

January 2026

Rubber2Road



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Motoring Update – January 2026

Welcome to 2026!

Happy New Year! I hope you all enjoyed a wonderful festive season and had the chance to relax and recharge with family and friends. As we kick off 2026, I'd like to share some exciting updates and highlights from our motoring community.

We've also been working closely with you through events, feedback sessions, and most recently the Outback Car Trek survey. Your input is invaluable in shaping experiences that truly matter, and we're grateful for your continued engagement.

We wrapped up 2025 on a high note! A heartfelt thank you to everyone who took part in Drive 4x4 the Doc. Thanks to your incredible commitment and generosity, we achieved the third-highest fundraising total in the event's history—a true reflection of the passion and spirit that define this community.

Looking ahead, I'm thrilled to announce the April 2026 Bright Smiles Charity Ride, supporting the RFDSSE Dental Program. This year's route will focus on the Northern Rivers Region, helping communities recently impacted by floods. It's an opportunity to make a real difference while enjoying the camaraderie and adventure that define our events.

2026 promises to be an extraordinary year for the motoring events community, with a calendar full of exciting and impactful experiences. I'm looking forward to being on the road with you, attending as many events as possible—not only to champion the RFDS but to connect with the passionate community that makes these events so special.

Your enthusiasm and dedication inspire me every day, and I look forward to another year of unforgettable motoring adventures with purpose.



Matthew Tosolini
Head of Motoring Events

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Royal Flying Doctor Service

URGENT: BOOK BY 10 FEBRUARY 2026 OR YOU WILL MISS OUT!

Spirit of Tasmania is proudly supporting travel for the Outback Car Trek and is offering participants exclusive, best-available passenger fares — but **only if you book before 10 February 2026**. After that date, these fares and spaces may **no longer be available**.



Official Spirit of Tasmania Booking Link

CLICK [HERE](#)

Once on the page, make sure you use the “Book Now” button at the bottom of the page (**do not use the Book Now button in the top right corner**).

By booking through this link, you'll access:

- Special event fares, and
- High-vehicle deck space for vehicles over 2.1m.

***YOU MUST BOOK YOUR OWN PASSAGE TO AND FROM TAS.
ENSURE YOU BOOK THE SAILING ON 3RD JUNE 2026.
You can book your own return passage on a date you wish.***

For more information

Please dont hesitate to contact Motoring Events team

motoringevents@rfdsse.org.au

2025 DRIVE 4X4 THE DOC

Drive 4x4 the Doc took off yet again in November 2025. This was a big one for two reasons: it's the first time that the event has been owned by the RFDSSSE and it raised the 3rd most donations in its 10-year-long history, with over \$79,000 for the RFDS.

This week of stunning 4x4 driving brought together the most participants ever - 52 dedicated drivers - all united by their dedication to support rural healthcare access. This continues its upward trend for participant numbers year after year. What followed was four days of camaraderie, breathtaking scenery, and a shared commitment to making a difference.

Day 1: Mallacoota to Mallacoota via Cann River

The adventure began in Mallacoota, with a scenic loop through lush forests and winding roads. Spirits were high as participants gathered for a festive "Christmas Lunch" hosted by the warm and welcoming Cann River Community Centre. The decorations, laughter, and sense of community set the tone for the days ahead.



Day 2: Mallacoota to Corryong via Bendoc

Day two brought rugged beauty and a touch of history. After a hearty stop at the Bendoc Hotel, the participants crossed the iconic Snowy River, a moment that reminded everyone of the region's rich heritage and natural wonders. The journey to Corryong was filled with stories, photo stops, and plenty of smiles.



Day 3: Corryong to Tumbarumba

The third day was a feast for the senses. Morning tea was served at the spectacular Mt Elliot Hang Gliding launch pad, offering panoramic views that left everyone in awe. Lunch at Braymont Gardens provided a tranquil setting to recharge before continuing through rolling hills and charming country roads.



Day 4: Tumbarumba to Tumbarumba via Batlow

The final day celebrated resilience and surprise encounters. Lunch at The Apple Thief in Batlow highlighted the region's recovery from devastating bushfires, showcasing how the community has bounced back stronger than ever. As if nature wanted to leave us with one last unforgettable memory, participants were treated to the sight of wild brumbies roaming freely – a truly iconic moment that captured the spirit of the high country.

Stay tuned for the official announcement of the 2026 Drive 4x4 the Doc route, set for 17–21 November. You won't want to miss what's in store!

