

RANGES TO RIVER SELF DRIVE

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 – SELF DRIVE 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	Renmark to Adelaide

SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCE

We love seeing your interpretation of the Murray River through your photos and we encourage you to take pictures to share with friends and family and also with us.

If sharing on Facebook or Instagram, please tag us [@MurrayRiverTrails](#) and use the hashtag [#MurrayRiverTrails](#)

INCLUSIONS AND PACKING LIST



WE PROVIDE

- Experienced guides
- Two nights at Arkaba Homestead
- Two nights camping under the stars
- Three nights on a houseboat
- One night, dinner and breakfast at Hotel Renmark
- Exclusive access to spectacular natural landscapes
- All meals showcasing local produce
- All beverages including premium Riverland wines and beer
- All sleeping linen and 1 bath towel
- Optional 34L daypack and walking poles
- Access to a library of wildlife field guides
- Akaba Conservation Levy

You can view our cancellation information on our [website here](#).

YOU PROVIDE

- A reusable water bottle
- Personal toiletries
- Hiking boots
- Long lightweight walking trousers
- Comfortable evening clothing
- Pair of comfortable shoes for evening wear
- Thermal base layers
- Warm fleece jumpers
- T-shirts and long sleeve 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
- Beanie, scarf and gloves for cool mornings
- Swimwear and towel for spa use
- Optional: gaiters for extra leg protection



IMPORTANT INFORMATION



DIETARY REQUIREMENTS AND HEALTH CONCERNS

Please advise us of any dietary requirements and any health or mobility issues before your departure.

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.

WALK RATING

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

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 a 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.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

At the time of booking a tour, consider an appropriate level of travel insurance that includes COVID-19 cover. Please read the PDS and check the policy is right for you before making a purchase. Murray River Trails will not be held liable for any additional costs involved or for a partial refund of the tour costs if the tour is aborted or stopped by circumstances outside of our control.

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 Highways travelling into Morgan. Please dispose of any fruit and vegetables in these bins.

DAY 1 – ADELAIDE TO ARKABA



Arrive Arkaba Homestead from 2pm and enjoy a Wild Bush Luxury welcome orientation in good time ahead of your guided safari experience taking you deep into Arkaba's conservancy.

You'll explore high ranges, rolling hill country, gorges and valleys revealing a huge variety of habitat providing the opportunity to immerse yourself in the story of the bush - its ancient geology and all of its glorious diversity. Your guided lay of the land safari experience is usually capped off with a sundowner drink on top of the ranges with the scale and grandeur of outback South Australia laid out for miles around.

Dinner is hosted by one of Arkaba's field guides and is shared with fellow guests providing an atmosphere more akin to staying with friends in the country, or a private safari lodge than a typical luxury hotel.



DAY 2 – 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.

Approx 13km, 5-6hours walking



DAY 3 – 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.

Approx 14-15km, 6-7hours walking



DAY 4 – 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.

Approx 14-15km, 6-7hours walking



DAY 5 – DEPART ARKABA FOR RENMARK



Enjoy a leisurely breakfast at the Arkaba Homestead and a few options to make the most of your morning. You might like to recline by the stone fireplace with a book or enjoy a self-guided stroll along Arkaba Creek to our historic Arkaba woolshed might pique your interest. Or you might retreat into nature from Arkaba's hide. Not only a place to see, but to watch wildlife and all the fascinating interactions that occur between species.

The Arkaba team will bid you farewell as you depart Arkaba by 11am check-out today before your drive to Renmark. We suggest travelling via the Clare Valley. Drive through the historic towns of Quorn, Wilmington, Mount Remarkable, and Melrose, all famous for their nature filled valleys. Head from Melrose into the Clare Valley, a region famous for its wines. Take your pick of wineries for lunch. From the Clare Valley head east through Robertson and Morgan before arriving at Hotel Renmark where you'll check into your room and enjoy dinner that night and breakfast the following morning, all included.



DAY 6 – RENMARK TO HEADINGS CLIFF



Meet your guides and fellow walkers at 8am at the Hotel Renmark's function room for a pre-walk briefing. If you travelled by car you can park it at the monitored car park at the Hotel. Our destination today is spectacular Headings Cliffs where your houseboat accommodation is moored.

Select a backpack and pack some fresh fruit, trail mix and personal items including wind-proof jacket and beanie. After a safety briefing, board the pontoon "cruiser" boat for a 14 km cruise along the mighty Murray River to the start of your walk at Woolenook Bend.

Discover the old horseshoe lagoons that are havens for waterbirds and learn about the site of the World War II internment camp during lunch on the riverbank.

Cross the creeks that feed the red gum forests and box woodlands and gently climb the sandy cliffs covered in native pine and native lilies, rising to a magnificent view of the vast Murray River floodplain. A short transfer across the river in the cruiser and you have arrived at your destination.

Evening format (all days) - options include a cool foot dip in the river, a hot spa, a campfire, local beverage and tasting plate, before sitting down to dinner paired with local wines.

12km walking, 14km cruising



DAY 7 – HEADINGS CLIFF TO CHOWILLA



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.

