

SJR

ANZAC RAIL CRUISE

**Sydney – Lithgow – Orange – Parkes – Forbes - Temora -
- Griffith – Junee – Wagga Wagga – Goulburn - Sydney**

Friday 23 – Wednesday 28 April 2027



Highlights include:

- Six day / five night tour of regional NSW
- Private charter of two Paterson Rail Motors
- Travel on 'freight only' rail lines
- Tea/coffee/light refreshments aboard
- Dinner and overnight Orange
- Two nights in Griffith
- Local Griffith produce tasting and purchase
- Anzac Day Memorial Service in Griffith
- Anzac Day rail trip to Merriwagga Pub for drinks
- Griffith Winery tasting and luncheon
- Two nights in Junee or region
- Willan's Hill ride-on miniature railway
- Griffith Winery tasting and luncheon
- Cottontail Winery and luncheon, Eunanoreenya

OVERVIEW OF OUR JOURNEY

Depart Sydney on Friday and head to Orange aboard our private charter with the Rail Motor Society, Paterson. Our two car train heads west, with morning tea served enroute. After crossing the Blue Mountains, enjoy a light luncheon before arrival in Orange where we alight and enjoy dinner. On Saturday we head through Molong to Parkes, before heading south through Forbes to Temora, Barellan and Griffith. Enjoy two nights in Griffith, marking Anzac Day at the Memorial Service late morning, and enjoy an afternoon train journey to the Black Stump Hotel, Merriwagga for a drink ! On Monday enjoy local produce and a winery luncheon before heading east to Junee/Wagga Wagga for two night's accommodation. On Tuesday visit the Willan's Hill ride-on Miniature Railway, a sightseeing tour of Wagga Wagga and luncheon at Cottontail Winery, Eunanoreenya. On Wednesday we join our train for a scenic return journey along the Main South Line, through Yass Junction and Moss Vale, with a light luncheon served aboard, arriving into Sydney late afternoon.



YOUR JOURNEY

FRIDAY 23 APRIL 2027 (MT/L/D) – from Sydney west to Orange – board our private charter of the NSW Rail Motor Society's train at either Hornsby or Concord West, before we head west through Parramatta and Penrith across the Blue Mountains. Enjoy morning tea on boarding, and watch the passing views, with opening windows, as we ascend to Katoomba and Mt Victoria, before the descent into Lithgow. Enjoy a simple light luncheon served at your seat, with a glass of wine, as we wind through the picturesque Central Slopes scenery, passing Tarana, Bathurst and Blayney, before arrival at Orange. We walk the short distance from the station to our overnight accommodation, the Quest Apartments, Orange. A two-course dinner is included tonight, and overnight Orange.

SATURDAY 24 APRIL 2027 (B/L) – through Molong, Manildra, Parkes, Forbes, Temora to Griffith – after breakfast we return to Orange Station for an 0930hrs departure. Our journey begins winding through the Macquarie Range, and the small villages of Molong and Manildra, with morning tea served to you. On to the City of Parkes, and from there we head south through Forbes on the freight only corridor passing the small villages of Caragabal, Quandialla and Stockinbingal to Temora. Stretch your legs on the platform which was once a busy junction for passengers changing to the exotic towns of Hillston, Lake Cargellico, Rankin Springs, Burcher and Naradhan – all now a distant memory. We then head west on the Junee to Griffith line through Barellan to our destination for two nights – the city of Griffith. On arrival we walk the short distance to our accommodation at the Quest Apartments, Griffith. Boasting many fine restaurants, dinner tonight is at leisure. (We would recommend booking ahead to ensure of your preferred dining venue.)



SUNDAY 25 APRIL 2027 (ANZAC DAY) (B/L/D) – Griffith Anzac Day Memorial Service and to the Black Stump Hotel, Merriwagga – after breakfast at the hotel, we mark Anzac Day in the regional city of Griffith. Join the Dawn Service, or view/join as appropriate the Anzac Day March and participate in the Memorial Service, held at the Griffith Memorial in Banna Avenue – a short distance from our hotel.

After the service you are free to relax in and around Griffith city or join our private train for a 100 minute run through Tharbogang and Goolgowi to Merriwagga on rails that now only haul grain. Enjoy a light lunch aboard, served at your seat, and then a 'cleansing ale' at the Black Stump Hotel in the village of Merriwagga – population 38. The hotel is renowned for having the tallest bar in Australia – supposedly built to accommodate stockmen who could ride their horses inside to enjoy a beer without having to dismount! We return to Griffith in late afternoon light, at around 5pm, and this evening enjoy a buffet dinner at our hotel – few restaurants are likely to be open on Anzac Day. Dinner, and overnight Griffith.



MONDAY 26 APRIL 2027 (B/L/D) – Griffith produce and winery luncheon, to Junee – this morning we explore Griffith, famed for its excellent local produce – there will be opportunity to taste, as well as to purchase. Then to enjoy a wine tasting and luncheon, before rejoining our train in the mid afternoon for the 2.5hr run across to Junee. Through Yenda, Leeton and Coolamon, enjoy the fresh afternoon breeze through opening windows and the light across the farmlands. On arrival in Junee we transfer the short distance to hotels. Dinner is included and overnight Junee. (Please note accommodation may be in Wagga Wagga for two nights if Junee is unable to accommodate us.)