2025 Drive 4x4 the Doc impact by numbers

117

RFDS staff views of your
stories on our Intranet

20,707

views over
social media page

22

Trek and Support
Vehicles

8

New participants
attended in 2025

52

Participants, Volunteers
and Officials

0

Major medical
incidents on D4D

To support
\$79,313.61
in donations

Community Spotlight:

The Martin Family's Incredible Support

On Friday, 5 December, a number of RFDS and Trek community members attended the Martin Family Fundraiser Lunch in Bangalow, a truly special annual event. Held in memory of Oli Martin, the lunch raises vital funds for the Royal Flying Doctor Service South Eastern Section (RFDSSE).

Each year, the Martins host this gathering on the weekend closest to Oli's birthday, and this year's event took place at the historic Bangalow A&I Hall, with catering by Figtree Restaurant and a bar run by the Bangalow Lions.

Over the past four years, the Martin family has raised an extraordinary \$250,000 for RFDSSE. For Oli's brother, Harry, the lunch has become more than a fundraiser, it's a ritual of remembrance and contribution.

But the lunch is only part of their story. Each year, Pete and Harry take on the Outback Car Trek as Car 612, raising significant funds and awareness as they journey through some of Australia's most remote landscapes.

Together, the Martins' efforts typically raise \$60,000–\$70,000 annually, supported by the generosity of the Byron community. The Martin family's dedication—through their annual lunch, Trek participation, and advocacy—is inspiring and deeply appreciated. As we stood with Peter and Harry at the fundraiser, we were reminded of the extraordinary impact that passion and community can have. Their efforts not only honour Oli's memory but strengthen the lifeline RFDS provides to those who need it most.

Remembering Jim O'Mahony - CAR 1869

We were saddened to hear of the recent passing of Jim O'Mahony, a long-time supporter and participant in the Outback Car Trek.

Jim first entered the Trek in 1996, driving a Tooheys-branded car from Griffith to Broome. At the time, Jim was the Managing Director of Tooheys, and his enthusiasm for fundraising was unmatched—his team topped the fundraising tally on the 1997 Trek from Kempsey to Cooktown.

Between 1996 and 2003, Jim completed six Treks, even flying back from his role in Shanghai to join the 1999 and 2001 events. His dedication to the Trek and its mission was unwavering, and his adventurous spirit was evident—whether navigating remote outback roads or tackling challenges like getting bogged on the beach during the 2003 Trek from Forbes to Yeppoon.

Jim spent many years living and working overseas, most recently in Roujan, France, with his wife Sandy. His contribution to the Trek and the RFDS cause will always be remembered, and we extend our deepest condolences to his family and friends.

Shared to us by close friend and teammate Bob Barbour.



2026 Bright Smile Charity Ride

Get ready for an unforgettable adventure with purpose! The Bright Smiles Charity Ride is back, and this year we're riding to support the RFDSSE Dental Program, delivering essential dental care to remote communities.

Riding for Brighter Smiles

The Bright Smiles Charity Ride isn't just about the thrill of the open road—it's about making a real difference. This April, riders will journey through the stunning Northern Rivers Region to raise funds for the RFDSSE Dental Program, delivering essential dental care to remote communities.

With scenic routes, vibrant towns, and a shared purpose, this event combines adventure with impact. Entries are now open—secure your spot and ride with purpose!

Bring a Mate – Double the Impact

The Bright Smiles Charity Ride is better with mates! Riding together turns the journey into a shared story, strengthens the cause, and adds an extra layer of safety and support.

Invite a fellow rider, a friend passionate about community causes, or someone new to charity rides. Share event details, plan your ride together, and help spread the word. The more riders we bring, the more smiles we create—so reach out, rev up, and ride for a cause that matters.

Explore the Northern Rivers on Two Wheels

This year's route is a rider's dream. From the winding curves of Waterfall Way to the lush hinterland and coastal stretches of Evans Head, every kilometre offers breathtaking views and unforgettable experiences.

Stops in historic towns like Tenterfield and Bellingen add charm and character to the journey. Whether you're chasing twisties or soaking in the scenery, the 2026 BSCR promises a ride you'll never forget.



Where are we going?

30 April 2026

Dungog, NSW

Start your Bright Smiles Charity Ride adventure with a relaxed evening in the charming town of Dungog. Riders will come together at the Settlers Arms Hotel for an official ride briefing at 5:00 PM, followed by a group dinner at 6:30 PM. It's the perfect opportunity to meet your fellow riders, share stories, and soak up the excitement before we hit the road.

