



Photo: taken by A.Boman, PS Marion Volunteer

P.S.

“MARION”

Enjoy a unique experience cruising the magnificent Murray River aboard this restored historic Paddle Steamer

**16th – 20th September
2012
Mildura to Renmark**

Long Overnight Cruise to Renmark - 5 days 4 nights

<p>Sunday 16th Lunch & Dinner Overnight Wentworth</p>	<p>Embarkation aboard the PS Marion commences at 8:00 am for 9:00 am departure from Mildura at Lock# 11. Pass through Abbotsford Bridge to our overnight mooring at Wentworth. This bridge crossing the Murray River is one of only two bridges in the Sunraysia area that enables you to pass from one state to another The outback town of Wentworth lies at the junction of the Murray and Darling rivers.</p>
<p>Monday 17th Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Overnight Anabranch</p>	<p>This morning we visit Wentworth Goal. Inspect the inside of a fascinating historical landmark, designed to serve a vast region. Departing Wentworth at 12:30 pm. Negotiate through Lock# 10 at approximately 1:00 pm. Arrive at Anabranch where we will moor for the night. Anabranch is an ancient path of the Darling River extends 460km from its junction with the Darling River (south of Menindee Lakes) to the Murray River, about 20km west of Wentworth. It ceased to be the river channel when the river changed its path 11,000 years ago. The Anabranch was an important area for Aboriginal people for about 27,000 years.</p>
<p>Tuesday 18th Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Overnight Lock 8</p>	<p>This morning we depart Anabranch as we continue to journey downstream. We will cruise through Lock# 9 at approximately 11:30 am. Arriving at our overnight mooring at Lock# 8 at approximately 4:00 pm where the crew will load wood.</p>
<p>Wednesday 19th Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Overnight Higgins Cutting</p>	<p>Depart Lock# 8 past Ned's Corner - a favourite spot for campers, fishermen and bushwalkers. We travel through Lock# 7 at approximately 11:30 am on our way to our overnight mooring at Higgins Cutting. There are many spectacular cliff lines to photograph, large sand and clay cliffs with impressive formations. These bends used to be a hazard for river steamer traffic with it's narrow banks prior to the locks and weirs being built, but is now easily navigable.</p>
<p>Thursday 20th Breakfast & Lunch Overnight Renmark</p>	<p>This morning we depart Higgins Cutting and pass Border Cliffs (formally Port Murthoo) which was a customs outpost. Before Federation in 1901 river boats had to pay taxes at the borders of the 3 colonies along the Murray. Customs outposts were established at strategic points, including Port Murthoo that was in operation until 1902. Very few taxes were collected here, it seemed the officer's main role was to board the vessels at the border and seal any dutiable goods which would then be charged at Renmark or Morgan. Navigating through Lock# 6 at approximately 11:30 am. Arriving Renmark at approximately 5:00 pm. Renmark is the bottom of the "Top End" of the Murray. The old paddle steamer "Industry" commemorates Renmark's steamer port days. The Renmark Hotel and the river liners "Gem" and "Marion" kept paddleboat days alive with dignity at Renmark until after World War II. Passengers board bus back to Mildura approximately 5:30 pm</p>

Cost: \$999.00 per person twin share (including GST)

Note: All itineraries and arrival / departure dates and times are subject to change at any time dependant on river conditions and at the discretion of the Captain.

Overnight cruises costs include all meals and secure car parking at Mannum. Only 14 cabins twin share available.

For bookings please contact:

Mannum Dock Museum, 6 Randell Street, Mannum SA 5238

Tel: (08) 8569 2733 email: museum@psmarion.com

More details: www.psmarion.com



The paddle steamer Marion, a fully restored heritage vessel (hull built in 1897), is one of the last operational, heritage, original, steam driven, wood fired, with overnight passenger carrying side paddle steamer in the world and was fully restored by volunteers over many thousands of hours. Her crew are all volunteers.

Marion has three deck levels and passengers will need to negotiate stairs. Bottom deck is the entry point to the boat on most occasions, although at times, e.g. steep banks or wharf; entry is then made to the middle deck. The bottom deck houses the steam plant, this being the original steam plant fitted to the vessel in 1900. Also found on this deck are the galley and passenger dining room. Middle deck is the main accommodation deck. The passenger lounge with bar is on this deck along with cabins 7 to 20 and the shower and toilet facilities. Top deck is made up of the wheelhouse, a further passenger lounge (formerly the gentlemen's smoking room) and cabins 1 to 6.

Passenger accommodation aboard the PS Marion is in the form of bunk style twin share cabins and can accommodate a total of 40 people (including crew). Sole occupancy is limited for twin cabins, it incurs a 50% charge on top of the cruise price and is subject to availability.

Four separate toilets and four showers are available for passenger use on the middle deck. Toilets are equipped with wash basin, mirror and power points. Electric razors and hair dryers can be used. A further crew toilet and shower is situated on the bottom deck. Two cabins located on the top deck have power points which can be used for sleep apnoea machines.

Neat casual clothing and flat shoes are recommended.

Linen is provided. This includes bedding, towels, face washers and bathmats.

All meals are included in the cruise price quoted and detailed in the itinerary. Alcohol and soft drinks are not included. Bar facilities are available. No alcohol is to be carried aboard by passengers.

Secure car parking is available in Mannum and is included in the cost of the cruise.

In the unlikely event of an emergency, passengers must follow the instructions issued by the crew. Life jackets are stowed under the bunks of each cabin as well as in lockers on each deck. Smoking is prohibited in all areas except outside of the middle and top decks. The wheelhouse and galley are restricted areas and entry is only available by invitation from the Captain or the Chef respectively. If passengers require help in any way on board they should refer to the Purser.

To confirm your reservation a deposit of 20% of the total fare or \$100 per person (whichever is greater) must be paid at the time of the booking. Balance of payment is to be paid 30 days prior to cruise departure. In the event of cancellation the following fees are applicable:

- Written notice of cancellation at least 60 days in advance of cruise departure date, no penalty. Passenger will be refunded full deposit paid.
- Written notice of cancellation from 59 days to 30 days before the cruise departure date the passenger will forfeit the deposit paid.
- Written notice of cancellation 29 days to 15 days before the departure date the passenger will be liable to pay 50% of the total fare.
- Less than 14 days before the departure date the passenger will be subject to a cancellation charge equal to 100% of the total fare.

Comprehensive travel insurance is recommended.



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