

Flinders Ranges & Murray Princess

10 November
2010
13 Days

**Wilpena Pound
Scenic Joy Flight & 4WD Tour**

**Murray Princess
3 Fun Filled Nights on the**

Kanyaka Ruins

**Swan Hill Pioneer Village
Light & Sound Show**

2 nights in Clare Valley

Cornish Mining Town~Burra

National Motor Museum

Sevenhill Cellars & Vineyard

Martindale Hall, Mintaro

**Broken Hill Sculptures, Galleries &
Silverton & Cobar**

Day 1: Home—Wagga Wagga(LD)

We will leave the Hunter, picking up at Tuggerah, Hornsby and Strathfield on our way to Wagga Wagga for our overnight accommodation.

Country Comfort Wagga Wagga 02 6921 6444

Day 2: Wagga Wagga—Swan Hill (BLD)

We will head across country through Lockhart to Deniliquin, the centre of the rice growing district, for lunch. We will arrive in Swan Hill with time to enjoy the motel facilities - swimming pool, mini golf or explore the town. Tonight we will experience life for the pioneers of the Mallee at the **Sound and Light Show** at the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement.

Swan Hill Resort 03 5032 2726

Day 3: Swan Hill—Mannum (BLD)

We will leave the river regions and head through the wheat belt towns of Ouyen and Pinnaroo. Crossing into South Australia at Lameroo we once again join the river at Murray Bridge. We will have some time in Mannum before boarding the **Murray Princess for our luxury cruise**, an opportunity to relive the romance of bygone days on a 67 metre steam paddlewheeler with elegant spiral staircase, mahogany furnishings and giant paddlewheel. The crew will greet us with a drink, before we settle into our ensuite cabins overlooking the riverbank. At dinner we will be entertained and **cruise under floodlight**.

Murray Princess 08 8569 2511 (3 nights)

Price includes Fuel Surcharge on the Murray Princess of \$25 as at Jan 2009

**\$3629ppts
\$979s/s**



Day 4: Murray Princess (BLD)

After a hearty breakfast we will join a guided tour of the township of **Murray Bridge**, taking in the historic landmarks and the local attractions. We will begin our journey upriver this afternoon, while enjoying a special presentation on the **bounty of food and wine** produced in the river lands. We will moor at Craignook tonight for dinner plus all the fun and excitement of the **Murray River Cup**.

Day 5: Murray Princess (BLD)

This morning we will head ashore after breakfast to enjoy a **guided nature walk** where we will learn the secrets of the local flora and fauna. Our vessel will then depart for the big river gorges and 90 metre cliffs of the upper river. We will reach the 207km mark before we turn and head downriver to **Piggy Flat**. Here we will board a **discovery vessel for a backwater wildlife tour**. We will explore the maze of backwaters, creeks and lagoons in small groups. Keep an eye out for darters, herons and egrets that may be feeding along the river's muddy edges. Don't forget your camera because late afternoon there will be an opportunity to capture a **spectacular cliff-top river sunset**. Tonight we will join our Captain and Officers for pre-dinner drinks and the grand **Captain's Dinner and Dance**.

Day 6: Murray Princess—Birdwood—Clare (BLD)

After breakfast we will drive to Birdwood, home of the National Motor Museum, for a trip down memory lane to look at the old cars. We will then head through the Barossa to Kapunda where Sid Kidman, the cattle king made his home. At Mintaro, we will visit Martindale Hall, where Picnic at Hanging Rock was filmed. Our accommodation in Clare is in the town centre, where you may enjoy a wine tasting at **Knappstein Winery** at your leisure before dinner.