1 May 2026

Bellingen, NSW

We kick off with an exhilarating run along Bucketts Way, passing through Gloucester and Nowendoc before stopping for an early lunch in Walcha. The afternoon delivers the ultimate highlight—the legendary Waterfall Way, over 150 km of breathtaking rainforest, escarpments, and waterfalls, leading us to Bellingen. Here, the Diggers Tavern & Motel awaits with a warm welcome and a well-earned break in the heart of town. (Approx. 430 km | 5 hours in the saddle)

2 May 2026

Evans Head, NSW

Today's ride is a mix of styles, starting with the winding uphill challenge of Waterfall Way from Bellingen to Guyra, then crossing the top of the Great Dividing Range to historic Tenterfield for lunch. From there, enjoy 128 km of thrilling twisties to Casino, before a relaxing final stretch to the Pacific Ocean at Evans Head, where the Pacific Hotel awaits just steps from Beechies Sunset Bar for our Dinner. (Approx. 492 km | 5½ hours in the saddle)

3 May 2026

Walcha, NSW

Today's ride takes us through the diverse landscapes of Big River Country, following the majestic Richmond River before crossing the Bungawalbin Scrub and passing through Jackywalbin State Conservation Area to the tiny hamlet of Whiporie. From there, we head south through Grafton and Nymboida, rejoin the stunning Waterfall Way into Armidale, and continue via Uralla to Walcha, where the Walcha Motel awaits for a relaxed Dinner in the heart of town. (Approx. 380 km | 4½ hours in the saddle)

4 May 2026

Largs, NSW

Our final leg takes us south toward home, with plenty of great riding before lunch at the Bushrangers Bar in the charming village of Largs. After lunch, riders will split off toward home — those heading to Sydney might even take the scenic Putty Road for one last exhilarating stretch. (Approx. 271 km | 3¼ hours in the saddle)





Entries Now Open

Updated Forms & Key Info

The wait is over—entries for the 2026 Bright Smiles Charity Ride are officially open! This April, join us for an unforgettable journey through the stunning Northern Rivers Region, all while supporting the RFDSSE Dental Program to deliver vital care to remote communities.

Whether you're a seasoned rider or new to charity events, this is your chance to combine adventure with impact.

Secure Your Spot Today – Don't Miss Out!

The 2026 Bright Smiles Charity Ride is your chance to combine adventure with impact. By registering now, you'll:

- Guarantee your place on one of Australia's most scenic charity rides
- Support the RFDSSE Dental Program, delivering vital care to remote communities
- Join a passionate riding community committed to making a difference
- Access exclusive event updates, route details, and rider resources

Spaces are limited, and this is one ride you'll never forget.

Lock in your entry today and start planning your journey!

Be part of the ride that changes lives.

ENTER NOW! FOLLOW THE LINK BELOW:

[ENTER THE 2026 BRIGHT SMILES CHARITY RIDE TODAY!](#)

DONATIONS LINK BELOW:

[CLICK HERE TO SUPPORT TODAY!](#)

Updated Entry Forms – Please Review

As we prepare for the 2026 Bright Smiles Charity Ride, all entry forms have been refreshed and are now available online via the "How to Enter" page at www.brightsmilescharityride.com.au.

These updates include important details around medical and indemnity, fundraising expectations, and event logistics.

All participants are asked to review and complete the updated forms as soon as possible to ensure a smooth registration process and full compliance with Ride guidelines. Let's hit the road informed, prepared, and ready for adventure!



Your Voice Matters—And We Listened

A big thank you to everyone who completed our recent Outback Car Trek survey. Your feedback was clear and inspiring: Trekkers love the spirit of the Trek and want it to stay true to its roots. That means keeping the focus on participant experience, event logistics, and fundraising for the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

The RFDS is proud to champion this vision. The Trek isn't just an event—it's a tradition, a community, and a lifeline for remote Australians. Every improvement we make is guided by your input and our shared mission to raise vital funds while delivering an unforgettable adventure.

Why We Trek: The Heartbeat of Our Community

When we asked what motivates you to join the Outback Car Trek, the answers were clear and inspiring:

- Supporting RFDS – mentioned by 87% of respondents
- Adventure & travel – 75% mentioned
- Community & camaraderie – 71% mentioned

This isn't just a rally—it's a movement. Every kilometre you drive helps fund life-saving services for Australians in remote areas. And every conversation at a dusty roadside stop strengthens the bonds that make this event so unique.

One trekker shared: "It's about giving back while having the adventure of a lifetime."

These motivations guide how we design future treks—keeping the spirit of adventure alive while deepening your connection to RFDS.

Your Feedback Shapes the Future—Carefully

We asked, you answered—and the message is clear: trekkers value the traditions that make the Outback Car Trek special. While ideas like alternate length treks and tech tools are exciting, most respondents said the current level of RFDS engagement and event structure is "fine as is."

