

# PORT BUS | 12 Day Broken Hill and Mildura Tour

Monday 13 October – Friday 24 October 2025



Discover the rugged charm of Broken Hill, steeped in history, heritage and character against a backdrop of vast blue skies and a rocky red earth. Explore its mining past and art scene at galleries honouring local legends.

Tour the sun-kissed region of Mildura, boasting flourishing citrus groves and a National Park that will reward us with a great sense of adventure – all without working too hard at it.

## Day 1: (D) PORT MACQUARIE TO DUBBO

Monday 13 October 2025

Join us on our journey to explore **Broken Hill** nestled in outback NSW and the Murray River regional town of **Mildura** and their surrounds. As we prepare for departure, settle comfortably into your seats and meet your fellow travellers. We travel via the Hunter Valley, stopping for lunch along the way before arriving into our first overnight destination of **Dubbo**.

**Oxley Motel Dubbo** | subject to availability  
Lunch at own cost | Dinner at Hotel

## Day 2: (BLD) DUBBO TO COBAR

Tuesday 14 October

Relishing the morning air, we venture into the serene expanse of the **Dubbo Regional Botanic Garden**. Here an impressive array of native and exotic flora awaits, inviting us on a journey through its themed gardens. Amidst the botanic splendour is the tranquil haven of the Shoyoen Japanese Garden, a gift from Dubbo's sister city Minokamo in Japan. Shoyoen translates to strolling and refreshing so we'll do just that, admiring the authentic Japanese elements such as The Pond, Wooden Bridges, The Rock Garden and the Four-Eyed (bamboo) Fence. Departing town, we now head to **Nyngan** where we'll break for **lunch** before resuming our drive and pressing onward to the

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mining town of **Cobar**. Prior to checking into our accommodation we drive to the viewing platform of **Fort Bourke Hill Lookout** for incredible views of the town and an open cut mine.

**Copper City Motel Cobar** | subject to availability  
Breakfast & Dinner at Hotel | Lunch in Nyngan

### Day 3: (BLD) COBAR TO WHITE CLIFFS

Wednesday 15 October

This morning we take a fascinating journey through Cobar's rich history spanning from the time of the local Aboriginal people to the mining era with a **guided town tour**. Afterwards we visit the **Great Cobar Museum**, where we'll be immersed in an impressive array of artefacts and exhibits dating back to the early 1870s. The museum perfectly captures the essence of Cobar revealing the diverse local heritage. With an early **lunch** under our belts, we take to the road and travel across the vast outback plains to the unforgettable and remote Opal mining town of **White Cliffs**. Here we check into our underground motel and freshen up for dinner.

**Underground Motel White Cliffs** | subject to availability  
Breakfast & Dinner at Hotel | Lunch in Cobar

### Day 4: (BLD) WHITE CLIFFS TO BROKEN HILL

Thursday 16 October

The arid, almost lunar landscape of White Cliffs is dotted with thousands of disused opal diggings, showcasing a palette as splendid as any classic Australian outback scene in changing light. The first Opal lease was granted in 1890 and by 1899 the fields were supporting 4500 people. We begin our exploration with a **guided tour** of this unique place. We also have the chance to look through the Opal showroom followed by **lunch** at the Red Earth Opal Café. Loading the coach, the open road unfolds before us, guiding us towards Broken Hill. As we near, the dramatic and rugged scenery will welcome us into our destination of **Broken Hill** where we'll settle comfortably into our hotel, unpacking and preparing for an enriching stay over the course of the next four nights.

