

Flinders Ranges - Arkaroola & Murray Princess Discovery

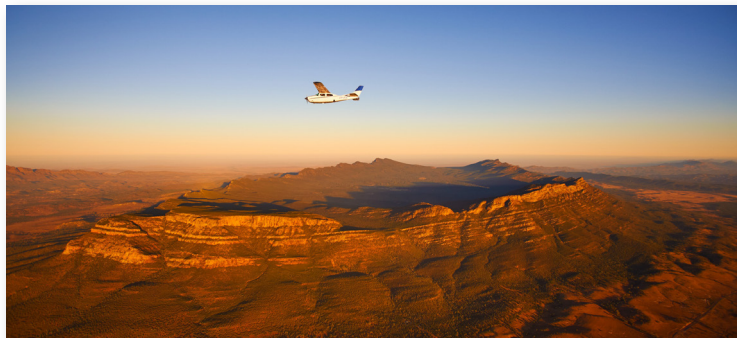
With Penhurst RSL Travel Club



TRADE TRAVEL
Group & Private Tour Specialists

13 Days / 12 Nights - Fully Escorted

Tour Departs: Wednesday 11 September - Monday 23 September, 2024



Day 1. Wed 11 Sept: Sydney - Adelaide - Clare Valley

Lunch & Dinner

Flights: VA412 Sydney 0915 - Adelaide 1055 - Subject to change!

After our flight from Sydney we arrive into Adelaide and catch up with our local coach captain before enjoying some **light refreshments at the Atura Hotel Adelaide Airport**. We then make our way out of Adelaide and up into the delightful Clare Valley region of South Australia. We call into the imposing **Martindale Hall**, a Georgian styled Italianate influenced sandstone mansion built in 1879 – 1880 and boasting 32 rooms and large cellar of some 7 rooms. At completion of our tour we proceed to our Clare Valley accommodation for check-in followed by dinner at the hotel.

Overnight Clare: Clare Valley Motel

Day 2. Thurs 12 Sept: Port Augusta

Light Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

After a light breakfast and checkout we journey north to **Bungaree Station** for a wonderful insight from Mark into the former merino sheep station and life as it is today, operating as an efficient mixed farm and run by the descendent of the original founder, G.C. Hawker. After our tour we enjoy **Vicky's homemade morning tea** before heading up to **Wirrabara** to view the stunning **silo mural** which captures the beauty of the town and surrounding countryside. We then travel up to Port Augusta via **Horrocks Pass** before arriving at the **Australian Arid Lands Botanical Gardens** for a **light lunch**. Afterwards enjoy a relaxing stroll with our guides through a range of natural and themed gardens and soak in the sounds and scents of Australia's arid heart. Our last stop for the day is at the **multi award-winning Wadlata Outback Centre** where displays highlight the history of the Flinders Ranges and the Outback of South Australia from 15 million years ago to modern day. It's then time for check-in at our accommodation with time to relax before dinner in the restaurant.

Overnight Port Augusta: The Standpipe Golf Motor Inn

Day 3. Fri 13 Sept: Port Augusta - Arkaroola

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

This morning after breakfast and check out we take a **drive around Port Augusta with our local guide** before making our way up through **Quorn** to Hawker where we stop by the **Jeff Morgan Gallery** and view Jeff's amazing works, particularly the amazing giant panoramas including the - **30m x 3m Wilpena Panorama** and **46m x 5.5m Arkaroola Panorama**. After a cuppa and biscuit we depart Hawker and travel north past Parachilna and Leigh Creek to **Copley** for a **light lunch** at the famous **Bush Bakery and Quandong Cafe**. Our journey this afternoon takes us across through Nepabunna, the Gammon Ranges and past Balcanoona before arriving in the **61,000-hectare wildlife sanctuary of Arkaroola**. After settling into our accommodation there will be time to unwind and freshen up before dinner.

Overnight Arkaroola: Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary

Day 4. Sat 14 Sept: Arkaroola Ridge Top Tour

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

This morning we board our four-wheel drive vehicles for the **famous half day Ridge Top Tour** which takes in some of the most spectacularly rugged country on earth. Our guides share their knowledge of **Arkaroola's 1600-million year geological history** as they navigate the steep slopes and hair raising ascents of the famous Ridge Top Track. Inspiring images of red granite mountains and golden spinifex covered hillsides give way to a breath-taking view across the **Freeling Heights, Lake Frome and the desert beyond**. After a wonderful morning, we enjoy lunch back at the resort, before enjoying the afternoon at leisure to experience, at own cost, one of the guided walks or take a scenic flight over the Arkaroola Sanctuary or Lake Eyre.

