Canning Stock Route Tours

Canning Stock Route Tours from Broome, Darwin, Kununurra, Halls Creek, Perth



Our **Canning Stock Route Tours** travel the original Canning Stock Route created by Albert Canning in 1908 for Kimberley cattlemen to take their stock to the southern markets. The route includes 51 wells and stretches 2,013 kilometres from **Halls Creek to Wiluna in Western Australia.** The **Canning Stock Route** now forms one of the most remote and challenging four wheel drive tracks in the world…. Our route takes us via awesome desert landscapes as we travel via the **Great Sandy Desert, Tanami and Gibson Deserts** through **gibbers, sandhills, ancient ranges** and **salt lakes**

Our journey includes Fitzroy Crossing, Halls Creek, Billilluna Aboriginal Community, Lake Gregory region (bird watchers paradise), Paraku Indigenous Protected Area, Wardabunni Rockhole, Durba Springs, Diebel Springs, Onegunyah Rockhole, Lake Disappointment, Helen Hill, Slate Range, Ural Native Title Well, Glen Ayle Station, then the rich mineral & Gold rush areas around Wiluna and Newman.



Tour includes **Toyota Landcruiser GXL 100 vehicles** (max. 4 persons per vehicle in convoy) , 4 **nights motel accommodation** (Halls Creek, **Kunawarritji Aboriginal Community**, Wiluna, and Newman), all meals, fees, permits, professional 4WD driver guides, delicious healthy meals, comfortable most modern camping gear supplied including full height easy up tents, stretchers if required, comfortable mattresses or swags if preferred, linen and pillow cases, showers & real toilet.

Alice Springs or Broome departures are same departure dates, with return options – **please ask**.

Ask about Broome to Newman or Broome. Broome to Newman WA (to fly to Perth) or return to Broome via Marble Bar. Our journey from Broome includes Fitzroy Crossing, Halls Creek, Billilluna Aboriginal Community, Lake Gregory (bird watchers paradise), Paraku Indigenous Protected Area, Kunawarritji Aboriginal Community, Wardabunni Rockhole, Durba Springs, Diebel Springs, Onegunyah Rockhole, Lake Disappointment, Helen Hill, Slate Range, Ural Native Title Well, Glen Ayle Station, then the rich mineral & Gold rush areas around Wiluna and Newman.

Canning Stock Route Tours

Join us commencing on one of these options ….

2027 Canning Stock Route Tours – 22 days - Book Now

- **August 10-31, 2027 –** Canning Stock Route Tours 2027 – From **Broome to Wiluna** (then fly to **Perth or Broome** options) or **Newman** option
- **August 10-31 2027 –** Canning Stock Route Tours 2027 – From **Broome to Alice Springs**
- **August 10-31, 2027 –** Canning Stock Route Tours 2027 – From **Alice Springs to Alice Springs** return, via **Tanami Track, Gunbarrel Highway**, Giles, Warburton, Uluru to Alice Springs

Call 1300 763 188 or 0417 244 600

Note **Alice Springs departures** meet Broome departures near Balgo / Lake Gregory after travelling from Alice Springs via Tanami Track, Tillmouth Well and Rabbit Flat. Both tours travel together and overnight at Canning SR end at Wiluna and visit Well 2. **Alice Springs tour returns** on Gunbarrel Highway (created by Len Beadell) via Carnegie Station, Everard Junction, Warburton (great Aboriginal art work), Giles Weather Station, Schwerin Mural Crescent, Docker River, Uluru, Alice Springs. Overnights Carnegie Station (or Gunbarrel camp), Len Beadell camp near Mt Beadell on Gunbarrel Highway, Warburton, Yulara (fly out option), Alice Springs (arrive mid/ late afternoon, own accommodation arrangements)



Canning Stock Route Tours

Canning Stock Route Tours – Combined itinerary from Broome and Alice Springs

Day 0 – For Broome start. - Meet at our groups pre-arranged accommodation at 630 pm. Prior to meeting enjoy your leisure time in Broome during the day and join us for a debriefing and group dinner that evening and a good nights rest before the big adventure.

