

Kangaroo Island. Wildlife & Conservation. South Australia

Remarkable Rocks,
Flinders Chase NP.

KANGAROO ISLAND WILDLIFE & CONSERVATION

THIS AUSTRALIAN GEOGRAPHIC exclusive Kangaroo Island Wildlife & Conservation tour takes you behind the scenes to experience the best of Kangaroo Island. Hosted by local experts, it combines **wildlife, landscape**, local produce and **active conservation** such as bird banding. Whether it's meeting the world expert on the short-beaked echidna, Dr Peggy Rismiller, **sampling delicious regional food** and wine, or learning about the **critical work of ecologists after the Black Summer fires**, this immersive trip will deliver a greater understanding of one of Australia's supremely special places.



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Cape du Couedic Lighthouse

ITINERARY

Day 1 Arrival at Kangaroo Island (domestic airfare not included)

Arrival on Kangaroo Island by plane or ferry (own arrangements). Qantas offer two departures a day from Adelaide for a 35-minute flight to the island. Sealink offers five daily ferry services departing Cape Jervis for the 45-minute crossing to Penneshaw on Kangaroo Island. After arrival on the island transfer to your hotel from the airport or harbour.

Welcome to Kangaroo Island! This experience has been designed to showcase the best of Kangaroo Island – the lifestyle of the islanders, the produce, diverse landscapes and unique wildlife shaped by isolation.

Your accommodation while on the island is the Mercure Kangaroo Island Lodge, located in the quiet coastal town of American River.

○ **Accommodation: Kangaroo Island Lodge**

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Day 2 Cygnet Park Habitat Restoration & Sea Lions

Breakfast at hotel.

After an early breakfast, we head straight to Cygnet Park, a private conservation area that supports a biodiverse ecosystem.

We **meet with one of the ecologists from not-for-profit conservation group BioR to take part in bird banding as a means of research.** This is a great opportunity to take a close look at some of Kangaroo Island's bird life, including the endangered Kangaroo Island glossy black-cockatoo, which lost approximately half of its habitat in the 2020 bushfires.

Break for morning tea while learning more about these large cockatoos – far more subdued than the typically rowdy birds.

Next up is Stokes Bay, where we explore a beautiful hidden beach through a magical tunnel – a great adventure for all. Enjoy a barbecue lunch at a private bush camp featuring King George whiting, grilled haloumi, fresh salads and local wines.

Continue to Seal Bay and take a **private tour into an Australian sea lion colony** – look out for pups nursing, young males practising their wrestling and big bulls staking out their territory – all only metres away on a beautiful sandy beach in an experience reminiscent of the Galapagos Islands.

Return to Mercure Kangaroo Island Lodge.

△ **Accommodation: Kangaroo Island Lodge**

○ **Breakfast and lunch provided**

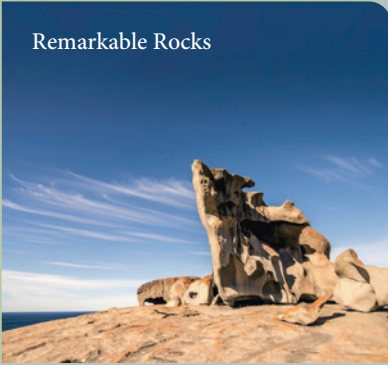
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Admirals Arch

ITINERARY CONT. →

Remarkable Rocks



Day 3 Flinders Chase National Park

Breakfast at the hotel.

After an early breakfast we travel to a **private wildlife refuge**, in the island's north-west, which escaped the 2020 bushfires. We'll check out wildlife surveys using daylight and infrared camera traps, targeting tiny endangered mammals and get an introduction to the bush. This provides important context for the fire ecology discussions later in the day.

Break for an elegant picnic lunch in the bush, featuring marinated poached chicken, fresh salads, cheeses and boutique South Australian wine, beer, soft drinks and spring water.

After lunch, travel into **Flinders Chase National Park** via the West End Highway, stopping to learn how the bush has adapted to fire. Explore south-west peninsula around Cape du Couedic, including the lighthouse precinct and our most iconic coastal landscapes.

Explore the massive shapes of **Remarkable Rocks**, a natural sculpture perched impossibly on top of a granite dome emerging from the ocean. Evidence of the power of the Southern Ocean swell continues at **Admirals Arch** – a coastal grotto that provides a haul-out area for a large colony of long-nosed fur seals that swim effortlessly through the crashing waves.

