

Department for Environment and Heritage
Parks of Kangaroo Island



*Healthy Parks
Healthy People*

Visitor Information

Accommodation

Camping

Trails

Parks

Tours



Government
of South Australia



Contents

Welcome to Kangaroo Island's parks	1	Lashmar Conservation Park	11
Escape to the wild	1	Ravine des Casoars Wilderness Protection Area	11
Getting about	2	Seal Bay Conservation Park	12
Your safety	3	Camping	13
Where to go, what to do	4	Heritage accommodation	14
Baudin Conservation Park	4	Bushwalking	20
Beyeria Conservation Park	4	Location map for walking trails, heritage accommodation, camping, and self-guided drives	22
Cape Bouguer Wilderness Protection Area	5	Select your trail	24
Cape Gantheaume Conservation Park	5	Trail descriptions	26
Cape Gantheaume Wilderness Protection Area	6	Self-guided drives	52
Cape Willoughby Conservation Park	6	Beware... deadly Cinnamon Fungus	53
Flinders Chase National Park	7	The National Parks Code	54
Kelly Hill Conservation Park	10	Wildlife notes	55
		Fire – for your safety	56



Information



Refreshments



Entrance fee



Toilets



Disabled toilets



Telephone



Emergency telephone



Kiosk/meals



Picnic tables



Gas BBQ



Ranger station



Lighthouse



Accommodation



Camping/
caravanning



Vehicle based
camping



Backpack
camping



No camping



Car park



Shower



Drinking water



Fishing



Fishing
prohibited



Fires



Fires prohibited



Boating
prohibited



Swimming
prohibited



Pets prohibited



Guided tours



Brochure



Walk



Hike moderate



Hike hard



Trek



Viewpoint

Welcome to Kangaroo Island's parks



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR VISITORS.

Following significant wildfires on Kangaroo Island in December 2007, some areas in parks remain unavailable whilst works are carried out to replace or repair facilities. Major attractions are, however, open and heritage accommodation and camping is available. You will also be able to explore a great variety of walking trails and vehicle tracks. For updated information contact parks offices or visit the DEH website.

Escape to the wild

The Department for Environment and Heritage manages one national park, seventeen conservation parks, one conservation reserve and five wilderness protection areas on Kangaroo Island. Some areas are vast, others small – all possessing the natural beauty unique to Kangaroo Island. The parks conserve an array of natural environments. Mallee woodlands, low open forests and woodlands, karst landscape, fresh and saline lakes, spectacular coastal cliffs and sand dune systems all provide habitat to an abundant range of wildlife.

There are a wide variety of things to see and do on Kangaroo Island. This booklet provides information about the experiences available within the parks.

Kangaroo Island is 'a big island' – the third largest off the coast of Australia. Many visitors frequently state 'We wish we could have stayed longer. We didn't realise the Island was so large!'. Don't be disappointed. Ensure you allow adequate time to best appreciate all that is on offer within the parks.

Please consider the possible weather conditions at the site you are planning to visit. For example, when leaving Kingscote it may be mild but the conditions could be very different once you reach the south coast.

It is recommended that you always take a jacket and a sun hat.



Kangaroo Island Dunnart
Sminthopsis aitkeni

Welcome to Kangaroo Island's parks

Getting about

The island is traversed by 1600 kilometres of roads. The majority are unsealed. The ironstone gravel used to form some unsealed roads resembles small marbles and can make the surface slippery. Unsealed roads are often corrugated – drive carefully.

Kangaroo Island has an abundance of wildlife. Please drive slowly.

The best way to avoid a collision with wildlife is to reduce speed and avoid driving in the early morning, late afternoon, and at night.

The island is much bigger than people think:

- 4500 square kilometres
- 155 kilometres long and up to 55 kilometres wide
- two hours by car from east to west
- most of the beaches and coves are located many kilometres off the major ring roads – allow extra driving time.



Mayfly Orchid
Acianthus caudatus



Your safety

Your safety is important. You can do much to ensure your personal safety while in the park by observing the following:

- Obey all road, track and trail signs – they have been provided for your safety.
- Large areas of the island's coastline are dominated by tall limestone cliffs – stay well clear and use lookouts where provided.
- If you are hiking or trekking, leave an itinerary with a responsible person. They should contact police if you have not returned by a pre-arranged date and time.
- Stay on walking trails as these have been routed to ensure the easiest and safest passage to your destination.
- Avoid bushwalking on days of extreme weather conditions.
- Drownings have occurred at Remarkable Rocks in Flinders Chase National Park. Please observe the warning signs.
- Fire safety information on page 56.



Bullock Waterhole,
Shackle Road,
Ravine des Casoars
Wilderness Protection Area

Where to go, what to do

The Department for Environment and Heritage offers a range of activities in key parks on Kangaroo Island. Guided tours are conducted daily (except Christmas day). Tour times and fees apply.

Tour and fee tickets can be purchased on a 'pay as you go' basis or via a **Kangaroo Island Tour Pass** which gives entry to key parks and tours and is valid for twelve months. For details please refer to the **Parks of Kangaroo Island Tour and Entry Fees Planner** visitor information sheet available at all park offices or visit www.environment.sa.gov.au/parks/kangaroo_is.html

Allow yourself plenty of time in addition to the tours offered as there is much to do and see.

Baudin Conservation Park

The **Ironstone Hill Hike** in Baudin Conservation Park follows the historic Bullock Track to Cape Willoughby and leads to Ironstone Hill. Interpretive signs explore the life of Harry Bates and his early farming endeavours. Get a sense of this area's farming heritage and see some stunning seascapes.



Hike

Ironstone Hill Hike page 27.

Beyeria Conservation Park

Discover some of Kangaroo Island's rare plants. Interpretive signs along the short Beyeria Walk page 26 give an insight into 'the many faces of the mallee scrub'. Visitors have the opportunity to read about the mallee broombush plant community, the natural process of change and rare endemic plants that grow in the area. This walk is suitable for all ages.





Cape Bouguer Wilderness Protection Area

Adjoins Kelly Hill Conservation Park:

The full day Hanson Bay Hike page 33 takes you through a range of landscapes: from Kelly Hill Caves through the Wilderness Protection Area to the southern coast at Hanson Bay.



Cape Gantheaume Conservation Park

D'Estrees Bay

Historically D'Estrees Bay was the site of a whaling station and later partly cleared for farming. Today the area conserves coastal vegetation and provides habitat for wildlife. Relax at D'Estrees Bay by doing the Tadpole Cove Walk, camping, or walking the secluded beaches.



Walks and Treks

Tadpole Cove Walk page 29, Cape Gantheaume Coastal Trek page 21.

Self-guided drive

Purchase a **D'Estrees Bay Self-guided Drive** booklet page 52 and discover the natural and cultural significance of the area.

Murray Lagoon

Birdwatchers: visit Kangaroo Island's largest lagoon. The walks and hike take you through a range of wetland plant communities with spectacular views and birdwatching opportunities.



Walks and Hikes

Timber Creek Walk page 30, Bald Hill Walk page 31, Curley Creek Hike page 32.

Where to go, what to do

Cape Gantheaume Wilderness Protection Area

Cape Gantheaume Wilderness Protection Area covers 20 000 hectares. Visitors may access the area on foot. For further information please speak to a ranger at the Regional Office, Kingscote.



Trek

Cape Gantheaume Coastal Trek page 21

Cape Willoughby Conservation Park

Cape Willoughby Lightstation

The ocean backdrop to Cape Willoughby Lightstation is spectacular. Join a guided tour of South Australia's first lightstation and enjoy the views across Backstairs Passage from the top of the lighthouse. Hear stories about working and living in such a harsh and remote environment. Learn about the importance of coastal shipping to early colonial trading and passenger transport well into the 20th century. The lighthouse was once used as a venue for local dances.

Light refreshments and souvenirs available.



Guided Lightstation Tour (Fee applies)

Self-guided Lightstation Heritage Hike page 28.

Self-guided Lightstation Precinct Walk

Accommodation

Heritage lightkeepers' cottages – Seymour Cottage, Thomas Cottage page 15.

On the way to or from Cape Willoughby, visit Baudin and Lashmar conservation parks.



Flinders Chase National Park

Admirals Arch and Remarkable Rocks at Cape du Couedic will give you a taste of rugged coastal scenery. However don't forget to explore some of the other attractions within the park's 34 000 hectares such as high-energy beaches, the unspoilt Rocky River, vast wilderness areas and cultural heritage sites. Discover some of Kangaroo Island's stories in the Flinders Chase Visitor Centre: wildlife and historical displays, touch screen, touch table and a fossil dig pit for kids.

Park entry and camping fees apply.



Rocky River Precinct

Walks and Hikes

Discovery Walk page 41, Platypus Waterholes Walk page 40, Rocky River Hike page 42.

Accommodation

Mays Homestead page 14, Postmans Cottage page 14, Campground page 13.

Visitor Centre

Displays and activities, cafe, park offices, souvenirs, information.

Tours

Seasonal interpretive tours (conditions apply). Ask at the Flinders Chase Visitor Centre information counter for availability.

West Bay Road

Hikes

Snake Lagoon Hike page 43, Sandy Creek Hike page 44, Breakneck River Hike page 45, Rocky River Hike page 42.

Bush camping

Snake Lagoon and West Bay page 13.

Where to go, what to do

Cape du Couedic

Walks, Hikes and Treks

Admirals Arch Walk page 37, Weirs Cove Hike page 36,
Lighthouse Heritage Walk page 39, Cape du Couedic Hike page 38,
Flinders Chase Coastal Trek page 21.

Accommodation

Heritage lightkeepers' cottage – Troubridge Lodge, Parndana Lodge,
Karatta Lodge page 17.

Remarkable Rocks

Walks

Remarkable Rocks Walk page 35.

Cape Borda Lightstation

Cape Borda Lightstation is located on the north-western corner of the island and is remote even today. Deep in the wilderness, perched high above the vast ocean, stands a unique square lighthouse, steeped in European history. Join a guided tour of the lightstation, including the museum, and appreciate the achievements of a bygone era. Cannon firing is conducted daily on the 12:30 pm tour. Visitors can enjoy the isolation of the area by walking one of the trails, visiting nearby sites associated with the lightstation or staying in a lightkeepers' cottage. Light refreshments and souvenirs available.



