35 DAY WEST COAST KIMBERLEY & SOUTH WEST

DEPARTING SATURDAY 10TH AUGUST TO FRIDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 2024

MOTEL ACCOMMODATION – RESTAURANT MEALS



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<u>HIGHLIGHTS</u>

- # DARWIN #KATHERINE
- # ORD RIVER CRUISE
- # EL QUESTRO STATION
- **# ZEBEDEE SPRINGS**
- # HALLS CREEK
- # FITZROY CROSSING
- # BOAB PRISON TREE # DERBY
- # WILLIE CREEK PEARL FARM
- **# BROOME 4 NIGHTS # EIGHTY MILE BEACH**
- # PORT HEDLAND # MT TOM PRICE MINE TOUR
- # KARIJINI NATIONAL PARK
- # HAMERSLEY RANGES # EXMOUTH
- # CORAL BAY # SHARK BAY
- # CARNARVON # MONKEY MIA DOLPHINS
- # KALBARRI WILDFLOWERS # PERTH 4 NIGHTS
- # GLOUCESTER TREE #JARRAH FORESTS
- # MARGARET RIVER CHOCOLATE FACTORY
- # CAPE LEEUWIN & LIGHTHOUSE
- # PEMBERTON TRAMWAY
- **# VALLEY OF THE GIANTS # ALBANY**
- # WHALE WATCHING CRUISE # ANZAC CENTRE
- # ESPERANCE # NORSEMAN
- # KALGOORLIE GOLDEN MILE & MINE TOUR
- # NULLARBOR PLAIN
- # GREAT AUSTRALIAN BIGHT # CEDUNA
- # IRON KNOB # PORT AUGUSTA

DAY 1: SATURDAY 10^{TH} AUGUST HOME TO DARWIN

After pick up from your home, travel to Tullamarine and join your Qantas flight to Darwin where our luxury coach will meet you and take you to your accommodation, home for the next two nights.

Accom: Mirambeena Resort Ph: 08 8946 0111

DAY 2: SUNDAY 11TH AUGUST DARWIN

Free day to just relax, or do your own exploring and be amazed by the City of Darwin. Tonight we will visit the famous Mindil Beach Market, taste the many foods or watch the marvellous Mindil Beach sunset.

В.

DAY 3: MONDAY 12TH AUGUST B.L.D. DARWIN TO KATHERINE

This morning we tour parts of the city visiting Fannie Bay Gaol Museum. The gaol was in use for nearly 100 years before the last prisoners were transferred to the Berrimah complex in late 1979. The gaol is now used as a museum which represents a time capsule. Displays include interests such as the "Gallows" which were constructed for the last execution in the Northern Territory in 1952. Next stop is the Botanical Gardens and Christ Church Cathedral, constructed in 1977 to replace the original stone church destroyed by Cyclone Tracy, Christmas 1974. A section of the old Cathedral, the porch, has been incorporated in to the new building. Farewelling Darwin and joining the Stuart Highway travelling south, we visit the Adelaide River War Cemetery. This cemetery is the most visited war cemetery in Australia with over 1 million visitors per year. It is the site where 434 service men and women who served in the Second World War are buried. Continue south to Katherine for our overnight

Accom: Knotts Crossing Resort Motel Ph: 08 8972 2511

DAY 4: TUESDAY 13TH AUGUST KATHERINE TO KUNUNURRA B.L.D.

The dramatic landforms and colours of this region will surprise you at every bend as we travel the 520km Victoria Highway between Katherine and Kununurra. This fully sealed Territory Tourism Drive meanders past spectacular ranges, escarpment country and the north-west's endemic boab trees. It is the gateway to the Kimberley, the fish-rich Victoria River, superb Gregory and Keep River National Parks and Lake Argyle. The drive passes through the Victoria River districts sprawling cattle country, and historic Timber Creek. Continue on crossing the Western Australian border and on to Kununurra, home for the next three nights.

