



SAVANNAH GUIDES FIELD SCHOOL

Gulf Savannah: 28 – 31 October 2021

“Rivers – The Lifeblood of Australia”

Savannah Guides invites you to our 76th Savannah Guides Field School in the Gulf Savannah – the birthplace of Savannah Guides.

From the Great Dividing Range in the east, to the Northern Territory Border in the west, the Gulf Savannah covers 186,000km². It features golden grasslands and savannah woodlands, historic mining towns and train journeys, abundant wildlife and world-renowned wetlands, Indigenous communities, remote cattle stations and diverse geological wonders. During this Field School we concentrate on the Normanton to Mt Surprise section of this magnificent region.



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 is a COVID-Safe Event and we are determined to look after our participants, and their families and friends, through safe practices. All attendees will be screened and temperature checked on arrival. Our indoor venues operate under COVID-Safe Plans and all activities will maintain Social Distancing. Hand sanitizer will be provided.

Savannah Guides invites you to join us for this informative "Roving" Field School!
Please pass this information on through your networks.

Wednesday 27 October 2021

Arrival

Most participants will arrive in Normanton today

- From 6:00pm **Early Bird Registration** and Optional Informal Get Together. Meet New and Old Friends for Drinks and Dinner (own expense) at the Albion Hotel, 37-39 Haig Street, Normanton.

Thursday 28 October 2021

Welcomes – Normanton and Karumba

- 7:00am **Breakfast** at The Gulfland Motel, 11 Landsborough Street, Normanton
- 8:00am **Registration** in Normanton Shire Hall, 33 Haig Street.
- COVID-Safe Protocols and Logistics
- **Field School Welcomes**
- Introductions around the Room
- **Savannah Guides Overview**
- **Emerging Indigenous Tour Operations of the Gulf Savannah**
- **"Transformational Tourism – Travel for Good"**
- Field School **Twitchathon** Briefing – Open your mind to the world of Birds! Join our famous fun bird spotting competition to build your birding skills and knowledge.
- **"Discovering Delta Downs Station"** with Fred Pascoe, Director, Delta Downs Station
- **Lunch** at Karumba Point
- Explore and Cruise the mighty **Norman River System** with Ferryman Cruises
- Behind the Scenes of the incredible **Les Wilson Barramundi Discovery Centre**
- The secrets of Normanton Railway Station
- Camaraderie and **Field School Welcome Dinner** at the Heritage-Listed Normanton Railway Station
- **Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service Update**
- Savannah Guides Activities

Friday 29 October 2021

Gulflander Train and Croydon

- **Breakfast** at Gulfland Motel
- All aboard Ken's favourite toy – **The Gulflander Train** for a classic heritage ride
- Refreshments and a spot of **Birding at Eleven Mile Waterhole**
- Group Photo at Critters Camp Station

- **Lunch** at Croydon's Lake Belmore where we discover the story behind the Gulf's largest freshwater lake
- **Rivers and Gold Rushes ...** a Discussion.
- **Interpretive Film and Signage ...** the Effectiveness of Croydon's True Blue Visitor Information Centre
- Gather your Twitchathon Team Members for some speed-spotting at **Cumberland Chimney**
- Camaraderie and **Barbecue Dinner** at Lalara Motel, Georgetown
- Savannah Guides Activities

Saturday 30 October 2021

It's all about Rivers! Georgetown and Mt Surprise

- **Breakfast** at Lalara Motel, Georgetown.
- A **Treasure Hunt** through the Terrestrial Centre's collection of over 4500 gems, minerals and crystals with an emphasis on locally found agate and crystals!
- Etheridge River Walk – **Dimensions of Interpretation Exercise**
- **Lunch** at Mt Surprise
- **"Healthy Creek Systems – The Past, Present and Future"** – an interactive walk along Elizabeth Creek with Senior Savannah Guide and Enterprise Owner, Joe Lockyer
- **"Rivers – The Centre of Australia's Culture, History, Sustainability and Natural Balance"**
- **Pizza Pool Party** Field School Farewell Dinner at Bedrock Village, Mt Surprise
- **Savannah Guides Famous Jam Session!**



Sunday 31 October 2021

Farewells

- **Breakfast** at Bedrock Village, Mt Surprise
- **"Connecting and Engaging with Savannah Guides"**
- **"Post COVID-19 Tourism ... What does it look like and how can we prepare?"**
- **Twitchathon Results and Prizes!**
- **Announcement of March 2022 Field School**
- Take Home Messages
- Close of Field School

This Program is subject to change without notice

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!
- Participating in the Field School Twitchathon! Join a team and tally your confirmed bird sightings over the Field School for fun and very modest prizes!
- Considering Membership – Savannah Guides welcomes Tour Guides and like-minded people and organisations.