That doesn't mean we're standing still. We'll keep refining the details—better food consistency, clearer route instructions, and more storytelling—without changing the heart of the Trek.

Evolution, not revolution. We'll preserve the camaraderie and adventure that define the Trek while introducing improvements at a pace that feels right.

Why Our Trekkers Are Our Biggest Advocates

The Outback Car Trek achieved a **world-class** Net Promoter Score of 83.1—proof that our community isn't just satisfied, they're passionate ambassadors.

This loyalty drives word-of-mouth growth and strengthens your mission to support the Royal Flying Doctor Service. High NPS means trekkers aren't just satisfied—they're advocates.

Why it matters for your Trek Experience:

- Share your passion for the Trek and inspire others to join the adventure. Every conversation, every connection helps grow our community and amplify the impact for RFDS.
- Small experience upgrades are coming to make the Trek even better for everyone.
- Stay Connected: If something's not right, we'll act quickly to resolve it and maintain the trust that makes this community strong.



"Thank you to every trekker who took the time to share feedback on the Outback Car Trek. Your insights are invaluable and are already helping me shape the future of this event. I'm committed to keeping the spirit of the Trek alive while introducing improvements that matter most to you."

Matthew Tosolini, Head of Motoring Events, RFDS South Eastern Section

Trek Car for Sale? Buyers Are Waiting!

We've had strong interest from participants looking to purchase Trek-ready vehicles—but right now, there aren't enough cars available. If you're thinking about selling your Trek car, now is the perfect time to list it!

The Outback Car Trek community is full of eager buyers who want to hit the road and join the adventure. By sharing your car with us, you'll help keep the spirit of the Trek alive and make it easier for new participants to get involved.

What We Need to Promote Your Car:

To make your listing stand out and connect you with buyers quickly, please provide:

- 3 high-resolution photos (showing different angles and key features)
- Brief description of the car and inclusions (e.g., modifications, gear, extras)
- Seller contact information
- Price
- Location

Once we have these details, we'll feature your car in our network and help you find the right buyer fast.

Ready to sell? Send your details to:

motoringevents@rdfsse.org.au

Why Act Now?

- **Demand is high:** We have multiple buyers actively looking for Trek-ready cars.
- **Supply is low:** Few cars are currently listed, so yours will stand out.
- **Support the community:** Selling your car helps new Trekkers join the adventure and continue raising vital funds for RFDS.





2026 Outback Car Trek Tasmania Awaits!

Get ready for an unforgettable journey! The Outback Car Trek is more than just a drive—it's an experience that combines rugged landscapes, outback roads, and the thrill of exploring one of Australia's most spectacular regions. From the wild beauty of the Loddon Mallee and Wimmera Region to the island state, every kilometre promises something extraordinary.

This trek isn't just about adventure—it's about purpose. Together, we'll raise vital funds for the Royal Flying Doctor Service, ensuring essential healthcare reaches those who need it most. Along the way, you'll enjoy camaraderie, breathtaking scenery, and the satisfaction of making a real difference.

If Tasmania has been on your bucket list, now's the time to tick it off. Entries are open, and spots are filling fast—don't miss your chance to be part of this iconic event!

Entries Now Open – Secure Your Spot!

The Outback Car Trek is one of the most anticipated events of the year, and entries are officially open!

This is your chance to experience Tasmania's rugged beauty, winding mountain roads, and iconic wilderness—all while raising vital funds for the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

By registering today, you'll:

- Guarantee your place in this exclusive event
- Gain access to route details, accommodation options, and event updates
- Join a passionate community of trekkers committed to making a difference

Don't wait—spots are limited, and demand is high. Lock in your entry now and start planning your Tasmanian adventure!

[ENTER TODAY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT - CLICK HERE!](#)

Book the Spirit of Tasmania – Over 60% Full!

Your Tasmanian journey begins with the Spirit of Tasmania, and availability is already over 60% booked.

If you haven't secured your crossing yet, now is the time! Booking early ensures:

- A guaranteed spot for your vehicle and gear
- Flexible sailing options to suit your schedule upon your return from Tasmania
- Discounted rates for Trek participants

Don't risk missing out—spaces are filling fast, and last-minute bookings may not be available.

Reserve your passage today and make your trek stress-free from the start!

[EXCLUSIVE TREK RATE FOR SPIRIT OF TASMANIA - BOOK HERE TO SECURE YOUR SPOT](#)



2026 Updated Forms

To ensure smooth event operations and prioritise participant safety, we've refreshed key forms and support materials. These updates are designed to improve compliance, streamline logistics, and provide better care during our motoring events.