Optional Scenic Flights: Arkaroola offer scenic flights - Full information and cost please visit www.arkaroola.com.au

- 1: 35 minute Arkaroola Sanctuary Flight (\$205 per person)
- 2: 45 minute Lake Frome Flight (\$260 per person)
- 3: 75 minute Arkaroola Sanctuary & Lake Frome Combo Flight (\$405 per person)
- 4: 1/2 Day Lake Eyre Flight - 4 hours (\$985 per person based on minimum of 2 passengers)

Overnight Arkaroola: Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary

Day 5. Sun 15 Sept: Arkaroola Free Day - 4WD Sunset & Canapés Experience

Breakfast & Dinner

Today is ours to enjoy the ranges as we wish or perhaps do the below optional tour before our late afternoon **Sunset Canapés 4WD Experience**.

Written in the Rocks, \$170pp - Take a trip back in time with the Written in the Rocks guided tour, driving and walking the Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary. The ancient geological history of this region has been exposed at the surface, revealing hundreds of millions of years of sedimentary and glacial activity. Stop include the Ochre Wall, Lively's Gold Find, Welcome Mine and the Jasper Twins as we explore and wander over ancient glacial rocks from past ice ages at Stubbs Waterhole to the ancient fossil sea-beds now forming near-vertical cliffs in Bararranna Gorge.

Late afternoon we set off on our **Sunset Canapés 4WD Experience** to witness Arkaroola and the Northern Flinders Ranges awash in ever-changing hues of light at one of the best sunset locations in South Australia. In the comfort of our lounge chair and spectacular lookout point, enjoy South Australian wine, beer and canapés along with commentary from our expert local guide, while watching one of nature's greatest light shows.

Overnight Arkaroola: Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary

Day 6. Mon 16 Sept: Arkaroola - Leigh Creek

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

This morning after breakfast we depart this magical part of Australia and begin our drive back through the ranges and across to Leigh Creek. On arrival we enjoy a cuppa before meeting up with our **local guide** to take a look through **The "Black Rock, Blue Sky" Exhibition** which is a collection of photographic panels that relate the 75 year history of the Leigh Creek Coalfield and unique story of the two towns. We then take in an **informative drive around Leigh Creek** before heading out to the **Aroona Dam Sanctuary**. Offering spectacular views and peaceful surroundings it's an ideal place to enjoy our **picnic lunch** and with our guide stroll parts of the wonderful 5.5 kilometre interpretive walk, which starts below the main wall of the 5000 mega-litre dam, the largest of its type outside of Adelaide. Later in the day we make our way back into Leigh Creek for check-in and dinner.

Overnight Leigh Creek: Leigh Creek Resort

Day 7. Tues 17 Sept: Leigh Creek - Blinman - Flinders Ranges

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

We depart Leigh Creek this morning and head down into the Flinders Ranges to the **historic copper mining township of Blinman** where in the mining era from 1862 - 1910, the mine delivered a large amount of copper to the London Metal Exchange. After **refreshments** at the **North Blinman Hotel**, our **guide** shows us around the township followed by our **Blinman underground mine experience** which offers a unique journey into the heart of an historic copper mine and takes us back in time, to the lives of the miners and their families during the second half of the 19th century. From Blinman we travel down past the **Great Wall of China** to **Stokes Hill Lookout** which provides an expansive panoramic view of the surrounding landscape including Wilpena Pounds eastern escarpment. Our next stop is **Wilpena Pound Resort**, our home for the next two nights. Following check-in and a freshen up we gather in the restaurant for dinner.

Overnight Wilpena Pound: Wilpena Pound Resort

Day 8. Wed 18 Sept: Flinders Ranges

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Today with our **local guide on board** we begin our **drive through the scenic Flinders Ranges** pausing firstly at the Cazneau Tree made famous by renowned photographer Harold Cazneau. Our drive continues through the ranges taking in breathtaking gorges, rocky creek beds and giant sharp saw tooth ridges while spotting stunning wildflowers (seasonal) and wildlife. After our drive through the ranges we arrive at the **Wilpena Pound Information Centre** for lunch. This afternoon we have the opportunity at own cost to take in a **scenic flight over Wilpena Pound**, take a leisurely walk along one of the tracks or take the shuttle into the Pound for the longer walk which allows us to see the **Hill Homestead and Wangarra Lookouts** which offer **stunning views over Wilpena Pound**. This evening after a delightful day out we meet up for dinner back in the restaurant.

