

★ ATTRACTIONS

1. Historical Society @ Heritage Cottage
2. Australian Opal Centre - Fossils & More
3. John Murray Art Gallery
4. Lightning Ridge Sport & Aquatic Complex
5. The Goondee - Aboriginal Museum
6. Arts & Crafts & Library
7. Bottle House & Collectables
8. Cooper's Cottage
9. Cemetery
10. Bevan's Cactus Gardens
11. Opal Mine Adventure - Walk in Mine
12. Artesian Bore Baths
13. Amigo's Castle
14. Kangaroo Hill Antiques & Collectables
15. A Quiet Man's Place - Art Gallery
16. Church built for "Goddess of 1967" Movie
17. The Big Opal Mine
18. Chambers of the Black Hand - Mine
19. Old Chum's Track - Nature Walk
20. Lunatic Hill

🚐 CARAVAN PARKS

1. Outback Resort - Onyx Street, ph 6829 0304
2. Crocodile Caravan Park - Morilla Street, ph 6829 0437
3. Lightning Ridge Holiday Park - Harlequin Street, ph 6829 0532
4. Opal Caravan Park - Pandora Street, ph 6829 4884
5. Lorne Station - Lorne Road, ph 6829 0253

🏠 MOTELS

1. Outback Resort - Onyx Street, ph 6829 0304
2. Fossickers Cottages - 2 Bedroom
3. Fossickers Cottages - 1 Bedroom
4. Fossickers Cottages - 3 Bedroom
Book at Lost Sea Opals, ph 6829 0066
Cnr Morilla & Onyx Streets
5. Chasin Opal - Morilla Street, ph 6829 0448
6. Wallangulla Motel - Morilla Street, ph 6829 0542
7. Bluey Motel - Morilla Street, ph 6829 0380
8. Black Opal Motel - Opal Street, ph 6829 0518
9. Sonja's Bed & Breakfast - Butterfly Avenue, ph 6829 2010 or 0427 185 724

- Doctor's Surgery
- Post Office
- Police Station
- Hospital
- Chemist

Lightning Ridge Visitor Information Centre
 PO Box 1380 Lions Park Morilla Street
 Lightning Ridge NSW 2834
 Ph: 02 6829 1670
 Email: lrvic@walgett.nsw.gov.au
 Website: www.walgett.nsw.gov.au



SELF-GUIDED CAR DOOR TOURS

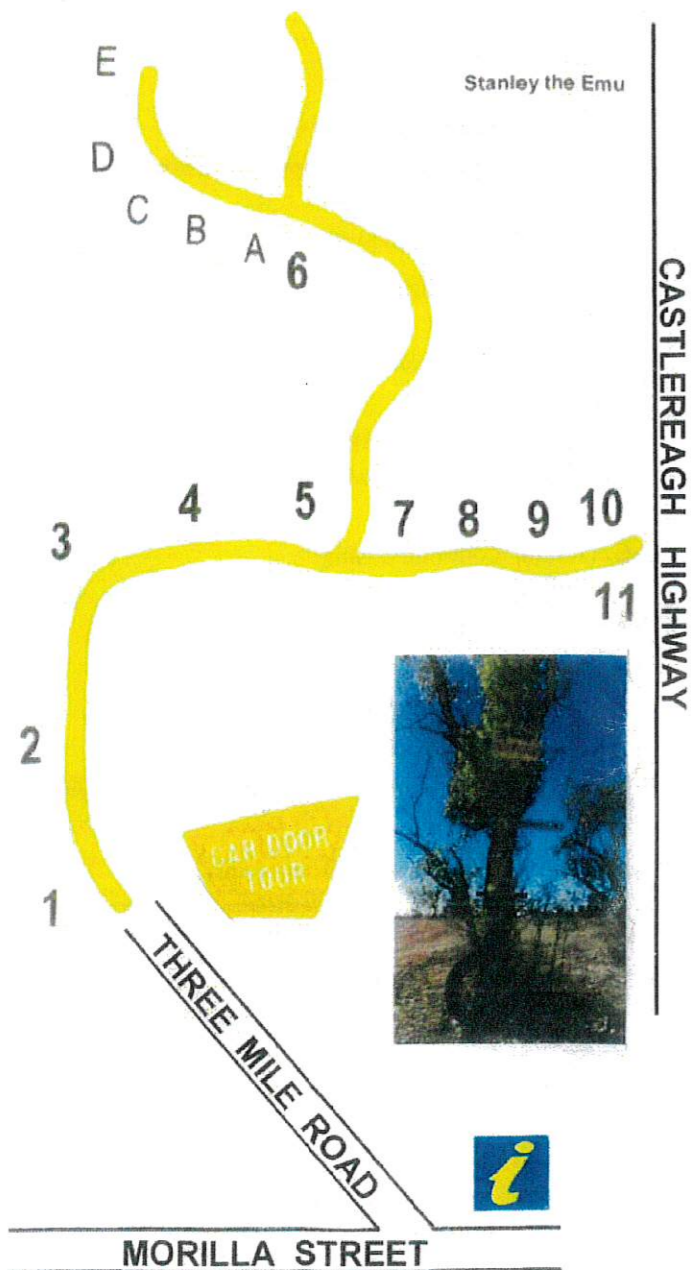
Take our colour coded Car Door Tours & explore Lightning Ridge's surrounding mine fields.

