



The Simpson Desert

7 DAY DOUBLE CROSSING TOUR

Get set to experience some of the best tracks and trails, hot springs, iconic pubs and a million star camping that the Simpson Desert has to offer!

We hope you're getting excited to tick off one of the greatest bucket list adventures of a lifetime! Here are just some of the amazing highlights you can expect to see on your bucket list trip to through the famous Simpson Desert.



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7 DAY DOUBLE CROSSING TOUR

Come join the Ellwood Motorcycle Adventures crew on an unforgettable 7-day double crossing of the Simpson Desert. Escape the rat race of everyday life, Explore the picturesque and untouched the Red Centre of Australia and discover why the desert is a place you need to visit at least once in your lifetime!

The Simpson Desert is on the bucket list of any motorcycle rider for good reason. With 1100 sand dunes, amazing scenery, vast rugged country, interesting history and some iconic outback pubs to stop into along the way it makes for an exciting and fun adventure.

The tour is fully supported with the famous Ellwood 6x6 Landcruiser carrying everything required for 7 days in the desert including camping equipment, so all you need to do is relax and enjoy the incredible beauty of the Simpson Desert.



Start and Finish: Start and Finish in Alice Springs

Day 1 – Alice Springs to Mt Dare 312km

Once sign on and briefing is completed, we depart Alice Springs and are straight away off to tackle the iconic Finke Desert racetrack. The track is 220kms of challenging riding to get the blood pumping. The unwritten rule of thumb for the Finke track is for everyone riding on the track to travel towards Finke until midday. After lunch we will travel the service road for the afternoon and make it into Mt Dare which is our camp for the first night's camp for a well-earned beer and great pub meal. Day one gives every rider a chance to get used to the bikes and how they react in the sandy conditions. You can make it as challenging or as easy as you need to with the service road being right beside the track makes it easy to take a rest whenever you need to. We camp this night however there is an option to upgrade, you can contact Mt Dare direct to book a room : mtdare@mtdare.com.au 08 8670 7835



Day 2 – Mt Dare to Linnie's Junction 218kms

After a hearty breaky at Mt Dare we head off and start to see the terrain change when the dunes start to appear in the horizon. We stop to explore some of the history and the early settlement of the area. It is not a trip into the desert without a stop off at Dalhousie Springs. It is on the western edge of the Simpson desert and with its 36-degree thermal springs it is a welcome relief from the harsh desert conditions. We make our way south onto the WAA line for the first of our seemingly endless tracks of sand dunes.

The southern trails in the Simpson are typically a little easier and are a great introduction to the desert riding we have ahead of us. The sand dune on these tracks are a little easier to manage as a lot of the peaks of the dunes have been capped when the road was created.

We pull up for the night near Linnie's Junction for our first outback desert camp. Campfire dinner and our million-star campsite makes you soon see why the desert is such a special place to visit.

Day 3 – Linnie's Junction to K1 Line 196kms

Today's ride will be an amazing feeling of remoteness and fun as you spend all day tackling the sand dunes and getting used to desert life on a motorcycle. The WAA line is known for being a very scenic part of the Simpson desert with picturesque desert country, large boggy salt pans with only the occasional camel or dingo to keep us company. After close to 200kms we pull up for another desert camp in one of the many abandoned oil well sites scattered throughout the desert.

Day 4 – K1 Line to Birdsville – 308kms

Once breaking camp, we head further south where the dunes slowly start to fade out as we hit the historical Birdsville track. We head north as no doubt by now the thought of a cold beer at the pub gets us through one of our longer kilometer days on the trip. We have our camp for the night at the caravan park in the outback town of Birdsville famous for the outback horse races, the huge Beg Red Bash music festival and of course the iconic Birdsville pub. A pub style meal and a few cold ones is the plan for the evening as we celebrate accomplishing our first leg of our tour with the completion of our east to west crossing of the Simpson Desert. We camp this night however there are options to upgrade to a room, contact Birdsville Tourist Park direct to upgrade to a room: 07 46563214 or info@birdsvillecaravanpark.com



Day 5 – Birdsville to Erabena Tk – 240km

Breakfast will be at the much-loved Birdsville bakery before heading out of town to start of west to east crossing. The first sand dune to appear is the huge 40-metre-high Big Red sand Dune. Great spot for a few photos and to get warmed up for the day ahead. We travel west along the QAA line where you will notice the dunes being a little bigger and more challenging than the southern tracks we have been riding. The end of the QAA line brings us to Poeppels corner which is the heritage listed landmark junction between Queensland, South Australia and the Northern Territory. The afternoon is spent heading west on the French Line until we meet up with the support vehicle for another unforgettable desert camp.

Day 6 – Erabena Tk to Mt Dare 250kms

Another desert morning sees us straight into the sand dunes of the French line. This track is one of the shortest and most direct route across the Simpson although it can be one of the more challenging sections. We like to leave this track for later in the tour so by now you have had quite a few days experience and more confidence in the dunes to conquer and enjoy the track. We make our way back to Mt Dare for another great night back at the pub. The support vehicle is quite a bit slower traversing this section of the desert so our camping equipment will stay in the vehicle for the night and we will enjoy Mt Dare Hotels cabin style accommodation.



