

# National parks of Kangaroo Island







Department for Environment and Water

### Welcome to Kangaroo Island's parks

Fires on Kangaroo Island burnt more than 200,000 hectares of land – nearly half the island – in the January 2020 bushfire.

Six months on and as green shoots take hold in the landscape, parks are reopening to visitors to share in a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see the bush regenerating around iconic sites such as Remarkable Rocks and Admirals Arch.

As many people remark when they land on Kangaroo Island, it's a big place – bigger than they expected it to be. The third largest island off the coast of Australia, Kangaroo Island is home to unique natural beauty and a wide variety of things to see and do.

Even as some parks experiences remain restricted because of bushfire recovery or to be COVID-safe, there's still so much to explore here, particularly in the parks that conserve an array of natural environments and provide habitat to an abundant range of wildlife.

This little book is a moment in time that shares some of the best parks and parks experiences that are ready to welcome you right now. So head out, have a good time and be assured that we're working closely with local staff, tourism operators and the community on fire recovery. We take the safety of our visitors and staff seriously, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, and our wide open spaces are the perfect place to relax and renew while practicing social distancing.

You can now drive a safe corridor through Flinders Chase National Park to see the iconic sights of Remarkable Rocks, Admirals Arch, Cape du Couedic Lighthouse and Weirs Cove. Seal Bay is ready to welcome you to a beach tour, walking trails across the island remain open and at the end of the day you can put your feet up with a stay in a unique lighthouse keeper's cottage.

Thank you for visiting and being part of the recovery of this special place. Every trip you make and every dollar you spend will make a bigger difference to the Kangaroo Island community than you're ever likely to know.

To keep up to date with fire recovery, park openings and COVID-19 updates check parks.sa.gov.au and facebook.com/NPWSSA

### Contents

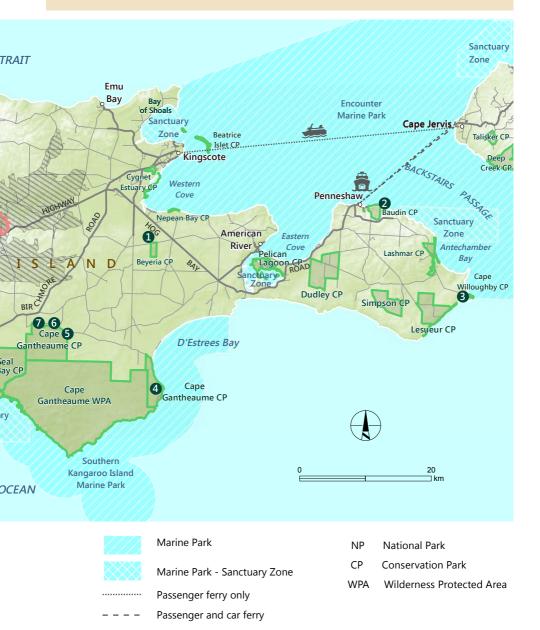
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### What's open?

		Opening hours	Tours	Tour fees	Vehicle entry fees	Camping	Camping fees	Accommodation	Accommodation fees	Dogs allowed	Toilets
Baud	lin CP	24/7	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν
Beye	eria CP	24/7	Ν	Ν	N	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	N
ne CP	Murray Lagoon	24/7	Ν	N	Ν	N	Ν	N	N	N	Ν
Cape Gantheaume CP	D'Estrees Bay	24/7	Ν	N	Ν	Y	\$16	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν
	Cape Gantheaume Wilderness Protection Area	24/7	N	N	N	Y	\$16	N	N	N	N
Cape Willoughby CP		See pg 7	Y	Y	N	Ν	N	Y	\$236 see p.18	Ν	Y
Flinders Chase NP		9 am -5 pm	Y	Y	Ν	N	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Y
Lashmar CP		24/7	Ν	Ν	N	Y	\$16	Ν	Ν	Ν	Y
Seal Bay CP		See pg 6	Y	Y	N	Ν	Ν	N	Ν	Ν	Y

**COVID-19 update:** In the interest of public health we are operating under COVID-safe restrictions. This means that sites such as visitor information centres and experiences such as guided tours may be closed or restricted. Please check **parks.sa.gov.au** for up to date information and book tours before you go.

