



Coates Wildlife Tours
Specialist in nature tours since 1986

Trip Dossier

11 Day South Australia, Flinders Ranges & Lake Eyre



Camping Small Group Tour - Max 10 passengers

Adelaide to Alice Springs 16 - 26 May 2020

(Max. 6 passengers in 2 lead vehicles, 4 participants in 2 tag along vehicles)

Itinerary Highlights:

- Flinders Ranges - the largest mountain range in South Australia, dusty red roads wind through towering cliffs and deep craters
- Wilpena Pound - an iconic Australian landmark found in the heart of the Flinders Ranges, described as a natural amphitheatre which covers over 8000 hectares
- The Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary Ridge Top Tour will provide spectacular views
- Muloorina Station lies on the banks of the Frome river, great spot for wildlife spotting
- Lake Eyre - a vast, dry, shimmering salt pan which crosses three state borders and contains the lowest natural point in Australia
- The unique and memorable town of Coober Pedy

This tour is a must-do for all who long to experience the Australian outback.

Join us to take in the spectacular scenery, geological history, Aboriginal rock art and artefacts, impressive fossil remains and ruins of early European settlement of the southern and northern Flinders Range. We also visit the massive expanse of Lake Eyre as it spreads out before you. Wet or dry, it's a magnificent sight.

We will travel on one of Australia's best known outback tracks - the Oodnadatta Track which is one of the best outback drives in Australia. Steeped in history, natural wonders and a rich cultural heritage, the track is perhaps our most fascinating and historic outback trail.

A trip to the outback would not be complete without a visit to some of Australia's iconic outback towns, including Maree, William Creek and Coober Pedy.

Itinerary

Day 1 Adelaide - Port Augusta - Wilpena Pound

An early start this morning as we depart Adelaide and head north for Wilpena Pound. We will spend time in Port Augusta visiting the Wadlata Centre where there is a great historical display based on the Lake Eyre region. After lunch we will continue onto Wilpena Pound.

Accommodation: Camp Site - Wilpena Pound LD

Day 2 Wilpena Pound

Today we explore the area around Wilpena Pound. After an early breakfast there will be a walk to the Old Homestead and Wangara Lookout. The lookout provides panoramic views across the pound. After an early lunch we will take a drive through Bunyeroo Gorge to Aroona Valley, one of Australian artist Hans Heysen favourite sites. Areas explored within the Flinders Range National Park are a photographers paradise.

Accommodation: Camp Site - Wilpena Pound BLD

Day 3 Wilpena Pound - Arkaroola

Today our travels will take us via Sacred Canyon to visit an Aboriginal Art site then through Blinman as we head into the Northern Flinders Ranges and our campsite at Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary. We set up camp which will be our home for the next two nights.

Accommodation: Camp Site - Arkaroola BLD

Day 4 Arkaroola

Early morning start today as we join the sanctuaries show piece event the Ridge Top Tour. This tour is one of the most scenic trips on offer anywhere and is an unforgettable encounter with spectacular rugged and unique natural beauty. This afternoon there will be time for washing, relaxing or exploring the bush area around the sanctuaries campsite.

Accommodation: Camp Site - Arkaroola BLD

Day 5 Arkaroola - Blinman - Parachilna - Copley

Early this morning we travel through the Northern Flinders back to the Blinman where we will follow the road through the Parachilna gorge. We will spend time at the the Heysen Trail head usually a great place for birds and other wildlife before moving onto the Prairie Hotel in Parachilna. After a short look at the well known hotel we will head north to Copley and our overnight accommodation.

Accommodation Cabins - Copley BLD

Day 6 Copley - Maree - Muloorina Station

Continuing on today we travel to Maree and then onto Muloorina Station. During the drive we will visit Ochre Pit and the former settlement of Farina. Farina is currently uninhabited; major restoration works have been carried out on parts of the settlement so it reflects the past glory. The camp site at Muloorina is right on the banks of the Frome River. This afternoon we explore the wildlife around the billabong.

Accommodation: Bush Camp - Muloorina Station BLD

Day 7 Muloorina Station

Today will be spent exploring the wonders that are found around the camp site which is on the banks of Frome Creek, the Goyder Chanel which runs between Lake Eyre North and South and then the Eastern side of Lake Eyre North.

Accommodation: Bush Camp - Muloorina Station BLD

Day 8 Muloorina Station to Coward Springs

Our drive today skirts around Lake Eyre South, calling into the old abandoned railway siding of Curdimurka. The Coward Springs area offers us the opportunity to visit some mound springs that exist in this region.

Accommodation: Campsite Coward Springs BLD

Day 9 Coward Springs - William Creek - Coober Pedy

Leaving Coward Springs we move onto William Creek. There we will be time here to enjoy an optional flight over Lake Eyre. The next section of our journey takes us via Anna Creek (the largest cattle station in the world) to Coober Pedy.

