

# Savannah Guides Field School Burketown

19-22 October 2017

SAVANNAH GUIDES



*Protectors and Interpreters of the Outback*

## "Indigenous Rangers and Tour Guides"

**Savannah Guides invites you** to our next Savannah Guides Field School in **Burketown**, on the Gulf of Carpentaria approximately 926km west of Cairns. This 3½ day workshop will focus on insights the **Gangalidda Garawa Rangers** provide on the ecology, conservation and interpretation of this special landscape. Established in 1859, Burketown is the Gulf's oldest town with rich cultural and historical stories. We will explore this vast region on foot, by bus and by boat discovering its diversity. Local field trips will explore **Australia's largest salt pans**, the **Tarrant East Asian Bird Flyway Site**, and we'll explore the heavens in a unique stargazing tour. Meet the region's **Traditional Owners**, and keep your eye out for **Morning Glory Clouds**, a unique natural phenomenon.



### WHO ARE SAVANNAH GUIDES?

Savannah Guides Limited develops the skills and careers of tour guides. We are a non-profit, member based network of Tour Guides and Operators working with our partners to be "Protectors and Interpreters of the Outback". Savannah Guides Limited began in 1988 and has won numerous tourism awards for training and tourism services. Our activities build sustainable tourism businesses for regional community benefit, expand career opportunities for Tour Guides and enhance visitor experiences. Our members include accredited guides and enterprises as well as "Friends" who assist in our Mission or just have a good time with like-minded people. For more details visit [www.savannah-guides.com.au](http://www.savannah-guides.com.au).

### WHAT IS A SAVANNAH GUIDES FIELD SCHOOL?

A Savannah Guides "Field School" is not a course with assessment or a qualification. It's simply our name for professional development workshops, held at various locations across Northern Australia at least twice each year. Field Schools are a part of our Tour Guide accreditation process, although most participants come for the open knowledge and skill sharing, networking with ecotourism and community leaders and enjoying a fascinating part of the country in more detail. The majority of Field School activities are held outdoors, in the field.



### WHO CAN ATTEND?

**Members and non-members are very welcome.** Field Schools are a great opportunity for any Tour Guide, tourism industry member, government or community representative or nature lover to gain a real insight into quality tourism operation. Our participants will include tourism businesses and organisations, tour guides, environmental specialists, traditional owners, local government representatives and land managers. The professional development opportunity provided at these Field Schools is unparalleled and the renowned Savannah Guides camaraderie is often the basis for valuable ongoing business and personal relationships. Build your network links with Savannah Guides.



## FIELD SCHOOL PROGRAM OVERVIEW

We'll have some rare opportunities at this Savannah Guides Field School, including the Gangalidda Garawa Rangers' tour operation, Yagurli Tours' experiences across the landscape and on the Albert River. We'll showcase Indigenous tourism achievements and a range of guiding skills. Burketown's clear skies invite our study of the stars at an unforgettable stargazing site and we'll be watching for potential Morning Glory rolling cloud formations in the early mornings – it's that time of year! There will be a special focus on the region's birdlife with experts on hand and the Savannah Guides' partnership with Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) will be celebrated. Indicative Program contents are below:

### Wednesday 18 October 2017

#### Arrival

Many participants will arrive today.

At 3:00pm all participants are invited to attend a ceremony in Burketown to recognise Tarrant Station as a key site on the East Asian-Australasian Flyway. The ongoing conservation work of the Gangalidda Garawa Rangers is critical to maintain this migratory bird habitat. We will be visiting this site later in the Field School.

Later join us for an informal evening with old and new friends. We suggest drinks and dinner at the Burketown Pub at your own expense.