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Book camping, accommodation and tours at parks.sa.gov.au

			1										
Campfires <sup>R</sup>	Water	Fishing	Easy walk	Moderate hike	Trek	Information centre	Refreshments and souvenirs	Picnic area	BBQ	Wheelchair access	Public phone	Lookout	Drones allowed
Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Y	N	N	N	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	N	Ν
Ν	Ν	Ν	Y	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν
Ν	Ν	Ν	Y	Y	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Y	Ν
Ν	Ν	N	Y	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Y	Ν
Ν	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Ν	Y	Ν	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N
Ν	Y	N	Y	N	N	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Y	Ν	Y	Ν
Υ	Ν	Y	Y	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Y	Y	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν
Ν	Y	N	Y	Ν	N	Y	Y	Ν	N	Y	Y	Y	Ν

<sup>R</sup> Campfire restrictions apply, see pages 12 and 16 and **parks.sa.gov.au** for more information.



#### Seal Bay CP Certificate of Excellence

**Park opening hours**: 9 am-5 pm daily (except Christmas Day) - last entry 4 pm. **Please note:** additional tours run during South Australian school holidays and public holidays – please check our website for details. Tour times are subject to change.

#### **Seal Bay guided tours**

Guided tours are available, book at **sealbay.sa.gov.au** before you go to avoid disappointment. Tours are

bookable up to 9 hours before tour departure.

Self-guided boardwalk tours are also available for walk-ins.

**Note:** Due to COVID-19 gathering restrictions delays may be experienced for both the guided tours and boardwalk, especially over long weekends and school holidays.

T: 08 8553 4463

#### **Flinders Chase NP**

Park opening hours: 9 am-5 pm daily. Tours

Commercial tours operate in this park, check **parks.sa.gov.au** for details.

#### Self-guided tours

Visitors can access a safe corridor of Cape du Couedic Road and stop at the iconic tourist drawcards of Remarkable Rocks, Admirals Arch, Cape du Couedic Lighthouse and Weirs Cove. Details on page 16. **Note:** The park has limited toilets, no rubbish bins and there is no food or drink available for purchase throughout the park. Please be COVID-safe by maintaining good hygiene and social distancing, particularly at the boardwalk to Admirals Arch.

**T:** 08 8553 4463

#### **Cape Willoughby CP**

Park opening hours: sunrise to sunset.

**Visitor centre:** Closed in the interest of public health.

#### Tours

Modified tours of the lightstation grounds are available during school holidays. Selfguided tours are also available. Bookings and details at **parks.sa.gov.au**  **Note:** Tours of the lighthouse are currently unavailable in the interest of public health.

Accommodation Open, book at parks.sa.gov.au

T: 08 8553 4466

#### Notes:

Opening hours, tour times and prices are subject to change.

Seal Bay also offers sunset, private and research tours, see **parks.sa.gov.au/SealBay** 



### Welcome, you're here. Now what can you do that's near?

#### Get your 'gram on at Flinders Chase

Much of Flinders Chase National Park was burnt in the January 2020 bushfires. The landscape is now recovering and you can visit the safe corridor that has been established along Cape du Couedic Road – including the part which has become one of the most instagrammable roads in South Australia. You can stop at the iconic tourist drawcards of Remarkable Rocks, Admirals Arch, Cape du Couedic Lighthouse and Weirs Cove. You'll find car parking at each of these sites.



### **2** Stay in a heritage-listed lighthouse keepers' cottage

Not only can you tour the grounds of Cape Willoughby Lighthouse, you can stay nearby. Enjoy spectacular sunrises, listen to the waves crashing onto the nearby cliffs and catch glimpses of wildlife while staying in one of two restored five-bedroom heritage-listed lighthouse keepers' cottages at Cape Willoughby Conservation Park. The cottages are great places for families and friends to relax and unwind with cosy bedrooms, a kitchen and even board games. Both cottages sleep up to nine people and can be booked at **parks.sa.gov.au**. More information on page 16.