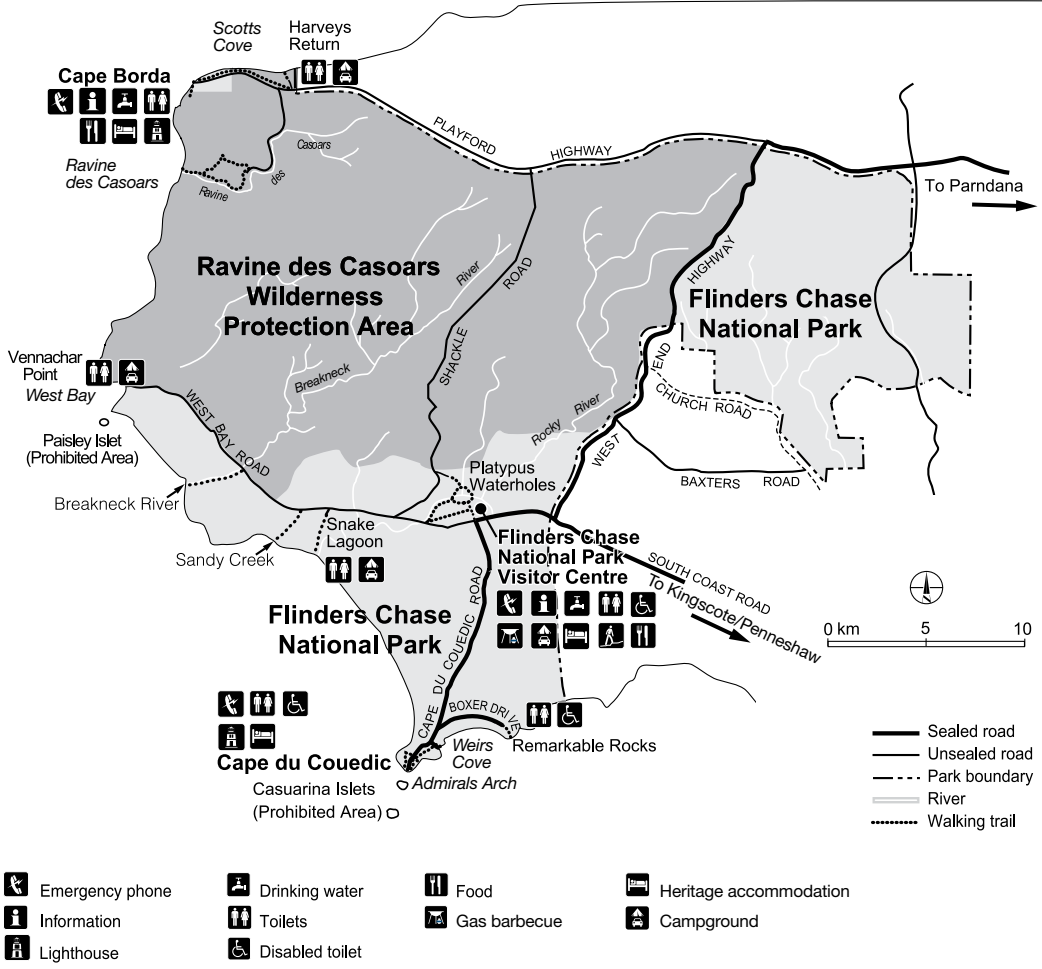
Guided Lightstation Tour (Fee applies)

Hikes

Clifftop Hike page 48, The Oval Hike page 47, Return Road Hike page 49.

Accommodation

Heritage lightkeepers' cottages – Flinders Light Lodge, Hartley Hut,
Woodward Hut page 16.



Where to go, what to do

Kelly Hill Conservation Park

More than just caves

Allow time to enjoy the karst landscape, tall woodland, the understorey plants and wildlife by walking to the Show Cave entrance via one of the walking trails. Picnic and barbecue facilities are available.

Kelly Hill Caves

Delight in the unexpected magic of the underground world as you walk amidst pristine, ornate cave formations on the Show Cave Tour. Discover why caves are 'a window into the past' and how the amazing shape of the helictite is formed.

Once you have experienced the splendour of the Show Cave Tour, have a go at adventure caving. You will be equipped with a helmet and a light to follow your cave guide through the underground maze. Some climbing and crawling is required.



Tours (Fee applies)

Show Cave Tour

Adventure Caving

Please note the following conditions apply:

- bookings are essential, phone (08) 8559 7231
- participate in a Show Cave Tour first
- minimum numbers or minimum fee applies
- participants must be over the age of eight years.

Walks and hikes

Burgess Hike page 34, May Walk page 34, Hanson Bay Hike page 33



Lashmar Conservation Park

This small, undeveloped park adjoins the long sandy beach at Antechamber Bay.

Antechamber Bay

Picnic and camping facilities are available at this popular swimming and fishing beach. Please note fires are not permitted on Total Fire Ban Days. See camping notes on page 13 for more information.



Ravine des Casoars Wilderness Protection Area

The Ravine des Casoars Wilderness Protection Area is located to the north of Flinders Chase Visitor Centre and covers 40 000 hectares. Visitors may access some areas on foot. For more information please ask an Information Officer at Flinders Chase Visitor Centre.



Adjoins Flinders Chase National Park.
Visit Scott Cove and Harveys Return Cemetery.

Hike

Ravine des Casoars Hike page 46 – from the car park on the Ravine des Casoars Road.

Harveys Return

Harveys Return was initially used by sealers to load salted seal skins collected from the area in the early 1800's. Later, Harveys Return was used as a landing site for supplies for Cape Borda Lightstation.



Hikes and Treks

Harveys Return Hike page 50, Return Road Hike page 49 – from Harveys Return Campground. Flinders Chase Coastal Trek can begin at Harveys Return.

Where to go, what to do

Seal Bay Conservation Park

Seal Bay is home to the third largest population of one of the world's rarest marine mammals, the Australian Sea-lion. Guided beach tours give visitors the opportunity to observe the natural behaviour of these wild animals.

The 800 metre Don Dixon boardwalk is an easy stroll through the terrestrial habitat of the Australian Sea-lion. A platform overlooking the beach gives visitors a great view of sea-lions resting and coming and going from foraging trips at sea. The boardwalk has interpretive signage along the way giving visitors an overview of the habits of the Australian Sea-lion.

Allow time to look at the visitor centre displays (including a touch table) and for buying quality souvenirs. Picnic facilities are available at nearby Bales Cottage Picnic Area.



Tours and Access (Fee applies)

Guided Beach Tour

Access to lookout, boardwalk and viewing platform (disabled access) – an addition or alternative to the beach tour.

Walk

Self-guided - **The Flowering Plants of Seal Bay Conservation Park**, coastal plants identified along the trail to the lookout.

Aquatic Reserves adjoin Seal Bay Conservation Park to protect the immediate marine habitat of the Australian Sea-lions. Please be aware of the restrictions in these reserves.

Seal Bay Aquatic Reserve



Bales Bay Aquatic Reserve



Camping

Kangaroo Island's parks offer a range of camping options. Permits are required and camping is allowed only in designated areas.

For permits and bookings for camping in Flinders Chase National Park phone Flinders Chase Visitor Centre on (08) 8559 7235.

Permits for camping in Cape Gantheaume Conservation Park, Harveys Return or Antechamber Bay can be obtained through self-registration at the campgrounds.

Bush trekking camping – please discuss with a ranger at the nearest park office.

Gas fires

Gas fires permitted all year, except on declared Total Fire Ban Days (the Country Fire Service (CFS) broadcasts notices on local radio 891 ABC and 765 5CC or phone CFS hotline 1300 362 361).

Wood fires

Wood fires are permitted only at Antechamber Bay Campground except on Total Fire Ban Days. Please use the firepits provided, do not leave fires unattended and carefully extinguish all fires before you leave.

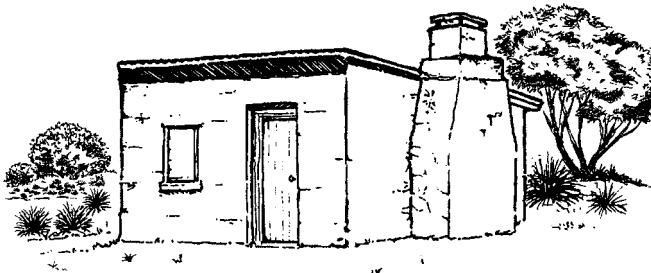
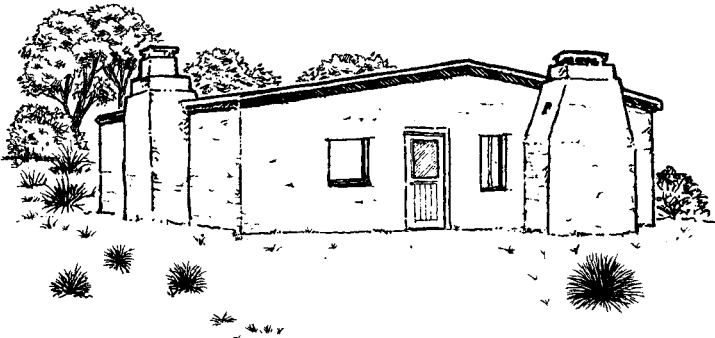
Campground	Bookings required	Caravan accessible	Public phone	Toilets	Water	Hot showers	Camp fires	Gas BBQ's
Flinders Chase National Park								
Rocky River Precinct	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
Snake Lagoon	✓	✗	✗	✓	~	✗	✗	✗
West Bay	✓	✗	✗	✓	~	✗	✗	✗
Ravine des Casoars Wilderness Protection Area								
Harveys Return	✗	✗	✗	✓	~	✗	✗	✗
Cape Gantheaume Conservation Park								
Murray Lagoon	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗
D'Estrees Bay	✗	✓	✗	✓	~	✗	✗	✗
Lashmar Conservation Park								
Antechamber Bay	✗	✓	✗	✓	~	✗	✓	✓

~ water supply cannot be guaranteed.
If available, water must be treated.

Heritage accommodation

Rocky River Precinct

- **Mays Homestead** is a heritage listed quaint four-roomed stone cottage, built in the early 1890s by Charles May, the original pastoralist at Rocky River. During its early history, the occupants provided the nearest source of assistance for survivors of the many shipwrecks that occurred along the rugged coastline. Later the building was used by the first ranger at Flinders Chase National Park.
- **Postmans Cottage** is a one-roomed stone hut built for the mailman who would call and stay overnight once a fortnight. The cottage is located next to Mays Homestead, near the Flinders Chase Visitor Centre.



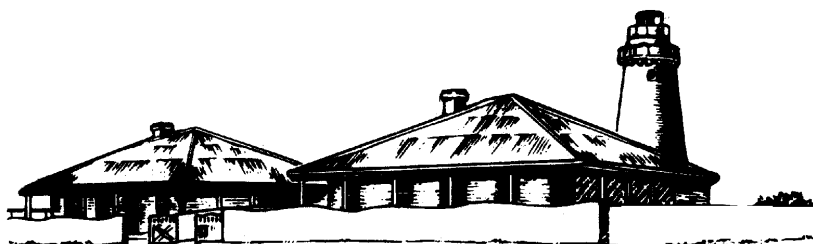
Postmans Cottage

Cape Willoughby

- **Seymour and Thomas cottages** are located on the rugged easternmost point of the island overlooking treacherous Backstairs Passage. These cottages, built in 1927, form part of the lightkeepers settlement of Cape Willoughby. Stones from the original 1850s lighthouse dwellings were used to build the large white fence around the cottages. Treat yourself to a relaxing experience in one of these renovated heritage-listed cottages.

Spectacular views can be seen from the Cape Willoughby Lighthouse. Tours are available at advertised times.

Please refer to **Parks of Kangaroo Island Tour and Entry Fee Planner** visitor information sheet available at all park offices or visit www.environment.sa.gov.au/parks/kangaroo_is.html.



Seymour and Thomas cottages, Cape Willoughby

Cape Borda

Situated in the very north-west corner of Kangaroo Island, Cape Borda is a classic lighthouse location. Set deep in the wilderness and perched high above a vast ocean, it is remote and stunningly beautiful.

The lighthouse was built in 1858 to guide sailing ships arriving off the 'roaring forties' trade winds.

- **Flinders Light Lodge** is a spacious, comfortable limestone cottage that once housed the lighthouse keeper and his family. Ideally situated with glorious sea views.
- **Hartley Hut** is a prefabricated cabin that originally served as the relieving keeper's quarters. It is cosy and modern with sea views and abundant wildlife nearby.
- **Woodward Hut** is Kangaroo Island's most affordable heritage accommodation! Quaint and different.

Guided tours of the Cape Borda Lighthouse are available at advertised times. Historic cannon fired daily on the 12:30 pm tour.



Flinders Light Lodge, Cape Borda

Cape du Couedic

- **Parndana, Karatta and Troubridge lodges** are classic lightkeepers cottages, large and roomy, built in 1907 from local limestone laboriously carved into solid building blocks. Magnificently restored, featuring slate roofs and polished pine floors, these three-bedroom cottages are heritage listed. Situated in Flinders Chase National Park, approximately 14 km from Rocky River at Cape du Couedic, the cottages are isolated and provide comfortable accommodation in a spectacular coastal environment.

About the Accommodation

- You will need to bring all food supplies.
- Arrival time from 2 pm onwards.
- Departure time 9 am at Cape Borda, 10 am at Cape Willoughby and Flinders Chase cottages.
- Ideal for families and those wanting a secluded getaway.
- Pets are not permitted.



Parndana Lodge, Cape du Couedic

Heritage accommodation

Special offer

Stay a total of five nights at any park heritage accommodation and receive a free Kangaroo Island Tour Pass.

