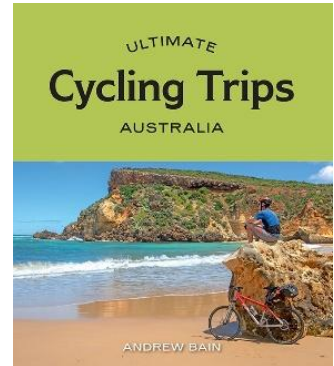
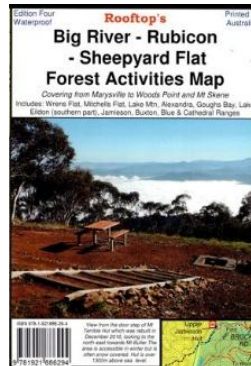
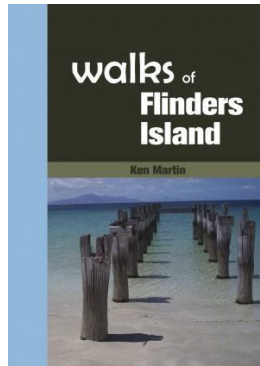
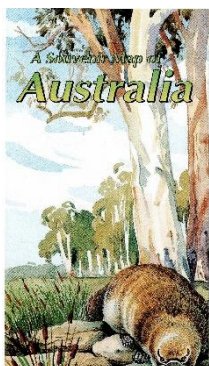




The Meridian Line - Sunday 17.08.2025

“Travelling – it leaves you speechless, then turns you into a storyteller.” — Ibn Battuta



Hattah-Kulkyne Map Guide – from \$11.95

Step into the breathtaking landscape of Hattah-Kulkyne National Park, where peaceful lakes are fringed by ancient river red gums, rolling sand dunes are covered in mallee woodlands, and wide-open semi-arid grasslands stretch out around you. Be sure to check out the shimmering salt lakes and the winding curves of the mighty Murray River. This park is one of Victoria's most ecologically rich regions, home to more than 200 species of birds as well as a wide range of wildlife—from mammals and reptiles to frogs and fascinating insects. To help you make the most of your visit, we've released a new edition of our detailed topographic map. Now at a larger 1:70,000 scale, it covers both Hattah-Kulkyne National Park and neighbouring Murray-Kulkyne Park. You'll also find a zoomed-in section featuring Lake Hattah and Lake Mournpall, highlighting all the walking tracks, bike trails, and campgrounds in the area.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/hattah-kulkyne-map-guide/>

Australia – A Souvenir Map – \$13.95

This beautifully illustrated map highlights Australia's main towns and roads, all surrounded by vibrant paintings of native birds, animals, and iconic outback

landscapes. It comes packaged in a full-colour printed envelope—perfect for sending to friends and family overseas. The map is sealed in a protective plastic pouch and includes a mailing envelope for easy posting.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/australia-souvenir-map/>

Walks of Flinders Island - \$24.95

Walks of Flinders Island features 51 walks suited to all ages and fitness levels. Each walk includes a simple map, clear directions, and helpful descriptions to guide you along the way. Whether you're after a short stroll or a more challenging hike, this book offers plenty of information to help you make the most of your time exploring the island's stunning landscapes.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/walks-of-flinders-island/>

Big River Rubicon Sheepyard Flat Adventure Map - \$14.95

Now covering even more ground, the Big River – Rubicon Rooftop map has been expanded to include the Upper Goulburn and Jamieson Valleys. It's now printed double-sided, giving you even more value and coverage.

One side features a detailed map of the Big River area, including Woods Point, Big River Arm of Lake Eildon, Jamieson, Gaffneys Creek, Enoch Point, Wrens Flat, Mitchells Flat, Lake Mountain, Buxton, Blue Range, Cathedral Range, the southern part of Lake Eildon, Mt Skene Scenic Reserve, Howqua River, Howqua Hills, Sheepyard Flat, Knockwood, R2 Lookout, The Low Saddle, Jamieson River, A1 Settlement, Black River, Matlock, and Frenchmans Creek. The reverse side presents a 1:50,000 scale contoured map covering Narbethong, Lake Eildon, Alexandra, Stockmans Reward, Marysville, Eildon, Blue Range, Rubicon, Jerusalem Creek, Thornton, Mount Torbreck, Big River, Acheron, Taggerty, Lake Mountain Alpine Resort, Mt Bullfight, Big River Camp, Granton, Steavenson Falls, Mt Margaret, Cambarville, and a Shaws to Oaks inset map. As with all Rooftop maps, it's packed with helpful notes, landmarks, and points of interest—perfect for four-wheel driving, hiking, or exploring the region. Printed on durable waterproof paper for all-weather use.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/big-river-rubicon-adventure-map/>

