

# FLEURIEU PENINSULA



Onkaparinga River Mouth

Spend some time in nature's playground. A short drive from Adelaide, you'll find rolling hills, dairy pastures, orchards, farms and vineyards, all bounded by picturesque beaches and rugged coastline. Sip world-class wines, hike through ancient forests, surf, swim, and spot Southern Right whales in winter all in this pristine coastal playground.

- ▶ McLaren Vale marks the beginning of the Fleurieu Peninsula, and is less than an hour's drive from Adelaide.
- ▶ The Fleurieu Peninsula is made up of 45 towns, many located on the coast, which sparks the Peninsula's beach culture.
- ▶ It's home to South Australia's most popular seaside town, Victor Harbor, which has its own horse-drawn tram to nearby Granite Island, and the historic Cockle Train that runs along the coast to Goolwa.
- ▶ The main industries are tourism, viticulture, dairy and cattle farming, cropping such as barley, wheat and oats, and produce including vegetables, berries and olives.
- ▶ The Fleurieu Peninsula is home to some of the best wines and wine regions in the world, and boasts more than 90 cellar doors. McLaren Vale, famous for its Shiraz, is a world-class wine region found in the Fleurieu Peninsula, joined by Langhorne Creek, Currency Creek and the Southern Fleurieu.
- ▶ The first McLaren Vale vines were planted by John Reynell in 1838, two years after the proclamation of the colony of South Australia.
- ▶ Discover McLaren Vale's newest luxury cellar door and dining experience at d'Arenberg Wines – The Cube. Opened in December 2017, the five storey glass-building is set among Mourvèdre vines with views overlooking the rolling Willunga Hills and the property's 19th century homestead. d'Arenberg is one of the region's most celebrated wineries with a proud wine making history spanning more than 100 years.



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- ▶ Langhorne Creek, on the eastern edge of the Peninsula, is one of Australia's oldest wine regions as well as one of the fastest growing regions.
- ▶ Sharing Flavours of the Fleurieu is a food and wine trail that heads out from Mount Compass through some of the best food spots on the Fleurieu Peninsula, and is a great culinary experience for the senses. Catch a rainbow trout, try some tasty cheese from the cheese maker's own outlet and taste olive oil direct from the groves.
- ▶ Upmarket restaurants and cafés have trendy chefs who embrace the wide range of fresh, local food. The pubs, some with extensive wine lists and sommelier service, all have character and exciting food experiences inspired by the locally grown produce.
- ▶ The history of the Fleurieu Peninsula dates back many thousands of years before European settlement and is documented in the rich form of Indigenous storytelling from the Kurna, Peramangk and Ngarrindjeri people.
- ▶ Many of the Peninsula's public buildings and grander homesteads date back to the early settlement days in the early 1800s.
- ▶ Whales can be reliably seen on the Peninsula from July to August, with the giants of the deep often sighted playing in the waters off Port Elliot, Middleton and Victor Harbor as they make their way back to Antarctica.
- ▶ Diving adventures are available through shipwrecks off the coast of the Peninsula, such as the HMAS Hobart off Rapid Bay, or the Star of Greece which sank in 1888. There are also reefs off Port Noarlunga, Aldinga, Second Valley and Victor Harbor.
- ▶ The Fleurieu Peninsula offers a wide range of activities including surfing, fishing, diving, snorkelling, sailing, whale watching, biplanes, hot air ballooning, kayaking and much more.
- ▶ Some of South Australia's best surf beaches are located on the Fleurieu Peninsula, including Middleton, Waitpinga and Parsons Beaches.
- ▶ Film buffs will find the Fleurieu Film Festival a perfect weekend of short films, wine and entertainment. A sell out success in 2017, the festival is set under the stars in the beautiful surrounds of the Serafino Winery, where you can watch a film showcase or hear stories from a panel of movie experts.
- ▶ Australia's only annual cow race is held at the tiny Fleurieu Peninsula town of Mount Compass.
- ▶ Australia's first nudist beach, Maslin Beach, stretches three kilometres long and is also home to the annual Maslin Beach Nude Games.
- ▶ There are more than a dozen golf courses on the Peninsula, including top rated courses with million-dollar views.
- ▶ Fleurieu Peninsula's weather is cool to moderate, with an average maximum daily temperature of 16°C in winter and 23°C in summer.

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