\$1 will buy your INFORMATION SHEET

which includes map & commentary on the points of interest.
 Can only be purchase from our Information Centre

YELLOW CAR DOOR EXPLORER TOUR

Drive Time 45 minutes



Visit the HISTORICAL SOCIETY for further Information & Memorabilia on Lightning Ridge

The Historical Society & Lightning Ridge Visitor Information Centre Have provided the information contained herein.

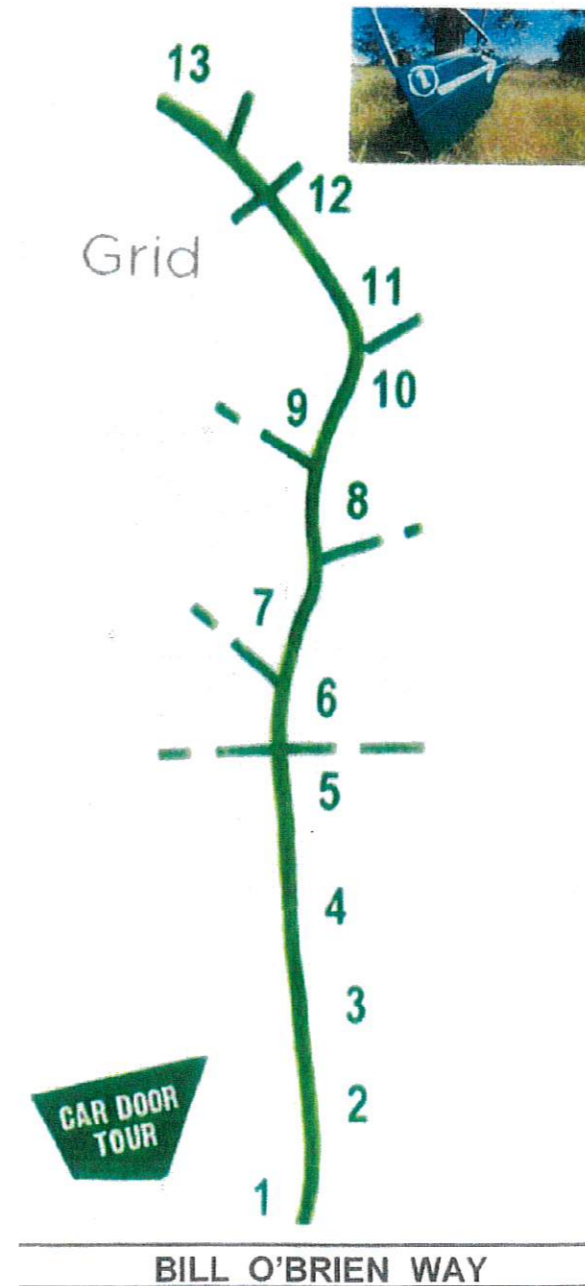
\$1 Fee per Sheet
Red, Yellow, Green & Blue Car Door Explorer Tours