14km walking, 12km cruising



DAY 8 – CHOWILLA TO BUNYIP REACH



Our destination is the bright red cliffs of Bunyip Reach above Lock 6.

Breakfast is followed by a briefing on the Murray Darling Basin before cruising to the Chowilla Creek Environmental Regulator to learn about environmental watering and new stewardship for the river.

Walk along beautiful meandering 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.

Queens Bend Cliffs is where we celebrate completing our walking journey before cruising home to our houseboat as the late afternoon sun illuminates the cliffs.

14km walking, 10km cruising



DAY 9 – BUNYIP REACH 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 lunch on the Woolshed decking that overlooks the river. A fine barbecue has been prepared by your guides before saying your farewells. You will depart for Renmark by bus and arrive at the Hotel Renmark at 2.00 pm.

2km walking, 23km cruising



YOUR ACCOMMODATION ON TOUR



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. Each room has a private bathroom and opens out on a shaded verandah with views of the surrounding ranges.



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.

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.

MURRAY RIVER HOUSEBOAT

The scenery from the houseboat and your bedroom windows is always spectacular. In the evenings, relax in the communal lounge and share stories with your fellow travelers, or venture up to the upper deck where a hot spa provides a perfect end to the day's activities.

All linen is provided. Unpack once and leave your belongings in your room each day.

ECO-CONSCIOUS COMFORT

Operating in such a delicate environment, houseboats are the perfect accommodation for maintaining a low impact on the river system that we are passionate about conserving. Our 'leave no trace' approach includes no built infrastructure on the riverbanks and removing all waste for recycling or disposal.

LUGGAGE RESTRICTIONS

Medium sized suitcases and duffel bags are recommended for easy storing in our cabins.

Luggage weighing 15kg or less is appreciated.



RIVERLAND ACCOMMODATION



Several accommodation providers listed below have offered a special rate for Murray River Walk guests. These offers may vary from time to time and are determined by the accommodation provider, not Murray River Trails. Please contact the accommodation provider direct to be eligible for special offers.

THE FRAMES LUXURY VILLAS

Location: Paringa

Phone: 08 8595 7217

www.theframes.com.au

PIKE RIVER LUXURY VILLAS

Location: Lyrup

Phone: 0428 831 045

www.pikeriver.com.au

RIVER MURRAY HOUSEBOATS

Location: Paringa

Phone: 0427 899 102

www.rivermurrayhouseboats.com.au

WILKADENE STATION HOUSEBOATS AND COTTAGE

Location: Murtho

Phone: 08 8595 8118

www.aboverenmark.com.au

THE RIVERVISTA

Location: Berri

Email: hello@therivervista.co

www.therivervista.co

HOTEL RENMARK

Location: Renmark

Phone: 08 8586 6755

Mention 'Murray River Walkers' when you book for a discounted rate

www.hotelrenmark.com.au

BIG 4 RENMARK RIVERFRONT HOLIDAY PARK

Location: Renmark

Phone: 08 8586 8111

Book direct and mention MRW booking to receive 10% off.

www.big4.com.au/caravan-parks/sa/riverland/renmark-riverfront-holiday-park

THE RIVER BLOCK

Location: Berri

Email: hello@theriverblock.com.au

www.theriverblock.com.au

THE GUESTHOUSE

Location: Renmark

8-10 people House: <https://tinyurl.com/ycx93dyk>

1-2 people apartment: <https://tinyurl.com/3zf4ya9k>

RIVERLAND EXPERIENCES



FRUIT FLY FREE ZONE

The Riverland is a fruit-fly free zone. Bringing fruit and vegetables into the region is not permitted.

Please plan to purchase the fruit and vegetables for your Escape while you are in Renmark. If you are driving to the Riverland, there are quarantine bins on the Sturt Highway travelling from Adelaide and YOU MUST REMOVE ANY FRUIT that you are carrying. If you are travelling from Mildura to Renmark you must dispose of fruit before you reach the Yamba quarantine station.

On the spot fines apply if you arrive at Yamba with fruit in your vehicle.

CELLAR DOORS

Riverland Wine Centre - Pike River

Bassham Wines - Winkie

919 Wines - Glossop

Whistling Kite Wines - Loxton

Angove Family Winemakers - Renmark

Salena Estate - Loxton

Interactive map: [https://
www.visitriverland.com.au/rivertastes](https://www.visitriverland.com.au/rivertastes)

DINNER FAVOURITES

Earth Restaurant — Berri

Twenty Third Street Distillery - Renmark

Cucina 387 at Salena's Estate - Loxton

Hotel Renmark - Renmark

Renmark Club - Renmark

Mallee Estate's Eleni's - Renmark

BREWERY & PUBS

Wilkadene Woolshed Brewery - Murtho

Historic Overland Corner Hotel - Overland Corner

DISTILLERIES

Twenty Third Street Distillery - Renmark

Ruston's Distillery - Renmark

St Agnes Brandy Distillery - Renmark

GREAT COFFEE STOPS

Sunrise Bakery - Truro

Arrosto Coffee - Renmark

River Jacks Cafe - Berri

Sprouts - Berri

Country Bakehouse - Loxton

Pen and Lu - Loxton