

THE 2022 OZSKY STAR SAFARI

- TERMS AND CONDITIONS -

Current as at: Tuesday, 18 January 2022

OzSky Star Safari Registrations

This unique observing program is offered on a first-come first-served basis, to the first 36 confirmed observers or observing couples (plus any non-observing family members). This limit ensures the optimum amount of "telescope time" is available for each registered observer, based on our experience from past OzSky Star Safaris.

To secure your place at the 2022 OzSky Star Safari, your completed OzSky Registration Form and OzSky Registration Fee must be received and confirmed by the Registrar of the OzSky Star Safari. Registrations cannot be confirmed until registration fees have been received in full, due to the high demand for this unique observing experience.

Once the limit of 36 registrations has been reached, a Waiting List may be invoked for the purpose of substitution in the event of any cancellations or where additional registrations are authorised by the OzSky Registrar.

If the Wait List is activated due to cancellations or additional places becoming available, names will be drawn from the Wait List in the same order in which they were received, wherever possible.

A minimum number of 20 registrations is required in order for the OzSky Star Safari to be run. If the minimum number of confirmed registrations is not reached by 31 December, 2021, this event may be cancelled, in which case your registration fees will be either transferred to OzSky 2023 or refunded¹ in full.

Light-Usage Policy

Coonabarabran is known as the Astronomy Capital of Australia - and for good reason, too! As such, it provides an excellent opportunity for attendees to observe the Southern night skies away from the degrading effects of light pollution.

The Observing Field and entire motel site will be subject to a strict, "dim red-light only policy", to benefit both visual observers and imagers. The entire motel is at our disposal for the full week and full dark-out provisions will be implemented to promote a strict no-white-light policy. Windows and doors on all on-site rooms should be fully shielded at night using curtains and/or blinds.

Red Light Globes/Bulbs for the interior lights in the on-site rooms will be available for all on-site attendees upon request and are to be returned at the end of the event.

All light sources after commencement of "Dark-Out" times (7:00pm - 6:00am, or as otherwise advised) should be dim red light only. **No white lights are to be used after dark unless there is an official announcement to the contrary** (such as in the case of inclement weather, or an emergency requiring such use).

The use of head-mounted flashlights is strongly discouraged due to the tendency of these to be inadvertently aimed directly into the eyes of others. Red Flashlights should be aimed towards the ground when moving and must be fitted with appropriate red filters.

For the comfort and safety of all attendees, and due to the proximity of OzSky to the professional observatories nearby, the use of laser pointers is not permitted at any time without express authority of the Registrar of The OzSky Star Safari.

Laptop computers, Smart Phones, Kindle-type devices, iPads and tablet computers are welcome, however if used on or near the Observing Field must be fitted with an appropriate heavy red screen filter and light shield, dimmed to the absolute minimum level and must be faced away from the Observing Field and any other observers, imagers or imaging devices.

Bookings and Logistics

Confirmed registrants will receive comprehensive information packages to help you regarding planning, logistics and bookings, your volunteer hosts, observing expectations, historical and forecast climate data, suggested day trips and other activities.

You are responsible for booking your own travel and other arrangements as well as all costs and other requirements. We will strive to assist you in this process where possible and to pair up individuals travelling alone, if so desired.

Availability of Accommodation

The on-site motel has only 15 rooms available, and depending on final numbers, two or three of those rooms will be designated for your volunteer hosts to enable them to be readily available and on hand for setting up, breaking down and maintaining the provided telescopes throughout the week, as well as guiding you through the Southern Night Skies, contingent upon guest viewing needs and desires.

On-site housing assignments will be made on a first-come, first-served basis, with preference being given to those staying the full week and those willing to room-share with other observers.

Most of the on-site rooms are capable of accommodating up to seven (7) people, however we will only be assigning up to a maximum of four (4) people per room to ensure greater levels of comfort for all.

Individuals travelling alone or as a group will be assigned to male or female rooms of up to four (4) people per room.

Where individuals or couples are travelling as a group but registering separately, please let us know so we can try to assign you to the same room(s), where possible.

There are only a limited number of private rooms available (couples only), however additional private rooms may be available at off-site locations.

Once all on-site rooms have been filled, alternative accommodation options may be available at a hotel or motel in the nearby town of Coonabarabran.

You may request to be wait-listed for an on-site room in the event of any cancellations.