### **3** Take a self-guided drive to D'Estrees Bay

This self-guided nature drive at Cape Gantheaume Conservation Park begins at the second boat ramp seven kilometres from the junction of Elsegood Road and D'Estrees Bay Road. Look out for the osprey trail markers along the eight kilometre drive that takes in bushland and coastal views. Download a self-guided drive booklet at **parks.sa.gov.au**.



### **4** Join a tour with a local

Whether you're on Kangaroo Island for 48 hours or five days, **southaustralia.com** has you covered with itineraries that share the best of the island and include ideas for experiences with local tour companies. Explore marine parks by swimming with dolphins, staying dry on deck with a sightseeing tour or going fishing; and discover terrestrial parks with tours that traverse Seal Bay and beyond.



### **5** Take a walk amongst nature's best

With its diverse landscapes that range from bushland to rugged coastline and abundant wildlife, Kangaroo Island is a walker's dream. And there's a lot of it to walk – the island is 155 km long and up to 55 km wide, ringed by 509 km of pristine coastline and has walking trails that stretch throughout its parks. Turn to page 19 for ideas on walks that range from easy 20 minute strolls to more challenging four-hour return jaunts.

### Five of Kangaroo Island's best wildlife experiences

Kangaroo Island is celebrated for its extraordinary wildlife and has many opportunities to see Australian animals in their native habitats. Here are just a few of the island's best wildlife experiences.

#### **Australian sea-lions**

Seal Bay is the only place in the world where you can see Australian sea-lions at close quarters and walk on a beach where pups play, bulls fight for supremacy and resting mothers suckle their young.

There are no enclosures or cages here. You can walk to the heart of the sea-lion colony on the beach with an experienced guide who will teach you about these endangered animals. If you prefer, you can set your own pace on the wheelchair accessible 900 metre (return) boardwalk which meanders through the dunes to a number of viewing platforms. More information on page 17.

#### Kangaroos

Kangaroo Island was named for its kangaroos, which have evolved differently from mainland kangaroos since the island was connected to the mainland 9500 years ago. Kangaroo Island kangaroos often rest during the day under vegetation, coming out to graze in the early morning and late afternoon.

Spot them on the Hog Bay Road from Prospect Hill to Baudin Beach. Take care when parking and ensure that your car is completely off the road when parked.

#### **Tammar wallabies**

Kangaroo Island has the largest remaining natural population of Tammar wallabies. Much smaller than kangaroos, Tammar wallabies have a dark grey coat with reddish-brown arms, feet and flanks, and white cheek stripes.

They're nocturnal and best seen at dawn and dusk in Cape Gantheaume Conservation Park along the D'Estrees Bay Road up to Wheatons Beach; in the township at Nepean Bay, via Western Cove Road; and in Baudin Conservation Park. Access to the carpark is along Frenchmans Terrace and south along Binneys Track.

#### Short-beaked echidnas

Kangaroo Island short-beaked echidnas appear to be abundant across the island due to suitable habitat and no significant predators. They can be found across the island and are generally solitary, feeding day and night and sheltering in hollow logs, under piles of debris, in self-constructed burrows and among tree roots.

Echidnas have exceptional hearing and a good sense of smell. They'll freeze when disturbed and then curl into a ball, often trying to bury themselves in the leaf litter or soil. If you find an echidna, watch quietly and patiently from at least 20 metres away. If they change their behaviour while you are watching then you are probably too close.

#### Dolphins

Kangaroo Island's pristine waters are home to a diverse and important range of marine life. The island is surrounded by four marine parks that ensure increased protection to approximately two-thirds of its waters. Pennneshaw's Hog Bay looks out over Encounter Marine Park and is home to a pod of dolphins that cruise though every day. The perfect spot to see them is from the rocks at the eastern end of the beach, near Frenchmans Rock.

#### Know before you go

Turn to page 26 for information on how to experience wildlife safely and responsibly.

### Know before you go

#### What's open

Most key sites and experiences operated by National Parks and Wildlife Service South Australia are now open following the January 2020 bushfires. However, sites may operate under restrictions because of bushfire recovery activities and to be COVID-safe.

It's best to check **parks.sa.gov.au** for up-to-date information before you go.