Clare Central Motel 08 8842 2277 (2 nights)

Day 7: Clare—Burra & Sevenhill (BD)

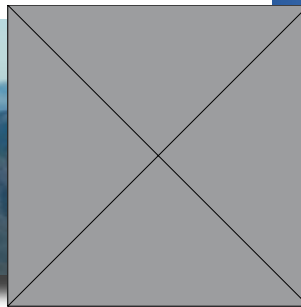
This morning we will have a guided tour of the copper mining township of **Burra**, where *Breaker Morant* was filmed. We will explore the **miners' dugouts, Redruth Gaol and the mine site**. After lunch (own expense) you will have time to explore the book and antique shops before we make our way to tour the oldest winery in the Clare Valley, **Sevenhill Cellars**. Run by the Jesuits since 1851, with historic Church and crypt, slate wine barrel, and old cellars, it makes table and sacramental wine (about 25% of their production). After a tour and tasting, we will return to **Clare for some free time** in this pretty town with its old bluestone buildings.



Day 8: Clare Valley—Wilpena Pound (BLD)

Heading North, we will pass through the Southern Flinders Ranges, stopping at Quorn, home of the Pichi Richi Railway. We will explore the **Kanyaka Ruins**, a huge homestead and station which once supported seventy men and their families. After lunch at Hawker, the gateway to the Flinders, we will head into **Wilpena Pound** enjoying the magnificent scenery of the **Elders Ranges** and **Rawnsley Bluff** before we arrive at our luxurious 4 star mud brick units set in a natural bush setting. We will catch the shuttle bus for a short walk to Hills Homestead and the rim of the Pound and the two Wangarra Lookouts (fairly easy walking approx 1.6km in total includes both walks). After enjoying magnificent views into the Pound we will learn the history of the early settlers and then return to the resort for dinner.

[Wilpena Pound 1800 805 802](tel:1800805802) (2 nights)



Day 9: Flight & 4WD Tours (BLD)

All aboard for the Resort's **4WDs for a half day Mountain Tops tour** over the rugged peaks of the Arkaba Sheep Station with stunning views of the Elder Range, Moralana and the majestic Wilpena Pound, with an insight into the early European history including the historic Arkaba Woolshed. We will also take a **scenic 20 minute flight over the Flinders Ranges**, viewing Wilpena Pound, Arkaba Station, Elder Range, Edeowie Gorge, Lake Torrens, Heysen Range, St Mary's Peak and the Pound Gap (both the flight & the 4WD tour are included in your package at no extra cost!). For those who wish to walk, there are a number of walks, including Drought Busters, Wilpena Solar Station Lookout or Bunyeroo Gorge. We will arrange **flights and 4WD tours** to complement walks and a BBQ lunch at the resort.



Day 10: Wilpena Pound—Broken Hill (BLD)

Our last stop in the Flinders Ranges will be at the **Cazneau Tree**, a magnificent Red Gum photographed in the 1940's and called *The Spirit of Endurance*. We will pass through the ghost towns of Carrieton and Craddock before we join the Barrier Highway. We will arrive in Broken Hill mid afternoon with time to explore this mining town and visit **Silverton**, famous for its galleries and the movies and advertisements filmed here. We will have predinner drinks at the **Sculpture Symposium** overlooking the living desert, bring your cameras as the colour of the desert changes in the afternoon light.

[Old Willyama Motel 08 8088 3355](tel:0880883355)

Day 11: Broken Hill—Cobar (BLD)

With time to browse in town and visit the **Line of Lode Lookout**, the mullock heap which dominates the skyline, lunch will be near Wilcannia, once a bustling riverport on the Darling, then to Cobar.

[Cobar Motor Inn 02 6836 2304](tel:0268362304)

Day 12: Cobar—Dubbo (BLD)

We will familiarize ourselves with the mining town of **Cobar** with a visit to the **Mineral & Mines** centre, this was once Australia's largest copper & gold processing centre. Following the museum a local guide will give us a tour of the town and a visit to one of the mines. We stop in the flood town of **Nyngan** to tour the museum with its awesome photos of the 1990 flood, staying our last night in Dubbo.

[Blue Lagoon Motor Inn 02 6882 4444](tel:0268824444)

Day 13: Dubbo—Home (BLD)

We will pass through Wellington, stopping to photograph the sculptures. Our first stop will be Cook Park at Orange with a lunch stop at Lithgow before we head home through Sydney.