

WINTON CAMEL RACES – DAILY ITINERARY (in brief)

SYDNEY DEPARTURE

DAY 1

Depart Sydney 8.30am and travel via Bell's Line of Road over the Blue Mountains. Morning Tea at Mt. Tomah Botanic Gardens then on to Mudgee for lunch. In the afternoon from Mudgee through Dunedoo to Coonabarabran for our first night.

COONABARABRAN TO ST GEORGE

DAY 2

Through the Warrumbungles National Park to Coonamble for morning tea. Then up past Walgett to Hebel on the Queensland border for lunch. Our first afternoon in Queensland we pass near Cubbie Station and through Dirranbandi to St George where we spend the night.

ST GEORGE TO CARNARVON GORGE

DAY 3

From St George this morning we travel along the Carnarvon Highway north to Roma and then through Injune to arrive at Carnarvon Gorge National Park for our two night stay at the Wilderness Lodge in the Park.

CARNARVON GORGE NATIONAL PARK

DAY 4

We spend the whole of today in the National Park – time to simply laze about in the beautiful environs of the Wilderness Lodge; or join the relatively easy walk up into the Gorge. We spend our second evening in the Wilderness Lodge.

CARNARVON TO BARCALDINE

DAY 5

We will leave Carnarvon in time to reach Springsure for Morning Tea hosted by the Springsure CWA. Beyond Springsure we travel on a back road towards Alpha on the Capricorn Highway, stopping in Alpha for lunch. In the afternoon we travel to Barcardine for our fifth evening.

BARCALDINE TO WINDORAH

DAY 6

We leave Barcardine this morning and travel across country to Isisford for Morning Tea. Then south through the little settlements of Emmet and Yaraka, around the southern side of Welford National Park – lunch at the Yarraka hotel. By late this afternoon we cross the channels of the Cooper Creek to arrive at the Western Star Hotel in Windorah.

WINDORAH TO LONGREACH

Day 7

We are planning to spend the morning on a station property near Windorah, then travel up to Longreach through Jundah in the afternoon. Alternately we may arrive in Longreach in time for lunch – and then spend the afternoon at the Stockman's Hall of Fame in that town.

LONGREACH TO WINTON

DAY 8

We will visit either the Stockman's Hall of Fame and/or the Qantas Museum in Longreach this morning; after lunch we will travel 200km west to Winton where we will be spending the next two nights.

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WINTON CAMEL RACES

DAY 9

The motel at Winton is located half way between the town and the race track – easy walking distance to both places. Indulge yourself for the day at the Camel Races, or take a break and visit the wonderful ‘Matilda Centre’ in town. Feeling tired – then rest back at the motel any time you choose.

WINTON TO BOULIA

DAY 10

No need for any early start this morning – 360km of good bitumen road west along the Kennedy Development Way through Middleton and the country of the Min Min Light. Past the ruins of the old Hamilton Hotel into Boulia for an evening.

BOULIA TO BIRDSVILLE

DAY 11

South today down the ‘Eyre Development Road’ – the boundary between the Channel Country to the East and the Simpson Desert to the west. Lunch at the Bedourie Pub then on to Birdsville.

BIRDSVILLE TO MUNGERANIE

DAY 12

Better known than any highway in Australia we set out this morning to travel the top half of the Birdsville Track through the Sturt Stony Desert down to Mungeranie about 300km south of Birdsville. A long flowing bore has created its wonderful wetland (with swimming pool) beside the hotel at Mungeranie. We will spend 24 hours at this most remote country hotel – lunch today to lunch tomorrow.

THE BIRDSVILLE TRACK

DAY 13

Leaving Mungeranie we travel the bottom section of the Birdsville Track and on to Marree. We cross the Cooper Creek - Lake Eyre Channel on this section then beyond Dulkaninna Homestead we will reach Marree after about 3 hours on the road.

MARREE TO ARKAROOA

DAY 14

From Marree south to Lyndhurst and on to Copley for Morning Tea. Through northern Flinders Ranges (the Gammon Ranges) into the Arkaroola Resort for two evenings.

ARKAROOA

DAY 15

We will spend a full day at Arkaroola – with organised sightseeing on the renowned Ridgetop Tour. From the heights we will see the salt Lake Frome away to the east – and the Flinders Ranges at their spectacular best.

ARKAROOA TO BROKEN HILL

Day 16

Leaving Arkaroola this morning, around the western side of Lake Frome past Frome Downs station 300km south on the gravel roads down to the Barrier Highway at Yunta some 200km west of Broken Hill. Tonight we will be staying in Broken Hill.

BROKEN HILL TO NARROMINE

Day 17

The long straight Barrier Highway east from Broken Hill passes through Wilcannia, Cobar and Nyngan. With a lunch stop at Cobar this is a quiet day for rest after all those days in the outback.

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NARROMINE TO SYDNEY

Day 18

Early lunch today (about midday) at Duntryleague Homestead in Orange - a very grand monument to the first owner. Then back through the Blue Mountains returning to Sydney about 6pm - afternoon tea at Bilpin on the way down the mountains