

# RANGES TO RIVER EX ADELAIDE

GREAT WALKS THROUGH SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S  
FLINDERS RANGES & MURRAY RIVER

Everything you need to know to make your  
journey a magical experience





## RANGES TO RIVER EXPERIENCE -EX ADELAIDE ITINERARY

DAY 1	Adelaide to Arkaba (Flinders Ranges)
DAY 2	Arkaba Homestead to Black's Gap Camp (13km walking)
DAY 3	Black's Gap to Elder Camp (15km walking)
DAY 4	Elder Camp to Arkaba Homestead (14-15km walking)
DAY 5	Flinders Rangers to Renmark in the Riverland
DAY 6	Renmark to Headings Cliffs (12km walking, 12km river cruising)
DAY 7	Headings Cliffs to Chowilla Creek (14km walking, 10km river cruising)
DAY 8	Chowilla Creek to Bunyip Reach Cliffs (10km walking, 18km cruising)
DAY 9	Bunyip Reach Cliffs to Adelaide (2km walking, 23km river cruising)





## DAY ONE - ADELAIDE TO ARKABA

A guide will greet you in the arrivals hall at Adelaide domestic airport at 9:30am sharp. If you have stayed in Adelaide, you will be met in the lobby of your city located hotel between 9:50am and 10am before hitting the open road to Arkaba.

Heading north from Adelaide, you will bypass the small country towns of Virginia, Two Wells and Dublin. Keep an eye out for the imaginative collection of large sculptures along the highway, made by way of protesting the development of a waste facility in the small town.

Stop for lunch on the banks of Bumbunga Lake. Following a quick break, your journey will take you past the infamous Snowtown, Redhill, Port Pirie and Port Germein before another short stop in the historic railway town of Quorn.

From here, Arkaba is about an hour away, and you will arrive to Arkaba Homestead by 5pm in time to freshen up before your guided lay of the land experience and a three course meal hosted by one of Arkaba's field guides.





## THE ARKABA HOMESTEAD

Your first and fourth evening is spent in the comfort of Arkaba's restored homestead, member of Luxury Lodges of Australia, and an exclusive outback Australian experience. As the layout of the original homestead has been retained, each of the five homestead guestrooms has a character of its own and has been named after early settlers, explorers or property owners.

Each has a private bathroom and opens out on a shaded verandah with views of the surrounding ranges. The decor has been hand-fashioned by wildlife artist, Rosie Woodford-Granf. Bedheads are from recycled fence posts and fleeces, curtains tied back by gumnut tassels, lights are perched on explorers' tripod theodolites. The Arkaba Homestead retains a real sense of history and place.

We unapologetically spare your room from noisy televisions and internet connections. We'd much rather share expansive views, ever-growing species checklists and binoculars so you won't miss a thing.



Ranges to River Experience Ex Adelaide Transfers Itinerary 2021





## DAY TWO - WILPENA POUND TO BLACK'S GAP CAMP

Breakfast will ensure you are sufficiently fueled and ready to explore before our short 35 minute drive to the starting point. The distance to is approximately 13km through the flat interior of Wilpena Pound and a gradual 1.5km ascent to the rim of the Pound, climbing 200 metres ahead of a steeper descent of about 1km into Arkaba wilderness and Black's Gap Signature Swag Camp.

Expect to walk into camp at around 5.30pm in time to settle in; take a hot bush shower (with a view!) and enjoy a drink and canapes service as the sun sinks behind the ancient ramparts of Wilpena Pound.

Our signature camp is located between Bunbinyana Range and Wilpena Pound, on a site previously occupied by a shepherd in the late 1850s. His stone chimney still exists and we camp overlooking the creek where he used to take his water. Our field guide and camp assistant will prepare a three-course evening feast, taken al fresco under the evening sky and accompanied by local South Australian wine. Enjoy some interesting tales around our bush TV, the good old camp fire, and retire to your swag bed for an unforgettable night under a canopy of stars.