1. (0.0km) Three Mile Opal Fields begin. On the left is the Big Opal Mine, a machine dug mine. Entrance Fee to Mine only. On display is Migration Memories curated 2007 by ANU & The National Museum, Canberra that tells our story of Settlement through Local Families.
2. (0.2km) Various Mining Equipment can be seen amongst the dumps of dirt from the opal mines.
PASSING PRIVATE HOMES
3. (0.5km) Notice the stone Miners Cottages from an earlier era when people took time to build their home.
****Please DO NOT approach homes****
4. (0.8km) The stone "Off Grid" miners' camps use solar power, fuel powered generators, wind power & even candle light. Watch for the OPEN sign at the Bird of Paradise Art Gallery.
5. (1.1km) Turn left at Black Hand Corner towards Lunatic Hill. This is the location of Chambers of the Black Hand Mine. On the left is the excavated site Australian Opal Centre-AOC by a self-sustaining, 2 storey in-the-ground building designed Architects Glenn Murcutt & his wife, Wendy Lewin. The abandoned shafts marked with manufactured fences Are safe for viewing. NOTE The rectangular shafts are original & sunk by hand. You may see hand & foot grips where the miner climbed up & down.
6. A. On left is more of the AOC excavation.
B. On right is the Black Opal Heritage Shed associated with the AOC.
C. On left is Old Chum's Track, a walk through the Opal Fields to the heritage precinct of Nettleton, the second settlement on the diggings.
D. Drive through regenerated opal fields. On the right is a Graveyard of Rusty Treasures.
E. Guides you to Lunatic Hill, read the information panels & the tribute to Ion L. Idriess author of "Lightning Ridge" (available at the Visitor Information Centre).
On the return to your car notice the 2 air vents to capture the breezes for mines 20 metres below the surface.
Go back to BLACK HAND CORNER
7. (2.0km) Turn left & continue passed the Engineering Workshop.
8. (2.4km) Everywhere you look there is evidence of Camp life & mining.
9. (2.9km) This is the 4 Mile Opal Field.
10. (3.2km) The Corrugated Iron Church on the right Was purpose-built for the film "Goddess of 1967"
11. (3.8km) The breakaway view overlooks the Black Soil Plains. At the Castlereagh Highway turn right to town or left to Stanley the Emu.

