

Admin, LACO

Subject: FW: Regional flight costs - Kununurra

From: Bronwen
Sent: Thursday, 27 July 2017 12:26 PM
To: Committee, Economics & Industry Standing
Subject: Regional flight costs - Kununurra

Good afternoon,

I wish to express my concern in regards to the cost of flights to get to/from Kununurra, regional western Australia.

The cost of flights often equates to sacrificing significant events and milestones, to get to and from Kununurra often costs in excess of \$1000

Kununurra is paradise, however there is an extreme price to pay to live there – when you add the cost of travel on top of our local rates, the cost of fuel and housing, it is no wonder Kununurra appears to be going backwards, rather than forwards.

Kununurra should be a tourism hub. We should be promoting our agriculture, river, water, lake, fishing, waterfalls, landscape and community events. It is without doubt that we do not get as many opportunities to do so, due to the costs associated to getting there.

The town has a huge number of government employees, who are all receiving isolated allowances and travel allowances, however for those not employed within the government sector, or those not employed at all may find it is unaffordable to travel more than once a year. I am employed on a decent salary however cannot afford the \$2000.00 round trip to get home (more than twice a year).

For myself to fly home this weekend (28.07.2017 – 1.08.2017), return from Mackay it would cost me \$2109.20 and over 15hrs travel each way.

For me to fly home a month later (25.08.2017 – 29.08.2017) it would be \$1809.54, with 14hours travel each way.

I am flying home for my brother's wedding in 3 weeks time, I booked this flight 5 months in advance and my journey involves:

2 hour drive from South Walker Creek (Nebo Qld) to Mackay
4.5 hour drive from Mackay to Townsville
3.5hour flight Townsville to Darwin
1 x night accommodation in Darwin
1.0hour flight Darwin to Kununurra

Return

55 min flight Kununurra to Darwin
1 x Night accommodation in Darwin
3.5 hour flight Darwin to Townsville
4.5hour drive from Townsville to Mackay

The flights were on special for \$700, 5months ago however to book them today, it would cost \$1114.

Please consider that I also have to wear the following costs to get the cheapest fair I could find:

- Fuel and wear/tear on my Vehicle on the travel to /from Townsville
- Airport Parking for the period that I am away
- Additional time off work (1 x day for travel)

See below

Return Flight	
Townsville (TSV) to Kununurra (KNX)	
Fri., 11 Aug. - Sat., 26 Aug.	
1 ticket: 1 adult	
Departure	
Fri., 11 Aug.	
Arrives Sat., 12 Aug.	
TSV 5:45pm KNX 12:30pm	
20h 45m, 1 stop: DRW	
Airnorth Regional 183	
Airnorth Regional 332	
Return	
Sat., 26 Aug.	
Arrives Sun., 27 Aug.	
KNX 4:50pm TSV 10:05am	
15h 15m, 1 stop: DRW	
Qantas Airways 2670 operated by Airnorth Regional	
Qantas Airways 2685 operated by Airnorth Regional	
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Traveller 1: Adult	AU\$1,113.37
Flight	AU\$907.83
Airline Taxes	AU\$205.54
Wotif Booking Fee	AU\$0.00
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Total From: AU\$1,113.37	

It seems outrageous that our hands are tied if we wanted to see our family.

Bronwen Thomas