

Department for Environment and Heritage

Parks of Kangaroo Island



Visitor Information

Accommodation
Camping
Trails
Parks
Tours



Government
of South Australia



National Parks & Wildlife
South Australia

www.environment.sa.gov.au

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Welcome to Kangaroo Island's parks

Escape to the wild

The Department for Environment and Heritage manages one national park, twenty-one conservation parks, one conservation reserve and five wilderness protection areas on Kangaroo Island. Some areas are vast, others small – all possessing the natural beauty unique to Kangaroo Island. The parks conserve an array of natural environments, including areas of: mallee woodlands, low open forests and woodlands, karst ecosystem, fresh and saline lakes, and spectacular coastal cliffs and sand dune systems, that provide refuge to an abundant range of wildlife.

There are a wide variety of things to see and do on Kangaroo Island. This booklet provides information about the experiences available within the parks.

Kangaroo Island is 'a big island' – the third largest off the coast of Australia. Many visitors frequently state 'We wish we could have stayed longer. We didn't realise the Island was so large!'. Don't be disappointed. Ensure you allow adequate time to best appreciate all that is on offer within the parks.

Please consider the possible weather conditions at the site you are planning to visit. For example, when leaving Kingscote it may be mild but the conditions could be very different once you reach the south coast. It is recommended that you always take a jacket and a sun hat.



Kangaroo Island Dunnart *Sminthopsis aitkeni*



Getting about

The island is traversed by 1600 kilometres of roads: the majority are unsealed. The ironstone gravel used to form some unsealed roads resembles small marbles and can make the surface slippery. These unsealed roads are often 'bed' making driving conditions difficult.

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.

The island is much bigger than people think:

- 4500 square kilometres
- 155 kilometres long and up to 55 kilometres 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.



Mayfly Orchid
Acianthus caudatus

Your safety

Your safety is important. You can do much to ensure your personal safety while in the park 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 contacted them by a pre-arranged date and time.
- Stay on walking trails as these have been routed to ensure the easiest and safest passage to your destination.
- Drownings have occurred at Remarkable Rocks. Please observe the warning signs.





Flinders Chase National Park

Admirals Arch and Remarkable Rocks at Cape du Couedic will give you a taste of rugged coastal scenery. However don't forget to explore some of the other attractions within the park's 34 000 hectares such as high-energy beaches, the unspoilt Rocky River, vast wilderness areas and cultural heritage sites. Discover some of Kangaroo Island's stories in the Flinders Chase Visitor Centre: wildlife and historical displays, touch screen, touch table and a fossil dig pit for kids.

Day entry and camping fees apply.



Rocky River Precinct

Walks and Hikes

Discovery Walk page 54, Platypus Waterholes Walk page 42, Rocky River Hike page 46.

Accommodation

Mays Homestead page 20, Postmans Cottage page 20, Campground pages 16-17.

Visitor Centre

Displays and activities, cafe, park offices, souvenirs, information.

Tours

Seasonal interpretive tours (conditions apply). Ask at the Flinders Chase Visitor Centre information counter for availability.

West Bay Road

Hikes

Snake Lagoon Hike page 48, Sandy Creek Hike page 47, Breakneck River Hike page 33, Rocky River Hike page 46.

Bush camping

Snake Lagoon and West Bay pages 16-17.

Cape du Couedic

Walks, Hikes and Treks

Admirals Arch Walk page 30, Weirs Cove Hike page 53, Lighthouse Heritage Walk page 41, Cape du Couedic Hike page 35, Flinders Chase Coastal Trek page 27.

Accommodation

Heritage lightkeepers' cottage – Troubridge Lodge, Parndana Lodge, Karatta Lodge page 23.

Remarkable Rocks

Walks

Remarkable Rocks Walk page 44.

Drive to Cape Borda via Shackle Road

Purchase a Shackle Road Self-guided Drive booklet from the Flinders Chase Visitor Centre page 55.



Cape Borda Lightstation

Cape Borda is remote even today. Appreciate this aspect fully by taking a tour of the lightstation; walking one of the trails; visiting nearby sites associated with the lightstation or staying in a lightkeepers' cottage. Light refreshments and souvenirs available.



Guided Lightstation Tour (Fee applies)

Walks and Hikes

Clifftop Hike page 36, The Oval Hike page 51, Return Road Hike page 45.

Accommodation

Heritage lightkeepers' cottages – Flinders Light Lodge, Hartley Hut, Woodward Hut page 22.

Drive to Flinders Chase via Shackle Road

Purchase a Shackle Road Self-guided Drive booklet from Cape Borda page 55.

Ravine des Casoars Wilderness Protection Area

The Ravine des Casoars Wilderness Protection Area is located to the north of Flinders Chase Visitor Centre and covers 40 000 hectares. Visitors may access some areas on foot. For more information please ask an Information Officer at Flinders Chase Visitor Centre.



Adjoins Flinders Chase National Park.

Visit Scott Cove and Harveys Return Cemetery.

Hike

Ravine des Casoars Hike page 43 – from the car park on the Ravine des Casoars Road.

Harveys Return

Harveys Return was initially used by sealers to load salted seal skins collected from the area in the early 1800's. Later, Harveys Return was used as a landing site for supplies for Cape Borda Lightstation.



Hikes and Treks

Harveys Return Hike page 39, Return Road Hike page 45 – from Harveys Return Campground. Flinders Chase Coastal Trek can begin at Harveys Return.

Cape Gantheaume Conservation Park

Relax at D'Estrees Bay: take the Tadpole Cove Walk page 50 past an old threshing floor to view a small secluded beach. Historically D'Estrees Bay was the site of a whaling station and later partly cleared for farming.

D'Estrees Bay



Walks and Hikes

Tadpole Cove Walk page 49, Cape Gantheaume Coastal Trek page 27.

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 50, Bald Hill Walk page 31, Curley Creek Hike page 37.



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 Regional Office, Kingscote.



Hike

Cape Gantheaume Coastal Trek page 27

Beyeria Conservation Park

Discover some of Kangaroo Island's rare plants: interpretive signs along the short Beyeria Walk page 32 give an insight into 'the many faces of the mallee scrub'.



Cape Willoughby Conservation Park

Cape Willoughby Lightstation

The ocean backdrop to Cape Willoughby Lightstation is spectacular. The view from the top of the tower makes a tour of the lighthouse a must. See the Kangaroo Island coastline, Backstairs Passage, The Pages islands and the mainland. The lighthouse was once used as a venue for local dances.

Light refreshments and souvenirs available.



Guided Lightstation Tour (Fee applies) page 14

Accommodation

Heritage lightkeepers' cottages – Seymour Cottage, Thomas Cottage page 21.

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

Baudin Conservation Park

Get a sense of this area's farming heritage and see some stunning seascapes: Ironstone Hill Hike follows part of the original bullock track to Cape Willoughby. Interpretive signs tell stories along the way.



Hike

Ironstone Hill Hike page 40.

Lashmar Conservation Park

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

Antechamber Bay

The Kangaroo Island Council operates the picnic and camping facilities at Antechamber Bay.





Kelly Hill Conservation Park

Kelly Hill Caves

Allow time to enjoy the tall woodland and its wildlife by walking to the Show Cave entrance via one of the walking trails. Explore more of Kelly Hill's caves by joining an Adventure Caving group after a Show Cave Tour.



Tours (Fee applies)

Show Cave Tour page 15

Adventure Caving (conditions apply) page 15

Walks and hikes

Burgess Hike page 34, May Walk page 34, Hanson Bay Hike page 38

Cape Bouguer Wilderness Protection Area

Adjoins Kelly Hill Conservation Park:

The full day Hanson Bay Hike page 38 takes you through a range of landscapes: from Kelly Hill Caves through the Wilderness Protection Area to the southern coast at Hanson Bay.

Seal Bay Conservation Park

Take a guided tour onto the beach at Seal Bay and observe Australian Sea-lions as they rest between fishing trips. Allow time to look at the visitor centre displays (including a touch table) and for buying quality souvenirs. Picnic facilities are available at Bales Cottage Picnic Area.



Tours (Fee applies)

Guided Beach tour page 15

Self-guided – lookout, boardwalk and viewing platform (disabled access) – an addition or alternative to the beach tour.

Aquatic Reserves adjoin Seal Bay Conservation Park to protect the immediate marine habitat of the Australian Sea-lions. Please be aware of the restrictions in these reserves.

Seal Bay Aquatic Reserve



Bales Bay Aquatic Reserve



Guided tours



The Department for Environment and Heritage offers a range of guided tours. Tour times and entry fees apply. For details please refer to the Kangaroo Island Parks Planner visitor information sheet available at all park offices or visit www.environment.sa.gov.au/parks.kangaroo_is.html

Allow yourself plenty of time in addition to the tours offered as there is much to do and see.

Cape Borda Lightstation

Deep in the wilderness, perched high above the vast ocean, stands a unique square lighthouse, steeped in European history. Tour the lightstation, including the museum, and appreciate the achievements of a bygone era. Cannon firing is conducted daily on the 12:30 pm tour.

Cape Willoughby Lightstation

Join a tour of South Australia's first lightstation and enjoy the spectacular views across Backstairs Passage from the top of the lighthouse. 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 20th century.

Kelly Hill Caves

Delight in the unexpected magic of the underground world as you walk amidst pristine, ornate cave decorations. Discover how the amazing shape of the helictite is formed.

Kelly Hill Adventure Caving

Once you have experienced the splendour of the Show Cave tour, and if you are adventurous, then have a go at Adventure Caving. You will be equipped with a helmet and a light to follow your cave guide through the underground maze.

Please note the following conditions apply:

- bookings are essential, phone (08) 8559 7231
- minimum numbers apply
- participants must be over the age of eight years.

