**sch_logoEmerald Secondary College**

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**CENTRAL AUSTRALIA TOUR 2019**

**INFORMATION NOTICE**

March 2019

Dear Parents and Students,

Thank you for your interest in the upcoming Central Australia tour - certainly an experience not to be missed! The time has come to turn your expression of interest into a firm commitment to attend, by logging on to Compass and paying a ***deposit of $200.00 from Friday 15th March 2019*** to secure your place on the tour. Payments can also be made at the College office.

Places are allocated on a “first to pay the deposit” basis, however, we do reserve the right not to accept students on the tour who have exhibited unacceptable behaviour whilst at school. This will also apply to behaviour between now and the departure date. Co-ordinators and other relevant staff will be asked to give feedback regarding all students who express a desire to attend this trip. I hope you understand the reasons for making this a condition.

The cost of the tour will be around $1340 (to be confirmed later in Term 2). While this cost will include all accommodation, transport, most meals, entry and activity fees, tour t-shirt and travel insurance, students will also need spending money in addition to this (for souvenirs, a cold drink after a long walk, etc.). Based on my experience, I would suggest a minimum of $300.

The scheduled dates of the tour are **Sunday 15th September – Tuesday 24th September 2019**. This departure is at the beginning of the last week of Term 3 and returns in the first week of the school holidays.

As expressions of interest often out-weigh the number of places available, be aware that payment via Compass allows us to sort students by payment date and time; therefore, the first 38 students will be identified as having a place, even if others have made payment on the same day. As such, I encourage you not to wait too long to secure your place. A waiting list will be established if required.

We travel with very competent, experienced tour operators who will supply excellent commentary, plenty of tasty and nutritious food, and comfortable, secure tents. There may also be the possibility of some optional activities such as scenic flights and camel rides – this will depend on our daily schedule as well as the location of some of our accommodation that has yet to be finalised.

At this stage, we have not received final costs for the tour; however, as stated above, the approximate cost will be ***$1340.00***. Be aware that the tour cost does not include the cost of Travel Insurance (optional - $41), nor spending money.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at the College.



**Ritu Arora**

**Year 10 Coordinator**