Ultimate Cycling Trips: Australia - \$44.00

Ultimate Cycling Trips: Australia is your practical and inspirational guide to 40 of the best cycling trails across Australia. Journey across Australia on two wheels with these hand-picked bike rides that range from gentle rail trails with a gourmet edge, to multi-day cycle tours, to blasts on the country's best mountain-bike trail networks. Trips include South Australia's Riesling Trail, the

Alpine Epic Mountain Bike Trail in Victoria, Three Gorges Loop in New South Wales and the Brisbane Valley Rail Trail. With detailed descriptions, suggested itineraries, images, maps and a swag of Australia's finest natural features along the way, this is the book to inspire you to hit the road, track or rail trail. A new addition to the bestselling Ultimate series, Ultimate Cycling Trips: Australia is the only cycling guide out there to suit your next Australian cycling adventure.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/ultimate-cycling-trips-australia/>

Meridian Musings

I recently came across an article by Natural Hazards Research Australia that raised an important issue: too many people aren't adjusting their driving to suit the road conditions. According to the article, 84% of motorists ignore road closure signs. Even more concerning, it highlighted that young people under 29 – especially men – account for the majority of flood-related fatalities.

Outback roads, particularly dirt tracks, can change dramatically and without much warning. One day they're dry and solid, and just a couple of days of heavy rain can turn them into muddy, impassable routes. Roads may be officially closed, or warning signs might be put up—and those signs are there for a reason.

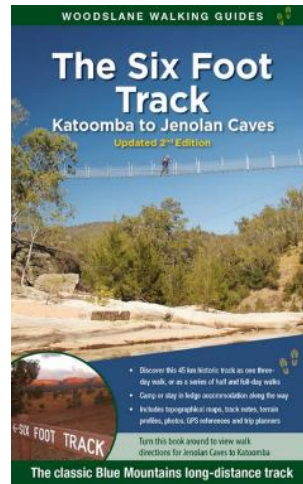
No matter where you're travelling in Australia, it's essential to keep an eye on the latest road conditions. Drive to the situation, not the schedule. Stay safe, enjoy the journey—and make sure you get home in one piece.

What's New to the Website

The Six Foot Track Katoomba to Jenolan Caves - \$22.95

The Six Foot Track is one of Australia's most iconic long-distance walks. Winding through the World Heritage-listed Blue Mountains, this 44-kilometre journey takes you across dramatic escarpments, wide rivers, and through remote bushland, offering a true taste of adventure in the Aussie wilderness. This updated second edition comes in a fun, two-way format. Follow the walk from Katoomba to Jenolan Caves—then flip the book upside down to follow the route in reverse. Full-colour maps and detailed stats—like distance, elevation gain and loss, walk grades, and estimated timings—make navigation and planning a breeze. Along the way, you'll find fascinating insights into the area's local history, wildlife, and native plants. Learn about the construction of the suspension bridge over the Cocks River, discover activities around Jenolan Caves, and dive into the story of the track's 100-year-old origins. Full-colour photographs showcase some of the highlights you'll pass. Whether you're powering through in a one-day marathon, tackling it over two days, or taking a more relaxed three-day pace, this book covers all your bases. It includes

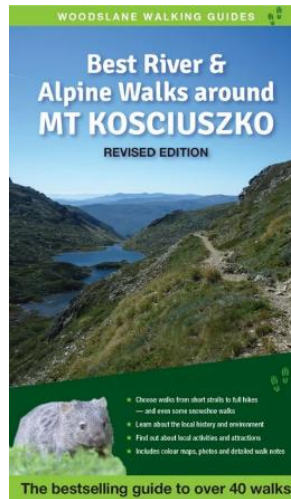
advice on trip logistics, accommodation options, transport at both ends, and a gear checklist to help you prepare for a safe and enjoyable adventure.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/six-foot-track/>

