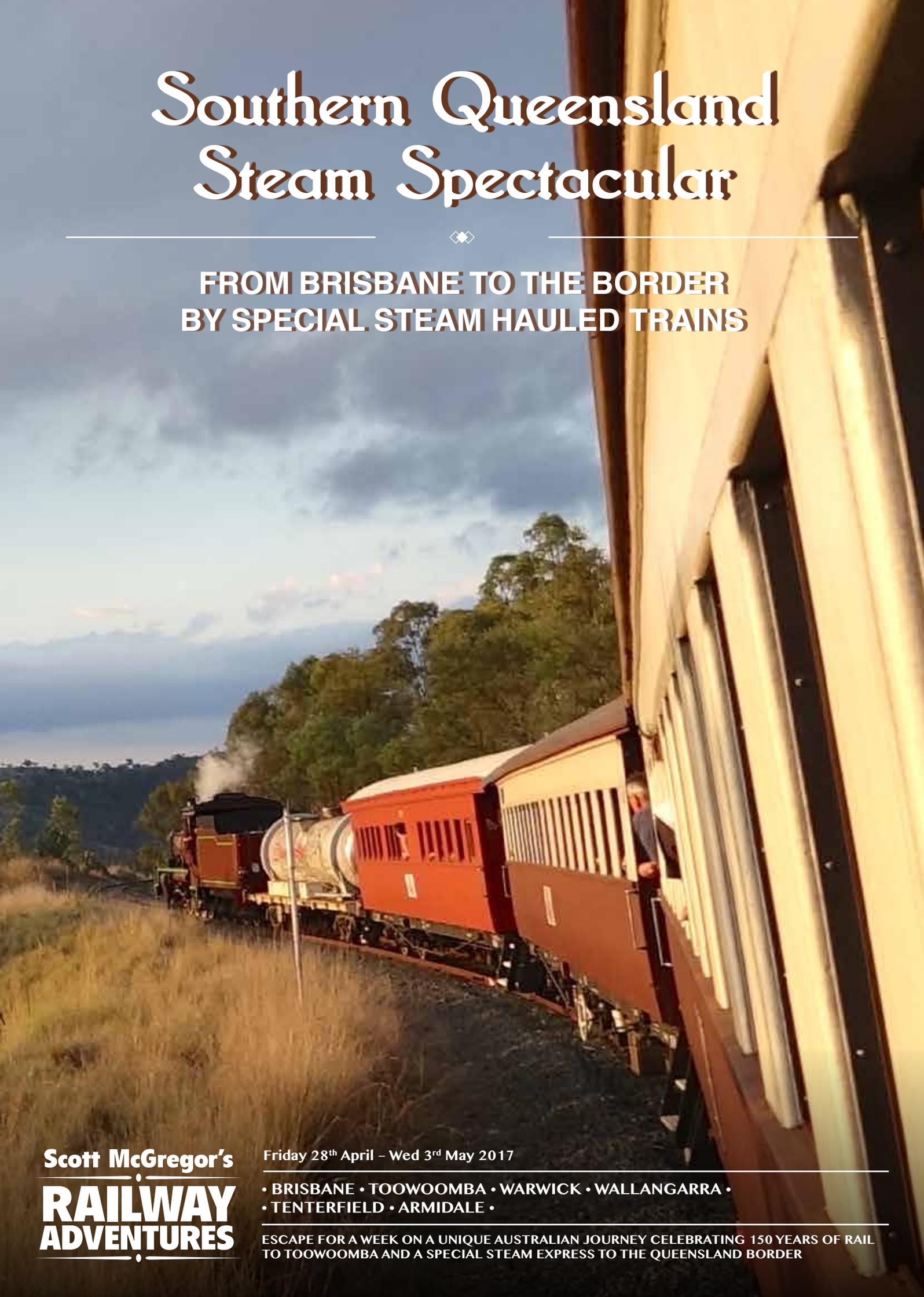


# Southern Queensland Steam Spectacular

A steam train is shown from a side-on perspective, moving through a scenic landscape. The train consists of a steam locomotive at the front, followed by a water tank, a red passenger carriage, and a cream-colored passenger carriage. A person is visible looking out from the window of the cream carriage. The background features rolling hills, trees, and a cloudy sky. The foreground shows tall grass and the side of the train.