Accom: Kimberley Grande Hotel Ph: 1300 955 549

DAY 5: WEDNESDAY 14TH AUGUST B.L.D. EL OUESTRO-ZEBEDEE SPRINGS - WYNDHAM

A breathtaking day today as we travel west of Kununurra and join the Gibb River Road where our first stop is Zebedee Springs. Zebedee Springs is a warm inviting thermal spring nestled in a small pocket of lush rain forest and spectacular Livistona palms. A magical place where we can go for a swim in the springs. The spring is fed from a permanent supply of water, deep within the earth's interior, which maintains a water temperature between 28 to 32 degrees Celsius all year

round. Continuing on we travel the short distance to El Questro Station, a one million acre cattle station developed in 1991 to provide a truly Australian holiday destination. The Kimberley region extends from Broome in the west to Kununurra and Lake Argyle in the east, and from the sea to just south of the main Great Northern Highway. It covers about 421,000 square kilometres -- slightly larger than Japan and much larger than United Kingdom or New Zealand. The Kimberley has only three towns with a population of more than 2,000 (Broome, Derby and Kununurra). Relax and marvel at the scenery as we enjoy a leisurely cruise through the magnificent sandstone cliffs of Chamberlain Gorge. Departing El Questro wonder at the views of the Cockburn Range, which stands majestically beside the Gibb River Road and completely within the bounds of El Questro Station. Fringed by steep escarpments along the perimeter, the Cockburn Range rises to 586 metres at its highest point. We travel to Wyndham, the most northerly town in Western Australia situated off the north coast of Western Australia on the Cambridge Gulf. Although Wyndham is off the main route, it is a pleasant town with a nearby port. From the top of Mt Bastion at the Five Rivers Lookout, we will see where the five rivers, Dirac River, Forrest River, King River, Ord River and Pentecost River, join the Cambridge Gulf. The view is fantastic and well worth our drive to Wyndham. After an amazing days sightseeing we will return to Kununurra.

DAY 6: THURSDAY 15TH AUGUST B.L.D. ORD RIVER CRUISE

Today if you wish you can take an optional early morning flight over the vast lost world of the Bungle Bungles with spectacular views of Lake Argyle and the Argyle Diamond Mine (passengers own expense). Following breakfast, we cruise the pristine waters of the Ord River System. The area is a bird watchers paradise, has varying fauna, salt and freshwater crocodiles and is a photographer's delight. During the afternoon, enjoy some free time to explore the shops in Kununurra.

DAY 7: FRIDAY 16TH AUGUST B.L.D. KUNUNURRA TO HALLS CREEK.

We join the Great Northern Highway this morning and travel via Turkey Creek to Halls Creek situated on the edge of the Great Sandy Desert. It is the only sizable town for 600 km on the Great Northern Highway. Halls Creek is also the northern end of the Canning Stock Route, which runs 1,850 km through the Great Sandy Desert until the southern end of the route at Wiluna.

Accom: Kimberley Hotel Ph:08 9168 6101

DAY 8: SATURDAY 17TH AUGUST B.L.D. HALLS CREEK TO DERBY

We continue west this morning arriving at Fitzroy Crossing a centre for the surrounding cattle stations. Fitzroy Crossing was a creation of necessity when early settlers to the Kimberley needed a place to ford the mighty Fitzroy River. The old crossing was the shortest and safest route but focus shifted from the original town site of Fitzroy Crossing when a modern stilted bridge was built downstream in 1974. Further on to Derby the heart of much of the state's most spectacular scenery and is our home for our overnight stop. The main street of Derby is lined with boab trees as old as the town itself.

Accom: Spinifex Hotel Ph: 08 9191 0000

DAY 9: SUNDAY 18TH AUGUST DERBY TO BROOME

Today we enjoy the sights of King Sound where the highest of all Australian tides and the second highest tide in the world happens in late March and again in late April. We see the Boab Prison Tree, large enough to hold twelve people and believed to be over 1,000 years old, before joining the Great Northern Highway to Broome, home for the next four nights. Broome's climate is something to thoroughly enjoy. After lunch we take a drive to Willie Creek Pearl Farm. On the way, you may see some of the local wildlife. At the picturesque pearl farm, you will enjoy a tour, seeing how cultured pearls are created and the seeding of a live shell. You will have the opportunity to explore and purchase jewellery from the showroom.

B.L.

