

OUTBIKE

'GULF TO GULF' 2022 RIDER REGISTRATION (ENTRIES JAN-MAR 2022)

Entrants to complete and return this form with \$1000 deposit.

| | |
|--|---|
| Event 1 (confirmed): Please choose | GULF TO GULF 2022 NORTHBOUND 5 May to 3 June (plus transfer 4 May from Adelaide to Port Augusta, transfer to Cairns 5-6 June) |
| Event 2 (confirmed): Please choose | GULF TO GULF 2022 SOUTHBOUND 14 June to 13 July (plus transfer 11-12 June from Cairns to Karumba, transfer to Pt Aug to Adelaide on final day) |
| Name (1 st rider) | |
| Name (2 nd rider) | |
| Name (if interested to be a helper) | |
| Address | |
| Email | |
| Phone/s | |
| Age @ 1 June 2022 | |
| Medical conditions | |
| Experience of extended riding of 80+km days including dirt | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Well practiced• Reasonable• Occasional• Never (discuss with us please) |
| Bike preference | Hire Outbike MTB (\$500) or own bike |
| Dietary requests | |
| Cost per rider | \$7000 – see event information on arcadiatravel.com.au/outbike for details of inclusions |
| Deposit \$1000/rider due with entry | NAB: My Europe Base Pty Ltd; BSB 085005 Acc 85859 9966 Upon receipt of your entry form and payment, we will email back to confirm. |
| Balance \$6000 due 31 Mar 2022. | |
| Agreement: | Please read ride information and conditions below. Agreement and waiver to be signed with entry. |
| Other comments or questions: | |

G2G 2022 RIDES IN BRIEF

NORTHBOUND 5 May start from Pt Augusta, arrival Karumba 3 June.

Riders can transfer from Adelaide on our bus on 4 May – and after a rest day, from Karumba to Cairns 5-6 June.

SOUTHBOUND 14 June start from Karumba (13th included as a free day prior to start), arrival Pt Augusta 13 July.

Riders can transfer from Cairns to Karumba on our bus 11-12 June with a rest day before the ride starts, and on from Port Augusta to Adelaide on the same day the ride ends, 13 July.

The **Gulf to Gulf** rides between Spencer Gulf and the Gulf of Carpentaria in 30 days, all the way across Australia! A quarter of the route is gravel, notably the 520km Birdsville Track. Since we began the event in 2005, about 400km has been sealed. It's getting easier – though we do like the gravel!

HALF-RIDE: OPTIONS for 15 day rides are offered on both events, subject to availability. Riders can elect to leave or join at BIRDSVILLE. There is a twice-weekly REX flight from Brisbane to Birdsville. Depart Brisbane Thu 19 May to join the Northbound ride or to leave the ride, depart Birdsville on Fri 20 May. Fly from Brisbane to join the southbound ride on Mon 27 June at 2:30pm. Or if leaving the ride, the outbound flight departs 10:50am on Tue 28 June.

For 2022, ride rest days on both rides are in Marree, Mungerannie, Birdsville, Mt. Isa and Karumba (at northern end).

The ride schedule in the Flinders Ranges week will vary slightly from previous, with night stops in Quorn, Hawker, Wilpena, Angorichina Village, Copley and Marree. This splits what was a long day (Quorn – Wilpena 120km) into two days, gives more time at Wilpena and moves a rest day up to Marree.

Karumba has a rest day to enjoy the Gulf of Carpentaria and local attractions before (or after) the Cairns transfer.

NORTHBOUND Day by Day <approx distance>: Port Augusta <40> Quorn <65> Hawker <55> Wilpena <80> Angorichina <85> Copley <115> Marree x 2 nts <55> Clayton Station* <85> Cooper Creek* <65> Mungerannie Pub x 2 nts <315 in 4 days***> Birdsville x 2 nts <190 in 2 days*> Bedourie <195 in 2 days*> Boulia <300 in 3 days**> Mt Isa x 2 nts <120> Cloncurry <185 in 2 days*> Four Ways <200 in 2 days*> Normanton <70> Karumba Point.

