MURRAY RIVER, LAKES & COORONG





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Acknowledgement of Country

The Murray River, Lakes and Coorong tourism industry acknowledges our First Nations people as the traditional owners and occupants of land and waters in South Australia. We pay respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

themurrayriver.com

Cover: River Murray International Dark Sky Reserve This page: P.S. Murray Princess

The official Murray River, Lakes & Coorong Visitor Guide proudly produced by





Earth & Water Fire & Sky

Four distinct landscapes. A sparkling array of experiences. And all the elements of a perfect holiday.

Welcome to Murray River, Lakes and Coorong



The Murray River

On the lower reaches you'll find the Murray at its most sedate and serene. Don't miss:

- Big Bend, the river's most famous sweep of red cliffs (join a Big Bend By Night tour to see it in a whole new light...)
- Taking the helm of your very own houseboat
- A tour of Ngaut Ngaut a fascinating window into Aboriginal culture shared by welcoming Ngarrindjeri and Nganguraku custodians
- Being transported to a bygone era on board a majestic paddle wheeler
- Staying in a river town: they're rich with character and history, and perfect for a riverside lunch
- Murray Bridge home to The Bunyip, the 1876 Round House and Captain's House Museum
- A visit to Monarto Safari Park and an exhilarating 'hot lap' at The Bend
- A night-time adventure in the International Dark Sky Reserve

The Lakes & Langhorne Creek

Discover lakes so big they were mistaken for oceans, historic villages and one of the state's most exciting wine regions. Don't miss:

- Langhorne Creek's nine cellar doors – idvllic places for a long. lazy lunch and an insight into the region's awesome flavours
- The 1869 Raukkan Church, your key to the amazing story of Indigenous inventor David Unaipon; both Unaipon and church were featured on a \$50 note
- Point Malcolm, home to the only inland lighthouse in the Southern Hemisphere
- The Steam Exchange Brewery overlooking Goolwa Wharf, one of the state's most perfectly placed breweries
- Coorong mullet a local delicacy featured on many local café menus

Explore

DRIVE & DISCOVER, MEANDER & MARVEL



The Mallee

Reward yourself with a trip into the Mallee Country. It's less visited, more authentic and always welcoming! Don't miss..

- Corners of the state less seen discover conservation parks in Tintinara, Cuburra, Billiatt, Carcuma and the big one, Ngarkat
- The mallee fowl! This rare and elusive bird is a big 'tick' for twitchers
- The stunning silo art at Coonalpyn, Lameroo and Karoonda
- Mallee Spirit in Lameroo this country distillery and cellar door oozes charm. It's also home to Nelly the gin still!
- The Mallee Tourist and Heritage Centre has huge displays including working printing presses, the Gum Family collection of restored stationary engines and tractors and a history of grain development

The Coorong

It's a wild wonderland of dunes and sea spray, birdlife and beaches. Don't miss:

- The lovely (and little visited) town of Meningie – home to cafés, one of the largest country museums you've ever encountered and the unlikely story of a bushranger who rode around on an ostrich...
- The self-drive loop out of Meningie - great for a taste of the Coorong
- Canoeing the Coorong! • Going the distance in a 4WD on one of Australia's greatest beach
- A drive out of Goolwa onto Hindmarsh Island to see the mighty Murray Mouth; you'd be amazed how few people get to see where our largest river joins the sea
- A boat tour into the upper Coorong out of Goolwa to reveal the incredible Murray Mouth, hidden fishing communities and vast dune-scapes

drives – if you're properly equipped

RIVER MURRAY INTERNATIONAL

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f 🖸

SA TOUR & TRANSPORT HOSTING www.jugglehouse.com.au

Experience

THRILL & CHILL, SEEK & SAVOU



Base yourself at Tailem Bend

Discover the town that brings together a worldclass racing track, a sublime stretch of river and a pioneering past. Check into the adults-only Waterfront Park for a premium cabin with stunning river views, then see what floats your boat. Kick back, crack a beer and and wet a line on the riverbank or hop into a Mustang for a pulse-racing hot lap of the Shell-V Power Motorsport Race Track! Within 30 minutes you can be viewing lions, cheetahs and elephants at Monarto – or you could be raising a delicious glass of red in Langhorne Creek . History? The charming town of Tailem has heritage from the age of paddle-steamers and steam engines; and be sure to explore Old Tailem Town Pioneer Village, a remarkable collection and a true labour of love.



COM.AU -BED



Monarto Safari Park Monarto

Overnight in Monarto Safari Park

Monarto's newest attraction is a 78-room safari lodge. After the park gates have closed, you'll have the expansive plains to yourself – a chance to see the famous residents, including the lions, cheetahs and elephants, in a whole new light. Get ready for the full safari experience, complete with a sunset drive and a 'sundowner' drink!



Lake Breeze Wines, Langhorne Creek

Languish in a Langhorne **Creek winery**

Raise a glass to the success of Langhorne Creek, now regarded as one of the country's most exciting wine producers! Relish the landscape, the peace and of course the vintages: 'the Creek' is known for robust and expressive Shiraz and Cab Sav, as well as elegant white wines. Get a taste for the region at nine cellar doors offering tutored tastings, long lunches and picnics on the lawn.