GREEN CAR DOOR EXPLORER TOUR

Drive Time 30 minutes

**** Dry Road Only ****



**** DRIVE WITH CAUTION ****

STARTS approx. 3kms out of town towards the Castlereagh Highway

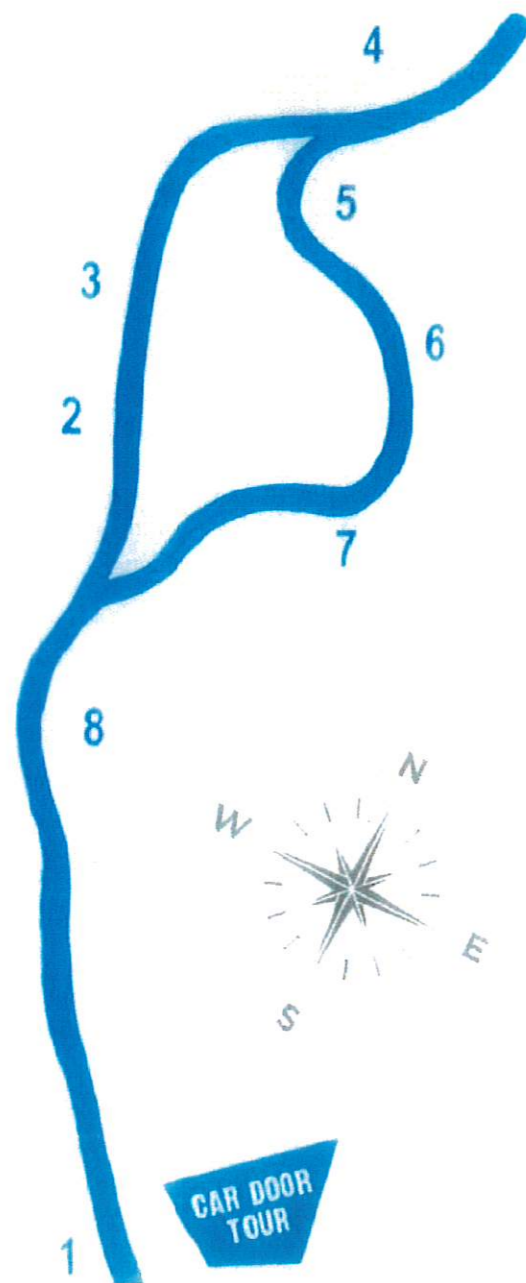
1. (0.0km) You are heading toward Nettleton's First Shaft Lookout Historical Reserve.
2. (0.3km) This Ironstone ridge attracts Lightning. Ironbark Trees are prominent in this area.
3. (0.6km) Continue along the ridge through the Mine Fields.
4. (0.8km) Just pass under the power lines that come up the Castlereagh Highway.
5. (1.5km) You are travelling North toward the Black Soil Plains. Opal is found on the ridges.
(1.6km) **CAUTION** - Intersection. The Old Goodooga Road.
6. (1.7km) This is Nebia Hill. The gravel pit on the right supplies the district. Our gravels are colourful & include Petrified Wood, Jasper, Quartz, Agates, Carnelian & even Clear Topaz.
7. (1.9km) This Car Door is hanging on a Wild Orange Tree that has a 25metre root system. Some miners regard them as surface indicators of where to dig.

****WASHOUTS AHEAD on track****

8. (2.1km) Travelling through rehabilitated landscape.
9. (2.4km) Travelling through a low area floodway.
10. (2.6km) Please take care driving at all times on these unsealed roads.
11. (2.9km) Continue driving through the unique landscape.
12. (3.1km) On the right is a 3.7 metre Opal Tree.
13. (3.4km) You have reached your destination **Nettleton's First Shaft Lookout**
Read The Monument on the left & go further to walk the Stone Labyrinth that was made by 4 people in 6 hours.
If stones are out of place, please re-align them in this spiritual place. Before it gets too dark turn right & looking to your left is the Beer Can House. You are welcome to pop in & sign the Guest Book in the Fridge.
Now go back, take a seat & watch the Setting Sun towards the Coocoran Opal Fields that were booming in the 1990's.
Enjoy your experience & leave only foot prints, but not any rubbish.

BLUE CAR DOOR EXPLORER TOUR

Drive Time 10 minutes



OFF GEM STREET

1. (0.0km) Turn right onto the gravel road & make your way up Bald Hill. This was the only ridge without tree lines.

Miners know that the strength of trees means the roots have found cracks & crevices seeking water. A line of trees is an indicator that water has reached the sandstone level & found the opal clay level.

2. (0.3km) Proceed toward the **Opal Mine Adventure Walk-in-Mine**.

3. (0.4km) The Opal Fields around town, are 'the suburbs'. People can stretch their resources by living simply on residential claims. They pay rents & rates on a 20 year lease that measures 50 x 50 metres. The dimensions of a mining claim are the same but it is registered annually with the Mines Department. A transportable camp is the only option.