SOUTHBOUND Day by Day <approx distance>: Karumba Point <70> Normanton <200 in 2 days*> Four Ways <185 in 2 days*> Cloncurry <120 Sunday> Mt Isa x 2 nts <300 in 3 days***> Boulia <195 in 2 days*> Bedourie <190 in 2 days*> Birdsville x 2 nts <315 in 4 days***> Mungerannie Pub x 2 nts <65> Cooper Creek* <85>

Clayton Station* <55> Marree x 2 nts <115> Copley <85> Angorichina <80> Wilpena <55> Hawker <65> Quorn <40> Port Augusta.

* denotes bush camp (11 nights, of these 3 are rest areas or campsites with basic facilities)

Rest days:

- **Marree** is a fascinating old town, once the railhead for the Ghan. Flights to Lake Eyre are possible.
- **Mungerannie** is a pub and bore-fed warm artesian lake – however in 2019 it was empty due to water concerns.
- **Birdsville** is iconic and we'll arrive early afternoon, having a day plus some. A drive 40km west out to 'Big Red' could be possible.
- **Mt Isa** arriving lunchtime will be in effect a day and a half.
- **Karumba** has plenty to see and do for our day and a half.

Half days: Short riding days will give us afternoon time in the towns of **Hawker** and **Quorn**, time for gravel detours in the **Flinders Ranges**, walks or flights at **Wilpena Pound**, spa tub at Clayton Station, a dip in **Bedourie's artesian baths**, an afternoon in **Boulia**, and time to explore **Normanton** and a possible ride on the **Gulflander**.

Riders: We aim for between 12 and 20 riders. We will accept up to 22 registrations to allow for possible withdrawals.

Crew: Staff of 2 to 4 plus a few helpers (free trip) to give a high level of service together with 3 or 4 support vehicles.

Daily Grind: Typical cycling distances are 80km a day on dirt roads (of varying surfaces) and 100km on sealed roads (longest 120km).

Included Meals, Nights, Transfers:

2022 Ride includes 33 nights camping (11 at bush sites and rest areas), hearty breakfasts on all days, snacks galore, lunches on 26 ride days, dinners on 11 bush nights plus Wilpena and Angorichina (dine at local pubs or make use of campsite-kitchens the rest), extensive rider support and transfers on our bus from Adelaide and on to Cairns.

Cost: Participation per rider in 2022 is \$7000 (same as 2019). Half rides are \$3600 and include either the Karumba/Cairns or Pt.Augusta/Adelaide transfer.

2022 RIDER INFORMATION

Bikes: MTB recommended. Hybrid and cross-country bikes OK if you're expert on loose gravel and through sandy patches. Two sets of tyres suggested, knobbies for the dirt and narrower for bitumen. Make sure your bike is comfortable for successive long days.

Hire: We will have a number of 27.5 OR 29 MTBs for hire at \$500 for the 30 days with two sets of tyres, knobbies and narrower for road (eg Maxxis Detonator 1.50"/38mm 80 psi). You may like to bring your own saddle, pedals and bar-ends. In 2016 and 2019 our hire bikes were Gary Turner Avalanche 27.5 MTBs.

Transfer between Adelaide and Port Augusta: By our mini-coach and included in the rate. Our mini-coaches have wide-opening windows, XL-legroom and comfy reclining seats.

Transfer between Karumba and Cairns: Taking 2 days with a night en-route camped and a visit to Undara Lava Caves. Transfer, camping and breakfast is included, while meals and Undarra admission are extra.

Camping gear: We provide Malamoo or Speedy pop-ups (double or solo use). For mattress, we provide 2 layers, a closed cell insulation mat and a self-inflating soft foam mat – so you'll have 5-6cm of comfort under you. Sleeping bags are available for hire. Spares bags and blankets are carried for colder nights. For the campsite, we have gazebos (some with insect mesh), awnings to use on the sides of vehicles, tables, stools and comfortable chairs. We have a shower enclosure and solar heated water bags. On many nights we will have a campfire.

Drinks: You may bring alcoholic drinks to have on our bush overnights but we ask that they not be consumed before 4pm – and in moderation.