Day 1: If **Alice Springs departure** - 7 am: depart from Alice Springs via the Tanami Track, 2 hours to Tilmouth Well Roadhouse for an optional late breakfast, snack, and coffee, and refuel, and then another hour and a bit up to Yuendumu community of approx. 900 people. Here is where the TV series Bush Mechanics originated, and we visit the world famous Warlukurlangu Artists Centre to see artists at work. Overnight camp on the Tanami Track near Rabbit Flat - now abandoned.



If Broome departure Day 1 – Depart via the vast savannah grasslands, majestic Boab trees and powerful mountains of the Western Kimberley crossing the Fitzroy River near Willare. Travelling on we stop at a giant boab tree over a thousand years old, and appreciate more of the uniqueness of these trees. We travel via the Erskine Ranges to historic Fitzroy Crossing where we have time to visit the local Aboriginal Art centre and purchase art if desired. We travel adjacent the Napier Range, the ancient Devonian era limestone reef that was formed 350 million years ago by coral like creates, when this area was under seawater. Travel on viewing ancient mesas and stopping at scenic Ngumban Cliff lookout, and later Marys Pool, popular with many native birds, and crocodiles. Broome group arrive **Halls Creek Hotel** for overnight. B, L, D

Broome departure Day 2 – Leaving Halls Creek we take the **Tanami Track** road south toward Alice Springs and Wolf Creek Crate. Overnight Wolf Creek Crater. Meet group from Alice Springs.

Alice Springs departure Day 2 - pack up camp and further travel up the Tanami Track, passing the turnoff to Balgo and Billiluna where the Canning Stock Route commences. We travel another 67 km to Wolf Creek crater for a look at the crater this afternoon. Overnight Wolf Creek Crater



Day 3 – Group combined



We travel south via Ruby Plains, and vast cattle station still owned and operated by S. Kidman & Co the pioneering pastoralist who ruled the cattle country of the late 1800 & 1900s. Refuel at Billilluna, or alternatively Balgo for the start of the Canning Stock route. From here we pass by waterholes of Lake Gregory area (bird watchers paradise) by Paraku Indigenous Protected Area.

Canning Stock Route Tours





Paruku is the Walmajarri name for Lake Gregory. Paruku/Lake Gregory is the only lake in the region with a reliable source of fresh water for large numbers of birds and other animals, supporting over 70 species of waterbirds and 175 aquatic species. Surrounded by hundreds of kilometres of arid desert lands, these wetland oases are fed from a catchment in the south-east Kimberley region. More than 100,000 birds visit the wetlands regularly, with up to 60,000 estimated at Mulan Lake at any one time.

Paruku IPA encompasses a variety of desert and semi-desert landscapes undulating red sand plains, salt pans and occasional dunes with stunted eucalyptus. It is dotted with acacias and spinifex, flood plains with swathes of short grasses and low shrubs, and alluvial plains and sand rises.

We are leaving civilization now and well and truly on the Canning Stock Route. Visit Bloodwood Bore and Wells 51 and 50. Overnight camp at the restored **Well 49, the Crystal Well.**



Day 4 – On the track again we explore Breaden Pool and Godfrey's tank (if access permitted) – named in 1896 after members of David Carnegie's expedition. We stop at Wells 48 and 47 then it's into the sand dunes with their unique vegetation and wildlife to arrive at restored Well 46 for overnight.

Day 5 - We are now in the **Great Sandy Desert** and check out Wells 45 & 44, and take a break at Gravity Lakes. Onward before arrival at Well 41, known by the locals as 'Tiru'. This was a popular resting spot for the drovers due to good feed here for their cattle. **Overnight Well 41**

Day 6 - We head south to cross Lake Tobin then to Well 39, where lots of water here attracts abundant bird life including budgerigars. We arrive at Well 37, where lay the graves of 3 early drovers who died under mysterious circumstances. We learn more of the mystery and their fate at the site, and numerous other stories of early pioneers. **Wardabunni Rockhole** & Well 38. From Well 43 we head over the Guli Lake System and enjoy a stop amongst the trees near Helena Springs track Overnight Well 37 or 36

Canning Stock Route Tours

Day 7 - Travelling on we visit Well 33 then overnight in comfortable and modern style rooms at the **Kunawarritji Aboriginal Community.** Here we have abundant water and a chance to catch up on personal laundry and supplies.



