

Quadrant Journeys Presents

Wine, Wildflowers and Wilderness The Best of South Australia

15 Day Escorted Tour
28th August to 11th September 2010

Join popular botanist and natural historian, Peter Metcalfe, on this 15 day tour to Adelaide, the Flinders Ranges, Clare and Barossa Valleys and Kangaroo Island, to experience the best of South Australia.

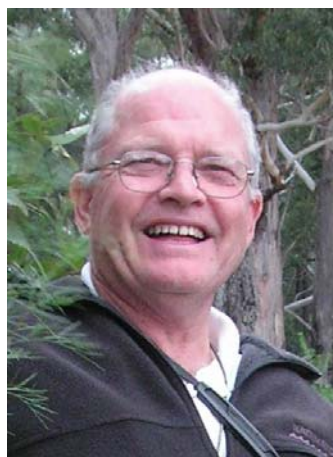
Commencing with two nights in Adelaide, the tour travels to the Flinders Ranges for three days to explore this spectacular region and then continues via the beautiful Clare Valley to the Barossa Valley where the food and the wines are superb. Next is a visit and guided tour of The Cedars, the home of Hans Heysen, arguably Australia's greatest landscape artist, followed by a night in the delightful coastal resort of Victor Harbour, before four days on Kangaroo Island.

"KI", as the locals call it, is described as a pristine wilderness - a place that has offered protection to substantial populations of native Australian animals, a place of beauty and a place of escape. It is also a large island and surprisingly diverse with soaring cliffs, dense forest, towering sand dunes, wetlands and vast stretches of white sandy beach and of course great food and wine! The tour concludes with the final night in Adelaide. The tour starts and ends in Adelaide, allowing for independent travel at dates to suit participants.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Spectacular Flinders Ranges
- Scenery in the Clare Valley
- Wineries of the Barossa Valley
- 'The Cedars' at Hahndorf (home of Hans Heysen)
- Coastal resort of Victor Harbour
- Sea lions, fur seals and wildlife of Kangaroo Island
- Stokes Bay Bush Garden
- Specialty foods and wine on Kangaroo Island

YOUR TOUR ESCORT



Peter Metcalfe is a retired lecturer, botanist and natural historian from Armidale, NSW. Throughout his life he has been continuously involved in environmental education programs and ecology, wildflower and bird study tours, covering many Australian national parks and fifteen of the World Heritage parks of Australia and New Zealand.

QUADRANT
JOURNEYS 

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Itinerary

Day 1 Arrive Adelaide

Tour participants to make their own way to Adelaide (Quadrant can arrange flights if required). Evening get-together over dinner with Trip Leader, Peter Metcalfe, who will welcome participants and provide an overview of the tour program.

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Overnight Adelaide – Hotel Grand Chancellor or similar

Day 2 Adelaide

Spend the morning at the Adelaide Botanic Gardens. Now over 150 years old, the gardens have a wonderful collection of native and exotic plant species as well as a recently established Mediterranean Garden where water conservation was critical to the design brief. After lunch visit the Art Gallery of South Australia to see some of its finest art works including works by South Australia's famous son, Sir Hans Heysen. South Australia is known for its sensational foods and excellent wines so tonight is free for you to sample one of the many restaurants in Adelaide.

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Overnight Adelaide - Hotel Grand Chancellor or similar

Day 3 Adelaide – Port Augusta

After breakfast depart Adelaide and travel north through Port Wakefield and Port Pirie to the town of Port Augusta at the head of the Spencer Gulf. Port Augusta today is a busy commercial centre servicing the needs of travellers and freight trucks crossing the famous Nullabor Plain, but it was once a major port for the shipping of wool to English mills and later wheat to overseas markets. On arrival in Port Augusta visit the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden which displays an unusual mix of native bush, as well as selected plantings of unique desert flora in a range of arid zone environments. The Garden also has Australia's largest collection of Eremophila species, which is sure to appeal to native plant enthusiasts.