Unforgettable Houseboats, Mannum

Holiday on a houseboat

Hire a humble floating shack or equip yourself with a waterborne palace with a hot tub on deck – no boating licence required! You'll spend your days exploring Australia's most magnificent waterway, keeping an eye out for the perfect place to berth. Perhaps alongside a waterfront pub? Maybe beneath a stretch of red-cliff awesomeness? Or how about on a quiet bend of willows - just in time for some sunset fishing...



Spirit of the Coorong, Coorong National Park

Discover the Coorong

Few appreciate just how otherworldly the Coorong is – and even fewer get to experience the soaring white dunes, Aboriginal heritage and extraordinary natural hinterland of saline lagoons. Three ways to visit: enter the lagoons via the sealed Princess Highway; take a suitably equipped 4WD onto the beach (experience necessary!); or join a small boat cruise with one of two operators departing daily from beautiful Goolwa Wharf.



EXPERIENCE LIFE AS IT WAS...



The Captain's Cottage, built by Captain Adam Johnstone in 1890 for his wife and their nine children, is a portal to the past, right here in Murray Bridge!

This historic home offers visitors a unique glimpse into the daily life of the turn of the century, complete with period furnishings that celebrate the era's simplicity and charm.

Visit all year round and explore this idyllic glimpse into the past!

Opening hours: Saturday, Sunday + Monday 10am-4pm

12 Thomas Street, Murray Bridge SA 5253

MURRAY BRIDGE REGIONAL GALLERY



The Murray Bridge Regional Gallery is set in the heart of the town's arts precinct on beautiful Ngarrindjeri country near the banks of the majestic Murray River.

The exhibition program presents culturally and conceptually diverse projects, from seasoned and emerging artists to recreational makers and young people.

Opening hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10am-4pm Sunday llam-4pm **Closed Mondays and public holidays**

27 Sixth Street, Murray Bridge SA 5253





VENTURE TO THE LIVING HISTORY BOOK



Saturday 8:30–11am, Sunday 11am–3pm

146 Railway Terrace, Murray Bridge SA 5253



Join us at the Swanny

Showcasing uninterrupted, 180-degree panoramic views of the mighty Murray River - the Swan Reach Hotel offers the ultimate in country hospitality. Open seven days a week, pop in and soak up the traditional warm, friendly pub atmosphere.

1 Hasse Hill Road, Swan Reach P: (08) 8570 2003 E: swanreachhotel@bigpond.com W: swanreachhotel.com () Swan Reach Hotel



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SWAN REACH HOTEL Murray River, SA

SWAN REACH OP SHOP

Discover treasures and gems as you sift through toys, kitchenware, baby items, bric-a-brac, and more.

24 Anzac Avenue, Swan Reach / 0412 078 334

SWAN REACH CRAFT SHOP

Lose track of time exploring a colourful mix of local crafts and produce - perfect for finding that one-of-a-kind gift or souvenir.

14 Victoria Street, Swan Reach / 0429 090 747

SWAN REACH MUSEUM

A beautifully curated museum showcasing local history with pride definitely worth a visit.

22 Nildottie Road, Swan Reach / 0407 781 776

LOOKING TO ESCAPE **AND UNWIND?**

Cruise along the magnificent Murray River. You can enjoy short cruises that get you up close and personal with nature including the unique birdlife, flora and fauna of the riverbanks and cliffs.

Don't miss out on creating memories that last a lifetime. Whether you're interested in the Coffee and Cake Tour, Lunch Cruise or Sunset Cruise and Charter, plan your trip now to reserve your spot.

M.V. Jester is fully enclosed with large windows, providing wonderful river views while you stay relaxed and warm inside.

CONDITIONS APPLY



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AFARI PARK



Canoe the Coorong, Coorong

Paddle it

Join Canoe the Coorong (Goolwa) or Freedom Boat Hire (Murray Bridge) on a guided tour of the Coorong – you'll get VIP access into pristine parts of the Coorong only accessible by kayak. Paddling your own canoe? Take to the Lower Murray Canoe Trail around Tailem Bend and Wellington to get deeper into the river ecosystem; the Mannum Canoe Trail has a special history focus and will have you staring up at the fabulous PS Marion. Paddleboarders love the shallow Lower Lakes; on blowy days, they're popular with windsurfers and kitesurfers, too.

Cruise it

You can't miss the PS Murray Princess, the majestic, three-deck, 67-metre paddlewheeler that delights everyone who sees her giant wheel and smokestacks. She plies the river on three-, four- and seven-night river cruises, from Murray Bridge through Mannum, Big Bend, Swan Reach and beyond. The Princess kitchen cooks up some of the best meals on the Murray, so prepare for daily feasts.