Seal Bay Beach Tour

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.

Seal Bay Boardwalk Self-Guided Tour

The 800 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 juveniles playing. The boardwalk has interpretive signage along the way giving visitors an overview of the needs and habits of the Australian Sea-lion.

Seasonal Interpretive Tour Programs

Specialty tour programs are sometimes developed for short periods during school holidays. Enquire at any park office for current availability.

Cape Willoughby Lightstation



Camping

Kangaroo Island's parks offer a range of camping options.
Permits are required and camping is allowed only in designated areas.

Gas fires only all year, except on days of declared total fire ban (the Country Fire Service (CFS) broadcasts notices on local radio 891 ABC and 765 5CC or phone CFS hotline 1300 362 361).

For permits and bookings for camping in Flinders Chase National Park phone: [Flinders Chase Visitor Centre on \(08\) 8559 7235](tel:(08)85597235).

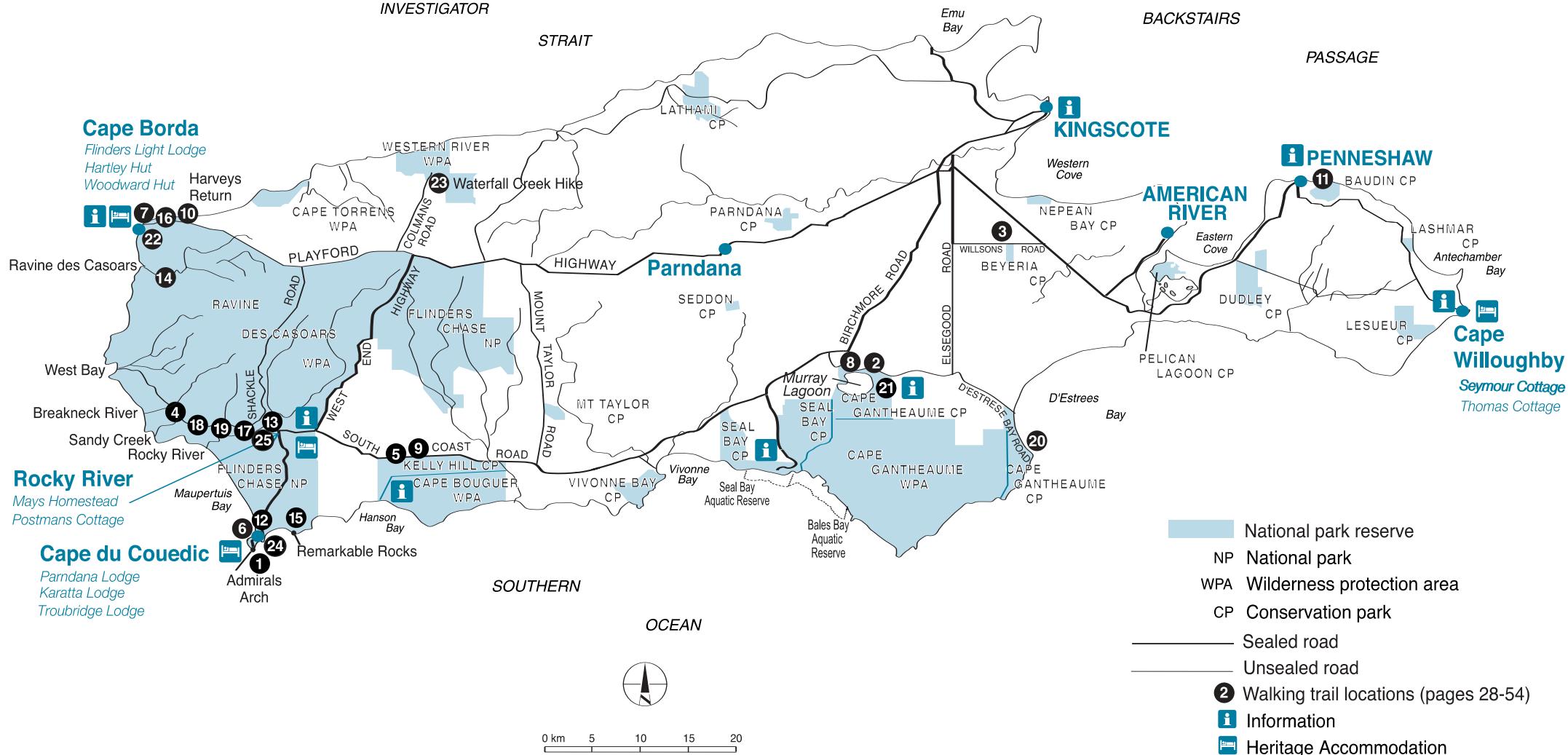
Permits for camping in Cape Gantheaume Conservation Park can be obtained through self-registration at Murray Lagoon park office or alternatively, acquired from the duty ranger who regularly patrols the campgrounds.

Bush trekking camping – please discuss with a ranger at the nearest park office.

CAMPGROUND	Bookings required	Caravan accessible	Public phone	Toilets	Water	Hot showers	Fires	Gas BBQ's
Flinders Chase National Park								
Rocky River Precinct	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
Snake Lagoon	✓	✗	✗	✓	~	✗	✗	✗
West Bay	✓	✗	✗	✓	~	✗	✗	✗
Ravine des Casoars Wilderness Protection Area								
Harveys Return	✓	✗	✗	✓	~	✗	✗	✗
Cape Gantheaume Conservation Park								
Murray Lagoon	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗
D'Estrees Bay	✗	✓	✗	✓	~	✗	✗	✗

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

Location map for walking trails and heritage accommodation





Rocky River Precinct

- **Mays Homestead** is a quaint four-roomed stone cottage, which was built in the early 1890s by Charles May, the original pastoralist at Rocky River. During its early history, the occupants provided the nearest source of assistance for survivors of the many shipwrecks that occurred along the rugged coastline. Later the building was used by the first ranger at Flinders Chase National Park.
- **Postmans Cottage** is a one-roomed stone hut built for the mailman who would call and stay overnight once a fortnight. The cottage is located next to Mays Homestead, and near the Flinders Chase Visitor Centre.



Mays Homestead, Rocky River



Postmans Cottage

Cape Willoughby

- **Seymour and Thomas cottages** are located on the rugged easternmost point of the island overlooking treacherous Backstairs Passage. These cottages built in 1927, form part of the lightkeepers settlement of Cape Willoughby. Stones from the original 1850s lighthouse dwellings were used to build the large white fence around the cottages.

Spectacular views can be seen from the Cape Willoughby Lighthouse. Tours are available at advertised times.



Seymour and Thomas cottages, Cape Willoughby



Cape Borda

Situated in the very north-west corner of Kangaroo Island, Cape Borda is a classic lighthouse location. Set deep in the wilderness and perched high above a vast ocean, it is remote, desolate and stunningly beautiful. The lighthouse was built in 1858 to guide sailing ships arriving off the 'roaring forties' trade winds.

- **Flinders Light Lodge** is a spacious, comfortable limestone cottage that once housed the lighthouse keeper and his family. Ideally situated with glorious sea views.
- **Hartley Hut** is a prefabricated cabin that originally served as the relieving keeper's quarters. It is cosy and modern with sea views and abundant wildlife nearby.
- **Woodward Hut** is Kangaroo Island's most affordable heritage accommodation! Quaint and different.

Tours of the Cape Borda Lighthouse are available at advertised times.

Historic cannon fired daily.



Flinders Light Lodge, Cape Borda

Cape du Couedic

- **Parndana, Karatta and Troubridge lodges** are classic lightkeepers cottages, large and roomy, built in 1907 from local limestone laboriously carved into solid building blocks. Magnificently restored, featuring tiled roofs and polished pine floors, these three-bedroom cottages are heritage listed. Situated in Flinders Chase National Park, approximately 14 km from Rocky River at Cape du Couedic, the cottages are isolated and provide comfortable accommodation in a spectacular coastal environment.



Parndana Lodge, Cape du Couedic



About the cottages

- Cutlery, crockery, saucepans etc are provided.
- You will need to bring all food supplies.
- Sheets, pillowcases and towels are available at an additional nominal charge, otherwise you will need to bring your own.
- Blankets and pillows are supplied.
- Arrival time from 2 pm onwards.
- Departure time 9 am at Cape Borda, 10 am at Cape Willoughby and Flinders Chase.
- Ideal for families and priced accordingly.
- Revenue from cottage rental is used to restore and maintain these historic buildings.
- Pets are not permitted.

For bookings and information contact:

Flinders Chase National Park PMB 246 via Kingscote 5223

Phone (08) 8559 7235 Fax (08) 8559 7364

Email: kiparksaccom@sa.gov.sa.gov.au

What visitors say

'We class this as being in the top three of all our trips throughout Australia. Only wish it could be longer.' Gold Coast, Queensland

'We loved every moment but the stay wasn't long enough, the accommodation was excellent.' Laverton, Victoria

'We have travelled far and wide staying at all sorts of places from camping to five star. This beats them all. Fantastic Cape Willoughby.' NSW

'What a perfect spot for our first visit to Australia! One look at Cape Borda and the kangaroos in the backyard convinced us that we had made the right choice. It's all we dreamed Australia could be - friendly people, great wildlife and stunning scenery! We love it here!' Pennsylvania, USA

ACCOMMODATION	Bedrooms	Queen/ double bed	Single bed	Bathroom/ toilet	Stove/ microwave	Separate lounge	Heating
Cape Borda							
Hartley Hut	1	-	2 bunks	yes	gas/mw	no	electric
Flinders Light Lodge	3	QS	4	yes	gas/mw	yes	gas
Woodward Hut	1 room only	-	2	nearby	small electric	no	electric
Cape du Couedic							
Parndana Lodge	3	QS	4	yes	gas/wood/mw	yes	gas
Karatta Lodge	3	DB	4	yes	gas/wood/mw	yes	gas
Troubridge Lodge	3	QS	4	yes	gas/wood/mw	yes	gas
Cape Willoughby							
Seymour Cottage	5	QS	5	yes	electric/mw	yes	electric
Thomas Cottage	5	QS	5	yes	electric/mw	yes	electric
Rocky River Precinct							
Mays Homestead	2	DB	2 bunks	yes	wood/gas/mw	yes	open fire
Postmans Cottage	1 room only	-	2 bunks	toilet only	wood/gas	no	woodstove



Walks and Hikes

Kangaroo Island's parks offer walks and hikes that will revitalise your spirit and senses. The trails and their features offer visitors an overview of the variety of habitats and species conserved in the parks of Kangaroo Island. There are nine walks and sixteen hikes. Walks are short trails of generally less than three kilometres. Hikes require some experience and a reasonable fitness level; the trail may be uneven and steep for short distances.

