

Day 1 (LD): HOME TO BROKEN HILL

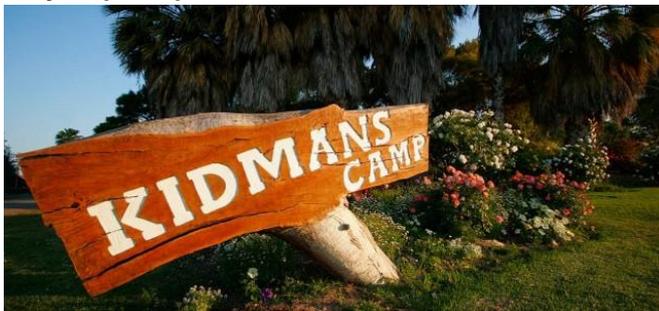
Wed 17 July 2019

Welcome to our **Victor Tours** trip to the **Tip of Australia!** This morning, we board the coach which we know means adventure and intrigue for the next few weeks ahead of us. We travel for quite a distance today as we want to reach Broken Hill for our first overnight stop. A warm **lunch** is waiting for us at a café in **Peterborough** but most of the day is immersing ourselves in the countryside from our seats. *(Lunch and dinner included)*

Desert Sand Motor Inn, Broken Hill –

Day 2 (BLD): BROKEN HILL TO BOURKE

Thu 18 July 2019



No time to stay in Broken Hill, so we set off early this morning. We have **picnic lunches** onboard and our coach captain will find the perfect spot to enjoy them during the day. Our destination of Bourke will be a highlight as we venture out for a wonderful dinner experience at Kidman's Camp. **Poetry on A Plate** will be a memorable evening as we are entertained

by our host renowned as the "Bard of Bourke". He will have us laughing, crying, reflecting and learning about this iconic part of Australia. All this, while consuming a slow cooked meal with homemade desserts. *(Breakfast, lunch and dinner included)*

Darling River Motel, Bourke –

Day 3 (BD): BOURKE TO CHARLEVILLE

Fri 19 July 2019

We may be "at the back of Bourke" but we have managed to find a pleasant cruise to start our morning on **PV Jandra**. This one hour cruise along the **Darling River** will inform us about the regions rich river boat history. Next we have a story to hear about a fella from Cunnamulla but we will wait until we get to the **Cunnamulla Fella Centre Art Gallery and Museum** before we learn too much about him and his friend Slim Dusty! We can stop in at the Gidgee Bean Café @ Cunnamulla to pick something up for lunch (passengers own cost) before a couple of hours in the coach getting us to our overnight accommodation in Charleville. Once we settle into our rooms we rug up and head out again. This time, to

the **Cosmos Centre** where we have drinks and nibbles before a 30 minute twilight observatory session. Dinner will be back at the hotel. *(Breakfast and dinner included)*

Mulga Country Motor Inn, Charleville –

Day 4 (BLD): CHARLEVILLE TO LONGREACH

Sat 20 July 2019



The town of **Blackall** is where we pay a visit to the **Wool Scour** to enjoy a **BBQ lunch**, breaking our travel between Charleville and Longreach where we stay for the next two nights. *(Breakfast, lunch and dinner included)*

Albert Park Motor Inn, Longreach – (2 night stay)

Day 5 (BD): LONGREACH

Sun 21 July 2019

Longreach is a very special place. Although it is right in the middle of outback Queensland the attractions here are world class. Our morning will be spent at the **Australian Stockmans Hall of Fame**, where 4 levels of displays perfectly depict the life of the stockman and all who surrounded him. It is only a short walk back to our accommodation so we can choose how long we peruse at the Hall of Fame. The afternoon is free until we meet together to transfer across the road to the **Qantas Founders Museum** for a tour through the museum and of a 747 aircraft. This is also where we stay for a lovely roast dinner this evening before retiring. *(Breakfast and dinner included)*

Albert Park Motor Inn, Longreach –

Day 6 (BD): LONGREACH TO CLONCURRY

Mon 22 July 2019



The Waltzing Matilda Centre burnt down a couple of years ago and has been rebuilt, even bigger and better than before so we allow time to take a look at this new venue dedicated to a song. There is a very good café on site aswell, so right after lunch (own expence) we express to Cloncurry which is our next overnight stop. *(Breakfast and dinner included)*