### Thursday 19 October 2017

#### Welcomes and Setting the Scene

- 8:00am Field School Registration at Nijinda Durlga Hall in Burketown.
- 9:00am School Opening and Welcomes from Traditional Owner Murrandoo Yanner and Savannah Guides President Mick Clark.
- "Reptiles of Burketown" with Murrandoo Yanner Jnr and Desmond Armstrong.
- Woods Lake Ranger Activity Demonstration in the field including Weed and Fire Management, Biodiversity Surveys - Tools and Methods.
- Partnership Presentation from Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service.
- Field School Twitchathon – join our fun bird spotting competition to build your birding skills.
- Bonus Evening Crocodile Spotting Tour with Ranger Terence Taylor (very limited numbers and subject to tides).
- Welcome Dinner at the Burketown Pub sponsored by QPWS.

### Friday 20 October 2017

#### Buses, Boats and Fishing!

- Optional Birdwatching Walk.

- A Jam-Packed Day exploring the region on the Yagurli Tours Salt Pans and Bush Tucker tour by bus, along the Albert River on the Yagurli Tours tour boat, and at Burketown's pontoon on the Albert River learning some Fishing Tips and Tricks with the Gangalidda Garawa Rangers. Fishing gear supplied or bring your favourite rod.
- A relaxing dinner at the Nijinda Durlga Hall.

### Saturday 21 October 2017

#### Walks and Workshops

- Optional Birdwatching Walk to Burketown's historic Artesian Bore and Albert River Drive, two birding hot spots.
- "Timeless Experiences" Presentation – new opportunities in Tropical North Queensland for Indigenous Tourism Operators.
- Indigenous Tourism Development Workshop - Sharing Challenges and Achievements.
- Savannah Guides General Meeting.
- Savannah Guides Annual General Meeting.
- Presentation and Site Visit of the "Tarrant East Asian Bird Flyway" with Roger Jaensch.
- "Birds of the Gulf" Story-Sharing Workshop.
- Barbecue Dinner featuring local bush tucker and Yagurli Stargazing session at their incredible site on the Burketown Salt Pans! This will be an amazing experience in a special location.
- "Black History of the Gulf" Presentation by Murrandoo Yanner.
- We'll announce the results of the Twitchathon and award some fun prizes.
- Party Night on the Salt Pans – with yarns and songs – bring your guitar, didge or voice!

### Sunday 22 October 2017

#### Farewells

- Technology for Tour Guides Workshop.
- "Take Home Messages" summary and farewell.
- Field School finishes by 10.30am.

**Savannah Guides invites you to join us for this memorable and informative Field School!**

**Please pass this information on through your networks.**

**For more information please contact: Russell Boswell [info@savannah-guides.com.au](mailto:info@savannah-guides.com.au) / 0408 772 513**



## GETTING INVOLVED

We welcome your contributions to the Field School! Please help make it an even greater success by:

- ❖ Bringing your colleagues – the training and team building opportunity at Savannah Guides Field Schools is legendary!
- ❖ Joining the Field School Twitchathon! Register a team of 3-4 participants and tally your confirmed sightings over the school for fun and very modest prizes!
- ❖ Considering Membership – Savannah Guides welcomes Tour Guides and like minded people and organisations.

**Indigenous Ranger groups are particularly encouraged to participate to share their tourism plans and achievements and to experience Yagurli Tours.**



## GETTING THERE

- ❖ Burketown is 926 kilometres west of Cairns via the Savannah Way and is best driven over two days.
- ❖ Rex Airlines offers flights to Burketown from Cairns and Mt Isa.
- ❖ Oz Tours Safaris is offering SGL subsidised return vehicle transfers from Cairns:
  - Departs Cairns on Tue 17 October overnighting in Normanton at your own expense.
  - Arrive Burketown mid-afternoon on Wed 18 October.
  - Depart Burketown at 11:00am on Sun 22 October, overnighting in Normanton at your own expense.
  - Arrive Cairns late afternoon Mon 23 October.
  - More details available on the Registration Form (see below).