For bookings and information contact:

Flinders Chase National Park PMB 246 via Kingscote 5223

Phone (08) 8559 7235 Fax (08) 8559 7268

Email: kiparksaccom@saugov.sa.gov.au

ACCOMMODATION	Bedrooms	Queen/ double bed	Single bed	Sheets, pillowcases towels
Cape Borda				
Hartley Hut	1	DB	1 trundle/1 foldaway	yes
Flinders Light Lodge	3	QS	4	yes
Woodward Hut	1 room only	-	2	fee applies
Cape du Couedic				
Parndana Lodge	3	QS and DB	2	yes
Karatta Lodge	3	QS and DB	2	yes
Troubridge Lodge	3	QS	4	yes
Cape Willoughby				
Seymour Cottage	5	QS and DB	4	yes
Thomas Cottage	5	QS and DB	4	yes
Rocky River Precinct				
Mays Homestead	2	DB and double bunk/single top	1	yes
Postmans Cottage	1 room only	double bunk/ single top	1	fee applies



What visitors say

'We class this as being in the top three of all our trips throughout Australia. Only wish it could be longer.' Gold Coast, Queensland

'We loved every moment but the stay wasn't long enough, the accommodation was excellent.' Laverton, Victoria

'We have travelled far and wide staying at all sorts of places from camping to five star. This beats them all. Fantastic Cape Willoughby.' NSW

'What a perfect spot for our first visit to Australia! One look at Cape Borda and the kangaroos in the backyard convinced us that we had made the right choice. It's all we dreamed Australia could be - friendly people, great wildlife and stunning scenery! We love it here!' Pennsylvania, USA

Blankets/ pillows	Bathroom/ toilet	Stove/ microwave	Cutlery/ crockery/ saucepans	Separate lounge	Heating
yes	yes	gas/mw	yes	no	electric
yes	yes	gas/mw	yes	yes	gas
yes	nearby	small electric	yes	no	electric
yes	yes	gas/wood/mw	yes	yes	gas
yes	yes	gas/wood/mw	yes	yes	gas
yes	yes	gas/wood/mw	yes	yes	gas
yes	yes	electric/mw	yes	yes	electric
yes	yes	electric/mw	yes	yes	electric
yes	yes	wood/gas/mw	yes	yes	open fire
yes	toilet only	wood/gas	yes	no	woodstove

Bushwalking

Walks and Hikes

Kangaroo Island's parks offer walks and hikes that will revitalise your spirit and senses. The trails and their features offer visitors an overview of the variety of habitats and species conserved in the parks of Kangaroo Island. There are ten walks and seventeen hikes. Walks are short trails of generally less than three kilometres. Hikes require some experience and a reasonable fitness level; the trail may be uneven and steep for short distances. See map on pages 22 and 23 for walk and hike locations, and pages 24 and 25 for trail descriptions.

You will be able to:

- Observe wildlife in the wild.
- Witness the wild forces of nature.
- Immerse yourself in Kangaroo Island's wild past.
- Sense the power of the Southern Ocean.
- Delight in the many wonders of the natural world.

Walk Safely



Be prepared when bushwalking:

- Wear sturdy shoes, hat and sunscreen.
- Carry sufficient drinking water. Do not rely on tanks or creeks for drinking water.
- Keep to the defined walking trail.
- Inform a responsible person of your proposed route and expected time of return.
- Weather conditions can change quickly. Ensure you have appropriate clothing.

Short-beaked Echidna
Tachyglossus aculeatus





Coastal Treks

For serious trekkers, a range of treks can be undertaken along some sections of the coast around Flinders Chase National Park, Ravine des Casoars Wilderness Protection Area, and Cape Gantheaume Wilderness Protection Area.

Treks often pass through remote areas and are usually totally unmarked. A trek will be physically demanding and users must be experienced bushwalkers.

Trekker Information Packs are available from Flinders Chase or Kingscote offices. Trekkers must discuss their route with a ranger and fill in a *Trip Intentions* form, prior to commencing a trek.



TREK

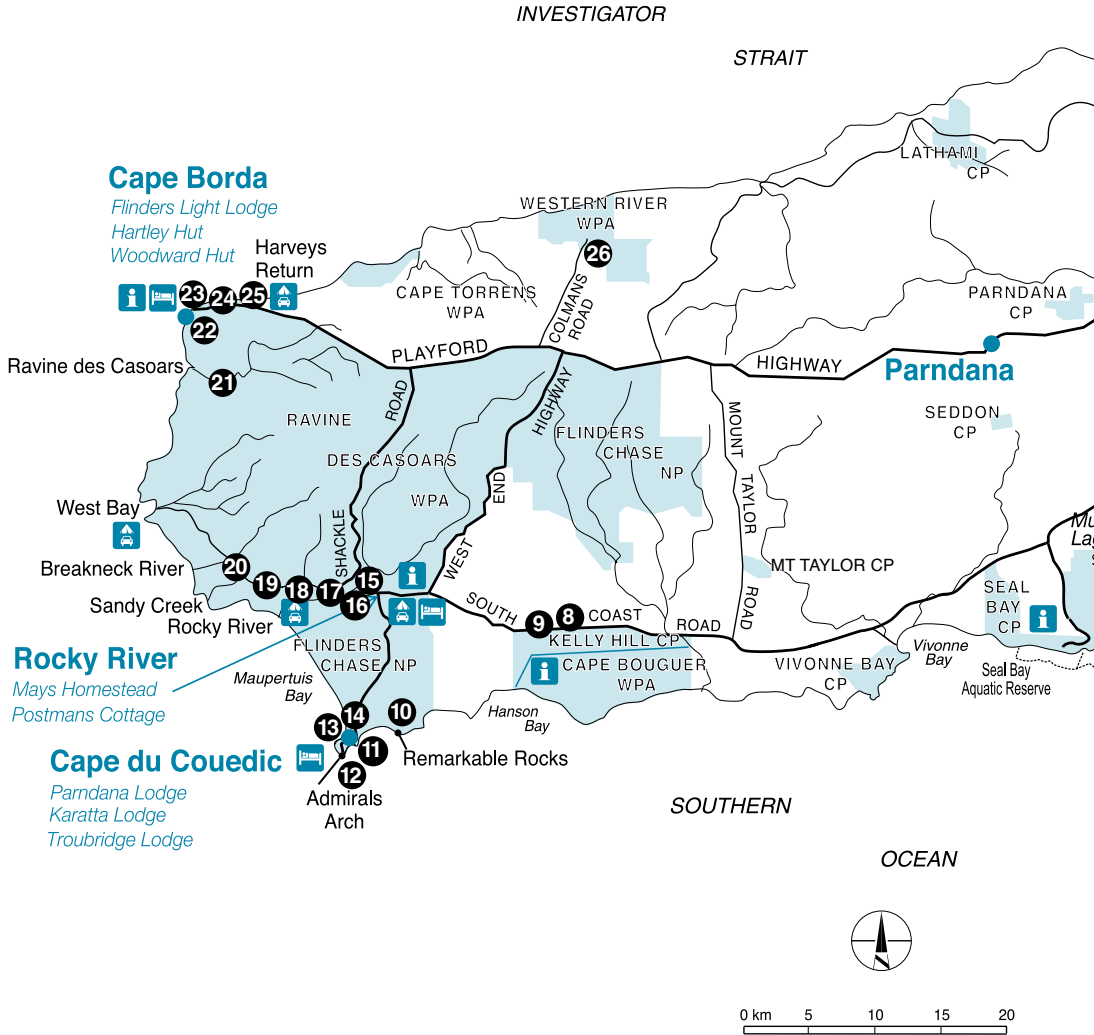
CHALLENGING

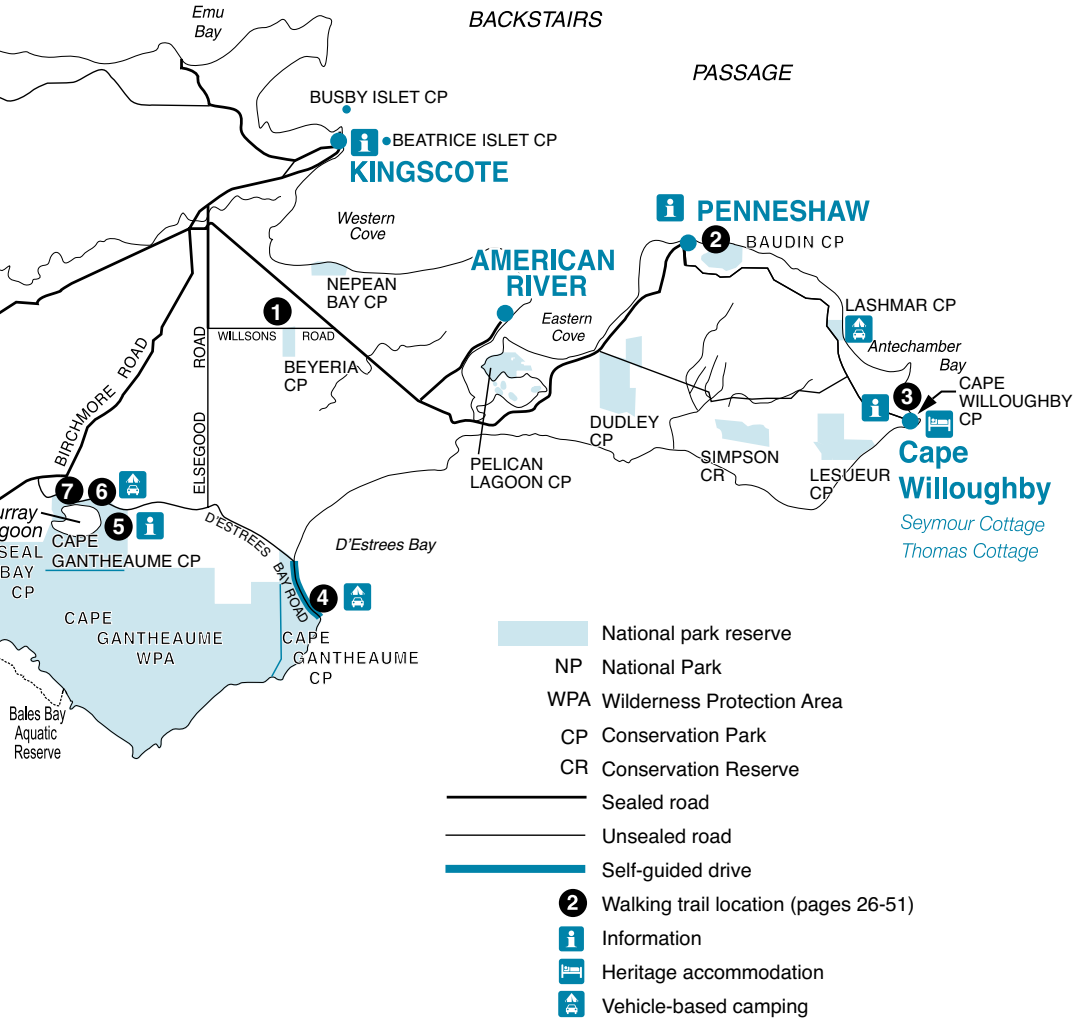
- long distance trail with some steep inclines
- irregular surface with loose, uneven base
- suitable for experienced walkers with navigational skills
- high level of fitness



Pied Oystercatcher near Remarkable Rocks

Location map for walking trails, heritage accommodation, camping, and self-guided drive