**FROM BRISBANE TO THE BORDER  
BY SPECIAL STEAM HAULED TRAINS**

**Scott McGregor's**

**RAILWAY  
ADVENTURES**

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> April – Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2017

• BRISBANE • TOOWOOMBA • WARWICK • WALLANGARRA •  
• TENTERFIELD • ARMIDALE •

ESCAPE FOR A WEEK ON A UNIQUE AUSTRALIAN JOURNEY CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF RAIL  
TO TOOWOOMBA AND A SPECIAL STEAM EXPRESS TO THE QUEENSLAND BORDER

## OVERVIEW

The first railway between Sydney and Brisbane via the scenic New England route has been closed for decades. However, part of this line, in Queensland, is still maintained and occasionally a very special rail tour brings this iconic line to life. This short and sweet Railway Adventure centres on a special autumn excursion along this historic and dramatic railway taking you across Southern Queensland's Granite Belt from Brisbane to Toowoomba for the 150th Centenary of the Railway. Then onto Warwick for the historic run up the range to Wallangarra. The journey incorporates tours in cities and towns along the way including Toowoomba, Tenterfield and Armidale featuring award winning museums, grand old country mansions, wineries and woolsheds. Delicious meals, comfortable accommodation, a cast of interesting characters and plenty of intriguing stories complete this compact short adventure along the route of an icon of Australia's rail history.



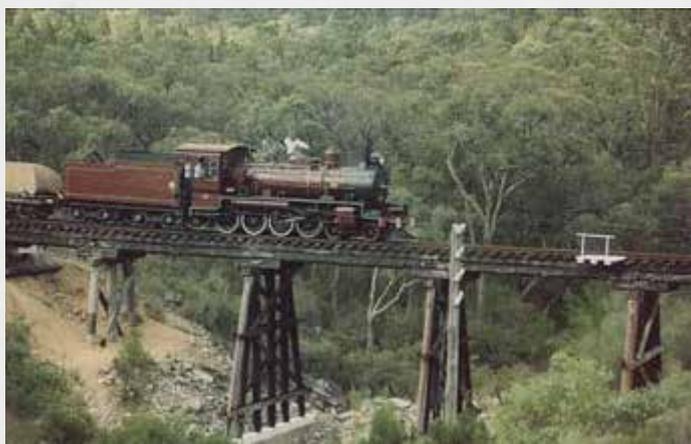
## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Museum visit to Henry Parkes School of Arts.
- Explore Heritage Railway preservation collections at Toowoomba, Warwick, Wallangarra, Guyra, Tenterfield and Armidale.
- Special viewings of historic homesteads in Armidale and Tenterfield.
- Be a part of the sesquicentenary of the Railway reaching Toowoomba.
- Special half day steam train excursion from Brisbane to Toowoomba
- Private vintage carriage on the steam train trip from Warwick to Wallangarra.
- Comfortable coach travel and luggage transport throughout.
- 5 nights in quality accommodation and most meals included

## THE RAILWAY ADVENTURES STORY

A passion for train travel can manifest itself in many ways and founder and director of Railway Adventures, Scott McGregor, has managed to make much of his obsession over the years. "Travelling to boarding school on the Mudgee Mail gave me a sense of how an active social life and long distance trains can make a good combination."

Building a rural retreat out of a collection of vintage railway carriages in the early 1980s gave Scott a new perspective on rail heritage and during this time he also operated his first tour, The Antipodean Renaissance Express, an experience he has never forgotten. Trading in vintage memorabilia and furniture sourced largely from the railways was also a source of great inspiration. Scott travelled far and wide trading and collecting for his Sydney shop, Off The Rails. Being the host of a couple of series of TV documentaries about great train journeys paved the way for tour leading. An enjoyable part-time hobby, "getting paid to do what I love", has, naturally enough, led to a more substantial commitment to great rail journeys and resulted in the launch of this dedicated train travel and touring company.



**DAY 1: Fri 28th April: ARRIVE BRISBANE**

Arrive in Brisbane and make your way to the conveniently located hotel right above Brisbane's Roma Street Station. Your tour begins when we meet in the hotel reception to enjoy a celebratory welcome dinner with Scott and your fellow travelers.

*Overnight: Hotel Jen Roma Street Brisbane (B, D) - all similar*

**DAY 2: Saturday 29th April: BRISBANE - TOOWOOMBA - WARWICK**

After breakfast and checkout at the hotel, we head downstairs to Roma Street Station and our special train marshalled for a journey back in time to celebrate the historic milestone of the completion of the railway up the range from Brisbane to Toowoomba in 1867. The steam hauled train, operated by the Australian Railway Historical Society Queensland Branch will transport you in vintage carriages out of Brisbane west through the suburbs and into the hills giving you a taste of what it would have been like travelling on the old Brisbane Sydney Mail in a more sedate age. The grand old station in Toowoomba is the scene of further festivities and great coffee at the station's commodious café. We then board our next train. A special express steam hauled service further down the line to Warwick.

The journey takes us onto the rich agricultural region of the Darling Downs and across the plains south to our destination.

Dinner tonight will be at the award winning Coachman's Inn restaurant.

