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Rockhampton's Leading Tour and Charter Specialists

## **GULF EXPERIENCE TOUR**

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2018 – Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2018**

**N.B. We require a minimum of 20 passengers for this tour to proceed**

### **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2018:**

### **Rockhampton – Charters Towers**

An early start this morning, departing Northside Plaza at 6:00a.m.; Puma George Street 6:15a.m.; and Gracemere at 6:30a.m., as we embark on the first day of our journey to The Gulf and back. We shall exit the Capricorn Highway at Emerald and head to Charters Towers for our first night.

**Morning Tea, Dinner, Bed**

### **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2018:**

### **Charters Towers - Undara**

On departing our motel this morning, we travel a short distance north of Charters Towers into the heart of North Queensland cattle country to "Leahton Park" home of Michael and Lynda Bethel. Here we will be treated to a very informative morning listening to why the Bethels love this country so much. Texas Longhorns coupled with Michael's saddlery skills are their passion and they take great pride in sharing their story with groups. Continuing along the Gregory Developmental Road, we continue on to Greenvale where The Three Rivers Hotel (made famous by Slim Dusty in a song by the same name) is now located. The Lynd Junction where the Kennedy and the Gregory Developmental Roads join, is next on our list before continuing on to Undara where we will spend the night.

**Breakfast, Morning Tea, Lunch, Dinner**

### **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2018:**

### **Undara – Cobbold Gorge**

A bush breakfast awaits us this morning before we explore the lava tubes escorted by an experienced Savannah Guide. Soon after departing Undara, we pass through Mt Surprise and detour through to Einasleigh and Forsyth before reaching our next magical destination Cobbold Gorge. You may wish to enjoy a 15 minute Scenic Helicopter ride which offers a thrilling and unforgettable experience, exploring and discovering the features of Cobbold Gorge which are not accessible to the public any other way. This is an optional extra at \$149.00 per person with a minimum of 2 passengers and a maximum of 3 passengers per flight. If you are interested in this flight, please notify our office staff on booking, so we can make a reservation for you.

**Breakfast, Morning Tea, Lunch, Dinner, Bed**

### **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> August 2018:**

### **Cobbold Gorge – Georgetown**

After breakfast this morning we shall board a 4WD bus and be taken on journey through the wonder that is Cobbold Gorge which is situated on Robin Hood Station, a cattle-grazing property run by third generation graziers Simon and Gaye Terry. We join

Please Turn Over

guides on a bush walk, learning about flora and fauna together with the history of the area. We are able to view Cobbold Gorge from the escarpment before enjoying a relaxing boat cruise through the Gorge. On completion of this tour, we shall enjoy lunch at the resort before continuing our journey into Georgetown.

**Breakfast, Cobbold Gorge tour & cruise, Lunch, Dinner, Bed**

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2018:**

**Georgetown – Normanton**

Now you will be able to really appreciate the beauty, ruggedness, isolation of the Gulf region of North West Queensland. They say “beauty is in the eye of the beholder” and we are confident you will be experiencing this. The Cumberland Chimney just out of Georgetown will be our first stop for the day. As we continue our touring today, we pass through Croydon, where we will take a detour to Lake Belmore, a real oasis in this vast land. This will be the perfect spot to enjoy a picnic lunch before reaching our next night’s accommodation at Normanton.

**Breakfast, Morning Tea, Picnic Lunch, Dinner, Bed**

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2018:**

**Normanton – Karumba**

First off the rank this morning after breakfast will be a visit to the Heritage Listed Normanton Railway Station. We will have time to explore the historical displays, museum, vintage locomotives and carriages, before boarding the train for a trip to Critters Camp. On arrival back in Normanton we will enjoy lunch at the Albion Hotel. After lunch we rejoin our coach for the 70 kilometre drive to Karumba. Along the way we pass by numerous wetlands normally prolific with broilgas. We may be lucky enough to see one or more “dancing”. The sea is soon beckoning us and after we have booked into our accommodation for the night, we travel to Karumba Point where we can enjoy dinner and the spectacle of the sun going down over the gulf water.

**Breakfast, Train trip, Lunch, Dinner, Bed**

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2018:**

**Karumba – Adels Grove**

A longer day awaits us today. We back track the short distance to Normanton where we turn west. Burketown will be our lunch stop today, before heading south to Gregory Downs and into Adels Grove, our accommodation for the next two nights. You will be amazed at this “little piece of paradise in the outback”. This afternoon you may wish to enjoy a cold drink by the deck before dinner.

**Breakfast, Morning Tea, Lunch, Dinner, Bed**

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2018:**

**Adels Grove**

Beautiful Boodjamulla (Lawn Hill Gorge) beckons us today. You are sure to be captivated by this truly magnificent place. We shall enjoy a cruise up the gorge and are sure to be enthralled by the stories and history of this area as told by our tour leaders. Today will also be a good chance to enjoy some relaxation, catch your breath or just be mesmerised by the beauty.