Accom: The Oaks Resort Ph: 08 9192 9500

DAY 10: MONDAY 19TH AUGUST B. BROOME - CABLE BEACH

Today we explore the "Pearls of Broome". First visit is to Chinatown that was built to support the pearlers, see the wooden pearling luggers used earlier this century, Streeters Jetty where the luggers discharged their hard won treasure, and the Japanese cemetery, which reminds us of the toll taken on the Japanese pearl divers in the industry. Other "Pearls of Broome" include the Dinosaur Footprints and Anastasia's Pool. Enjoy a visit to Cable Beach - the "pearl" of Australian beaches.

DAY 11 & 12: TUESDAY 20TH & WEDNESDAY 21ST AUGUST B. BROOME

Two free days to put your feet up and relax by the pool, explore Broome and its great shopping or perhaps go for a stroll along famous Cable Beach. Perhaps you would like to take a scenic flight along the WA coast to the amazing Horizontal Waterfalls.

DAY 13: THURSDAY 22ND AUGUST B.D. BROOME TO PORT HEDLAND

Farewelling Broome with an early start and a travel day ahead we join the Great Northern Highway travelling south through some of Australia's most remote countryside. We pass by Eighty Mile Beach where the Great Sandy Desert stretches to the ocean and travel further south to Port Hedland, one of the largest ports by tonnage in Australia. The town revolves around the mining and shipping of the Pilbara's most valuable commodity; iron ore.

Accom: Port Hedland Discovery Park Ph 08 9173 1271

DAY 14: FRIDAY 23RD AUGUST B.D. PORT HEDLAND TO TOM PRICE - MINE TOUR

Today we continuing south and arrive at Auski Village situated on the northern slopes of the Hamersley Ranges. This whole area is noted for its scenic grandeur and rugged beauty. We admire the scenery of Karijini National Park renowned for its spectacular mountains, gorges and watercourses. We visit Dales Gorge on the east side of the Karijini National Park. Here we may find tranquil sunken gardens, deep sedgefringed pools, and permanently cascading waterfalls. Following a visit to the Karajini National Park Visitor Centre the town of Tom Price beckons and it is our home for the night. This afternoon we tour the Mt Tom Price mine and see the huge equipment and scale of operations. The Mt Tom Price Mine produces iron ore yielding about 19-20 million tonnes of ore each year. The mine was developed in 1966, and is a massive ore body eight km long and more than one km wide. Free time for the remainder of the day.

Accom: Tom Price Hotel/Motel Ph: 08 9189 1101

DAY 15: SATURDAY 24TH AUGUST TOM PRICE TO EXMOUTH

Today we travel through the stunning rich red earth and spinifex landscape of the Pilbara, passing Mt. Stuart. The Pilbara region in the north of Western Australia is known for its vast mineral deposits, in particular iron ore. Join the North West Coastal Highway and stop at Nanutarra Roadhouse before leaving the highway to travel to the coastal town of Exmouth which is located on the tip of the North West Cape.

B.L.D.

Accom: Potshot Court Holiday Resort. Ph: 08 9949 1200

DAY 16: SUNDAY 25TH AUGUST B.D. EXMOUTH TO CARNARVON

Travel south this morning to Coral Bay, home to one of the world's major reef systems. We visit Ningaloo Marine Park where you can view life forms of the reef through a glass bottom boat. Ningaloo Reef has gained an impressive reputation as one of earth's last ocean paradises. It's one of the largest fringing reefs in the world, and unlike many others, you can get to it just by stepping off the beach. It will be hard to leave, but we travel further south and join the North West Coastal Highway to Carnarvon. Dinner & breakfast is in the motel restaurant.

Accom: Carnarvon Motel Ph: 08 9941 0600

DAY 17: MONDAY 26TH AUGUST B.L.D. CARNARVON TO MONKEY MIA

This morning we travel to the Shark Bay region which is the most westerly point of the Australian continent. Shark Bay with its islands and the land surrounding it has exceptional natural features. Its vast sea-grass beds, which are the largest and richest in the world; its dugong ('sea cow') population; and its stromatolites (colonies of algae which form hard, dome-shaped deposits and are among the oldest forms of life on earth). We can wander along the shores of Shell Beach and take in the dramatic views from Eagle Bluff before continuing to Monkey Mia. Dinner and breakfast is in the motel restaurant.