Upon arriving back at the lodge, enjoy dinner (at own arrangement) followed by a **presentation by Dr Peggy Rismiller who is the world expert on the short-beaked echidna.**

△ **Accommodation:** Kangaroo Island Lodge

○ **Breakfast and lunch provided**



Australian sea lion pup

Day 4 Cape Gantheaume Coastal Hike

Today's breakfast is in the bush on a property that's home to hundreds of kangaroos. After breakfast, we take a short drive to join last night's guest speaker Dr Peggy Rismiller for an echidna habitat walk at her **Pelican Lagoon Research Centre.**

Next, we drive to the D'Estrees Bay region to meet with **local entomologist, Dr Richard Glatz**, who is currently working to save the endangered green carpenter bee.

We drive further south to the spectacular coastline at Point Tinline, which features an osprey nest that was first sketched by a crew member of *Osmanli*, which was shipwrecked in 1853. This nest has been in regular use since then.

Break for another elegant alfresco picnic lunch at a secluded clifftop location.

Take a stunning **coastal hike along the clifftops of Cape Gantheaume Conservation Park**, with a range of wildlife opportunities, including spotting western whipbirds, shy heathwren, southern emu-wren and long-nosed fur seals. The marine lagoon at Wheatons Beach is always worth a look as international migrants like red-necked stints, ruddy turnstones and resident hooded plovers are regular seasonal encounters.

Dinner tonight is **wood-fired pizza** at the home of our tour operators, Craig and Janet Wickham. Return to the Mercure Kangaroo Island Lodge for your final night.

△ **Accommodation:** Kangaroo Island Lodge

○ **Breakfast, lunch and dinner provided**

Day 5 Depart

Breakfast at the hotel.

Tour ends after breakfast transfer to the airport or transfer to the ferry at Penneshaw.

○ **Breakfast provided**

Extend your trip on Kangaroo Island or in Adelaide and see more of South Australia. We are happy to help you with your pre- or post-touring.

Eastern grey kangaroo



Take a stunning coastal hike along the clifftops of Cape Gantheaume Conservation Park.

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Pennington Bay



COST

\$2,690/PERSON TWIN SHARE. \$575 SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

Costs include the following services as per itinerary

- 4 nights accommodation in Deluxe Waterview Rooms at Kangaroo Island Lodge
- Local experienced driver/guide throughout day 2–4
- Sightseeing and transfers as per itinerary by private air conditioned charter 4WD vehicle
- Meals as per itinerary: 4 x breakfast, home-baked traditional Australian morning tea with a selection of hot beverages, elegant alfresco lunch set in the bush with a choice of local wines, beer, soft drinks and spring water from day 2–4, wood-fired pizza dinner with your hosts on day 4
- Detailed travel information and documentation
- All National Park entry fees
- Meeting with ecologists and wildlife experts in their field

- Active conservation by taking part in bird banding
- Presentation on short-beaked echidna by Dr Peggy Rismiller
- Goods & Service Tax (GST)

Costs do not include

- Domestic or international airfares
- Ferry services to/from Kangaroo Island
- Pre-registration, late check-out or day use at hotels other than specified above
- Guide services other than specified
- Meals/beverages other than specified
- Tips & gratuities
- Optional tours/services
- Travel insurance



PICTURES: TOURISM AUSTRALIA

Short-beaked echidna



EXTRA INFO

COVID-19
 ALL RESPONSES WILL BE MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH BEST PRACTICE MEDICAL AND OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT ADVICE.

Travel dates

- 10–14 May 2021
- 28 June–1 July 2021
- 30 August–3 September 2021
- 6–10 December 2021

Accommodation

- Kangaroo Island Lodge in Deluxe Waterview Rooms – www.kilodge.com.au

Guide

- Experienced driver/guide from day 2–4

Transport

- Return airport or harbour transfers on Kangaroo Island. Fully air-conditioned 4WD touring vehicles from day 2–4.

Costs for the travel arrangements as per itinerary

- The costs are valid for the mentioned travel dates only.
- All costs are based on nett per person twin share costs in Australian dollars (AUD).
 Min. 6 Pax / Max. 20 Pax AUD \$2,690
 Single supplement AUD \$575

- Please note: Should there be any further government taxes or surcharges introduced after this quote has been forwarded we reserve the right to re-quote our proposal.

COVID-19

The health and safety of our employees and guests is our highest priority. The operator has a COVID-19 safety plan and procedures in place to ensure that the business operates in a safe manner.



PICTURES: TOURISM AUSTRALIA

EMAIL: TRAVEL@AUSTRALIANGEOGRAPHIC.COM

PHONE: 0413 560 210