

Savannah Guides Field School Longreach

02 – 05 April 2020

SAVANNAH GUIDES



Protectors and Interpreters of the Outback

“Tour Guiding – Back to Basics”

Savannah Guides invites you to our 74th Savannah Guides Field School in the western Queensland outback town of Longreach!

Longreach is situated west of Emerald on the Mitchell Grass plains of Central Western Queensland. Watered by the iconic Thomson River this scenic western river with its vast diversity of flora and fauna just begs to be explored. This majestic landscape will both entice and enthrall all visitors. Discover the pioneer and Indigenous history as well as topical issues faced by the current inhabitants of this beautiful but harsh environment. All the while the focus will be on getting back to basics and increasing our knowledge and skills as tour guides. Come along and share your stories and your passion about what, where, when, why and who got you started in your guiding career.



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.



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.

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

This Program is subject to change without Notice

Wednesday 01 April 2020

Arrivals

Many participants will arrive today.

- Optional Sunset Drinks and Nibbles at "Rosebank", the private home of Alan and Sue Smith (Please BYO Drinks). Bus departs Longreach Motor Inn and Longreach Tourist Park at 5:30pm.
- Early Bird Registration at "Rosebank"
- 7:00pm Bus departs "Rosebank"
- From 7:00pm Optional Meet New and Old Friends and Dinner (own expense) at The Bird Cage Hotel, 31 Duck Street, Longreach.

Thursday 02 April 2020

Welcomes

- 7:00am Breakfast at Harry's Restaurant, Longreach Motor Inn, 84 Galah Street, Longreach
- 7:50am Participants walk to Longreach Civic Centre, 96 Eagle Street, Longreach
- 8:00am **Registration** opens in The Fairmount Room, Longreach Civic Centre
- 8:30am Field School Opening and Welcomes
- Introductions around the Room
- **Savannah Guides Overview**
- **"What Bird is That?"** – A Detailed Look at Bird Books, Apps and Basic Bird Identification" with Ivor Davies
- Field School **Twitchathon** – Join our fun bird spotting competition to build your birding skills
- **"Sensational Service and Satisfaction"** - A theory behind providing the best tour experiences by Vicki Jones
- **QPWS Update**
- **"Plant Basics"** – A look at common plant families and how to identify them
- **"Ten Common Plants of the Longreach Region"** by Brett Hintz
- **Thomson River Cruise** on MV Longreach Explorer
- **"Talking Turtle"** - The story of the discovery of **Emmott's Short-necked Turtle** by Angus Emmott
- Field School Welcome Dinner at Smithy's, on the banks of the Thomson River
- Savannah Guides Evening Activities



Friday 03 April 2020

Geology, Culture and Interpretation

- 6:15am Optional Birding Session at Iningai Park
- 7:00am Breakfast at Harry's Restaurant, Longreach Motor Inn
- **"Safety Briefings and Microphone Skills"** by Brett and Kathy Hintz
- **"Geology of the Longreach Region"** – Maps, Apps and the Landscape as a Prop
- **"Cultural Interpretation and Preservation – The Right Way"** – A Workshop at The Scar Tree with Alan Smith
- Savannah Guides Land Care Activity
- **"Qantas Founders Museum Project Overview"**
- Group Photo
- **"Inside Interpretation"** by Trish Sloan
- **"Storytelling"** by Russell Boswell
- **"Camden Park Station – Solar, Succession and Sunset"**
- Dinner at Camden Park Station
- Savannah Guides Evening Activities

Saturday 04 April 2020

Grasses, Grasslands and Grazing – A Day with Local Experts!

- 6:15am Optional Birding Session at River Flood Plains
- 7:00am Breakfast at Harry's Restaurant, Longreach Motor Inn
- **"Grass Identification Workshop"** – Common grasses of the Longreach region
- **"Grasses across the Savannahs"**
- **"Mitchell Grass Ecology"** – It's not just about Grass! By David Phelps
- **"Grazing and Natural and Cultural Heritage Management"** with Angus Emmott
- **"Group Dynamics"** – How to Manage Groups on Walking Tours
- **"Strathmore Station – Contemporary Life on the Land"**
- Dinner and Savannah Guides Infamous Jam Session! Be sure to bring along your Musical Instruments!

Sunday 05 April 2020

Farewells

- 7:30am Breakfast in the Park!
- Twitchathon Results and Fun Prizes
- *Savannah Guides General Meeting*
- Take Home Messages and Farewell
- 10:30am Close of Field School

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

Please pass this information on through your networks.