Overnight Wilpena Pound: Wilpena Pound Resort

Day 9. Thurs 19 Sept: Peterborough - Burra - Tanunda

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Today we head down through Hawker and Orroroo to the **historic railway township of Peterborough** for a **cuppa and tour** of the **roundhouse at Steamtown**. Further south we visit the **historic copper mining town of Burra** which provides another interesting **guided tour and lunch stop**. The copper mines were first discovered in 1845 and were operated by Cornish and Welsh miners until 1877. Our guided tour takes in the heritage buildings, lookouts and other major sites including the Red Ruth Gaol which featured in the movie 'Breaker Morant'. From Burra we drive down into the beautiful Barossa Valley wine district via the **Farrell Flat Silo Train Mural**. Following check-in we gather for dinner in Angus and Co.

Overnight Tanunda: Weintal Resort

Day 10. Fri 20 Sept: Barossa - Mannum - Murray Princess

Breakfast & Dinner

Today before leaving the Barossa we enjoy some **leisure time in Tanunda** with a must visit to the **Barossa Tourist Information Centre** which is also home to the **Barossa Made Wares and Food Pantry** featuring bespoke, artisan and unique products and produce all handmade in the Barossa. Our last Barossa treat is at the **Barossa Valley Chocolate Company** where we partake in a **Wine and Chocolate Paring Experience**. Learn how to taste chocolate and wine together with this sensory tasting, featuring five Barossa Vineyard Road wines alongside White, Ruby, Milk and Dark chocolates. From the Barossa to the Murray River, home to the **historic river port of Mannum** where we find the grand lady of the river, the PS Murray Princess our home for the next three nights. Mid-afternoon the Murray Princess departs historic Mannum, birthplace of the Murray River trade and communication, and heads downriver while we enjoy our Welcome Dinner. As we cruise under floodlight to our overnight mooring at Mundurra, we may see nocturnal wildlife on the riverbank such as kangaroos, hairynosed wombats, tortoises, egrets and many other species. The on-board entertainer provides music for the night owls.

Overnight Murray Princess: Outside Cabins

Day 11. Sat 21 Sept: Murray Princess

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

In 1879 the first bridge to span the Murray River was built at Edwards Crossing, which quickly became the bustling township of **Murray Bridge**. After a hearty breakfast, choose to join a **guided tour of the town's historic landmarks** and local attractions or go on a **wildlife tour at Monarto Safari Park (additional cost)**. Those who choose to experience Monarto Safari Park will arrive back on board the Murray Princess in time for lunch then join us in the Sturt Dining Room for a special presentation on the bounty of food and wine produced in the Riverland. This afternoon, we continue our journey upriver mooring tonight at Salt Bush Flat. After dinner, enjoy being entertained by the talented crew.

Overnight Murray Princess: Outside Cabins

Day 12. Sun 22 Sept: Murray Princess

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

This morning, join a **guided nature walk** where our guide will share the secrets of the local flora and fauna. It's a great way to get in a little exercise before the PS Murray Princess departs and cruises downriver. Near Fromms Landing, we turn and head downriver to River View Lodge (near Piggy Flat / Coolcha) where our discovery vessel awaits for a **wildlife cruise**. Travelling in small, personalised groups, we explore the maze of the river where the birdlife is amazing. Watch for darters, herons and egrets feeding along the river's muddy edges. The afternoon offers a choice of bocce or fishing challenges before a delicious **final night dinner in the Sturt Dining Room**.

