***A few notes about what you can expect on tour:-***

**Meals** – We have a car fridge and ice box to keep drinks, salads and fresh fruit cold. We carry a variety of tinned salmon and tuna. There are plenty of nuts, muesli bars and snacks on hand. Iced water is on hand at all times and we supply stainless steel bottles which can be topped up at any time. On a group tour it is helpful to have an assistant for meal preparation. Breakfast and lunch is enjoyed in the field with the birds, dinner is mostly ala carte at restaurants, alcoholic drinks are usually available at dinner but are at your own expense.

**Accommodation** - In most places accommodation is queen plus single with ensuite. In some places ablutions are in a separate building. All accommodation is with air-conditioning. Campers have natural air-conditioning.

**Luggage capacity** - We have room for a total of 4 full size suitcases and back packs in the trailer. There is also room for 2 mid-sized suitcases in the travel pod on the roof-rack. This breaks down to a suitcase (preferably mid-sized) and back pack per person on a group tour. Excess luggage can usually be stored at your accommodation in Darwin for the duration of our tour. If there are more than four passengers, room for camera gear and big lenses will be limited. We have a spotting scope on board, for everyone’s use.

**Seating** – The vehicles we use for most tours are seven or eight seaters, all seats including the third row in the back are comfortable for adults. While the third row seats are comfortable, getting in and out is not as easy to access as the other seats. The front passenger’s seat gives the best view, so it is a courtesy on group tours to rotate all seating.

**Dress-** Protection from biting insects and the sun is an important consideration. A broad-brimmed hat, light coloured and light weight long sleeves and long pants are recommended. A small backpack for carrying water and other gear is handy for the longer walks. Andrew (right) is well set up for a three kilometre walk!

**Health and Fitness-** The pace of all tours is relaxed and not rushed, but can involve some rocky, steep or long (up to four kilometre) walks. While we are happy to cater to the needs of people with health and fitness limitations, we need to be able to keep together as a group. If you anticipate that keeping up may be difficult, a private charter may be more appropriate. We have a food licence and maintain a high standard of cleanliness and hygiene with food preparation and serving.

**Etiquette** – A relaxed, friendly atmosphere is the norm on tour, so there is not the need for too much in the way of rules. Eating dry food in the car while travelling is fine, but anything milky or messy is to be avoided so that the vehicle remains reasonably clean and odour free for the duration of the tour. Please apply sunscreen or insect repellent on leaving the car rather than while in the car. Some six legged wildlife invariably enters the car when we stop and start. This can be distressing to people who are not used to insects. Insects are best encouraged to leave by lowering the window while moving and shooed away, this is preferable to squashing them on the windows or roof lining! For the comfort of others and consideration for the environment, tours are strictly non-smoking.

**Safety** – The car is equipped with a first aid kit (and I carry a small one in my pack when we are away from the car), fire extinguisher, uhf radio and satellite phone. It always best that we keep together as a group. Hand sanitiser, sunscreen and insect repellent is within easy reach for all in the trailer.

**Weather-** June to August are the most comfortable for people not acclimatised to high heat and humidity. September to October will be hotter and more humid, but the birding can be even better in those months. From November on it gets very humid and some species are harder to find due.

**Emergency contact** – In case your family needs to reach you while we are on tour, we will be in phone range most nights, our office number is 0400 404 058 and we can be contacted at any time. Mike’s phone number on tour is 0420 021 160, though we will not always be in range. Our satellite phone ensures we are always within range of emergency services, should the need arise.

***Thank you for your cooperation in making your experience as enjoyable as we can!***