



SPARK TRAVEL



| 7 Day

VINTAGE RAIL JOURNEYS

RIVERINA RAIL TOUR

| **Saturday 21 September 2024**

(08) 8876 5121
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Suite 1, Ground Floor
29 King William Street
Adelaide, SA 5000

Fully Escorted From Adelaide
Return Home Transfers
Return Sydney Flights
5 Days & 4 Nights Aboard The 'Aurora Australis'
Captain Cook Premium Experience Harbour Cruise

HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Hughes Home Pick Up Service (zoned area).
- Travel Adelaide to Sydney and return with Virgin Australia.
- Accommodation in Sydney pre and post train journey.
- 5 day Vintage Rail Journeys Riverina Rail Tour on board the 'Aurora Australis,' including Goulburn, historic Coolamon, Griffith with a choice of 3 great activities, fascinating Temora Aviation Museum, Orange and the Great Dividing Range, ride the famous Zig Zag Railway, guided tour of the vibrant Blue Mountains.
- No overnight travel.
- Other tour inclusions are quality coach travel in Sydney, The Rocks Saturday Markets, Captain Cook Premium Experience Harbour Cruise, explore historic La Perouse, lunch at the Brighton-le-Sands RSL.

VINTAGE RAIL JOURNEYS:

As you travel on board the 'Aurora Australis,' every day there is a different view. Explore the sights of historic Goulburn, Australia's oldest inland City, travel the Canola Trail to Coolamon with its beautifully preserved heritage main street, at Griffith there is a choice of 3 delightful off-train excursions, then on to Temora and the famous Temora Aviation Museum. End the journey with a day in the Blue Mountains and ride the recently reopened Zig Zag Railway.

Accommodation on board the 'Aurora Australis' is in either comfortable Twinette share compartments with upper and lower berth or single Roomette compartments with lower berth, which during the day convert into conventional seating. Twinette compartments have their own ensuite with private shower, toilet and vanity, whilst the single Roomettes have a vanity and mirror, with toilets and showers being available at the end of each carriage.



All compartments are air-conditioned, have high quality linen and towels, 240v power outlet (CPAP suitable), drinking water and hanging spaces – as room is limited preferably bring aircraft 'carry on' size luggage to store under your seat.

No overnight travel ensures a good nights' sleep!

The Lounge: Enjoy a pre-or post dinner drink in the Lounge Car. Water, soft drinks and juices are included in your fare, alcohol is for own account – payment is made at the time of purchase on board by credit card or cash.

Dining: Your meals are supplied as per itinerary by on board chefs using locally sourced fresh produce where possible.

Dress: Smart casual (no shorts in the restaurant).

Off the train: Excursions off the train are included in your fare.

It should be noted that your train journey can be subject to change due to circumstances beyond the control of Vintage Rail Journeys.

NOTES:

****Health and Fitness:** To assist us when booking, please advise your Spark Travel consultant if you have any special needs such as mobility, dietary etc. A minimum level of fitness is required in order to be able to participate. You will need to be able to walk up a flight of stairs and manage coach steps unaided and you must inform us before the commencement of the tour of any medical condition which may affect your ability to participate in the tour. If you are unable to manage on your own, it will be necessary to be accompanied by another person who is fit and able to assist you in day to day tasks and capable of providing the assistance required. It should be noted this tour is not suitable for wheelchairs or walkers.

Dietary requests must be accompanied by the appropriate dietary information in writing.

****Tour extensions** subject to availability and extension booking criteria.

****It should be noted** that to be fair to all passengers, specific coach seats cannot be reserved.

****Please note** that on tours where flights are involved, the seating within the confines of the group is computer allocated alphabetically by the airlines concerned and beyond the control of Spark Travel.

HUGHES TRANSFERS TO AND FROM YOUR HOME:

Hughes transfers apply in the zoned area. These transfers may be available at additional cost to passengers who live outside the zoned area - please ask your Spark Travel consultant.

'HUGHES HOME PICK UP SERVICE' will call you **two (2) days** before the commencement of the tour to confirm the time they will be arriving at your home. **If you have missed the call, please contact Spark Travel (08) 8876 5121 a day prior to departure** for your pickup time. **If you reside at a retirement village, please ensure Hughes have clear instructions from you as to means of entry and directions to find your home. Also, if you are out of zone there will be an additional payment due and this should be made at the time of booking.** For safety reasons, suitcases should weigh no more than 20kgs. The Hughes home pick up service only applies to scheduled tour departure and return tour dates. Those passengers wishing to extend their tours will be responsible for their own transfers.

ITINERARY:

DAY 01 – SATURDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER – FLY ADELAIDE/SYDNEY – THE ROCKS SATURDAY MARKETS, CAPTAIN COOK PREMIUM EXPERIENCE HARBOUR CRUISE

On arrival at **Adelaide Airport** your **Spark Travel Tour Manager** will be waiting upstairs in the terminal to greet you and assist with check in. Please have photo ID ready for inspection to pick up your boarding pass.