Select your trail

Trails	Return time	Return distance	Highlights
1. Beyeria Walk	30 minutes	1.5 km	Endemic plants
2. Ironstone Hill Hike	1.5 hours	4 km	European heritage, coastal views, wildlife
3. Cape Willoughby Lightstation Heritage Hike	1 hour	1.9 km	great views, European heritage site
4. Tadpole Cove Walk	20 minutes	800 m	European heritage, coastal views, wildlife
5. Timber Creek Walk	1 hour	1.5 km	wetland, wildlife
6. Bald Hill Walk	30 minutes	1 km	wetland, wildlife
7. Curley Creek Hike	4 hours	11 km	wetland, wildlife, unexpected vegetation
8. Hanson Bay Hike	full day	18 km	lagoons, sand dunes, variety of vegetation
9. Burgess Hike (May Walk)	30 minutes	1.25 km	Sugar Gum forest, orchids in winter and spring
10. Remarkable Rocks Walk	15 minutes	1 km	Remarkable Rocks, views of Cape du Couedic
11. Weirs Cove Hike	50 minutes	3 km	spectacular coastal views, history
12. Admirals Arch Walk	15 minutes	1 km	Admirals Arch, fur-seal colony, Casuarina Islets
13. Cape du Couedic Hike	40 minutes	2 km	coastal cliff top views, coastal plants and shipwreck information
14. Lighthouse Heritage Walk	10 minutes	600 m	lighthouse, lightkeepers' cottages
15. Platypus Waterholes Walk	2 hours	4.5 km	wildlife, perhaps the elusive Platypus
16. Discovery Walk	10 minutes	400 m	wildlife observation interpretation - what to look for, how to get the best views
17. Rocky River Hike	3 hours	9 km	river habitats, forest, woodland
18. Snake Lagoon Hike	1.5 hours	3 km	river valley, spectacular views
19. Sandy Creek Hike	1.5 hours	3 km	Southern Ocean's rugged beauty
20. Breakneck River Hike	2.5 hours	6 km	forest, woodland, mallee, coastal heath
21. Ravine des Casoars Hike	4 hours	8 km	spectacular views, river habitats, forest
22. The Oval Hike	1.5 hours	4 km	history, remoteness
23. Clifftop Hike	30 minutes	1 km	coastal views, remoteness
24. Return Road Hike	3 hours	9 km	history, woodlands, coastal heath
25. Harveys Return Hike	1 hour	1.5 km	history, geology, remoteness
26. Waterfall Creek Hike	2 hours	5 km	spectacular views of a winter waterfall, sheoak and Sugar Gum forest




Trail notes	Trail difficulty
great for all ages	Easy
some steep sections, two small creeks to cross in winter	Moderate
some sections rocky and uneven underfoot	Moderate
gently undulating, great for all ages	Easy
can be slippery when wet, seasonally under water	Easy
can be very windy, seasonally under water	Easy
seasonally, parts under water, can be slippery	Moderate
note length of hike, some steep sandy sections	Hard
gently undulating, original cave entrance	Moderate (Easy)
wheelchair accessible, great for all ages, please observe the warning signs	Easy
gently undulating	Moderate
boardwalk leads to steps down to viewing platforms	Easy
some steep sections, a little rocky and uneven underfoot	Moderate
great for all ages	Easy
great for all ages	Easy
great for all ages	Easy
a little rocky and uneven underfoot	Moderate
rocky and uneven underfoot after footbridge	Moderate
last section on soft sand is very tiring	Moderate
seasonally, beach access requires a shallow wade	Moderate
some steep sections, a little rocky and uneven underfoot	Hard
gently undulating	Moderate
rocky and uneven underfoot	Moderate
gently undulating, a little rocky and uneven underfoot	Moderate
very steep below the capstan	Hard
some steep sections, a little rocky and uneven underfoot	Moderate



WALK

EASY

- even surfaced trail
- suitable for small children



HIKE

MODERATE

- some moderate inclines
- irregular surface with loose, uneven base
- average level of fitness



HIKE

HARD

- some steep inclines
- irregular surface with loose, uneven base
- average level of fitness
- some hiking experience

Trail Descriptions

1. Beyeria Walk

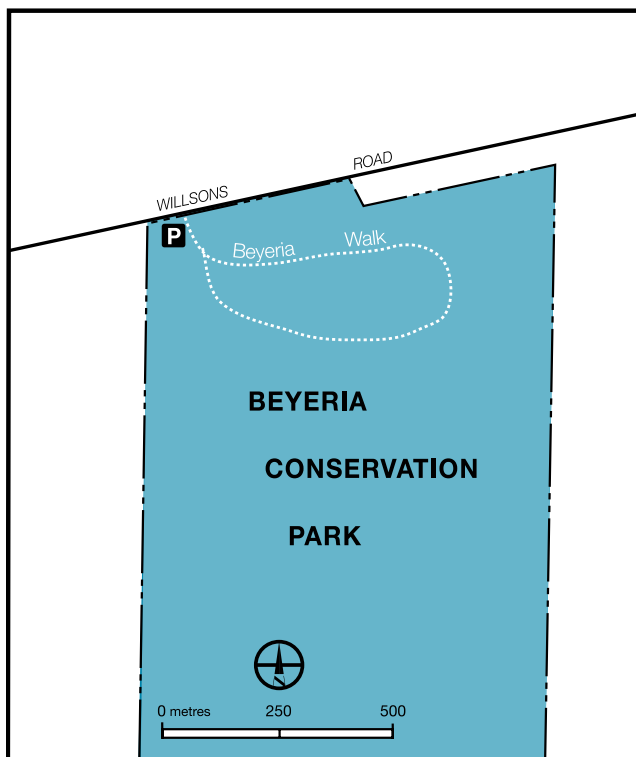
This walk is a delightful short stroll through Kangaroo Island Narrow-leaved Mallee with broombush understorey. Beyeria Conservation Park was named after the endemic Turpentine Bush, *Beyeria subtecta*. The walk has twenty interpretive signs along the way highlighting 'The Many Faces of Mallee Scrub'.

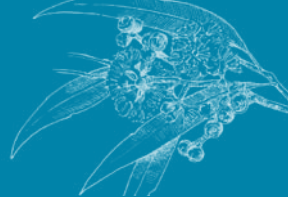
Access: The walk begins at the car park adjoining Willsons Road.

Refer to pages 22-25.



Walk
30 min return
1.5 km return



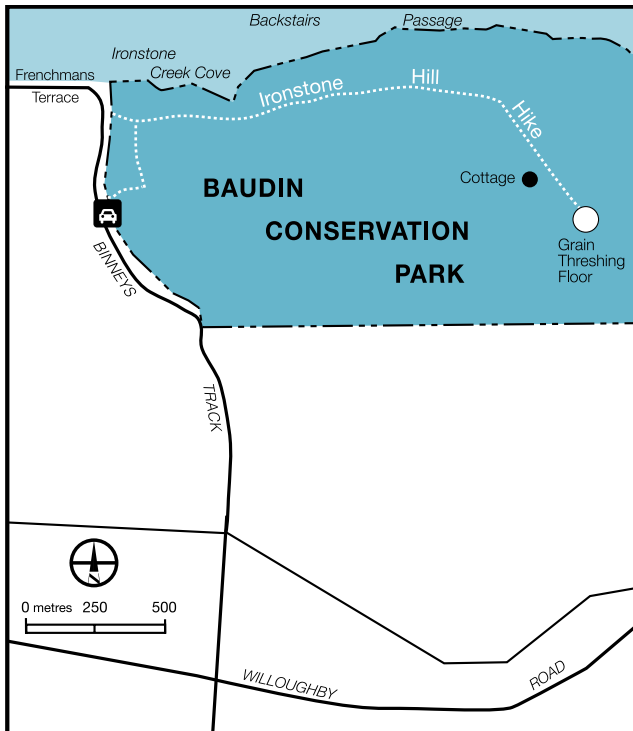


2. Ironstone Hill Hike

This hike follows the coast east of Penneshaw along a section of the original bullock track to Cape Willoughby and provides spectacular views across Backstairs Passage to the Fleurieu Peninsula. After climbing through regenerating sheoak vegetation, the hike leads to the ruins of Harry Bates' cottage and a stone threshing floor on Ironstone Hill. The farming heritage of the area is interpreted on signs along the hike.

Access: Follow Frenchmans Terrace along the foreshore at Penneshaw to the car park at the start of Binneys Track.

Refer to pages 22-25.



Moderate
Hike

1.5 hours return
4 km return

3. Cape Willoughby Lightstation Heritage Hike

This hike will take you into the sheltered gully of the original lightstation settlement. It will give you an insight into the early lightkeepers' lives and how their demanding routine and sense of isolation was heightened by the distance between their homes and the lighthouse.

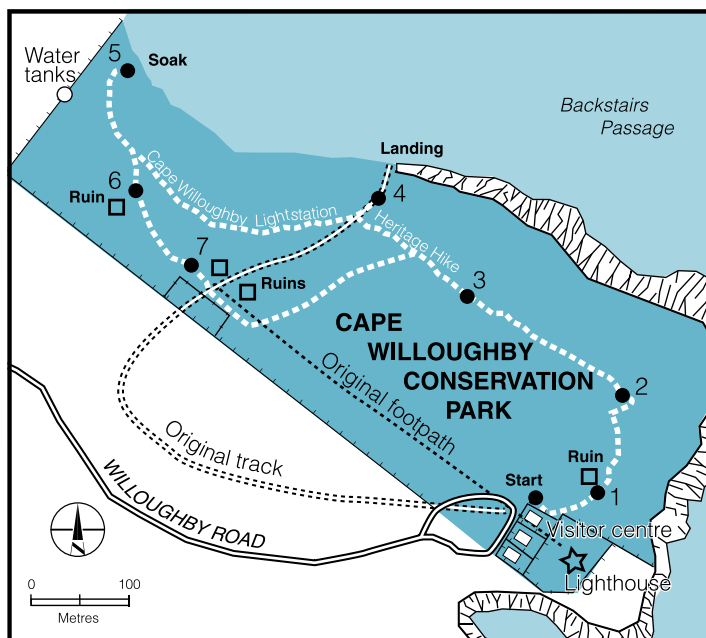
A self-guided brochure is available at the Cape Willoughby Conservation Park Visitor Centre. It gives information about the original lightstation settlement at points of interest along the trail.

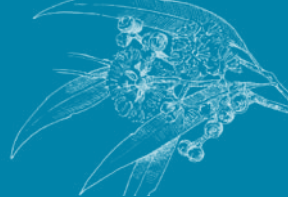
This return loop hike begins and ends at the visitor centre.

Refer to pages 22-25.



Moderate Hike
1 hour return
1.9 km return



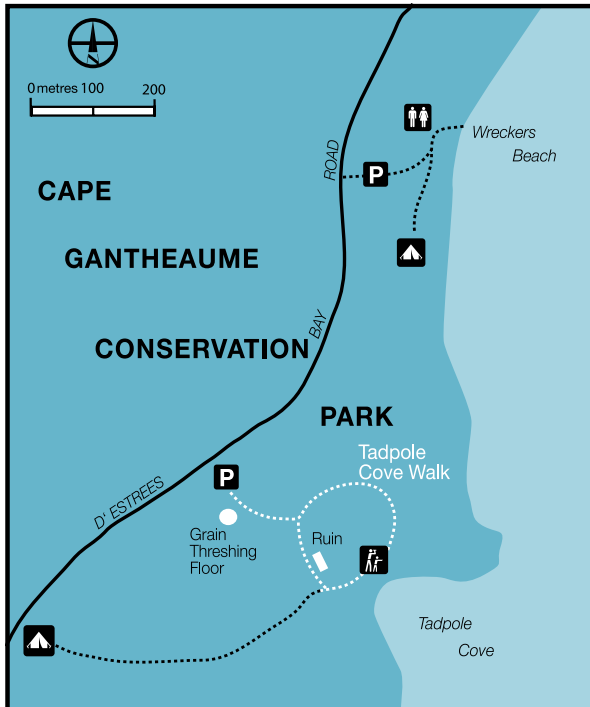


4. Tadpole Cove Walk

This walk combines unusual coastal scenery with early settlement heritage sites. The walk starts at an old grain threshing floor, used by early settlers to process locally grown grain, and takes you past the ruins of a small cottage dating from the same period. The walk then meanders through regenerating vegetation to a lookout above Tadpole Cove, which is named after an unusual rock formation in the centre of the cove. Watch for Ospreys soaring along the cliff edge as they hunt for fish in the calm waters of the cove.