## ACCOMMODATION and MEALS

- ❖ All Meals (excluding Breakfasts) are included in your Registration Fee from Morning Tea on Thursday 19 October to Morning Tea on Sunday 22 October.
- ❖ Breakfasts are not included. Your accommodation property may provide breakfasts at extra cost. Alternatively you can enjoy breakfast at the Morning Glory Cafe or Burketown Bakery.
- ❖ Cabins, Lodges and Camp Sites are available. Accommodation is not included in your Registration Fee – please book and pay directly with the suppliers. Pub and Caravan Park rooms can accommodate between 1-6 people, so grab your mates and share the cost.
  - Savannah Lodge – Ph: 07 4745 5177
  - Burketown Pub – Ph: 07 4745 5104
  - Burketown Caravan Park – Ph: 07 4745 5118

Ensuite Cabins - \$145 per cabin per night

Ensuite Rooms - From \$135 per room per night

Rooms (no ensuite) from \$80 - \$98 per room for two people

Ensuite Rooms/Cabins from \$106 - \$135 per room for two people

Powered Camp Sites - \$36 per night for two people

## WHAT TO BRING

- ❖ Water Bottle and Small Backpack / Day Pack
- ❖ Walking Shoes / Boots
- ❖ Hat, Sunscreen, Insect Repellent, Head-Torch
- ❖ Notepad and Pens/Pencils
- ❖ Bird Field Guides and Binoculars



# REGISTRATION FORM – Burketown 19-22 October 2017

Please send your Registration Form and payment to Savannah Guides. Registration closes Friday 07 October

Name of Individual attending: \_\_\_\_\_

From – Enterprise/Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary or Medical Requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

Please do not distribute my contact details after the Field School  Please do not use any images of me in Savannah Guides promotions

## REGISTRATION

Your Registration Fee includes participation in Field School Presentations, Workshops and Activities; Transport to Field Activities and Participant Kit; All Meals (exc breakfast) from Morning Tea on Thu 19 Oct to Morning Tea on Sun 22 Oct. Your Registration Fee does not include Accommodation or Breakfasts.

Full School Registration – Non-Members	(Thu/Fri/Sat/Sun)	\$475
Full School Registration – Members	(Thu/Fri/Sat/Sun)	\$395
Single Day Rate – Non-Members		\$160
Single Day Rate – Members		\$140

If Single Day Rate please indicate your arrival and departure **day** and **time** for catering purposes: Day: \_\_\_\_\_  
Arrive: \_\_\_\_\_ Depart: \_\_\_\_\_

**REGISTRATION TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

## TRANSFER FROM CAIRNS

Savannah Guides Enterprise, Oz Tours Safaris, is offering SGL subsidised return coach transfers from/to Cairns, leaving Cairns early morning Tue 17 Oct (overnighting in Normanton at your own expense), arriving in Burketown mid-afternoon Wed 18 Oct. They will depart Burketown at 11:00am Sun 22 Oct (overnighting in Normanton at your own expense), arriving in Cairns late afternoon Mon 23 Oct. Cost is \$300 per person return (cash only payment on board please). If you wish to camp (en route and/or in Burketown) they will provide your camping gear at no extra cost.

**I would like to book a return seat on the Oz Tours Transfer (please circle): Yes / No**

**I will require Camping Equipment (please circle): Yes / No**

## ACCOMMODATION

Camping and Accommodation is available. Please book direct with the providers. Properties, Rates and Contact Numbers are available on the Page Above.

## PROMOTIONAL PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Non-Member Brochure / Merchandise in the School Participant Kit	\$ 50
Half Page Advertisement in the School Program	\$100
Morning or Afternoon Tea / Lunch / Dinner Sponsorship	\$250-\$1500

**PARTNERSHIP TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**PAYMENT TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

## PAYMENT (Please tick and complete your payment method below)

a)  **Direct Deposit:** Account Name: Savannah Guides Ltd - BSB: 034-167 - Account No: 47-1141  
To help identify your deposit please complete the Reference field on your transfer with your Surname.  
I have paid by Direct Deposit on \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

b)  **Credit Card:** Please circle: VISA / Mastercard

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Card No: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ CCV: \_\_\_\_\_

c)  **My Enterprise will be Paying.** Please send a tax invoice.

An Administration Fee of \$50 per person applies to all Cancellations

**Please email to [info@savannah-guides.com.au](mailto:info@savannah-guides.com.au)**