Best River & Alpine Walk around Mt Kosciuszko - \$32.95

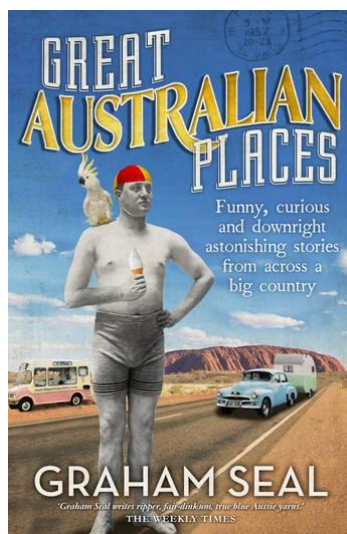
Kosciuszko National Park is one of the world's great natural treasures. As the largest national park in New South Wales, it spans an incredible 690,000 hectares and is home to mainland Australia's highest peak. Within its vast and diverse landscapes, you'll find the Snowy River, alpine herbfields, dramatic limestone caves and gorges, as well as historic huts and homesteads. In this comprehensive guide, Matt McClelland—founder of www.wildwalks.com.au—shares over 40 of the region's best walks. From short strolls to more challenging hikes, there's something here for every walker. Like all our walking guides, this book features full-colour photography and maps, easy-to-follow directions, and insightful local information to help you get the most out of your visit. Chapters include: Thredbo, Alpine Way, Geehi, Khancoban to Cabramurra Road, Kosciuszko Road, Charlotte Pass, Guthega, and a selection of snowshoe walks for winter adventurers.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/best-walks-kosciuszko/>

***Great Australian Places* - \$36.95**

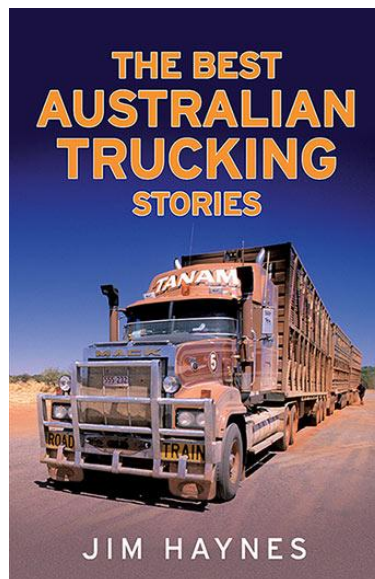
Join Australia's master storyteller, Graham Seal, on an unforgettable journey across the country as he unearths stories of unsolved mysteries, daring explorations, military exploits, strange natural wonders, and iconic locations. From famous landmarks to forgotten towns and out-of-the-way places, this book reveals the traces of ancient cultures, the echoes of gold rush days and bushrangers, and the quirky, sometimes baffling, tales that give each place its unique character. Seal takes readers behind the legends—discover the real stories behind the pub with no beer, the land where the crow flies backwards, and the mysterious Everywhere Man. Explore places of deep cultural significance to First Nations peoples, sites tied to new arrivals, and settings for everything from eerie phenomena to top-secret operations. Whether you're mapping out your next Aussie road trip or enjoying the comfort of armchair travel, *Great Australian Places* is packed with surprises, oddities, and compelling yarns that will entertain, inform, and inspire.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/great-australian-places/>

The Best Australian Trucking Stories - \$24.95

From Tarcutta to Alice Springs and everywhere in between, this collection brings together true stories from the lives of Australian truckers—those everyday heroes who keep the country moving. In their world of wide-open roads and hard yakka, you'll find a rich mix of humour, heartbreak, resilience, and rebellion. This is the first-ever collection dedicated to Aussie trucking stories, capturing the spirit of a job that's vital to our nation—and packed with characters as tough and colourful as the landscapes they cross. Collected by Jim Haynes, these tales take you from epic Nullarbor crossings in the 1950s to daring desert rescues, from wheat-dumping protests at Parliament House to repossessions in suburban Adelaide. You'll meet men jailed during the long fight to make Australia's roads free for freight, and hear from the larrikins and legends who made the industry what it is today. Whether you're curious about one of Australia's great social revolutions, fascinated by the grit and ingenuity of long-haul drivers, or just in the mood for a cracking yarn, *True Blue Trucking Tales* delivers the goods.

