Welcome to World Expeditions

Thank you for your interest in our Flinders & Beyond, South Australia trip. At World Expeditions we are passionate about our off the beaten track experiences as they provide our travellers with the thrill of coming face to face with untouched cultures as well as wilderness regions of great natural beauty. We are committed to ensuring that our unique itineraries are well researched, affordable and tailored for the enjoyment of small groups or individuals - philosophies that have been at our core since 1975 when we began operating adventure holidays. Our itineraries will give you the very best travel experience, designed by people with incredible local knowledge who share our vision of authentic exchange and real exploration with a responsible tourism approach. Whether you like your adventures to include trekking, touring, cycling, mountaineering, kayaking or cruising World Expeditions can make it happen for you. We hope you will join us for a life changing experience.

Why travel with World Expeditions?

World Expeditions Australian Treks have been in continuous operation for more than 30 years, offering economical, reliable, environmentally friendly small group fully inclusive adventure holidays to some of the most beautiful pristine parts of Australia. Our trips cater for people from many walks of life, age groups and motivations. World Expeditions offers more than 30 tailored Australian itineraries that incorporate trekking, walking, rafting, cycling and climbing throughout Australia.

Trip Highlights

- Soak up the beauty and grandeur of the scenic Wilpena Pound
- Animal spotting for yellow-footed rock wallaby, euro and emu plus much more local wildlife
- Relax each evening at unique, comfortable outback accommodation with all scrumptious meals provided
- Guided tour of the Arid Lands Botanic Gardens
- Stunning Bunyeroo and Brachina Gorge
- Guided walks
- Visit to The Cedars, historic home of landscape artist, Hans Heysen
- Tour accompanied by Sandy Pratten from the Foundation & Friends

Trip Duration: 9 days
Grade: Introductory
Activities: Day walks, Culture and history, Botanical exploration
Summary: 9 day trip, 8 days touring and day walks, 8 nights accommodation
Flinders & Beyond, South Australia
A walking, cultural and botanical tour of the Flinders Ranges and beyond

The Trip
The Flinders Ranges offers some of the most stunning scenery in Australia with a rolling range of majestic peaks and rugged ridges, deep gorges and endemic plants and animals.

We commence our tour in Adelaide and explore the route to Port Augusta via Melrose and the Pichi Richi Railway. In Port Augusta we’ll visit the unique Arid Lands Botanic Garden before heading to the northern Flinders. Over the next few days we’ll explore ancient gorges, river beds of red river gums, take in the beautiful scenery of Wilpena Pound, learn about the history of the area and create unforgettable experiences. Our tour concludes with a stay at the world class wine region of the Clare Valley. Each evening we stay at comfortable accommodation offering both stunning scenery and the best of outback hospitality. Accompanied by Sandy Pratten from the Foundation & Friends, this tour is not to be missed.

About your Leader
Sandy Pratten
Sandy Pratten trained at Ryde College of Horticulture and has been director of her own Landscape Design business for more than 30 years. She grew up in Sydney, lived 20 years in rural NSW, and has now returned. She is a guide at Royal Botanic Gardens Sydney and has lectured in horticulture for over 15 years. Passionate about travelling and exploring new landscapes, and a professional artist, she is interested in the sense of place in a country and the culture as a whole which contributes to the land use. She has taken several garden tours throughout NSW. In 2011 Sandy was on the ADFAS committee as head of Sydney Lecturers and is a member of the Australian Garden History Society. She spent four years recently on the Community Consultative Committee for Centennial Parklands. Sandy has led trips to India, Sri Lanka, China, Mexico, Myanmar, Cuba, Kakadu and Morocco for the Foundation & Friends. This will be Sandy’s first trip to South Australia with the Foundation & Friends.

