SOUTH AUSTRALIA & FLINDERS RANGES

Tour Departs: 13 April 2021
Tour Length: 16 Days

A very unique tour showcasing some of Australia’s intriguing outback destinations. Full of history and contrasts this tour will show parts of Australia that not many get to experience.

We start our journey in Adelaide and the surrounding area for 4 days before heading off to the north to rocky gorges and peaks, ancient landscapes and immense culture. Driving through the Flinders Ranges and Outback, you’d be forgiven for thinking you were navigating the unexplored face of Mars. Towering ancient cliffs and deep craters border dusty red roads. We will enjoy an aerial tour of Kati Thanda–Lake Eyre and drive along the Aboriginal Dreaming Trail. Marvel at Wilpena Pound, an awesomely large amphitheatre, created through erosion over millions of years, and look up at night for a sky show like never before. Be surrounded by ancient mountain ranges, spectacular gorges and sheltered creeks.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:
- Coober Pedy with visit to Umoona Opal Museum
- Wilpena Pound
- Arkarooola including 4WD Ridgetop tour
- Scenic Flight over Lake Eyre
- Barossa Valley & Kangaroo Island day tours
- Adelaide for 4 nights

TOUR COSTS
- Twin/Double per person NZD$9,500.00
- Single Supplement NZD$1,650.00
DAY TO DAY ITINERARY:

**Tuesday 13 April**  
Arrive Auckland (D)  
Today, all tour members to make their way to the Novotel Auckland Airport, where we will stay overnight. This evening, we enjoy a welcome dinner at the hotel.

**Wednesday 14 April**  
Auckland – Adelaide (D)  
An early start this morning, as we make our way to the International Terminal and check in for our 8.20am flight to Adelaide. On arrival, we will be met and transferred to our hotel for a 3-night stay. Dinner is included this evening.

**Thursday 15 April**  
Arrive Adelaide – City Tour and Seaside Glenelg (B.D)  
Today we enjoy a morning tour of the city's main attractions which will allow you to get your bearings. Our Coach Captain will share his local knowledge on things to see and do including the charm and character of the buildings and famous landmarks. Afternoon at leisure.

**Friday 16 April**  
Adelaide – Barossa Valley Tour (B.L)  
Another great day today as we set off for the Adelaide Hills, through a patchwork of orchards and vineyards to the town of Hahndorf, one of the most popular towns in the area originally settled by German immigrants in 1839. The town retains much of its Germanic heritage and is home to some of the region's finest cellar doors. Then, we travel across to the world-famous Barossa Valley, the heartland of the Australian wine industry which retains much of its diverse European cultural heritage. Time for a lunch and some wine tasting before returning to Adelaide later this afternoon.

**Saturday 17 April**  
Adelaide – Kangaroo Island (B.L.D)  
Today we enjoy a scenic journey to Cape Jervis taking in the picturesque Fleurieu Peninsula with its vineyards, coastal views and rolling hills. On arrival, board the SeaLink Kangaroo Island ferry for the 45-minute crossing to Penneshaw on Kangaroo Island. We visit Seal Bay Conservation Park and enjoy a delicious fish & chip lunch, followed by a visit to the Hanson Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, where you will walk among eucalyptus trees looking for koalas relaxing in the trees. We overnight on Kangaroo Island, with dinner included.

**Sunday 18 April**  
Kangaroo Island – Port Augusta (B.D)  
This morning, we depart Kangaroo Island and continue our travel to Port Augusta - situated at the head of Spencer Gulf. This iconic town sits at the crossroads of Australia, where the Sydney-Perth and Adelaide-Alice Springs railway lines intersect. Today we will also visit the award-winning Wadlata Outback Centre, where a walk through its 'Tunnel of Time' provides the perfect introduction to this magnificent region.

**Monday 19 April**  
Port Augusta – Coober Pedy (B.L.D)  
A bit of a drive today, as we leave Port Augusta to Woomera and Island Lagoon Salt Lake. Later it's on to Coober Pedy, a fascinating place where half the town's residents live under the earth. Built around opal mining, the town's residents deal with the arid climate by moving their residences underground. Today, residents can even play golf underground! Our hotel for the next two nights is also underground.

**Tuesday 20 April**  
Coober Pedy (B.L.D)  
A morning tour of this unique town and then we visit Umoona Opal Museum. In the afternoon we visit the world's largest continuous construction - a 5600km dingo fence spanning Queensland's east coast to the cliffs of the Nullarbor Plain - can be seen near Coober Pedy. It was built to protect sheep from dingo attacks. Then it is on to the painted hills and the Breakaways conservation area before returning to the hotel for the evening.