TUESDAY 27 APRIL 2027 (B/L/LD) – Wagga Wagga sightseeing, Willans Hill Miniature Railway and Cottontail Wines Luncheon – after breakfast we explore Wagga Wagga. A growing city with a range of cultural institutions and attractive parks, the city has much to offer. Mid morning we visit Willans Hill and enjoy a ride-on experience aboard their miniature railway. Operated by volunteers of the Wagga Wagga Society of Model Engineers, it includes 3 km of a combined 7¼ inches (180 mm) and 5 inches (130 mm) track, two stations, two tunnels, three bridges, four buildings, 6 locomotives owned by the club and a number of personally owned locomotives.



Then towards Harefield and the community of Eunanoreenya, where we enjoy luncheon and wines at the Cottontail Winery. Enjoy a relaxed meal overlooking the picturesque vineyards, and towards the geological feature that gives the nearby location of The Rock its name. After lunch we return to our hotel, with a little free time to explore at leisure, before a light dinner and overnight.

WEDNESDAY 28 APRIL 2027 - (B/L) – a scenic daylight run on the Main South Line to Sydney – after breakfast we return to the railway station and board our rail motors for our final day of travel. Enjoy morning tea as we head towards Cootamundra, and then a light luncheon as we head through Yass Junction and across the Breadalbane Plains to Goulburn. In the later afternoon we arrive back in Sydney, where you can alight at either Concord West or Hornsby.

FARES* (all sightseeing, accommodation, rail/coach travel & meals as indicated) – fares are per person for two sharing a double/twin rooms in hotels - sole use of a hotel room is available for a supplement.

Sharing a double/twin hotel room	\$4,220
Supplement for sole use of hotel room	\$590

TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE, please complete the attached booking form, scan and email to:

sjr@digitor.com.au

Or post to: SJR, PO Box N400, GROSVENOR PLACE 1220.

Preferred payment is by EFT:

Bank: Westpac
 Account name: Scenic Journeys by Rail Pty Ltd
 BSB: 033 364
 Account number: 612826
 Name: Anzac (and your name)

You can also pay by credit card (MasterCard or Visa) – please advise if you wish to do this and we will call to obtain card details.

A non-refundable deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to secure your place. The balance is payable by 21 January 2027. Cancellation charges apply as follows: Cancellation before 21 January 2027, loss of deposit. Cancellation from 21 January 2027 - no refund. An insurance policy is available from our travel agent – Sarah Manche , MTA Travel – please advise if you would like us to forward a policy to you. Accommodation on 26 and 27 April 2027 will be in either Junee or Wagga Wagga. The operation of the Miniature Railway at Willans Hill, although currently confirmed, depends upon volunteers being available closer to the time. The advertised itinerary is based on information at the time of printing. SJR reserves the right to amend the itinerary based on operational requirements imposed by the operator of the train and rail network owners. Full terms and conditions applicable to all SJR (St James Rail) tours are available on request.

Telephone 02 9326 9660

Mobile

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Email sjr@digitor.com.au



Our specially chartered train - the NSW Government Railways 620/720 class rail motors were a fleet of 18 two-car diesel-hydraulic railcar sets built at Chullora Railway Workshops between 1961 and 1968. Each set consisted of a powered 620-class driving car and a 720-class driving trailer, continuing the lightweight aluminium-bodied design of the earlier 600/700 class while incorporating mechanical and electrical features developed for the successful 900-class railcars. The first sets were introduced primarily to replace steam-hauled suburban services around Newcastle and the outer metropolitan area, while later examples were tailored for longer-distance and country work, with luggage space and, in some cases, first-class accommodation. During their long careers, the 620/720s became remarkably versatile, working services from Newcastle towards Dungog and Scone, as well as routes involving Grafton, Casino, Mudgee, Cowra, Lithgow, Wollongong and Murwillumbah. Although originally expected to disappear with the arrival of Endeavour railcars in the 1990s, seven sets were retained for Hunter Valley services and continued operating into the 2000s. The final 620/720 services ended in 2007 after more than 45 years of service, and fortunately some were preserved by organisations such as the Rail Motor Society of NSW for heritage operation.

ANZAC RAIL CRUISE BOOKING FORM

Friday 23 – Wednesday 28 April 2027

YOUR CONTACT DETAILS

Name:

Address: Suburb: Postcode:

Home tel: Mobile:

Email:

BOOKING DETAILS

Passenger 1 Name:

Passenger 2 Name:

Passenger 3 Name:

Passenger 4 Name:

PAYMENT

I have enclosed / sent by EFT \$ as deposit (\$1,000 per person) for the above booking and agree to pay the balance by 21 January 2027. Please advise us if you wish us to call to take credit card details. An email acknowledging receipt will be sent.)

HOTEL / MOTEL ACCOMMODATION

Double room (one large bed)

Twin room (two separate beds)

Sole use of hotel/motel rooms (sole use supplement payable)

SPECIAL REQUESTS

Please indicate any **dietary** or any other special requirement :

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YOUR SIGNATURE

I have read the reservation conditions outlined above and accept them on behalf of myself and my party by whom I am authorised to make this agreement. I understand cancellation fees may apply. I have enclosed my deposit payment and agree to pay the balance as indicated above.

Signature of person making booking:..... Date:

Payment by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) to:

Bank: Westpac
 Account name: Scenic Journeys by Rail
 BSB: 033 364
 Account: 612826
 Reference: Anzac (and your surname) – some bank transfers cannot accept this, so please email your reference.

If paying by EFT, please send this form marked accordingly, and/or send an email to sjr@digitor.com.au to advise us of your payment.

September 2026