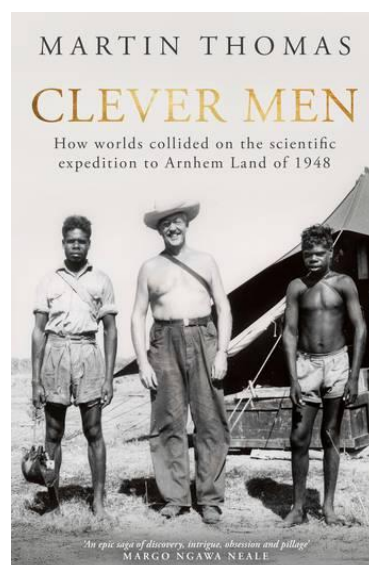


<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/trucking-stories/>

Clever Men – \$36.95

What really happened when Charles Mountford led a quarrelsome team of Australian and American scientists to explore traditional Aboriginal life in Arnhem Land in 1948. 'Here was I with the status of little more than a telephone mechanic, taking out the biggest scientific expedition in history'. In this way the legendary Charles Mountford immodestly described his biggest assignment: to lead an expedition of American and Australian scientists to Arnhem Land in northern Australia, investigating traditional Aboriginal life and

the tropical environment. Backed by National Geographic, the Smithsonian Institution, and the Australian government, it was also a display of the friendship between Australia and the US. But the adventure turned out to be anything but friendly. In this compelling account, award-winning historian Martin Thomas tells how they set out with fanfare in 1948 and how quickly the expedition turned toxic. Thomas uncovers the secrets, scandals, and unlikely achievements. He also reveals how Indigenous communities, including the elders known as 'clever men', dealt with the intrusion of these foreign 'experts'. Drawing on years of collaborative research with Arnhem Land communities, *Clever Men* is a poignant portrayal of colliding worlds. In this encounter between scientific hubris and the world's oldest surviving cultures, Thomas finds a story of global significance and profound long-term impacts.

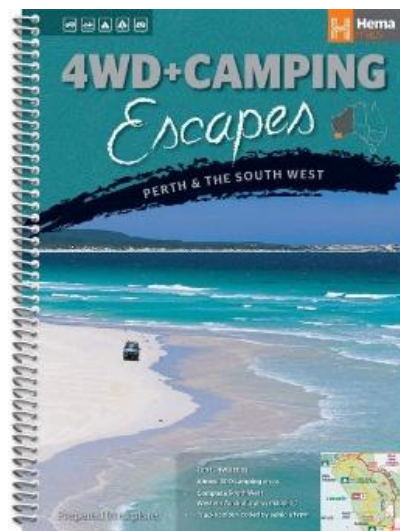


<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/clever-men/>

4WD + Camping Escapes Perth & The SW of WA - \$29.95

Discover the best four-wheel driving and camping spots in one of Australia's most stunning regions—South West Western Australia. Whether you're new to off-roading or a seasoned adventurer, this comprehensive guide offers something for everyone. The book is divided into regional sections, each outlining top 4WD tracks and ending with a camping directory that covers nearly 300 campsites across the region. You'll find 15 carefully selected 4WD routes, each accompanied by detailed inset maps. These routes are colour-coded to indicate difficulty and vehicle suitability, with handy symbols showing whether a track is caravan-friendly or best suited to rugged 4WD vehicles. Camping descriptions help you find the perfect site for your needs, whether that's a pet-friendly bush camp with no facilities or a family-friendly spot accessible by 2WD, complete with toilets and showers. The guide also includes a full atlas featuring Hema's South West Western Australia map, highlighting 24-hour fuel stops, information centres, rest areas, and other key

points of interest. Written by experienced travel writers and outdoor enthusiasts Michael and Jane Pelusey, the book offers plenty of essential pre-trip information, including advice on terrain, permits, environmental considerations, fishing, and bushwalking. This makes it a valuable resource for planning your next adventure in South West WA.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/4wd-escapes-wa/>

Seasonal Updates

Please be aware that road and Park closures are constantly changing and it is always best to check for changes before you set out.

For more regular updates on closures, please check our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MeridianWestprintMaps> as we try to include warnings and advice as we become aware of them.

The latest Desert Parks Bulletin has been uploaded to our website. For this and other Desert Pass updates, please go to <https://meridianmaps.com.au/deserts-pass-update/3>

Disclaimer: These events were correct at the time they were added to the Meridian Line; however, this may have been some time before the actual event. Please make your own enquiries before travelling to an event.

What's On

22 August: Hughenden Campdraft in Queensland. Fantastic weekend of sports and entertainment.

<https://www.visithughenden.com.au/event/hughenden-campdraft/>

23 August: Wyalkatchem Rodeo in Western Australia. Put on your cowboy boots and hat, stock up on supplies and load up the family for the best weekend of Rodeo & Music for all ages.