You will be able to:

- Observe wildlife in the wild.
- Witness the wild forces of nature.
- Immerse yourself in Kangaroo Island's wild past.
- Sense the power of the Southern Ocean.
- Delight in the many wonders of the natural world.



Walk Safely

Be prepared when bushwalking:

- Wear sturdy shoes, hat and sunscreen.
- Carry sufficient drinking water.
- Keep to the defined walking trail and follow the markers.
- Inform a responsible person of your proposed route and expected time of return.



Short-beaked Echidna
Tachyglossus aculeatus

Coastal Treks

For serious trekkers, a range of treks can be undertaken along some sections of the coast around Flinders Chase National Park, Ravine des Casoars Wilderness Protection Area, and Cape Gantheaume Wilderness Protection Area.

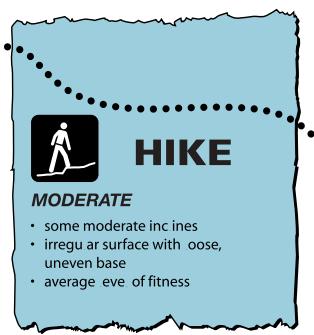
Treks often pass through remote areas and are usually totally unmarked. A trek will be physically demanding and users must be experienced bushwalkers.

Trekker Information Packs are available from Flinders Chase or Kingscote Offices. Trekkers must discuss their route with a ranger and fill in a *Let Us Know Before You Go* form, prior to commencing a trek.



Pied Oystercatcher near Remarkable Rocks

Select your trail



TRAIL	RETURN TIME	RETURN DISTANCE	HIGHLIGHTS	TRAIL NOTES
1. Admirals Arch Walk	15 minutes	1 km	Admirals Arch, fur-seal colony, Casuarina Islets	boardwalk leads to steps down to viewing platforms
2. Bald Hill Walk	30 minutes	1 km	wetland, wildlife	can be very windy, seasonally under water
3. Beyeria Walk	30 minutes	1.5 km	endemic plants	great for all ages
12. Lighthouse Heritage Walk	10 minutes	600 m	spectacular views of a winter waterfall, sheoak and lighthouse, lightkeepers cottages	great for all ages
13. Platypus Waterholes Walk	2 hours	4.5 km	wildlife, perhaps the elusive Platypus	great for all ages
15. Remarkable Rocks Walk	15 minutes	1 km	Remarkable Rocks, views of Cape du Couedic	wheelchair accessible great for all ages, please observe the warning signs
20. Tadpole Cove Walk	20 minutes	800 m	European heritage, coastal views, wildlife	gently undulating, great for all ages
21. Timber Creek Walk	1 hour	1.5 km	wetland, wildlife	can be slippery when wet, seasonally under water
25. Discovery Walk	10 minutes	400 m	wildlife interpretation, what to look for, how to get the best views	great for all ages
4. Breakneck River Hike	2.5 hours	6 km	forest, woodland, mallee, coastal heath	seasonally, beach access requires a shallow wade
5. Burgess Hike (May Walk)	30 minutes	1.25 km	Sugar Gum forest, orchids in winter and spring	gently undulating, original cave entrance
6. Cape du Couedic Hike	40 minutes	2 km	coastal cliff top views, coastal plants and shipwreck information	some steep sections, a little rocky and uneven underfoot
7. Clifftop Hike	30 minutes	1 km	coastal views, remoteness	rocky and uneven underfoot
8. Curley Creek Hike	4 hours	11 km	wetland, wildlife, unexpected vegetation	seasonally, parts under water, can be slippery
11. Ironstone Hill Hike	1.5 hours	4 km	European heritage, coastal views, wildlife	some steep sections, two small creeks to cross in winter
16. Return Road Hike	3 hours	9 km	history, woodlands, coastal heath	gently undulating, a little rocky and uneven underfoot
17. Rocky River Hike	3 hours	9 km	river habitats, forest, woodland	a little rocky and uneven underfoot
18. Sandy Creek Hike	1.5 hours	3 km	Southern Ocean's rugged beauty	last section on soft sand is very tiring
19. Snake Lagoon Hike	1.5 hours	3 km	river valley, spectacular views	rocky and uneven underfoot after footbridge
22. The Oval Hike	1.5 hours	4 km	history, remoteness	gently undulating
23. Waterfall Creek Hike	2 hours	5 km	spectacular views of a winter waterfall, sheoak and Sugar Gum forest	some steep sections, a little rocky and uneven underfoot
24. Weirs Cove Hike	50 minutes	3 km	spectacular coastal views, history	gently undulating
9. Hanson Bay Hike	full day	18 km	lagoons, sand dunes, variety of vegetation	note length of hike, some steep sandy sections
10. Harveys Return Hike	1 hour	1.5 km	history, geology, remoteness	very steep below the capstan
14. Ravine des Casoars Hike	4 hours	8 km	spectacular views, river habitats, forest	some steep sections, a little rocky and uneven underfoot

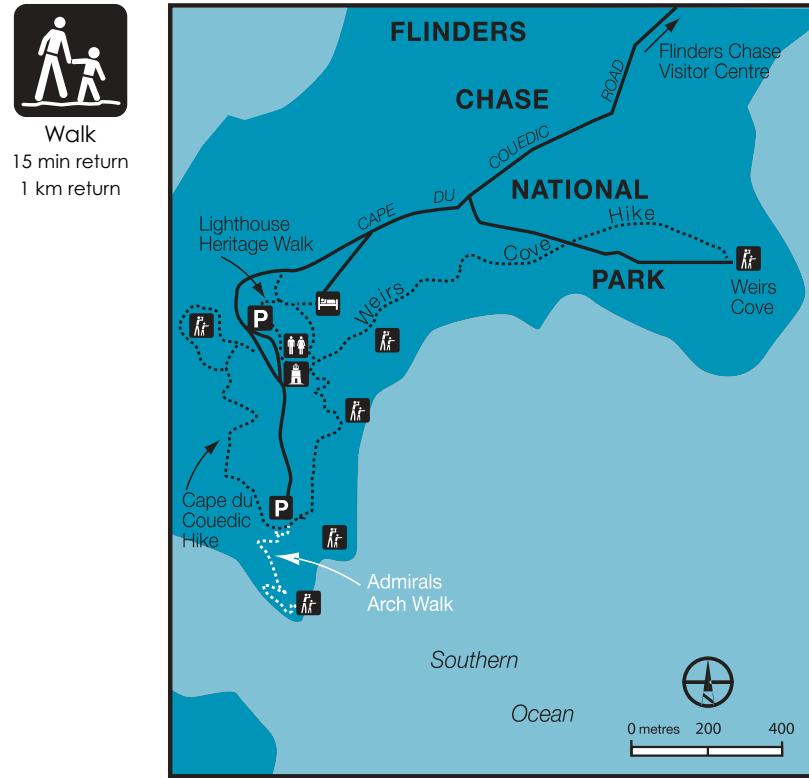
Trail Descriptions

1. Admirals Arch Walk

Follow the signs to the boardwalk and ponder on the impending creation of the third Casuarina Islet. Allow plenty of time to enjoy the frolicking New Zealand Fur-seals. Read about their remarkable recovery from the uncontrolled hunting of the early 1800s.

Access: The walk begins at the Admirals Arch car park at Cape du Couedic, situated on the south-west corner of Flinders Chase National Park.

Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.

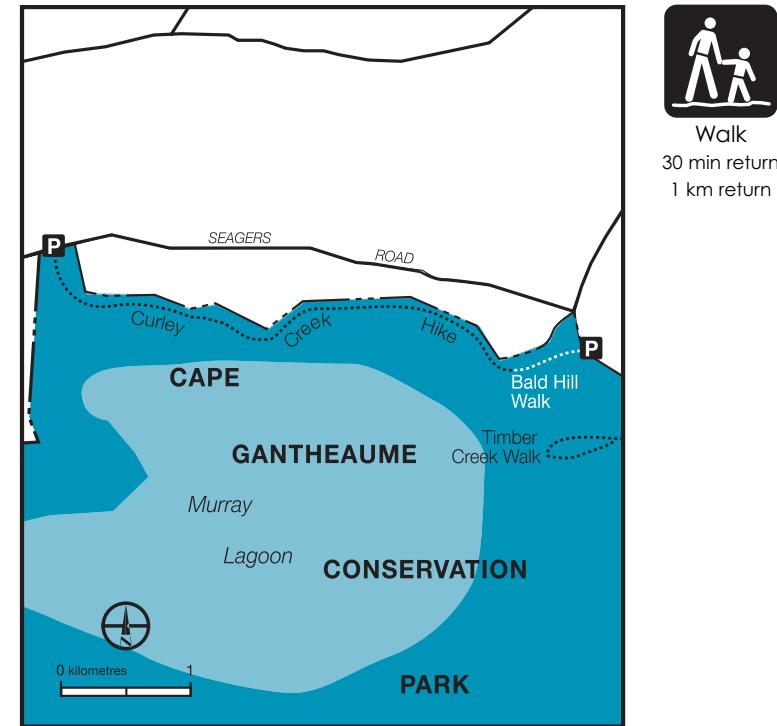


2. Bald Hill Walk

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.