Access: The walk begins in the car park adjacent to the threshing floor just south of Wreckers Beach, D'Estrees Bay Road.

Refer to pages 22-25.



Walk

20 min return

800 m return

Trail Descriptions

5. Timber Creek Walk

This walk at Murray Lagoon offers the visitor a tea-tree swamp experience. Waterfowl such as ducks, swans and waders flock to the lagoon to create a bird-lovers delight. Hawks and eagles prey upon the waterfowl, while chats and Little Grassbirds sing among the thickly vegetated shorelines.

During drought years and late in the summer the best views of Murray Lagoon can be seen from the Bald Hill (6) and Curly Creek (7) trails.

Access: The walk begins 500 m west of Murray Lagoon park headquarters off Seagers Road, which can be seasonally flooded.

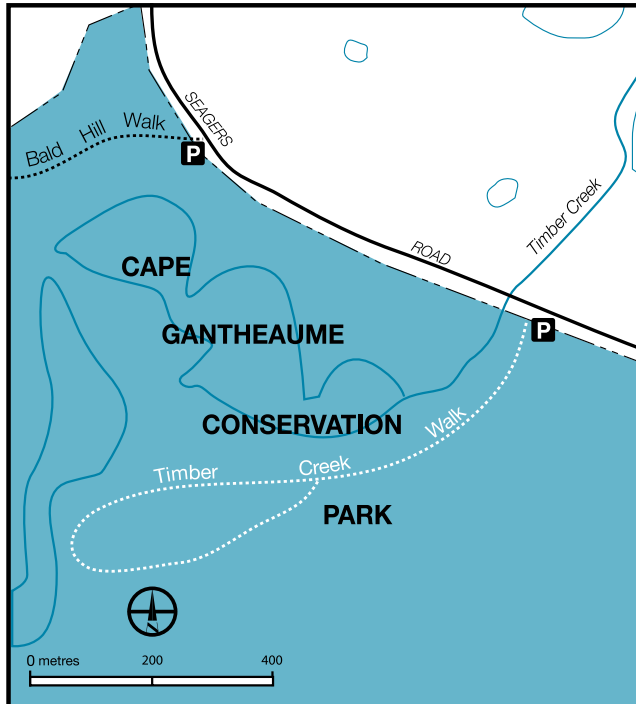
Refer to pages 22-25.



Walk

1 hour return

1.5 km return



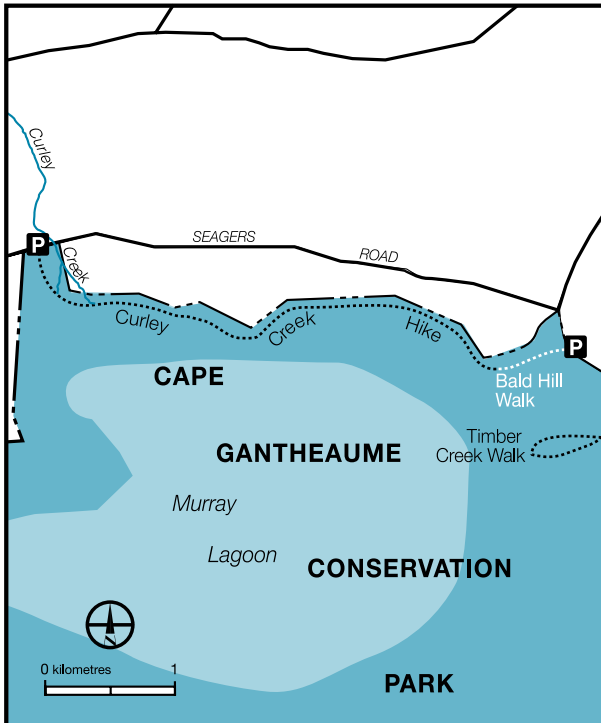


6. Bald Hill Walk

Bald Hill provides spectacular views overlooking Murray Lagoon and is an ideal spot to observe a variety of wetland birds as they feed from the lagoon below. In the distance the visitor can see the dense bush and impressive sand-dunes of the Cape Gantheaume Wilderness Protection Area to the south.

Access: Bald Hill can be accessed via the Bald Hill Walk from Seagers Road, 2 km from Murray Lagoon park headquarters, Cape Gantheaume Conservation Park. Bald Hill can also be accessed via the Curley Creek Hike from Curley Creek, 6 km from the headquarters or 4 km from the South Coast Road off Seagers Road.

Refer to pages 22-25.



Walk
30 min return
1 km return

7. Curley Creek Hike

This hike follows an old fire access track which skirts the edge of Murray Lagoon. Walkers will not only discover a large range of birdlife but also a variety of vegetation communities. Bald Hill provides spectacular views overlooking Murray Lagoon and is an ideal spot to observe migratory waders as they feed from the lagoon below.

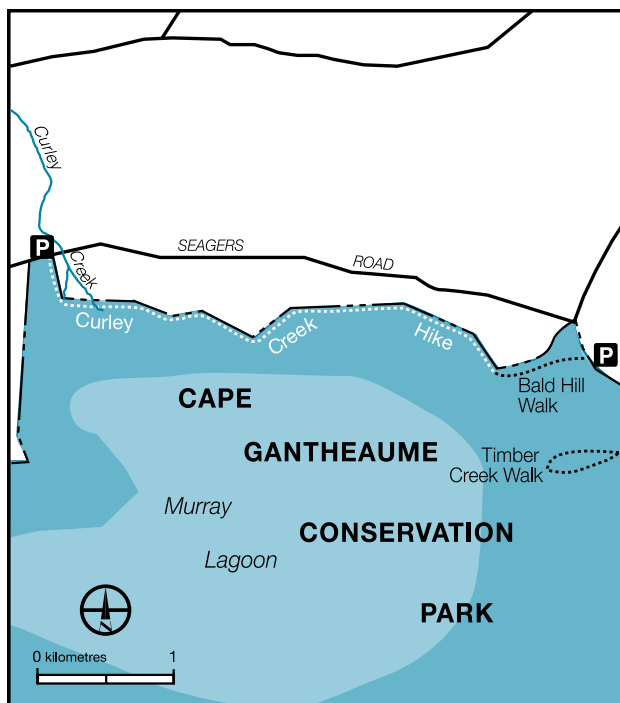
Access: The Curley Creek Hike begins at Curley Creek, 6 km from the Murray Lagoon park office or 4 km from the South Coast Road off Seagers Road. The Curley Creek Hike can also be accessed via the Bald Hill Walk, 2 km from the Murray Lagoon park office.

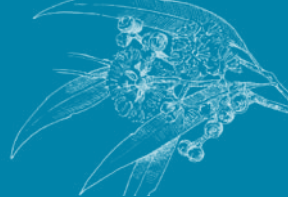
Refer to pages 22-25.



Moderate
Hike

4 hours return
11 km return



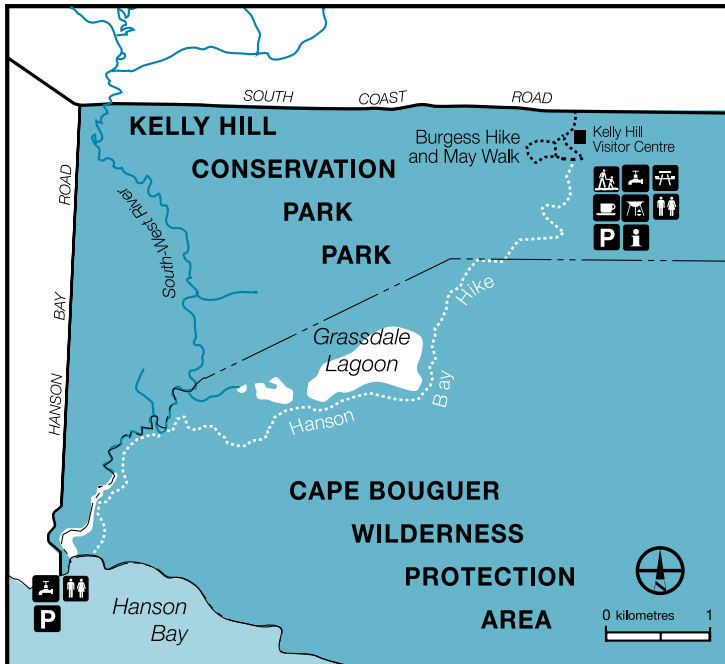


8. Hanson Bay Hike

This spectacular trail meanders from Kelly Hill Visitor Centre to Hanson Bay. It passes through banksia heath, Pink Gum woodlands, mallee and coastal heath, alongside freshwater lagoons, and over dunes to viewpoints that provide wonderful vistas inland and along the coast. Allow a full day for the return trip or try to arrange a pick-up.

Access: This hike begins at Kelly Hill Visitor Centre.

Refer to pages 22-25.



Hard Hike
full day return
18 km return

9. Burgess Hike (incorporating May Walk)

This hike passes through the Sugar Gum forest at Kelly Hill Caves and introduces visitors to the surface features associated with the caves below, including the original cave entrance. If you are taking a guided tour of the Show Cave, this trail provides an interesting alternative route to or from the Show Cave entrance. In spring the wildflowers are a treat.

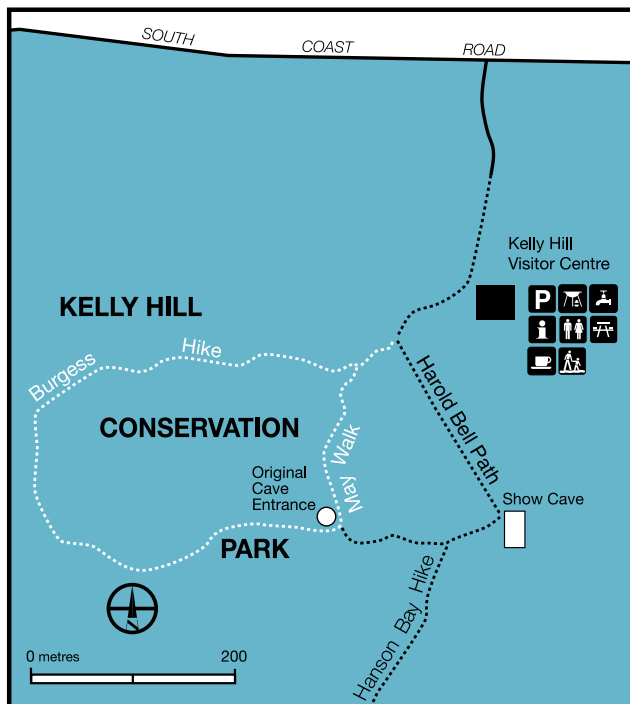
Access: Both trails begin at the Kelly Hill Visitor Centre.

Refer to pages 22-25.



Moderate
Hike

30 min return
1.25 km return





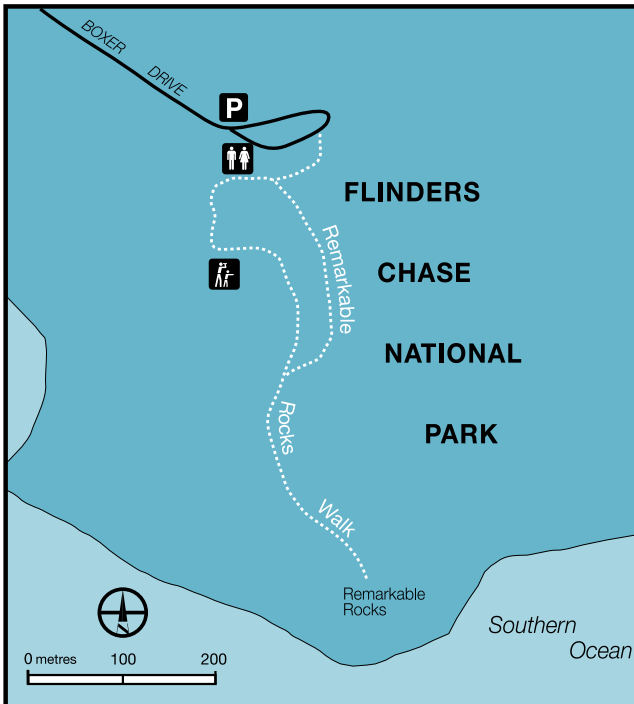
10. Remarkable Rocks Walk

Follow this wheelchair accessible trail to the stunning geological feature of Remarkable Rocks. The wind-sculpted rocks can be seen as artworks in progress – a 500 million year old story of change. Interpretive signs explain the formation of the granite boulders.