Well 33 on the Canning Stock Route

Day 8 – At Kunawarritji Aboriginal Community and store we can do personal shopping and restock some essential supplies & fuel. These remote communities are always fascinating insights into remote desert life. Onwards we visit Wells 32, 31 and 30 (known as Duna Jinnda). After lunch we travel to Thring Rock, a sandstone outcrop with a lookout we climb for a great view of the landscape, before our overnight camp nearby. Overnight **Well 30**

Day 9 - More sand dunes today on the way to the spectacular view of Thring Rock, a large rock outcrop on a clay pan before Well 29, then the rebuilt Tiwa Well 26 with good drinking water for **Overnight well 26** the night .

Day 10 - We take a break here and stock up with water, then travel to shady Well 25 for Morning tea under the Desert Oaks before arrival at Well 24. We are now also on part of the Talawana Track, which is a direct route to Newman. We see the **Capricorn Roadhouse Fuel dump** where many Canning trekkers still arrange fuel drops from Newman. Travel on to **Georgia Bore,** which was sunk in the 1970's by CRA survey crews. **Overnight George Bore**

Day 11 - Lake Disappointment is a large salt lake and on our route today. Named by explorer Frank Hann after he was expecting to find a freshwater lake. We travel several kilometres by the shores of Lake Disappointment to Savory Creek crossing (or diversion crossing depending on water levels) and Well 19. Time permitting, we visit Onegunyah Rock Hole before overnight camp at Well 18

Day 12 & 13 – At majestic Durba Springs we spend 2 nights in this restful shaded and well watered area.



Durba Springs is known as 'Jilikuru' by the local Martu people, who made this area their home. Elaborate Aboriginal rock art sites are here, and we walk through the Durba Hills area viewing these rock art galleries. Enjoy lunch back at camp and a relaxing easy afternoon as the drovers and cattle did in the good old days.

Day 14 – We leave this little haven and head for Well 16 with its challenging history then the lookout at Well 15 enables a wider view of this incredible landscape. Wells 14 and 13 are visited, then the restored Well 12 with good drinking water for **overnight Well 12**

Day 15 – Now on to wells 11 (a large soak known as Goodwin soak) & 10 and MacConkey Hill. Today takes us to Weld Springs (Well 9) and the edge of Glen-Ayle Station, where WA's first premier John Forrest built a fort in 1874 to defend against Aborigines. We travel off the CSR here to our overnight camp at a break in the mountain range Known as Sydney Heads

Canning Stock Route Tours

Day 16 – An easy ride into town on a gravel road and part of the Gun Barrel Highway to arrive Wiluna for accommodation, stocking up refuelling and overnight. We visit the Wiluna Discovery Centre Located in the old hospital building it has information and displays plus history & exhibits showcasing Wiluna's gold rush past, local desert survival skills, wildlife and regional heritage. Also the Tjukurba Art Gallery featuring local Martu and Birriliburu Aboriginal art, paintings, and crafts available for purchase. - From Wiluna we visit Well 1 on the southern end of the Canning Stock Route.



Day 17 - **Alice Springs tour returns** on Gunbarrel Highway (created by Len Beadell) via Carnegie Station, Everard Junction, Warburton (great Aboriginal art work), Giles Weather Station, Schwerin Mural Crescent, Docker River, Uluru, Alice Springs. Day 17: **overnights at Carnegie Cattle Station** at the edge of the formed road on the Gunbarrel Highway.

Day 18 - We are now on Len Beadell's famous Gun Barrel Highway, heading east. Stop for a morning tea at a high vantage point and find our overnight camp at **Mount Everard for overnight.**



Day – 19 - the Gun Barrel is not as straight as it sounds and is fairly slow but quite scenic. We have the opportunity to visit Mount Beadell and the monument left there in Len's honour: a true pioneer and Australia's last great explorer who built the most remote roads in Australia with the Gun Barrel construction party in the 1950s and early 1960s for the rocket testing programs from Woomera. Today we travel on the Heather Highway and join the Great Central Road to travel into Warburton and a comfy bed and hot shower for overnight.