Access: Bald Hill can be accessed via the Bald Hill Walk from Seagers Road, 2 km from Murray Lagoon park headquarters. 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.

Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.

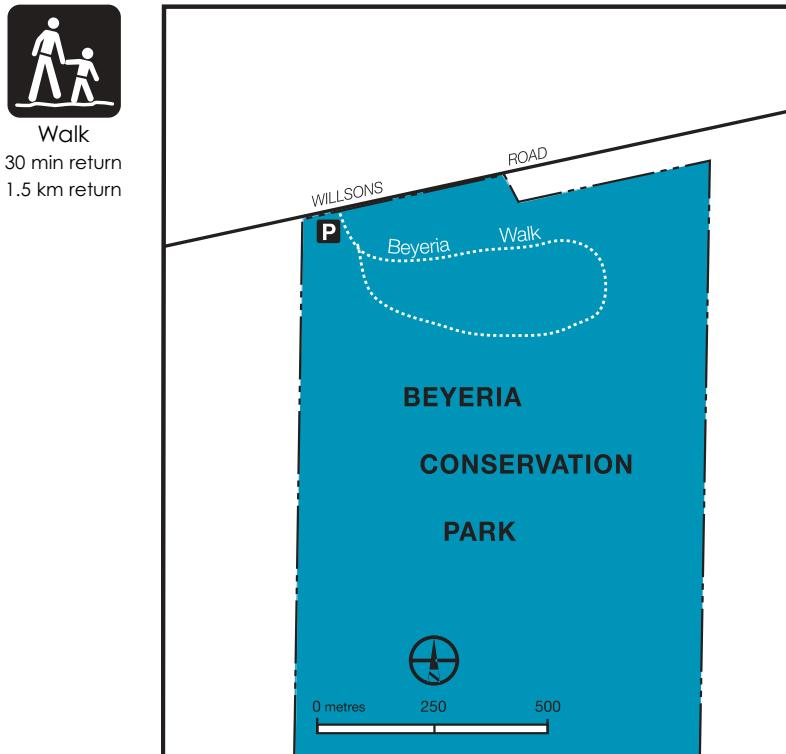




3. Beyeria Walk

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'.

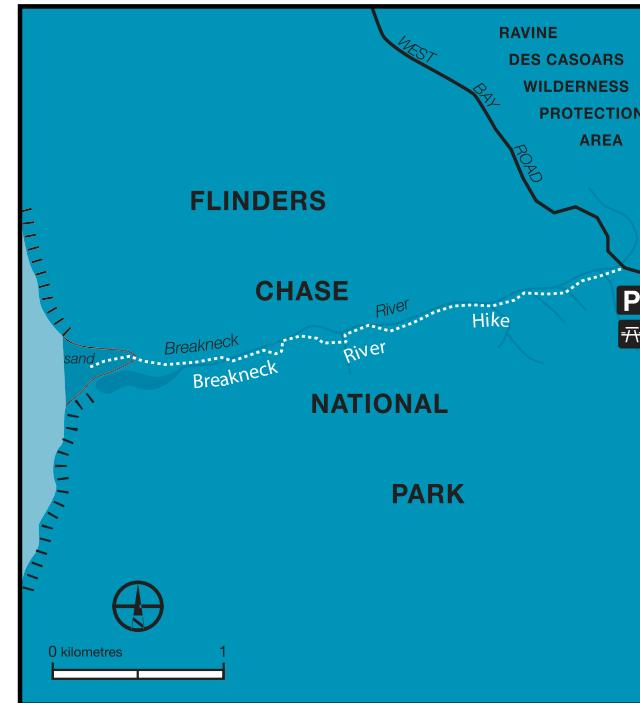
Access: The walk begins at the car park adjoining Willsons Road.
Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.



4. Breakneck River Hike

Follow the Breakneck River through forest, woodland, mallee and coastal heath to a picturesque little beach, hemmed in by limestone cliffs.
Please note: Seasonally, parts of this hike are under water and the trail may be closed. Check at the Flinders Chase Visitor Centre.

Access: This hike begins on the West Bay Road, approximately 13 km from Flinders Chase Visitor Centre.
Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.



Moderate Hike
2.5 hours return
6 km return

5. Burgess Hike (incorporating May Walk)

This hike passes through the Sugar Gum forest at Kelly Hill Caves and introduces visitors to the surface features associated with the caves below, including the original cave entrance. If you are taking a guided tour of the Showcave, this trail provides an interesting alternative route to or from the Showcave entrance.

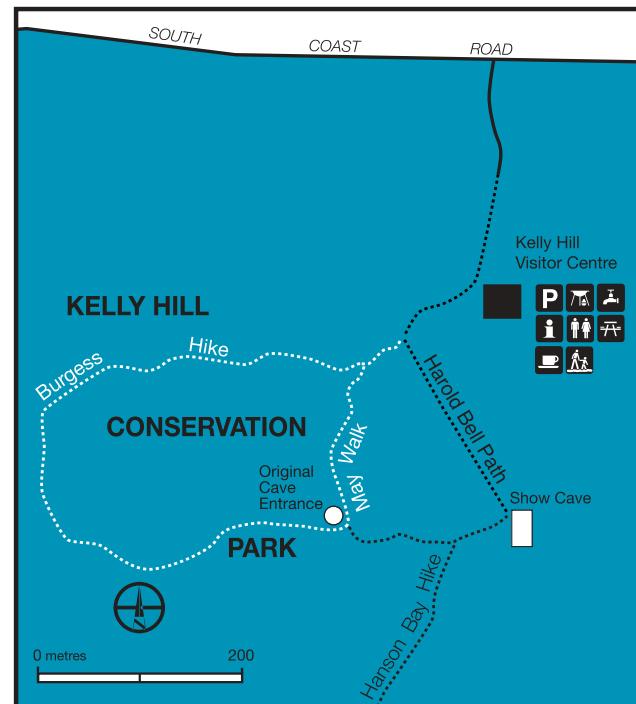
Access: Both trails begin at the Kelly Hill Visitor Centre.

Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.



Moderate Hike

30 min return
1.25 km return



6. Cape du Couedic Hike

This hike provides spectacular coastal cliff top views as it meanders between the Cape du Couedic Lightstation and Admirals Arch car park. Discover the varied and impressive techniques that plants use to grow here. Find out about Aboriginal connections with Cape du Couedic and how they survived in this harsh environment. Contemplate the perils of being shipwrecked here 100 years ago. Look for the water pool built by the lighthouse builders and watch for those who still use it today.

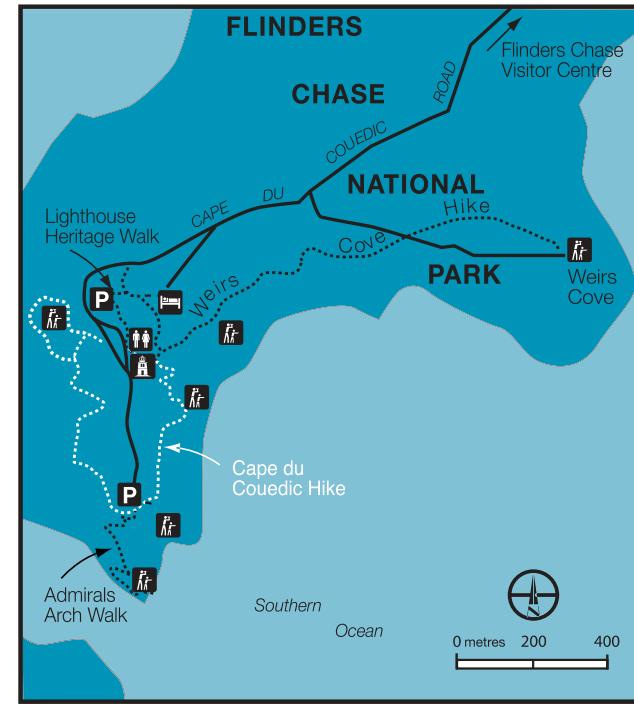
Access: This hike begins at the lighthouse sign shelter.

Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.



Moderate Hike

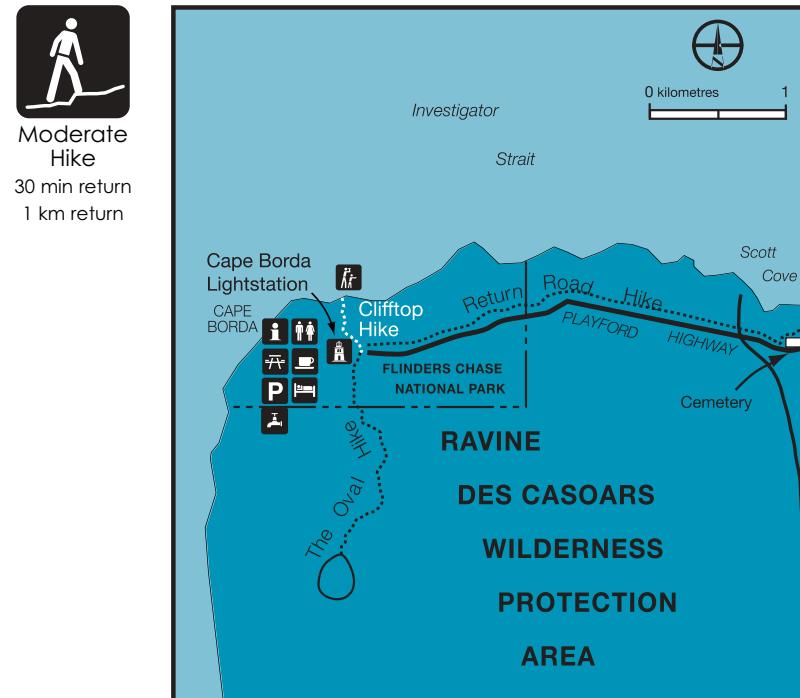
40 min return
2 km return



7. Clifftop Hike

This short trail is the perfect complement to a guided tour at Cape Borda Lightstation. Meander through the picturesque rock gardens, and observe how the vegetation shortens and changes as you near the cliff top. A stone lookout provides an ideal vantage point for spotting whales and dolphins.

