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## **THE OUTBACK CAR TREK**

*proudly raising funds for The Royal Flying Doctor Service*

# **2023 Outback Car Trek Overnight Towns**

## **Sorry for the delay, but here is the good news**

At long last we can release the 2023 Trek route.

The hangover of COVID is continuing to create issues and challenges right across the country, and WA has been especially hard hit and therefore it has been difficult to lock towns in. Many towns, venues and organisations have been reluctant to commit, and staff shortages were high in everyone's mind.

Part of our goal this year was to bring a specific uniqueness to the Trek route, as well as trying to keep us in the warmest climates possible.

We have achieved the uniqueness of route we were looking for - in 2023 we will be staying in 9 towns the Trek has not ever overnighted in before - Geraldton, Kalbarri, Denham, Carnarvon, Onslow, Port Hedland, Mt Elizabeth Station, Kununurra and Katherine.

As far as trying to keep north and warm - once we arrive at Denham on Day 2, we will be above the 24th parallel for the rest of the Trek.

Below are the dates and overnight towns for Trek 2023 and in the majority of cases (all except 2 nights) each town has plenty of accommodation, but be aware that we will be travelling at the beginning of their high season, and we are competing with the grey army for rooms. Please note the couple of comments regarding accommodation in Port Hedland WA, and Katherine NT. Also note: NO CAMPING has been pre-booked or arranged in any of the towns except for Mt Elizabeth Station and Katherine (refer to the note regarding Katherine below). People wishing to camp in other locations will need to make their own arrangements.

We have been talking to CEVA about cars to Perth (they will not take cars through to Geraldton) and back from Darwin. They are not interested in taking cars to or from Broome, and we do have conversations underway with other suppliers. If anybody has any contacts, or ideas, regarding car transport please let me know. This all takes time, and we need to get the ball rolling before Christmas.

### **The Route:**

For the first week we will leapfrog up the coast from Geraldton to Broome, and the second week we will use the Gibb River Road to travel west to east, on our way to Darwin

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**Tuesday 30th May 2023** - meet at Geraldton for registrations and the World Famous Just Cuts Cut-A-Rama, at the Murchison Tavern in the heart of the CBD.

**Wednesday 31st May 2023** - Geraldton to Kalbarri

**Thursday 1st June 2023** - Kalbarri to Denham (Shark Bay)

**Friday 2nd June** - Denham to Carnarvon

**Saturday 3rd June** - Carnarvon to Onslow

**Sunday 4th June** - Onslow to Port Hedland *(N.B. in Port Hedland we have arranged accommodation for 250 people in a modern mining village in the township - dinner, bed and breakfast will be here, but feel free to make your own arrangements if you prefer, simply let me know on your entry form)*

**Monday 5th June** - Port Hedland to Broome

**Tuesday 6th June** - Broome lay day

**Wednesday 7th June** - Broome to Mt Elizabeth Station

**Thursday 8th June** - MTE to Kununurra

**Friday 9th June** - Kununurra to Top Springs

**Saturday 10th June** - Top Springs to Katherine *(N.B. in Katherine we have reserved a large quantity of rooms, and camping, at the Knotts Crossing Resort and if we have an overflow they also have a second property in Katherine. To make a reservation log into their Website - [www.knotscrossing.com.au](http://www.knotscrossing.com.au) Then enter Promotional/Group Code – OCT0623. Rooms & Rates will appear – place your booking and make payment)*

**Sunday 11th June** - Katherine to Darwin. The final night dinner will be at the Darwin Casino, and buses will be provided to sweep the CBD to get you to & from the Casino.

Entry Forms will be put up on the website before 9th December.