Day 2 is approximately 13km, 5-6 hours





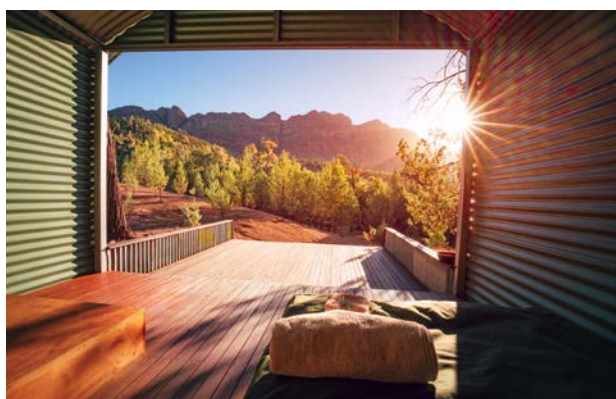


## ARKABA WALK'S SIGNATURE CAMPS

Each signature camp has five permanent swag decks. The low timber decks are slightly elevated, and each have a ½ metre corrugated iron screen around three sides, to give privacy – the fourth side is left open to the views over the countryside, while above you is the night sky and a canopy of stars. There is also a sheltered section of your swag deck, in the event of wind or rain.

Your bed is a 'swag' – the bedding of choice for generations of Australian pioneers, a canvas envelope that is comfortable and waterproof, protecting you from the elements. Inside each swag will be an all season's sleeping bag with liner.

Each camp site has two waterless composting toilets – each in their own little 'dunny' shed and strategically located to enjoy the best of the views. Each camp has two bush showers – essentially buckets that are filled with water warmed on the fire, and equipped with taps to regulate the flow. Some special Wild Bush Luxury touches ensure these showers will be a feature of your trip!







## DAY THREE - BLACK'S GAP CAMP TO ELDER CAMP

Today is arguably the most scenic, as we move out from Black's Gap into the rolling hills more suited to the sheep farming activities previously carried out across the property. The first 2km will follow the famous Heysen Trail through Black's Gap itself revealing a fascinating insight into the pastoral history of the region, pausing at old shepherds' camps and mustering yards, with Red and Grey Kangaroos and Emus all regular sightings. The last leg of the day will take us slightly west into rolling hills culminating in a sharp 1km climb of about 100m in elevation to the summit of the Red Range where we'll be rewarded with panoramic views of the Ikara-Flinders Ranges before moving on to the foot of Elder Range passing through beautiful stands of native Cypress trees.

Your luggage and swags will have been transported by vehicle to your next signature swag camp, our Elder Camp. A hot bush shower, dinner and another special night under the great Australian sky awaits.

Day 3 is approximately 14-15km, 6-7 hours







## DAY FOUR - ELDER CAMP TO ARKABA HOMESTEAD

Wake to the glorious morning light on our very own Elder Range. As we move south east the first few kilometres will be amongst hill country at the foot of the Elder Range. Walking through Mallee and native pine forests, we cross Slaty Creek which can hold precious water well into the dry season, sometimes even offering the opportunity to drink from clear, ice cold springs. Ascending the Red Range and down to the banks of the Arkaba Creek, shady and picturesque and lined with time-honored and rejuvenating River Red Gums, with plenty of opportunities to spot birds that commune in the canopy, including galahs, parrots and honeyeater species.

We pass reliable water points providing year-round life support for kangaroos, parrots and emus. The pace is unhurried with time to stop and breathe in the outback, view wildlife and take photographs. Arrive at Arkaba Homestead mid afternoon and relax or perhaps partake in a massage or a scenic flight over the ancient ramparts of Wilpena Pound. This evening enjoy a hosted feast and guided viewing of the Southern Hemisphere's clearest skies silhouetted against mountains, half a billion years in the making.

Day 4 is approximately 14-15km, 6-7 hours







## DAY FIVE - DEPART ARKABA FOR RENMARK

Depart Arkaba Homestead after breakfast for a scenic road transfer through gorgeous outback towns with wine tasting and lunch in the Clare Valley wine country.

The Wild Bush Luxury team will bid you farewell and you will meet your Murray River Walk guide over lunch who will continue your transfer east through Robertson and Morgan before arriving at the Renmark Hotel with dinner at the Nanya Bistro included this evening.



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## YOUR HOUSEBOAT ON THE MURRAY RIVER

The houseboat is your lodge-based accommodation on the Murray River Walk. The scenery from your houseboat and your bedroom window is always spectacular. In the evenings, relax in the houseboat lounge and share stories with your fellow travellers, or venture up to the top deck where a hot spa provides a perfect end to the day's activities.

