

TOGETHER WE TRAVEL!



# solo connections



~ Gems of South Australia ~



## SOUTH AUSTRALIAN WONDERS

13 Days

Fully Hosted

17 February – 1 March 2025

### ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Kangaroo Island Stay
- Clifford's Honey Farm & Emu Ridge Eucalyptus Distillery
- Seal Bay, Raptor Domain & Flinders Chase National Park
- **3 Night Murray River Cruise**
- Wildlife Viewing & Nature Walks
- Flinders Ranges
- Insiders National Park Tour
- Arkaroola
- 4WD Tour
- Clare Valley

### INCLUDES:

- **Private Single Room** in quality accommodations
- Meals as per the itinerary 12 Breakfasts/ 1 Morning Tea / 8 Lunches/ 11 Dinners
- Sightseeing Tours and Airport Transfers as per itinerary
- **Tour Host** – departs Brisbane and travels with group from Adelaide
- Local Driver/Guide

### EXCLUDES:

- Flights
- Any meals, tours, excursions or transfers other than mentioned above or in the itinerary
- Items of a personal nature i.e. laundry, drinks, phone calls, etc
- Travel Insurance – *Highly recommended but not compulsory*

**Priced from \$10,436\* per person**

Terms and Conditions apply. Price is per person Sole Use and subject to availability. Price is correct as at 26 April 2024. Tour requires minimum number of passengers to depart. Only one airport transfer from Adelaide. Please check with reservations before booking flights. Solo Connections is constantly striving to improve our itineraries and inclusions. If such improvements can be made, or unforeseen circumstances beyond our control make changes necessary, we reserve the right at any time to vary itineraries and to substitute inclusions of equal value. Further booking conditions apply, please check all prices, availability and other information with your travel agent at time of or before booking. Package cancellation fees apply. Denise Marie Falsay trading as Solo Connections. ATAS Accredited A11424. ABN 92 582 582 996



Day 1 – Monday 17 February 2025  
Arrive Adelaide

D

### Welcome to South Australia!

We are about to embark on an unforgettable trip when we discover the natural beauty and unique wildlife of Kangaroo Island, soak up the mighty Murray River aboard an iconic paddle-wheeler and uncover the rugged and spectacular views of the Flinders Ranges. Our tour will take in some of the most dramatic and beautiful landscapes in the country.

On arrival to Adelaide Airport, meet your tour host and fellow travel companions before we are transferred to our accommodation to check in.

Tonight, we enjoy a **welcome dinner** in the hotel before beginning this incredible tour.

### Accommodation: Adelaide Rockford Hotel or similar (1 Night)

*\* Please check with reservations for airport transfer time before booking your flight.*

Day 2 – Tuesday 18 February 2025  
Adelaide - Kangaroo Island

B-L-D

We'll be up at sparrows call today as we travel to Cape Jervis for our **ferry crossing to Kangaroo Island**. After we disembark the ferry, we visit some interesting attractions unique to the island.

Our first stop is to **Clifford's Honey Farm** – home to the island's own population of Ligurian Bees (the only pure strain in the world).

Next, we visit **Emu Ridge Eucalyptus Distillery** where we take an interesting tour of the equipment used to make eucalyptus oil and products followed by a delicious lunch.

On our way back to Kingscote we call into **Kangaroo Island Brewery**. This rustic yet neat and modern complex has an amazing story to tell and not just about the beer, which we will taste during our time here.

We continue to the main town on the island, **Kingscote**, where our hotel is located. We'll check in and then there will be time to enjoy a stroll along the beach or relax in the hotel before dinner.

### Accommodation: Kangaroo Island Seaside Inn or similar (3 Nights)

Day 3 – Wednesday 19 February 2025  
Kangaroo Island

B-L

Kangaroo Island has an abundance of incredible wildlife and today we have a chance to get up close and personal.

Following this morning's breakfast our **local guide** will join us on the coach today as we travel to the world famous, **Seal Bay**. We'll be taken into the heart of the colony where our experienced guide will teach us about the wonderful



Australian Sea Lion. There is nowhere else in the world where you can listen to an expert give their unique insight while walking amongst the colony.

We next visit **Raptor Domain** and see the interactive and inspiring **Birds of Prey demonstration** before lunch.

This afternoon we will explore all that **Flinders Chase National Park** has to offer. The parks coastal scenery includes **Admirals Arch, Remarkable Rocks** and an excellent boardwalk where we see a colony of New Zealand Fur Seals below.

After a truly exceptional day of wildlife experiences we will have the evening and dinner at leisure. Your tour host will be on hand for anyone that requires assistance or would like company.

**Day 4 – Thursday 20 February 2025**  
**Kangaroo Island**

**B-L-D**

Today, after breakfast, we visit **Dudley Wines** where we are spoilt with a wonderful outlook as we enjoy a wine tasting and local produce platter for lunch.