06.00am Depart Adelaide on Virgin Australia flight VA401, arriving **Sydney Airport** at **08.20am**.

After loading the coach, our first stop today will be at **The Rocks Saturday Markets** for a break and a chance to explore - see the original Rocks houses, and don't forget to walk down Playfair Street to view the delightful statue of **'Biggles'** the Schnauzer, a much-loved former member of The Rocks community. Take a look up behind the buildings towards the cliffs where sites of some of the original settlement houses can be seen. At **1.30pm** we take the **Captain Cook Premium Experience Harbour Cruise** from Darling Harbour King Street Wharf No.1 for a **90 minute full circuit of Sydney Harbour**, one of the world's most beautiful and natural harbours. As you cruise, enjoy **one house beverage of your choice** plus an **Australian Cheese & Charcuterie**

Board to share. See the magnificent Opera House from a different perspective, Fort Denison, the Harbour Bridge and the impressive Sydney skyline.

Later check in at the centrally located Hotel, our home for tonight.

OVERNIGHT: VIBE SYDNEY HOTEL, SYDNEY. (A,D)

DAY 02 – SUNDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER – VINTAGE RAIL JOURNEYS – SYDNEY/GOULBURN – GOULBURN LOCOMOTIVE ROUNDHOUSE, ROCKY HILL WAR MEMORIAL, GOULBURN HISTORIC WATERWORKS MUSEUM

We transfer by coach to **Central Station Sydney** for the start of our **Vintage Rail Journey** on board the **'Aurora Australis.'** Once on board the train, you can choose to sit in the lounge or dining carriages, or your private compartment, as we travel along the main line to Goulburn. **Lunch** will be served on board, after which there will be time for exploration of the sights and historic offerings of Australia's oldest inland city, **Goulburn.** Off-train experiences include the **Goulburn Locomotive Roundhouse** (Vintage Rail Journeys' restoration base), **Rocky Hill War Memorial** and the **Goulburn Historic Waterworks Museum**, the choice is yours.

Dinner will be served on board the train at Goulburn Station where we will be stabled for the night.

ON BOARD: 'AURORA AUSTRALIS' (B,L,D)

DAY 03 – MONDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER – VINTAGE RAIL JOURNEYS – GOULBURN/GRIFFITH – HISTORIC COOLAMON & TOWN ACTIVITIES

After **breakfast** on board **'Aurora Australis,'** we depart on the Main South Line, passing many interesting towns and villages as we travel through the **Canola Trail** – so keep an eye out for the many grain silos adjacent to the rail line. Today spend time in **Coolamon**, stopping at the **Coolamon Railway Station**, dating back to 1881. (Coolamon is named after the Wiradjuri word for a vessel carrying goods, children and water). Flanked by the Train Station at one end and the Fire Station at the other end, amble the beautifully preserved heritage main street of Coolamon. Stop at the **Coolamon Cheese Factory**, (a must for cheese-lovers), **The Up-to-Date Store** built in 1909 with a variety of fascinating displays, and explore **Coolamon Fire Museum** with its amazing private collection of fire fighting equipment, uniforms and memorabilia. Later, we return to Coolamon Station and re-board the train and travel along the Yarco to Griffith Line. **Dinner** will be served on board the train at the **Murrumbidgee Grain Siding** where we will also stable for the night, in the peaceful serenity of the Australian bush.

ON BOARD: 'AURORA AUSTRALIS' (B,D)

DAY 04 – TUESDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER - VINTAGE RAIL JOURNEYS – GRIFFITH/TEMORA – PICCOLO FAMILY FARM, CHOICE OF ACTIVITIES

Early this morning, we board our coaches to enjoy **breakfast** at the **Piccolo Family Farm in Griffith.** Peter and Luke will explain their sustainable farming practices after which we enjoy breakfast in their new 'cellar door.'

Later, you have your choice of **one of the three off-train experiences:**

Tour No.1. Calabria Family Wines: Board a coach to the Calabria Family Wine Cellar Door for a delightful time tasting Calabria's fine wines with an accompanying cheese plate.

Tour No. 2. De Bortoli Wine and Il Campo Garden Visit: Emeri De Bortoli has transformed a 14 acre plot into a beautifully landscaped memorial garden, as well as experience a wine tasting at the De Bortoli Cellar Door just across the road.

Tour No. 3. Morella Grove and Whitton Malt House: Visit the Dal Bon family at Morella Grove, learn about the efficient water practices and the many processes the production of olives go through, then continue on to Whitton Malt House for a tour of the Southern Cotton Gin. (good mobility is needed for this excursion as there is a steep flight of stairs into the Gin). Lunch is available for purchase from the Whitton Malt House Café.

