

To whom it may concern,

The costs of airfares from Mount Isa to Brisbane are a big concern. The airlines wont lower the prices to a decent or acceptable cost, they say this is due to demand, well that sounds like rubbish. Demand would happen if prices were reasonable. Majority of outback towns yes are mine site towns but a lot do not work on mine site and contractors do not get the same as others.

Majority of people would prefer to load the car and drive from Mount Isa to Brisbane, a 19 hr drive with kids at a cost of \$400 top for gas, one night accommodation at most and food still works out to be a lot cheaper to fly.

We are a family of 5, 2 adults and 3 kids and we are from NZ. It is cheaper to fly internationally return from Brisbane then from Mount Isa to Brisbane. Why is the cost of international flights which is an hour longer then the Brisbane Mount Isa route cheaper? Makes no sense.

Flights last minute are ridiculous prices. Having to pay up for flights due to a family member passing or illness at the prices they are who in their right mind can afford those. I had 3x family members pass away end of May 2017 in a car accident on the qld/nsw border, I was unable to pay for the airfares to fly from Mount Isa to Brisbane with 3 children at \$1000 each. That's robbery. Not all of us can afford that. If my partner does not work we do not get paid. Not easy living in the outback areas for all.

Wouldn't it be better to have a capped price on domestic flights they should not exceed an international flight price. Lower prices, demand will go up. Make it more affordable for everyone, if it's because it is rural well up the price of the routes that are more in demand i.e. Brisbane to Sydney or Melbourne, instead of having the extreme cheap prices help subsidise the rural routes by upping the city routes.

There is a way and a will but you choose not to assist the outback rural areas. This is what isolates us from the world.

Compassion for all is all we ask equality for all areas of Australia.