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MURRAY RIVER CRUISE & KANGAROO ISLAND

Itinerary

7 days / 6 nights



DAY 1 - FRIDAY: Arrive Adelaide, board Murray Princess

Arrive today in Adelaide. Make your way to the Stamford Plaza Adelaide Hotel, 150 North Terrace.

At 1.45pm board your coach for your scenic transfer from the Stamford Plaza Adelaide Hotel to Mannum, situated on the Murray River.

Mid-afternoon the PS Murray Princess departs historic Mannum, the birthplace of the Murray River trade and communication, and heads downriver while you enjoy a Welcome Dinner. Cruise under floodlight to the overnight mooring at Mundurra, you may see nocturnal wildlife on the riverbank. Watch for kangaroos, hairy-nosed wombats, tortoises, egrets and many other species. An on-board entertainer provides music for the night owls. (D)

Stay: 3 nights aboard PS Murray Princess

DAY 2 - SATURDAY: Murray River Cruise

In 1879 the first bridge to span the Murray River was built at Edwards Crossing, which quickly became the bustling township of Murray Bridge. After a hearty breakfast, choose to join a guided tour of the town's historic landmarks and local attractions or go on a wildlife tour at Monarto Zoo (additional cost). Those who choose to experience Monarto Zoo will arrive back on board the Murray Princess in time for lunch then enjoy a special presentation in the Sturt Dining Room on the bounty of food and wine produced in the Riverland. This afternoon, continue upriver and tonight moor at Salt Bush Flat. After dinner, enjoy being entertained by the talented crew. (B,L,D)

DAY 3 - SUNDAY: Murray River Cruise

All ashore for the guided nature walk where your guide will share the secrets of the local flora and fauna. It's a great way to get in a little exercise before the PS Murray Princess departs and cruises downriver. Near Fromms Landing, the ship turns to head downriver to River View Lodge (near Piggy Flat / Coolcha) where your discovery vessel awaits for a wildlife tour. Travelling in small, personalised groups, explore the maze of the river and the birdlife is amazing. Watch for darters, herons and egrets feeding along the river's muddy edges. The afternoon offers a choice of bocce or fishing challenges before joining the Captain and Officers for the Farewell Dinner and Dance. (B,L,D)

DAY 4 – MONDAY: Disembark Murray Princess, coach to Adelaide

This morning return to Mannum where you disembark. From Mannum board the coach to return to Adelaide, where you will be dropped off at the Stamford Plaza Adelaide for your overnight stay. (B)

Stay: overnight at Stamford Plaza Adelaide (superior room)

DAY 5 – TUESDAY: Adelaide to Kangaroo Island

Early morning pick-up from your Adelaide hotel for a scenic coach journey to Cape Jervis, taking in the picturesque Fleurieu Peninsula with its vineyards, coastal views and rolling hills. On arrival, board the SeaLink Kangaroo Island ferry for the 45-minute crossing to Penneshaw on Kangaroo Island. Board your coach to your first stop, Clifford's Honey Farm, to enjoy an informative talk by the beekeeper, followed by tastings and a chance to sample homemade honey ice-cream and honey beauty products. Then travel on to Vivonne Bay Bistro located on a 260-hectare bush property, for a delicious two-course lunch.

After lunch, visit Seal Bay Conservation Park and enjoy a guided beach walk with a National Park ranger amongst a breeding colony of wild and rare Australian sea lions. Your tour will then visit another amazing wildlife attraction, the fascinating birds of prey in-flight demonstration, an interactive and educational display of native Australian birds and raptors. From here you will travel back to Kingscote to watch the pelican feeding and learn a little more about these fascinating and ancient birds. Your coach will return to your hotel for the evening. (L)

Stay: overnight at Ozone Hotel

DAY 6 – WEDNESDAY: Kangaroo Island to Adelaide

After your morning hotel pick-up, your second day of touring begins at Emu Ridge Oil Eucalyptus Distillery, an interesting bush-engineered eucalyptus distillery that makes the most of its environmental resources. After testing and tasting the eucalyptus products, travel to the centre of Kangaroo Island to the Parndana Wildlife Park where you can feed kangaroos, have your photograph taken with a koala, and take a guided tour of the park. Next, travel to Hanson Bay Wildlife Sanctuary to look for koalas nestled up in the eucalypts, followed a scrumptious two-course lunch at Kangaroo Island Wilderness Retreat.

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DAY 6 (cont.)

After lunch, travel to the most westerly part of the island and Flinders Chase National Park, one of Australia's largest and earliest conservation parks. One third of Kangaroo Island has never been cleared of natural vegetation and the thick eucalypt scrub is the habitat of many species of wildlife, much of which is uncommon or extinct on the mainland.

After a short stop at the Flinders Chase Visitor Centre, travel through the park and enjoy breathtaking views of its unique trees, plants and coastal scenery. You will be taken to the rugged southern coastline for a walk at Remarkable Rocks and Admirals Arch. Remarkable Rocks provide great photographic opportunities and stunning sea views. Admirals Arch boardwalk takes you down a rugged cliff face to reveal this spectacular arch, a natural nursery and safe haven for playful New Zealand fur seals. Watch them swimming and playing in the waves, or resting on the rocks.

There is also a possibility that you will see more kangaroos and wallabies as we travel to Penneshaw for the return ferry to Cape Jervis. At Cape Jervis board your coach to Adelaide, where you arrive at approximately 10.30pm. (B,L)

Stay: overnight at Stamford Plaza Adelaide

DAY 7 – THURSDAY: Depart Adelaide

Depart Adelaide today on your onward journey.

Tour code: MR3KIADL2 / MPSS