Equally loved is the award-winning Proud Mary, an SA Tourism Hall of Fame inductee. This beautifully built vessel was designed to evoke the paddlesteamers that worked the river in the 1850s; it offers two- and five-night cruises, as well as a lunch cruise every Monday from the Mannum riverfront.

Both cruises include onshore excursions. onboard entertainment and all meals.

If you're looking for a day trip, try the historic PS Marion or PW Mayflower (both in Mannum), the **Captain Proud** (Murray Bridge) or the PS Oscar W (Goolwa).

Spirit of the Coorong (out of Goolwa) and Coorong Wildside Tours (out of Meningie) are local legends, celebrated for their magical tours of the Coorong wilds. Their day tours are must-dos - windows into a unique ecology, an important cultural landscape and a place of breathtaking beauty. Get ready also to catch and prepare some local seafood!

Spirit of the Coorong Cruises also offers a series of tours lasting up to seven nights, with options to cruise the Murray Mouth and Lower Lakes.

Walk & bike it

There are fabulous walking and riding trails following the miraculous waterways of the Murray River, Lower Lakes and Coorong. Discover more than 30 walking and riding trails which pass through four national and conservation parks, and link more than 18 towns.

You'll encounter significant Aboriginal sites, incredible wildlife, some of the world's darkest skies and the only inland lighthouse in the Southern Hemisphere. Check with local visitor information centres for details, maps and information.

Cruise the Lower Murray

Visit our River Port Heritage Centre and experience living history

cruising on this unique 1908 wood fired heritage Paddle Steamer. Allow us to transport you back in time as we cruise along the scenic Murray River, heading towards the iconic Goolwa Barrage. Watch the stokers fire the boilers and see the original steam engine at work. Feel the heat and vibrations as the mighty paddle wheels turn.

Twilight Cruise - 2 Hours

Enjoy the river by twilight. BYO Nibbles and drinks. Historic Cruise- 1 Hour Step back in time- Departing 11am, 1pm, 2.30pm Luncheon Cruise - 5 Hours Idyllic cruise to a Luncheon at Clayton Bay

Refer to schedule for all tour cruising dates and times. Charters and Schools catered to with flexible tours available - max. 45 passengers.



0498 795 060 or web www.psoscarw.com 300 466 592 Goolwa Visitor Information Centre facebook.com/VisitAlexandrina



Also, check out the 325-kilometre Lavender Federation Trail, a favourite with bushwalkers. It starts in Murray Bridge and winds through diverse countryside, including Kinchina Conservation Park just outside Murray Bridge.

Live it

Get the whole crew moored on the Murray for a taste of river living.

Grab your friends and family to enjoy the scenery from the comfort of a topdeck lounge or even a bubbling on-board Jacuzzi. Set up on shore for a campfire, or bring the speedboat for some on-water action.

Start planning with the **SA Houseboat** Hirers Association or Unforgettable Houseboats. The good news? You only need a driver's licence to hire - and skipper - your vessel of choice.

RIVER BLISS

Relax and unwind on a scenic Four Knots Murray River Cruise. Enjoy breathtaking views, birdlife and nature on short, cosy, guided trips aboard the MV Jester. A truly memorable experience! See advertisement page 10



Discover somewhere different

SPACE & NATURE, ADVENTURE & ADRENALINE



Discover Monarto

Monarto Safari Park is an open-range sanctuary measuring a staggering 15 square kilometres – nearly four times the size of the Adelaide CBD. It's home to a very cool, very important collection of animals including lions, cheetahs, rhinos, chimpanzees and (the newest members of the Monarto family) Asian elephants. Tour the park on a safari bus, enjoy free keeper talks and enjoy close-up encounters like the Lions 360 Experience which will have you within a whisker of the mighty cats. The new Safari Resort opens in mid-2025 – a chance to do exclusive sunset safaris and fall asleep listening to the call of the wild!

Discover Ngaut Ngaut

Come and explore the picturesque landscape of the Ngaut Ngaut Conservation Park and discover a unique insight into the traditional landowners, the Nganguraku people. This culturally and historically significant conservation park is only accessed through a guided tour with an experienced guide from the Mannum Aboriginal Community Association. The guided tours aim to promote cross-cultural understanding and school groups are welcome. In recognition of the cultural significance of this park we request that you contact the Mannum Aboriginal Community Association prior to planning a visit to the park.

Discover the Coorong

The Coorong is a spectacular and complex piece of coastal and wetland wilderness that runs 180 kilometres south from the mouth of the River Murray to Kingston SE.

The name 'Coorong' is derived from an Aboriginal word 'karangk' meaning narrow neck and is the traditional lands of the Ngarrindjeri people. The Coorong National Park comprises 140 kilometres of quintessential Coorong country – wild ocean, stunning dunes and a long line of saline lagoons.

Ideal for birdwatching and photography, the lagoons are an important breeding area for the Australian pelican as well as more than 230 migratory birds that arrive annually.

Scan the QR code for more information on Ngaut Ngaut.





Ngaut Ngaut Conservation Park, Nildottie

The park can be explored by walking trails, by paddling waterways, or by 4WDing along designated tracks and the beach.