Coaches then transfer everyone to **Yenda Grain Siding** to re-board the train and travel on the freight only Lake Cargelligo Line. **Dinner** will be served on board the train at **Temora Grain Siding** where we will stable for the night.

ON BOARD: 'AURORA AUSTRALIS' (B,D)

DAY 05 – WEDNESDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER - VINTAGE RAIL JOURNEYS – TEMORA/ORANGE – CHOICE OF TOURS TODAY

Enjoy **breakfast** on board the 'Aurora Australis,' after which you can choose one of two Temora Tours

Tour No. 1. Coaches take us to the **Bundawarra Centre** which houses the **Temora Rural Museum**. Spend the morning experiencing the history of the region, including a cottage of hardwood slabs which was Sir Donald Bradman's first home, a one room public school, bush church, country dance hall, flour mill and ambulance station. The Ambulance Museum dates back to 1897.

Tour No. 2. Visit the **Temora Aviation Museum**, built on the site of the biggest and longest-lasting RAAF Elementary Flying Training School during WW11. Spend the morning in the three main exhibit buildings, the Museum which is the original 10 EFTS Guardhouse, the Engineering Hangar overlooking the aircraft currently in maintenance, and the Display Hangar which houses the new exhibitions along with the aircraft.

Coaches will return you to Temora Station where **lunch** will be served in the Dining Carriages as we travel on freight only lines via Stockinbingal. There are many freight trains to pass on this single track and at times there can be significant delays. **Dinner** will be served on board as we travel through Parkes and onto the Broken Hill Line to **Orange Rail Yard** where we stable for the night.

ON BOARD: 'AURORA AUSTRALIS.' (B,L,D)

DAY 06 – THURSDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER - VINTAGE RAIL JOURNEYS – ORANGE/SYDNEY – ZIG ZAG RAILWAY, SPECTACULAR BLUE MOUNTAINS

Enjoy **breakfast** on board the train as we travel from **Orange** towards the **Great Dividing Range**, where at **Lithgow** we jump on board a coach and travel up the mountain to **Clarence** to board the **historic steam train** and traverse **the Zig Zag**, experiencing 3 viaducts and 2 tunnels on the scenic route to **Bottom Points**. Watch the locomotive change ends whilst experiencing the nostalgia of heritage train travel. Once back at **Clarence**, enjoy **lunch** and the opportunity to visit the gift shop for souvenirs. After lunch, enjoy a **guided coach tour** of the vibrant **Blue Mountains villages**, and spectacular scenery, later rejoining our train. A **light dinner** will be provided on board before arriving back at **Central Station Sydney**.

Our Spark Travel's own charter coach will pick us up and transfer to our accommodation in Sydney for overnight.

OVERNIGHT: VIBE SYDNEY HOTEL, SYDNEY. (B,L,D)

DAY 07 – FRIDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER – SYDNEY/ADELAIDE – LUNCH BRIGHTON LE SANDS RSL

After breakfast we check out and load bags onto our coach, then head off to our morning tea stop (own cost) at **La Perouse** on the northern headland of Botany Bay where there will be time to explore the fascinating historic precinct. Our final stop will be at **Brighton Le Sands**. Lady Robinson's Beach, at 7kms in length, is the longest beach in Sydney, in 1874, named after Governor Sir Hercules Robinson's wife. Perhaps take a stroll along the Grand Parade overlooking the bay, view the Bicentennial Monument which commemorates the First Fleet Landing in 1788, the statue of 1896 Olympian Spyros Louis. Enjoy **lunch** at the **Brighton Le Sands RSL**, after which we transfer to Sydney Airport for the flight home.

Please ensure you have **photo ID** ready for presentation in order to receive your boarding pass. 5.45pm Depart **Sydney Airport** on **Virgin Australia** flight VA434, arriving **Adelaide Airport** at 7.25pm. (B,L)

AT THE END OF YOUR TOUR A HUGHES CAR WILL DRIVE YOU HOME

TOUR COST:

Sharing twin/double:
Single supplement:

\$6495.00 per person
\$365.00 per person

MEAL CODINGS:

(B) - Breakfast
(D) - Dinner

(L) - Lunch

(A) - Afternoon Tea

TOUR INCLUDED:

- Hughes limousine transfers from/to your home (zoned area).
- Fly Adelaide/Sydney and return with Virgin Australia.
- In Sydney Spark Travel's own charter coach.
- 2 nights' Sydney hotel accommodation with private facilities.
- Vintage Rail Journeys 5 day/4 night Riverina Rail Tour as per itinerary.
- Meals – 6 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 1 afternoon tea, 6 dinners.
- Captain Cook Premium Experience Harbour Cruise.
- Touring as detailed in the itinerary.
- Goods and Services Tax.