(B L D)

Overnight Port Augusta

Day 4 Port Augusta – Wilpena Pound, Flinders Ranges

From Port Augusta depart for the drive north into the spectacular Flinders Ranges. The colours of the ranges from a distance are ever-changing and often lilac in colour. The journey takes us through Horrock's Pass; a narrow valley lined with magnificent River Redgums and then through the famous Pitchi Ritchi Pass where we can see the Pitchi Ritchi Railway and the historic railway town of Quorn. Our destination is Wilpena Pound; a remarkable natural amphitheatre or rock basin reached by a route that traverses country that inspired Hans Heysen to paint some of his famous eucalyptus tree paintings. Located within the Flinders Ranges National Park, renowned for its geological history, including impressive fossil remains, Wilpena Pound is at the heart of the Flinders Ranges, where the landscape is rugged and dramatic and the wildlife and flora, plentiful and diverse.

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Overnight Flinders Ranges - Wilpena Pound Resort

Days 5 & 6 Flinders Ranges

1st & 2nd September

So much has been written about the dramatic beauty of the Flinders Ranges but nothing can beat the first hand experience of the spectacular scenery - rugged mountain ranges, deep gorges, Aboriginal rock art sites, fossil remains and waking to the sound of bird calls. There's also a wealth of history in the almost abandoned small towns that remain following early European settlement which had a significant impact on the biodiversity of the region. Loss of plant communities and the introduction of feral animals resulted in 66% of the local animals becoming extinct. We'll spend the next two days in the Flinders Ranges National Park visiting many of the major sites including Brachina Gorge; an impressive gorge that was once used as a pass by bullock teams and is now an important refuge for the Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby, as well as many species of birds and reptiles. Located north of Wilpena Pound off the main road to Blinman, the landscape here is characterised by precambrian and cambrian rocks with extensive fossils. Trail signage along the Brachina Gorge Geological Trail provides an insight into 130 million years of earth history; past climates, the formation of the ranges and the evolution of early life forms. We'll visit the historic and picturesque town of Blinman, once known for its copper mine and do the loop around through Parachilna. The flora of the Flinders Ranges is tough but there are many beautiful wildflowers. The program will include early morning walks into the Pound along surrounding tracks and there will be opportunities for longer trail walks along sign-posted tracks.

(B L D)

Overnight Flinders Ranges - Wilpena Pound Resort

28th August

Day 7 Flinders Ranges via Clare Valley to Barossa Valley

3rd September

Leaving the Flinders Ranges we travel almost due south via Cradock and Orroro, then into the beautiful Clare Valley, an essentially rural region with lovingly restored heritage towns, picturesque sandstone buildings, delicious food and fabulous wine produced from vines that are some of the oldest in Australia. Lunch stop and time to visit a winery before continuing on to the Barossa Valley.

(B L D)

Overnight – Barossa Valley

Day 8 Barossa Valley

4th September

Apart from being one of the world's great wine and food regions, the Barossa has a rich European heritage dating back to the first settlers. George Fife Angas (founder of Angaston Winery) assisted the passage of an entire European community from various Prussian provinces, including German speaking settlers from Silesia (now part of Poland), to South Australia to set up a piece of the 'old world' in the 'new world'. These settlers established the tiny hamlet of Bethany in 1842, and other settlements soon followed. The early settlers worked hard and cleared land for mixed farming. They built churches and schools and planted small vineyards, some of which still remain in the same family name. Apart from the chance to sample some local wine, we'll also visit the Kaiser Stuhl Conservation Park where we can see one of the last remnants of native vegetation and wetland habitats, in the region and enjoy the spectacular views over the Barossa Valley.

(B L D)

Overnight – Barossa Valley



Day 9 Barossa Valley – Hahndorf – Victor Harbour

5th September

Today, en route to Victor Harbour we'll visit The Cedars near the German settlement of Hahndorf in the Adelaide Hills. The Cedars is the former home and studio of Sir Hans Heysen and his equally famous daughter, Nora. It's a comfortable, family home still owned by the Heysen family. A tour through the home with its fabulous artworks, garden and studios that have been left intact, offers a rare glimpse into the everyday life of this famous artistic family. Later continue on to the charming coastal town of Victor Harbour through the rolling countryside of the Adelaide Hills.

