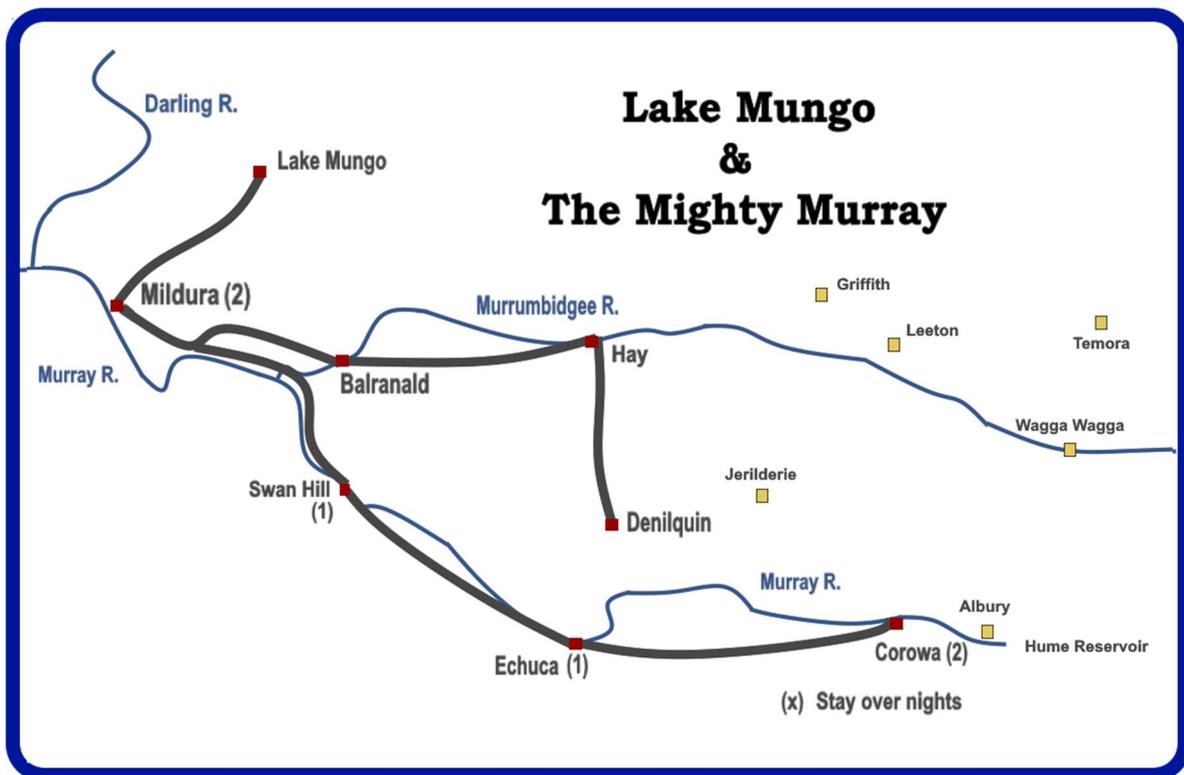




Post-Conference Educational Travel Program 20 - 26 April 7 Days / 6 Nights



This Educational Travel Program is designed as a post-tour following the U3A NSW Conference in Denilquin in April 2023.

The previous tour before the 2021 Conference in Wagga Wagga was enjoyed by the participants and, as Denilquin is a fairly long way from many U3A locations in NSW, this program will add value for those attending and wishing to experience some of the surrounding attractions.

Like the previous program, this one is designed as a self-drive, convoy style experience, which will commence from Denilquin and visit Balranald, Lake Mungo and the many historic places along the Mighty Murray River.

You may like to invite other U3A members to share your vehicle and assist with the cost of fuel on this program.

Please Note: The program will operate with a minimum of 12 participants and, depending on the group's makeup, up to a maximum of 20. See page 4 for costs.

Day 1. (Thursday 20 April)

8.00 am: Depart Deniliquin for Balranald, where we will experience the Discovery Centre Interpretative Pavilion and take a Township Heritage Walk, see the Southern Cross Plane Replica and explore Yanga Homestead and historic Woolshed.

4.00 pm: Depart Balranald for Mildura, where we will stay for 2 nights at River City Motel.

7.00 pm. Tonight we embark on a **Murray River Dinner Cruise** aboard a Paddle Steamer. D

Day 2. (Friday 21 April)

8.30 am. Depart Mildura for Lake Mungo, where we will join a two and a half hour escorted tour of one of the most important archaeological sites in Australia.

Lunch is available after the tour at the Lake Mungo Lodge. (Own cost)

This afternoon return journey to Mildura for our overnight stay.

Tonight is free to dine in Mildura but you may like to visit the Mildura Working Man's Club, where Bistro 121 is a popular dining place for the locals. B

Day 3. (Saturday 22 April)

8.30 am. Meet a local Historian and learn about Mildura's rich heritage as we explore "*The Chaffey Trail*", an immersive heritage experience consisting of twelve connected and historically significant sites.

