

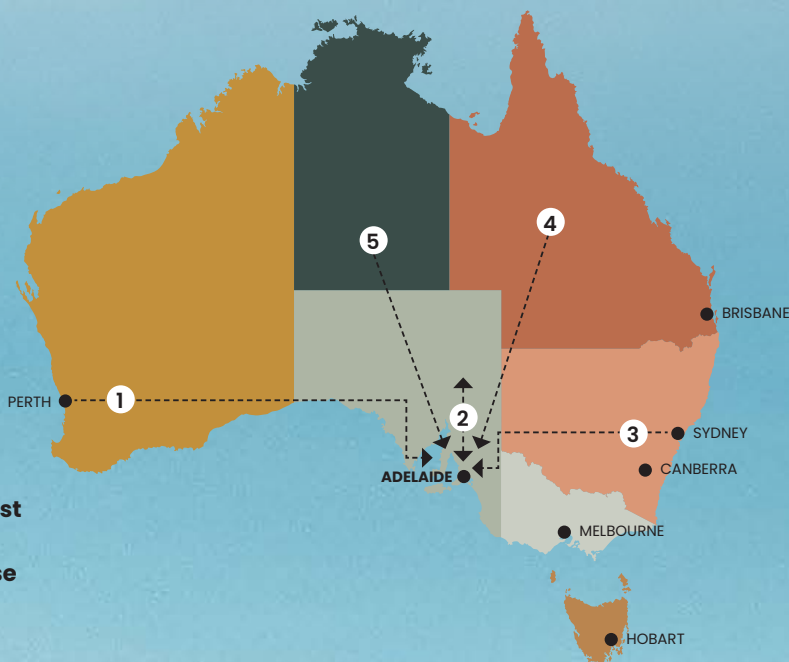
TOURS

Pre-Congress Tours

Five exciting Pre-Congress tours have been scoped with detailed itineraries developed and indicative costings provided. These will commence in different parts of Australia and end up in Adelaide, as well as an Adelaide to Adelaide Pre-Congress tour.

Tours will vary in length from 4 to 10 days. Some tours will commence with a full-day Forum engaging local communities. There will be a minimum number of delegates required for each tour before they can be confirmed.

Tour numbers are limited so please register your interest in pre-Congress tours via the [Expression of Interest Portal](#) by April 30, 2024. Preference will be given to those who submit an Expression of Interest by this date.



1 Perth to Adelaide: Woodlands, Shrublands and Wine

This 8-day tour (24 to 31 May) will cover 2,900 km by road. From Perth on the Indian Ocean coast, the capital of the state of Western Australia, the tour will travel 600 km through extensive dryland agricultural areas and the Great Western Woodlands before reaching Kalgoorlie. After a day in Kalgoorlie learning about environmental management and mining in the area, the tour will head east for 1,350 km along the Eyre Highway across the vast semi-arid Nullarbor Plain, skirting the Great Australian Bight, with overnight stops at motels and a cattle station along the way. We will visit the [Aboriginal Arts and Culture Centre](#) in Ceduna before travelling 470 km to Port Augusta, visiting a sheep station and a conservation reserve en route. From there, the tour will travel south for 380 km through rich agricultural lands pausing for a visit to the wine making district of the Barossa Valley before reaching Adelaide, the capital of South Australia, and host city for the XIth IRC.

The indicative cost for the tour is \$3,300 AUD inclusive of all transport, accommodation and meals. The coach will have space for 40 people, and for the tour to proceed, there will need to be at least 20 people to register.

2 Adelaide to Adelaide: Flinders Ranges and multiple land use tour

This 5-day tour (21 to 31 May) will cover 1,400 km visiting the picturesque Flinders Ranges and semi-arid region of South Australia.

From Adelaide, the capital of South Australia and host city for the XIth IRC, the trip will meander through the productive farming lands of the mid north, into the semi arid grazing lands onto the rugged Flinders ranges and Wilpena Pound.

Whilst in the Flinders Ranges, guests will share in Aboriginal cultural experiences and learn about the landscape and biodiversity from the perspective of the Adnyamathanha people and the modern history from the early days of pastoralism through to the re-introduction of threatened native animals. Then it is onto Port Augusta, the crossroads of Australia, where delegates will visit alternative land uses in the arid zone including renewable energy, modern horticultural industries, and future green hydrogen industries. The tour will then return through rich agricultural lands before pausing for a visit to the historic wine making district of the Barossa Valley and then onto Adelaide.