(B L D)

Overnight - Victor Harbour

Day 10 Victor Harbour – Kangaroo Island 6th September

Early morning start to reach Cape Jervis in time for the 10am fast ferry to Kangaroo Island. It's a comfortable 45 minute journey across to the small town of Penneshaw. Kangaroo Island, known as KI locally, has strict quarantine requirements to protect its unique environment that is free from many predators, pests and diseases that are found on the mainland. There is virtually no large scale development on KI which means that small, and often innovative, businesses have thrived and provide the island with a fantastic array of foods and wine. Kangaroo Island is also home to a population of around 4,400 people, mainly primary producers who are descended from islanders who have lived here for generations. Fresh seafood is plentiful with naturally farmed oysters, prawns, crayfish, whiting, snapper and fresh marron. Apiarists collect honey from the pure strain of Ligurian bees (the only such colony left in the world) and there are also locally made cheeses and yoghurts as well as free range eggs, olive oil, native jams, sauces and

marinades and eucalyptus products. More recently, KI has started producing some very good wines.

Continue on to Kingscote to our hotel. Kingscote is the capital and commercial centre of the island and our base for the next four nights.

(B L D)

Overnight – Kingscote

Days 11, 12 & 13 Kangaroo Island 7th, 8th, 9th September

The next three days will be spent exploring this fantastic island. Owing to its isolation from mainland Australia, Kangaroo Island has become a special and protected place and a true wildlife sanctuary. More than half of the island's native 'old growth' vegetation is intact and the native bushland is free from the damage of rabbits and foxes which means that animal and bird populations have thrived. More than one-third of the island is declared Conservation or National Park and it has five significant Wilderness Protection Areas. There are 891 species of native plants and 46 endemic species as well as around 250 species introduced from elsewhere. Over 400 of the plant species are to be found in Flinders Chase National Park and even roadside stops are rewarding for wildflowers. Kangaroo Island is a haven for bird-watchers with 267 recorded species of birds (particularly waders and seabirds) in habitats as diverse as coastal cliffs, beaches and estuaries, heath and mallee, river and creek systems and wetlands and lagoons. Pelicans can be seen in abundance, Little Penguins are found in a number of places around the coastline and with luck, you may spot the rare Glossy Black Cockatoo.

KI is also known for its amazing wildlife experiences and spectacular scenery. We'll explore the national parks and conservation areas in the southern and northern coastal regions as well as the rural central area of the Island. Some say the soul of Kangaroo Island is the central area or 'heartland'. It's here that the history of the Soldier Settlement Scheme is evident but it's also where there's the opportunity to see the prolific wildlife. Flinders Chase National Park in the south has stunningly beautiful deserted beaches, crazy natural rock formations and bushwalking trails as well as locations where Australian sea lions and New Zealand fur seals can be seen lazing around or frolicking in the sea. The north coast is quite different and features tall cliffs, deserted sandy coves, conservation parks, hills, valleys and rolling farmland meeting the sea. We'll visit Stokes Bay Bush Garden, a fabulous private garden of three hectares in an isolated location on the north side of the island. With over 1000 named plants that survive in an annual rainfall of around 20 inches or 500 millimetres, the garden has a wonderful mix of native plants indigenous to southern Australia, some only found on Kangaroo Island; 75 varieties of banksia, 30 dryandras, 110 varieties of grevilleas and over 80 species of orchids.

(B L D)

Overnight - Kingscote

Day 14 Kangaroo Island – Adelaide 10th September

We depart on the morning ferry from Penneshaw to Cape Jervis and travel north through the McLarenvale wine region and into Adelaide. Remainder of the day free and this evening gather for a farewell dinner.

(B L D)

Overnight Adelaide – Hotel Grand Chancellor or similar

Day 15 Adelaide

11th September

The tour concludes after breakfast at the hotel.