NEED TO KNOW INFORMATION!

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 participants and tally your confirmed bird sightings over the school for fun and very modest prizes!
- ❖ Considering Membership – Savannah Guides welcomes Tour Guides and like-minded people and organisations.

GETTING THERE:

Longreach is accessible by car, plane, train and coach.

- ❖ Qantas flies direct from Brisbane once daily.
- ❖ Rex flies direct from Townsville on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- ❖ The "Spirit of Queensland" Train departs Brisbane on Tuesday and arrives into Longreach on Wednesday. It then departs Longreach on Monday and arrives back in Brisbane on Tuesday.
- ❖ Approximate Driving Distances and Times
 - Cairns – 920km - 11 Hours
 - Rockhampton – 687km – 8 Hours
 - Brisbane – 1177km – 13 Hours
 - Mt Isa – 647km – 7 Hours



FOOD and BEVERAGE:

Your Registration Fee includes:

Thu 02 Apr (B, MT, L, D)
Fri 03 Apr (B, MT, L, D)
Sat 04 Apr (B, MT, L, D)
Sun 05 Apr (B)

ACCOMMODATION:

Accommodation is not included in your Registration Fee. Please book your accommodation directly with the property.

Longreach Motor Inn has generously offered a discounted rate of \$116.25 per room per night for a minimum of three nights. Please mention that your reservation is for the Savannah Guides Field School.

Email: info@longreachmotorinn.com.au

Phone: 07 4658 2322

Address: 84 Galah Street, Longreach QLD 4730

Camping – Powered and Unpowered Sites are available at **Longreach Tourist Park**. Please mention that your reservation is for the Savannah Guides Field School.

Unpowered Site	\$28 per night for 2 people
Powered Site	From \$37 per night for 2 people
Ensuite Site	\$49 per night for 2 people
Ensuite Slab	\$52 per night for 2 people

Email: info@longreachtouristpark.com.au

Phone: 07 4658 1781

Address: 12 Thrush Road, Longreach QLD 4730

WHAT TO BRING:

- ❖ Personal Coffee / Tea Keep Cup
- ❖ Large Water Bottle
- ❖ Small Backpack / Day Pack
- ❖ Closed Walking Shoes / Boots
- ❖ Suitable Gloves for our new Savannah Guides Land Care Activity (eg: weeding, collecting rubbish, planting trees etc)
- ❖ Torch
- ❖ Hat, Sunscreen, Insect Repellent
- ❖ Notepad and Pens / Pencils
- ❖ Bird Field Guides and Binoculars
- ❖ Musical Instrument for our Jam Session
- ❖ Willingness to Learn and Contribute
- ❖ Smile, Fun and Laughter!



REGISTRATION FORM – Longreach 02-05 April 2020

Name of Individual/s 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; Field School Program; Meals as Indicated. Your Registration Fee does not include Accommodation.

Full School Registration – Non-Members	(Thu/Fri/Sat/Sun)	\$495
Full School Registration – Members	(Thu/Fri/Sat/Sun)	\$425
Single Day Rate – Non-Members		\$170
Single Day Rate – Members		\$150

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

REGISTRATION TOTAL \$ _____

OPTIONAL SUNSET NIBBLES AT "ROSEBANK" – 5:30pm – Wednesday 01 April 2020

I would like to attend Sunset Nibbles (BYO Drinks) at "Rosebank" (*please tick*): Yes No
If yes, I would like a 5:30pm Bus Pick-Up from Longreach Motor Inn Yes No
If yes, I would like a 5:30pm Bus Pick-Up from Longreach Tourist Park Yes No

PROMOTIONAL PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Half Page Advertisement in the School Program \$100
Morning Tea, Lunch or Dinner Sponsorship \$250 - \$1500

PARTNERSHIP TOTAL \$ _____

PAYMENT TOTAL \$ _____

ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATE

I would like to receive a Hard Paper Copy or PDF via Email

PAYMENT (*Please tick and complete your payment method below*):

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

Credit Card: Please Tick: VISA Mastercard

Name on Card: _____ Signature: _____

Card No: _____ / _____ / _____ / _____ Expiry date: ____ / ____ CCV: _____

My Enterprise will be Paying. Please send a Tax Invoice.

Registration closes Friday 20 March. An Administration Fee of \$50 per person applies to all Cancellations.

Please Email Completed Registration to sam@savannah-guides.com.au

