



**WE DRIVE YOU
SINCE 1992**

BEST OF INVERELL

With Ezi Drive Coaches

NEW TOUR



7 Days / 6 Nights - with Brian and Mary

Tour Departs Monday 15 October – Sunday 21st October 2012

Tour Inclusions:

- Pick up from your home, transport to Inverell and return (Sydney Metropolitan area)
- Luxury Coach Travel Seatbelts & Restroom
- 6 Nights Minimum Three Star Quality Motel Accommodation
- 6 Three Course Dinners & All Fully cooked Hot Buffet Breakfast
- Lunch Day 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5
- All Entry Fees and Guides as per Itinerary
- Escorted Tour

Tour Highlights:

Sisters of Mercy Sacred Spaces; Inverell Pioneer Village; Highlights tour of Inverell; Danthonia, Newstead North Homestead & Shearing Shed Day Tour; Bicentennial Memorial & Scottish Cairn; Inverell Art Gallery; Olives of Beaulieu, Copeton Waters State Park; Thomas New England Estate Wines; National Transport Museum; Wing Hing Long Compant Store; Green Valley Farm; New England Woodturning; Warrumbungle National Park and more.

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Tour Fee including GST: | Members | \$1699.00 per person, twin share |
| | Non Members | \$1719.00 per person, twin share |
| | Single Supplement | \$348.00 |

Minimum loading 20 passengers booked and paid by 08 August, 2012

The Itinerary

Day 1. Monday 15th October 2012: Bringelly / Tamworth

Lunch & Dinner

This morning we pick you up from home and begin our way to **Inverell**, which is nestled in a **picturesque valley beside the Macintyre River**. After enjoying a comfort stop for morning tea from the coach, we travel up to **Singleton** for **light lunch** and **tour of the Sisters of Mercy Sacred Spaces**. Our guided tour takes us through the first **Sisters' Chapel**, the old **Cottage Museum**, the beautiful **Motherhouse Convent**, the **new Sisters' Chapel**, and the **superb gardens** that surround them. We arrive into Tamworth this afternoon and check into our motel before dinner in the restaurant.

Overnight: Tamworth – Comfort Inn Hallmark - 02 6765 7022

Day 2. Tuesday 16th October 2012: Tamworth / Inverell

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

This morning after breakfast we make our way to Inverell, where upon arrive stop at the **Inverell Pioneer Village**, an authentic recreation of historic buildings and homes in a peaceful village setting, featuring a machinery exhibit, gem museum, Pody's Pub and Hotel, and the Grove Homestead. After enjoying **lunch at the Pioneer Village** we are joined by our **local guide** for a **highlights tour of Inverell** featuring the history of the area. We then **visit Billabong Blue Sapphires**, which is situated in the **Tourism Inverell Complex**. It offers rough and cut sapphires and quality jewellery for sale. Later we settle into our accommodation with time to freshen up before dinner.

Overnight Inverell – Inverell RSM Club 02 6722 3066

Day 3. Wednesday 17th October: Inverell**Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

After breakfast we travel east of Inverell to the **Danthonia Community**, once part of the **original Newstead Station holding**. Enjoy meeting members of this community over morning tea and admire the stunning views of Newstead Station. We also visit **Danthonia Signs**, the community's sign business where the brothers and sisters work together to create their unique handcrafted products. Our next stop today is the historic **Newstead North homestead and garden**. Here the guides will present the history of the property and its people since 1838. Lunch will be served at the homestead and we also have time to browse through the interesting photographs and documents on display or why not wander in the garden. A visit to the **Newstead North shearing shed** follows, parts of which date from 1857. Our guide will share stories of shearing and the people who modelled for Tom Roberts when he painted *The Golden Fleece* in 1894.

Later we make our way back to Inverell and stop at the **Inverell Art Gallery**. In 1995, the Inverell Art Society joined the historic buildings, Butler Hall and the School of Arts to create one cultural complex, which has resulted in a spacious gallery, workrooms and teaching facilities. The Inverell Art Gallery has regular **exhibitions of paintings, handmade pottery and craft**, showcasing the work of artists from the area and beyond. Before making our way back to our motel we stop off at the **McIlveen Park Lookout** – magnificent views over Inverell can be seen from here – a great photo opportunity. We then make our way back to our motel before dinner.