<https://www.wheatbelttourism.com/event/wyalkatchem-rodeo/>

23 – 24 August: Gawler Show in South Australia. A vibrant mix of tradition and fun — where the spirit of the country meets the buzz of the city! Show rides, entertainment, animal adventures, show bags, farm fresh produce and a treasure trail.

<https://gawlershow.org.au/>

29 – 31 August: Julia Creek Dirt n Dust Festival in Queensland. Jam-packed three days of fun and entertainment. The Festival kick starts with the adrenaline-pumping action of the Dirt n Dust Rodeo and live concert. The DnD Adventure Run for the wildest outback and the artesian express outback horse races and each night the bronc and bull riders take to the arena rodeo action.

<https://dirtndust.com/>

29 – 31 August: Newcastle Outdoor Adventure & Motoring Expo in NSW. The best in outdoor adventure products and advice, all for an unforgettable experience. Everything from caravans and camper trailers to 4×4 accessories and boating equipment.

<https://newexpo.com.au/>

30 August: Betoota In Queensland. Marks the start of the 2025 Simpson Desert Racing Carnival! Weekend of excitement as the region's top horses take to the track. Enjoy live entertainment, raffles Fashions on the Field. There's something for everyone, so soak up the outback charm.

<https://www.facebook.com/BetootaOutbackQld>

30 – 31 August: Noonamah Tavern Rodeo in Northern Territory. An action packed night of Barrel Racing, Bull Riding, Saddle Bronc riding, Freestyle Moto X.

<https://northernterritory.com/darwin-and-surrounds/events/noonamah-tavern-rodeo>

29 – 31 August: Innamincka Gymkhana and Motokhana in South Australia. Bush sprints, gymkhana events, live entertainment, bar & food, free camping & facilities and activities for the whole family.

<https://www.facebook.com/innaminckagymkhana>

Do you have a story?

If you've got a trip or tips to share, we'd love to hear from you - rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au .

Road trip to Lake Eyre Pt 3

The roads are open, the sun's shining, the fuel tank's full, the map's out, and the tyres are deflated—we're ready to hit the Oodnadatta Track. We've trawled through heaps of websites and blogs, but we still don't really know what to expect. Despite reading current info on the track we really did not know if it will be well-graded? Corrugated? Rocky? Sandy? Who knows!



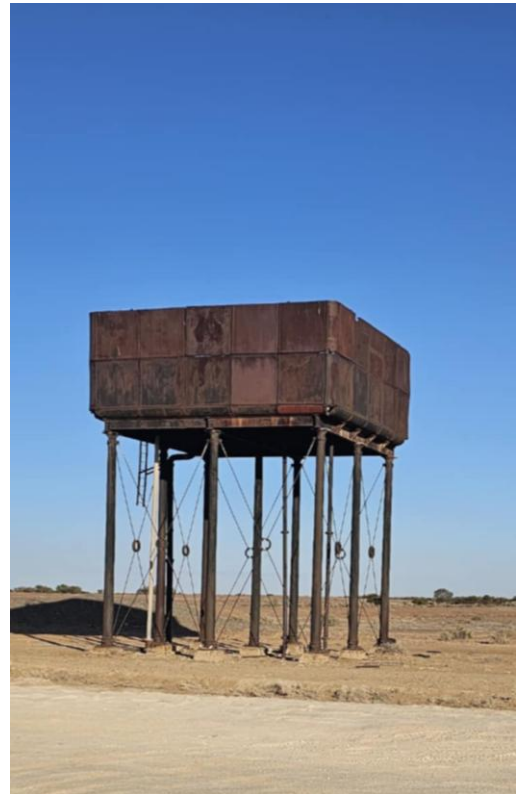
As we set off along the track, we're struck by how monochromatic the landscape is. The road, the vegetation, and the surrounding terrain all seem to blend into the same earthy hue—made even more striking by the vivid blue sky above. At this early stage, the track is straight and in great condition. It feels endless. With no one ahead of us and no one behind, there's a real sense of tranquillity and isolation.



It's almost hard to believe there's a cattle station out here, but sure enough, we spot plenty of cattle grazing in pairs right by the track. Eventually, the road starts to roll gently over a few low hills, but overall, it stays pretty straight and pretty flat.



We pass a number of ruins alongside the track—remnants of old railway stations and sidings that serve as a reminder of the days when trains once ran this route. The standard gauge railway line was abandoned in 1982.