The indicative cost is \$2,500 AUD inclusive of all transport, accommodation and meals. The coach will have space for 30 people, with a minimum of 20 people for the tour to proceed.

3 Sydney to Adelaide: NSW and SA rangelands

This six-day tour (26–31 May) will cover 1900 km, travelling from Sydney to Adelaide. After passing over the Great Dividing Range, with a stop in the Blue Mountains, After a stay in Orange, we will pass through dryland farming areas, before arriving in Cobar in the semi-arid woodlands, 700 km west of Sydney. Around Cobar we will visit local pastoralists, managing invasive herbivores and woody plants, staying in Broken Hill) for two nights. Near Broken Hill we will visit the Fowlers Gap Arid Zone Research Station and experience the thriving art and movie scene (home of the Mad Max movies) in the town. From there, we travel 300 km south to Mildura and board an historic paddle boat to hear about the Murray–Darling River system and the history of irrigated agriculture in the rangelands. We Will then enter South Australia, staying at a conservation property; Calperum Station with stargazing and spotlighting for nocturnal animals. The final day of the tour stops in the historic wine making district of the Barossa Valley, with a range of options for wine tours and lunch. After that, it is a short trip into Adelaide, the capital of South Australia, and host city for the XIIth IRC.

The indicative cost for the tour is \$2,500 AUD inclusive of all transport, accommodation, and meals. The coach will have space for 30 people, with a minimum of 20 people for the tour to proceed.

4 Longreach to Adelaide: Damper, dinosaurs and desert

This 9-day tour (22–31 May) will cover 2,500 km travelling from Longreach, Queensland, to Adelaide. The tour will drive through three of Australia's major deserts; the Simpson Desert, Sturt's Stony Desert, and the Strzelecki Desert. The tour will start with a welcoming 'Taste of Longreach', including a brief tour of the Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame, a sunset cruise, rail experience and a damper dinner on the banks of the Thomson River. The next day will start with a half-day rangeland forum with local pastoralists in the Qantas Founders Museum before enjoying a sunset dinner atop the mesas of the Australian Age of Dinosaurs Museum at Winton. The tour will continue on to Boulia for a meal with local pastoralists, the opportunity to experience the Min-Min Centre (and to discuss the possible origins of this mysterious glow), taking in key elements of the famed Channel Country. The deserts, organic beef production and indigenous culture of Birdsville will be a highlight before adventuring further into the arid landscapes of Innamincka. The fate of the early European explorers Burke and Wills can be witnessed at the 'Dig Tree', before continuing south to the Flinders Ranges and into the winter rainfall sheep pastoral zones. The tour will join with the other groups at Port Augusta for dinner at the Arid Zone Botanical Gardens and finish by touring through premium wine vineyards enroute to Adelaide.

Minimum 18 passengers and maximum 30 people. The indicative cost for the tour is \$6,390 AUD (per person twin share) or \$7260 AUD (single), inclusive of all transport, accommodation, and meals.

5 Alice Springs to Adelaide: Visiting Uluru and the northern SA rangelands

This 10-day tour (21–31 May) will cover 3,200 km from Australia's Red Centre to the South Australian coast. Starting at Alice Springs (population 26,486) in the majestic MacDonnell Ranges, the tour will visit spectacular gorges and waterholes while heading 468km south to the iconic Uluru (Ayers Rock), Kata Tjuta (The Olgas), and Watarrka (Kings Canyon) for spectacular scenery and to learn about Aboriginal culture before spending a spectacular evening dinner under the stars.

From there we will head south, visiting a number of cattle stations to find out about the opportunities and challenges they face before staying overnight at Marla (population 38), We then continue south to the unique opal mining town of Coober Pedy, staying in an underground motel (population 1,500). Passing numerous salt lakes and after spending a night on a

cattle station, including a campfire discussion about station life, we will travel to Woomera (the largest rocket test range in the world) and hear about its history including atomic tests of the 1950s through to modern day satellite and RAM Jet tests. The 181km finale of our desert trek will be across a changing landscape of broad treeless saltbush plains with views of Lake Gairdner, Myall woodlands and into the town of Port Augusta (population 16,700) before travelling south 380 km through rich agricultural lands, pausing for a visit to the historic wine making district of the Barossa Valley, and into Adelaide (population 1,367,000), the capital of South Australia, and host city for the XIIth IRC.

The indicative cost for the tour is \$5,000 AUD inclusive of all transport, accommodation, and meals. Minimum registration 20 and maximum 30 people.