Please review the latest versions and submit any outstanding documents promptly to help us deliver the best experience for everyone.

[Download and Submit Your Updated Forms Today](#)

Updated Indemnity Form – Action Required

We've recently updated the Indemnity Form to ensure compliance and improve event safety.

This form is critical to event logistics and must be completed by all participants before the start of any motoring event.

If you've already entered but haven't submitted your indemnity form, please do so as soon as possible.

Our team will be contacting entrants who have not provided this documentation.

Why it matters: The indemnity form protects both participants and organisers, ensuring everyone understands the event terms and safety requirements.

Download a copy of the form under the 2026 FORMS:

<https://www.outbackcartrek.com.au/newsletters>

IF YOU HAVE ALREADY SUBMITTED THESE FORMS THERE IS NO NEED TO RESUBMIT THEM!

Updated Medical Form – Your Health Matters

Your safety is our top priority. The Medical Form has been updated to capture essential health information that helps us respond quickly in case of an emergency during the event.

Please ensure your completed medical form is submitted promptly. If you've entered but haven't sent it in, expect a follow-up from our team.

Why it matters: Accurate medical details allow our support crew to provide the best care if needed.

Download a copy of the form under the 2026 FORMS:

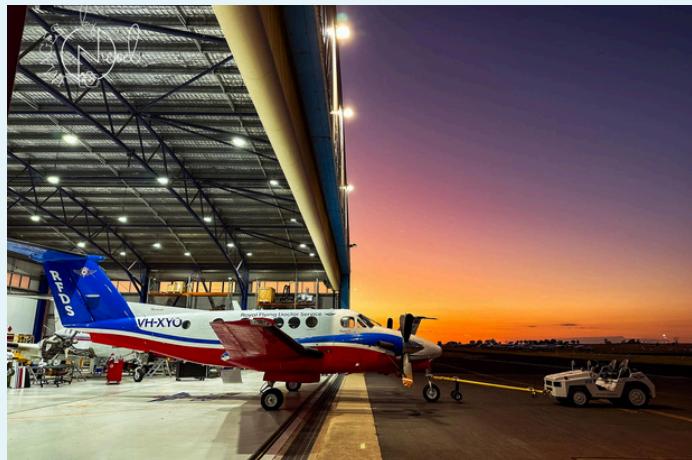
<https://www.outbackcartrek.com.au/newsletters>



Remind Me, where are we going in 2026?

30 May 2026 Albury, NSW

Kick off the Outback Car Trek in style with Cut-a-Rama, a lively fundraising event hosted by Just Cuts at Brady's Family Hotel. Featuring wild haircuts, big laughs, and a great cause, Cut-a-Rama brings together Trekkers and locals to raise vital funds for the Royal Flying Doctor Service. It's the perfect blend of fun, community spirit, and charity — all before the engines start rolling.



31 May 2026 Moama, NSW

The Trek rolls into Moama for Night 2. Dinner is at the Moama RSL, a long-time supporter of the Royal Flying Doctor Service and the Outback Car Trek. Expect a warm country welcome, great food, and a night of celebration with fellow Trekkers. It's the perfect spot to recharge, connect, and keep the fundraising spirit alive.



1 June 2026 Ararat, VIC

Night 3 brings the Trek to the historic Ararat Town Hall, where the local community welcomes Trekkers with open arms. It's a night of connection, celebration, and continued support for the Royal Flying Doctor Service. With great food and country hospitality, Ararat delivers a memorable stop on the road to Launceston.



2 June 2026 Apollo Bay, VIC

After winding through Victoria's countryside, Trekkers arrive at the Apollo Bay Hotel for a well-earned night by the sea. With stunning views and a relaxed coastal atmosphere, it's the perfect spot to unwind and keep the momentum going for the Royal Flying Doctor Service. Expect a night full of stories, laughter, and community spirit.



3 June 2026 Spirit of Tasmania, Bass Strait

Trekkers trade wheels for waves on Night 5, winding through the lush Otway Ranges before boarding the Spirit of Tasmania for an overnight sail across Bass Strait. It's a unique and unforgettable leg of the journey, blending scenic beauty and anticipation as the Trek heads for Tasmania.

Remind Me, where are we going in 2026?



4 June 2026

Hobart, TAS

After crossing Bass Strait, Trekkers arrive in Devonport and begin their journey south through some of Tasmania's most remote and breathtaking wilderness areas. The adventure culminates in Hobart with a night of celebration at the iconic Wrest Point. With stunning waterfront views and warm hospitality, it's a chance to relax, reconnect, and reflect on the journey so far.