About 30 km west of Marree, at a place called Alberrie Creek on the Oodnadatta Track, we come across the Mutonia Sculpture Park. We entered through the Kombi gate, and you can either walk or drive around the exhibits. We chose to walk—it gave us a chance to stretch our legs and get up close to the artworks. The sculptures are quirky, large-scale pieces made from recycled metal. Some are best appreciated from a distance to fully take in the subject matter. We really enjoyed wandering around. Honestly, it wasn't what we expected to find along the Oodnadatta Track.



Just a few more kilometres down the road, we come to the Dog Fence. Stretching 5,614 kilometres, it's the longest barrier fence in the world. Construction began in 1946 and was completed in the 1950s when several separate fences were joined to form one continuous line. This wood-and-wire fence marks the boundary between sheep and cattle country. Cattle are run to the north, as they can withstand dingo attacks, while the more vulnerable sheep are kept to the protected south.



The gentle hills only last a few kilometres before giving way once again to the seemingly endless, straight track. The road is nice and wide, with either no vegetation or just low-lying scrub along the sides—making it easy to spot the occasional oncoming vehicle.

The Lake Eyre South Viewing Point gave us our first glimpse of the lake. The floodwaters that have been filling the lake haven't reached this far yet—and, of course, there's no guarantee they will. Even without water, the area is visually spectacular, though it's currently covered in vegetation rather than shimmering salt flats.



We turned off the Oodnadatta Track to visit Wabma Kadarbu Mound Springs Conservation Park. The road in is sandy, corrugated, and bumpy—but it's worth the short detour. Blanche Cup and The Bubbler are two accessible natural artesian mound springs within the park. Blanche Cup is reached via a short boardwalk from the car park. At the top, you're greeted by a surprising little oasis of green that stands out sharply against the pale, almost white surroundings—it really does look like a deep cup of artesian water.



A left turn out of the car park takes you to another stop and another short boardwalk—this time to The Bubbler. It's another oasis, slightly larger than Blanche Cup, with a small overflow creek. Bubbles rise through the water, sending up gentle plumes of sand along with that distinctive *bloob bloob* sound. The overflow creates a lush, green area that's even more vibrant than the first.



Further down the road, we stopped at Coward Springs, now run by Scott and Barb. It boasts a caravan park but also welcomes day trippers keen to visit the museum, explore the wetlands, or take a quick dip in the spa filled with artesian bore water. There's even a date plantation on the property, first planted by Afghan cameleers back in 1898, which still produces dates today. The produce features heavily on the menu at the canteen, also known as the Date Shak. Here's a tip—we strongly recommend the coffee and date ice cream. It was absolutely sublime! The organic dates we bought have come in handy as a delicious post-dinner snack.

As a bonus, there's an Optus telecommunications tower, so if you're on the Optus network, you'll get reception here.



About seven kilometres past Coward Springs, the track's condition changes. It seems the graders haven't been this far recently, and the road becomes quite corrugated and stony. It's still manageable, but a bit more caution is definitely needed. We slow down and go wide when a vehicle passes, but luckily, there's very little traffic, so we don't have to worry too much about dust or stones being kicked up by other vehicles.

As the Oodnadatta Track parallels the Old Ghan railway line, the railway ruins and relics which we have seen thus far, have been dotted along the roadside. Some were only mildly dilapidated, while others were in such a state of decay that we wondered why they were still signposted at all.

The ruins at Strangways Springs were a bit different. For starters, they're about a 2-kilometre drive off the main track, and to explore them, we took a self-guided walking tour. These are not railway relics but a former pastoral buildings, stone stockyards repeater station on Australia's Overland Telegraph

Line. We took the self-guided walk around the to see relics of the manager's house, men's quarters, and the police station. The stone water tank was especially well preserved. The trail also passes through the old cemetery, where some of the original gravestones are still visible.



Nearby, there are several small extinct mound springs. Although you can no longer see pools of water, there's still enough moisture to sustain plant life.



As we near William Creek, the track becomes quite corrugated and rough—so much so that drivers have created new paths on the shoulders of the central, corrugated road.

After a full day on the Oodnadatta Track, we finally arrived at William Creek. The town was initially established in 1889 as a coaling station for the Old Ghan railway line. Today, the town serves as a popular tourist stopover for those travelling along the Oodnadatta track or, as it is for us, a location from which we can take a flight over Kati Thanda/Lake Eyre, Anna Creek station and the Painted Hills. There is a pub, a few sheds, a store, an open museum, accommodation, and an airfield.