**4 nights | Hilltop Motel, Broken Hill** | subject to availability  
Breakfast & Dinner at Hotel | Lunch in White Cliffs

### Day 5: (BD) BROKEN HILL

Friday 17 October

**Broken Hill** embodies the essence of the Australian outback, blending the remnants of a prosperous mining era with its vibrant contemporary culture. Led by a seasoned **local expert**, we'll be guided through this remarkable town revealing its hidden treasures. We begin with the awe-inspiring **Line of Lode**, a monumental strip where silver, lead and zinc deposits once reigned supreme. Towering above us this imposing structure stands as a testament to the town's mining heritage. At the top we find the **Miners Memorial**, a poignant tribute to those who helped support the pursuit of progress. Venturing to the **Silver City Mint and Art Centre**, a masterpiece awaits us. The Big Picture is an expansive acrylic painting transporting us into a world of boundless skies and ancient riverbeds, dotted with majestic gum trees leading our gaze towards the distant Flinders Ranges. Afterwards explore Argent Street and purchase lunch – perhaps wander through the Palace Hotel used for the Bar scenes in the movie 'Priscilla - Queen of the Desert'. Our day concludes with visits to the art galleries of **Jack Absalom and Pro Hart** where we can honour these legendary 'Brushmen of the Bush'. The surrounding countryside, with its vibrant light and awe-inspiring landscapes, has long been a muse for artists, contributing to the fame that Broken Hill proudly holds.

Breakfast & Dinner at Hotel | Lunch at own cost

## Day 6: (BLD) MORE OF BROKEN HILL

Saturday 18 October

Our adventure today commences at the **Sulphide Street Railway and Historical Museum** complex, housed within the magnificent original 1905 station building. Explore the fascinating exhibits showcasing the heritage of the Silverton Tramway Company, as well as the Broken Hill Migrant Heritage Museum and Hospital Museum. From here we head to the airport to visit the **Royal Flying Doctor Base**, where we'll enjoy a **guided tour** of this vital facility. Experience firsthand the life-saving work of the Royal Flying Doctors and immerse yourself in the history and operations of this iconic service. **Lunch** awaits at **Bells Milk Bar**, a beloved establishment with roots tracing back over a century as a confectionery store. Amongst the nostalgia, we indulge in a delicious lunch from a menu that will evoke memories of a simpler time. The afternoon leads us to the engaging **Geo Centre**. Greeted by mesmerising displays, the minerals, gems and intriguing artefacts that all shed light on the rich mining history of Broken Hill.

Breakfast & Dinner at Hotel | Lunch at Bells Milk Bar

## Day 7: (BLD) SILVERTON

Sunday 19 October

A magnet for production crews from across the globe, this morning we are off to explore the intriguing town of **Silverton**. The virtual ghost town has attracted film crews such as Mad Max 2 and Priscilla Queen of the Desert with commercials being shot here often. At the **Silverton Gaol and Historical Museum** echoes of the past reverberate through the rooms as we uncover the tales of its history. Making our way to **Beyond 39 Dips**, this delightful craft shop is brimming with glass and leather creations inspired by the light of the outback. An amusing detail of the shop's name is that there are 39 dips in the road between Broken Hill and Silverton. Not far is the **Mundi Mundi Lookout** perched on the edge of the vast plains that stretch across the width of the outback. The seemingly endless horizon will show the curvature of the earth on a clear day. Pausing for **lunch** at the Silverton Pub, we might encounter the Silverton donkeys. These friendly, albeit mischievous, creatures have become a fixture in the town and are very happy to say hello to visitors. On our return to town, we drop by the **Historic Daydream Silver Mine**. The past comes alive as we drive along the road through Appollyon Valley thinking "how did they find this mine?". Then coming over the hill we view the magnificent smelter built by the Daydream Mining Association and used by Broken Hill. A **guided tour** will welcome us to the mine site including a surface inspection. Our final stop is to view the **Living Desert Sculptures**. Amidst the skyline, thirteen magnificent sandstone sculptures stand proudly atop Sundown Hill, offering a connection to the surrounding landscape. As the sun descends, casting its glow over these sandstone creations, we'll enjoy **drinks and nibbles \*** and the magical views before us. A wonderful way to finish our Broken Hill touring. Back at our hotel, we have a slightly later dinner.

