

One of Queensland's unique journeys and experiences



Ease yourself into an epic adventure with first class travel aboard Spirit of the Outback. Experience a comprehensive tour of this remarkable and unique desert region, visiting the towns of Birdsville, Boulia, Winton and Longreach.

Inclusions:

- Return overnight first class travel aboard Spirit of the Outback Brisbane to Longreach
- 8 nights motel accommodation
- Day tours, transfers and entrance fees as indicated
- 9 breakfasts, 9 lunches, 10 dinners.



Spirit OF THE
OUTBACK

 QueenslandRail
Travel



11 Day Birdsville Outback Track Explorer

Day 1 Tuesday

Depart Brisbane for Longreach. Watch the country change from coast to desert as you head westward on Spirit of the Outback. Overnight onboard Spirit of the Outback. (D)

Day 2 Wednesday

Arrive in Longreach and enjoy a welcome dinner and tour briefing at your accommodation. Overnight Longreach. (B, L, D)

Day 3 Thursday

This morning depart for famous Birdsville. Heading south-west, follow the mighty Thomson River flood plain and Mitchell grass lands to Stonehenge and Jundah where the red mulga country begins. Explore Cooper's Creek catchment, the famous 'Kings in Grass Castles' country following the footprints of the famous pioneering Durack family. We travel onto Deon's Lookout for picnic refreshments and amazing views of the Diamantina Shire and Betoota. Arrive into Birdsville late afternoon to check into the Birdsville Hotel. Overnight Birdsville. (B, L, D)

Day 4 Friday

Check out the Burke & Wills Tree on the Diamantina River and visit the famous Birdsville Race Track. After lunch enjoy some leisure time to explore the Warrari Centre, Wolfgang's Art House, Birdsville Billabong and the Inland Hospital Ruins. Mid-afternoon we head out to experience the very soul of Australia, as the sun goes down over the heart of the Outback at Big Red—the timeless red sand dunes on the edge of the Simpson Desert National Park. Return to the Birdsville Hotel for dinner and the Flying Doctor Auction. Overnight Birdsville. (B, L, D)

Day 5 Saturday

Departing Birdsville for Boulia we view the Waddi Trees found in only three places on the planet. Down the track we visit the Cacoory Ruins, a remnant of the first European settlement in 1870, amongst some of the toughest country in the heart of the Lake Eyre Basin. Moving north from Eyre Creek, where the channel country meets the desert, we arrive at Boulia. In the late afternoon we explore Boulia's historic stone house, then experience the Min Min Encounter, learning the story surrounding the myth of the mysterious Min Min Light. Overnight Boulia. (B, L, D)

Day 6 Sunday

This morning we travel east to Winton via the vast timeless landscape of the majestic mesas set amongst the open pebbly plains at the Cawnpore Lookout, a landscape only found in two places on earth. Moving onto the Middleton Hotel, we catch up with the locals for morning tea before arriving in Winton. Overnight Winton. (B, L, D)

Day 7 Monday

Discover downtown's Opal Walk then late morning explore the award-winning Waltzing Matilda Centre, the only museum in the world to be dedicated to a song. Enjoy "The Ultimate Progressive Dinner & Winton Welcome"—starting at The Australian Age of Dinosaurs for pre-dinner

'nibbles', followed by a barbeque main course, then onto the Royal Mail Open Air Theatre for dessert, with ice cream or jaffas to accompany the nostalgic reels of yesteryear. Overnight Winton. (B, L, D)

Day 8 Tuesday

Depart for Lark Quarry and its 3300 prehistoric dinosaur footprints. Step back in time to the land of ancient creatures, temperate forests, huge lakes and the only recorded dinosaur stampede on the planet. Tour Carisbrooke Station with a scenic drive through Williams Valley, Cory's Range and to spectacular views of the 'Three Sisters' mesa rock formation. We continue on to the site of the forced landing in 1942 of the U.S. flying fortress "The Swoose" carrying Lyndon B. Johnson. Enjoy a mouth-watering, country catered homestead lunch at Carisbrooke Station. Overnight Longreach. (B, L, D)

Day 9 Wednesday

Explore the original hangar and other national treasures at the Qantas Founders Museum, celebrating one of the world's first airlines. Learn of the legends and unsung heroes at The Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame. This evening soak up a spectacular Outback sunset with the Drover's Extravaganza Dinner—simply sit back and be charmed by our Outback entertainers, savour the traditional flavours of our Outback themed cuisine and laugh along with our Fun Farewell Awards. Overnight Longreach. (B, L, D)

Day 10 Thursday

Depart Longreach onboard Spirit of the Outback. Overnight onboard Spirit of the Outback. (B, L, D)

Day 11 Friday

Arrive in Brisbane this morning to bring your journey to an end.

CB = Continental breakfast B = Breakfast MT = Morning tea L = Lunch D = Dinner

Rail package ex Brisbane—per person twin share

Adult	\$3827
Australian Senior	\$3640
Queensland Pensioner (using 4 rail travel entitlements)	\$3379

Departure dates 17 May, 31 May, 2 Aug, 20 Sep, 4 Oct 2011.