Accommodation charges are not included in the OzSky Star Safari Registration Fees, however the rates at both on-site and off-site locations are quite reasonable and room sharing will considerably reduce your overall accommodation costs.

For current room rates, please contact the accommodation provider(s) directly.

Payment of Registration Fees

Payment of your OzSky Registration Fee is required to secure your reservation for the 2022 OzSky Star Safari.

Due to the growing popularity of the OzSky Star Safari, and the increasing numbers on our waitlist, confirmation of your registration for the 2022 OzSky Star Safari may only be provided once your Registration Form has been received and Registration Fees have been paid.

Payments may be made via PayPal transfer, Credit Card or Debit Card (via PayPal portal), or Direct Wire Transfer.

OzSky is not a commercial operation, but an entirely volunteer-run event "by amateur astronomers, for amateur astronomers". It is operated purely on a cost-recovery basis, which is why we are able to offer this unique event at such a low cost to you.

Your OzSky Registration Fee covers the costs of a fair and reasonable contribution towards the general operational and capital expenses which we incur in planning and running this event, such as the provision, delivery, maintenance and operation of the OzSky Star Safari's telescopes & equipment, legal & regulatory fees, insurances, advertising, and on-site operational costs such as two Dinners at OzSky (a *Welcome Dinner on the first night* and a *Farewell Dinner on the last night*), rental of the on-site Lecture Hall, nightly tea/coffee and snack bar on the Observing Field, a highly sought after OzSky T-shirt per registrant and also covers the on-site accommodation expenses for your volunteer OzSky hosts.

Your OzSky Registration fee does not cover any transport, accommodation, tours or park entry fees, meals or other expenses which may be incurred during your trip.

Cancellations, Transfers & Refunds

Your OzSky Registration Fee is fully refundable¹ and/or transferable² for cancellations received prior to December 31, 2021. This has been extended by 3 months due to the ongoing uncertainty around international travels, quarantine requirements and international border closures.

As this event heavily depends on a minimum number of participants to cover the operating expenses, any cancellations received after December 31, 2021 are non-refundable and non-transferable, to ensure that the minimum number of participants can be maintained.

These terms are due to the high demand for this unique observing experience, and the need for most folks to plan their trips in advance. We strongly recommend purchasing travel insurance with cancellation coverage.

Most of the collected fees are expended throughout the course of the year, which is how we have determined the above timeframes - the majority of those operating expenses are completely irrecoverable once paid.

3RF Australia and the organisers of The OzSky Star Safari reserve the right to cancel an OzSky Star Safari at any time due to insufficient registrations or other circumstances beyond our reasonable control, in which case your Registration Fees will be transferred to the 2023 OzSky Star Safari, or refunded¹ to you within 60 days of such announcement.

¹ Requests for refunds will be subject to any fees or charges which may be imposed by external parties or financial institutions. For example, at the time of writing, PayPal payments are fully refundable (excluding their fees) within 180 days of original payment date. Thereafter, PayPal may charge or retain additional fees, as refunds processed after 180 days are considered by PayPal to be a new transaction. Accordingly, all refunds will be calculated based on the amount received by The OzSky Star Safari organizers, minus any fees which may be imposed by PayPal, other third parties or financial institutions.

² Where an eligible transfer of registration is sought, your OzSky Registration Fee may, at your selection, be transferred either to another individual/couple of your choosing, or may be applied as a deposit towards any other OzSky event during 2022-2023. By transferring your OzSky Registration Fee, any options or rights for further refunds will be waived.

Privacy of your Information

We collect information about you in the OzSky Registration Form for the purposes of planning each event to best suit the needs of those attending and to assist those attending in getting to know one another prior to the event.

Your Name, Email, Suburb/State and details provided in the "About You" section of the Registration Form will be used to populate a participant bio list and will be shared only with the registered attendees for this event, along with a photo of you (requested from you at a later time).

You may request that your details not be included at any time if you would prefer not to be included.

Your Name and Full Address may be provided to the Accommodation Provider for the purposes of booking and confirming your accommodation booking, in accordance with their terms & conditions.

Your information will never be shared with any other third party under any circumstances, except where required to do so by law.

Acceptance of Terms & Conditions

By submitting your OzSky Star Safari Registration Form and payment, you will be deemed to have fully read, understood, accepted and agreed to be bound by these Terms & Conditions.

We look forward to sharing the amazing southern night skies with you in March 2022 and would be happy to assist wherever possible in helping to plan your vacation.

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