



The Outback Way- Australia's Longest Shortcut

Outback Highway Development Council Inc.

All correspondence to 10 White St, Stanthorpe. Q. 4380

P: [REDACTED] : [REDACTED]
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CONNECTIVITY STATEMENT 2024



Connectivity Issues along the Outback Way

The Outback Way, spanning 2,700 km, from WA to Qld through the middle of Australia

Western Australia:

From Laverton in WA along the Great Central Road, Tjukururu Road at the WA/NT border

Northern Territory:

Kata Tjuta National Park, Lasseter Highway, Stuart Highway, Plenty Highway to the NT/QLD border

Queensland:

Donohue Highway through Boulia, and finally the Kennedy Development Road to Winton, Queensland.

Currently, 1,130 km of the Outback Way remains unsealed, with plans to complete sealing by 2032-2034, establishing it as Australia's third transnational route. However, significant areas lack telecommunications coverage, posing risks for locals, Indigenous communities, workers, and tourists, especially for accident response and emergency warnings (fire, flood, etc.). This is also a concern for freight, agricultural, and mining industries, which also rely on connectivity.

The OHDC Inc- an Alliance of Councils: [REDACTED] - President **Shire of Laverton** - [REDACTED] (OHDC Inc Chair)
[REDACTED] - President- **Shire of Ngaanyatjaraku** CEO - [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] - Mayor **Boulia Shire:** [REDACTED], [REDACTED] - Mayor **Winton Shire** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] - Mayor **Alice Springs Town Council** [REDACTED]



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CONNECTIVITY BREAKDOWN

The following breakdown indicates where around roadhouses, Indigenous communities, settlements and towns along the Outback Way there is connectivity. This is usually of a 5 , sometimes 10km radius around the locality/ town or region.

Laverton: Connectivity drops out 10 km out of Laverton.

Great Central Road: A 5 km radius connectivity around the three roadhouses

The Tjukayirla Roadhouse, Warburton Roadhouse & Warakurna Roadhouse are spaced approx. 300 km apart. This area is the Ngaanyatjarra Lands, home to 11 Indigenous communities

Kalkututjara Community on the WA/NT border

Yulara: Connectivity available, approx. 10km radius

Curtin Springs on Lasseter Highway: Connectivity available, approx. 10 kms radius

Erlunda: Connectivity available. Approx. 10kms radius

Alice Springs: Connectivity of a 30 km radius around Alice Springs.

Gemtree Caravan Park (140 km along Plenty Highway east of Alice Springs): Approximate 5 km radius connectivity.

Harts Range and Atitjere: Approximate 10 km radius connectivity, intermittent up to 20km radius.

To the NT/QLD Border the following 250 km stretch: No connectivity.

Tobermory Station: Approximate 10 km radius connectivity.

Boulia: Connectivity available of approximate 10km radius

Middleton: Connectivity available of approximate 10km radius

Winton: Connectivity available of approximate 20km radius

*Coverage in the majority of the abovementioned areas is mostly limited to the Telstra network

Improving telecommunications along these routes is crucial to support the safety and operational needs of all who live, travel and work on the Outback Way.

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