**COVID-19 update:** Social distancing should be practiced at all times. Please do not visit a park if you are feeling sick or are required to self-isolate.

#### **Getting about**

The island is traversed by 1600km 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 and bumpy – please 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.

#### What's closed

National Parks and Wildlife Service South Australia manages 26 national parks, conservation parks and wilderness protection areas on Kangaroo Island that total 126,743 hectares. In early 2020 fires burnt up to 86,699 hectares, or 68 percent, of this land.

The following DEW-managed Kangaroo Island parks are closed until further notice:

- Ravine des Casoars Wilderness
  Protection Area
- Cape Torrens Wilderness
  Protection Area
- Mount Taylor Conservation Park
- Western River Wilderness
  Protection Area

- Kelly Hill Conservation Park
- Cape Bouguer Wilderness
  Protection Area
- Parndana Conservation Park
- Lathami Conservation Park
- Vivonne Bay Conservation Park
- Seddon Conservation Park

Information on park closures is regularly updated at parks.sa.gov.au.

The island is much bigger than people think:

- 4500 km<sup>2</sup> in area
- 155km long and up to 55km 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

#### Your safety

Your safety is important. You can do much to ensure your personal safety while in parks 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.

- Coastal treks need to be discussed with a ranger in advance.
- Stay on walking trails as these have been routed to ensure the easiest and safest passage to your destination.
- Please read the important fire safety information on page 28.
- Be aware of park closures (for purposes such as feral animal control, public safety, threatened species breeding, trail maintenance etc). Check

**parks.sa.gov.au** for up to date information on park or trail closures.

 The recreational use of drones is generally not permitted in national parks or reserves, including for photography and filming. This is because they can severely disrupt resting and breeding animals. They also take away from the remote wilderness experience that many of our parks offer.



### Parks that are open now

#### **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 and sheoak woodlands.

#### Hike

Ironstone Hill Hike page 20.

### Beyeria Conservation Park

Discover some of Kangaroo Island's rare plants. Interpretive signs along the short Beyeria Walk 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.

#### Walk

Beyeria Walk page 19.

#### **Lashmar Conservation Park**

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

#### Antechamber Bay



Picnic and camping facilities are available at this popular swimming and fishing beach. Solid fuel fires are not permitted during fire danger season. Comfort fires are permitted in fire pits only. Comfort fires are not permitted during the fire season. Refer to **cfs.sa.gov.au** for further information. Always use the fire pits provided, do not leave fires unattended and carefully extinguish all fires before you leave. Check **parks.sa.gov.au** for more information about comfort fires in parks.





#### Cape Gantheaume Conservation Park

#### **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 23, Bald Hill Walk page 24, Curley Creek Hike page 25.

#### **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 22.

#### Self-guided drive

Follow the signs marked with the osprey bird and discover the natural and cultural significance of the area.

#### 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 National Parks office, Kingscote.

#### Trek

Cape Gantheaume Coastal Trek (Seasonal closure applies, contact park office or visit **parks.sa.gov.au** for latest closure information).



#### Cape Willoughby Conservation Park

#### **Cape Willoughby Lightstation**



The ocean backdrop to Cape Willoughby Lightstation is spectacular. In line with COVID-19 restrictions, modified tours of the lightstation grounds are available during school holidays. Self-guided tours are also available. 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 20<sup>th</sup> century. Bookings and details at **parks.sa.gov.au** 

#### Walks and tours

A range of walks, tours and self-guided tours are available.

#### Accommodation

Heritage lightkeepers' cottages – Seymour Cottage, Thomas Cottage page 18.

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

### Flinders Chase National Park

This park is home to beautiful coastal landscapes and iconic features such as Remarkable Rocks, Admirals Arch and Cape du Couedic Lighthouse.

The majority of the park and much of its infrastructure was burnt in the January 2020 bushfire. The good news is that green shoots are emerging from vegetation in the park and there are native animal sightings in the area such as goannas, eagles, kangaroos and KI echidnas.