Day 20 - Warburton is home to Tjulyuru Regional Arts Gallery which draws from contemporary art practice in the region and the Warburton Art Collection - reputably the world's largest collection of community-controlled Aboriginal art. From here, we travel through picturesque scenery past a Len Beadell marked tree, the Schwerin Mural Crescent and the Petermann Ranges to Warakurna made famous by the Australian music band Midnight Oil's songs of the region. We also visit the Giles Weather Station, where a museum provides good information about the area. We may see the launching of the

Canning Stock Route Tours

weather balloon, which happens twice a day, and Len Beadell's road grader is exhibited here. Traveling on, we overnight at Kaltukatjara Campground Near Docker River community



Day 21 - today's travels are through Sandhill Country and picturesque Desert Oaks. We then enter the Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park with a visit to Kata Tjuta and make a base at Yulara for the night. Optionally, you can take a visit to Uluru or just enjoy the atmosphere of this popular place. Alternatively, you may wish to take flights out of Ayers Rock Airport or continue with us to Alice Springs. **Overnight camp at Yulara.**

Day 22 - The road to Alice Springs is all sealed, and we travel via Curtin Springs, with a stop at Mount Conner lookout and Erldunda Roadhouse, to arrive approximately 6 hours later at Alice Springs for completion of the journey. Join us for dinner at a local venue to celebrate your amazing journey. Arrive approximately 5 pm. **Accommodation own arrangements**

Includes -

- Genuine small group travel – Maximum 12 in convoy Toyota Landcruiser vehicles
- All delicious meals on tour, including breakfasts, lunches and dinners
- Special diets catered
- 3-4 nights hotel / motel accommodation
- Easy camping with comfortable, modern, user friendly equipment including full height Easy Up tents (no centre pole), stretchers if required, mattresses, linen and pillowcase.
- Hot showers and real toilet
- Professional Driver / Guides
- Satellite phone connection to the world, Emergency services / Flying Doctor if required
- 2-way UHF radio allows communication and sharing between vehicles
- Personal refrigeration for limited supplies of alcohol and medications
- Aboriginal Art purchase opportunities direct from source
- 240 Volt and 6 Volt USB charging for cameras and phones

Excludes -

- Flights to and from departure points
- Alcohol

Call Now to book or use the Booking Form supplied or Book Online

Call 1300 763 188 or 0417 244 600

Canning Stock Route Tours

If returning to Broome - note: this may not be available.

Travel to the BHP mining town of Newman and check into our welcome hotel after lunch. You can explore Newman or just catch up with all those photos at your leisure. Group dinner this evening in Newman.

Day 17 – Today you have time for an optional morning tour of the monster BHP Mt Whaleback mine. Our CSR Tour ends at 10 am after breakfast and for those flying we will transfer you to Newman airport for your flight to Perth.

Alternatively if travelling back to Broome with us we depart after the mine tour and lunch. We travel through spectacular mineral rich Pilbara country, via Roy Hill, the new Gina Reinhart Iron Ore mine, visit the famous and impressive rock formation that is the Marble Bar then overnight in accommodation in Marble Bar township.

Optional Day 18 – Visit the old Comet Mine before we travel mineral rich mining and Mesa areas of Shay Gap, before we cross the mighty De Grey River. Enjoy lunch at spectacular 80 Mile Beach, then a stop at Sandfire to arrive Broome late afternoon. BL

If returning to Broome - Marble Bar option - Add return to Broome 2 days including extra 1 night accommodation (optional **BHP Whaleback mine tour** available - $45) plus sightseeing **Roy Hill Mine** (Gina Reinhart's)**, Shay Gap**, **Marble Bar & 80 Mile Beach** - Add $ 680.

Book Now on 1300 763 188 or 0417 244 600

Thank you

Richard O'Neill
Managing Director

Call Now to book or use the Booking Form supplied or Book Online

Call 1300 763 188 or 0417 244 600

Spirit Safaris **-** team@spiritsafaris.com **Tel: 1300 763 188** or **0417 244 600** www.spiritsafaris.com

83 Campbell Street Surry Hills NSW 2010 PO Box 488 Neutral Bay NSW 2089 Australia
Excelink International P/L ABN 24002623814 t/a Spirit Safaris Accreditation No 33224 Insurer QBE Insurance Ltd