4. (0.6km) **The Opal Mine Adventure Walk-in-Mine** was dug by hand by Sandy Randall in the early 1960's. He opened his Walk-in-Mine as the first Tourist Attraction. He was a founding father of the Lightning Ridge Miners' Association.

5. (0.9km) Turn left to **Bevan's Cactus Nursery**.

6. (1.1km) The open basin on the left is a source of gravels & apparently, not opal bearing.

7. (1.2km) **Bevan's Black Opal & Cactus Nursery** has over 2300 species! Largest collection of Cacti in the Southern Hemisphere. Over 48 varieties of Bougainvillea in full bloom are stunning.

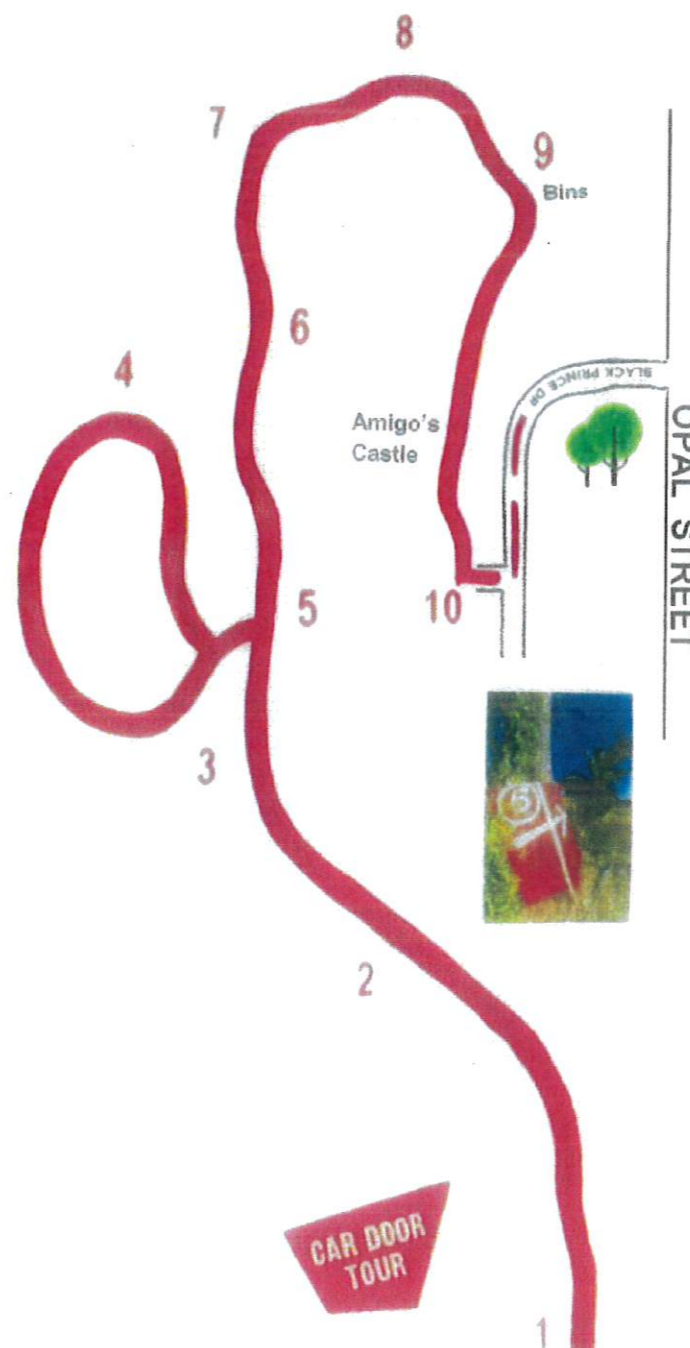
8. (1.5km) Turn left back to the bitumen.