At a Glance

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What’s included
- 8 breakfasts, 7 lunches and 7 dinners
- Professional wilderness guide and support staff
- 8 nights accommodation as per itinerary
- All entrance and national park fees as outlined in the trip
- Emergency communications and group first aid kit
- Transport during the trip
- One way Pichi Richi Railway from Quorn to Port Augusta
- Trip accompanied by Sandy Pratten, Foundation & Friends
What’s not Included

→ Airfares
→ Accommodation in Adelaide post trip
→ Items of personal nature such as laundry and postage
→ Alcoholic beverages
→ Travel insurance

Detailed Itinerary

DAY 1  Friday 2nd August 2019 – Arrive Adelaide

Late afternoon brief with your Guide and own arrangements for dinner at one of the many restaurants in nearby Rundle St.
Overnight Majestic Roof Garden Hotel - www.roofgardenhotel.com.au
Meals: NIL

DAY 2  Saturday 3rd August – To Port Augusta via historic Melrose

Pick up from Adelaide Hotel and drive to Melrose (3.5 hours 278kms).
Melrose is the oldest town in the Flinders Ranges set in the shadow of Mount Remarkable and we’ll visit the historic Jacka’s Brewery and Melrose Heritage Museum. Jacka’s Brewery (1878), Melrose is an incredible decaying multistorey stone ruin which once employed 40 staff.
We’ll then drive to historic Quorn (30 mins), and enjoy a picnic lunch and visit the Old Kanyaka Ruins.
In the early afternoon we’ll pick up the Pichi Richi Railway, a restored steam or heritage diesel train and trace the original Ghan route from Quorn to Port Augusta (1430-1630).
On arrival into Port Augusta we’ll transfer to the Standpipe Golf Motor Inn for dinner and overnight - www.standpipe.com.au
Meals: B,L,D

DAY 3  Sunday 4th August - Port Augusta, Hawker and Parachilna

Morning visit the Wadlata Outback Centre (www.wadlata.sa.gov.au ) and the Australian Arid Lands Botanic Garden (with private guided tour) - www.aalbg.sa.gov.au
Lunch at Aridlands Botanic Gardens
In the afternoon we’ll drive to the Hawker Historic Town ship (1hour), and have a look into the Jeff Morgan Gallery to see the unique panoramas of internationally acclaimed artist.
We’ll then board our bus for a short transfer (approx 1 hour drive from Hawker) to our Outback accommodation at the Prairie Hotel at Parachilna - www.prairiehotel.com.au
Meals: B,L,D
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Fast Facts
- Countries Visited: Australia
- Singles: A single supplement is not available for this trip
- Leader: Expert local leader
- Advice for people with limited mobility: This trip is not suitable for people with limited mobility.
- Brochure Reference: Australia, New Zealand, Pacific

Thoughtful Travel
The environments we travel through are fragile. It is our responsibility as visitors to minimise the impact of our presence.

World Expeditions were the proud recipients of the inaugural Australian National Travel Industry’s Environmental Achievement award for our Responsible Travel Guidebook.

This detailed guide to responsible & sustainable travel is provided to all World Expeditions clients before they travel. Please ask your consultant if you have not received your copy of our world-winning book. Alternatively, you may like to download a copy from our website www.worldexpeditions.com

Trip grading
Introductory
To determine the grade of a particular adventure we consider a number of factors. These include the condition of the walking terrain, altitude and the length of the trek. While no walks in this tour are compulsory, to get the most out of your trip we recommend you do some walking, 2-3 times per week in the lead up to your trip.

DAY 4 Monday 5th August - Walk and Explore Blinman
Morning Blinman Pools Walk (10km return)
Beginning at Angorichina Village, on the Parachilna to Blinman Road, you’ll follow the Parachilna and Blinman Creeks, as they wind their way through beautiful rugged country. In some places, sheer cliffs rise almost straight up from the creek bed, providing a spectacular backdrop.
The two spring-fed creeks keep the first pool filled with water all year round. The second pool is low in summer, but after big rains it can fill up to 3 metres. The Blinman Pools, with their pretty waterfalls, have been popular picnic spots since the 1800s.
In the afternoon, time permitting we’ll visit the heritage Blinman Mine
Overnight Prairie Hotel - www.prairiehotel.com.au
Meals: B,L,D