There are 20 scenic campgrounds along the length of the Coorong; none are manned, a few are suitable for 2WD vehicles and caravans (access is via unsealed roads off the B1 highway), others are accessible only by 4WD. Bookings are required and fees must be paid before entry.

The northern gateway to the Coorong and Limestone Coast is Meningie, which was established as a staging post serviced by paddle steamers. Today the town offers fishing, boating, skiing, walking trails and fabulous sunsets. Meningie Hill Lookout provides views over Lake Albert and the surrounding pastoral properties; there's also a wetland bird sanctuary loved by twitchers. You can do an easy loop south out of Meningie into the Coorong - head out on Narrung Road toward the unsealed but well-graded Seven Mile Road.

Discover the birdlife

Twitchers love the region for its incredible variety of birdlife and conservation areas.

Jack's Point Pelican Observatory near Salt Creek on the Coorong is arguably the most celebrated, but rare species can be found across the region. The almost extinct Mallee Emu Wren was released back into Ngarkat Conservation Park in 2018. The Lower Murray backwaters and lagoons are home to a variety of ducks, herons and bitterns - all easily observed at Mannum (Hermann Gass Reserve) Tailem Bend

(the volunteer-run Pangarinda Botanic Garden) and Murray Bridge (Riverglades and Swanport wetlands).

Discover The Bend

The Shell-V Motorsport Park - more

commonly known as **The Bend** – is one of Australia's premier motor racing venues. It offers a whole range of experiences: call in for a cup of coffee among the museum's supercars; do a hot lap in Mustang or V8 Holden; or spend a week during any of the big-ticket motor racing events, dining in the restaurant and staying at the hotel.

If you've always wanted to know what your car can really do, you can take it out onto the 3.41-kilometre racing circuit for as little as \$150.

Discover the Dark Sky Reserve

River Murray International Dark Sky Reserve is a 3200-square-kilometre area enjoying some of Earth's darkest skies. The reserve is the first of its kind in Australia and one of only 23 in the world.

Darkness measures 21.97 out of 22 at the reserve's core location, drawing photographers and astronomers from all over the world in search of the best views of the Milky Way.

To tour the Dark Sky join Dark Sky Experiences on the Gold Stars Sunset Dinner and they will explain the fabric of the society and why it's so dark here.

Cross the third longest navigable river in the world on a ferry, marvel at the tallest

Murray River ancient cliffs and take in the sights from incredible vantage points.

Or if you're limited on time, the Astronomy Only session is for you; join Big Bend at night, jump onboard comfortable, bushthemed, open-top carts and be taken to a countryside ample with space. Bookings are essential

Keen stargazers can set up their telescopes on the Reserve's specially made concrete pads at several astro hotspots (see themurrayriver.com). But you don't need fancy equipment: a regular pair of binoculars will give you an eyeful of stars; and looking through the bottom of a wine glass while relaxing beside a campfire will also do the trick...



REVVED UP BY THE RIVER

The Swan Reach Classic Auto **River Run** offers a fantastic family day out each April, showcasing classic cars, great food, drinks and live entertainment in a scenic riverside setting.

See advertisement page 9







- Coorong National Park
- Rail Museum
- Conservation Parks
- Waterways & wetlands
- Walking trails

 Canoe trails + 4WD adventures Bird watching Ngarrindjeri Culture Historical sites

For more information visit themurrayriver.com or call into one of our friendly Visitor Information Outlets

- Meningie Information Hub 49 Princes Hwy, Meningie
- Tailem Info Station Railway Tce, Tailem Bend
- Tintinara Heart of the Parks 22 Dukes Hwy, Tintinara







- Pangarinda **Botanic Garden**
- Australia's only inland lighthouse







Spirit of the Coorong, Coorong National Park

Waterside dining

Nothing beats dining on the banks of the mighty Murray!

For waterfront options in Murray Bridge, head to Sturt Reserve for the Murray Bridge Community Club and 1924 Riverfront **Steakhouse**. You can't miss the six-storey Bridgeport Hotel, which has excellent river views: enjoy a casual lunch on the terrace or dinner at the Rivergum Restaurant. The menu features a range of classics, from lamb osso buco to chicken roulade.

The Wellington Hotel features a huge deck and grassy lawned area perfect to moor your houseboat straight out the front. And spectacular views can be had from the dining room at the

Savour the beauty of the Murray in Mannum from The Pretoria Hotel or Café Mannum, both offering superb modern menus featuring local produce. There's an elevated view over the river from the much-loved Swan Reach Hotel.

In lake country, the Meningie Cheese Factory is one of the best places to eat local seafood – the dining room has fine views of Lake Albert. If you're heading down river and across the lakes, then spoil yourself with some spectacular dining views at Aquacaf and Hector's on the Wharf, or the fabulous Kuti Shack overlooking Goolwa Beach. Want a different view? How about

Paringa Hotel Motel The best value-for-money pub in the Riverland!