Overnight Murray Princess: Outside Cabins

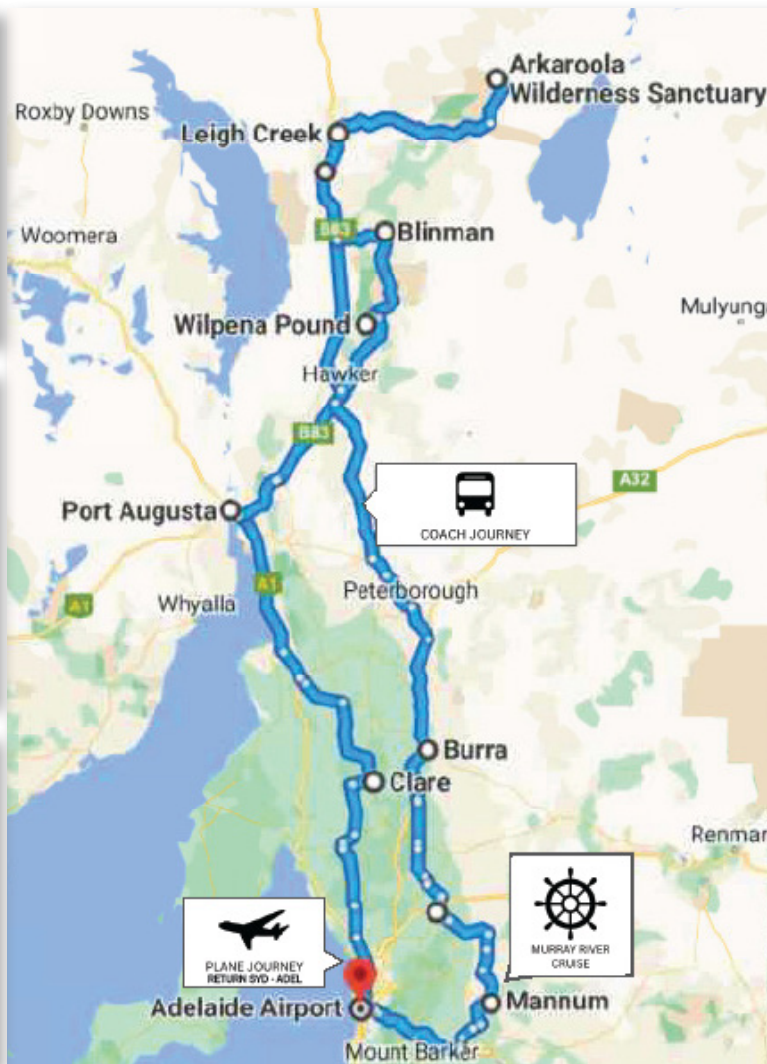
Day 13. Mon 23 Sept: Murray Princess - Mannum - Adelaide - Sydney

Breakfast

After breakfast, the **PS Murray Princess arrives in Mannum**, where we reluctantly farewell the crew of the Princess and enjoy some **leisure time in Mannum** which allows time to stroll the unique shops, cafes and take a look through the **Mannum Dock Museum of River History**. From Mannum we head back across through Adelaide to the Adelaide Airport for check in and flight back across to Sydney after a wonderful few days touring the Flinders, Barossa and Murray River regions of South Australia with the Pennshurst Travel Club and Trade Travel.

Flights: VA425 Adelaide 1430 - Sydney 1650 - Subject to change!

Your Flinders, Arkaroola & Murray Princess Journey



Flinders, Arkaroola & Murray Princess



Tour Highlights: Martindale Hall; Sevenhills Cellars; Bungaree Station; Wirrabara Silo Mural; Aridlands Botanical Gardens; Wadlata Outback Centre; The Jeff Morgan Gallery Panoramas; Copley Bush Bakery & Quandong Cafe; Arkaroola Wildlife Wilderness Sanctuary; Arkaroola Ridge Top Tour; The “Black Rock, Blue Sky” Exhibition; Sunset & Canapés 4WD Sunset Tour; Guided Tour Leigh Creek & Aroona Dam Sanctuary; Blinman Underground Mine & Town Tour; Walls of China & Stokes Hill Lookout; Flinders Ranges Highlights; Wilpena Pound; Peterborough’s Steamtown; Historic Copper Mining Town of Burra; Farrell Flat Silo Mural; Barossa Made Wares & Food Pantry; Barossa Valley Chocolate Company Wine & Chocolate Paring Experience; 3 Night Murray Princess Discovery Cruise; Port of Mannum plus more.

Tour Price Includes:

- Travel Club Tour Host
- Return flights Sydney to Adelaide
- Luxury coach travel
- 9 Nights quality accommodation
- 3 Nights Murray Princess
- Breakfast, lunch & dinner as per itinerary (34 Meals)
- All entry fees & guides as per itinerary

Tour Price Excludes:

- Scenic Flights & Optional Tours - POA

Tour Cost: \$5998.00 per person Twin Share (Single Supplement \$1650.00)

A minimum of 20 passengers is required for this tour to proceed.

The tour prices valid for travel in 2024. Please note that the itinerary is subject to change without notice.

Deposit: A \$200.00 per person deposit is due on booking along with booking form to secure your place on this tour, along with completed & signed booking form!

Final Payment: Due no later than **Friday 3 May, 2024.**

For information & bookings contact Elizabeth Northcott: 02 9533 5809

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Email: bookings@tradetravel.com



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