**** DRIVE WITH CAUTION ****

© copyright
all rights reserved

RED CAR DOOR EXPLORER TOUR

Drive Time 20 minutes



ERNIE SHERMAN WAY

**WARNING: DRIVE WITH CAUTION
ON ALL ROADS & AREAS**

1. (0.0km) First stop **The Plaque** for information On the first settlement site. The hill called Sim's Hill Opal Field, was the site of the first 1906 settlement, **Wallangulla or Old Town**. The first opal rush boomed Here in 1905.

2. (0.1km) drive straight ahead.

3. (0.2km) Turn left at door.

PASSING PRIVATE HOMES
****Please DO NOT approach homes****

On the left is a home built from stone & bottles.

4. (0.3km) The **Ridge Castle** on the left.

An unusual home from stone & flagons.

5. (1.4km) Turn left.

This takes you to Sim's Hill highest point in district - 170 metres above sea level.

6. (1.5km) Continue driving.

7. (0.06km) Look to the right.

The only Fast Food Drive Through in town, KFC. Alas or not, it is NEVER OPEN.

8. (0.8km) Continue past various camps to number 9.

9. (1.0km) Slow down & turn right past the Yellow Rubbish Bins to Amigo's Castle.

(1.1km) On the right is **Amigo's Castle**, a private home Single-handedly built of Ironstone. Started in 1981, The scaffolding consisted off 44 gallon drums, with planks. Arranged one above the other. Entrance Fee

10. (1.2km) Turn to the left back to civilization onto **Black Prince Drive** & continue up to the intersection with **Opal Street**.

Turn right to the **Bottle House** or left to **Kangaroo Hill**.

Both attractions have various Antiques & Collectables.

Entrance Fees

NOT TO SCALE

ATTRACTIONSCOSTOPENING HOURS

1. Historical Society Morilla Street	Free	Outside Only
2. Australian Opal Centre Morilla Street	Free	Monday- Saturday 10am-2pm Sunday Closed
3. John Murray Art Galley Opal Street	Free	Monday-Friday 9am-5pm Saturday & Sunday 9am-2pm
4. Swimming Pool	\$5.00	Closed
Theme Park	\$7.50	Closed
Diving Pool	\$5.00	Weekdays 3pm - 6pm
5. The Goondee Pandora Street	Adult \$10 Child \$5	Phone 0427646450 or 0427756092
6. Arts & Crafts Pandora Street	Gold Coin Donation	10am - 2pm 7 Days
7. Bottle House Opal Street	Adult \$10 Child \$2	9am - 3.30pm 7 Days
8. Cooper's Cottage Morilla Street	Free	Outside Only
9. Cemetery Off Gem Street	Free	7 Days
10. Bevan's Cactus Gardens Blue Car Door	Adult \$10 Child w Adult Free	9am - 5pm 7 Days
11. Opal Mine Adventure Blue Car Door	Adult \$20 Child \$8 (6-16y) Family \$50 (any number of Children)	9am - 4pm 7 Days
12. Artesian Bore Baths Ernie Sherman Way	Free	Closed for Cleaning Weekdays 10am - 12noon
13. Amigo's Castle Red Car Door	Adults \$5 Child \$2.50	10am - 4pm
14. Kangaroo Hill Lorne Road	Adults \$5 Child 50c	Closed
15. A Quiet Man's Place	Free Viewing	Closed
16. Church "Goddess of 1967" Yellow Car Door	Free (Private Home)	7 Days
17. The Big Opal Yellow Car Door	Adult \$20 Child \$5 (under 16y) Family \$50	9am - 4pm 7 Days
18. Chambers of the Black Hand Yellow Car Door	Adult \$40 Seniors \$35 Children - See Brochure	Tours - 9.30am & 11am Bookings Essential 6829 0221
19. Old Chum's Track-Nature Walk Yellow Car Door	Free	Dry Track Only
20. Lunatic Hill Yellow Car Door	Free	7 Days
Just Rustic See Brochure for Map	Adult \$30 Child (5-12) \$15	Tours - 10am & 2pm Bookings Essential 6829 0785