Your houseboat sleeps up to 10 people in 5 rooms (each room sleeps 2 people, queen bed or 2 singles), and each boat has 2 bathrooms with hot showers, a spacious lounge and modern kitchen. The houseboat will be moored each day at your daily destination, you only need to unpack once as you keep the same room for the entire journey.







## DAY SIX - RENMARK TO HEADINGS CLIFFS

Meet your guides and fellow walkers at 7.30 am at the Renmark Community Hotel for a pre-walk briefing before we board the pontoon “cruiser” boat for a 12 km cruise along the Murray River to the start of the walking route.

Discover the lagoons that are havens for waterbirds, learn about the site of a World War II Japanese internment camp and cross creeks that feed the red gum forests and box woodlands.

A gentle climb through the cliffs reveals a magnificent view of the vast Murray River floodplain that will surround you over the next 3 days. A short transfer across the river in the cruiser and you have arrived at your destination.

Your “Boat Guide” will welcome you aboard and settle you in with a cool foot dip in the river or a hot spa followed by a 3-course dinner paired with local wines.

Day 6 is approximately 12km walking, 12km cruising





## DAY SEVEN - HEADINGS CLIFFS TO CHOWILLA CREEK

Arise before the sun and walk a gentle slope to the rim of the Murray River valley for a spectacular sunrise. Enjoy a warm drink as you listen to the bird song of morning.

Learn about at the geological layers in the cliffs formed by wind, ocean, freshwater lakes and the river over millions of years.

Return to the houseboat for a cooked breakfast, then load your day packs and depart for a wonderful day discovering Aboriginal canoe trees, dense red gum forests and small islands along leafy Amazon Creek.

Kangaroos and emus will interrupt you along the way as you finish in an old growth Box Forest where you'll forage some saltbush leaves to flavour tomorrow's breakfast.

Cruise to your evening destination upstream of the historic Chowilla shearing shed.

Enjoy a local tasting plate as you dip your feet in the cool waters of the Murray River.

Day 7 is approximately 14km walking, 10km cruising







## DAY EIGHT - CHOWILLA CREEK TO BUNYIP REACH CLIFFS

Awake to the mists on the water and enjoy a great coffee, local navel oranges and tasty breakfast followed by a briefing on the Murray Darling Basin and the management of its network of rivers which drain 14% of Australia. Today we cruise to the Chowilla Creek Environmental Regulator to learn about environmental watering and new stewardship for the river, before setting off on our walk.

You'll walk along Chowilla Creek and visit the proposed site of the 1960's Chowilla Dam.

Restored wetlands and waterbirds will inspire you and after lunch we traverse Bunyip Reach Cliffs and capture the beauty of this landscape on route to Queens Bend Cliffs.

In the afternoon we celebrate completing our walking journey from Queens Bend Cliffs before cruising to the houseboat as the late afternoon sun illuminates the red cliffs.

Day 8 is approximately 10km walking, 18km cruising





## DAY NINE - BUNYIP REACH CLIFFS TO ADELAIDE

Following a delicious cooked breakfast featuring native saltbush, take a leisurely self-guided short walk along the riverbank.

After walking approx 2km, you will be collected by your guide in the cruiser who will take you in the cruiser through Lock 6. See how the lock operates to allow boats pass up and down the river.

Departing Lock 6 we'll rejoin the houseboat and slowly cruise downstream on the houseboat, enjoying fresh coffee and cake for morning tea. It's time to reflect on our experience, marvelling at the riverscapes we've just walked along, before arriving at historic Wilkadene Woolshed and its innovative micro-brewery.

Enjoy a tour with the head brewer before sitting down with your guides to a fine barbecue, prepared by your guides before saying our farewells. You will depart for Renmark by bus before continuing onto Adelaide to arrive Adelaide airport by 5pm in time for connecting evening flights. Alternatively, if you are staying on in Adelaide, we can deliver you to any hotel located in the city centre.