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TOUR COSTS: (Per Person)

-Twin share/double room **AUD 5,395.00**

-Single supplement add **AUD 1,510.00**

RESERVATIONS AND DEPOSIT

To confirm your place on this program please book as early as possible. A reservation can only be confirmed with a deposit of **\$1,000 per person**.

On receipt of your booking form and deposit, confirmation will be provided in writing within 7 working days, together with all necessary receipts and invoices.

Please Note: The tour requires a moderate level of fitness as some walking is required, in some cases on rough tracks, paths and uneven surfaces.

This itinerary always remains the property of **Quadrant Australia Pty.Ltd.**, and is subject to change, with or without notice. Its unauthorised use, in whole or in part, is an infringement of copy right, and actionable by law.

What's Included

- All land travel in the private use of modern comfortable coaches
- Professional tour guide throughout
- All visits and sightseeing as outlined in itinerary
- Entrance fees to national parks
- Comfortable 3 - 4 star accommodation with private ensuite facilities
- Meals as detailed in itinerary (14 breakfasts, 13 lunches and 13 dinners)
- Tour bag and detailed itinerary/field notes

What's Not Included:

- Travel to and from Adelaide
- Meals not specified in the itinerary
- All items of a personal nature, such as laundry, phone calls and beverages
- Travel insurance, cancellation fees
- Optional excursions

BOOKING CONDITIONS - THE BEST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

MINIMUM NUMBERS

The tour will proceed with the minimum number of 15 paying passengers. In the event that we have less than 15 bookings – the tour may still proceed however, possibly at a greater individual cost.

RESERVATIONS AND DEPOSIT

To confirm your place on this program please book as early as possible. A reservation can only be confirmed with a deposit of **\$1,000.00**. To reserve your position please complete a booking form and forward with your deposit. On receipt of your booking form and deposit, confirmation will be provided in writing within 7 working days, together with necessary receipts and invoices.

FINAL PAYMENT AND AMENDMENTS

Final payment is due on 24th July 2010.

An amendment fee of \$50 will be charged for any alterations to your booking, after confirmation has been sent. Any changes made by you after the full payment has been made will incur a minimum of \$100 fee plus any charges imposed by airlines, hotels and operators.

ACCOMMODATION

Tour prices include accommodation throughout on a twin share basis (unless otherwise specified). For passengers travelling alone, it may be necessary to pay a single supplement, however in some special circumstances we may be able to assist with sharing arrangements. Agreements are solely between the passengers concerned, and the company accepts no responsibility for compatibility. Single rooms may be smaller than twin bedded rooms.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance (in case of cancellation) is highly recommended for this program and Quadrant Australia can arrange this for you. Should we supply travel insurance information and application forms, you must ensure you read and understand the insurance details. Once we have received your completed insurance application and Medical Appraisal Form (where necessary), we will accept your information in good faith. Please note we act as agent for the principal insurance provider or broker. Quadrant Australia cannot provide recommendations. Documentation will not be released until proof of insurance is provided or declined, in writing.

CANCELLATIONS

Any cancellations must be made in writing by post or fax to our office and the following charges apply:

- Cancellations received up to 1st July 2010 - \$500.00 administration fee.
- From 2nd July to 24th July 2010 - \$750.00
- From 25th July 2010 – no refunds will be provided (refund policies subject to supplier contracts - please consider travel insurance as shown above).

UNUSED SERVICES

It is our policy to follow the itinerary as written, however sometimes due to circumstances outside our control, or in the best interests of the group, the itinerary may vary slightly. No refunds will be given for any unused portions of the tour in respect of transfers, accommodation, meals, sightseeing tours or any other services included in the tour price but not utilised by the tour member.

BROCHURE/ITINERARY AUTHENTICITY

This program was produced in March 2010. The information provided has been compiled with care and is published in good faith.

FUEL SURCHARGES

All current fuel surcharges have been included in the price. Any future extraordinary fuel surcharges advised by coach or other transport companies will be advised and passed on at time of final payment.