Drownings have occurred at Remarkable Rocks. Please read the warning signs. **For safety reasons access to the seaward side of the granite dome is prohibited.**

Access: The walk starts at the Remarkable Rocks car park, 16 kilometres from Flinders Chase Visitor Centre.

Refer to pages 22-25.



Walk
15 min return
1 km return

Trail Descriptions

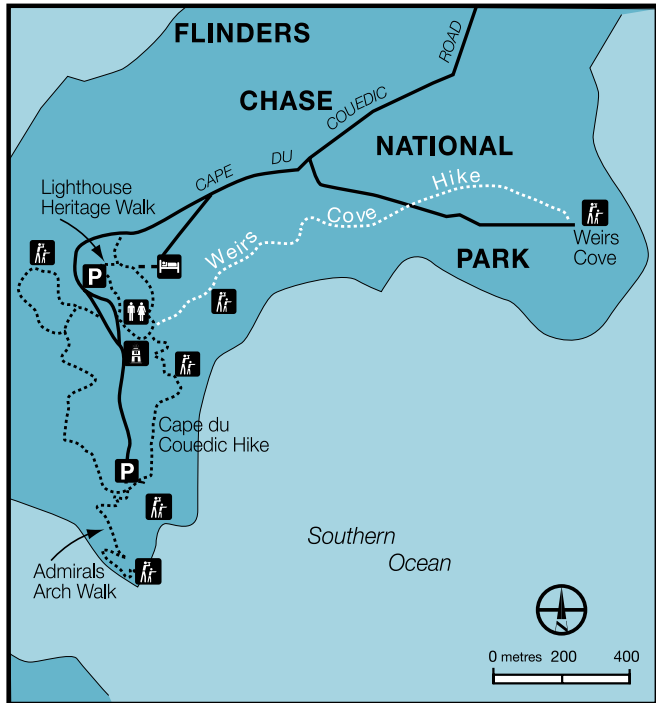
11. Weirs Cove Hike

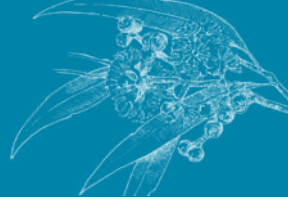
Imagine spending three months or more waiting for fresh supplies. Hike to Weirs Cove to understand the extreme hardship for lightkeepers involved in getting the shopping home. Discover the method of landing people and supplies along this treacherous coastline.

Access: Begin this hike at the lighthouse sign shelter, at Cape du Couedic. Refer to pages 22-25.



Moderate Hike
50 min return
3 km return





12. Admirals Arch Walk

Follow the signs to the boardwalk and ponder on the eventual creation of the third Casuarina Islet. Allow plenty of time to enjoy the frolicking New Zealand Fur-seals. Read about their remarkable recovery from the uncontrolled hunting of the early 1800s.

Access: The walk begins at the Admirals Arch car park at Cape du Couedic, situated on the south-west corner of Flinders Chase National Park.

Refer to pages 22-25.



Walk
15 min return
1 km return

13. Cape du Couedic Hike

This hike provides spectacular coastal cliff top views as it meanders between the Cape du Couedic Lightstation and Admirals Arch car park. Discover the varied and impressive techniques that plants use to grow here. Find out about Aboriginal connections with Cape du Couedic and how they survived in this harsh environment. Contemplate the perils of being shipwrecked here 110 years ago. Look for the water pool built by the lighthouse builders and watch for those who still use it today.

Access: This hike begins at the lighthouse sign shelter.

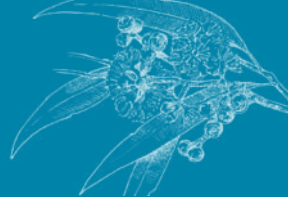
Refer to pages 22-25.



Moderate
Hike

40 min return
2 km return





14. Lighthouse Heritage Walk

Take a stroll around the Cape du Couedic Lightstation and immerse yourself in history. Marvel at the magnificence of the tower, the endurance of the lightkeepers and their families, and learn about 'Life on the Edge' from signs along the trail.

Access: Follow the signs from the lighthouse sign shelter to begin this walk. Refer to pages 22-25.



Walk

10 min return
600 m return

15. Platypus Waterholes Walk

Walk from the Flinders Chase Visitor Centre across Black Swamp to the Rocky River, where patience may be rewarded with the sighting of a Platypus. Allow time to view the waterholes from a series of platforms, a hide and lookout. A multitude of birdlife, kangaroos, wallabies, geese, echidnas and goannas are regularly seen on this walk.

Access: This walk begins at the Flinders Chase Visitor Centre. A shorter walk (suitable for wheelchairs) to the waterholes can be accessed from a car park off Shackle Road.

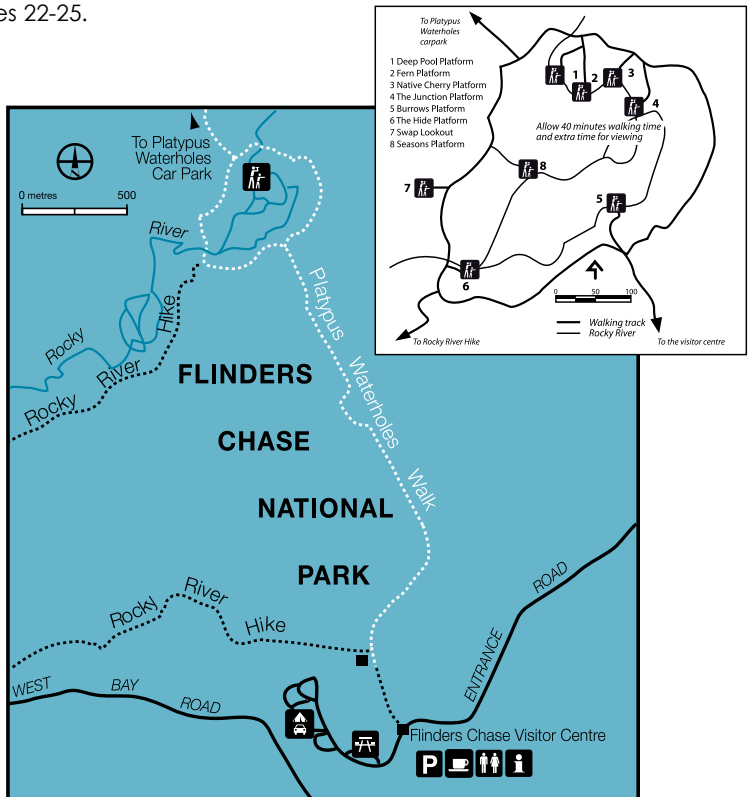
Note: No toilet facilities at Platypus Waterholes car park.

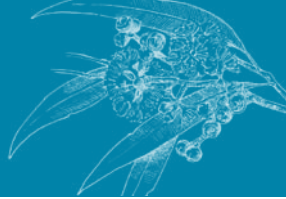
Refer to pages 22-25.



Walk

2 hours return
4.5 km return





16. Discovery Walk

This short walk will take you from the Flinders Chase Visitor Centre to the Walking Trail Information Shelter overlooking Black Swamp. Interpretive signs along the way will help hone your wildlife observation skills.

Signs at the shelter give information about other hikes and walks accessed from here.

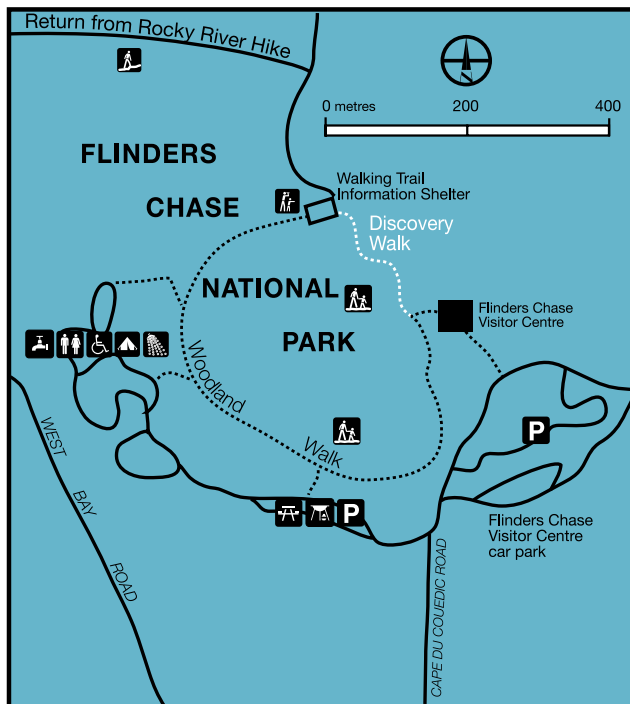
Access: This walk leaves from and returns to the Flinders Chase Visitor Centre. Refer to pages 22-25.



Walk

10 min return

400 m return



17. Rocky River Hike

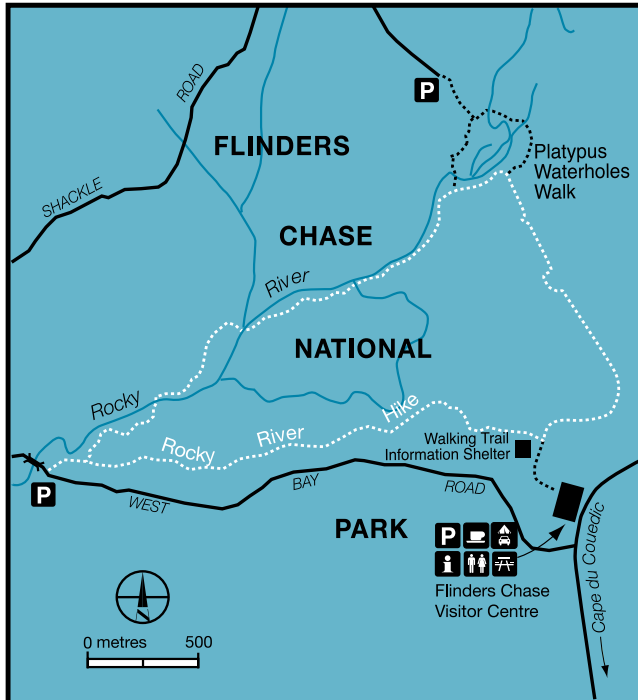
Linked with the Platypus Waterholes Walk, this half-day hike takes you through the diverse habitats of Rocky River. The trail meanders through forest and woodland, providing picturesque views of the river and opportunities to watch for Platypus. Listen for honeyeaters in the forest canopy, and look for delicate orchids in winter and spring.

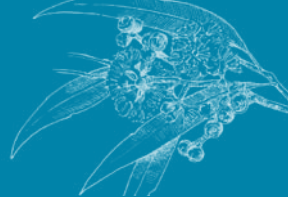
Access: This hike starts at Flinders Chase Visitor Centre and includes the Platypus Waterholes Walk. Alternatively, the trail can be started from Rocky River Bridge on West Bay Road, or the Platypus Waterholes car park off Shackle Road.

Refer to pages 22-25.



