



# *Flinders Ranges and the Outback*

10  
AUG

**9 Days All inclusive Tour  
Departing Victor Harbor**

Mon 10 Aug - Tue 18 Aug

Twin Share \$3,260 pp

Single supplement \$525

Bookings and enquiries please call  
(08) 8552 8001

visit [www.victortours.com.au](http://www.victortours.com.au) for tour details





## OUTBACK SOUTH AUSTRALIA

*Remote outback South Australia is where we are headed.*

*There is something very special and a bit spiritual about being on land that only offers itself. As we explore the Flinders Ranges we can marvel at its natural beauty with deep gorges and rugged hills. There is an astonishing variety of coloured rocks, meandering creeks with deep waterholes. The region protects many species of wildlife and has abundant bird life. We will, no doubt have some surreal moments throughout our time away. Come and join us in our own magical backyard!*

### **Day 1 (D): HOME TO FLINDERS RANGES**

**Monday 10 August 2020**

Flinders Ranges here we come. Most of the day will be spent travelling, so we arrive at our accommodation ready to settle in and enjoy dinner together with true country hospitality. **Rawnsley Park Station** is set below the magnificent Rawnsley Bluff. Dinner tonight will be in the Woolshed Restaurant, an authentic Australian woolshed. The ever-changing menu makes the best of local produce, including Rawnsley's own lamb. *(Dinner included)*

**Rawnsley Park Station, Flinders Ranges - 08 8648 0700**

### **Day 2 (BLD): RAWNSLEY PARK/FLINDERS RANGES**

**Tuesday 11 August 2020**

Waking to the sound of birds chirping and trees rustling is just divine. This morning our local guide joins us for an insider's tour of this stunning National Park. The **Flinders Ranges** are well known for their wild flowers but it's the dramatic gorges and spectacular peaks that are the real highlights of this beautiful part of Australia. We'll stop at a lookout for stunning vistas (a good opportunity for a group photograph) and visit some of the gorges (subject to weather and road conditions). We enjoy a **packed lunch** along the way then return to Rawnsley mid-afternoon. We have some time to do our own exploring

before we meet again late afternoon for a drive to **Pugilist Lookout** for **Sundowners** – nibbles and drinks as we watch the sun set. But our day's not over yet... Back at Rawnsley Park, we enjoy another home cooked meal ending a fantastic day! (*Breakfast, lunch and dinner included*)

**Rawnsley Park Station, Flinders Ranges**

**Day 3 (BLD): RAWNSLEY PARK TO LEIGH CREEK      Wednesday 12 August 2020**

Leaving the Flinders Ranges today ends one chapter of our tour but means the beginning of the next. **Hawker** is our first stop where we spend some time at the **Jeff Morgan Art Gallery**. Jeff has a superb reputation in the art world and when we visit his gallery standing in front of his panoramas we will be in awe. We can feel the outback right in front of us on canvas. With views of the Ranges on our right, our trip takes us to a unique venue for lunch in Parachilna at the **Prairie Hotel**. The hotel restaurant is renowned for innovative dishes with Australian native twists with a focus on local South Australian produce. Whether you are adventurous or not there is a meal just right to satisfy your taste. Our overnight stop is in Leigh Creek where we have time to relax and take a swim before dinner in the Leigh Creek Bar and Grill. (*Breakfast, lunch and dinner included*)

**Leigh Creek Outback Resort, Leigh Creek – 08 8675 2025**

**Day 4 (BLD): LEIGH CREEK TO ARKAROOA      Thursday 13 August 2020**

After breakfast we set off further into the outback. A bit further on in the stunning northern Flinders Ranges we arrive at Arkaroola where now, in the heart of this truly remote location there is quality accommodation and services. The Mawson Lodge was named in honour of Sir Douglas Mawson and his friendship with Arkaroola founders, the Sprigg family. We have time to settle in and perhaps take ourselves on a self-guided walk before dinner. (*Breakfast, lunch and dinner included*)

**Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary, Arkaroola – 08 8648 4848**

**Day 5 (BLD): EXPLORING ARKAROOA      Friday 14 August 2020**

We visit the natural history and geology museum at Arkaroola first giving us some insight into the early Aboriginal history of the area. It is an excellent resource with photographs, geological maps and fossils as well as Aboriginal artefacts on display. This geological wonderland has had many ore and precious minerals found in the area such as gold, sapphire, ruby, malachite and azurite just to mention a few. The area's remoteness though, makes it cost prohibitive to mine the area which is fortunate for us as we can still enjoy its beauty in its natural state. **Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary** is blessed with a unique landscape created over 2 billion years ago. The area is an ancient uplifted seabed and is home to the most rugged chain of mountains in the Australian Outback. We take a Ridgetop tour for spectacular views from the mountain tops. A picture cannot capture the grandeur of this spot, we simply have to enjoy it by experiencing it in person. We have the opportunity to see the area by air also throughout the day. Flights are optional and at our own expense (subject to availability) but there is no better way to comprehend the vastness and the remoteness than from the air. At night there is a chance to visit Australia's largest privately owned Astronomical Observatory. Tours of the Universe from this facility and the "star chairs" provide a unique experience for us, the traveller that is normally only available to scientists and astronomers (depends on local weather conditions). The clear night skies make this an excellent spot for astronomical viewing and that is how we will end our evening – star gazing. Aah the serenity! (*Breakfast, lunch and dinner included*)

**Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary, Arkaroola**



## Day 6 (BLD): ARKAROOLA TO MARREE

Saturday 15 August 2020

Our day begins with packing our bags, enjoying breakfast and checking out of our accommodation for the next part of our adventure, covering another corner of SAs' backyard. Between Lyndhurst and Marree we stop at **Farina**. The town is no longer inhabited but there is a group of dedicated volunteers eager to bring the small settlement back to life, even if it is in a



historical sense, by restoring crumbling buildings and putting stories of previous residents on story boards throughout what was once a close-knit outback community. It is as we travel along these roads that we can only imagine how harsh life must have been one hundred years ago when many people called this place home. As we wander around the area we can take particular note of the old bakery that was restored well enough for it to run as a bakery for a few weeks each year. Our destination this afternoon is in **Marree** at the **Marree Hotel**. In the late of the night we are taken on a

tour of the hotel looking for the ghost that lurks around the area and often likes to take cover in the hotel at night. *(Breakfast, lunch and dinner included)*

**Marree Hotel, Marree – 08 8675 8344**

## Day 7 (BD): MARREE

Sunday 16 August 2020

The harsh remoteness is enough to put a lot of folk off out here but for the ones who call this home, they love it. Of course they welcome visitors but they all rely on each other for anything and everything so they become a pretty close knit community which is a lot harder to find in the city. Meeting our local guide today we learn a lot about Marree and its people. It provided a base for the Afghans and their camels and in 1872 became a vital link in the Overland Telegraph line, connecting Adelaide with London and the rest of the world! Our 90 minute tour will give us a good insight into the area, including the history of the **Marree Man**. We can pick up some lunch to take with us across the road at the 'servo', it's well worth a visit! We then take a drive north along the **Birdsville Track** - arguably the most iconic dirt road in Australia. Just north of Marree are the **Lake Harry** ruins. More than 100 years ago, after a bore had been drilled, a date palm plantation was established here. This is not a joke! Although the date trees grew successfully, up to 2 000 date palms stood there in the 1930s, the project failed due to the lack of bees to pollinate the trees. The Outback has reclaimed its land and only the ruins remind of these days. Just beyond here is the **Dingo Fence** which meanders 5 400 kilometres from the cliffs of the Great Australian Bight throughout Outback South Australia and NSW to the coast north of Brisbane. Back at our hotel we have time to mix with the locals before dinner tonight at the hotel. *(Breakfast and dinner included)*

**Marree Hotel, Marree**

## Day 8 (BLD): MARREE TO ROXBYP DOWNS

Monday 17 August 2020

Breakfast begins our day as we farewell Marree and make our way to Andamooka, a ramshackle town in the "middle of nowhere". This is Australia's original opal mining town and still produces stable opals that are sought after around the world. **Lunch** will be at the

**Andmooka Yacht Club**, a surprising stop to say the least! A **local guide** jumps onboard our coach giving us opportunity to ask all those questions about life in a town unlike any other. On arrival into Roxby Downs, where we spend our last evening on tour we arrive at the information centre where a movie on the area is shown at the auditorium before we take a spin around the town. Settling into our motel we take time to chat over dinner this evening remembering all the amazing places we have visited. We should be happy to be going back to our homes appreciating the lifestyles of the outback folk. *(Breakfast, lunch and dinner included)*

**Roxby Downs Motor Inn, Roxby Downs – 08 8671 0311**

**Day 9 (B): ROXBY DOWNS TO HOME** **Tuesday 18 August 2020**

Setting off early gives us time to make convenience stops throughout the day arriving into Victor Harbor late afternoon. *(Breakfast included)*

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

**Departing Mon 10 – Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2020**

**All-inclusive cost is \$3260.00pp & \$525.00ss**