Day 9 is approximately 2km walking, 23km cruising







## RANGES TO RIVER EXPERIENCE INCLUSIONS

### WE PROVIDE

- Experienced guides
- Two nights at Arkaba Homestead
- Two nights camping under the stars
- Three nights on a modern houseboat
- One night and dinner at the Renmark Hotel
- Return road transfers from Adelaide
- Guided lay of the land safari experience at Arkaba
- All meals and beverages including premium SA and Riverland wines
- Support vehicle transporting your main luggage on Arkaba Walk
- A backpack with room for personal items
- All linen and 1 bath towel
- A 1L Water bottle/hydration system
- Walking poles on Murray River Walk
- Arkaba Conservation Levy

### YOU PROVIDE

- Hiking boots or hiking shoes
- Long lightweight walking trousers
- Comfortable evening clothing
- Pair of comfortable shoes for evening wear
- Thermal base layers
- Warm fleece jumpers
- T-shirts and long-sleeved shirts for layering
- A waterproof rain jacket for wind (and rain) protection while walking and cruising
- Camera and binoculars
- Head torch or small hand-held torch
- Beanies, scarves and gloves, essential for open boat cruising
- Bathers and towel for pool & spa use
- Sun hat and sunglasses for sunny winter days
- Gaiters for extra leg protection and possible wet weather

### ENSURING YOUR HEALTH & SAFETY

We are a COVID-SAFE practicing business and please view COVID 19 Policy on our [website](#).

We take pride in maintaining the highest standards of cleanliness, and we have taken additional measures to ensure we keep our work environment safe.

Whilst we can provide these items, if you'd prefer, please bring your own equipment, including water bottle, backpack and walking poles.

Our guides carry a first aid kit, additional water, UHF Radios and a satellite phone.





## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

### **WALK RATING**

The Arkaba Walk is graded 'moderate' and The Murray River Walk 'easy'.

The Arkaba Walk is a moderate walk and a good level of fitness is required with daily distances ranging from 10 to 15km per day. The terrain is steep, on uneven ground and follows some thick vegetation, up hillsides and rocky surfaces. You can be walking up to 7 hours per day with plenty of ascents and descents.

Murray River Walk is an easy to moderate walk with daily distances ranging from 10 km to 14 km on days 1, 2 and 3. On day 4 you have the option for a 2km self-guided walk. The terrain is relatively flat with two gentle cliff climbs up and down a 40 metre rise. Walking poles are available to guests.

### **SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS AND HEALTH CONCERNS**

Please advise us of any dietary requirements before your departure. We are more than happy to cater for special dietary requirements.

Please also make us aware of any health or mobility issues that may affect your walking.

### **MOBILE PHONE COVERAGE**

Mobile phone reception can be poor along sections of the walking routes. Devices can be charged at Arkaba Homestead and on the Houseboat.

### **LUGGAGE RESTRICTIONS**

Medium sized suitcases and duffel bags are recommended for easy storing in our cabins. Luggage weighing 15kg or less is appreciated.

### **THE RIVERLAND IS A FRUIT FLY FREE ZONE**

Please do not bring fruit and vegetables into the Riverland. There are quarantine bins on the Sturt Highway. Please dispose of any fruit and vegetables in these bins.





## **RESERVATION INFORMATION**

### **RATES**

AUD\$4,820 per person twin-share. For non-shared rooms, a single supplement applies.

### **SECURING YOUR PLACE ON THE RANGES TO RIVER EXPERIENCE**

To secure your booking, a deposit of 20% is required, due within 14 days of making your booking. The balance is due 90 days prior to your departure. For bookings made within 90 days of departure, full payment must be made within 7 days of booking.

### **RESERVATIONS**

Tel: 0417 533 063

Email: [info@murrayrivertrails.com.au](mailto:info@murrayrivertrails.com.au)

### **GROUP SIZE**

Your Ranges to River experience operates with a minimum 4 and maximum 10 guests. There will be two guides present on the Arkaba section and three guides on the Murray River section.

### **TRAVEL INSURANCE**

We suggest you consider an appropriate level of travel insurance to cover any unforeseen costs due to accident, injury or uncontrollable seasonal conditions.

### **CANCELLATION POLICY**

For cancellations outside of 120 days the deposit will be refunded in full.

For cancellations within 120-90 days of arrival, forfeit the deposit.

For cancellations within 89-21 days of arrival fee is 55% of the total price.

For cancellations less than 21 days of arrival, all monies will be forfeited.