



6 Day Flinders Ranges, Arkaroola and Lake Eyre Tour- "Mates Rates"

Sacred Earth Safaris is proud to support regional tourism businesses for accommodation, activities and meals

Day 1 (L)

You will be collected from your Adelaide accommodation at 7am this morning for your 6 day 4WD tour to the Flinders Ranges, Arkaroola and Kati Thanda-Lake Eyre.

We travel north, towards Port Augusta, with a stop en-route. In Port Augusta, we stop at the Wadlata Outback Centre, for you to take the "Tunnel of Time", an interactive experience where you'll learn about the creation of the Flinders Ranges and Outback, Aboriginal and European history of the area, local flora and fauna and about outback life in general.

We now turn off to the Flinders Ranges, stopping en-route in historic Quorn and again just south of Hawker, where we'll visit the Kanyaka Ruins. The ruined farmhouse is all that remains of a farmers dream to provide for his family in this unforgiving landscape. It's a harsh reminder of the hardships the first European settlers endured.

After stopping at one of the lookouts en-route, we continue into the Central Flinders Ranges, known for their unique beauty, indigenous history, ancient geological formations, rich colours and textures and abundant wildlife. Home to a huge array of plant species, birds, reptiles and mammals, the vibrant colours of the 800 million-year-old quartzite and limestone outcrop that is the Flinders, are truly spectacular.

Overnight accommodation- Wilpena Pound Resort-motel room with en-suite

Day 2 (B,L)

This morning we drive to the historic mining town of Blinman, which had a working copper mine between the years of 1862 and 1907. Here you'll take a 1 hour tour of the mine, transporting you back in time, to the lives of the miners and their families during the second half of the 19th century.

After the mine tour we drive west through the spectacular Parachilna Gorge. This is a slow drive, with changing scenery and several creek crossings and is considered to be one of the most scenic in Outback SA !

Heading north now, we drive Marree, which is situated at the crossroads of the Oodnadatta and Birdsville Tracks. The town also has a rich Aboriginal, Afghan and European heritage. After checking into our accommodation, you have some free time to look around the town or visit the Tom Kruse Museum.

Overnight accommodation – motel room with en-suite, Marree Pub Hotel

Day 3 (B,L,D)

This morning you'll take a fantastic 1.5 hour scenic flight over Marree Man and Kati Thanda-Lake Eyre ! From Marree you'll fly over the Dingo Fence, to the *Marree Man* and into the southern tip of Madigan Gulf. Then over Hunt Peninsula to Jackboot Bay and the North Lake before flying over the lowest point in Australia – Belt Bay. Returning to Marree over Kati Thanda-Lake Eyre South. The *Marree Man* is a geoglyph (a large artwork made on the ground from earth elements) of an indigenous hunter, standing 4.2km tall with a 28km circumference ! This can only be viewed from the air.

We now travel back towards the Central Flinders Ranges with stops en-route at Farina and the Ochre Pits. Farina was one of the towns settled early in the period of the 'opening of the outback' by European settlers. Explore the ruins, many of which have been stabilised and researched and imagine in your mind's eye the life they may have lived and the hardships they endured.

Many years ago, the Queensland Aborigines' would walk to SA to trade flints for the ochre found at the Lyndhurst ochre pits. The Ochre was used to paint their bodies for ceremonial purposes. The pits are still there today with all their glowing colours.

Heading south now, we drive through the Gammon Ranges, to Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary. The privately owned sanctuary was founded in 1969 by Reg Sprigg, Biologist, Oceanographer, Conservationist, scientist and pioneer of eco-tourism.

Many minerals are found on Arkaroola, including gold, sapphires, rubies, amethyst, several forms of quartz, uraninite and malachite (among others) and evidence of early mining is scattered about Arkaroola and the Gammon Ranges.

Arkaroola is also famous for its clear night skies and offers some of the best viewing conditions in Australia.

Overnight accommodation- motel room with en-suite, Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary

Day 4 (B,L)

This morning you'll take the famous Ridgetop tour, through some of the most spectacularly rugged country on earth. Your Arkaroola guide will share their knowledge of Arkaroola's 1600-million year geological history as they navigate the steep slopes and hair raising ascents of the famous Ridgetop Track. Inspiring images of red granite mountains and golden spinifex covered hillsides give way to a breath-taking view across the Freeling Heights, Lake Frome and the desert beyond.

Take in the 360-degree panorama as you enjoy morning tea at Sillers Lookout - a lofty pinnacle at the end of the Track.