RESPONSIBILITY

Quadrant Australia, (which expression shall for the purpose of these conditions include any parent subsidiary affiliate or associated company hereinafter shall be called "the Firm") acts only as agents for the hotels, airlines, bus or car companies, railroads, steamship lines, or owners or contractors providing accommodation, transportation or other services, and all coupons, exchange orders, receipts, subject to any and all tariffs, terms and conditions under which any accommodation, transportation or any other services whatsoever are provided by such hotels, airlines, bus or car companies, railroads, steamship lines or owners or contractors. The Firm shall not be liable or responsible for death or injury to any person or loss of or damage to any property or otherwise (including baggage) whether due to its or its servants agents or employees negligence or otherwise arising out of or in connection with any accommodation, transportation, technical visits or other services or resulting directly or indirectly from acts of God, (dangers incidents to the sea), fire, breakdown in machinery or equipment, acts of governments or other authorities, force majeure or de facto wars, whether declared or not, hostilities, civil disturbances, strikes, riots, acts of terrorism, thefts, pilferage, epidemics, quarantines, medical or customs regulations, delays or cancellations of or changes in itinerary or schedules or overbooking or default, or from any causes beyond the firms control. Also for any loss or damage resulting from improper or insufficient passports, visas or other documents, and that neither the firm nor its servants, agents or employees shall be or become liable or responsible for any additional expense or liability sustained or incurred by the tour member as a result of any of the foregoing causes. Participants should be aware that study programs such as this visit national parks, nature reserves, research facilities, farms and other organisations. Such visits carry potential risks, including but not limited to, injuries from stock, animals, farm and other equipment, and health risks. Tours require a moderate level of fitness as some walking is required, in some cases on rough tracks, paths and uneven surfaces. All prices quoted are subject to change without notice having regard to unforeseen circumstances, foreign exchange fluctuations and variations in airline operating costs including but not limited to, say, an escalation of fuel prices. Unused services cannot be refunded or exchanged. The Firm reserves the right to cancel the tour and/or modify the itineraries in any way it thinks desirable and further reserves the right to decline to accept any person on any tour and may substitute hotels where necessary. The issuance and acceptance of receipts, tickets, vouchers, coupons or travel orders shall be deemed consent to the above conditions.

BOOKING FORM

The Best of South Australia 2010

Please complete and read carefully before signing (one booking form per passenger).

Details:

Title:.....Full name		
Preferred name for badges etc:.....		
First Name		Surname
Street address:.....		
Postal address (if different to above):.....		
Suburb or Town:.....	State:.....	Post Code:.....
Date of Birth:...../...../.....		
Phone(W):.....	Fax(W):.....	
Phone(H):.....	Fax(H):.....	
Mobile Phone:.....	Email:.....	
Preferred method of correspondence:	Email <input type="checkbox"/>	Post <input type="checkbox"/> Fax <input type="checkbox"/>

Room type required:

Single <input type="checkbox"/>	Double <input type="checkbox"/>	Twin <input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Smoker <input type="checkbox"/>	Smoker <input type="checkbox"/>
I will be sharing with:.....				
Special requirements (disabled, dietary, allergies):.....				

Travel Insurance:

Is travel insurance required:	YES	NO	(please circle)
If NO and travel insurance has been taken out separately , please provide us with your insurance policy details:			
Policy number:.....	Insurance company:.....		

Emergency Contact Details:

Emergency contact name:.....	Relationship.....	
Phone number:.....	Mobile:.....	Email:.....

How did you find out about this tour ?

Association Newsletter <input type="checkbox"/>	Newspaper <input type="checkbox"/>	Magazine <input type="checkbox"/>	On the web <input type="checkbox"/>	Friend <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>
Details of other:.....					
Information provided on this booking is for internal use by Quadrant Australia to process your booking.					
Would you be interested in receiving information about other tours that are operated by Quadrant Australia ? YES <input type="checkbox"/>					
Preferred method of contact:	Email <input type="checkbox"/>	Phone <input type="checkbox"/>	Post <input type="checkbox"/>		

Agreement:

I agree to the booking conditions :.....
Signature	Date

