

Montessori Tours & Travel, in partnership with iButton Events, invites you to touch, and be touched by the soul of Queensland's Outback.



# Touching the Soul Tour Experience...connect...appreciate

A bespoke tour, designed for Montessori educators to expand their knowledge of Queensland's unique Outback, through first hand experiences.

# Day 1 Sunday 18 September 2022

Arrive in Longreach and be welcomed by host.

After a quick tour of the town and iconic Longreach landmarks, check in at the Albert Park Motor Inn.

Be amazed by a spectacular outback sunset on Smithy's Sunset Drover's Cruise on the Thomson River. While relaxing and taking in the 360 degree views from the roof of the Longreach Explorer, enjoy a drink from their licensed bar, and their complimentary nibbles.

As the stars start to appear in the immense night sky and the colours of the setting sun fade, the Explorer will dock for Smithy's Outback Dinner and Show, an open air, twocourse meal under the coolabah trees on the river bank, complete with entertainment.



## Day 2 Monday 19 September 2022

MANAMA

Start your day with a welcoming breakfast at the Longreach Motor Inn.

Visit Desert Channels Queensland, a natural resource management organisation; orientate yourself and learn how DCQ supports and educates those who live in the Queensland section of the Lake Eyre Basin. Delight in the beauty of the west – its flora, fauna, landscapes and feast or famine cycles.

Before lunch, take your seat for The Stockman's Live Show at the Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame. This show depicts aspects of what it means to be a stockman, displays the relationships between a man and his animals and shares stories of life on the land. After lunch at The Hall, immerse yourself in the museum which shares the pioneering history of the Australian Outback through stories, displays and film.

Afterwards, Dan Walker, of 'Camden Park Station', will provide a commentary and tour of his family's working property. Come with questions and learn what it is like to be a grazier in sheep and cattle country in western Queensland. Because you can never have too many 'outback sunsets', enjoy drinks and nibbles on Two Tree Hill as the day ends. Delight in an amazing dinner with cold beverages in the Camden Park shearing shed. Before going home, stand outside and let the million-star sky envelope you.

## Day 3 Tuesday 20 September 2022

After an early breakfast, head northwest from Longreach to check out Winton, home of Waltzing Matilda and birthplace of QANTAS. Explore the historic Corfield & Fitzmaurice, Willie Mar's Chinese Garden, Arno's Wall, North Gregory Hotel and, of course, the Waltzing Matilda Centre, the first museum in the world to be dedicated to a song.

Savour country hospitality at the Tattersalls Hotel, the oldest standing hotel in Winton, where the meals are great and the beer is cold.

Go back in time at the Australian Age of Dinosaurs Museum of Natural History, housing the world's largest collection of Australian dinosaur fossils, including Banjo and Matilda. Be guided through the Fossil Preparation Lab, see the collection of fossil bones and walk the Dinosaur Canyon. Dig a dinosaur, mould a model, and understand the geological timeline of western Queensland.

As the sun sets at the end of another western Queensland day, appreciate the atmosphere and stunning views. Cool down with a cold drink, enjoy nibbles, relax and get comfortable for a hearty Outback BBQ under the stars.

#### **Day 4** Wednesday 21 September 2022

Line your stomach at the Outback Pioneers breakfast in the restored 1920s Welcome Home Hotel.

See local history and count the exhibits you recognise at the Longreach Powerhouse and Historical Museum. Local history, stories and artefacts complement the largest and nationally significant, preserved rural electricity generating facility in Australia.

Australia is a big country and not every child is able to attend school in person. Hear how education is delivered to one of the largest classrooms in the world at the Longreach School of Distance Education.

Laughs and legends are the features of the Harry Redford Old Time Tent Show where characters, animals and impromptu scripts loosely tell a story with references to the infamous cattle thief, Harry Redford. Munch on a Billy Can Lunch as the show unfolds.

Visit the QANTAS Founders Outback Museum which opened in 1996 in the heritage listed hangar of QANTAS. Tour some of the many planes connected with QANTAS, including the Super Constellation and Jumbo. Stories of the 101-year history of Australia's international airline are told via interactive displays and exhibits.

Indulge at Rosebank, a property on the outskirts of Longreach with a tour, drinks and nibbles at sunset followed by an exclusive dinner.

Marvel at the spectacular world class Luminescent Longreach, a light and sound show that is sure to entertain, inform and delight. Opened in 2020 to celebrate the 100 years of QANTAS, Luminescent Longreach tells the story of QANTAS from the birth in outback Queensland to

becoming Australia's international airline.

## Day 5 Thursday 22 September 2022

After breakfast, grab your water bottle and camera for today's visit to Turraburra, a property north of nearby Barcaldine. Turraburra is a place of learning and teaching for the Iningai people. This property provides an extensive example of Indigenous conservation management and culture in arid Australia.

Gain insight into the local traditional culture from contemporary Traditional Custodians and hands-on experiences, learn at the 'Seven Sister University Teaching Wall', and visit ancient sacred sites.

Barcaldine is home to the Tree of Knowledge and other historical sites. Wander town to learn more about Barcaldine's place in the history of European settlement.

The small town of Ilfracombe, east of Longreach, was the home of Dame Quentin Bryce in her younger years and more recently, home of NRL footballer Matty Scott. The history of Ilfracombe is worth sharing. Explore and find out why Ilfracombe was important in the late 1880s. Walk the impressive 'Machinery Mile' of agricultural equipment, pop into the Folk Museum and enjoy a cold drink before dining at the Wellshot Hotel.



Reflect on the previous five days of adventure over an intimate and final breakfast at The Branch, sharing highlights and experiences with new friends.

Discover the hidden treasures in the many quality retailers in the main street and 'buy from the bush' before preparing for the 11am flight to Brisbane.

## Early Bird Prices until 30 June 2022

Per person twin share - \$3,300 Single supplement - \$400

#### What's included?

5 night's accommodation at the Albert Park Motor Inn, Longreach All meals – breakfast, lunch and dinner Alcohol at some events (otherwise cash bar available) All transfers All entry fees

#### **Please Note:**

This itinerary is subject to change.

Touching the Soul Tour is for adults only.

For more information, contact Roelie at:

montessoritoursandtravel@gmail.com / +61 (0)432 372 193

