

Gems of the West - Outback Pubs, Bilbies & Opals (EASY PACE)

8 Days Tour Only Single room **\$3899** \$600

Tour Highlights: Historical Outback Pubs including Eulo Queen Hotel, Noccundra Hotel and Hotel Corones, Moree Artesian Springs, Lightning Ridge Underground Mine & Town Tour, Painted Silos of Thallon, St George's Sandtyown River Cruise, Cunnamulla Fella Museum & Art Gallery, Charleville & Cosmos Centre, Bilby Experience, Big Rig Sunet Experience, Accommodation & meals as per itinerary, Coach touring & commentary, fully hosted by our friendly staff

Day 1: Departing early, we travel from Brisbane towards the black soil plains of **Moree**. A place of relaxation and rejuvenation, we take time to soak in the hot **Artesian Springs** before our included **Welcome Dinner**. *Artesian Spa Motel, Moree (D)*

Day 2: Today we continue West to the outback town of **Lightning Ridge**. Home to the unique black opal, a rare and luminous gem mined from the surrounding plains. We enjoy lunch before meeting our local guide for a **town tour**. Experience a walk-in **Underground Tour**, hear colourful stories of opal explorers and see heritage miner camps. *Wallangulla Motel, Lightning Ridge (B, L, D)*

Day 3: This morning, we travel to **Thallon** to view the incredible **Silo** titled 'The Watering Hole' then to the famous **Nindigully Pub** for lunch. "The Gully" is Queensland's oldest hotel located in its original condition and position. Later, we travel to **St George** to join **Sandytown River Cruises** for an enjoyable tour along the Balonne River, taking in the beautiful river gums, birdlife and landscape.

Merino Motor Inn, St George (B, L, D)

Day 4: Today we visit another famous pub named after colourful character, Isobel Gray, notoriously known as the 'Eulo-Queen' after her interesting

lifestyle. We enjoy lunch in this classic pub before we continue to **Thargomindah**, situated on the Bulloo River in Channel Country. *Thargomindah Oasis Motel, Thargomindah (B, L, D)*

Day 5: Today we tour around Thargomindah. Look out for the old mud brick hospital and the artesian hydro power plant, thought to be the oldest working unit in Australia. We call into the historic **Noccundra Hotel**, the only surviving building in the township. The hotel was built from locally quarried sandstone and transported to Noccundra by camel train. *Thargomindah Oasis Motel, Thargomindah (B, L, D)*

Day 6: Off to **Cunnamulla**, a town created by Cobb & Co in 1879. Visit the iconic statue of Australian Bush character the Cunnamulla Fella, from a song sung by Slim Dusty, along with a visit the **Cunnamulla Fella Museum and Art Gallery**. After lunch, we travel to **Charleville** to visit the **Cosmos Centre** unveiling the many mysteries of our night sky. *Mulga Country Motor Inn, Charleville (B, L, D)*

Day 7: A highlight of our tour is visiting the **Bilby Experience**, where we learn all about their breeding program. Onto the **Hotel Corones** for the Stories and Scones tour. This afternoon we arrive in **Roma** for our final night together at the **Big Rig for a Sunset Experience**. Ignite your interest in sabotage & drama through the eyes of a **"Roma Rigger"** guide as we watch an original short story history film under the stars in the outdoor theatre. A fantastic way to spend our last outback evening together. Best Western Bungil Creek Motel, Roma (B, L, D)

Day 8:

With our bags packed full of wonderful memories we begin our journey back to Brisbane and arrive home after a fantastic tour to Queensland's iconic outback.

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2025 Departures: 22 March