Getting There

There will be a small bus (very limited seats) departing Cairns early morning on 27 October and returning to Cairns late afternoon on 31 October. Please book your seat on this bus on the Registration Form.

Normanton is accessible by 2WD vehicle.

- Approximate Driving Distances and Times
 - Cairns – 678km – 8.0 Hours
 - Townsville – 848km – 9.5 Hours
 - Rockhampton – 1549km – 16.5 Hours
 - Longreach – 888km – 9.5 Hours
 - Winton – 709km – 8.0 Hours



Food and Beverage

Your Registration Fee includes the following Meals:

Thu 28 Oct	(Breakfast, Morning Tea, Lunch, Dinner)
Fri 29 Oct	(Breakfast, Morning Snack, Lunch, Dinner)
Sat 30 Oct	(Breakfast, Morning Snack, Lunch, Afternoon Snack, Dinner)
Sun 31 Oct	(Breakfast)

Accommodation

Accommodation is not included in your Registration Fee. Please arrange and book your own accommodation. There is no set property, although most participants will stay at:

Wed 27 and Thu 28 October 2021 Normanton

Gulfland Motel (mention Savannah Guides)
11 Landsborough Street, Normanton
Tel: 07 4745 1290 / 0417 482 692
Web: <https://gulflandmotelandcaravanpark.com/>
Standard Room \$120 per room per night
Powered Site \$ 28 per night
Unpowered Site \$ 20 per night

Fri 29 October 2021 Georgetown

Latara Motel (mention Savannah Guides)
Gulf Development Road, Georgetown
Tel: 07 4062 1190
Web: <https://georgetownaccommodation.com/>
Variety of Room Configurations:
From \$75 - \$155 per room per night less a 10% discount.

Goldfields Van Park Ph: 07 4062 1269
Midway Van Park Ph: 07 4062 1219

Sat 30 October 2021 Mt Surprise

Bedrock Village (mention Savannah Guides)
Lot 1 Garnet Street, Mt Surprise
Tel: 07 4062 3193
Web: <https://www.bedrockvillage.com.au/>
Variety of Room Configurations:
From \$120 - \$165 per room per night
Powered or Unpowered Caravan / Camping Sites:
\$14 per person per day

What To Bring

- Face Mask if flying or using Public Transport
- Small Personal Hand Sanitiser
- Coffee / Tea Keep Cup
- Large Water Bottle
- Small Backpack / Day Pack
- Closed Walking Shoes / Boots
- Hat, Sunscreen, Insect Repellent
- Swimwear and Towel
- Notepad and Pens / Pencils
- Bird Field Guides and Binoculars
- Plant Field Guides
- Musical Instrument
- Willingness to Learn and Contribute
- Smile, Fun and Laughter!



REGISTRATION FORM

The Gulf Savannah: 28 – 31 October 2021

Name of Individual/s attending: _____

From – Enterprise / Organisation: _____

Email: _____

Mobile: _____

Postal Address: _____

Dietary or Medical Requirements: _____

Please do not distribute my Contact Details Please do not use any images of me in Savannah Guides promotions

Registration (please tick one box only):

Your Registration Fee includes: Participation in Field School Presentations, Workshops and Activities; Field School Program; Meals as indicated on Page Three. Your Registration Fee does not include Transport or Accommodation.

Full School Registration – Non-Members \$525

Full School Registration – Members \$455

Registration Total \$ _____

Transport (please tick if required):

I would like a seat on the Bus from Cairns back to Cairns \$150 return

Please note seats are limited.

Transport Total \$ _____

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 (please tick one box only):

I would like to: Receive a Hard Paper Copy QR I would like to receive a 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 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 15 October 2021 - An Administration Fee of \$50 per person applies to all Cancellations*

Please do not attend if you are unwell. *No Cancellation Fee will apply in this instance

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