Gidgee Inn Motel, Cloncurry –

Day 7 (BD): CLONCURRY TO NORMANTON**Tue 23 July 2019**

Before we depart Cloncurry we pay a visit to the **John Flynn's Place**. This museum honours the visionary John Flynn and his campaign for better living conditions in remote Australia. Making our way to Normanton shows us just how remote this area is and the challenges it brings with it make the people who live here quite unique and definitely resilient. *(Breakfast and dinner included)*

Gulfland Motel, Normanton –**Day 8 (BD): NORMANTON TO ATHERTON****Wed 24 July 2019**

At 8.30am the **Gulflander train** chugs us along to Blackbull where we make a refreshment stop and onto Croydon arriving at 1.30pm where Kym will meet us with the coach. Our afternoon drive takes us into the forest area of Atherton. *(Breakfast and dinner included)*

**Jackaroo Motel, Atherton –****Day 9 (BLD): ATHERTON TO CAIRNS****Thu 25 July 2019**

It is not far to Cairns now but we spend the morning doing a **Lake Barrine cruise** at 11.30am followed by **lunch** in the tearooms. Such a contrast to the arid land we have just come from over the last few days. Enjoying the greener scenery this afternoon prepares us for our arrival into the tropical city of Cairns. After we settle in dinner will be in the hotel but why not pop down to the bar for a pre-dinner drink first? (own expense). *(Breakfast, lunch and dinner included)*

Ibis Styles, Cairns – (4 night stay)**DAY 10 (B): FREE DAY IN CAIRNS****Fri 26 July 2019**

Today has been left completely free for us to spend our time in Cairns as we wish. It is a great city to stroll around, spend time near the water and enjoy the complexities of

visitors that choose to spend time here. We can be as busy or as laid back as we like today. Lunch and dinner have been left for us to find our own, so check with concierge about the most appropriate way for us to spend our day and the best eateries for our tastes. *(Breakfast included)*

Ibis Styles, Cairns –**Day 11 (BD): CAIRNS LOCAL TOURING****Sat 27 July 2019**

This morning we head to the Freshwater Train Station to join the Kuranda Scenic Railway for an amazing ride up the range to the tropical plant clad Kuranda Station. Climbing more than 300 metres through dense, tropical rainforest, it is a journey that travels through the magnificent Barron Falls

National Park. Constructed between 1882 and 1891, the railway is considered an engineering feat of tremendous magnitude. Hundreds of men were employed to build the 15 handmade tunnels and 37 bridges that stand as a monument to the pioneers of tropical North Queensland. The end of the line is at the top of the range, at the town of Kuranda. Surrounded by World Heritage listed Rainforest the village is full of arts and crafts shops and stalls that we can wander through and purchase some lunch. We return to the coast via the Skyrail Rainforest Cableway, taking us across the rooftop of the rainforest and back down to the coastal plain via Gondolas. Stretching 7.5 kilometres across the rainforest canopy, the views are spectacular. We stop off during our descent to visit an interpretative centre and take a walk along a boardwalk through the rainforest. Arriving at the Skyrail terminal in Cairns, we have time to browse for souvenirs before being transferred back to our hotel, taking in some of the notable city sights. *(Breakfast and dinner at the hotel)*