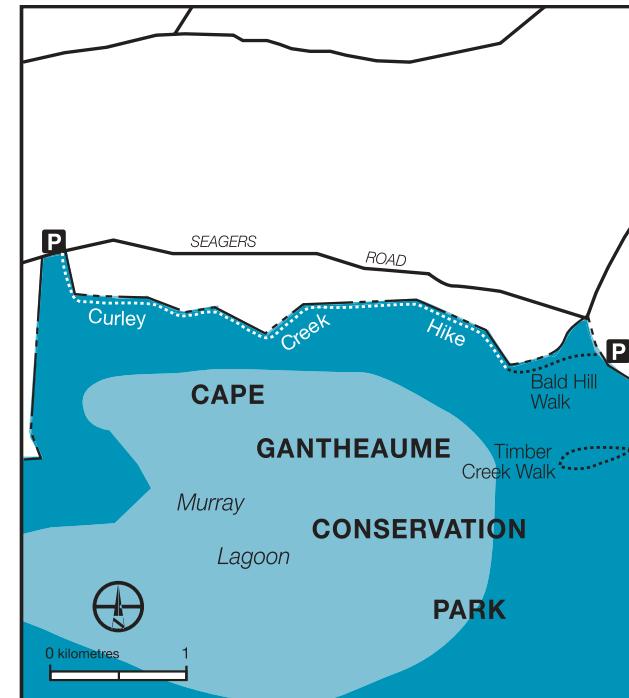
Access: This trail starts at Cape Borda lightstation.
Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.



8. 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.

Access: The Curley Creek Hike begins at Curley Creek, 6 km from the Murray Lagoon park 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 office.
Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.

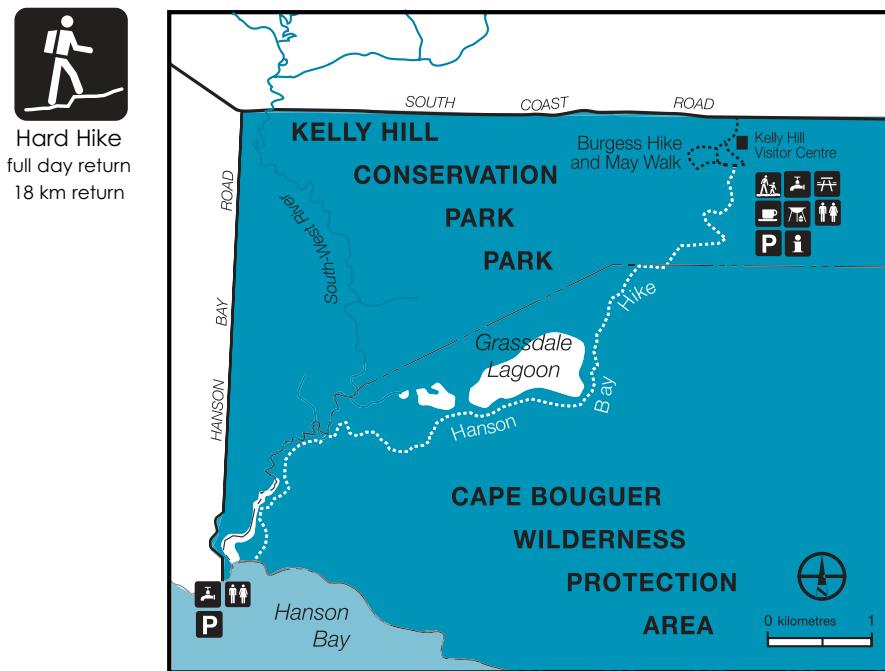


9. Hanson Bay Hike

This spectacular trail meanders from Kelly Hill Visitor Centre to Hanson Bay. It passes through banksia heath, Pink Gum woodlands, mallee and coastal heath, alongside freshwater lagoons, and over dunes to viewpoints that provide wonderful vistas inland and along the coast. Allow a full day for the return trip or try to arrange a pick-up.

Access: This hike begins at Kelly Hill Visitor Centre.

Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.



10. Harveys Return Hike

This short hike follows the original route used by the lighthouse keepers who hauled their stores up from Harveys Return using a horse and capstan (horse drawn winch), and small rail cars. For the geology enthusiasts, there are spectacular outcrops of tightly folded, thinly bedded schists. Below the capstan, the trail is very steep, so walkers should descend carefully.

Access: The trail begins at the Harveys Return Campground on the Playford Highway.

Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.



Hard Hike
1 hour return
1.5 km return



11. 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 a stone threshing floor on Ironstone Hill. The farming heritage of the area is interpreted on signs along the hike.

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

Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.



Moderate Hike
1.5 hours return
4 km return



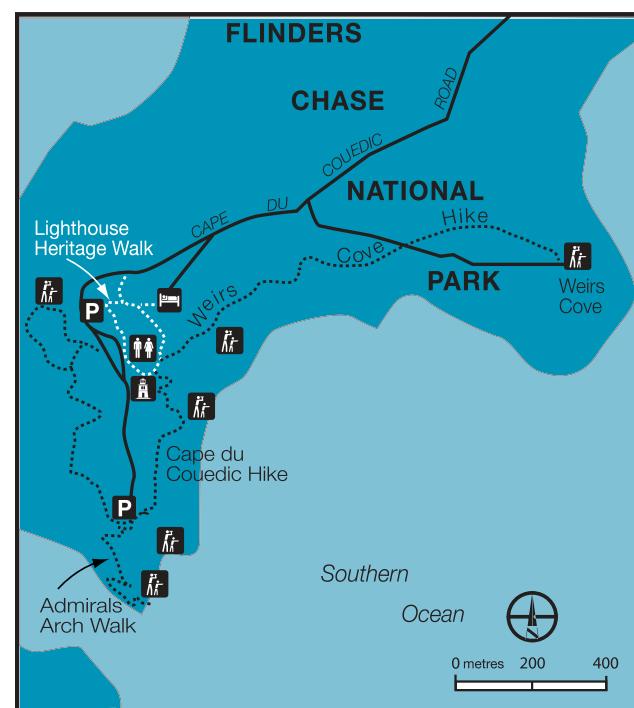
12. Lighthouse Heritage Walk

Take a stroll around the Cape du Couedic Lightstation and immerse yourself in history. Marvel at the magnificence of the tower, the endurance of the lightkeepers and their families, and learn about 'Life on the Edge' from signs along the trail.

Access: Follow the signs from the lighthouse sign shelter to begin this walk. Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.



Walk
10 min return
600 m return

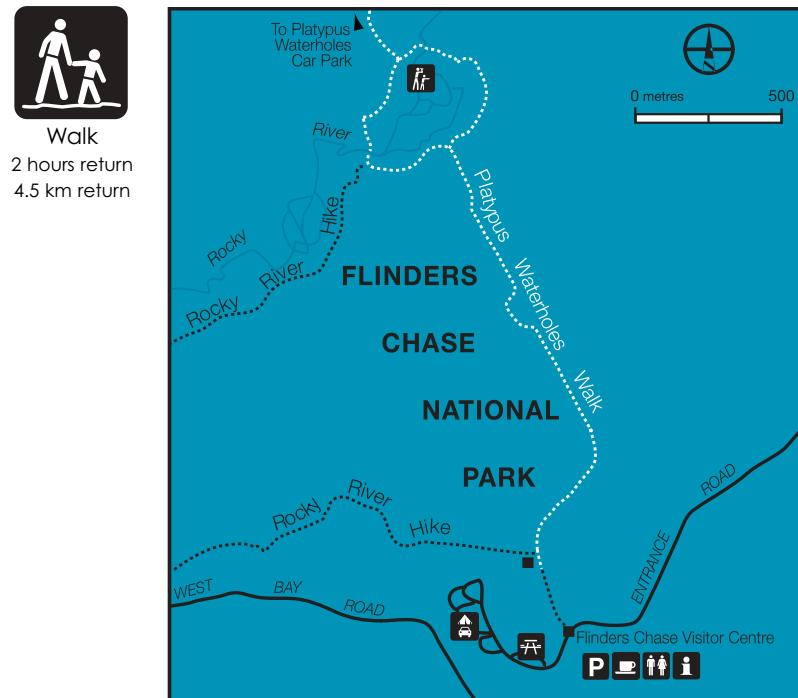


13. Platypus Waterholes Walk

Walk from the Flinders Chase Visitor Centre across Black Swamp to the Rocky River, where patience may be rewarded with the sighting of a Platypus. Allow time to view the waterholes from a series of platforms, a hide and lookout. A multitude of birdlife, kangaroos, wallabies, geese, echidnas and goannas are regularly seen on this walk.

Access: This walk begins at the Flinders Chase Visitor Centre. A shorter walk (suitable for wheelchairs) to the waterholes can be accessed from a car park off Shackle Road.

Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.



14. Ravine des Casoars Hike

This loop trail follows the ravine valley to the coast, passing along the creek bank and high above the valley floor, providing spectacular views. The French explorer, Nicolas Baudin, observed the Kangaroo Island Emu here in 1802, mistakenly identifying them as Cassowary. Tragically, the Kangaroo Island Emu became extinct at least ten years before the first official settlement in 1836.