Moderate Hike
3 hours return
9 km return





18. Snake Lagoon Hike

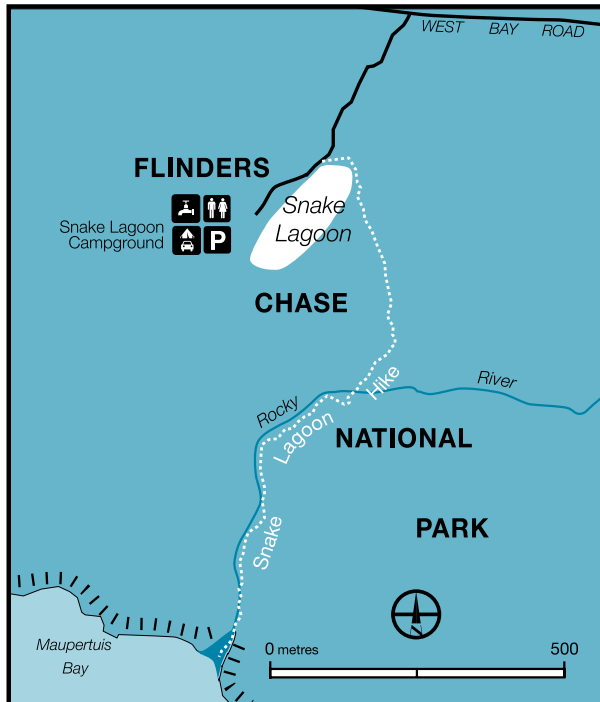
Starting at Snake Lagoon, this popular trail winds through Sugar Gums and mallee before descending into the Rocky River valley. The trail crosses Rocky River and meanders along its bank to the mouth, providing spectacular views through the valley and across the Southern Ocean.

Access: Snake Lagoon is located 9 km from Flinders Chase Visitor Centre off the West Bay Road.

Refer to pages 22-25.



Moderate
Hike
1.5 hours return
3 km return



19. Sandy Creek Hike

Follow the bank of Sandy Creek before descending into the creek bed for the last section through sand dunes and onto a large sandy beach. Here time can be forgotten while relaxing and watching the Southern Ocean pound against the shore.

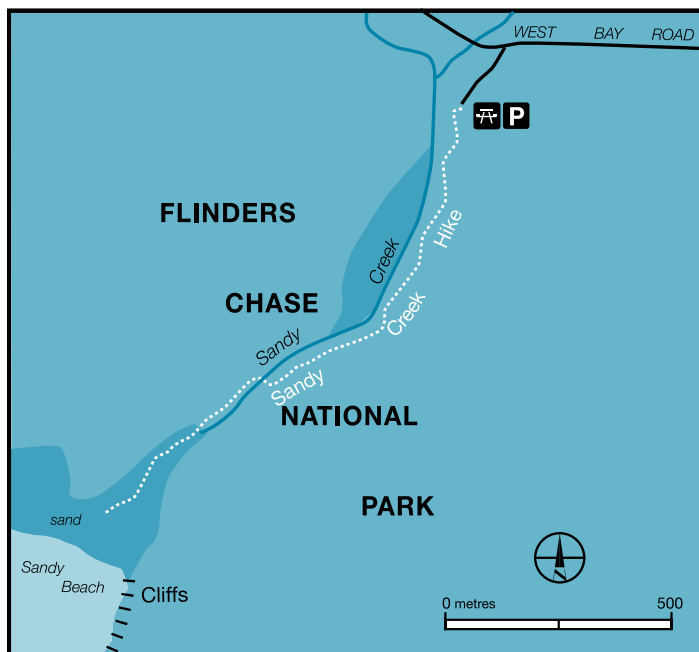
Access: This hike begins on West Bay Road approximately 10 km from Flinders Chase Visitor Centre.

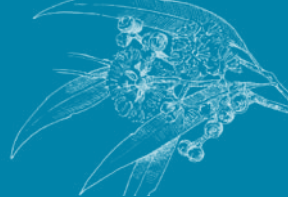
Refer to pages 22-25.



Moderate
Hike

1.5 hours return
3 km return





20. Breakneck River Hike

Follow the Breakneck River through forest, woodland, mallee and coastal heath to a picturesque little beach, hemmed in by limestone cliffs.

Deep permanent pools occur near the coast, offering birdwatchers a great vantage point to observe the many species of birds that inhabit the area.

Breakneck River is one of a few rivers in the world that has its whole catchment within a conservation reserve.

Access: This hike begins on the West Bay Road, approximately 13 km from Flinders Chase Visitor Centre.

Refer to pages 22-25.



Moderate Hike

2.5 hours return
6 km return

Trail Descriptions

21. Ravine des Casoars Hike

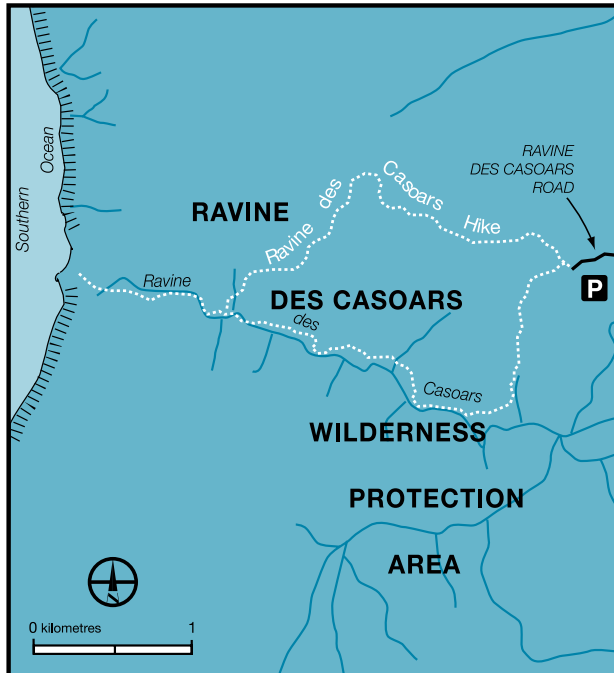
This loop trail follows the ravine valley to the coast, passing along the creek bank and high above the valley floor, providing spectacular views. The French explorer, Nicolas Baudin, observed the Kangaroo Island Emu here in 1802, mistakenly identifying them as Cassowary. Tragically, the Kangaroo Island Emu became extinct at least ten years before the first official settlement in 1836.

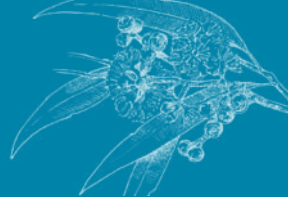
Access: The hike begins on the Ravine des Casoars Road, 7 km south of the Playford Highway, near Cape Borda Lightstation.

Refer to pages 22-25.



Hard Hike
4 hours return
8 km return



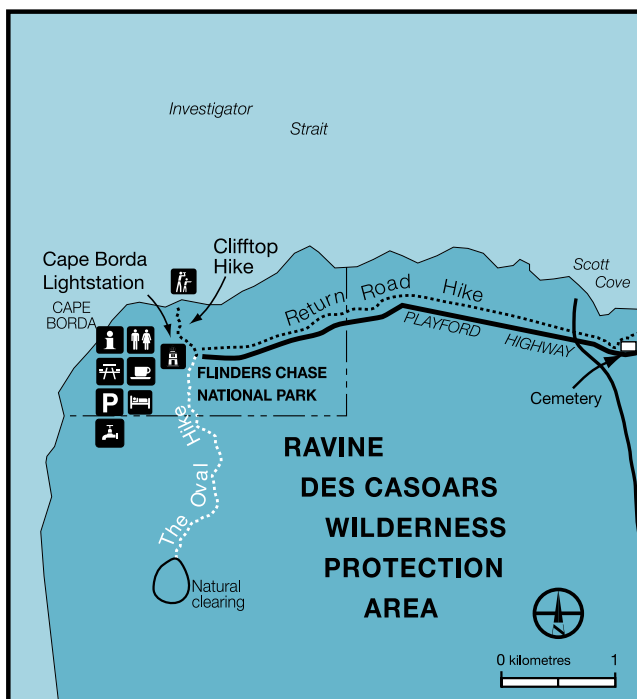


22. The Oval Hike

This trail meanders south from Cape Borda Lightstation through dense Bull Oak, mallee heath and native pines, before reaching a clearing in the middle of the bush. The lighthouse keepers used this clearing for growing vegetables and crops to feed livestock, and for recreation. A wonderful hike for viewing wildflowers, particularly orchids, and the occasional echidna.

Access: This trail begins at Cape Borda Lightstation.

Refer to pages 22-25.



Moderate
Hike

1.5 hours return
4 km return

Trail Descriptions

23. Clifftop Hike

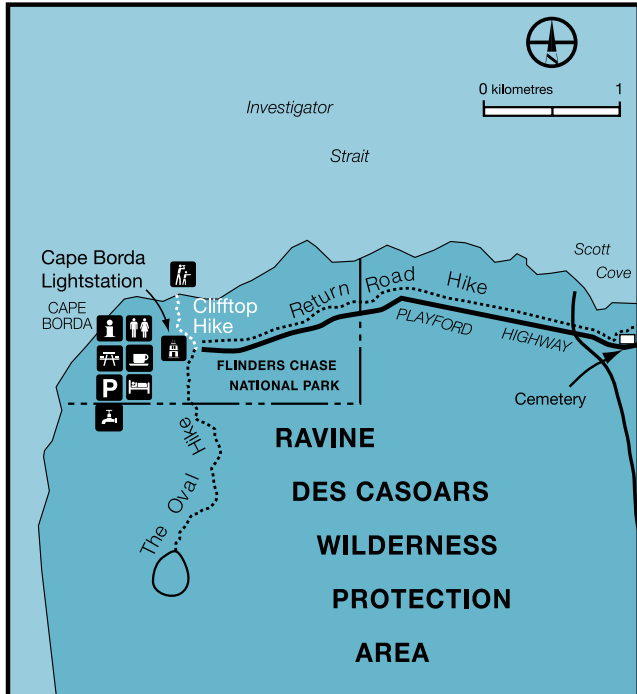
This short trail is the perfect complement to a guided tour at Cape Borda Lightstation. Meander through the picturesque rock gardens, and observe how the vegetation shortens and changes as you near the cliff top. A stone lookout provides an ideal vantage point for spotting whales and dolphins.

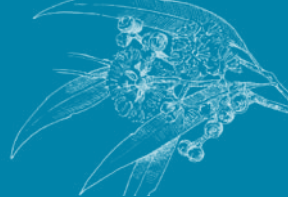
Access: This trail starts at Cape Borda Lightstation.

Refer to pages 22-25.



Moderate Hike
30 min return
1 km return



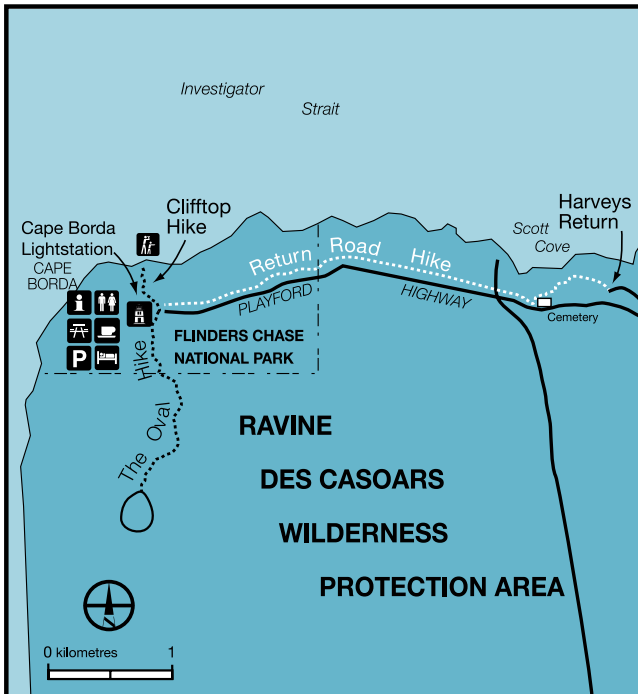


24. Return Road Hike

Starting at Harveys Return this hike wanders through low Sugar Gum woodland, passing groves of native pine near the Lightkeepers Cemetery. Take a side trip when you cross the road to view the spectacular coastline at Scott Cove. The hike follows the lightkeepers' old cart track used for transporting supplies between Harveys Return and Cape Borda, which they called 'The Return Road'. Look for cobblestones which indicate the alignment of the original track.