**Breakfast, Cruise, Lunch, Dinner, Bed**

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2018:**

**Adels Grove – Cloncurry**

As we wave goodbye to our hosts at Adels Grove, we will probably be thinking that today begins our journey home, but there is still more to see on our journey. We will stop by the Gregory Downs Hotel, which has been a favourite spot for many many years for locals and travellers alike. The Burke & Wills Roadhouse will be our lunch stop today, before continuing to Cloncurry.

## **Breakfast, Morning Tea, Dinner, Bed**

### **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018:**

### **Cloncurry – Winton**

On the 15<sup>th</sup> May 1928, the first-ever flight of the Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia took place from Cloncurry. In June 1929, Barry Rothery's Nana, Mrs. Gertrude Rothery sent the first pedal wireless message from Augustus Downs in the gulf to the Flying Doctor Base in Cloncurry. Today we will have the opportunity to visit John Flynn Place, the museum erected to house all the memorabilia and history connected with the Flying Doctor Service. This museum is something not to be missed. All too soon it will be time to reboard our coach and continue our way onto Winton. If time permits, some of you may like to visit the very well-equipped truck museum in Winton.

**Breakfast, John Flynn Place admission, Morning Tea, Dinner, Bed**

### **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018:**

### **Winton – Longreach**

Before departing Winton this morning, we will have had the opportunity to visit the newly rebuilt Waltzing Matilda Centre. What a devastating blow the fire of 2015 was to the locals as well as Australian and Overseas visitors alike. A visit to the Australian Age of Dinosaurs will complement today nicely, before arriving in Longreach in time to freshen up and take a leisurely sunset cruise on the Thomson River as we celebrate our last night together.

**Breakfast, Morning Tea, Lunch, Thomson River Cruise & dinner, Bed**

### **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2018:**

### **Longreach – Rockhampton**

Hi Ho, Hi Ho it's back to our homes we go. Our last day on the road, with so many memories and new friends made. We have had the opportunity to experience some of the real Australiana with top hospitality. Today we will have the opportunity to travel through some of our "close by country" as we travel home through Ilfracombe, Barcaldine, Alpha and Emerald.

**Breakfast, Morning Tea, Lunch.**

**Cost: \$3,650.00 per person Twin Share/Double – when two people book together to share together.**

**\$4,294.00 Single Supplement/Forced Single**

Cost includes Coach Travel, Accommodation, Meals and Admissions as stated.

### **SPECIAL CONDITIONS FOR THIS TOUR:**

As this tour is into the outback, there may be restrictions on the number of single supplement rooms available. It may be necessary to share on some occasions. Should this be necessary, an adjustment of costing will be made.

We must also be mindful that obtaining supplies in some of these areas is not as easy as in the more populated regions. For this reason, it is necessary for us to comply with the meal suggestions as supplied to us. We may only be able to advise special dietary requirements because of a life threatening or vegetarian/vegan nature. Given the remote locations of some of our accommodation, and the number of meals required to be produced on any given day, fussy or "In Vogue" eaters may not be able to be catered for.

### **PAYMENT DETAILS:**

A deposit of \$700.00 per person is to be paid on booking with the balance payable by **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2018**. Once you have paid your deposit, you are more than welcome to make progress payments if you prefer.

Payments may be made by cash, cheque, credit card or direct debit. If making a direct debit, please ensure you attach the names of the persons travelling together with the tour you are wishing to make a payment for. Your booking is not confirmed until your deposit has been received.

**CANCELLATION CHARGES:**

Please note: A minimum cancellation charge of \$200.00 per person will apply to all cancellations. The cancellation charges listed below are minimum amounts only and will depend on what cancellation charges and penalties are charged to us by our suppliers of accommodation and attractions.

- Cancellations up to 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2018 will incur a minimum \$200.00 per person cancellation /administration charge.
- Cancellations between 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2018 and 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2018 will incur a minimum \$500.00 per person cancellation / administration charge.
- Cancellations between 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2018 and 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018 will incur a minimum \$700.00 per person cancellation / administration charge
- Cancellations after 1<sup>st</sup> August 2018 **NO REFUND**

**We strongly recommend you purchase travel insurance to take effect from the date your deposit is paid for this tour.**

**TOUR CONDITIONS:**

- Rothery's Coaches will not accept responsibility for injury, illness or misadventure, loss of goods or possessions, or cancellations.
- Rothery's Coaches is covered by third party insurance where applicable.
- Itinerary may change due to inclement weather, road conditions or other factors over which Rothery's Coaches has no control.
- Coach seating will be allocated on a rotational roster for all passengers.

**N.B.:**

**We also recommend to those passengers who may use a CPAP or similar sleeping aid machine that you pack an extension lead with your machine. It is not always possible to be able to procure accommodation with power points near the bed.**