Access: The hike begins on the Ravine des Casoars Road, 7 km south of the Playford Highway, near Cape Borda.

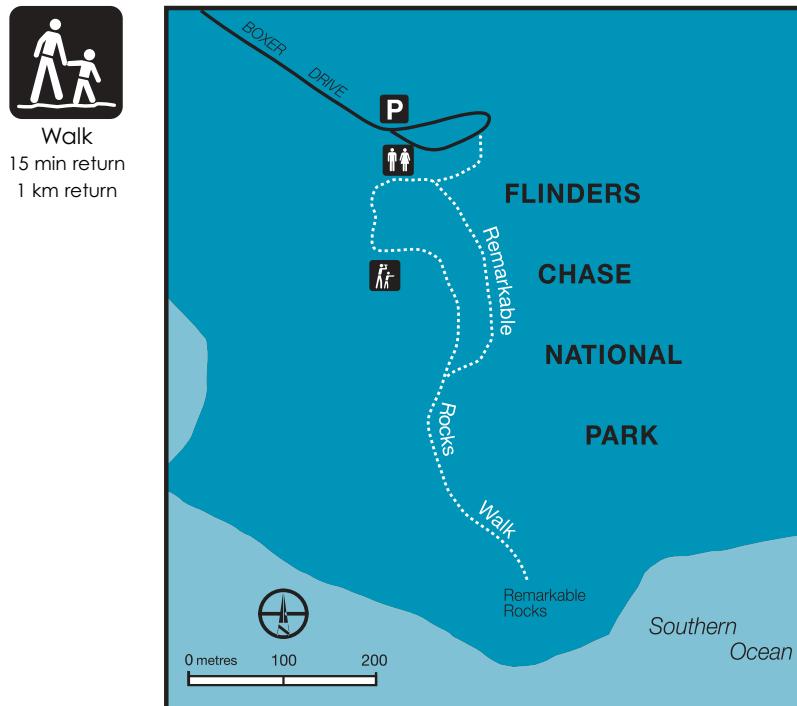
Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.



15. Remarkable Rocks Walk

Follow this wheelchair accessible trail to the stunning geological feature of Remarkable Rocks. The wind-sculpted rocks can be seen as artworks in progress – a 500 million year old story of change. Interpretive signs explain the formation of the granite boulders. Drownings have occurred at Remarkable Rocks. Please read the warning signs. **Do not venture down the seaward side of the granite dome.**

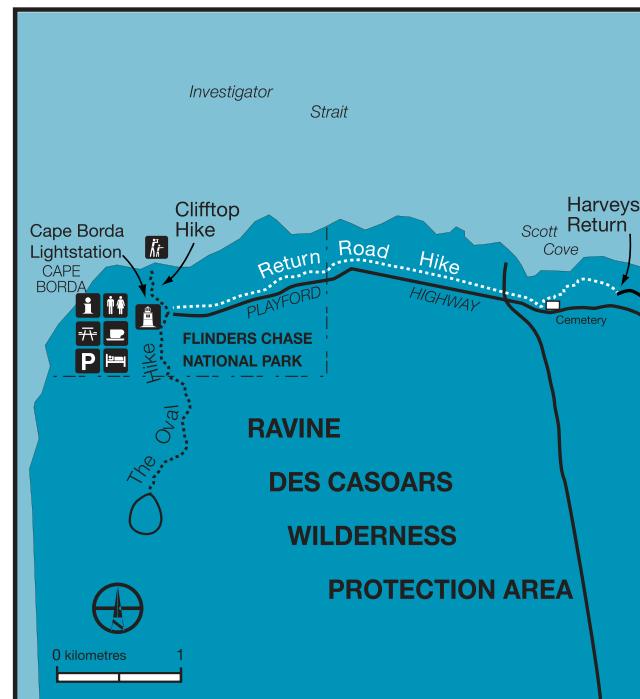
Access: The walk starts at the Remarkable Rocks car park, 16 kilometres from Flinders Chase Visitor Centre.
Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.



16. Return Road Hike

Starting at Harveys Return this hike wanders through low Sugar Gum woodland, passing groves of native pine near the Lightkeepers Cemetery. Take a side trip when you cross the road to take in spectacular coastal views at Scott Cove. The hike follows the lightkeepers' old cart track used for transporting supplies between Harveys Return and Cape Borda, which they called 'The Return Road'. Look for sections of cobblestones to see the original track.

Access: This hike can begin at either Harveys Return or Cape Borda.
Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.



Walk
15 min return
1 km return

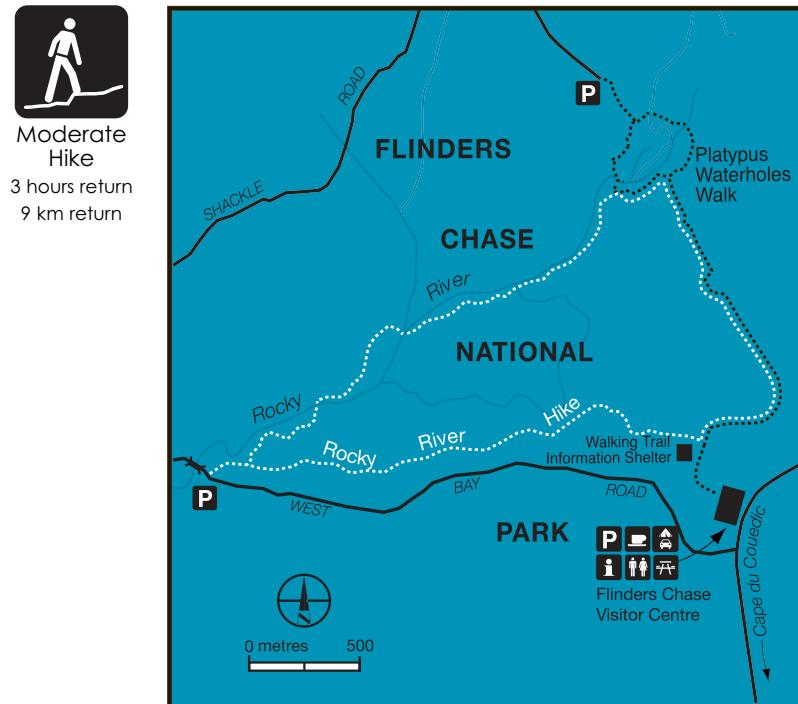
Moderate Hike
3 hours return
9 km return

17. Rocky River Hike

Linked with the Platypus Waterholes Walk, this half-day hike takes you through the diverse habitats of Rocky River. The trail meanders through forest and woodland, providing picturesque views of the river and opportunities to watch for Platypus. Listen for honeyeaters in the forest canopy, and look for delicate orchids in winter and spring.

Access: This hike starts at Flinders Chase Visitor Centre and includes the Platypus Waterholes Walk. Alternatively, the trail can be started from Rocky River Bridge on West Bay Road, or the Platypus Waterholes car park on Shackle Road.

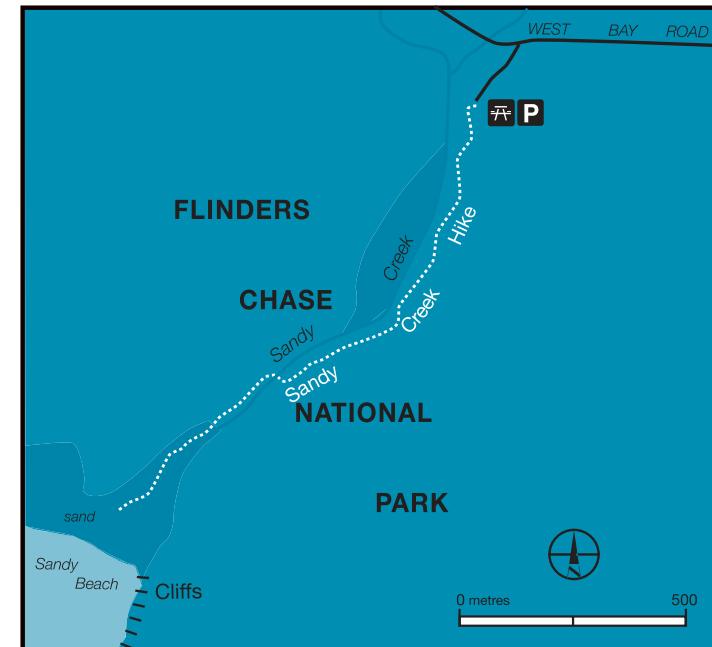
Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.



18. Sandy Creek Hike

Follow the bank of Sandy Creek before descending into the creek bed for the last section through sand dunes and onto a large sandy beach. Here time can be forgotten while relaxing and watching the Southern Ocean pound against the shore.

Access: This hike begins on West Bay Road approximately 10 km from Flinders Chase Visitor Centre. Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.



Moderate Hike
1.5 hours return
3 km return

19. Snake Lagoon Hike

Starting at Snake Lagoon, this popular trail winds through Sugar Gums and mallee before descending into the Rocky River valley. The trail crosses Rocky River and meanders along its bank to the mouth, providing spectacular views through the valley and across the Southern Ocean.

Access: Snake Lagoon is located 9 km from Flinders Chase Visitor Centre on the West Bay Road.

Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.