Overall, the track was in much better condition than we expected. There were moments when it felt more like driving on a wide, concrete country road, and we saw fewer vehicles than anticipated. It was really only near the end that the road got a bit more challenging to navigate.

So how would we describe driving along the Oodnadatta track? Vast, open, expansive, isolating, arid, beautiful, interesting, straight, monochromatic hues, scenic, flat, rugged and historic.

Now, we're looking forward to our flight over Lake Eyre!

We woke to an absolutely stunning day. The air is crisp and cool but the sun is out and there isn't even a hint of a cloud in the sky. We made our way to the "airport". Well actually, a picnic bench and table just outside the runway. There were a few light aircraft on the tarmac – either having just returned from flights over the lake or being refuelled for the next schedule flight.



We met our pilot, Trey, and the 4 other passengers who were on our flight, had a safety briefing, boarded the plane, buckled our seatbelts and prepared to take off.



We flew out over the Oodnadatta Track and from the comfort of our light aircraft, we marvelled at just how, vast, beautiful and stark the outback landscape is.



We then tracked over Anna Creek station which is situated midway between Oodnadatta and Marree and covers 15,746 square kilometres. Anna Creek Station initially focused on sheep farming but transitioned to cattle due to significant losses caused by dingo attacks. Today, it is the world's largest working cattle station in the world. The land supports thousands of cattle—up to around 16,000. Mustering is done mostly from the air, with helicopters and small planes guiding the cattle while stockmen on motorbikes do the ground work.



The station is seriously huge and seems to stretch endlessly in every direction. has a blend of sand hill country with swamps and large areas of gibber tableland. From the air, it looks stunning.



Kati Thanda–Lake Eyre sits about 700 kilometres north of Adelaide and 400 kilometres from the nearest coastline, right in the heart of one of Australia's driest regions. At 15 metres below sea level, it's also the lowest point on the continent. As we approached, we could see water shimmering in the distance—an incredible sight in a place usually known for its dry, salt-crusted lakebed.

Right now, floodwaters from record-breaking rainfall in south-west Queensland are slowly winding their way through the Lake Eyre Basin, into north-east South Australia, and eventually into the lake itself. Water began arriving in early May 2025, and the flow is expected to continue over the coming months, gradually transforming this vast salt pan into a shimmering inland sea.



At this stage, the water hasn't yet made it as far as Lake Eyre South, although it's still flowing steadily into the northern section. The lake is divided into two main parts: the large northern lake, about 144 kilometres long and 77 kilometres wide, and the smaller southern lake. They're connected by a narrow stretch of water known as the Goyder Channel. Floodwaters from Cooper Creek only just reaching Lake Eyre North - and when they do, the water may continue through to Lake Eyre South.



This rare event is one of the most spectacular natural phenomena in the Australian outback. The Lake Eyre Basin itself is enormous—about 1.2 million square kilometres, or roughly 17% of the country's landmass. It's the fourth largest internal drainage system in the world, with rivers and creeks flowing in from all directions: north from Mount Isa, south from the Flinders Ranges, west beyond Alice Springs, and east past Longreach. Eventually, everything makes its way towards Lake Eyre.



Despite its vast catchment, the lake is usually bone dry. The region receives only about 150 millimetres of rain a year—around 12% of Sydney’s annual rainfall—and the lake’s flat basin means any water that does arrive spreads out widely and quickly evaporates. Since 1900, the lake has completely filled only three times, with the most significant event occurring in 1974—Australia’s wettest year on record. According to the National Parks and Wildlife Service, these full fills have only happened three times in the past 160 years, though partial fills occur more often.



When the floodwaters arrive, they bring the desert to life. The salty crust dissolves, forming a vast, shallow sea. Dormant brine shrimp hatch in the millions, fish that arrived with the floodwaters begin to breed and feed, and then the birds arrive—often in their thousands, sometimes even millions.

We took a scenic flight over the lake to see it from above, and it was absolutely worth it. From the air, you get a whole new perspective on the scale and beauty of the landscape. You can actually see the patterns of water channels snaking through the salt flats. Seeing Kati Thanda–Lake Eyre with water in it is something truly special.

Our flight then continued to the incredible Painted Hills, located within Anna Creek Station. Rising unexpectedly from the flat desert plains, these rocky outcrops stretch roughly 20 by 18 kilometres and are made up of both large and small hills scattered across the landscape. The colours are absolutely striking—deep reds, soft oranges, and pale creams—constantly shifting in appearance as the light changes.