Entertainments: There'll be a bunch of books, games and sports gear. We have a number of documentaries and movies themed to the country we travel.

Power: We have a generator, solar panels and battery storage to provide power in remote locations.

Breakfasts and Lunches: Fuel up on healthy buffet breakfasts. Pack lunch before setting out and we'll keep it cool for you to pick up at the lunch rendezvous. Dietary requests can be advised and we will cater for these.

Support vehicles: We plan to use 2 or 3 of our 21 seat mini-coaches (with large enclosed trailers) and our 4wd Nissan X-Trail. One vehicle will stay to the rear of the last rider and act as a sag-wagon at day's end for riders in distress or who have fallen well behind.

Chores: We will have most things covered with our crew and helpers. For the bush campsites where we have more camp set-up and to prepare dinners, we'll run a roster for riders to assist.

Water points: Each day we will set up water containers at points advised on the day.

Morning Tea: Our crew and vehicles will be typically at 25-40kms intervals with thermoses, filter coffee and tea, cold drinks, fruit, cake, biscuits and other snacks.

Crockery, cutlery: We ask riders to bring their own plate, bowl, cutlery and coffee mug and cup, best kept in a calico bag or similar.

Lunch stop: Typically at 50-80kms with one of our crew and a vehicle on site.

Afternoon Tea: On our longer days we will have an afternoon tea at 75-100 kms.

Volunteer non-rider helpers: We can use up to 3 non-riding helpers for campsite, rider support and catering tasks. It's a great way to see a lot of Outback Australia at next to no cost.

Fitness: Riders should have experience at completing 100km days and competence at riding on dirt roads.

Medical: Registrants will be required to advise of medical conditions on the registration and waiver form. We reserve the right to ask for a doctor's letter. If the Ride Manager becomes concerned on the event for an entrant's ride-fitness or ability to ride on safely, they may discuss with the rider possibilities to tackle shorter distances for a day or more – combined with rest and recovery, riding on the vehicles.

Communications: Several UHF hand-helds will be issued amongst riders. Ride vehicles have UHF radio. Satellite phones are carried by crew. In 2019 Optus had the best mobile coverage on the route.

First Aid: Comprehensive first-aid kits will be on all vehicles. We carry plenty of sunscreen and personal insect repellent.



Traffic: The full ride does 2200 kms along remote highways including around 600 kms on dirt roads. As it is mostly in Outback SA and Queensland, none of the roads are too busy however care needs to be taken, especially with single lane bitumen, dust clouds, passing trucks and road trains. We recommend riding with a mirror and being prepared to pull over if a large vehicle is likely to pass closely or create serious dust (eg if it also faces oncoming traffic – or on sections where you are on narrow road).

How busy are the roads? Traffic volumes per day, total in both directions approx (using recent annual estimates divided by 365):

Birdsville to Bedourie on the Eyre Development Road 30

Bedourie to Mt Isa on the Diamantina Development Road 45

Mt Isa to Cloncurry on the Barkly Hwy 600. FOR 2022 WE HAVE SCHEDULED THIS STAGE ON SUNDAYS TO LESSEN THE NUMBER OF MINING TRUCKS AND GIVE THE OPTION OF TRAVELLING ON THE INLANDER TRAIN.

Cloncurry to Karumba on the Burke Development Road 75

Sourced from Queensland Department of Transport & Main Roads.

Ride Guide: We issue a descriptive day by day ride guide.

Signage: Our vehicles will display 'CYCLISTS ON ROAD' signs. Be advised we do not place marshalls and signage along the daily route. Instructions will be given ahead of any route aspects that may be confusing.

Route Diversions: Conditions in the Outback are subject to change due to occurrences such as rains and floods. Diversions could range from a few hours to a few days and may involve travel on our buses. In 2016 we made it to Birdsville with hours to spare before a deluge that held us up for 4 days – which we managed to catch up on. In 2019 flood water closed the upper Birdsville Track from February to June and for nearly 5 days so we drove around via the Strzelecki Track, Innamincka, the Dig Tree and other dirt trails to reach Birdsville.