Just five minutes from Renmark on the Sturt Highway, the Paringa Hotel Motel is open seven days a week for lunch and dinner offering delicious country pub meals with a front bar, TAB, Keno, motel accommodation

2 Murtho Road, Paringa Ph: (08) 8595 5005 Email: paringahotel@gmail.com www.paringahotel.com.au

Riverside Hotel in Tailem Bend.

a trackside menu at the sleek APEX Bar

x Dining at **The Bend**. It has excellent views over the pit straight!

More pub dining!

The Murray Bridge Hotel was established in 1914 and their multi awardwinning dining room serves local produce. The riverside **Wellington Hotel** is one of SA's oldest pubs. The outdoor terrace of the Mannum Motel is where to enjoy breakfast. And on the way to the Adelaide Hills make sure you stop at the **Palmer** Hotel in Palmer, where you can relax under their famous Moreton Bay fig trees.

Head to the smaller towns of the region where the pub is often the local icon. The Sedan Hotel was originally licensed in 1881 and is open seven days a week. The Meningie Hotel is a lovely art deco hotel that serves a fine crispy cajun burger.

In Langhorne Creek, the Bridge Hotel is a 'pub in the vines', renowned for its excellent menus (wine and food) and a particularly lively Sunday lunch.

FRONT BAR VIBES

The Swan Reach Hotel's front bar offers classic country pub charm – relaxed vibes, cold beer, tasty bites and Murray River views. Pull up a stool, grab a pizza and unwind! See advertisement page 9

with 19 rooms, gaming room with 18 machines, a pet-friendly beer garden, and a bottle shop. (Gamble Responsibly 1800 858 858) A free shuttle service is available to take you to and from the hotel within Renmark and Paringa.











HISTORIC WINERY

LANGHORNE CREEK



Langhorne Creek S.A. www.bleasdale.com.au

+61 8 8537 4000



Clever locals are getting into the spirit! Inside Mannum's former butcher shop you'll find Roylancer Distillery Co, where they make award-winning premium vodka, whisky aged in Hungarian oak casks and tawny port





Lake Breeze's charming cellar door overlooks picturesque vineyards and ancient gum trees. It is the perfect destination for a long lunch on the terrace or stay for the weekend at The Creek Cottage B&B. Open daily 10am-5pm.

Step Road, Langhorne Creek Ph: (08) 8537 3017 Email: wines@lakebreeze.com.a www.lakebreeze.com.au



Roylancer Distillery Co., Mannum

whisky. Mallee Spirit in Lameroo is a gin distillery and cellar door operating out of a disused shearing shed – it's a terrific space and not to be missed.

If beer is more your thing, check out the Meechi Brewing Co at The Winehouse in Langhorne Creek. There's also the Steam Exchange Brewery on Goolwa Wharf, a gorgeous waterside space serving craft beer, single malt whisky, and even a little moonshine...



THE WILD IS CALLING

Answer the call at Monarto Safari Park, with over 50 native and exotic animals. Enjoy a tour on the Zu-loop bus or explore over 12 kilometres of walking tracks at the largest safari experience outside of Africa!

See advertisement page 13

PLATE PERFECTION

Enjoy breathtaking river views and warm country hospitality at the Swan Reach Hotel. Open daily, the bistro serves delicious pub classics and modern dishes with relaxed al fresco and family-friendly dining.

See advertisement page 9

Langhorne Creek

Langhorne Creek's nine cellar doors are about enjoying amazing wines in sublime spaces...

Angas Plains Wines: Rustic charm, estate grown wines, regional food and on-site accommodation, all in a relaxed setting.

Bleasdale Vinevards: Bleasdale's highly awarded cellar door is where you can handpick a platter, do a seasonal wine flight and check out the gorgeous 'Old Press' (built in 1892 with a 3.5-tonne lever arm!)

Bremerton Wines: Expect country hospitality in a majestic 1866 stone barn. Another big hitter in the 'The Creek', Bremerton offers a regionally inspired lunch menu, an art gallery and lawn games for the kids.

Kanoetree Wines: Located in the recently restored 131-vear-old Lakeside Butter Factory in Milang, Kanoetree Wines is the region's newest cellar door.

Kimbolton Wines: Fifth-generation vignerons welcome you to their remarkable, award-winning cellar door. Platters and kids' games aplenty - dogs welcome, too!

Lake Breeze Wines: Discover one of Australia's most picturesque cellar doors with stunning vineyard views, trophywinning wines and regional food offering.

Rusticana and Newman's Horseradish: Enjoy traditional and alternative red varietals at the home of the hands-down world's-best condiment, Newman's Horseradish.

Windsong Wines: This elegant new art and celebration space showcases creativity in wine, art and books. Enjoy unique wines among a 60-tree fruit orchard

The Winehouse: One of SA's first collaborative cellar doors, The Winehouse is home to four award-winning boutique wine labels and a local craft beer brewery.

If you're just south of Murray Bridge, check out Vineyard Road: this fun, relaxed cellar door is the place to discover wine, artisan chocolates and natural olive oil skincare products.

Scan the QR code for more information.