After lunch, we return to the Central Flinders Ranges via the scenic back road (conditions permitting) with a stop en-route.

Overnight accommodation- Wilpena Pound Resort-motel room with en-suite (2 night stay)

Day 5 (B,L)

This morning you have the option of taking a walk into Wilpena Pound or take a scenic flight (at own expense). Walk along the beautiful Wilpena Creek, framed by huge river red gums, into Wilpena Pound and on to the Old Hills Homestead where you can learn about the hardships the Hills family had to face at the turn of the century. You also have the option of walking up to the Wangara lookout where you can see the mystical heart of the Ikara- Flinders Ranges with stunning views over Wilpena Pound. There is a shuttle available to shorten the walk.

After lunch we take the Moralana Scenic Drive, which connects the Wilpena and Leigh Creek Roads and is known as one of the best drives through the Flinders Ranges. We'll see stunning scenery featuring the southern wall of Wilpena Pound, Black Gap Lookout, red Range, Elder Range and more.

We finish the day driving the Brachina Gorge Geological Trail, a trail that passes through 130 million years of earth history, including meteorite debris, stromatolites and fossilized plant and animal life. It offers an insight into past climates, the formation of the ranges and the evolution of early forms of life. It's also an important refuge for the rare and endangered Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby. This leads to Bunyeroo Gorge and Razorback Lookout, where we stop for a fantastic late afternoon photo opportunity.

Overnight accommodation- Wilpena Pound Resort-motel room with en-suite

Day 6 (B,L)

Departing the Flinders Ranges this morning, we stop in Hawker and then make our final run into Adelaide, via the Clare Valley, where we have lunch at a local bakery.

We arrive in Adelaide at approximately 2pm and you will be dropped off at your accommodation or to Adelaide Airport if you're flying home this afternoon.

END OF TOUR

B= Breakfast L= Lunch D= Dinner

Departs Adelaide on demand and subject to availability, for travel between 01 August 2020 – 31st March 2021

Tours will run for private groups only, consisting of couples, families, households or groups of friends, so everyone on the tour will know each other. Mates Rates are available for Australian residents only.

Mates Rates are :

Based on 2 guests travelling- AUD \$4760 per adult, twin share. \$5230 per person, single room.

Based on 4 guests travelling- AUD \$3145 per adult, twin share. \$3615 per person, single room.

Based on 6 guests travelling- AUD \$2770 per adult, twin share. \$3240 per person, single room.

Based on 8 guests travelling- AUD \$2835 per adult, twin share. \$3305 per person, single room.

Based on 10 guests travelling- AUD \$2575 per adult, twin share. \$3045 per person, single room.

Based on 12 guests travelling- AUD \$2400 per adult, twin share. \$2870 per person, single room.

Travel for groups between 2-6 guests will be in our Landcruiser Sahara GXL and groups over 6 guests will be in our 6WD coach.

Please contact us for pricing for larger groups or groups that include children, as these prices will be cheaper than those above. Itineraries can also be tailored to suit your group- please contact us for a quote if you'd like to make any changes to the itinerary or accommodation.

Prices include GST. Itinerary is exclusive to Sacred Earth Safaris and subject to availability, road, weather and cultural conditions. Mates Rates are not available with any other discount or offer.

Inclusions:

- Sole use of 4WD vehicle, with professional driver guide
- Meals as stated : 1 dinner, 5 breakfasts and 6 lunches
- Accommodation, as listed
- 1.5 hour scenic flight over Marree Man and Kati Thanda-Lake Eyre
- Ridgetop Tour at Arkaroola
- Blinman Mine tour
- The "Tunnel of Time" at the Wadlata Outback Centre
- Entry fees and permits

Exclusions:

- Arrival/departure flights
- Pre & Post tour accommodation
- Travel Insurance
- Alcohol
- Any optional activities such as Wilpena Pound scenic flight (Please request flight when booking, to avoid disappointment).

Cancellation Policy

If you cancel your tour within the cancellation period, due to COVID19 Government sanctioned travel restrictions, you will receive a credit voucher to use on any of our tours in 2020 or 2021. The amount will be calculated on a case by case basis and subject to any accommodation cancellation fees we are charged (if any).

If you cancel your tour for any other reason :

- Cancellations between 45 and 30 days prior to tour departure – incur 50% total tour cost
- Cancellation within 30 days prior to tour departure - no refund
- Disembarkation from tour once the tour has started- no refund