It now offers an incredible opportunity to witness a landscape regenerating after fire and is open for self-guided tours and commercial tours along a safe corridor that has been established along Cape du Couedic Road. You can stop at the iconic tourist drawcards of Remarkable Rocks, Admirals Arch, Cape du Couedic Lighthouse and Weirs Cove. You'll find car parking at each of these sites.

Once at the sites you can browse around them on-foot. Please pack enough water and snacks for your visit, take your rubbish with you and leave no trace. This will give our bushland the best chance of recovery. The park has limited toilets, and there is no food or drink available for purchase throughout the park.

We urge you to stick to the safe road and take extra care for roaming wildlife to give the fragile environment time and space for regeneration and recovery.

#### **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 900 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.

#### OO Certificate of Excellence

Allow time to look at the visitor centre displays (including a touch table) and for buying quality souvenirs. Picnic and barbecue facilities are available at nearby Bales Bay, a few kilometres drive away. The beach at Bales Bay is part of the Cape Gantheaume Wilderness Protection Area.

Seal Bay Sanctuary Zone adjoins Seal Bay Conservation Park to protect the immediate marine habitat of the Australian sea-lions. Please be aware of the restrictions in these zones.

**Opening hours and tours** See page 6.

### Stay in parks

#### Heritage accommodation

#### **Cape Willoughby**

Seymour and Thomas Cottages are

located on the rugged easternmost point of the Island overlooking the treacherous Backstairs Passage. These cottages, built in 1927, form part of the lightkeepers' settlement of Cape Willoughby. They offer spacious self-contained accommodation for **Prices:** \$236 per cottage, per night (subject to change). Bookings and details at **parks.sa.gov.au** 

up to nine guests. They are fully furnished with five bedrooms, a comfortable living and dining room, a fully-equipped kitchen and a refurbished bathroom. Take in scenic views of the lighthouse and coast from the verandah.

#### Camping

Campground	Online bookings required	Caravan accessible	Public phone	Toilets	Water	Hot showers	Camp fires	Gas BBQs		
Cape Gantheaume										
Wilderness Protection Area*	*	×	×	×	×	×	×	×		
D'Estrees Bay	~	×	×	×	~	×	×	×		
Lashmar Conservation Park										
Antechamber Bay	✓	✓	×	~	✓	×	✓	✓		

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

\* Contact parks office, Kingscote

#### Solid fuel fires

Solid fuel fires are prohibited at all times in reserves across Kangaroo Island. The only exception is at Antechamber Bay South Campground in Lashmar CP where small comfort fires are permitted within designated fire pits outside of fire danger season. Please use the fire pits provided, do not leave fires unattended and carefully extinguish all fires before you leave. Follow all CFS standards **cfs.sa.gov.au**  **Prices:** \$16 per campground per night. Bookings and details at **parks.sa.gov.au** 

#### **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 (AM) and 765 5CC (AM), phone CFS hotline 1800 362 361 or check **cfs.sa.gov.au** 

## Walking trails that are open now

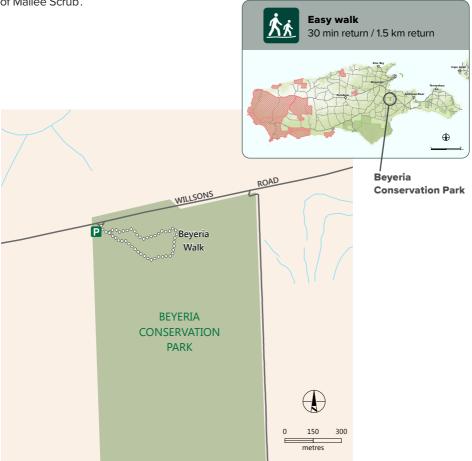
#### 1. Beyeria Conservation Park, Beyeria Walk

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.

Suitable for all ages.