*Overnight: Coachman's Inn Warwick (B, D) - all similar*

**DAY 3: Sunday 30th April- WARWICK - WALLANGARRA - TENTERFIELD**

After breakfast we head down to the station to meet our special steam hauled train to the border town of Wallangarra. Settle into your private coach on the express for the leisurely run up the Great Dividing Range on the original Sydney to Brisbane railway dating from the 1880's. The train pauses along the way for morning tea at Stanthorpe and then on our arrival at Wallangarra on the Queensland / New South Wales border we settle in for a lavish lunch hosted on the long platform of the vast historic Station which also houses an interesting museum. After lunch we continue into NSW and in Tenterfield we view the extensive heritage collection at both the Sir Henry Parkes School of Arts and the wonderful old John Whitton designed Railway Station from 1884. Check into our hotel and freshen up before heading to the old restored wool shed just out of Tenterfield, Arrajay Downs. The old barn showcases the beautiful Tenterfield landscapes and exudes character and individuality. Watch as the animals graze in their free-range environment and the afternoon sun creates long shadows over the tablelands.

Enjoy an organic 3-course dinner of free-range produce and roast veggies, before returning to the hotel for the rest of the evening at leisure.

*Overnight: Best Western The Henry Parkes Tenterfield, (B, L, D) - all similar*

**DAY 4: Monday 1st May - TENTERFIELD - ARMIDALE**

After breakfast, we travel south along the New England Highway passing through rolling countryside and majestic stands of elm and poplar trees aflame with the colour of autumn. Short stop at Stonehenge Recreation Reserve to explore the towering granite boulders and the Balancing Rock, a giant boulder balancing on a point. At Glencoe, short refreshment stop at The Red Lion Tavern, an old English style pub, before travelling on to Ben Lomond. Situated on the top of the Great Dividing Range and built in 1884, this little station was, for a century, the highest station in Australia. Pause here to explore and take some photos of this cute little town.

Continuing onto Armidale, we make a short stop at Guyra, where we'll be met by a small train of vintage section cars to take us on a short run round a restored segment of the railway line, past the Mother of Ducks lagoon. View the extensive heritage collection and enjoy a local lunch in the town. On our arrival in Armidale, we check in to our hotel and spend the afternoon at leisure. Dinner tonight will be at the hotel restaurant, which showcases the finest seasonal produce from the New England region.

Dinner tonight is at the hotel restaurant, which showcases the finest seasonal produce from the New England region.

*Overnight: Quality Hotel Powerhouse Armidale (B, D) - all similar*

**DAY 5: Tuesday 2nd May: ARMIDALE**

Today offers a full day of sightseeing around the charming city. First off we explore the grand old homestead of Booloominbah designed by Horbury Hunt, originally owned by the White family and now the head office of the University of New England.

We then continue to the grand Victorian estate of Saumarez; another exceptional country homestead set in magnificent gardens with a café that provides a mighty fine morning tea or early lunch as the case may be. We continue on a round trip to Uralla, Deargee, Goswick and Dangarsleigh which includes visits to one of Australia's most historic Iron Foundries, a grand colonial woolshed and sheep station and an early evening late wine tasting at the legendary Peterson's winery and guesthouse.

We complete this interesting day with a celebratory farewell dinner.

*Overnight: Quality Hotel Powerhouse Armidale (B, D) - all similar*

**DAY : Wednesday 3rd May: ARMIDALE- SYDNEY (DEPART)**

After breakfast we board the Explorer train for Sydney at 8:40 am. The journey takes us along the scenic New England tablelands, dropping down the escarpment in Tamworth and the historic railway town of Werris Creek. Continue through the Hunter Valley and the North Coast line arriving in Sydney at 4:38pm. Completing our special adventure along the length of the original Sydney-Brisbane railway.



**INCLUSIONS:**

- 5 nights' accommodation in quality hotels and motels
- Most meals as per itinerary (B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner)
- Drinks with welcome and farewell dinners
- Special steam train excursion to Wallangarra in private coach
- Comprehensive sightseeing with local guides and your tour leader
- Excursions/entrances fees except those listed in the itinerary as optional

**EXCLUSIONS:**

- Domestic flights
- Airport transfers on arrival and departure
- Excursions/entrances listed as optional in the itinerary
- Items of a personal nature e.g. telephone, laundry, minibar
- Travel insurance

**TOUR PRICES**

Per person twin share..... \$2,985  
 Single Supplement ..... \$495

Deposit (per person) ..... \$500  
 Final payment due by ..... 26 February 2017

**DETAILS SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

We endeavour to have all the details of our tours correct at the time of printing however sometimes factors beyond our control such as the availability of requested hotels, the operation of trains and other services may affect the final inclusions and price. Therefore, items mentioned in the brochure such as quoted prices, hotels and inclusions are subject to change. Please check with us at the time of booking.

**ADDITIONAL TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS**

We can assist you with your domestic flights, pre- and post-travel including extended stays in Brisbane or Armidale and travel insurance. Call our office on 1300 733 323 if you would like to discuss options.

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

For more information on factors that may affect your ability to participate in the tour such as fitness levels, fees and charges, payment schedules, please refer to the Terms and Conditions that accompany the booking form. Terms and Conditions can also be requested at any time.



**Scott McGregor's**

**RAILWAY  
ADVENTURES**

**1300 733 323**  
 railwayadventures.com

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**Guidepost**  
 SPECIAL INTEREST TRAVEL

