★ FREE SAMPLE ★

ROUTES

THE DARLING RIVER RUN - FOLLOWING THE BAAKA

From 943 km
7 - 14 days
NSW





Louth, New South Wales

Free sample · Choose your Routes: campsaustraliawide.com/go/darling-river



Near Tilpa, New South Wales

The Darling River Run - Following the Baaka

Walgett → Wentworth, Outback NSW ★ From 943 km ★ 7–14 days
★ March to October ★ Sealed and unsealed

One of our favourite road trips in Australia, the Darling River Run, or DRR, follows Australia's second longest river. Also known as the Baaka - from where the Barwon meets the Culgoa west of Brewarrina, all the way to Wentworth where it joins the Mighty Murray at Junction Island.

It is a thousand kilometres of national parks, million-acre stations, ancient Indigenous heritage, paddleboat history, bushrangers, bush poets and outback pubs - and the river itself was what slowed us down and made us love it.

The pubs and free camps are cracking, but it is the stations that gave the run its real character for us. You wake up to private river frontage, hear stories from graziers with six generations of history there, and pull a kayak out into a billabong full of birds.

Mix those with the pub camps, free riverside spots and caravan parks, and you have a road trip that suits any rig and any budget. Travel both banks where you can - the route between Bourke and Wilcannia is a choose-your-own-adventure - and tag on a side trip or three at the ends.

Watch us talk about this route on our Blog: www.campsaustraliawide.com/all-you-need-to-know-to-camp-along-the-darling-river-run

Highlights

- ✓ Station stays like Rose Isle, Trilby and Dunlop
- ✓ Character outback pubs and you can walk back to camp
- ✓ Menindee Lakes sunsets and views
- ✓ National Parks with Indigenous and pastoral history
- ✓ Waterside pet-friendly free camps

Tips

Always check road conditions and closures after rain - dirt sections close quickly when she rises. Some stations are seasonal, so phone ahead. Fuel up at every town, carry plenty of drinking water and basic recovery gear. Pull up mid afternoon to avoid feral animals and kangaroos on the road.



Bourke, NSW


Dunlop Station, NSW


Mays Bend, Bourke, NSW

Your trip at a glance

The Darling River Run - Following the Baaka ★ From 943 km ★ 7–14 days

		DISTANCE	SUGGESTED OVERNIGHT STOP
01	**Walgett** In the full Route	Start	Alex Trevallion Park
02	**Walgett to Brewarrina** In the full Route	133 km	Four Mile Reserve
[illegible]			
04	**Bourke to Louth** In this sample	East: 99 km West: 126 km	Rose Isle Station
[illegible]			
[illegible]			

6 more legs in the full Route

[illegible]			
[illegible]			





04

Bourke to Louth

East: 99 km (most unsealed) West: 126 km (most unsealed)

From Bourke the decisions begin - east or west bank? West takes you to Toorale National Park, a newer addition with an old pastoral history and river camping.

East, we explored Gundabooka National Park but Rose Isle Station takes the cake - literally! It has the best morning tea I've seen. Camp right on the Darling, chat to the owners, wake to river views. Their camp kitchen and pizza oven are worth seeing, use their kayaks for a paddle (dream come true for me) and don't miss the donkey bath!

If you have the time, do both sides of the river! Either way, Louth is the next big landmark - a tiny town on the river with one beauty of a pub. When you walk into Shindys Inn, you know you're really in the "Back O' Bourke" now! There's donation showers, free camping just over the bridge or a small caravan park at the pub if you want power.

Must see and do

* Wildlife and birdwatching
* Shindys Inn and Big Louth Sign
* Donkey bath and morning tea at Rose Isle Station (in CAMPS App)
* Mulgowan Yapa art site, trails and lookouts at Gundabooka National Park
* Pastoral history at Toorale National Park

Side trips

* Bourke has a ton of suggested itineraries!
* If you missed one of the national parks, now's your chance to go back the other way for a day trip

Where to camp

Rose Isle Station
$ • pets • power • donkey bath • toilets • showers
OUR PICK

Louth Camp Spot
free • pets • SCV • just over the bridge • riverside

Shindys Inn
$ • pets • small powered park in the village

Darling River Camp (Yapara Paaka Thuru), Toorale National Park
$ • no pets • toilets

Yanda or Dry Tank Campground, Gundabooka National Park
$ • no pets • toilets

Images: Rose Isle Station, Louth, New South Wales & Shindys Inn, Louth, New South Wales

There’s more where that came from

The Darling River Run - Following the Baaka ★ From 943 km ★ 7–14 days

What’s in the full Route

01	**Walgett**	Start
02	**Walgett to Brewarrina**	133 km
+6	**6 more legs, each with camps, must-sees and blog links**	

* 10 essential tips every traveller should know
* ROUTES 101: things to remember before you set out

1 Route	$12.99
Pick any 3 Most popular	$29
Pick any 5	$39

Choose your Routes

campsaustraliawide.com/go/darling-river

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Our guides are general information only and not advice. Conditions change, so check local road rules, signage and site information before you travel.



Image: Brewarrina Fish Traps, NSW