Mt Dare to Alice Springs 341kms

The final day sees us heading out of the dunes and into cattle country on our biggest kilometre day for our journey back to Alice Springs. We will stop off at the Old Andado homestead which is literally a step back in time. The homestead was built in the early 1900's and is still standing still as it was when Molly Clark passed away in 2012. It is an amazing look at the life she would have lived. Everything is still there from the food in the cupboard to the vehicles in the shed! We make our way back to the aboriginal town of Apatula (Finke), and then finish the ride with a

photo with the welcome to Alice Springs sign on the way into town. Our farewell dinner will be at the Alice Springs brewing company opposite our accommodation at the caravan park where we will have a few celebratory drinks and enjoy the accomplishment of completing our Double crossing of the Simpson with all our old and new riding buddies.

Gear and luggage:

Your luggage and camping gear will be packed in to the support truck and available to you each afternoon at camp. We are limited with room and need to take quite a bit of gear with us so if you can please keep your gear bags as small as possible and try to avoid large gear bags. Temperature at night in the Desert can go below 0 Degrees C so make you have a good quality sleeping bag and carry some thermals for around the camp at night.

Sleeping set up:

We make camp most nights under the stars in the desert, we stay accommodated on night 6 at Mt Dare Hotel. There is a camp shower and camp toilet for the nights we stay in the desert.

You are provided with:

- Tent & Tarp
- Airbed

You will need to pack and bring with you:

- Pillow
- Sleeping bag
- King single fitted sheet
- Towel

Completion of tour:

When the tour is completed you will need to make any travel arrangements, pick ups, etc, to be from G'day caravan park in Alice Springs. We plan to be back in Alice Springs by around 3pm on the final day of the tour which gives us plenty of time to get cleaned up and head over to the Alice Springs brewery for our farewell dinner.

It is only a short 10 minute drive from the caravan park to the airport if you require transfers. We will be camping at the caravan park on the last night of the tour. You are welcome to camp with us for the final night, however if you would prefer alternate accommodation that is not a problem. There is plenty of accommodation options in the caravan park or hotel or pub style accommodation all throughout Alice Springs.



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PACKING LIST

- Helmet
- Boots (not a good idea to wear old boots that haven't been worn in years)
- 1 set of riding gear- Pants & Jersey
- Riding socks
- Gloves
- Goggles
- Protective gear (recommended) Armour/Knee braces/pads/Elbow guards
- Light wet weather jacket
- 3 litre hydration backpack (3 litre is a must!)
- Pair of pants/jeans
- Shorts and shirt
- Jumper/flanno
- Thermals & a warm jacket (0 – 23 degrees C)
- Thongs for showering and shoes for around camp
- Head torch
- Toiletries
- Sleeping bag and pillow (we supply all camping gear apart from a sleeping bag and pillow) a -5 to a 0 degrees C sleeping bag is recommended
- King single bed sheet in to cover your mattress
- Towel
- Sunscreen
- Camera
- Chargers/battery pack (there is 12V every night to charge from)
- Ear Plugs
- Any special foods or snacks you would like to bring along
- Fly/Mosquito head net can be a good idea

Some other details you need to know...

We are camping in the Desert therefore facilities are limited to what we can carry in the support vehicle, we have limited water so camp showers will be short and sweet and we have a camp toilet or you can choose the old shovel and walk option which is recommended in the our Parks Pass. There is 12Volts available every night to charge phones and cameras. Battery bank chargers can be a good idea to bring along too.

We are carrying SAT phones and EPIRBs and our back up vehicle will be following along in the background in case of a breakdown.

You will be riding for a full 6 days and the sand can be challenging so getting in some training and ensuring you arrive with a good level of fitness will make your adventure through the Simpson Desert so much more enjoyable and safe.



All of our bikes are registered and handed to you in road worth condition, when you arrive you will be required to check your bike out and make sure you are happy with everything and sign a waiver. We follow all Australian road rules and speed limits, anyone riding recklessly and disobeying speed limits, road rules and any instruction giving by an Ellwood team member will be required to forfeit their bike and take a seat in the support truck or leave the tour. Our aim is for everyone to explore the Simpson Desert safely and have the most unforgettable time of their lives and we like to see each rider respect us, all of our crew, our bikes, equipment and our tour operator licence so we can continue to grow and improve our tours for years to come.

BYO bike option

If you have decided you will join us on the Simpson Desert double crossing tour on your own personal bike it will need to be fully serviced and ready for a 7-day ride in the Desert. If you are unsure on what you need to get your bike setup we will be happy to give you advice on setting up your bike to suit your needs and what a full service requires.

The 7-day Simpson Desert double crossing tour is a trailbike tour therefore all your luggage and camping equipment will be carried by the support vehicle. All you will need whilst riding is a hydration pack and any special tools required for your bike including spare tubes.

It is highly recommended you obtain travel insurance before your tour, there are many options so check each policy to make sure it suits you, your age and your conditions, some options to try are Allianz and also Cover More insurance.

Please remind us before your tour if you have any dietary or medical requirements prior to your arrival in Alice Springs so we can cater to your needs.

Please use the links below for our terms and conditions and some FAQs for more info.

FAQS: <https://www.ellwoodmotorcycleadventures.com.au/general-6>

Terms & Conditions: <https://www.ellwoodmotorcycleadventures.com.au/terms-and-conditions>

If you need any more info on anything to do with the tour please feel free to give us a call or email anytime!

We can't wait to ride with you!

Ellyse and Woody

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