Our majestic views don't end here as we travel to the most eastern point of the island to visit the **Cape Willoughby Lighthouse**. Being the first lighthouse to be built in South Australia, it has a rich maritime history and spectacular panoramic views across the Backstairs Passage from the top of the lighthouse.

**Please Note:** There are 101 steps to navigate to the top if you wish, but the view from the ground is also pretty with excellent views of the remote island coastline.

We return to our accommodation and have some time to freshen up before meeting for dinner.

**Day 5 – Friday 21 February 2025**  
**Kangaroo Island – Mannum – Murray Princess**

**B-D**

Enjoy breakfast this morning before we farewell stunning Kangaroo Island and return to the mainland via ferry.

We travel to **historic Mannum**, the birthplace of the Murray River trade and communication. Here we board the iconic **Murray Princess**, the largest inland paddle-wheeler in the Southern Hemisphere.

Boarding mid-afternoon, our cruise heads downriver while we enjoy a **Welcome Dinner**.

As we cruise under floodlight to our overnight mooring at **Mundurra**, you may see nocturnal wildlife on the riverbank. Watch for kangaroos, hairy nosed wombats, tortoises, egrets and many other species. The onboard entertainer provides music for the night owls.

**Cruise: Murray Princess or similar (3 Nights)**



**Day 6 – Saturday 22 February 2025**  
**Murray Princess**

**B-L-D**

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 breakfast, you could choose to **explore the town's historic landmarks and local attractions** such as the Roundhouse or go on a wildlife tour at Monarto Safari Park\*.

Those who choose to experience Monarto Safari Park will arrive back on board the Murray Princess in time for lunch then join 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 and tonight we moor at **Salt Bush Flat**. After dinner, enjoy being entertained by the talented crew.

*Monarto Safari Park Wildlife Tour is an Optional Excursion which is at an additional cost – see end of itinerary for full details. Seats are limited on this tour. Pre bookings are essential and at the cost of \$75 per person.*

**Day 7 – Sunday 23 February 2025**  
**Murray Princess**

**B-L-D**

This morning, join a **guided nature walk** where the guide will share the secrets of the local flora and fauna. It's a great way to get in a little exercise before the Murray Princess departs and cruises downriver.

Near **Fromms Landing**, we turn and head downriver to **River View Lodge** (near Piggy Flat / Coolcha) where the discover vessel awaits for a **wildlife tour**.

Travelling in small, personalised groups, we explore the maze of the river and the birdlife is amazing. Watch for darters, herons and egrets feeding along the river's muddy edges.

This afternoon offers a choice of bocce or fishing challenges before a **delicious final night dinner in the Sturt Dining Room**.

**Day 8 – Monday 24 February 2025**  
**Murray Princess – Mannum – Wilpena Pound**

**B-D**

We head back to **Mannum** and after breakfast we arrive at the Mannum Wharf where we meet back up with the coach.

We have a travel day ahead as we make our way to **Wilpena Pound Resort** in the incredible **Flinders Ranges**, where on arrival we have time to check in and enjoy the **Welcome to Country ceremony** offered by the Adnyamathanha or Yura staff with traditional songs and stories about the landscape.

**Accommodation: Wilpena Pound Resort or similar (2 Nights)**



**Day 9 – Tuesday 25 February 2025**  
**Wilpena Pound**

**B-L-D**

This morning after breakfast we uncover the dramatic gorges and spectacular peaks of the Flinders Ranges.

We are joined by a local guide who will take us on an **insiders tour of this stunning National Park**. We stop to enjoy our packed lunches before returning to our accommodation for time at leisure.

This evening we travel to **Stokes Hill for sundowners** – nibbles and drinks as we watch the sun set.

**Day 10 – Wednesday 26 February 2025**  
**Wilpena Pound - Arkaroola**

**B-L-D**

We tour further into the Flinders today, after breakfast, as we make our way to Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary.

Lunch will be in the historic town of **Blinman**, also the highest town in South Australia. During the copper mining boom of the 1850s, more than 1500 people lived here, today it's just over 20!

This afternoon we arrive at **Arkaroola in the Gammon Ranges National Park**, one of Australia's true tourist gems. Not surprisingly the sanctuary is colloquially known as "The Ark" which is quite fitting as the steep mountains and deep gorges provide shelter and diversity of habitats which support amazing species.

We arrive with time to check in before watching the **rare Yellow Footed Rock Wallaby** come in to feed in its natural environment close to where we sit to observe.

**Accommodation: Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary or similar (2 Nights)**

**Day 11 – Thursday 27 February 2025**  
**Arkaroola**

**B-L-D**

This morning we'll enjoy breakfast before we take the incredible **4WD Ridgetop Tour**, showcasing timeless terrain and natural beauty of Arkaroola Wilderness Sanctuary.