Access: This hike can begin at either Harveys Return or Cape Borda Lightstation.

Refer to pages 22-25.



Moderate
Hike

3 hours return
9 km return

25. Harveys Return Hike

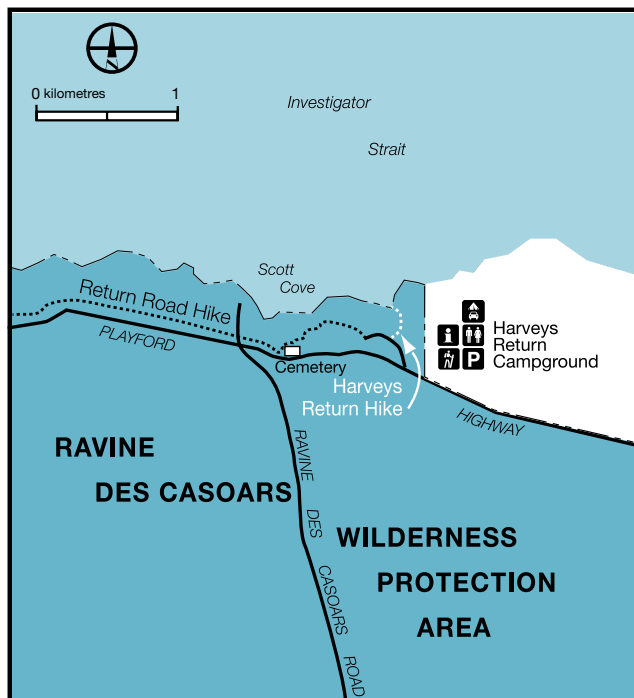
This short hike follows the original route used by the Cape Borda Lightkeepers who hauled their stores up from Harveys Return using a horse and capstan (horse-drawn winch), and small rail cars. For geology enthusiasts, there are spectacular outcrops of tightly folded, thinly bedded schists. Below the capstan, the trail is very steep, so walkers should descend carefully.

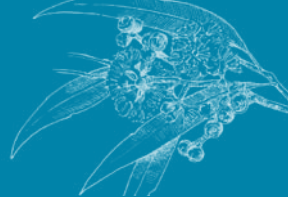
Access: The trail begins at the Harveys Return Campground on the Playford Highway.

Refer to pages 22-25.



Hard Hike
1 hour return
1.5 km return



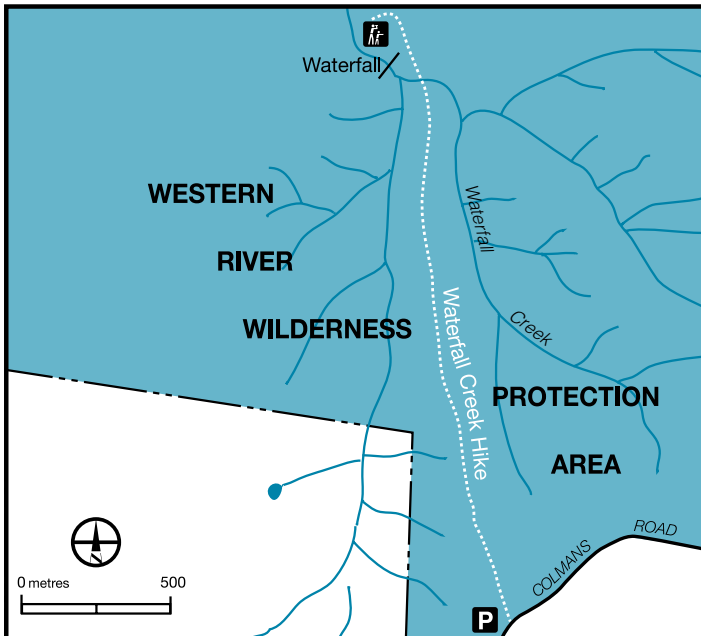


26. Waterfall Creek Hike

Follow the trail from the car park down the valley to the creek. Stepping stones lead you up a small winding trail through sheoak trees, to a lookout with spectacular views of a winter waterfall. The sheoaks provide a valuable food source for the elusive, endangered Glossy Black-Cockatoo.

Access: This hike begins in the car park in the Western River Wilderness Protection Area, off Colmans Road.

Refer to pages 22-25.

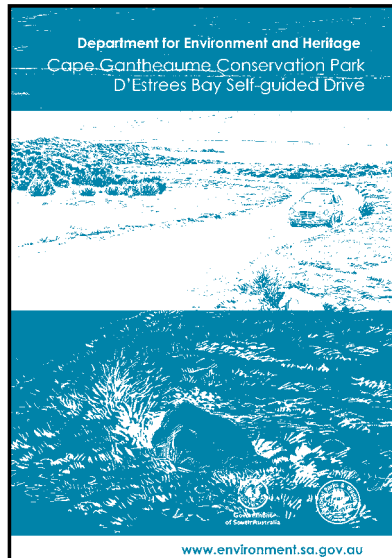


Moderate
Hike
2 hours return
5 km return

Self-guided drive

D'Estrees Bay

This self-guided nature drive begins at the second boat ramp seven kilometres from the junction of Elsegood Road and D'Estrees Bay Road. It will take you to the end of D'Estrees Bay Road adjacent to Sewer Beach. The drive is approximately eight kilometres in length. The trail symbol of an Osprey and the stop number mark designated stops at points of interest along the drive. In 1803 the French explorer Nicolas Baudin circumnavigated Kangaroo Island. He named this long, sweeping bay after Jacques D'Estrees (1660–1737), a French author, Marshall of France, Vice-Admiral and Minister of State.



The D'Estrees Bay Self-guided Drive

You can purchase a copy of this guide at any Kangaroo Island Park's office.

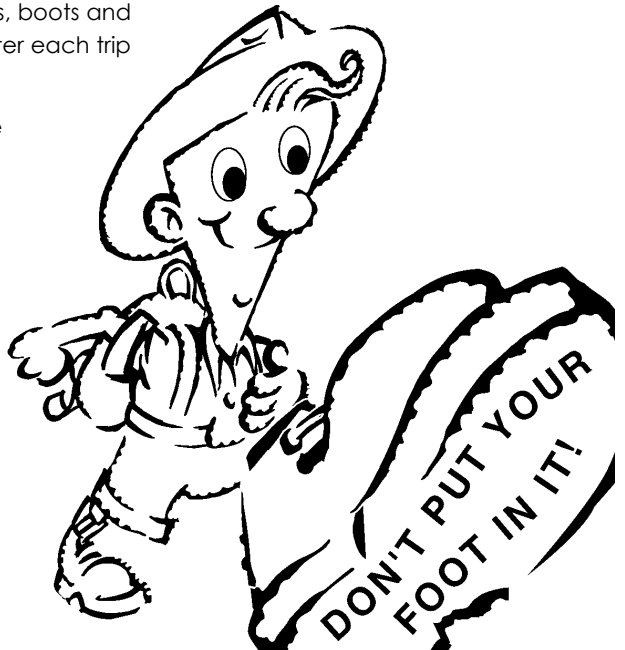
Beware... deadly Cinnamon Fungus

Phytophthora (pronounced fy-TOFF-thora) species are soil and waterborne fungi that cause disease and often death to a wide variety of native plant species, exotic fruits and vegetables. The most common species is *Phytophthora cinnamomi* which is also referred to as Pc.

Phytophthora attacks the roots and stems of plants. Early symptoms of the disease are root-rot, and depending on the plant species, stem rot and eventual death. Susceptible plants die from an inability to take up sufficient water and nutrients. The first symptoms of infection are the yellowing of the foliage followed by dieback of the entire plant.

You can help stop the spread of *Phytophthora* on Kangaroo Island by preventing the transfer of infested soil or plant material please:

- avoid driving, riding or walking in areas when soils are wet and sticky
- stay on designated roads, tracks and trails
- brush soil off vehicles, bikes, boots and camp gear before and after each trip
- obey 'Road Closed' signs
- use wash down or hygiene stations when provided.



Please remember...

The National Parks Code

Help protect your national parks by following these guidelines:

- Leave your pets at home.
- Take your rubbish with you.
- Wood fires permitted only where designated. Gas fires elsewhere. No fires on declared Total Fire Ban Days (the CFS broadcasts notices on local radio 891 ABC and 765 5CC or check CFS hotline 1300 362 361).
- Camp only in designated areas.
- Respect geological and heritage sites.
- Keep our wildlife wild. Do not feed or disturb animals, or remove native plants.
- Keep to defined vehicle tracks and walking trails.
- Be considerate of other park users.
- Help prevent the spread of the deadly cinnamon fungus; please comply with walking trailhead instructions.

**Thank you for leaving the bush in its natural state
for the enjoyment of others.**



Tammar Wallaby
Macropus eugenii



Slow down for native wildlife

Kangaroo Island is refuge to an abundant array of native wildlife. Unfortunately too many are killed on the roads.

Please reduce your speed because:

- Echidnas are slow moving animals.
- Goannas need to bask in the sun before becoming active.
- Nocturnal animals are active at night.
- Your headlights can dazzle nocturnal animals.

Please don't feed the wildlife

Please don't feed the wildlife – let them fend for themselves because:

- Human food may be poisonous to wildlife. It can seriously disrupt their digestive systems.
- Feeding changes natural behaviour patterns which are essential for survival in the bush.
- Feeding can cause dangerous situations when animals become aggressive and cause injury.

Keep our wildlife healthy

Wildlife Watching Guidelines

Always remember:

- Stay on the trail.
- Put the animals' welfare first.
- Move slowly and quietly.
- Observe from a distance.
- Use binoculars for that close-up look.

For your safety

All native animals in national and conservation parks and conservation reserves are wild and should be observed and photographed from a distance. This minimises disturbance to the animal and allows you to observe many of the natural behaviours exhibited by native animals in the wild.

Fire – for your safety

Fires are an integral part of the functioning of many South Australian ecosystems. Indeed, many species of plants fail to reproduce without fire as an agent in their life cycle.

Kangaroo Island's parks have experienced a number of large wildfires throughout their history.

The Department for Environment and Heritage manages fire in the state's parks to protect life, property and environmental assets and to enhance the conservation of natural and cultural heritage.

For your personal protection you need to know:

- Radiant heat from bushfires is the chief killer. The basic principles of survival, whether in a house or in a car, are shelter from radiant heat and not to panic.
- In a fire the air temperature near the ground is slightly cooler and although uncomfortable to breathe, there is more oxygen in the air at ground level.
- Avoid bushfires. Your curiosity could endanger your own life and the lives of others.



Scarlet Bottlebrush
Callistemon rugulosus



If you are directly threatened by a fire while in the park, please observe the following rules:

In a car

- Do not drive through thick smoke.
- Stop the vehicle on bare ground off the roadway or in an area of least undergrowth.
- Wind up the windows and close all air vents.
- Turn the ignition off and switch on headlights and hazard warning lights.
- Shelter from radiant heat by lying on the floor and covering yourself with a rug or woollen blanket or any other non-flammable covering.
- Drink water to minimise the risk of dehydration.
- Stay in the car until the main fire-front passes and the temperature has dropped.
- When you get out, cover all exposed skin, move away from the car and stay on bare or burnt ground.

On foot

- Do not run uphill or away from the approaching fire unless you know of a safe refuge nearby.
- Do not run through a fire-front.
- Choose an open space, clearing or track.
- Clear away as much flammable material as possible.
- Cover all exposed skin surfaces.
- Drink water to minimise the risk of dehydration.
- Seek shelter from the radiant heat behind a log or large rock if possible, or in a depression in the ground.
- Lie face down on the ground.

Panic and ignorance are significant contributing factors to death from fire - be prepared.

For further information contact:

Department for Environment and Heritage

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