PARTICIPATION:

- \$7000 full ride
- \$3600 half ride

Deposits and payment schedule for confirmed events:

- Registration form, signed waiver and \$100 deposit holds a ride place from 30 June 2021 until 31 December 2021;
- A second deposit payment of \$900 is due by 31 December 2021;
- Entries between January and March 2022 pay the full deposit of \$1000;
- Full payment is due by end of March 2022.

Cancellation conditions:

- Deposits of \$100 and \$900 are NON-REFUNDABLE.
- Cancellation between 1 April 2022 and the event commencement shall incur a 50% LOSS of the full amount paid.
- If an event is cancelled by OUTBIKE, full refunds will be made.
- If a participant has to cancel due to COVID19 illness or restrictions, full refunds will be made.

Travel insurance: Consider a travel insurance policy to cover cancellation or other unseen events.

Fund raising for charity: While we have not yet linked the 2022 events to any specific charity, if any rider seeks to raise funds through their participation they are welcome to advise us of the cause. We can put an item on our home page with a link to help promote.

Images on the event: We do take images during events that we may later use on social media and in promotion. Participating in any Outbike event, you acknowledge that you may appear in such images. Note that we will not use a close-up photo of any rider without asking their approval.

GULF TO GULF 2022

Conditions of participation

Liability: The operator (and their staff and agents) aim to conduct the event as advertised, professionally, safely and to the best of their abilities but shall not be held liable for the ultimate safety of riders.

Health and experience: Riders should be in good health and have suitable experience including long days and safe riding with vehicle traffic. The operator reserves the right to terminate the participation of a rider if the operator feels it is unsafe for the rider to continue. In this case the rider will be given the choice of assisting instead.

Covid19: The event will operate to any Covid-safe requirements applying. See also 'Cancellation Conditions' below.

Alterations: The operator is not responsible for inconvenience or extra costs incurred in circumstances beyond the operator's control such as delays or alterations caused by weather events, road conditions, other transport or equipment failure. The operator reserves the right to alter the schedule according to circumstances.

Note that in 2019 the Birdsville Track was closed by floods for months ahead of our event. We rode it for 200km, reaching Mungerannie Roadhouse, and with the track still closed, we packed up and relocated, detouring over 1000km on dusty dirt roads in 4+ days in our 3 vehicles via the rugged Strzelecki Track and Innamincka. This lost 4 riding days but put the event back on schedule. In 2016 Birdsville copped a rare downfall of 60mm over the 24 hours just after our arrival and the town was closed off for 5 days. With some very long ride days we made up time and reached Karumba on what was to be a rest day. On both events riders were not put to extra expense through these re-arrangements. Be ready to adapt if we need to.

Images: During the event images will be taken by our crew and other riders. All participants on the event agree that their image may appear on social media of Outbike, Arcadia Travel and elsewhere. Images may be used by Outbike for promotion.

Cancellation Conditions:

1. Deposit payments of \$100 (upon full registration by 30 June 2021) and \$900 (due 31 Dec 2021) are NOT REFUNDABLE on cancellation – except in Covid related circumstances.
2. By 31 Mar 2022 participants will be paid in full or liable to lose their place. Cancellation between 1 April 2022 and the start of the event will receive a 50% refund.
3. If the event is cancelled by Outbike due to Covid or other circumstance, full refunds of any payments will be made.

Travel insurance: Consider a policy to cover cancellation or other unseen events.

Participation: To proceed, the event is subject to minimum numbers of 10 riders. We aim for a maximum of 20 riders but will accept up to 22 entries to allow for possible late withdrawals.

Ralph Jackson, Rides Manager / Director of Outbike & Arcadia Travel
Mobile: 0406 440418 / outbike.rides@gmail.com go@arcadiatravel.com.au

Outbike is a registered trading name of My Europe Base Pty Ltd ABN 41053515834,
12 Wandoo Court NOOSAVILLE 4566

Arcadia Travel is a registered trading name of Travel Ahead Pty Ltd ABN 63610755881,
12 Wandoo Court NOOSAVILLE 4566

The above entities are co-owned.