Discover the award-winning Kimbolton Wines Cellar Door, where modern architecture meets breathtaking vineyard views. Enjoy premium wine tastings, regional platters, and unique rooftop experiences in a relaxed, family-friendly setting.

29 Burleigh Street, Langhorne Creek SA 5255 | www.kimboltonwines.com.au | (08) 8537 3002





The Winehouse, Langhorne Creek



Adventure, relaxation and natural beauty await.

Just a short drive from Adelaide, this diverse region offers something for everyone. Immerse yourself in nature with dramatic cliffs, majestic red gums, and the world-renowned Coorong, or stargaze under the pristine skies of the River Murray Dark Sky Reserve. Discover unforgettable experiences, charming town stops, and striking silo art—or unwind with house-boating, cruises and riverfront stays. Savour local wines and gourmet fare in Langhorne Creek, and choose from a wide range of accommodation to suit every style. **THEMURRAYRIVER.COM**











Bill's Boathouse, White Sands



Camping and RVs

Load up the tent and get set for an adventure! Start at the freshwater end of the river, camping along the banks of Swan Reach or Walker Flat, before following the Mighty Murray Way towards campsites at Mannum and Murray Bridge. From here, explore the Lower Lakes and Coorong for a saltier experience and feel a million miles away from civilisation.

Plenty of towns offer free or low-cost camping at reserves with basic facilities. For some seriously good river and lakeside camping, we suggest the Haythorpe and Bolto Reserve in Mannum, Tenbury Hunter Reserve in Swan Reach, Lake Albert Wongulla Campground, and Narrung Jetty Reserve.

If you're feeling the call of the wild, try campsites in the Coorong National Park, Salt Creek and Ngarkat Conservation Park: all are best explored with a 4WD though many campsites are accessible by 2WD. (Check if you require permits bought online in advance.) Council-owned RV parks have amenities including toilet dump points, fresh water, and convenient access to local facilities. The Coonalpyn Soldiers Memorial Caravan Park is pet-friendly and great for keeping families entertained. You can find a nice, shady spot next to the Bremer River at the Frank Potts Reserve, located in the heart of the Langhorne Creek Wine Region. Check page 38 for a full list of RV-friendly facilities.

Caravan parks

Whether you need powered or unpowered sites, the region's well-appointed caravan parks are ready to extend a welcome.

Murray Bridge has three caravan parks throughout the town. If river access and boat ramps are on your checklist, try the Avoca Dell Caravan Park or Murray Bridge Marina Camping and Caravan Park. Not bringing the kids? On the edge of town, the Murray Bridge Tourist Park has architecturally designed cabins.



River Shack Rentals, Caurnamont

The BIG4 Breeze Holiday Park in the heart of Mannum has a mix of riverfront sites, villas and cabins; it also offers kayak hire and tennis court. The Waterfront Holiday Park at Tailem Bend has fabulous views of the river thanks to its elevated position. It has a range of cabin styles, (including three-bedroom villas with spas) as well as barbecue, boat ramp and camp kitchen. The **BIG4 The Bend Holiday** Park has sophisticated amenities and facilities including an outdoor heated pool, basketball court, playground, jumping pillow and mini golf course - all within walking distance of the world-class motorsport park.

Meningie's Lake Albert Caravan Park has extraordinary lakefront views with a friendly, country atmosphere. Over in the Mallee, Karoonda Tourist Park has eco cabins.

Other parks include the Clayton Bay **Riverside Holiday Park, Discovery Parks** Goolwa, Pinnaroo Caravan Park and the River's Edge Caravan Park in Tailem Bend.

Waterside retreats

Think personal jetty, lush lawns, outdoor kitchen and spacious decking - it's all standard kit in a riverfront or a lakefront holiday home. These staples of the region come in all shapes and sizes, from renovated traditional shacks to upscale purpose-built holiday homes.

River Shack Rentals offers the widest selection of retreats in and around Swan Reach, Mannum, Murray Bridge and Wellington, with many options in between. This local team will help you find the perfect option to suit your taste, group size and budget.

Nearing the end of the Murray at Goolwa, you'll find a riverfront esplanade and marina lined with beautiful holiday homes overlooking the Hindmarsh Island Bridge and the barrage. Coorong Cabins and Coorong Waterfront Retreat are excellent options for those who wish to upgrade their experience at the Coorong National Park. Coorong Island Retreat offers a lovely escape on Lake Albert.



Ark-imedes, White Sands

For something a bit different, you might want to try the luxury glamping' tents at **Reedy** Creek Retreat near Mannum. The KipPods from Coorong.Life are tiny homes on the edge of the Coorong - the perfect antidote to our digital world.

Houseboats

It's our region's most famous style of accommodation! With nothing more than a driver's licence (and a little instruction) you'll be cruising the Murray at your leisure. So, what's your style? Small and simple? Or floating palace complete with ondeck Jacuzzi? Check out Unforgettable Houseboats and the Houseboat Hirers Association - you'll find a range of boat styles to suit your group and your budget. Alternatively, you might prefer a floating home. Try Cristal (Murray Bridge), Bill's Boathouse, Ark-imedes and The Floathouse - you'll be lulled by the sound of water on the hull and spoilt by more than a little luxury ... Hex'd and The Welcome Swallow Boathouse are impossibly cute. (Both in White Sands.)