Accom: Monkey Mia Dolphin Resort Ph: 08 9948 1320

DAY 18: TUESDAY 27TH AUGUST B.L.D. MONKEY MIA TO KALBARRI

Monkey Mia, is world famous for its dolphin interaction experience, a rare encounter with wild animals that has become a major tourism attraction. However, Monkey Mia is not just about dolphins. The area is beautiful in its own right, later this morning we continue south to Kalbarri renowned for extraordinary river gorge scenery, soaring sea cliffs, and heath wildflowers and is our home for the next two nights.

Accom: Kalbarri Beach Resort Ph: 08 9937 1061

DAY 19: WEDNESDAY 28TH AUGUST B.L.D. KALBARRI SIGHTSEEING

Kalbarri National Park is famed for its spectacular scenery and red rock gorges that were cut from the landscape by the mighty Murchison River. We experience views of the gorges from the many lookouts including the famous Nature's Window where the vista is seen through a massive red rock frame. The Loop and Z Bend, are also popular for views over the sandstone cliffs. From July to October Kalbarri National Park is ablaze with colour as wildflowers like banksias, grevilleas, kangaroo paws and feather flowers spring to life. The park is rich in bird life and other animals but many are nocturnal. The remainder of the day is free to put your feet up and relax, or discover the Kalbarri shops.

DAY 20: THURSDAY 29TH AUGUST KALBARRI TO PERTH

There is an early start this morning as we continue south through Geraldton to Nambung National Park and the remarkable Pinnacles Desert. Nambung National Park features beautiful beaches, coastal dune systems, shady groves of Tuart trees and low heathland rich in flowering plants. Here thousands of small and huge limestone pillars rise from the shifting yellow sands. After leaving the eerie landscape resembling that from a science fiction movie, we continue on to Perth, our home for the next four nights. Accom: Mercure Hotel

Ph: 08 9326 7000

В.

DAY 21: FRIDAY 30TH AUGUST B. PERTH SIGHTSEEING

The morning is spent sightseeing in this marvellous city. You will see the very best Perth has to offer. After touring Scarborough Beach, City Beach and picturesque Kings Park featuring 400ha of gardens and views over the Swan River, we will continue the day by visiting historical Fremantle. We follow the Swan River and enjoy the spectacular views of the Perth skyline.

DAY 22 & 23: SAT 31^{ST} AUG & SUN 1^{ST} SEPT B. PERTH

Two free days for you to do some shopping, maybe an optional tour to New Norcia or Rottnest Island, or perhaps just sit back and relax

DAY 24: MONDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER B.D. PERTH TO PEMBERTON

Farewelling Perth this morning we travel down the beautiful southwest coastline through Bunbury situated on Koombana Bay. Travel through Busselton and on to Margaret River which is truly one of the great holiday destinations of the world. At the Margaret River Chocolate Company they have been making award-winning chocolate products since 1999. Here we experience a fascinating insight into the world of chocolate, with free chocolate tastings and interactive displays. This afternoon we visit Cape Leeuwin which is considered the point where the Indian Ocean meets the Southern Ocean and the most south-westerly point on the mainland of Australia. We will take a guided tour of the Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse, which is located on the headland of Cape Leeuwin. Then on to Pemberton our stay for the next two nights. Dinner and breakfast is in the motel restaurant. Accom: Best Western Pemberton Hotel 08 9776 1017

DAY 25: TUESDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER B.D. KARRI FORESTS SIGHTSEEING

Pemberton is the pretty timber town where you feast your eyes on breathtaking forest scenery. The tall trees - Pemberton's biggest attraction are truly magnificent. Our first stop is the famous Gloucester Tree, 61 metres in height and one of the largest trees in the world. After lunch we ride the Pemberton Tramway. It runs through deep forests and picturesque countryside as well as recreating the history of the timber railways that were so important to the regions development and growth. We visit Beedelup National Park to experience the beautiful Beedelup Falls. The park covers 1,590 hectares and the Beedelup Falls are best seen in winter or spring when they are in full flow. The park also offers a mix of vegetation including Karri, Marri and Jarrah trees. Dinner and breakfast is in the motel restaurant.