Moderate Hike
1.5 hours return
3 km return



20. Tadpole Cove Walk

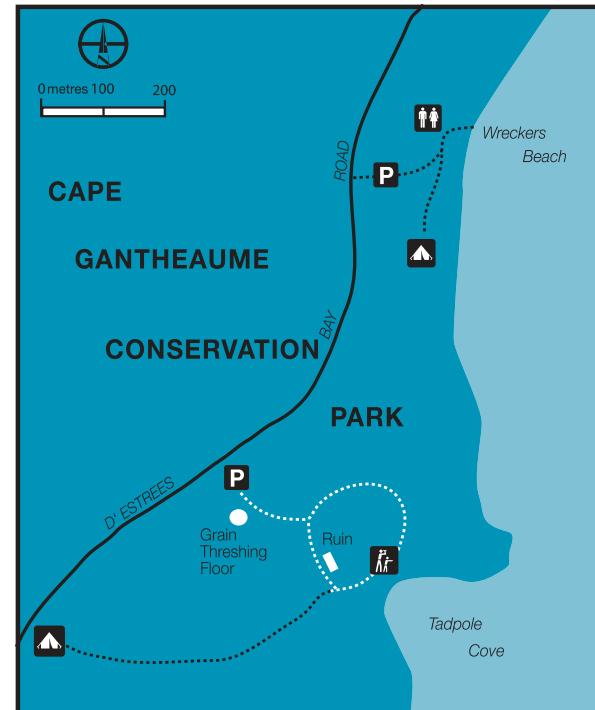
This walk combines unusual coastal scenery with early settlement heritage sites. The walk starts at an old grain threshing floor, used by early settlers to process locally grown grain, and takes you past the ruins of a small cottage dating from the same period. The walk then meanders through regenerating 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.

Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.



Walk
20 min return
800 m return

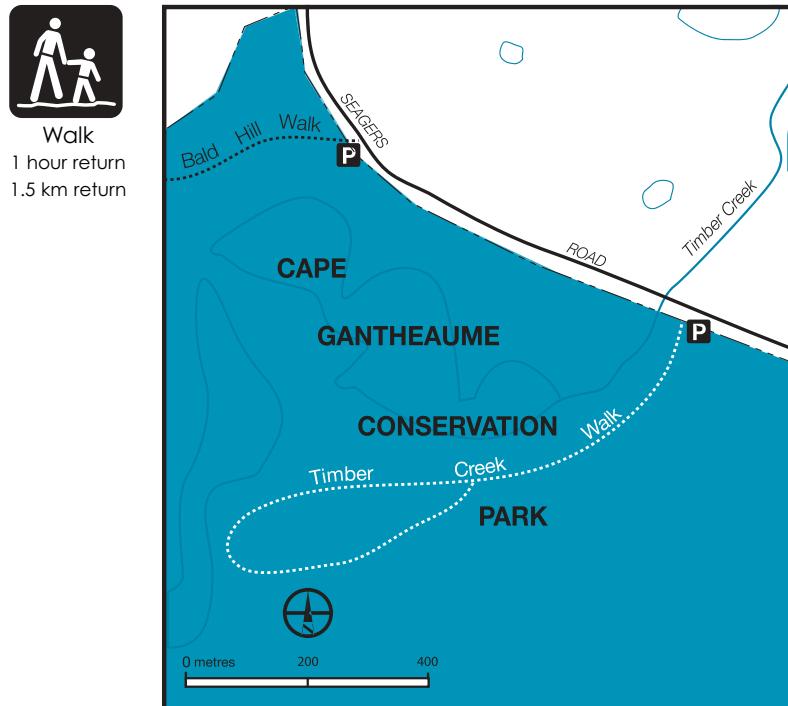


21. Timber Creek Walk

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.

Access: The walk begins 500 m west of Murray Lagoon park headquarters off Seagers Road, which can be seasonally flooded.

Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.

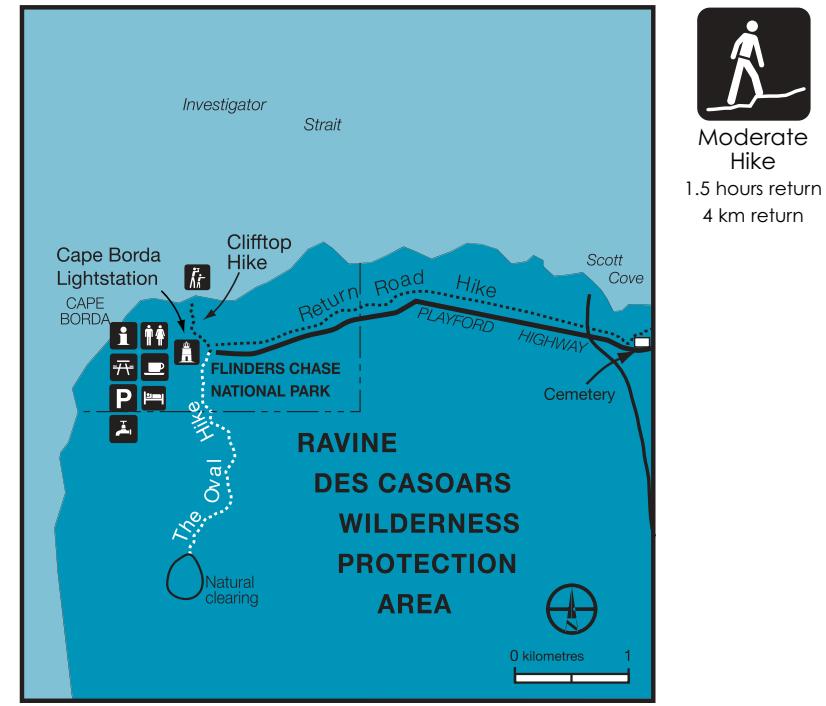


22. The Oval Hike

This trail meanders south from Cape Borda through dense Bull Oak, mallee heath and native pines, before reaching a clearing in the middle of the bush. The lighthouse keepers used this clearing for growing vegetables and crops to feed livestock, and for recreation. A wonderful hike for viewing wildflowers, particularly orchids, and the occasional echidna.

Access: This trail begins at Cape Borda Lightstation.

Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.

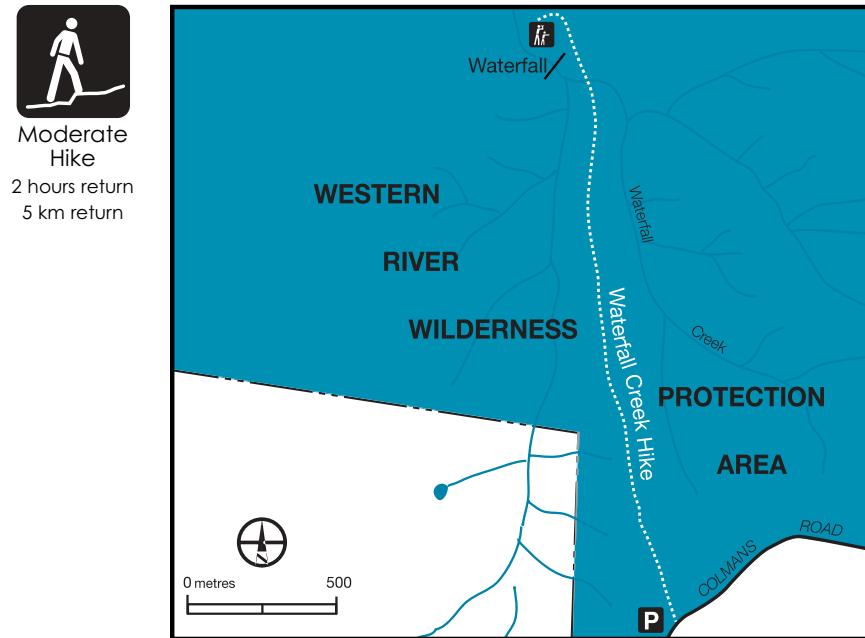


23. Waterfall Creek Hike

Follow the trail from the car park down the valley to the creek, where stepping stones lead you up a small winding trail through sheoak trees, to a lookout with spectacular views of a winter waterfall. The sheoaks, provide a valuable food source for the elusive, endangered Glossy Black-Cockatoo.

Access: This hike begins in the car park in the Western River Wilderness Protection Area, off Colmans Road.

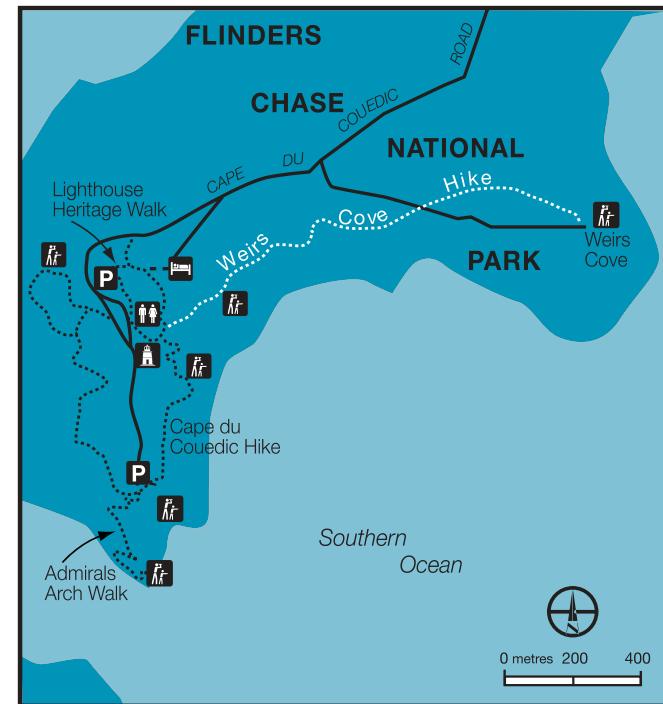
Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.



24. Weirs Cove Hike

Imagine spending three months or more waiting for fresh supplies. Hike to Weirs Cove to understand the extreme hardship involved in getting the shopping home. Discover the method of landing people and supplies along this treacherous coastline.

Access: Begin this hike at the lighthouse sign shelter, at Cape du Couedic. Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.

