

FISHING TOURISM

FACT SHEET



TOURISM.SA.GOV.AU

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FISHING TOURISM FACT SHEET

The South Australian Tourism Commission (SATC) is committed to supporting a sustainable Fishing Tourism sector within South Australia. The SATC provides tourism operators with advice through sharing relevant industry knowledge, providing educational tools and resources and facilitating partnerships to create desirable and saleable experiences suitable for the state's target markets.

What is Fishing Tourism?

Fishing Tourism can be defined as participation in a tour, charter, experience or activity that involves the catching of a permitted species. This could include charter boat or land-based fishing, use rod & reel or other catching equipment and be undertaken in saltwater or freshwater locations. The type of catch can include finfish (e.g. tuna, whiting) or shellfish (e.g. lobster, crab, cockles/ pipis).

Cover

Coorong, Limestone Coast

Below

Port Vincent, Yorke Peninsula



FISHING TOURISM IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

South Australian Fishing Tourism Research

In 2019, the SATC undertook research into the fishing tourism sector in South Australia with the following objectives:

- Gain a greater understanding of this sector in our state
- Investigate growth opportunities in our state for South Australian businesses to participate.

In the development stage of the Strategy, consultation was undertaken with existing South Australian fishing charter operators across all regions via one on one meetings and workshops.

Findings from industry consultation suggests that there is a disconnect between the existing charter fishing tour operators and the broader tourism industry. Following the consultation process, key actions, recommendations, and opportunities for Fishing Tourism in South Australia were identified. These are outlined below:

- Increase engagement and partnership opportunities with the recreational fishing industry and the tourism sector
- Increase the number of South Australian fishing operators with listings on the Australian Tourism Data Warehouse (ATDW)
- Create packages between fishing experiences and accommodation providers to increase visitor participation
- Facilitate partnerships between travel trade and South Australian fishing operators
- Develop and support new and emerging Aboriginal fishing experiences
- Seek ways to educate and increase industry capabilities of fishing operators in the tourism sector
- Increase marketing and promotional content of fishing tourism experiences in South Australia.

Fishing in South Australia

South Australia has 5,000 kilometres of coastline and a variety of Fishing Tourism operators and experiences can be found across the state. Visitors can undertake a Fishing Tourism experience with a professional charter operator just 15 minutes from Adelaide CBD at Glenelg and West Beach or other metropolitan locations including Port Adelaide or Outer Harbor. Regionally, there are excellent charter boat operators found in our beautiful coastal regions of Yorke Peninsula, Fleurieu Peninsula, Limestone Coast, Eyre Peninsula as well as on Kangaroo Island.

Consumers preferring land-based recreational fishing may opt for some impressive beach, rock, and jetty fishing from the state's expansive coastline. Inland, ample fishing spots can be found along the Murray River, and with a permit, several reservoirs can be accessed for freshwater fishing.

For something special, Australian Coastal Safaris on the Eyre Peninsula offers experiences such as heli-fishing and multi-day fishing safaris.

Discover more of South Australia's Fishing Tourism products and experiences at: southaustralia.com/travel-blog/best-fishing-in-south-australia

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FISHING TOURISM KEY AREAS



IN 2017/18, THE CHARTER BOAT FISHERY CONTRIBUTED:

\$13.8M

to South Australia's gross state product (GSP)

156

FTE jobs created

* SOURCE: ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL INDICATORS FOR THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CHARTER BOAT FISHERY 2017/18 A REPORT TO PIRSA FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE PREPARED BY BDO ECONSEARCH

50+

licenced and active fishing charter operators across South Australia. *

* AS OF JUNE 2019

OTHER KEY STAKEHOLDERS & THEIR ROLES

PRIMARY INDUSTRIES & REGIONS (PIRSA)

pir.sa.gov.au/top_menu/about_us

South Australia's clean marine waters are home to some of the most sought after premium seafood in the world. Primary Industries and Regions' (PIRSA) Fisheries and Aquaculture division enables the sustainable development of South Australia's aquatic resources and the balanced growth of our fisheries and aquaculture industries. PIRSA manages South Australia's fish stocks in partnership with industry and the community.

PIRSA Fisheries and Aquaculture develops and implements policy and regulatory frameworks to maximise the social and economic benefits and ensure the long-term sustainability of the state's aquatic resources.

PIRSA manages access to aquatic resources of the state's three fishing sectors, commercial, recreational (including Charter) and Aboriginal traditional. They manage licensing, enforce size, bag, boat and possession Limits, closures and aquatic reserves. They also run Fishwatch (pir.sa.gov.au/fishing/fishwatch) to assist compliance with fishing rules and regulations, and the FISHCARE volunteer program (pir.sa.gov.au/fishing/fishcare_volunteers) to educate and raise awareness among the fishing communities about the need to protect and preserve our resources for future generations.

