

Simpson Desert – 12-14 Day Tag-Along Adventure Tour

PLEASE NOTE: This itinerary is just a guide. It is subject to change due to weather, road conditions, break downs, and other conditions out of our control. Please allow flexibility in the tour.

Day 1.

Meet and greet in Broken Hill 8am, ready to depart at 8.30am CST. Heading west on Barrier Highway to Yunta, then heading North West on dirt roads/tracks, around the back of Wilpena Pound to the small town of Blinman or Parachilna, staying at the back of the pub and having dinner at the pub.

Day 2.

Leave camp at Blinman or Parachilna, stopping at Leigh Creek for fuel and supplies if needed. We will stop at the Ochre pits (indigenous site) just out of Lyndhurst for a look. Lunch stop will be at Farina (underground bakery and self tour of the town and its ruins. Possible stops for tourist attractions along the way to through Marree for next camp, free camping along the roadside, possibly Curdimurka. (Roadside statues/artwork)

Day 3

Leave our roadside camp, stopping at The Bubbler, Coward Springs for a dip in the famous spa, possibly edge of Lake Eyre (lunch). Fuel if needed at William Creek, quick stop and beverage. Check out a few stops/attractions on the way. Then travel onto Algebuckina Bridge for the nights free camping.

Day 4.

Leave Algebuckina camp and head into Oodnadatta, stopping for morning tea/lunch supplies, fuel, stretch the legs, kids can have a play at the park, have your photo at the Pink Roadhouse. Then leave for Mt Dare, camping at Mt Dare (showers and toilets, maybe dinner at Pub)

Note - Potentially there will be an additional day in the first 5 days depending on how the group is travelling.

Day 5.

Top up fuel and supplies before leaving Mt Dare, next stop is Dalhousie Springs, to check out the old farm ruins and have a swim in the famous hot springs. We will have some lunch here before we head off to Purnie Bore, the last toilet and shower if needed. Travel as far as possible to get into Simpson Desert Regional Reserve so we can have a fire, free camping, there are no more facilities until we reach Birdsville.

Day 6.

Up and have breakfast, pack up camp and start on the tracks, travel the French Line through the dunes and countryside for the day. Find a good spot and set up camp. Enjoy a delicious meal and warm fire and admire the millions of stars.

Day 7.

Up and have breakfast, pack up camp and start on the tracks, travel the French Line to Erabena Track and follow that down to the Lone Gum Tree. Continue through the dunes and countryside for the day. Find a good spot and set up camp. Enjoy a delicious meal and warm fire and admire the millions of stars.

Day 8.

Up and breakfast, get on the tracks, travel along Knolls Track to check out Approdinna Attora Knolls, from there we will get back on the French Line and continue on to Poeppel Corner (photo time). We will find and set up camp near here. Enjoy a hearty bush meal and admire the stars as we sit around the fire and chat about the trip and other life stories.

Day 9.

Get up and enjoy another breakfast in the desert, pack up camp and make our way to the QAA which we will follow to Big Red (the last challenge of the desert crossing). After some fun attempting to get up Big Red, we can choose to make camp and watch the sunset with some nibbles and beverages. Or option 2 will be watch the sunset and then head into Birdsville and set up camp (this option will give you 2 nights at Birdsville), this can be discussed on the day.

Day 10.

No need to rush this morning, we have the whole day to check out the local sites of Birdsville including Burke & Wills Tree, the Famous race track, have a fish in the Diamantina River and lunch at the Birdsville Bakery (maybe have a famous camel pie for lunch). The day would not be complete without dinner at the Birdsville Hotel. If possible please use this day to top up on fuel and supplies; we will need to leave on time tomorrow.

Day 11.

Up for breakfast, pack up and leave camp, we will take the Birdsville Development Road to Cordillo Access Rd. Stopping at some old ruins and Australia's largest shearing shed. After lunch we will take the Arrabury Rd heading to Innaminka, and check out local tourist attractions, such as Burke's grave, Burke & Wills Dig Tree and Coopers Creek, then head back to the campgrounds near pub.

Day 12.

Leave Innaminka (fuel and showers available before we leave), we will follow the Old Strzelecki Track to Merty Merty and onto the Merty Merty-Cameron Corner Rd through to Cameron Corner. Here you will have time to get your photo at the corner and have a cool drink at the pub. From the pub we will head to camp at Fort Grey campground, there is a nice bushwalk to some historic ruins and points of interest. Finishing the day off with a good meal with new friends.

Day 13.

Last day of tour, after breakfast and pack up we will take the Middle Rd the back way to Tibooburra, stopping at a few attractions (Olive Downs and The Jump Ups). When we arrive at Tibooburra there will be time to have a look around town, the Museum, the old Gold mine self tour, fuel up and have a bite to eat. From Tibooburra we will head south to Milparinka to have a look around this historic old mining town. Our last stop along the way is the famous Packsaddle Hotel, a must do if you are

travelling the area. From here we make the last section of the tour to Broken Hill where you can camp at one of the caravan parks or you are welcome to camp at our accommodation property in Broken Hill, there is plenty of room to set up or camp inside

Meals rolling options (not available every day) - GF options available

Breakfast menu -

Bacon & Eggs

French Toast/Pancakes

Toast/Toasties (Jaffles)

Cereal (limited selections)

Fruit (when available)

Croissants (Ham & Cheese or Nutella)

Lunch menu -

Fresh Cooked Damper/Scones/Cheese & Bacon Bread

Various sandwich options (wraps, rolls or salada options)

Hot dogs

Chicken Schnitzel or roast meat rolls

Pies/pasties/sausage rolls/mini pizzas

Nachos

Dinner menu -

BBQ meat and salads (snags/chops/chicken skewers/steak/ribs, options to pick)

Souvlaki/kebabs

Roast/Stew in camp oven

Spaghetti or savoury mince

Butter Chicken and rice (or similar)

Homemade Hamburgers

Baked Potatoes

Tacos/Burritos

Stir fry meat and vegetables

4 dinners provided at pub/restaurants TBA (\$35 limit)

Back up plans for the kids -

Sausages and salad

Nuggets and potato gems

2 minute noodles/Quick pastas/cheesy mac

Toasties