DAY 26: WEDNESDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER B.D. PEMBERTON TO ALBANY

Travel through the vast Jarrah and Karri Forests to Denmark and visit the "Valley of the Giants" at Walpole - Nornalup National Park where the trees dwarf the surrounding countryside. We explore the world famous forest of gigantic tingle trees and take a bird's eye view of the towering forest from the Valley of the Giants Tree Top Walk on a spectacular lightweight bridge through the forest canopy. The bridge gently ascends into the treetops 40 metres above the forest floor and is an experience not to be missed. Continue on to Albany, our home for the next two nights. Visit the National Anzac Centre which is Australia's foremost museum honouring the Anzac legend. Set within Albany Heritage Park, the centre offers visitors a deeply personal connection with the Anzac experience. Our next visit is to the Sandalwood factory. Whether its the history of sandalwood or the distillation and processing that you're interested in the you tour will take through the Mount facilities to give you an inside look at how their products are made. See how the company process and distill Sandalwood oil and how they formulate this oil into their high quality cosmetic products. Dinner and breakfast is in the motel restaurant.

Accom Motel LeGrande Ph: 08 9841 3600

DAY 27: THURSDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER B.D. ALBANY SIGHTSEEING

This morning with Silver Star Cruises, we cruise the historic and scenic waters of Albany's King George Sound. The Silver Star crew, with their friendly relaxed manner, will ensure that you have an enjoyable cruise. We view the rugged coastline from "The Gap" and "Natural Bridge", two amazing natural features, which have been carved from masses of granite over thousands of years by the many forces of nature. Visit Dog Rock and Mt. Clearance. Visit Whale World. This former whaling station ceased operation in 1978 and has since been developed into a whaling museum featuring relics and lithographs from the whaling days. See the Iron Foundry/Blacksmith Shop where you will see a qualified blacksmith at work. Free time for the remainder of the day. Dinner and breakfast is in the motel restaurant.

DAY 28: FRIDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER B.D. ALBANY TO ESPERANCE

Departing Albany this morning we travel north to Stirling Range National Park. This National Heritage listed National Park protects Western Australia's only mountain range, and its unique flora and fauna with a range of over 1500 recorded species of wildflowers and terrestrial orchids which flower in Spring. We join the South Coast Highway via Ravensthorpe to Esperance. At Esperance, we visit Australia's only specialist fish and shark leather tannery, which had its origins in the Golden Outback of Western Australia. From the ocean and outback estuaries to fashion houses, Mermaid Leather produces unique, aesthetically appealing and strong fish and shark leather. Dinner and breakfast is in the motel restaurant. Accom: Hospitality Esperance Ph: 08 9071 1999

DAY 29: SATURDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER B.D. ESPERANCE TO KALGOORLIE

Esperance, small yet beautiful is known as the 'Bay of Isles'. Wide sandy beaches, scenic coastlines and the panorama of offshore islands are all part of its charm. Pink Lake is a dense saltwater lake and depending on weather conditions really is pink. We tour the many attractions, visiting Twilight Beach, Rotary Lookout and a scenic drive to Observatory Point and

Butly Cave. See the vast wheat and sheep properties of this area as we travel to Norseman which is regarded as the western gateway to the Nullarbor Plain. Norseman is known for its gold, quartz and other gemstones and is subsequently a magnet for prospectors and gem collectors hoping to try their luck. Although major gold mining has declined in Norseman, Central Norseman still mines the richest quartz reef in Australia We continue on to Kalgoorlie, home for the next two nights. Dinner and breakfast is in the motel restaurant.

Accom: Quality Inn Railway Motel Ph: 08 9088 0000

DAY 30: SUNDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER B.D. KALGOORLIE SIGHTSEEING

A full day touring the mining city of Kalgoorlie. The Golden Mile with its expanding mining operations is an awesome backdrop to the city's modern day existence. Victorian buildings with wide verandas line the main streets, recalling the history of past eras. City tour visiting Paddy Hannon's Statue and the Miner's Monument, erected as a tribute to those mineworkers who gave "The Golden Mile" its worldwide reputation. Kalgoorlie Super Pit Tours is the leading operator in the goldfields, with a long history in providing that 'Extraordinary' touring experience that will give us the chance to be a part of the modern day gold rush by taking part in the only tour to go inside the Super Pit operations. The remainder of the day is free for you to do some shopping. Dinner and breakfast is in the motel restaurant.