Learn more about PIRSA's work with the fisheries and aquaculture pir.sa.gov.au/fishing

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND WATER (DEW)

The Department of Environment and Water (DEW) is responsible for the management of South Australia's national parks and 19 marine parks. Like national parks, marine parks protect habitats, animals, plants, cultural heritage, and geological formations. Marine parks also contain sanctuary zones: these are areas of high conservation value set aside for conservation and low-impact recreation. These areas only take up six per cent of our waters and do not allow fishing, including fishing tours.

DEW issues permits for commercial tourism operations occurring in national parks, such as land-based fishing and in marine park sanctuary zones, such as swimming with marine mammals or boating tours. For more information visit parks.sa.gov.au/permits-and-licences/commercial-tour-operators

Fishing tour operators do not need a permit to operate in non-sanctuary zone areas of marine parks but should be aware of relevant marine park regulations.

Information about permitted activities in marine parks and sanctuary zones is available on the Marine Parks website. marineparks.sa.gov.au

SA WATER

Recreational fishing is currently available at several of SA Water's reservoirs with a recreational fishing permit:

- Warren and South Para Reservoirs near Williamstown
- Bundaleer Reservoir near Spalding
- Beetaloo Reservoir near Laura
- Myponga Reservoir on the Fleurieu Peninsula

These reservoirs have been stocked with a variety of freshwater species. Murray Cod, Golden Perch and Silver Perch have been released into Warren, South Para and Bundaleer and Rainbow trout have been released into Bundaleer.

For more information and conditions of access to each of these reservoirs, and to buy fishing permits please visit reservoirs.sa.gov.au/activities/fishing

MINISTER'S RECREATIONAL FISHING ADVISORY COUNCIL (MRFAC)

The Minister's Recreational Fishing Advisory Council (MRFAC) exists to represent recreational fishers in South Australia.

MRFAC works with the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development to:

- meet the needs and interests of recreational fishers
- provide feedback and advice on recreational fishing development, initiatives and policies.

MRFAC developed and released a Recreational Fishing Strategy for South Australia in June 2021 which can be found at mrfac.org.au or by clicking [here](#).

TOURISM AUSTRALIA

Tourism Australia is the Australian Government agency responsible for attracting international visitors to Australia, both for leisure and business events. The organisation is active in 15 key markets.

For resources, statistics and more information on working with Tourism Australia please visit tourism.australia.com

OTHER KEY STAKEHOLDERS & THEIR ROLES

GREAT FISHING ADVENTURES OF AUSTRALIA

In 2017, Tourism Australia launched a new Signature Experiences Collective, Great Fishing Adventures of Australia, with support from the State and Territory Tourism Organisations.

Great Fishing Adventures of Australia is a new group of leading independently owned fishing tourism operators who have come together to collectively raise the profile of Australia as a world class fishing destination. There are currently 26 members involved in the collective. South Australian operator Australian Coastal Safari's is a member.

Great Fishing Adventures of Australia endorses sustainable fishing practices.

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Consumer Website: australia.com/fishing

Trade Website: tourism.australia.com/fishing

SURVEYED CHARTER BOAT OWNERS & OPERATORS SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The Surveyed Charter Boat Owners and Operators Association of South Australia Inc. (SCBOOASA) is recognised as the representative industry body of the Charter Boat Fishery. The Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development has oversight of the management of the fishery under a management plan prepared pursuant to the provisions of the Fisheries Management Act 2007, but day to day management is conducted by PIRSA in consultation with SCBOOASA.

Refer to the following link for a copy of the management plan for the Charter Boat Fishery:

pir.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/164581/Charter_Boat_Fishery_Management_Plan.pdf

The objectives of SCBOOASA are to:

- Represent the interests of members on issues affecting members in relation to the Industry;
- improve the businesses of members by providing a forum to share opinions, information, knowledge, ideas and experiences;
- promote the Industry; and
- act as the recognised industry body of the Charter Boat Fishery for co-management purposes.

SCBOOASA employs a part-time Executive Officer and has established an Executive Committee which meets regularly to discuss current issues. All licence holders are invited to the Annual General Meeting and general meetings to discuss industry issues and develop policy in support of sustainable fishing, improving the industry and the experience of clients. Members are also kept informed about current issues through emails and a recently established newsletter.

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RECFISH SA

RecFish SA is the nationally recognised peak body for recreational fishing in South Australia. RecFish SA undertakes a range of projects like fish stocking, habitat enhancement, fishing clinics and citizen science projects, to benefit recreational fishers.

Membership is made up of individuals and organisations, including fishing clubs and associations, regional Recreational Fisheries Committees, coastal progress associations, and recreational fishing related businesses. There are low cost and free membership options. RecFish SA also consult with the recreational fishing community on a range of issues, through surveys and "Have Your Say" campaigns.

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