#### 2. Baudin Conservation Park, Ironstone Hill Hike

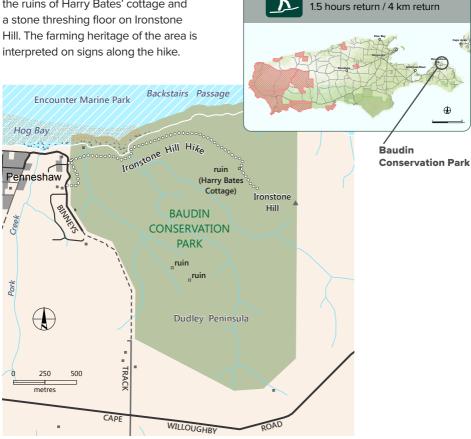
This hike follows the coast east of Penneshaw along a section of the original bullock track to Cape Willoughby and provides spectacular views across Backstairs Passage to the Fleurieu Peninsula.

After climbing through regenerating sheoak vegetation, the hike leads to the ruins of Harry Bates' cottage and

#### Access

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

**Moderate hike** 



### **3. Cape Willoughby Conservation Park, Cape Willoughby Lightstation Heritage Hike**

This hike will take you into the sheltered gully of the early 1853 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 walking trail brochure is available at the Cape Willoughby Lighthouse Visitor Centre. It gives information about the original lightstation settlement at points of interest along the trail.

Cost: \$5 per person

#### Access

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

Moderate



#### 4. Cape Gantheaume Conservation Park, 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.



#### 5. Cape Gantheaume Conservation Park, **Timber Creek Walk**

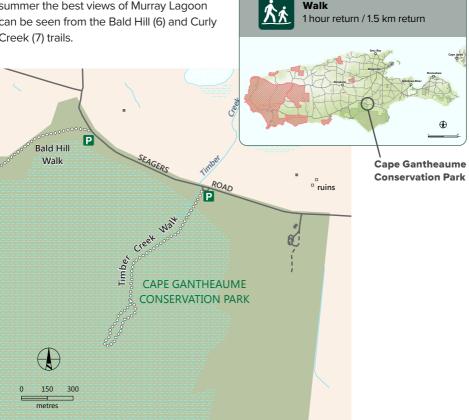
This walk at Murray Lagoon offers the visitor a tea-tree swamp experience. Waterfowl such as ducks, swans and waders flock to the lagoon to create a bird-lovers' delight. Hawks and eagles prey upon the waterfowl, while chats and little grassbirds sing among the thickly vegetated shorelines.

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 metres west of Murray Lagoon park headquarters off Seagers Road, which can be seasonally flooded.

Note: walking trail subject to flooding in winter months.



#### 6. Cape Gantheaume Conservation Park, Bald Hill Walk

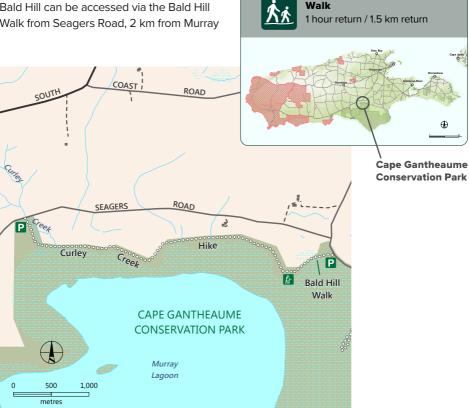
Bald Hill provides spectacular views overlooking Murray Lagoon and is an ideal spot to observe a variety of wetland birds as they feed from the lagoon below. In the distance the visitor can see the dense bush and impressive sand-dunes of the Cape Gantheaume Wilderness Protection Area to the south.

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.

Note: walking trail subject to flooding in winter months.

#### Access

Bald Hill can be accessed via the Bald Hill Walk from Seagers Road, 2 km from Murray



#### 7. Cape Gantheaume Conservation Park, 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. 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 headquarters.

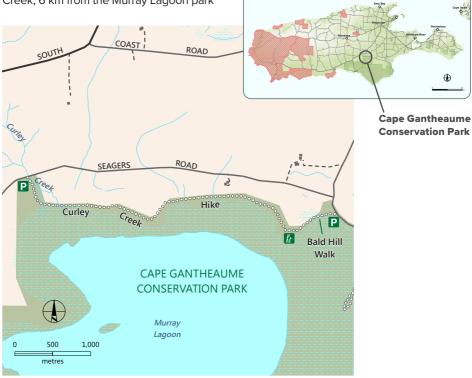
Note: walking trail subject to flooding in winter months.