Accommodation: Motel - Coober Pedy BLD

Day 10 Coober Pedy - Desert Breakaways - Marla

This morning we will explore this unique mining town, including a visit to an underground Church, a tourist mine and a look at the above ground town from a central lookout. Come late morning we will leave the town behind and visit the desert breakaways just to the north of Coober Pedy. The scenery here is quite spectacular.

Accommodation: Motel - Marla BLD

Day 11 Marla to Alice Springs

We continue travelling north on the Sturt Highway heading for Alice Springs.

On our arrival in Alice around mid / late afternoon you will be transferred to your chosen accommodation.

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NOTE: The above itinerary may be varied according to conditions and advice.

Tour Costs

Cost:	\$5,945.00 per person in lead vehicles
	\$235.00 Single Supplement
	\$2,225.00 per person in own tag along vehicle
Departs:	Adelaide 16th May 2020
Finishes:	Alice Springs 26th May 2020
Max No. Of Participants:	6 passengers in 2 lead vehicles & 4 passengers in 2 tag along vehicles

Tour Payments

Deposit:	At time of booking \$500.00 per person
Final Payment:	On or before 16th April 2020

Special Offers

Group Booking

Save 7.5% per person for a group of 4 or more.

Book Multiple Tours

Save 5% per person on the second and subsequent tours if more than one tour is booked in the same year. Applies to the cheaper tours.

Please note: Above discounts cannot be combined.

Loyalty Program

Save \$100 per person on your second, third and fourth tour. **Save \$150 per person** when you have travelled on 5 or more tours. Tours must be operated by Coates Wildlife Tours.

Please note: Discounts cannot be combined; Discounts are only available on bookings made directly with Coates.

Included

- 2 crew members consisting of a naturalist guide and driver/cook;
- Well maintained vehicle with front-facing, seat belted, mostly reclining, coach-style seats;
- Easy-to-erect tents and camping chairs with armrests;
- A self-inflating air mattress and stretcher bed;
- All eating utensils;
- Meals as per itinerary: B (breakfast), L (lunch), D (dinner);
- Fruit for snacking throughout the day;
- Campsite fees;
- Morning tea each day;
- All national park entrance fees.
- Wadlata Centre fees

Not Included

- Alcoholic & carbonated drinks (you are welcome to bring your own);
- Pillows (while camping);
- Sleeping bags;
- Travel insurance (very strongly recommended);
- Travel expenses to Adelaide and from Alice Springs
- Pre and post tour accommodation;
- All other private expenses (e.g. laundry, telephone calls, camera batteries);
- Entrance fees or activity costs other than those included above
- Optional William Creek flight.

Tour Information

Naturalist Guide: TBA

Driver Guide: TBA

Vehicle & Equipment:

Our vehicles for the tour will consist of two Toyota 4WD Prados with trailers or similar. All the necessary camping equipment is provided. Passengers are required to supply their own sleeping bags and pillows, or a sleeping bag can be purchased from us for \$100.00. Purchased Sleeping bags can be taken home after the tour or they can be given back to us and we will donate them to charity.

Accommodation:

Is at a combination of bush camps, campsites and motel/cabin accommodation.

Bush camps are at locations chosen by the tour guide for their suitability and natural benefits. There are usually no facilities available, other than a long drop bush toilet. We do carry adequate water for washing.

Private campsites vary. Some provide full facilities including ablution blocks, other sites only have a long drop toilet.

National Park campsites are operated by National Park managers. They have a mix of flushing or long drop toilets, fire rings and clearly defined camping areas. Some provide showers.

Cabin/Motel accommodation Privately run accommodation that vary in comfort level but all will have clean rooms with bedding and hot showers.

Meals:

Meals as per the tour itinerary are included. i.e.(B) breakfast, (L) lunch, (D) dinner and morning tea. There will also be a plentiful supply of fresh fruit available throughout the day. Special dietary requirements can usually be catered for. Please contact the office if you have a dietary requirement, as a surcharge may apply.

Trek Grading:

We undertake moderate to challenging bushwalking on most days. All walks are optional and will be able to be conducted at your own pace. There will also be some rock scrambling on a few of the walks.

Weather:

The weather at this time of the year is usually dry, with a minimum average daily temperature around 17-20 degrees Celsius. The nights are much cooler and have been known to drop to approx. 3-5 degrees Celsius. There may also be a risk of showers in the Flinders and as we leave Adelaide.

Clothing:

A suggested list of items to bring on tour will be included with our pre-departure information. This will be sent to you about one month before departure. Generally, comfortable, casual clothing is recommended. Light shirts and T-shirts are appropriate for during the day and warmer jumpers and jackets may be needed for the evenings. Don't forget your bathers. Sturdy and comfortable walking shoes are a necessity and an old pair of sneakers or reef style boots which can be worn in the water are highly recommended.