Overnight Inverell – Inverell RSM Club 02 6722 3066**Day 4. Thursday 18th October 2012: Inverell****Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

After breakfast we visit **Inverell's Bicentennial Memorial** and **Scottish Cairn** which are both located in **Sinclair Park**. The Inverell and District Bicentennial Memorial exemplifies the community spirit of the individuals and organisations who freely gave their time, technical skills labour and much of the material to create a permanent memorial to the historical development of the Inverell district before 1988. The Scottish Memorial Cairn pays tribute to the achievements, commitments and contributions made by the districts pioneers, later generations and families whose endeavours have contributed to Inverell's success since the 1830's. Later this morning we travel to the **Wing Hing Long and Company's Store** in **Tingha** which is a long way from China Town. This little store has been turned into a **museum to raise awareness of the contribution of the Chinese to the rural communities of New South Wales**. Wing Hing Long was established in the late nineteenth century as one of a number of stores servicing the tin mining communities of the Tingha district. Here was a typical general store where you could buy anything and everything. We then make our way to **Green Valley Farm – "The Bush Oasis" – a piece of God's earth** put to some wholesome pleasure. After a look around in the **museum followed by a light lunch** we travel to Gilgai to stop at **New England Woodturning** for a **demonstration by a master craftsman**. Later we enjoy some free time back in Inverell before dinner.

Overnight Inverell – Inverell RSM Club 02 6722 3066**Day 5. Friday 19th October 2012: Inverell****Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**

This morning we make our way through to **Olives of Beaulieu** which is a family owned **olive grove**, with **cellar door** sales of olive products and estate manufactured spices. Also for sale are olive oil cosmetics and soaps, manufactured locally, by other olive growing families. They also manufacture exotic spices, with a total of six different spices used in the Mediterranean, Asia and India. They are Dukkah, (Egyptian) Zatar, (Lebanese) Harissa, (Tunisian) Squisito, (Italian) My Thai (Thai) and Hurry Curry (Indian). We have the opportunity to taste the full range of oils and spices. We then continue on to **Copeton Waters State Park** - Lake Copeton boasts **three times the capacity of Sydney Harbour**. Our next stop is for **lunch** at the **Thomas New England Estate Wines** - The Thomas family go back to 1860 in the New England District with great grandfather John Henry Thomas brewing the first beer in approximately 1870 and calling it "New England Pale Ale". The old brewery can still be seen in Brewery Street, Inverell. The next generation brothers, Fred and Ernest, won prizes at the Sydney Royal Easter Show in 1910 with cordials and ice creams under the name "F & E Thomas", a name that stayed in the district until purchases by Coca Cola in approximately 1980. The establishment of the 100 acre vineyard came after much research into approximately 23 vineyards in the area in the early 1900's. After enjoying lunch and a taste test of the diverse range of delicious wines we make our way to the **National Transport Museum** which consists of a growing display of over 200 exhibits. **Cars, trucks, fire engines, motorcycles, bicycles, pedal cars, scooters** and numerous models and transport related items make up the ever changing display. As well as a huge variety of the more popular makes of vehicles, there are some rare and exotic creations on display. Later we arrive back at our accommodation before dinner.

Overnight Inverell – Inverell RSM Club 02 6722 3066**Day 6. Saturday 20th October 2012: Inverell/ Coonabarabran****Breakfast & Dinner**

This morning after breakfast we bid our hosts farewell as we make our way through Moree and into **Narrabri**, also known as the **Cotton Country** where we **break for some lunch** (own expense). After lunch we travel through to the **Warrumbungle National Park** visiting the **Siding Springs Exploratory** part of the world renowned Siding Springs Observatory showcasing some of the **world's major telescopes** and **Australia's largest optical telescopes**. We travel back through to Coonabarabran where we check into our accommodation for the night. Dinner will be served in the motel restaurant tonight.

Overnight Coonabarabran – Country Gardens Motel 02 6842 1711**Day 7. Sunday 21st October 2012: Coonabarabran/ Bringelly****Breakfast**

This morning after breakfast we travel down through Dunedoo, Gulgong and onto **Mudgee** where we stop and have the chance to purchase some lunch (own expense). We continue our journey home enjoying an afternoon comfort stop along the way. This afternoon we arrive back home to say goodbye at your door after spending a fabulous week at Inverell with Ezi Drive Coaches.

For information and bookings phone: 02 4774 9700

Please note that itinerary is subject to change without notice.