Hotels and motels

Enjoy the lap of luxury at Shell V-Power Motorsport Park, where the four-star Rydges Pit Lane suites afford views of the famous track. When you wake, you'll enjoy a chefprepared breakfast - the ideal fuel before jumping into a pulse-racing track experience of your own...

The Bridgeport Hotel made waves when it opened in Murray Bridge. The riverside four-star hotel has a full complement of dining options (the Rivergum Restaurant is very good), rooftop pool, gaming and bars.

If you're looking for comfort and convenience, you should check out the Mannum Motel, The Pretoria Hotel (Mannum), Motel Riverbend (Tailem Bend), Motel on Becker (Tintinara), Wellington Private Marina, Lake Albert Motel and Swan Reach Hotel

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GAME ON The Swan Reach Hotel's lively games room is a hit with all ages – enjoy two 8-ball tables and retro arcade machines for hours of classic fun and friendly competition. See advertisement page 9

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Handpicked Festival, Langhorne Creek

April

Lameroo Country

Karoonda Farm Fair

Shell V-Power Motorsport

Park, Tailem Bend

SA Truck & Ute Show

Music Festival

Lameroo

& Show

May

June

Mannum

Karoonda

Pedal Prix

January

Sounds By The River Mannum

Santos Tour Down Under, Men's Stage 4 Murray Bridge

Nitro Funny Car Festival State Nationals Shell V-Power Motorsport Park, Tailem Bend

February

Murray Bridge Fringe Festival Murray Bridge

March

Murray Bridge Fringe Festival Murray Bridge

Magic Millions Race Murray Bridge

Mannum Show Mannum

Lower Murray Heritage Rally and Tractor Pull Murray Bridge

Scan the QR code for the latest information about upcoming events, or visit themurrayriver.com

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August

Repco Supercars Championship Shell V-Power Motorsport Park, Tailem Bend

Cellar Treasures Langhorne Creek

SALA Festival Across region

September

Shell V-Power Motorsport Park Classic Tailem Bend

Pedal Prix 24-hour Event Murray Bridge

Murray Bridge Show Murray Bridge



October

Murray Bridge Gold Cup Murray Bridge

SA Wooden Boat Festival Goolwa

Coonalpyn Show Coonalpyn

Pinnaroo Show & Field Day Pinnaroo

Mowers at Meningie Meningie

November

Handpicked Festival Langhorne Creek

ASBK Grand Finale Shell V-Power Motorsport Park, Tailem Bend

Murray Bridge Riverfront Christmas Festival Murray Bridge

December

Murray Bridge Christmas Cup Murray Bridge

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Towns

HEADING FROM THE NORTH OF THE REGION TO THE SOUTH...



PS Marion, Mannum

Swan Reach

Grab a bite to eat at the Swan Reach Hotel. Stay a night to see the breathtaking River Murray International Dark Sky Reserve, the first of its kind in Australia. For a culturally enriching experience, book a guided tour of the Ngaut Ngaut Conversation Park, located between Swan Reach and Nildottie; the traditional owners will teach you about the history and stories of the Nganguraku people.

Karoonda

Don't miss the award-winning silo art at Karoonda. This dramatic installation – complete with a night-time illumination show – has brought this Mallee town global attention. There's also a great new spacethemed playground (complete with a 'moon rover') if you have little ones. The story of Karoonda is on display at Pioneer Park.

Bowhill

Watch waterskiers showing off their moves as the local paddlewheelers cruise past... Bowhill is popular with boaties (it has

ramp access and wharf) and birdwatchers, who enjoy the Lowan Conservation Park.

Mannum

Mannum is one of the larger towns along the Murray. It's home to a lot of river history which is well-shared at the Mannum Dock Discovery Centre; the hands-on displays are a hit with kids – a chance for them to steer a ship's wheel, blow whistles and talk through brass funnels. The town is home to PS Marion and PW Mayflower, two beautifully restored vessels that invoke a bygone era.

There are plenty of places to eat and drink in the main street, including the Pretoria Hotel, loved by boaties who can tie up close to the pub lawns... If you like to hike, seek out nearby Mannum Waterfalls; this popular bushwalk follows Reedy Creek right up to the falls.

The dual ferry crossing at Mannum is a great way to view the river - and it's free.

Murray Bridge

Driving south from Mannum will land you in Murray Bridge. A quick walk into the town will see you among shops and cafés.

There's a boat-load of local history at the restored Round House, overlooking the twin bridges and offering a 180-degree panoramic view of the river; take a history tour (bookings essential) or wander around the gardens by yourself - it's open to the public. Stroll down to Sturt Reserve where you'll pass the rowing club, grass tennis courts, waterfront café, iconic views and the 'dreaded' bunyip. Keep following the tracks through wetlands to Long Island Reserve or visit the Swanport Wetlands for boardwalks and bird-viewing hides.

