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SINCE 1992**

# Lightning Ridge In Autumn



With Ezi Drive Coaches and  
Holiday Coach Tours.com.au



## 6 Days / 5 Nights with Brian and Mary

**Tour Date Tuesday 27 May - Sunday 1 June 2025**

### Tour Inclusions:

- Pick up from your home, transport to Lightning Ridge and return to your doorstep
- (Sydney Metropolitan area only)
- Luxury Coach Travel, Seatbelts and Restroom
- All fully cooked breakfasts
- Three Course Dinners with Choices at the motel
- Five nights quality accommodation,
- Lunches day 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6
- All entry fees and guides as per Itinerary
- Escorted tour

### Tour Highlights:

Bullock Teams Sculpture at Gulargambone, Café Two eight Two eight, Down Earth Opals, John Murray Art Gallery Opal Mine Adventure, Chambers of the Black Hand, Mel from The Hidden Gem, Bush Poet and Yarnspinner, Grawin, Glengarry, Sheepyard Opel Fields, Glengarry Hilton, Driving guided tour of Lightning Ridge and Narrabri, Gunnedah, Art Silo and Water Tower Art Museum and more.

<b>Tour Fee including GST:</b>	<b>Members</b>	<b>\$2,479.00 per person twin share</b>
	<b>Non Members</b>	<b>\$2,529.00 per person twin share</b>
	<b>Single Supplement</b>	<b>\$349.00</b>

**Book now Paid by Thursday 27 March 2025**

P O Box 109 BRINGELLY 2556

For information and bookings phone: 02 4774 9700

Website: [holidaycoachtours.com.au](http://holidaycoachtours.com.au) – Email: [book@holidaycoachtours.com.au](mailto:book@holidaycoachtours.com.au)

Please note that the itinerary is subject to change without notice

# The Itinerary

## Day 1 Tuesday 27 May 2025 Home to Dubbo

**Dinner**

This morning we pick you up from home and travel west along the M4 motorway, passing through the Blue Mountains on our way to our lunch stop at the Lithgow Workies Club Lunch today is at your own expense. We have a brief stop this afternoon to stretch our legs before arriving in Dubbo and checking into our hotel for the night at the **Dubbo RSL Club Motel**. Dinner tonight is in the Club restaurant.

## Day 2 Wednesday 28 May 2025 Lightning Ridge

**Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

Our morning stop is in the small town of **Gulargambone** that has an interesting sculpture dedicated to the Bullock Teams that passed through town in the early days. We have morning tea in the local café called Two eight Two eight, then head to **Walgett** for lunch. This afternoon we arrive in Lightning Ridge and welcome a **local guide** onboard for a guided tour around town. With its stark and scarred landscape, this town has a peculiar fascination for visitors. Famous for magnificent opals, the town is home to the unique black opal, a rare and luminous gem mined from the surrounding plains. It is the only place in Australia (and one of the few places in the world) where the highly prized opal is found. Over the next few days, you may want to visit the town's many opal stores where you can marvel at these local wonders. We visit **Down to Earth Opals**, which has been mining, designing, and specialising in selling to the world one-of-a-kind jewellery pieces and top gem quality loose opals. Staying for three nights at **Wallangulla Motel, Lightning Ridge** | PH: 02 6829 0542

## Day 3 Thursday 29 May 2025 Lightning Ridge Galleries

**Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

This morning, we experience the atmosphere of an underground mine at **Opal Mine Adventure**. Here we will learn about opal mining through a video presentation and visit the showroom to view the opals of the local area. Our next visit is to **John Murray Art Gallery**. Wandering around the gallery, John's artistic talent becomes apparent with his pieces filled with light and humour. It's clear he likes to make people smile with his creations! At **Chambers of the Black Hand**, we'll be captivated by local artist, Ron Canlin, who has created the most amazing paintings and sculptures 11.2 metres underground. There is The Last Supper, the Egyptian Chamber including a replica of a tomb and the Chinese Terracotta Warriors. The second level is a mine that has been worked for over 100 years, and all the old shafts and drivers that were used by the old miners are still there. Prior to dinner at the **Lightning Ridge Bowling Club**, Mel from The Hidden Gem will join us. Known as an Australian Champion Bush Poet and Yarnspinner we are sure to be entertained.

## Day 4 Friday 30 May 2025 The Outer Opal Fields

**Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

No trip to Lightning Ridge would be complete without a trip to The Grawin. If you think "the Ridge" is unique, you must see places like **The Pub in the Scrub**, The Glengarry Hilton and Sheeppark Flats. located about 70 kilometres west of Lightning Ridge, The Grawin was established in 1908 with the discovery of opal at Hammond Hill. Further discoveries in 1920 at Richards Hill; put the unofficial village on the map. It was at Grawin that the largest opal "Light of the World"; was found in 1928. Since the first discovery of opal in the region, people have come and gone in tides with each new strike, seeking their fortune in search of "the rainbow in the rock". It is believed that a field at Grawin was discovered in 1905, but it wasn't until the 1970's became a major field in its own right. The Mulga Rush, which began in 2000, is the biggest opal rush since the Coocoran was discovered in the early 1900's. The Sheeppark area was named after a find of opal near the fence of the old Sheepparks.

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A **local guide** joins us on a day's touring to the **Grawin, Glengarry and Sheeppark opal fields** and we enjoy lunch at the **Glengarry Hilton**. After a great day we head back to Lightning Ridge with some time to freshen up and relax before dinner. Our tour today includes lunch and the chance to fossick for opal.

**Day 5 Saturday 31 May 2025 Wee Waa and Tamworth Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

This morning after breakfast we say farewell to Lightning Ridge and travel to Wee Waa where we have morning tea at the **Wee Waa Museum** and hear all about the regions farming history. It's not far into **Narrabri** where a **local guide** joins the coach for a tour around town before lunch. Then this afternoon we call into the **Gunnedah** to look at the **Art Silo**, as well as the **Water Tower Art Museum** before arriving in Tamworth. Tonight's accommodation is at the Econolodge Gateway Tamworth 02 6765 7022

**Day 6 Sunday 1 June 2025 Home Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

After breakfast this morning we continue our journey homeward, stopping for lunch at the Kurri Kurri Bowling Club and other convenience breaks along the way before arriving home to say goodbye at your door and another fantastic tour with Brian and Mary and Ezi Drive Coaches and Holiday Coach Tours.

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