This afternoon we travel to Swan Hill, where. this evening at 7.30 pm, we will enjoy the "Heartbeat of the Murray Laser Show", which tells the story of the Murray River. We'll be transported back 30 million years, before travelling forward through time to the Murray River as we know it today. Tonight's dinner will be at Paragon Café (6 pm).

We stay overnight in Swan Hill at The Swan Hill Resort. BD

Day 4. (Sunday 23 April)

9.15 am. Check out and depart our motel for the **Pioneer Settlement**.

9.30 am. Explore Swan Hill's Pioneer Settlement. The Pioneer Settlement showcases Australian history.

Lunch is available at the Paragon Café, a nice little spot to have a light lunch, whilst visiting the **Pioneer Settlement**. (Own cost)

After lunch we travel to Echuca where we will stay overnight at the Paddle Wheel Motel.

Dinner suggestion tonight is the Echuca Workers Club, which has a highly rated Bistro. B

Day 5. (Monday 24 April)

After breakfast, check out and board a Paddle Steamer at 10.00 am for a 1 hour cruise on the Murray from the Echuca Wharf.

12.00 noon: Depart Echuca for Strathmerton, where we will visit Cactus Country, Australia's largest cactus garden. Here we can explore the 12 acres of gardens, capture the most unusual photos, take home a cactus and add some Mexican flavour with a visit in the Café/Bar.

2.15 pm: Depart Cactus Country for Corowa.

3.30 pm. Arrive Corowa and discover Corowa's history and learn of its role in the birth of Federation Australia by visiting the Corowa Federation Museum.

We then view the storyboard, which details the story of Federation, and how it relates to Corowa as the Birthplace of Federation.

5.30 pm. Check into The Corowa Golf Club Motel, 3 Hume St., Corowa (02-6033 1466). Dinner recommendation tonight is the Corowa Golf Club, where the Bistro offers a varied menu. The Royal Hotel is another dinner option.

We will stay 2 nights in Corowa.

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Day 6. (Tuesday 25 April - Anzac Day)

8.30 am. Depart Corowa for Chiltern, a perfectly preserved gold-rush era town, built in the late 1850's, when diggers tried their luck on the goldfields and fortunes were made and lost. Their legacy is a streetscape of wide verandas and historic buildings that tell the stories of European settlers and gold miners.

9.00 am. Visit the Atheneum Museum (if open on ANZAC Day).

10.00 am: We may be able to join an ANZAC Ceremony in Chiltern.

11.00 am: View the former home, Lake View House, of Henry Handel Richardson, author of "The Getting of Wisdom" and "The Fortunes of Richard Mahoney", where the family briefly lived in the 1870s. It was acquired by the National Trust almost a century later.

12.00 noon. Depart Chiltern for Rutherglen, (18kms~15mins), where we will visit the "Rutherglen Wine Experience and Visitor Information Centre", said to be located in the township blessed with the world's richest wines, deep soul and character, the powerful Murray, ancient river red gums, idyllic pastoral scenes and historic villages. NB: Please note you must be fully vaccinated to enter the Information Centre.

After our visit to the Information Centre, we are free to select and visit some of the wineries in the Rutherglen Wine Region.

6.00 pm. Return to our Motel in Corowa, where we will get together again for our farewell dinner at the Corowa Bowls Club.

This is our final night of the "**Lake Mungo & The Mighty Murray**" Program.

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Day 7. (Wednesday 26 April)

Our program concludes after breakfast and check out from our motel.

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Cost per person:

Share Twin:	\$990
Double:	\$965
Single:	\$1405

How to enrol on the program.

Please use the advised Google Form to indicate your preference for accommodation, i.e. occupancy preference and names of the parties to share a room.

What's Included:

- Motel Accommodation for 6 Nights; Continental Breakfasts Daily and 2 Dinners
- Murray River Dinner Cruise from Mildura
- Services of a guide in the lead vehicle.
- Visit to Yanga Station, Balranald.
- Lake Mungo Tour with local guide.
- Swan Hill: Admission to the Pioneer Village, Heartbeat of The Murray Laser Show and a two Course Dinner at Paragon Café.
- Echuca Riverboat Cruise
- Admission to Cactus Country, Strathmerton.
- Admission to Corowa's Federation Museum

What's Not Included.

- Transport or related costs. Transport is by own vehicle.
- 4 Dinners, lunches and beverages during each day.
- Personal costs within the Swan Hill Pioneer Village. (e.g. Carriage rides, etc).
- Mini Bar. Telephone and data charges, if applicable, in Motels.

Some more special towns

Whilst you are in locality, you may also like to visit the nearby towns of **Beechworth**, one of Victoria's best preserved former gold mining towns, with its Historic and Cultural Precinct, a major attraction, comprising of the town's old court house, telegraph station, town hall, a museum, and a dark cell, which at one time housed the infamous bushranger Ned Kelly, and/or **Bright**, with its Autumn Festival, a celebration of Autumn and harvest in Victoria's Alpine High Country due to commence on 28 April.