5 June 2026

Hobart, TAS

After a big week on the road, Night 7 in Hobart is yours to enjoy. Whether it's dining at a waterfront restaurant, catching up with fellow Trekkers, or simply relaxing, this free choice evening lets you experience Tasmania's capital your way.

6 June 2026

Launceston, TAS

As the Trek nears its final destination, Launceston welcomes Trekkers with classic Tasmanian hospitality. It's a night to celebrate the journey, share stories, and continue raising funds for the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

7 June 2026

Launceston, TAS

The Outback Car Trek wraps up in style with a Gala Dinner in Launceston, marking the end of an incredible adventure. It's a night to celebrate the kilometres travelled, the friendships formed, and the funds raised for the Royal Flying Doctor Service. The final night is a fitting tribute to the spirit of the Trek.



Drive Change with Your Fundraising Efforts

The Outback Car Trek is more than an adventure—it's a mission to support the Royal Flying Doctor Service and help deliver life-saving care to remote communities. Fundraising is a vital part of this journey, and we've made it easy for teams and individual cars to get started through Raisely. Whether you're a Team Captain or a Car Captain, follow the steps below and start making an impact today!

For Teams – How to Set Up Your Fundraising Page

Step 1: Team Captain Registers a Team Page

Create your team's fundraising page on Raisely. This will be the central hub for your team's donations.

Step 2: Share the Team Page with Your Cars

Invite each car in your team to join the page so all fundraising efforts are connected.

Step 3: Share Your Team Page Widely

Promote your team page across social media, email, and your networks. Encourage friends, family, and sponsors to donate.

For Individual Cars – How to Set Up Your Page

Step 1: Car Captain Creates a Page

Set up your car's fundraising page on Raisely to showcase your trek and make it easy for supporters to donate.

Step 2: Share Across Your Network

Spread the word! Share your page link via social media, email, and with your sponsors.

Top Tips for Successful Fundraising

- **Add a Personal Touch:** Share your story—why you're trekking and why RFDS matters to you.
- **Use Photos & Videos:** Visuals make your page more engaging and help donors connect with your journey.
- **Set a Goal:** People love helping you reach a target. Make it visible on your page.
- **Thank Your Donors:** A quick thank-you message goes a long way in building support.
- **Promote Regularly:** Post updates on social media and email your network to keep momentum going.

Click the picture below to go to the Outback Car Trek Raisely Page and get started!

30TH MAY - 7TH JUNE 2026

THE ANNUAL OUTBACK CAR TREK

Join the premier Charity Motoring Event in Australia raising millions for The Royal Flying Doctor Service

REGISTER YOUR CAR / TEAM

SEARCH FOR / JOIN A CAR

\$6,146 raised

\$500,000 goal

Federal Hotel Group - Official Tasmanian Hotel Partner

We're thrilled to announce Federal Hotel Group as the official accommodation partner for the Tasmanian leg of the 2025 Outback Car Trek.

With a rich heritage in Tasmanian hospitality, their premium venues—including MACq 01, The Henry Jones Art Hotel, Wrest Point, and Country Club Tasmania—offer the perfect blend of comfort and quality for our Trekkers.

Preferred Accommodation - Tasmania

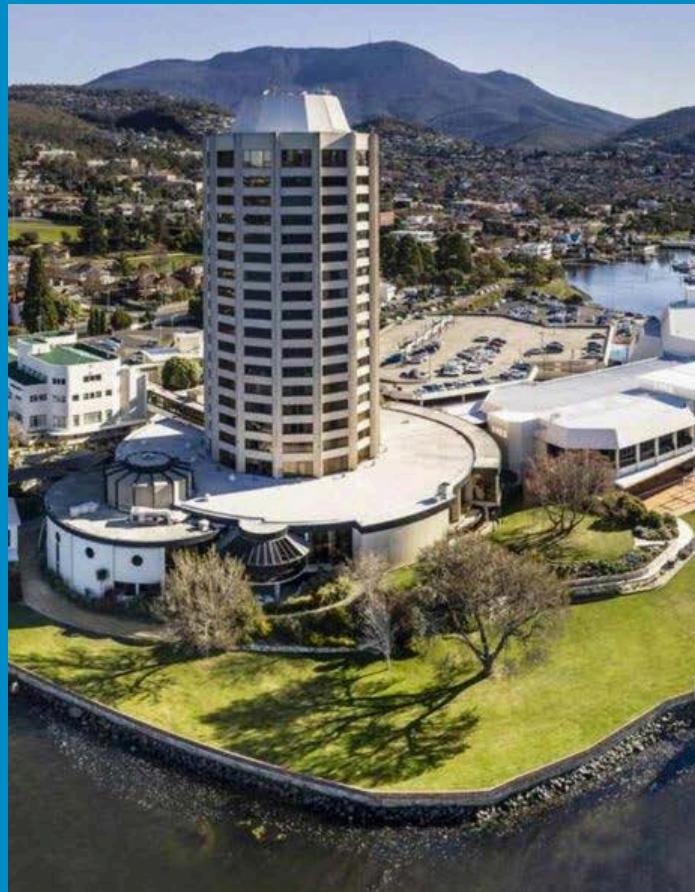
Planning your stay for the Tasmanian leg of the 2025 Outback Car Trek? We're excited to offer exclusive deals at two premium properties: Wrest Point in Hobart and Country Club Tasmania in Launceston.