Time to make an essential side-trip: a short drive up the freeway will have you at Monarto Safari Park, an open plains park with one of the nation's finest - and most important collections of non-native animals. There's a fantastic menu of experiences including the thrilling 360 encounter with lions and a VIP up close tour with the new elephants.

Tailem Bend

Tailem Bend is the perfect place to base yourself and explore the entire region; it's not only on a beautiful stretch of river, it's also centrally located between the lakes,



Point Malcolm, Narrung

wine region, Coorong and mallee country. Tailem Bend has put itself on the map with its world-class Shell V-Power Motorsport Park. The race circuit, rallving track. offroad track, 4WD adventure park, drag strip, karting course and menu of 'hot lap' experiences adds up to a huge adrenalinfuelled day! There's also a bar and restaurant, and a museum of race cars.

Be sure to check out Tailem Bend, home to Old Tailem Town (an extraordinary recreation of yesteryear) and a railway museum at the Tailem Info Station. The town itself is very welcoming, with a good collection of cafés and shops, and a terrific park with steam engines.

Close to Tailem Bend is Wellington East and the Pangarinda Botanic Garden – a must-see for lovers of native flowers.

Meningie and Raukkan

The town of Meningie overlooks magnificent Lake Albert. Stroll the lake foreshore along the Pelican Path which has interpretive signage: there's a waterfront playground and barbecue area. Keep an eye out for the statue of the 'Birdman of the Coorong' – the bushranger who rode an ostrich. And be sure to call into any of the local cafés to try the famous Coorong Mullet!



The Meningie Cheese Factory Museum provides a good insight into the area and its history, offering a multitude of both historical and present-day artefacts. It also has a lovely restaurant. Also seek out the historic Chambers building, now home to Coorong Cottage Industries and showcasing a selection of arts, crafts and home baked produce.

The Raukkan Aboriginal community is a beautiful spot to visit. It was home to famed Ngarrindjeri man, the inventor David Unaipon, who was featured on the \$50 note. Take in Coorong views on the new walking trail or spend time on the nature playground.



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Naarkat Conservation Park. Pinnaroo

Langhorne Creek

If you choose to cross the ferry at Wellington, you'll be driving along the edge of Lake Alexandrina towards the Langhorne Creek Wine Region. It's home to nine cellar doors including famous names like Kimbolton, Bremerton and Bleasdale.

Goolwa

If you're following the river, your trip will finish in Goolwa, home of the Murray Mouth. This interesting and historic town fronts both the river and the Southern Ocean. There's a powerful mix of river and rail history which links the town to Victor Harbor, from where Australia's wool and wheat exports went all over the world.

Enjoy the colourful main street, the Goolwa Wharf beside the bridge, the town's lively restaurant and cafe scene and the community markets which take place on the first and third Sunday of every month. Don't forget to check out the Murray Mouth, arrived at by a drive over the bridge to Hindmarsh Island.

Pinnaroo and Lameroo

These two charming Mallee towns are the perfect stopping point before the Victorian border. Their town centres have been developed with new playgrounds, pump tracks, picnic areas and more. If you love history, stop at the Mallee Tourist and Heritage Centre for its huge displays relating to agriculture and life in the region. For those seeking adventure (and love a 4WD challenge) grab yourself a coffee from Frankie & Tobe Coffee Bar and head to Ngarkat Conservation Park where you can drive the famed border track.

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	Accommodation	RV friendly/Dump point	Vehicle repairs	Banking/EFTPOS	Post office	General store	Public toilets	Liquor license	Hospital	Fuel	Meals	Boat ramp	Police station*
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Walker Flat	\checkmark	RV			\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark		\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	
Wellington	\checkmark	RV		\checkmark		\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark		\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	
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Monarto Safari Park, Monarto

Visitor Information

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Meningie: 49 Princes Highway Pinnaroo: Railway Terrace South Tailem Bend: Railway Terrace Tintinara: 1 Dukes Highway

Emergency broadcasting

ABC broadcasts official warnings from emergency agencies at regular intervals on ABC Radio, ABC News 24 and via Twitter @abcemergency. For local ABC Radio frequencies, phone 13 99 94 or go to abc.net.au/emergency. ABC Adelaide is broadcast on 891AM, digital radio abc.net.au/radio and is also available via the ABC Radio Mobile app.

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During Fire Danger Season, generally from November to April, there are strict conditions for lighting any fires, including campfires. On Total Fire Ban days, all fires are banned. Avoid severe penalties by checking cfs.sa.gov.au before lighting any fires. Visit cfs.sa.gov.au and subscribe to bushfire warnings and other important information and check the CFS Facebook page to stay informed. Monitor the daily weather forecast and Fire Danger Ratings, know your Bushfire Safer Place, and listen for warning messages and updates on your local AM radio station. Further bushfire safety information is available by contacting the Bushfire Information Hotline on 1800 362 361 (TTY 13 36 77) or visiting cfs.sa.gov.au

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