Breakfast & Dinner at Hotel | Lunch in Silverton

\*drinks/nibbles arranged by Port Bus

## Day 8: (BLD) BROKEN HILL TO MILDURA

Monday 20 October

We bid farewell to our hosts and set course southward to the Sunraysia district of **Mildura**. Embracing its well-deserved title, Mildura basks in an abundance of sunshine, creating the perfect haven for citrus crops of oranges and the cultivation of grapes. At **Orange World** we embark on a **guided tour** wandering the grounds adorned with avocado tree and a variety of citrus fruits. Hopping aboard the tractor train we'll be entertained by our guide and his juicy sense of humour. With our **picnic lunches** in tow, we venture to Red Cliffs to marvel at Big Lizzie, a large traction engine that

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once tirelessly cleared Mallee scrub in the desert. A true feat of engineering, Big Lizzie's epic journey from Melbourne to Red Cliffs in 1917 spanned two years. Continuing our exploration, we visit the **Psyche Pumping Station**, built at Psyche Bend in 1891 to cater to the irrigation needs of the settlement. While the original steam-powered pump has long been replaced by an electric one, the meticulously restored pump house still stands as a testament to ingenuity, boasting the oldest pump configuration of its kind in the world. Welcomed to our Mildura accommodation, we have some time at leisure prior to dinner.

**2 nights | Mildura Inlander Resort** | subject to availability  
Breakfast & Dinner at Hotel | Picnic Lunches supplied

#### Day 9: (BLD) MUNGO NATIONAL PARK Tuesday 21 October

Today we take a giant leap back in time to enjoy an exciting day with a local expert exploring remarkable **Mungo National Park** which sits within the Willandra Lakes World Heritage Area. This area is rich with aboriginal history and significant archaeological discoveries. Walk the Walls of China, explore the historic woolshed and be amazed at the landscape from a lookout. Late afternoon we return to Mildura after a wonderful day exploring Mungo National Park.

Breakfast & Dinner at Hotel | Lunch included

#### Day 10: (BLD) MILDURA TO WAGGA WAGGA Wednesday 22 October

Following a slightly earlier breakfast, we depart Mildura and begin our journey across the expansive Hay Plain. Our first stop of the day is in Balranald, where we pause for a break at the **Balranald Discovery Centre**. Later, we reach **Hay**, where we indulge in **lunch** at **Shear Outback**. This acclaimed tourist and educational facility offers a range of experiences, including the Australian Shearers Hall of Fame. The innovative centre is dedicated to providing insights into the fascinating world of shearing and its cultural significance. As the afternoon unfolds, we head to our final destination of Wagga Wagga to unwind after a day filled with exploration and discovery.

**Quality Hotel Rules Club Wagga** | subject to availability  
Breakfast & Dinner at Hotel | Lunch in Hay

#### Day 11: (BLD) WAGGA WAGGA TO BATHURST Thursday 23 October

Making our way via Junee to Cootamundra, we take a morning break to visit **Bradman Cottage**. Standing in the room where Sir Donald Bradman was born in 1908, the cottage now contains memorabilia of Sir Don, of cricket and of the Cootamundra district. The local Jubilee Park plays host to bronze sculptures of Australian Test Cricket Captains, along with Unaarrimim the leading aboriginal player in the first Australia Cricket team to tour England in 1868. Having worked up an appetite, we continue through to Wallendbeen to visit **Yandilla & Co**, once the Yandilla Seed Company. We enjoy a delicious **lunch** of artisan food and some time to wander the diverse range of homewares and bespoke gifts. Settling back into our seats, we resume our travels, bound for Bathurst. Upon arrival, we take a moment to relax before coming together for our final dinner on tour.

**Rydges Mt Panorama Bathurst** | subject to availability  
Breakfast & Dinner at the Hotel | Lunch in Wallendbeen

From Bathurst we travel through Rylstone and the Bylong Valley, nestled between the dramatic Wollemi and the forested Goulburn River National Parks. Reaching the Upper Hunter Valley we break for **lunch** in Denman then meander our way through to the coast. As we approach the final stretch of our journey to **Port Macquarie**, we have time to reflect on the memories and experiences made during our tour.

Breakfast at Hotel | Lunch in Denman

All itineraries are subject to change due to occasional restrictions in opening times/days of some attractions. We cannot be held responsible for changes due to closures or inclement weather.