DAY 31: MONDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER B.L.D. KALGOORLIE TO MADURA. This morning we travel to the small town of Balladonia, which is the first stop on the long Nullabor journey from Western Australia to South Australia. The stretch from Balladonia to Caiguna (181km) boasts one of the longest stretches of straight road anywhere in the world. From here we commence our journey across the Nullarbor, a vast limestone plateau, to the tiny settlement of

Accom: Madura Pass Oasis Motel Ph: 08 90393464

Cocklebiddy and onto Madura for our overnight stop.

DAY 32: TUESDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER B.L.D. MADURA TO CEDUNA

Travelling east, we stop at the tiny outpost of Eucla to visit the old telegraph ruins almost completely buried by shifting dunes. Cross into South Australia and marvel at the stunning views of sheer cliffs that look over the Great Australian Bight. Continue across the Nullarbor, taking in the unbelievable flat and featureless landscape that surrounds. Pause at a viewing on the Bight, best spot in Australia to perhaps see the majestic Southern Right Whales who migrate to this region from June to October each year to give birth and rear their young. Many large animals live in or visit the Great Australian Bight and the most famous are the southern right whale, the Australian sea lion, the great white shark, and the southern blue fin tuna. We continue on to South Australia's most westerly town, Ceduna for our overnight stop. Dinner and breakfast is in the motel restaurant.

Accom: Ceduna Foreshore Motel Ph: 08 8625 2008

DAY 33: WEDNESDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER B.D. CEDUNA TO PORT AUGUSTA

An early start this morning as we travel east via the Eyre Highway through Kimba which is geographically "halfway across Australia" and is well known as the "Gateway to the Gawler Ranges". Kimba is situated in sheep and wheat growing country on the edge of South Australia's outback. We continue to Iron Knob, the birthplace of the Australian steel

industry. Iron ore was first discovered here in the mid 18th century, but it was not until 1899 when BHP was granted iron ore leases that the true value of the rich high grade ore deposits were recognised. Enjoy a town tour of Iron Knob and visit the mining museum and if permitted, a tour of the vast pit that was Iron Knob. Further on to Port Augusta known as the "Crossroads of Australia". Dinner and breakfast is in the motel restaurant.

Accom: The Standpipe Motor Inn. Ph: 08 8642 4033

DAY 34: THURSDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER B.D PORT AUGUSTA TO MANNUM

This morning we visit the Wadlata Outback Centre a must see before the end of our tour. We walk through its Tunnel of Time, the story of an ancient land, its people and treasures. Multi-sensory displays will take you back to when dinosaurs roamed the land. Experience the hardships of explorers and settlers, and discover the transport that opened up the outback. Depart Port Augusta and travel south to Mannum, situated on the beautiful Murray River for our last night away. Dinner and breakfast is in the motel restaurant.

Accom: Mannum Motel Ph: 08 8569 1808

DAY 35: FRIDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER B. HOMEWARD BOUND

Depart Mannum and travel via Tailem Bend and Bordertown crossing the border into Victoria and home after an amazing thirty five days touring, farewelling our new found friends at each drop off point along the way.

N.B. This tour allows plenty of free time which is very important on such a long trip.

Accommodation for the above tour is motel, hotel or cabins on a twin share basis.

- <u>Breakfasts</u> while in Broome are supplied by the The Oaks Resort and in Perth are supplied by the Mercure Hotel.
- <u>Lunches and Dinners</u> while in Broome and Perth have not been included. This allows you the flexibility to try different eating places in the central city area.

PRICE: \$16,680.00 per person twin share SINGLE SUPP: \$4050.00

Prices include GST

PRICE INCLUDES:

- Luxury Coach Travel.
- Brendan's Australian Tours Travel Bag & Wallet
- Accommodation: Motel, Hotel, Villas or Apartments as specified. (Twin Share)
- Admissions to Attractions and Cruises as per the itinerary.
- Air Fare Melbourne to Darwin with Qantas
- All Meals as Specified.

B: Breakfast L: Lunch D: Dinner

• Pick up & return to your home.

Travel Insurance is highly recommended and is the responsibility of each passenger.