NOT INCLUDED:

- Meals, morning and afternoon teas, drinks other than indicated in the itinerary.
- Portage. A suitcase with wheels is recommended - **max weight 20kgs** plus a small cabin bag maximum weight **7kgs**. **Walk on or similar size baggage is recommended for the 'Aurora Australis.'**
- Items of a personal nature.

COVID-19:

No responsibility is taken by Spark Travel or the Event Organisers in regard to Covid-19. It is highly recommended that visitors wear a mask on board flights and whilst in enclosed spaces and we also recommend full vaccination against Covid-19.

IMPORTANT:

Due to OSH requirements, baggage weighing more than 20kgs will **not** be carried by Hughes, Vintage Rail Journeys or our coach company.

****Conditions Apply****

DOMESTIC TOUR BOOKING CONDITIONS

TRAVEL INSURANCE:

Travel insurance is strongly recommended. Please ask your consultant for details. Please note that the majority of insurance policies do not cover Pandemics such as Covid-19.

EVENTS BEYOND THE CONTROL OF SPARK TRAVEL:

Should an event occur which is beyond the control of Spark Travel, ie: delays to ship, aircraft, train, coach thereby incurring extra expenses, these additional costs are borne by the passenger at the time of the event. A travel insurance claim for reimbursement should be submitted to the insurance company upon return home. Please keep any receipts. It should be understood that neither Spark Travel nor any subsidiary company or representative shall be liable for any loss, injury or damage arising from our services.

ITINERARIES:

Itineraries are subject to change and no responsibility can be accepted. Coach operator and size of coach may be changed at the discretion of Spark Travel without notice. Where a tour does not meet minimum numbers travelling together on the outward journey a cost surcharge will apply. If group numbers fall below 15 adult paying passengers no tour leader will be provided. No itemisation of tour arrangements can be given and no refund for any portion of a tour not taken. Flora and fauna as described in an itinerary is nature and as such cannot be guaranteed.

ACCOMMODATION:

Spark Travel reserves the right to alter hotel/motel accommodation and to substitute a suitable alternative. Where accommodation is booked on a 'will share basis', at the time of finalisation if there is nobody suitable to share with, it may be necessary to pay the appropriate single supplement. Spark Travel does not accept any responsibility for the non-compatibility of 'sharing' clients. If by choice a single room is requested and booked a single room surcharge will apply.

HEALTH AND FITNESS:

A minimum level of fitness is required in order to be able to participate. As a minimum you will need to be able to walk up a flight of stairs and manage coach steps unaided. You must inform us before the commencement of the tour of any medical condition which may affect your ability to participate in the tour. Dietary requests must be accompanied by the appropriate dietary information. It is recommended masks be worn on flights and in crowded or inside spaces. To protect yourself and fellow travellers, vaccination against Covid-19 is recommended.

FUEL SURCHARGES AND TAXES:

All bookings may attract additional fuel surcharges and taxes which can be levied up to and including the date of departure even if final payment has been made. Booking is subject to final audit.

SECURITY DEPOSIT:

A non-refundable security deposit of **\$675.00 per person (inc GST)** is required within five (5) days of booking.

FINAL PAYMENTS:

The security deposit forms part of the total price, the balance of which is due 60 days prior to departure, or in the case of bookings made within that 60 day period, the final payment is due as soon as the booking is confirmed.

LATE BOOKINGS AND AMENDMENTS:

Bookings made within 7 days inclusive of departure will incur a **late booking fee of \$75.00 per person**. Late bookings subject to availability. Once a booking has been made a **\$75.00 per person amendment fee** will apply for any alterations on selected departures only, and if applicable, one (1) change only to that booking. Transfers to other tours not permitted.

CREDIT CARDS:

If paying by credit card, a surcharge applies of 2% for Visa and Mastercard and 3.5% for Amex and Diners cards.

CANCELLATION CONDITIONS:

- i) We act as an Agent; and
- ii) That our Terms and Conditions are in addition to the Terms and Conditions of each Travel supplier listed on the quote itinerary; and
- iii) That it is the Terms and Conditions of the Travel supplier that determine the terms of cancellation and refunds, if any.

BOOKINGS CANCELLED AFTER THE FINAL PAYMENT HAS BEEN MADE:

- (a) Bookings cancelled 61 days or earlier, full refund less deposit and booking fee and any other non-refundable services or products.
- (b) Bookings cancelled 60 days or less prior to departure will incur a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost.
- (c) No refund can be given for any portion of the tour not taken and no refund after the tour has commenced.

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is strongly recommended for all travel including domestic.

Travel insurance is available to cover you for cancellation including COVID-19.

Please ask your consultant for a quote.

Spark Travel Pty Ltd

ABN: 50 661 651 752

ATAS Accreditation No: A18651

Accreditation

