **Glengarry Hilton**. After a great day we head back to Lightning Ridge with some time to freshen up and relax before dinner. *(Breakfast, lunch and dinner included)*

Wallangulla Motel, Lightning Ridge (1800 247 376) subject to availability

Day 7 (BLD): LIGHTNING RIDGE TO DUBBO: Saturday June 2019

This morning we farewell **Lightning Ridge** and travel back through Walgett on our way to **Dubbo**. We pass through **Coonamble** and **Gulargambone** and onto **Gilgandra** - home of the Coo-ees and the Town of Windmills. In Bridge Street a plaque commemorates that starting point of the famous "Coo-ee" recruiting march of World War I. The beautiful St Ambrose Anglican Church is also in part a tribute to the march as well. After **lunch** at a local club we stop by the **Visitor Information Centre** for a look then continue on to **Dubbo**. *(Breakfast, lunch and dinner included)*

Comfort Inn Blue Lagoon, Dubbo subject to availability

Day 8 (BLD): DUBBO TO HAY: Sunday June 2019

We have an interesting day once again as we travel south along the Newell Highway with our first stop at **Forbes**. Here we have arranged a **visit** and **lunch** at **McFeeters Motor Museum** - a purpose built facility to house a stunning collection of meticulously restored vehicles. These vehicles range from 1905 Veterans, Vintage, Classic and modern custom cars, some rare, some common and some just down right bizarre! The complex also houses Super Bee - a honey outlet offering free honey tasting and sale. After a light lunch we travel through to **West Wyalong** and then to **Hay** for our overnight stay. *(Breakfast, lunch and dinner included)*

Bishops Lodge Motor Inn, Hay (02 6993 3003) subject to availability

Day 9 (BL): HAY TO VICTOR HARBOR: Monday June 2019

After breakfast we begin our travel day home. We tackle the Hay Plain with our morning stop at **Balranald** then cross the Murray River at **Tooleybuc**. We'll continue through Ouyen and

Pinnaroo, arriving in Victor Harbor late afternoon to complete a sensational 9 day tour. (*Breakfast and lunch included*)

All itineraries are subject to change due to occasional restrictions in opening times/days of some attractions. We cannot be held responsible for any changes due to closures or inclement weather.

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