**Wednesday 21 April**  
Coober Pedy – William Creek (Lake Eyre) – Maree (B.L.D)  
This morning we have an early start for a short drive to William Creek before boarding our scenic flight over Lake Eyre - known by local indigenous people as Kati Thanda – which covers an area of 11,000 square km. A unique Salt Lake, the lakebed is recorded as being the lowest part of The Australian continent, 15 metres below sea level. Lake Eyre is normally dry, filling completely on average twice a century - though minor fillings happen much more often. After our flight, we continue on our journey to our overnight stop in Maree. Along the way, at Lake Eyre South, we explore the natural artesian mound springs, formed by water bubbling to the surface. We arrive in Maree later this afternoon.

**Thursday 22 April**  
Maree – Arkaroola (B.L.D)  
An enjoyable drive today as we travel south via Lake Harry, Farina and Leigh Creek on our way to Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary. Off the beaten track, it sits in the heart of the more rugged and spectacular Northern Flinders Ranges. With 61,000 hectares, the privately owned Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary offers us an unforgettable outback experience.
Friday 23 April  Arkaroola (B.L.D)
This morning we join our Ridgetop tour of the area. The Ridgetop country is amazing. This is the oldest part of the Flinders Ranges, much of it is granite. But the Ridgetop also includes some even more ancient sedimentary rock that was laid down in an ancient sea nearly 1600 million years ago. The Freeling Heights, a magnificent ring of saw toothed blue mountains that fringe the Mawson Plateau, form part of the stunning view you will have at your tea break at Sillers overlooking the 1,000 metre deep Yudnamutana Gorge, Lake Frome salt lake and the plains. We return to base for lunch, and then the afternoon is free to relax and enjoy the landscape.

Saturday 24 April  Arkaroola – Wilpena Pound (B.L.D)
We continue our drive through the Flinders Ranges today. Morning tea will be at the Balcoona Ranges, where Lake Frome is a unique feature of the park. This ephemeral Salt Lake stretches 100km long and 40km wide and plays an important role in the lives of the Adnyamathanha people. The ‘Plains Block’ leading out to the edge of Lake Frome still remains a traditional hunting ground. We will arrive at Wilpena Pound around 4.00pm this afternoon.

Sunday 25 April  Wilpena Pound (B.L.D)
This morning we will follow in the footsteps of Douglas Mawson as we explore the Brachina Gorge. Here we have the chance of spotting the endangered Yellow Footed Rock Wallaby. After lunch we head back to the resort for some free time, or if you would like there is the option of a scenic flight or a walk to the Hills Homestead.

Monday 26 April  Wilpena Pound – Clare Valley Resort (B.L.D)
Departing around 9.00am this morning we continue to explore the Flinders Ranges with many photo stops along the way. The views from Rawnsley Bluff, Elder Ranges and the Ruins at Old Kanyaka are inspiring as we enter a different terrain altogether at Clare Valley. This evening we enjoy a sumptuous dinner.

Tuesday 27 April  Clare Country Club – Adelaide (B.D)
After a leisurely breakfast this morning, we make our way back to Adelaide. This afternoon see Adelaide from the best seat in the house, by cruising along the Torrens River in the heart of the city. Sit back and enjoy the cruise with live commentary from the friendly skipper while learning how Adelaide is progressing as a city and why it’s been ranked amongst the top liveable cities in the world! All while enjoying Devonshire tea. After the cruise, there is time for you to rest or do a bit of last-minute shopping prior to meeting up for our final farewell dinner.

Wednesday 28 April  Adelaide – Home (B)
This morning sadly, it is time to farewell South Australia as we head to Adelaide Airport for our direct flight home, departing at 12pm.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

BOOKING CONDITIONS:
Deposit of NZD$1,000.00 per person is due upon confirmation of the booking.
Final payment date: Friday 12 February 2021.

COSTS INCLUDE:
- Economy Class air travel from Auckland, Christchurch or Wellington.
- Prepaid airport/government/airline/security charges and taxes (as at 01/05/2020)
- Superior accommodation in each of the locations
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- Sightseeing and entrance fees as indicated in the itinerary
- Baggage handling of one suitcase per person
- Gratuities and tips to local guides, coach drivers and cruise staff
- Fully escorted by a Maher Tours Leader (subject to minimum numbers)

COSTS EXCLUDE:
- Any meals and sightseeing tours not specifically mentioned
- Travel Insurance (assistance and advice will be offered)
- Items of a personal nature such as laundry, room service etc