

Effective Saturday October 21st, 2023



All races and sightseeing for our **2024 Chariots of Thunder** tour are set out below. The Darwin dates are set in concrete. The Toowoomba dates at the end are in hopeful anticipation that Hi Tec Oils Speedway will run their marquee “Thunder in the Downs” event the weekend after Darwin.

We’re allowed to dream. 😊

Prices for the “CoT 24” tour will appear on the website on November 1st, 2024. Within both the extensive online itinerary and the drop down menu for Pricing. Indicative pricing for Toowoomba will also appear.

Admission to the Chariots’ Lounge at Northline Speedway is included in the prices published for all races shown in the itinerary. The Lounge provides catered food and (TBC,) a complimentary drink voucher on each night.

The Darwin component of the tour is 11 nights and 12 days with five nights of 410 sprintcar racing right out of the top shelf. Sprintcars have the star billing on all five nights. See the table below for abbreviated details.

2024 DAY / DATE	OVERNIGHT	ACTIVITIES <i>Ground transport every day is via two 12 seater minibuses</i>	NOTES
1 Thursday September 5th	Darwin Ramada Suites Zen Quarter	Departure from your preferred capital city. Arrival at Darwin Airport. Included. Welcome buffet dinner in the 16th floor rooftop lounge.	<i>All passengers will be met at Darwin Airport and transferred to the Zen.</i> (If travelling from Tasmania it may better suit to fly the day before. Please discuss with GST.)
2 Friday September 6th	Darwin Ramada Suites Zen Quarter	Racing this evening Optional. A visit to the Darwin Military Museum followed by lunch at the Darwin Ski Club is your first event for today. A free Cyclone Tracy exhibition is next door. Included. Evening is the Darwin Cup for sprintcars at Northline Speedway.	<i>The bombing of Darwin by the Japanese in WW2 remains a mystery to most Australians.</i> <i>Over the next two days we will find out a lot more about it. The Military Museum has a \$20 entry fee payable at the door. Seniors \$15.</i>
3 Saturday September 7th	Darwin Ramada Suites Zen Quarter	Racing this evening Optional. The Darwin Aviation Museum and the Royal Flying Doctor Service and the Bombing of Darwin Harbour Tourist Facility will fill in this morning for you. Lunch with the seagulls on Stokes Wharf will fill your tummy. Included. Evening is the NT Title for sprintcars at Northline Speedway.	<i>An adult combo admission ticket to both attractions today is \$39.00. Seniors are \$31.00.</i> <i>Lunch is always a personal expense.</i> <i>Catered food is provided in the Chariots’ Lounge every night at the speedway and is included in your tour cost each night.</i>
4 Sunday September 8th	Darwin Ramada Suites Zen Quarter	Optional. Morning visit to Casuarina Square Shopping Centre with lunch, followed by a free afternoon. Included. Mindil Beach Sunset Markets from 4.00pm with complimentary welcome drinks ‘til 8.30pm closing time.	<i>Again the buses will provide all your transport to the shopping mall and to the dinner.</i> <i>Mindil Markets trip includes VIP access and \$20.00 of ‘Mindil Money’.</i>

<p>5 Monday September 9th</p>	<p>Darwin Ramada Suites Zen Quarter</p>	<p>Optional. This is your opportunity to buy a ticket on a <u>commercial tour bus</u> to Kakadu, or Katherine. Check out the two links in the opposite column.</p> <p><i>Day is entirely free if tour members decide not to arrange a visit to Kakadu or Katherine.</i></p>	<p><i>We will not take the 12 seater buses to these places which are a 700 km round trip, plus time for your sightseeing whilst there.</i></p> <p>1. One day Kakadu National Park Explorer (D4) with AAT Kings 2. One day Cruise to Katherine Gorge & Edith Falls with AAT Kings</p>
<p>6 Tuesday September 10th</p>	<p>Darwin Ramada Suites Zen Quarter</p>	<p>Optional. An early 7.30am start for our day trip to Litchfield National Park and Berry Springs Nature Park in the 12 seaters.</p> <p>When we get back it's off to Stokes Hill Wharf for the fabulous Fish 'n Chips sunset cruise at 5.45pm. Watching the sun drop from the sky over the water is very special indeed. Tonight you'll do just that with a very fast boat underneath you. This event is Included in your tour.</p>	<p><i>We use the 12 seater minibuses to visit Litchfield as it is only 90 kms each way.</i></p> <p><i>Bring your swimming gear if you like, so you can relax in all the waterholes we visit. A really super day at \$40 / head, plus the mandatory \$10 Park Entrance Fee. The equivalent tour to Litchfield with the commercial operators starts at \$185.00.</i></p>
<p>7 Wednesday September 11th</p>	<p>Darwin Ramada Suites Zen Quarter</p>	<p>Pretty much a free day to rebuild your energy, but only until around 3.00pm when we leave the Zen to watch the Chariots of Thunder Street Parade along the city streets.</p> <p>This year it will finish at the Precinct Tavern on the Darwin Waterfront.</p> <p>Included. Fan Appreciation night at the Precinct will commence after the sprintcars in the Street Parade arrive.</p>	<p>Fan Appreciation night is an included event within your tour package. You will have \$60 per head (via wrist-band identification) to put towards your meal and drinks.</p>
<p>8 Thursday September 12th</p>	<p>Darwin Ramada Suites Zen Quarter</p>	<p>Racing this evening</p> <p>The morning is free to visit those places you've just discovered and aren't on the GST sightseeing itinerary!</p> <p>Included. Chariots of Thunder begins tonight at Northline Speedway and we'll be running the two buses out to the track at 3.15pm for the die-hards and 4.15pm for the rest.</p>	<p><i>With the two heat format for the winged 410's there is actually more sprintcar races on each night than in previous years.</i></p> <p><i>The first two nights pay \$10,000 to win and the final sees \$15,000 up for grabs plus an additional \$5k to win from the rear.</i></p>
<p>9 Friday September 13th</p>	<p>Darwin Ramada Suites Zen Quarter</p>	<p>Racing this evening</p> <p>Optional. Crocodiles are about the only things we haven't yet explored on this tour. So today's the day for that with a morning drive to Adelaide River and the Jumping Crocodiles Experience. We'll be in the boat (<i>hopefully without the crocodiles</i>) at 10.30am.</p> <p>Followed by lunch at the famous Humpty Doo Pub on the Arnhem Highway.</p> <p>And still more fun this evening with night 2 of Chariots of Thunder at Northline Speedway.</p>	<p><i>The hour long trip to Adelaide River is in the 12 seater buses. And the same back, but extended by lunch at the Humpty Doo Pub.</i></p> <p><i>The cost for the Jumping Crocodiles cruise is Adults \$50 / Seniors \$45. Lunch is own cost. Travel is \$10.00 pp. So all up \$60 payable to Peter on the day.</i></p> <p><i>You will be asked in the Booking Form if you want to do this attraction.</i></p>