Both venues provide exceptional comfort, top-class facilities, and a warm welcome for Trekkers—perfect for relaxing after a big day on the road.

Special discounted rates are available for participants:

- Wrest Point, Hobart – [Wrest Point – Book Here](#)
- Country Club Tasmania, Launceston – there are two options available :
 - [Country Club Resort – Book Here](#)
 - [Country Club Villas – Book Here](#)

Take advantage of these exclusive offers and enjoy a seamless stay while supporting the Royal Flying Doctor Service.



Exclusive Trekker Discounts Available Now!

As we gear up for the 2026 Outback Car Trek, please make use of the exclusive discounts secured by the Royal Flying Doctor Service in partnership with key suppliers.

These offers include special accommodation rates and discounted Spirit of Tasmania bookings—helping you plan your journey while supporting those who support the Trek.

Spirit of Tasmania – Exclusive Trekker Fares

We're excited that Spirit of Tasmania is proudly supporting the 2026 Outback Car Trek, offering participants the best available passenger fares for this iconic journey.

To access these exclusive rates, you must book via the dedicated event page: [BOOK YOUR PASSAGE HERE](#)

Important Booking Details:

- Use the Book Now tab at the bottom of the page (not the top-right corner) to access special event fares and secure high vehicle deck space for vehicles over 2.1m.
- You must book your own passage to and from Tasmania.
- Ensure you book the sailing on 3rd June 2026 for the official Trek departure.
- Return passage can be booked for any date that suits your plans.

⚠ Spots are filling fast and may not be available for long—book early to avoid missing out!

Accommodation in Hobart

As part of the 2026 Outback Car Trek's exciting journey through Tasmania, Hobart will be one of our key overnight stops and we've arranged an additional accommodation option to suit a range of preferences. Booking link are below to secure your stay early

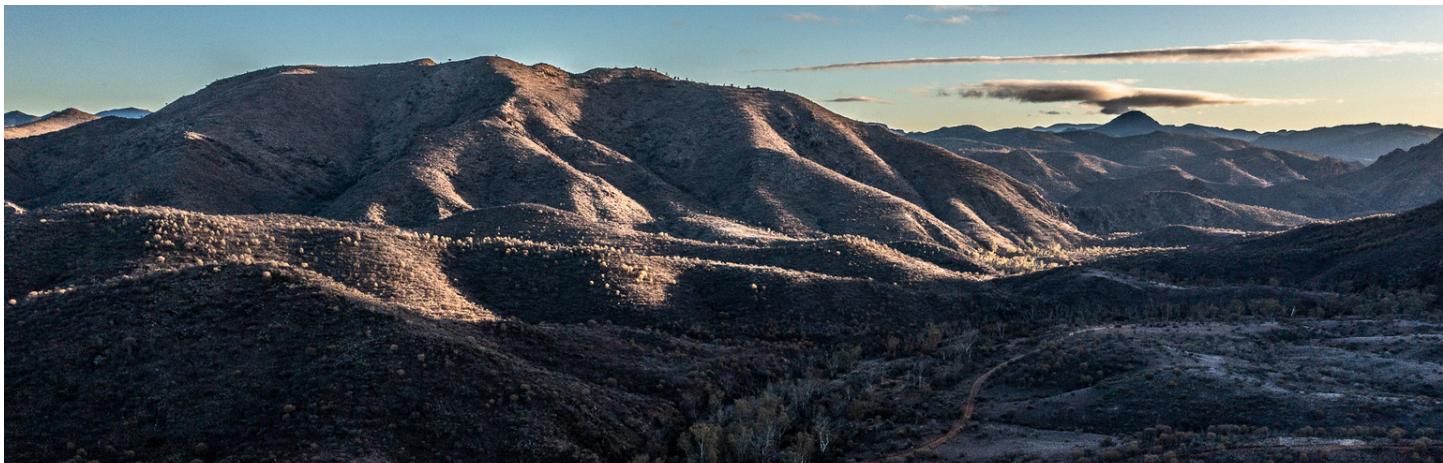
1. **Wrest Point, Hobart** – [Wrest Point – Book Here](#)
2. **Hotel Grand Chancellor** - [Hotel Grand Chancellor Hobart 2026 Trek Exclusive Rates](#)