Ibis Styles, Cairns –

DAY 12 (B): CAIRNS AT LEISURE

Sun 28 July 2019

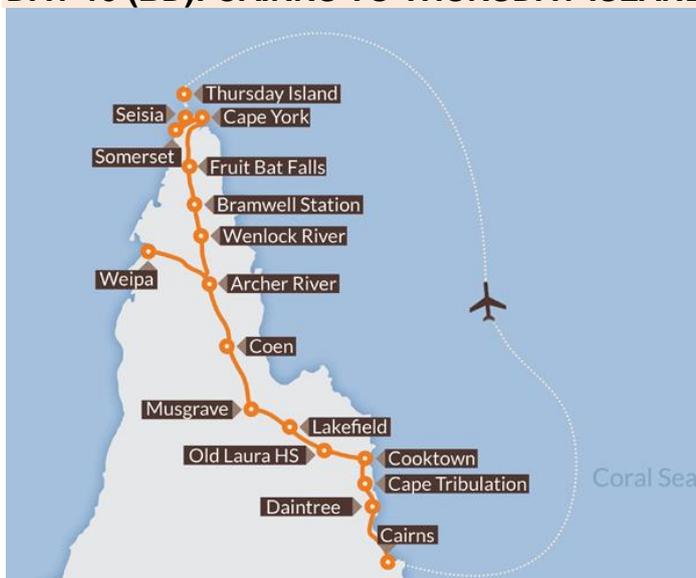
There is so much to see and do in this area that the endless options have been left up to us. There are reef cruises, day tour to Port Douglas or the rainforest, helicopter flights and a lot more to choose from. A visit to the night markets would be a great way to end our time in Cairns. There are restaurants in and around the market area so this is also a good recommendation for dinner venues. *(Breakfast included)*



Ibis Styles, Cairns –

DAY 13 (BD): CAIRNS TO THURSDAY ISLAND/SEISIA

Mon 29 July 2019



Transfer from our hotel to the Cairns airport has us ready to board the flight to Horn Island. We then take the ferry to Thursday Island and on arrival we are taken on an informative guided bus tour of the island and its picturesque Harbour which was once home to the romantic pearl lugger fleet. This afternoon we board the ferry to the mainland where we are met by our guide, who takes us to **Seisia**. Ideally located for our next few days we base ourselves here to be in walking distance from the Seisia Wharf, a famous fishing spot. Our accommodation is at **Seisia Holiday**

Park in cottages with ensuite facilities. *(Breakfast and dinner included)*

Seisia Holiday Park – (2 night stay)

DAY 14 (BLD): CAPE YORK/SOMERSET

Tue 30 July 2019



We have an unforgettable day ahead of us! Stand at the very top of mainland Australia. We then visit **Somerset** (road conditions permitting), once the home of the legendary Jardine family. We enjoy lunch on palm fringed

Anchorage Beach which overlooks the **Albany Passage**. A walk on the beach completes our day before returning to Seisia. *(Breakfast, lunch and dinner included)*

Seisia Holiday Park –

DAY 15 (BLD): FRUIT BAT FALLS / BRAMWELL STATION

Wed 31 July 2019



Southward bound, we cross the mighty Jardine River, stopping at **Fruit Bat Falls** (pictured) for lunch. With bathers at hand we will relax, swim and enjoy this unique area with its enchanting waterfall. Travelling along part of the Old Telegraph Track heads us in the direction of a 'true blue' Aussie cattle station, **Bramwell Station**. This also has ensuite facilities, making for a pretty fancy Station stay! *(Breakfast, lunch and dinner included)*

Bramwell Station –

DAY 16 (BD): BRAMWELL STATION TO WEIPA

Thu 1 August 2019



A southerly run through the wilderness with all its varied landscapes to cross the Wenlock River begins another interesting day. Who would have thought we would have access to so much water in this part of the world? We head for the shores of the Gulf of Carpentaria and our overnight accommodation in **Weipa**, with its view over Albatross Bay. This afternoon there will be the opportunity of a Wildlife Eco River cruise (a \$60 fee will be charged per passenger to do the cruise). *(Breakfast*

and dinner included)

Weipa –

DAY 17 (BLD): WEIPA TO MUSGRAVE

Fri 2 August 2019

Continuing south we stop off at the picturesque **Archer River**, then on to the historic frontier gold town of Coen. The afternoon finds us arriving at our overnight accommodation at the **Old Musgrave Telegraph Station** where we once again have ensuite facilities. *(Breakfast, lunch and dinner included)*

Musgrave Station –

DAY 18 (BD): MUSGRAVE TO COOKTOWN

Sat 3 August 2019

After an early start, we head east towards Princess Charlotte Bay where we explore **Lakefield National Park** (road conditions permitted), a haven for the many birds and animals native to this area. Lagoons, billabongs and wide river lakes are home to both fresh and saltwater crocodiles. Travelling on, we visit Split Rock with its Aboriginal Rock art before arriving in the old gold port of **Cooktown**. On arrival we visit Captain Cooks Landing before settling into our ensued accommodation in Cooktown. *(Breakfast and dinner included)*

Cooktown –

DAY 19 (BLD): COOKTOWN/CAPE TRIBULATION TO CAIRNS

Sun 4 August 2019

The final exciting day has unfortunately arrived but before returning to Cairns, we make our way south passing the mysterious Black Mountain and the historic Lions Den Hotel.