An experienced tour guide will share their knowledge of Arkaroola's 1,600-million-year geological history as they navigate the famous Ridgetop Track. We'll explore ancient granite mountains, hillsides covered in native bush and several lookouts with breathtaking vistas. See the jaw dropping 1,000 deep Yudnamutana Gorge, the plains and Lake Frome salt lake.

We return to Arkaroola for lunch before an **afternoon at leisure**. Take a self-guided walk\*, a scenic flight\* over the Gammon Ranges or perhaps just kick back and relax. The choice is yours!

Come together for dinner this evening and share your afternoon adventures with your fellow passengers.

*\*Please note: Full information on available optional afternoon activities will be advised once at Arkaroola and are at own expense. Pre booking for Scenic flights is essential and prices vary. See end of itinerary for full details.*



Day 12 – Friday 28 February 2025  
Arkaroola - Clare

B-D

Following breakfast today we farewell the Gammon Ranges and begin to make our way across this vast, yet stirring landscape.

Stopping in **Hawker**, we spend some time at the **Jeff Morgan Art Gallery**. Jeff has a superb reputation in the art world and when we visit his gallery, standing in front of his panoramas we will be in awe.

We continue on to **Clare** where we stop for our final night on tour together. Once we've all checked in and freshened up, we'll meet for a **Farewell Dinner**.

**Accommodation: Clare Country Club or similar (1 Night)**

Day 13 – Friday 1 March 2025  
Clare – Adelaide

B-MT

This morning, enjoy a final breakfast together before checking out and boarding the coach.

We stop at **Bungaree Station**, a merino sheep station established in 1841 and still maintained by the descendants of the original founder. A member of the family will give us a wonderful insight into nineteenth century station life with a guided tour and delicious morning tea.

This afternoon we stop for convenience breaks, and time to purchase lunch, before transferring to Adelaide Airport\* for our flights. Sadly our time in South Australia has come to an end and we all return home with new memories and friendships

*\*Please do not book departure flights before speaking with reservations about the group transfer time.*



**Optional Excursions  
MUST BE PRE BOOKED**

**DAY 6 - Monarto Safari Park Wildlife Tour**

On arrival at Murray Bridge (from 9.00am) the wild is calling and a coach will transfer you to Monarto Safari Park. Explore one of the world's largest open-range Safari Parks outside of Africa on an unforgettable guided excursion from the luxury of your coach.

Monarto Safari Park spans more than 1,500 hectares and is home to many exotic and native animals including cheetah, hyena, painted dogs, giraffe, zebra, black and white rhino, antelope, bison, Mongolian horse and Australia's largest lion pride to name but a few.

A conservation charity that exists to connect people with nature and to save species from extinction, Monarto Safari Park's animals are ambassadors for their wild cousins – many of them are endangered and some are even extinct in the wild. Over the years they have been involved in a wide range of conservation programs with efforts having spanned the globe and resulted in positive conservation outcomes at a local, regional and international level.

After the excursion, you will have some free time in the new Visitor Centre, gift shop, lookout and café before returning to Murray Bridge to re-board the Murray Princess in time for lunch at 11.25am.

**Inclusions:**

- Return luxury coach transfers from Murray Bridge to Monarto Safari Park.
- 1 hour 15 minute fully guided Safari tour of Monarto Safari Park onboard your luxury coach - marvel at the many exotic and native animals which call our expansive open grasslands home.
- Free time to explore the Visitor Centre, gift shop, lookout/exhibition area and cafe.

**Price:** \$75 per person (valid for travel 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025).

**Seats are limited on this excursion and pre-booking is essential.**

**If you wish to book this optional excursion, ensure you tick the box on the tour booking form.**

**Full payment will be required when you pay your Tour Deposit.**





## **DAY 11 – Arkaroola Scenic Flights**

To experience Arkaroola from the ground is amazing but to see it from the air is a whole different experience. Soar above the famous Flinders Ranges with pilot Doug Sprigg, who has over 30 years' experience flying these skies. Doug is an experienced commercial pilot who has spent most of his life in the outback. Sharing his passion and vast knowledge of the area you will learn about the culture, geology and history of the places you fly over, as well as hear a few fascinating and entertaining stories.

There are three options to choose from:

### **Option A**

35-minute Scenic Flight over Arkaroola Sanctuary including Mawson Plateau, Mt Gee and Freeling Heights.  
\$210.00 per person (min two passengers).

### **Option B**

45-minute Scenic Flight over Lake Frome.  
\$265.00 per person (min two passengers).

### **Option C**

75-minute Scenic Flight over Arkaroola & Lake Frome including Mawson Plateau, Mt Gee and Freeling Heights.  
\$410.00 per person (min two passengers).

**Flights are subject to weather conditions.**

**Flights prices are subject to change**

**Seats are limited on each flight and pre-booking is essential.**

**If you wish to book one of these scenic flight, ensure you tick the box on the tour booking form. You will be required to advise your body weight in kilograms.**

**Full payment will be required when you pay your Tour Deposit.**