Accommodation in Launceston

The 2026 Outback Car Trek will conclude in the vibrant city of Launceston, marking a spectacular end to our first-ever Tasmanian adventure. Additional accommodation providers have been secured as per below:

1. **Country Club Tasmania, Launceston** – there are two options available :
 - a. [Country Club Resort – Book Here](#)
 - b. [Country Club Villas – Book Here](#)
2. **Best Western Hobart** - Using **BOOKING CODE: OUTBACK2026** go to [www.bestwesternhotellaunceston.com.au](#)
3. **Mecure Launceston** - [www.mercurelaunceston.com.au](#) - Contact the property directly and mention "**Royal Flying Doctors Outback Car Trek**"
4. **Peppers Hotel** - Using **BOOKING CODE: CARTREK0626** go to [Hotels in Launceston TAS 7250, Australia · ALL - Accor Live Limitless](#)





Discover the Best of Tasmania



The adventure doesn't end when the engines cool down! After the final leg of the Outback Car Trek in Tasmania, we're thrilled to announce a special partnership with Tourism Tasmania to help Trekkers make the most of their time on the island.

From Hobart's vibrant waterfront to the rugged beauty of the north, Tasmania is packed with unforgettable experiences—think world-class food and wine, dramatic coastlines, alpine landscapes, and rich cultural heritage. Through our partnership, Trekkers will enjoy exclusive local recommendations and curated experiences showcasing the very best of Tassie.

Tip: Download the Discover Tasmania app, the state's official travel planner. It's your go-to for maps, accommodation, attractions, dining, and touring routes—plus offline access and the ability to save personalized itineraries for post-event adventures.

Launceston & Northern Tasmania – A Taste of Heritage and Adventure

Northern Tasmania is a treasure trove of history, food, and natural beauty. Start in Launceston, a vibrant city known for its heritage architecture and the stunning Cataract Gorge Reserve, where you can walk, swim, or take the chairlift for panoramic views.

Wine lovers will adore the Tamar Valley Wine Route, home to some of Australia's best cool-climate wines. For a dose of adventure, explore Narawntapu National Park, often called the "Serengeti of Tasmania" for its abundant wildlife.

Must-Do: Sample local produce at Launceston's Saturday Harvest Market and take a scenic drive through the Tamar Valley.

East Coast Tasmania – Beaches, Wine & Coastal Wonders

The East Coast is all about pristine beaches and turquoise waters. Relax on the white sands of Wineglass Bay in Freycinet National Park, one of the world's most photographed beaches.

Explore the Bay of Fires, famous for its orange-lichen-covered rocks and crystal-clear waters, perfect for beach walks and kayaking. Pair your coastal adventure with a visit to local vineyards for award-winning wines and fresh seafood.

Must-Do: Drive the Great Eastern Drive for stunning coastal scenery and stop at seaside towns like Bicheno and Swansea

North West Tasmania – Wild Coastlines & Iconic Peaks

The North West is where rugged wilderness meets coastal charm. Discover Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park, part of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area, and hike the famous Dove Lake Circuit for breathtaking alpine scenery.

Along the coast, visit Stanley and climb The Nut, a striking volcanic plug with sweeping views of Bass Strait. Foodies can indulge in farm-fresh produce and artisan cheeses along the Cradle to Coast Tasting Trail.

Must-Do: Take in the sunset at Boat Harbour Beach—one of Tasmania's most beautiful stretches of sand.



Royal Flying Doctor Service
SOUTH EASTERN SECTION



A photograph of a long, narrow wooden bridge stretching into the distance. The bridge is made of weathered wooden planks and has a white metal railing. It crosses a dry, brown riverbed. To the left of the bridge, a white rectangular sign on a metal post stands on a grassy bank. The sign has two lines of text: "SNOWY RIVER" on the top line and "TRAVEL SLOWLY ON BRIDGE" on the bottom line. The background features a large, green, forested hillside under a blue sky with scattered white clouds.

SNOWY
RIVER
TRAVEL
SLOWLY
ON
BRIDGE

If you have any articles, enquires, feedback or stories to share,
please contact us at motoringevevents@rdfsse.org.au