Traversing the jungle shrouded **Bloomfield Track** (road conditions permitted) we see where the rainforest meets the reef at **Cape Tribulation**. We travel through the splendour of a World Heritage listed rainforest. A scenic drive along the Marlin Coast back to Cairns is a perfect way to return to the 'big smoke'. (*Breakfast, lunch and dinner included*)

Ibis Styles, Cairns – 07

Day 20 (BD): CAIRNS TO CHARTERS TOWERS **Mon 5 August 2019**

We should be getting the hang of the outback lifestyle by now and our next overnight stop will continue that theme. (*Breakfast and dinner included*)

Cattleman's Rest Motor Inn, Charters Towers

DAY 21 (BD): CHARTERS TOWERS TO EMERALD **Tue 6 August 2019**



We have a real treat this morning. Our morning will be spent at the **Texas Longhorn Wagon Tours** complex where we indulge in a magnificent 'smoko', a wagon ride and lot of fun with the resident characters that call this place home. We can be thankful that we have a coach for the afternoons touring as we leave the wagons behind us! (*Breakfast and dinner included*)

Emerald Explorers Inn, Emerald –

DAY 22 (BLD): EMERALD TO ST GEORGE **Wed 7 August 2019**



Departing early today gives us time to stop in Roma for a look at **Roma Big Rig**. The venue includes information about the gas and oil industry in Australia. Boring? No, not at all! We may be surprised at the impact these commodities have in our lives. This is also the perfect place to enjoy lunch before our afternoon of coach travel, arriving in St. George early evening. (*Breakfast, lunch and dinner included*)

Riverland Motor Inn, St. George –

DAY 23 (BD): ST GEORGE TO FORBES **Thu 8 August 2019**

There is quite a distance to drive today, so we can consider this a travel day, with convenience stops along the way. (*Breakfast and dinner included*)

Plainsman Motel, Forbes –

DAY 24 (BD): FORBES TO MILDURA**Fri 9 August 2019**

We will be in **Hay** in the middle of the day so we jump off the coach to spend some time taking a look around and also purchase lunch. We then express through to Mildura - known as the **Sunraysia District**. Named appropriately, as the region enjoys a dry, clear climate with clear blue skies and 400 more hours of sunshine each year than the Gold Coast! *(Breakfast and dinner included)*

Quality Hotel Mildura Grand, Mildura –

DAY 25 (BL): MILDURA TO HOME**Sat 10 August 2019**

Our final day has arrived and we will make the most of it by beginning with a morning tea cruise from Wentworth. Crossing the border into South Australia we take a break in **Loxton** at the **Historical Village** which is very interesting and the ideal place to have **lunch**. The village depicts a time before TV and computers, when bread was baked at home and milk came directly from cows right to the table. A bit like some of the outback folk we have visited throughout our trip? *(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.

Prices as follows;

- 25-day Coach all the way - \$9890.00pp & \$1980.00ss
- 20-day Coach/Fly - \$8998.00pp & \$1730.00ss (plus airfare home)
- 15-day Fly/Coach - \$7825.00pp & \$1510.00ss (plus airfare to Cairns)
- 9-day Fly/Fly - \$7870.00pp & \$1810.00ss (includes airfares)

***LUGGAGE** Due to Government Workplace Health and Safety Regulations luggage cannot exceed 10kg. Luggage space is VERY LIMITED on the 4wd vehicle so please restrict your luggage to ONE small SOFT travel bag (300mm x 300mm x 700 mm) and a small day pack per person. Suitcases are welcome for the Victor Tours portions of the tour, all large luggage will be securely stored on the Victor Tours coach.