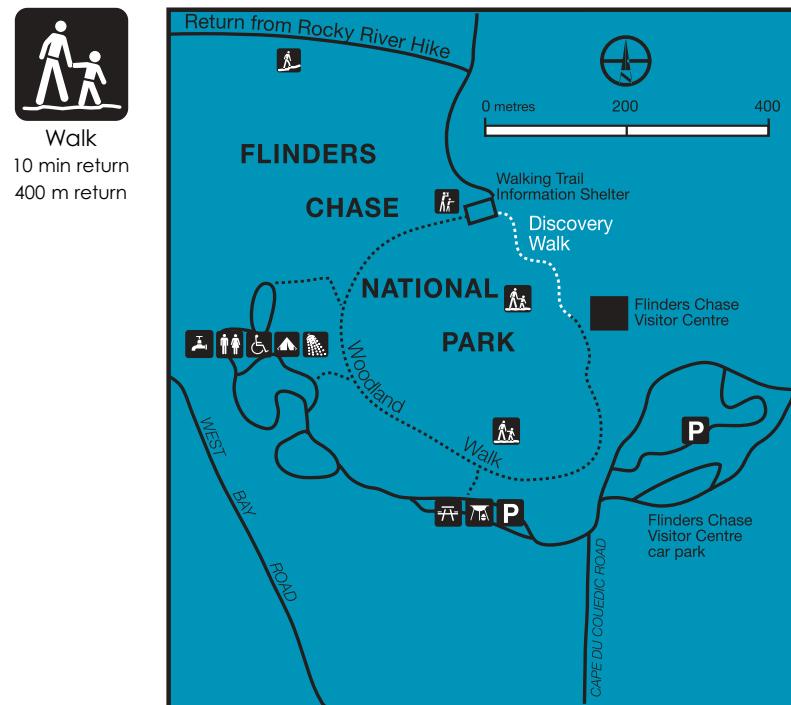


25. Discovery Walk

This short walk will take you from the Flinders Chase Visitor Centre to the Walking Trail Information Shelter overlooking Black Swamp. Interpretive signs along the way will help hone your wildlife observation skills.

Signs at the shelter give information about other hikes and walks accessed from here.

Access: This walk leaves from and returns to the Flinders Chase Visitor Centre.
Refer to pages 18-19 and 28-29.

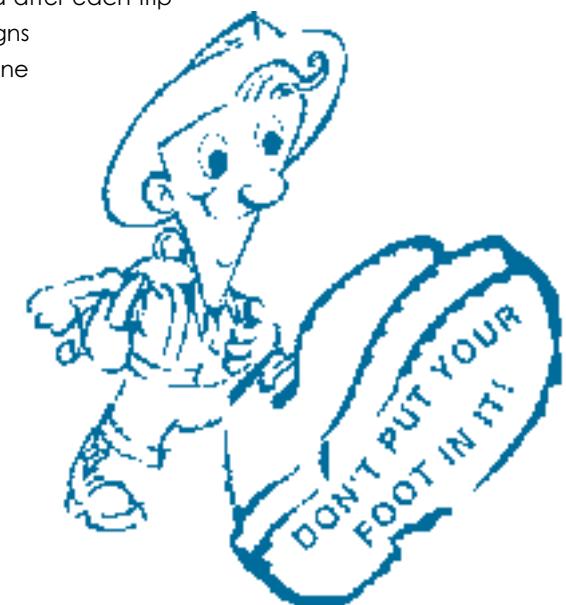


Phytophthora (pronounced fy-TOFF-thora) species are soil and waterborne fungi that cause disease and often death to a wide variety of native plant species, exotic fruits and vegetables. The most common species is *Phytophthora cinnamomi* which is also referred to as *Pc*.

Phytophthora attacks the roots and stems of plants. Early symptoms of the disease are root-rot, and depending on the plant species, stem rot and eventual death. The susceptible plants die from an inability to take up sufficient water and nutrients. The first symptoms of infection are the yellowing of the foliage followed by dieback of the entire plant.

You can help stop the spread of *Phytophthora* on Kangaroo Island by preventing the transfer of infested soil or plant material by:

- avoiding driving, riding or walking in areas when soils are wet and sticky
- staying on designated roads, tracks and trails
- brushing soil off vehicles, bikes, boats and camping gear before and after each trip
- obeying 'Road Closed' signs
- using wash down or hygiene stations when provided.



Self-guided walks

Kelly Hill Conservation Park

Burgess and May Walking Trails are two short trails that introduce visitors to the geology and natural history of Kelly Hill Conservation Park. Along the trail you will see interesting landscape features which help to explain how the cave system was formed. The walks are a great way to fill in time while waiting for the next tour. Ask for a copy of the brochure at the Kelly Hill Visitor Centre. Refer to pages 28 and 34.

Seal Bay Conservation Park

The *Flowering Plants of Seal Bay Conservation Park* brochure presents seven coastal plants identified along the trail to the lookout. By taking a closer look at these plants and the surrounding landscape you will see how each plant has adapted to the conditions. This short trail is a great activity to fill in time while waiting for the next tour. Ask for a brochure at the Seal Bay Visitor Centre.



Desert Banksia
Banksia ornata

Baudin Conservation Park

The **Ironstone Hill Hike** in Baudin Conservation Park follows a section of the historic Bullock Track and leads to Ironstone Hill. Interpretive signs explore the life of Harry Bates and his early farming endeavours. Refer to pages 28 and 40.

Beyeria Conservation Park

The **Beyeria Conservation Park Walking Trail** interpretive signs introduce visitors to the mallee broombrush plant community and the natural process of change. Rare endemic plants are described. This walk is suitable for all ages. Refer to pages 28 and 32.



Brown falcon
Falco berigora



Self-guided drive

Shackle Road

The **Shackle Road Self-guided Drive** takes the visitor from the Flinders Chase Visitor Centre in Flinders Chase National Park to Cape Borda via the Shackle Road. The Shackle Road was initially a bullock track cut to cart telegraph poles to link Cape Borda and Cape du Couedic during the early 1900s. The trail symbol of a Yacca and the stop number, mark designated stops at points of interest along the drive. Allow approximately two hours to complete this drive.

The Shackle Road Self-guided Drive



You can purchase a copy of the guide at Flinders Chase Visitor Centre, Cape Borda Lightstation or the Regional Office, Kingscote.

Please remember...

The National Parks Code

Help protect your national parks by following these guidelines:

- Leave your pets at home.
- Take your rubbish with you.
- Gas fires only, except on days of declared Total Fire Bans (the CFS broadcast notices on local radio 891 ABC and 765 5CC or check CFS hotline 1300 362 361).
- Camp only in designated areas.
- Respect geological and heritage sites.
- Keep our wildlife wild. Do not feed or disturb animals, or remove native plants.
- Keep to defined vehicle tracks and walking trails.
- Be considerate of other park users.
- Help prevent the spread of the deadly cinnamon fungus; please comply with walking trailhead instructions.

**Thank you for leaving the bush in its natural state
for the enjoyment of others.**



Slow down for wildlife

Kangaroo Island is refuge to an abundant array of wildlife. Unfortunately too many are killed on the roads.

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

Please don't feed the wildlife – let them fend for themselves because:

- Human food is poisonous to wildlife.
It seriously disrupts their natural 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 animals' welfare first.
- Move slowly and quietly.
- Observe from a distance.
- Use binoculars for that close-up look.

For your safety

All animals in national and conservation parks and conservation reserves 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 animals in the wild.



Tammar Wallaby
Macropus eugenii

Fire – for your safety

Fires are an integral part of the functioning of many Australian ecosystems. Indeed, many species of plants fail to reproduce without fire as an agent in their life cycle.

Kangaroo Island's parks have experienced a number of large wildfires throughout their history.

The Department for Environment and Heritage manages fire in the state's parks to protect life, property and environmental assets and to enhance the conservation of natural and cultural heritage.

For your personal protection you need to know:

- Radiant heat from bushfires is the chief killer. The basic principles of survival, whether in a house or in a car, are shelter from radiant heat and not to panic.
- In a severe fire the air temperature near the ground remains relatively cool and, although uncomfortable to breathe, there is sufficient oxygen in the air to survive.
- Avoid bushfires unless you are personally involved. Your curiosity could endanger your own life and the lives of others.

If you are directly threatened by a fire while in the park, please observe the following rules:

In a car

- Do not drive through thick smoke.
- Stop the vehicle on bare ground off the roadway or in an area of least undergrowth.
- Wind up the windows and close all air vents.
- Turn the ignition off and switch on headlights and hazard warning lights.
- Shelter from radiant heat by lying on the floor and covering yourself with a rug or blanket.
- Stay in the car until the main fire front passes.
- When you get out cover all exposed skin, move away from the car and stay on bare or burnt ground.

On foot

- Do not run uphill or away from the approaching fire unless you know of a safe refuge nearby.
- Do not run through a fire front.
- Choose an open space, clearing or track.
- Clear away as much flammable material as possible.
- Cover all exposed skin surfaces.
- Seek shelter from the radiant heat behind a log or large rock if possible, or in a depression in the ground.
- Lie face down on the ground.

The main causes of death from fire are panic and ignorance.



Scarlet Bottlebrush
Callistemon rugulosus

For further information contact:

Department for Environment and Heritage
37 Dauncey Street, Kingscote 5223
Telephone: (08) 8553 2381
Facsimile: (08) 8553 2531
www.environment.sa.gov.au/parks/kangaroo_is.html

Flinders Chase National Park
Telephone: (08) 8559 7235
Email: flinders.chase@saugov.sa.gov.au

Seal Bay Conservation Park
Telephone: (08) 8559 4207
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Kelly Hill Conservation Park
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Cape Borda Lightstation
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Cape Willoughby Lightstation
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