

Outback National Parks

Drives



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TAKE A DRIVE THROUGH OUTBACK NSW

The vast NSW outback covers 527,648 km² (about 7% of Australia). To help you gain the best possible visitor experience, we have grouped together towns, National Parks, attractions, experiences, etc into regions of outback NSW.

- **Corner Country**
- **Upper Darling - Cobar – Bogan**
- **Central Darling - Broken Hill**
- **Lower Darling – Murrumbidgee**

OUTBACK TOURING - UPPER DARLING

LIGHTNING RIDGE

**Walgett <> Lightning Ridge <> Grawin
Opal Fields <> Brewarrina**

This side-trip from the Darling River Run will take you to the iconic – and nicely eccentric – Australian opal mining town of Lightning Ridge. You might want to try your hand at finding the elusive black opal. If luck isn't going your way, there's art galleries to explore, or simply take in the experiences of a mining town, a place where much of even the non-mining activity happens underground. It's an easy drive to and from Walgett, or as an alternative meander via Cumborah to Brewarrina.

GUNDABOOKA NATIONAL PARK

**Bourke <> Gundabooka NP <> Louth
or Bourke**

Mt Gundabooka (500m) lies within the magnificent rust coloured cliffs and gorges of the Gunderbooka Range - a region with great significance to the Ngiyampaa people for ceremonial gatherings and significant rock art. Gundabooka National Park is idea for hiking and birdwatching and a small camping area is accessible by car. A new day-use area with barbecues, toilets and picnic area has opened at Bennetts Gorge.

OUTBACK TOURING - CENTRAL DARLING

BROKEN HILL LOOP

**Wentworth <> Broken Hill <> Menindee
<> Kinchega NP <> Pooncarie <> Mungo
and Mutawintji NP**

This drive leads you through Broken Hill and on to a grand tour of the lower Darling, taking in Wentworth, Broken Hill, the town and lake of Menindee, Kinchega National Park and Pooncarie, with side loops to Mungo and Mutawintji National Park. The main centre of outback NSW, Broken Hill, has many great attractions, cafes, restaurants, galleries, fascinating architecture, and rich outback history.

The magnificent Menindee Lake a huge attraction for visitors and for local bird and animal life. Maybe camp a night at Kinchega, then from Menindee, rejoin the Darling River Run with Wilcannia upstream and the historic Pooncarie downstream.

OPAL MINER'S WAY

Wilcannia <> White Cliffs

A short side-trip along the sealed Opal Miner's Way will take you to White Cliffs from Wilcannia in a little over an hour. White Cliffs is a premier outback NSW destination, and a wonderful 92 km drive along the sealed Opal Miner's Way from Wilcannia will bring you right to this unique place.

An alternate route to/from Broken Hill on a dry weather road is via Mutawintji National Park and Mutawintji Historic Site.

Broken Hill <> Mutawintji NP

An excellent drive from Broken Hill north along the Silver City Highway (about 55 km) then eastward on an unsealed road to Mutawintji National Park. This park is a special place for the living culture and spirituality of indigenous Australians. The Mutawintji Historic Site has an extensive history as an Aboriginal ceremonial place for groups from the immediate and surrounding country and features amazing rock art which is accessible only through guided tours.

**MUTAWINTJI NP –
OPAL MINER'S WAY LOOP**

**Broken Hill <> Mutawintji NP <> White
Cliffs <> Wilcannia**

A short side-trip along the sealed Opal Miner's Way will take you to White Cliffs from Wilcannia in a little over an hour. White Cliffs is a premier outback NSW destination, and a 92 km drive along the sealed Opal Miner's Way from Wilcannia will bring you right to this unique place.

You could take the road less travelled and meander back to Broken Hill via Mutawintji National Park and Mutawintji Historic Site.



OUTBACK TOURING - LOWER DARLING

PERRY SAND HILLS

<> Wentworth <>

The awesome Perry Sand Hills are found just outside of Wentworth. They're a unique land formation, over 160 ha of continuously shifting sand dunes, the result of an ancient ice age and many thousands of years of wind erosion. Visit Pioneer Museum in Wentworth to learn about the mega-fauna that once inhabited the area, and its Aboriginal heritage. Today, the hills are a premier visitor attraction and are used as a backdrop for filming, as well as for the Music Under the Stars festival in March.

MUNGO NP

Wentworth <> Mungo NP <> Pooncarie <> Menindee <> Kinchega NP

Mungo National Park is a remarkable place, its international significance recognised with World Heritage listing. It's where you'll find the Walls of China, an icon not only for the sheer beauty of dramatic formations but also for the amazing spiritual significance of the area. Mungo has evidence of continual human habitation over 40,000 years, and is one of the world's most significant anthropological and archaeological sites. Around 110km from Wentworth on a dry weather road. A loop to visit Broken Hill can be incorporated.

OUTBACK TOURING - CORNER COUNTRY

CORNER COUNTRY LOOP

Broken Hill <> Milparinka <> Tibooburra <> Sturt NP <> Wanaaring <> Bourke

The largest loop off the Darling River Run, Corner Country lets you explore the western-most part of the NSW outback. Bordered by the dingo fence, this region covers an amazing diversity of landscapes a huge contrast to the grey-soil plains of the river country. Ephemeral creeks and lakes are interspersed amongst the Barrier and Grey Ranges and sand dunes of the Simpson-Strzelecki Dunefields, as sandstone mesas rise from ancient seabeds.