4 hours return / 11 km return

**Moderate hike** 

#### Access

The Curley Creek Hike begins at Curley Creek, 6 km from the Murray Lagoon park



### Wildlife notes

#### Slow down for native wildlife

Kangaroo Island is refuge to an abundant array of native wildlife. 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

Let wildlife 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 animal's 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 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.

#### Help stop the spread of *Phytophthora*

*Phytophthora* (fy-TOFF-thora), otherwise known as root-rot fungus, is killing our native plants and threatens the survival of animals depending on plants for food and shelter.

This introduced fungus can be found in plant roots, soil and water. Help stop the spread by using hygiene stations, staying on tracks and trails and by complying with all *Phytophthora* management signs.

#### The national parks code

Please ensure that you:

- · leave your pets at home
- do not feed birds or other animals—it promotes aggressive behaviour and an unbalanced ecology
- do not bring generators, chainsaws or firearms into the park
- place rubbish in the bins provided or take it with you
- abide by the road rules (maintain the speed limit)
- · respect geological and heritage sites
- · do not remove native plants
- are considerate of other park users

Important: Collection of firewood within National Parks is prohibited.

National parks of Kangaroo Island 27

# Bushfire safety for travellers

#### Bushfires can occur without warning and can quickly impact your travel route.

In South Australia, bushfires occur regularly. Being out on the road during a bushfire is extremely dangerous – last minute evacuations are a life-threatening option.

#### **Fire danger ratings**

Every day during the Fire Danger Season, weather and other factors are used to calculate Fire Danger Ratings for each district. These ratings are not predictors of how likely a bushfire is to occur, but how dangerous it could be if it did occur.

#### **Total Fire Bans**

The CFS may declare Total Fire Bans on days of severe weather, when high temperatures, strong winds and low humidity could cause fires to become uncontrollable. Certain activities like barbeques and campfires are banned on these days.

#### Do you know what you can and can't do on Total Fire Ban days?

#### **On Total Fire Ban days**

On Total Fire Ban days, it is best to postpone a trip into the bush, since the dangers of fires starting and moving rapidly are extremely high. Think about what you will do on those days: obey fire bans, avoid activities that could start a fire (such as driving through long grass, campfires), and avoid activities that can place you in areas of high risk.

#### For your safety

#### Go to www.cfs.sa.gov.au

Monitor ABC Radio 891 (AM)

Contact Bushfire Information Hotline 1800 362 361 (TTY 133677)

Seek advice from the National Parks office, Kingscote 8553 4444

To report a fire, dial 000.

#### **Bushwalking**

It is advisable not to go bushwalking on Total Fire Ban days, but if you are caught in a bushfire you should:

- Never try to outrun the flames.
- Head for a natural fire break,
  e.g. streams, clearings or rock outcrops.
- Keep away from high ground in the path of the fire.
- Never shelter in an above ground water tank or dam.
- Cover yourself or shelter behind a solid object such as a rock, to protect yourself against radiant heat.

### Plan your trip



### **Seal** Bay

Seal Bay is Kangaroo Island's premier tourist attraction and is consistently in South Australia's top ten tourist destinations, as voted on TripAdvisor.

#### Certificate of Excellence

#### **Tour times**

Guided tours are available, book at **sealbay.sa.gov.au** before you go to avoid disappointment. Tours are bookable up to 9 hours before tour departure. Self-guided boardwalk tours are also available for walk-ins.

Please note: additional tours run during South Australian school holidays and public holidays – please check our website for details. Tour times are subject to change.

Due to COVID-19 gathering restrictions delays may be experienced for both the guided tours and boardwalk, especially over long weekends and school holidays.

See below for more contact details or visit **parks.sa.gov.au/SealBay** 

#### **Further information**

**Seal Bay T:** (08) 8553 4463 **E:** sealbay@sa.gov.au

Cape Willoughby Lightstation T: (08) 8553 4466 E: capewilloughby@sa.gov.au National Parks Office, Kingscote 37 Dauncey Street, Kingscote SA 5223 T: (08) 8553 4444 | E: kinrc@sa.gov.au

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Department for Environment and Water