To make a booking or further information please contact

Tom or Sylvia Grove at Coates Wildlife Tours

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Myaree BC, Myaree, WA 6960

Phone: 08 9330 6066 Free Call Country & Interstate: 1800 676 016

Email: coates@iinet.net.au Web: www.coateswildlifetours.com.au

Terms and Conditions

Adina Nominees Pty Ltd (ACN 075 427 324) as trustee for the Grove Family Trust trading as Coates Wildlife Tours (hereinafter referred to as the tour operator) shall not be liable for any accident injury sickness delay irregularity or damage however caused or arising during any tour under its management or otherwise. Tours are often safari trips to isolated areas, they may include off road driving, bushwalking, snorkelling, swimming and other activities. These along with wildlife interactions, planned or otherwise involve a certain degree of risk. All travel involves some measure of personal risk that each passenger has to determine and accept.

Tour participants should be in reasonable health and fitness and be carrying all required medications in ample quantities. A medical clearance from a registered medical practitioner may be required for participants wishing to join some tours. Scenic flights, boat cruises, helicopter flights etc. These activities are not operated by the tour operator, nor by persons or companies associated with the tour operator. These activities involve inherent risk of injury, death, accident and loss. Passengers assume all risks with regard to any misadventure death, injury or loss which occurs during or as a result of any such activity.

Should the tour operator deem it desirable for climatic or other reasons whatsoever to amend or vary any itinerary it may do so by shortening or varying the trip in which case no objection or claim for compensation will be made by the participant.

The tour operator and its employees are unable to guarantee exact arrival and departure times, and are not liable for any failure to make connections with any other services.

The tour operator does not own or operate any third party suppliers of air transportation, hotels, restaurants, cruise craft or local sightseeing companies. The tour operator is not responsible for any loss or expense due to overbooking of flights, accommodations, default of any third parties or any other cause beyond its control. The tour operator takes all reasonable care in selecting these operators, it cannot accept responsibility for the operators conduct or the conduct of their employees or agents or for any ramifications of that conduct.

Whilst all care is taken, The tour operator do not accept liability for loss or damage to baggage, sickness or injury, or additional expenses caused by factors beyond their control.

All care has been taken to ensure this brochure is correct at the time of printing. Prices and services as shown in this brochure are however subject to change or withdrawal without notice.

BOOKING DETAILS

DEPOSIT: See the relevant trip dossiers for the amount required.

FINAL PAYMENT: In most cases, final payment is required at least 30 days prior to departure. However some tours may require payment up to 4 months prior to departure. Please refer to the tour's trip dossier for exact details.

CANCELLATIONS

Coates Wildlife Tours reserves the right to cancel any tour in the event of minimum numbers not being reached, in which case all moneys will be refunded in full.

In respect of cancellations by a passenger, some tours have specified cancellation times and penalties, this specific information is available on the respective tours trip dossier. Where no specific cancellation time or penalties are in place the following levies plus any costs charged by other parties involved with the tour will apply:-

Deposits are non-refundable for all tours at any time.

Where written notice is received:

31 days or more prior to departure: Deposit is non-refundable however any other payments may be refunded

30 days or less prior to departure: Full tour cost is non-refundable.

No refunds are considered from the day the tour starts.

INSURANCE

We strongly recommend that travel insurance against imposition of cancellation fees, loss or damage to baggage and extra costs arising from injury or illness be effected.

GENERAL INFORMATION

EQUIPMENT:- Transport by an air-conditioned custom built 4WD tour coach or mini bus which ever is appropriate for the tour. Camping equipment suitable for each tour (except Sleeping bags and pillows) is provided. A second vehicle may accompany the group on tours to remote areas. In the case of breakdown or other unforeseen circumstances effecting the vehicle or guide, the operator reserves the right to substitute vehicles and guides other than those specified, to ensure the operation of a tour.

GENERAL INFORMATION CONT.

SEAT ALLOCATION:- Seats on tour vehicle are not pre allocated. To ensure all participants get to enjoy forward positioned and window seats we have incorporated a daily seat rotation system.

LUGGAGE:- Please note that due to health and safety requirements luggage on tour is limited to one medium sized, soft sided bag per person. The sum of its length, width and height is not to exceed 140 cm. The maximum weight of the bag should not to exceed 15 kilograms. A small day pack is also permitted. International tours, some island tours and the Kimberley Coastal Cruises luggage limits may vary, please see the respective tours trip dossier for specific weight maximums.

WILDLIFE:- Sighting of birds, or animals mentioned in the itineraries can not be guaranteed as they are wild and therefore free to come and go as they please.

WILDFLOWER DISPLAYS:- Can not be guaranteed as they are dependent on seasonal rains.

MEAL SYMBOLS:- B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

GROUP SIZES

Minimum and maximum numbers apply to all tours. Generally tours have a maximum of 12 passengers. A camp cook and a naturalist leader will accompany camping groups with more than 6 passengers.