<p>10 Saturday September 14th</p>	<p>Darwin Ramada Suites Zen Quarter</p>	<p><i>Racing this evening</i> Included. This morning we'll gather in the 16th floor lounge to watch Friday night's racing live from somewhere in the USA. The day is free for your own sightseeing (or go karting) but remember an early departure to Northline Speedway happens today at 2.45pm for the final night of Chariots.</p>	<p><i>Night 3 of CoT tonight sees the final feature paying \$15,000 to win and the Pope Challenge for someone to go to the back and win an extra \$5,000.</i></p>
<p>11 Sunday September 15th</p>	<p>Darwin Ramada Suites Zen Quarter</p>	<p>In the morning you can again watch some live racing from somewhere in the USA on the big screen. Or do your own thing which might be washing, sleeping, walking, swimming, or beginning to pack for tomorrow's trip home.</p> <p>An optional group farewell lunch at the Darwin Trailer Boat Club occupies most of today, along with dinner at Shenannigans, the Irish Pub & Restaurant in Mitchell St.</p>	<p><i>If we can we'll arrange a photo shoot for the group today with their tour shirts on.</i></p>
<p>12 Monday September 16th</p>		<p>Depart Darwin for home from 8.30am onwards.</p> <p>All guests returning home today will receive transfers to the airport.</p>	<p><i>Your tour arrangements with Global Speedway Tours have now concluded.</i></p>

Assuming that Hi Tec Oils Speedway in Toowoomba, Queensland take the opportunity of scheduling their **"Thunder through the Downs"** marquee sprintcar event on the three nights of September 19th, 20th and 21st, then we will offer an extended tour to the first 10 people who want to do the additional trip to Toowoomba.

Initially this offer is only available to those who also travel on the 11 nights of Chariots of Thunder. Page 3 details what those days will look like.

(TBC) FIVE NIGHT THUNDER THROUGH THE DOWNS – SPECIAL ADD-ON

<p>12 Monday September 16th</p>	<p>Darwin Ramada Suites Zen Quarter</p>	Relax in Darwin	
<p>13 Tuesday September 17th</p>	<p>Darwin Ramada Suites Zen Quarter</p>	Relax in Darwin	

14 Wednesday September 18th	Toowoomba Comfort Inn Glenfield	Depart Darwin for Brisbane from 9.30am onwards. Arrive Brisbane and drive to Toowoomba in rented 12 seater van. Check-in to Hotel. Night at leisure.	<i>Brisbane Airport to Toowoomba 141 kms / 1 hour 51 mins</i>
15 Thursday September 19th	Toowoomba Comfort Inn Glenfield	Night 1 of Thunder in the Downs	<i>Hotel to Speedway 16 kms /24 mins</i>
16 Friday September 20th	Toowoomba Comfort Inn Glenfield	Night 2 of Thunder in the Downs	
17 Saturday September 21st	Toowoomba Comfort Inn Glenfield	Night 3 of Thunder in the Downs	
18 Sunday September 22nd	Depart Darwin from 10.30am onwards.	Depart Toowoomba mid-morning to drive to Brisbane Airport. Fly to your home state and city.	<i>Your tour arrangements with Global Speedway Tours have now concluded.</i>

This itinerary is subject to change, but only with the sole intent of day to day improvement.



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