The changing colours of the hills are believed to be a result of oxidation. The deep red is due to the oxidation of iron in the rocks, while the white sections are where iron has leached away. The area can only be accessed by air. Our flight landed near the Painted Hills and we had the opportunity to walk around, marvel at the colours, rock formations and rock formations. Our pilot, Trey also acted as our guide and was able to give us a lot of information and insight into the area.



Our main goal for this trip was to travel along the Oodnadatta Track and to take a scenic flight over Kati Thanda–Lake Eyre to see it in flood. But this experience far exceeded anything we could have hoped for. The track itself was full of surprises, the lake was bursting with water as far as the eye could see—and with even more still flowing in—and the Painted Hills were an unexpected and unforgettable bonus.

We'd highly recommend any or all parts of this journey. Whether you do the full road trip or just the flight, it's a spectacular slice of outback Australia that you'll never forget.

Meridian Mirth

To share your jokes, please send them to rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au.
Many thanks to Paul for his contributions!

An elderly man thinking his wife was losing her hearing went about 20' behind her and asked "Can you hear me sweetheart?" No reply. Moved to 10' and inquired again. No reply. 5' and not a word. A few inches behind ear, he asked "Can you hear me now honey"? His wife said "For the fourth time, yes."

A CLOCK FOR RETIRED PEOPLE!

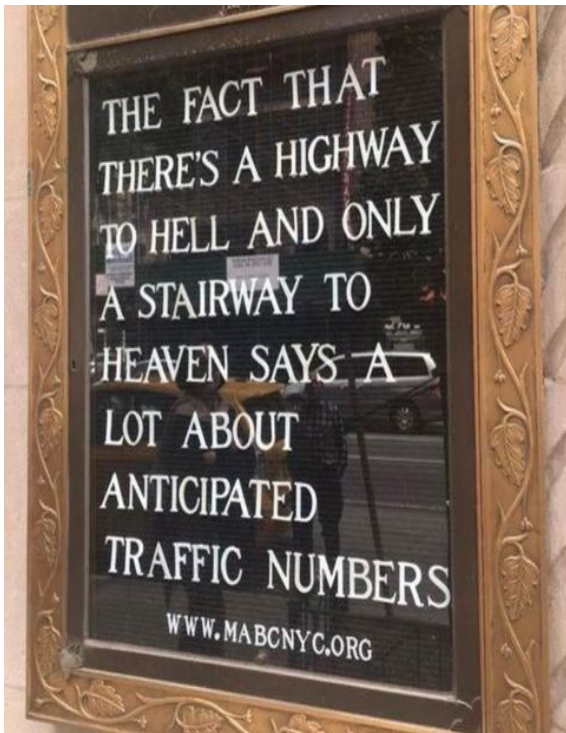


An elderly man in Florida had owned a large farm for several years. He had a large pond in the back. It was properly shaped for swimming, so he fixed it up nice with picnic tables, horseshoe courts, and some orange, and lime trees. One evening the old farmer decided to go down to the pond, as he hadn't been there for a while, and look it over. He grabbed a five-gallon bucket to bring back some fruit.

As he neared the pond, he heard voices shouting and laughing with glee. As he came closer, he saw it was a bunch of young women skinny-dipping in his pond.

He made the women aware of his presence and they all went to the deep end. One of the women shouted to him, 'we're not coming out until you leave!' The old man frowned, 'I didn't come down here to watch you ladies swim naked or make you get out of the pond naked..

Holding the bucket up, he said, 'I'm here to feed the alligator.'
Some old men can still think fast !!! ;}



A man goes to visit his doctor.

The doctor asks, "What's the problem?"

The man says, "Doctor, I don't know what to do. Every day my wife seems to lose her temper for no reason. It scares me."

The doctor says, "I have a cure for that. When it seems that your wife is getting angry, just take a glass of water and start swishing it in your mouth. Just swish and swish but don't swallow it until she either leaves the room or calms down."

Two weeks later, the man comes back to the doctor looking fresh and reborn. The man says, "Doctor, that was a brilliant idea! Every time my wife started losing it, I swished with water. I swished and swished, and she calmed right down! How does a glass of water do that?"

The doctor says, "The water itself does nothing. It's keeping your mouth shut that does the trick."

The Fine Print

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