DAY 5 Tuesday 6th August- Bunyeroo and Brachina Gorge to Wilpena Pound
Early morning, drive through to Bunyeroo and Brachina Gorge. Do a short walk Trezona Track hike (part of the Heysen Trail, approx 5km), Brachina Gorge meanders its way through sharp sawtooth ridges of resistant quartzite. This spectacular gorge was once used as a pass through which bullock teams pulled their loads and is now a favourite picnic and camping area. “Brachina” derived from the Aboriginal word ‘vachina’, meaning cranky, refers to a mythical argument between birds over a grind stone.
The scree slopes on the western side of the Gorge are home to a population of the vulnerable Yellow-Footed Rock Wallaby (Petrogale xanthopus). The animals in Brachina Gorge form part of the largest population of Yellow-Footed Rock Wallabies in Australia, with an estimated population of 2000 in the Flinders Ranges.
The ‘Corridors through Time’ Geological Trail has been established through this Gorge which interprets the geological history of the area. Interpretive signs are located at significant points throughout the gorge. A brochure and map of the trail are available at information outlet. The Flinders Ranges have been referred to as the ‘cradle of life’ and are the home to the ‘golden spike’ of the Ediacaran Period which is, the first geological time period to be declared in the Southern Hemisphere.
In the afternoon we’ll transfer to Wilpena Pound Resort, Standard Room - www.wilpenapound.com.au
Meals: B,L,D

DAY 6 Wednesday 7th August – At Wilpena Pound
Exploring Wilpena Pound
Morning: Approx 2-3 hours - Walking distance: 2.5kms return - easy
A leisurely walk along Wilpena Creek into Wilpena Pound and on to the Old Hills Homestead where you can learn about the hardships the Hills family had to face at the turn of the century. There is an optional hike up to Wangarra Hill lookout offering panoramic views of Wilpena Pound. A variety of mallee, native pine
Adventure Travel

By its very nature adventure travel involves an element of the unexpected. In remote and developing countries do not expect standards you are used to at home. Remote areas are sometimes unpredictable and itineraries may be altered. To get the most out of your adventure it is important that you are flexible, positive and eager to take on all the challenges that arise. If you are uncertain about your suitability for this trip we recommend that you speak with your consultant of travel agent.

Important Note

These trip notes represent the most current information for this itinerary, and may supersede any information in the current brochure, including but not limited to the itinerary and price.

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and heath habitats within the Pound provide excellent opportunities to observe interesting local birds including wrens, robins, parrots and raptors. The extraordinary beauty of the great river red gums as you observe the view are stunning.

After a light picnic lunch back at the resort we will enjoy a local Cultural experience:

- Duration: Approx 2 hours - Walking distance: 2.5kms return - easy
- We’ll join an experienced Yura guide for an informative stroll to Old Wilpena Station, one of South Australia’s oldest and best preserved pastoral settlements.
- Walk along Wilpena Creek past magnificent river red gums with stunning views of Wilpena Pound in the distance. Learn about the landscape and bio-diversity from the perspective of the Adnyamathanha people. An easy to moderate 2km walk.
- During your stay at Wilpena Pound you may also opt to take a scenic flight to see the stunning Pound from the air (at own expense).

Overnight at Wilpena Pound Resort, Standard Room
Meals: B,L,D

DAY 7 Thursday 8th August – Arkaroo Rock, Sacred Canyon and Rawnsley Park Station

Morning walk and visit Arkaroo Rock
- 15 km from Wilpena there is a car park at the foot of Arkaroo Rock. The walking trail from the car park takes about 1-2 hours but the rock walls have some very fine Aboriginal art including red ochre images of emu and bird tracks, snake lines, circles and leaves.
- Before going stay at Rawnsley Park if we have time we’ll take a short drive to Sacred Canyon where eathered rock carvings can be seen on the walls of this small canyon. The site has interpretive signs explaining the symbols you will find. Little is known about the people who made these carvings, which can be found in numerous places throughout the Flinders Ranges, as the memory of these people has long been lost to the local Adnyamathanha community.

Overnight Rawnsley Park Station (Holiday Units/Twin share) and dinner at the Woolshed Restaurant - www.rawnsleypark.com.au
Meals: B,L,D

DAY 8 Friday 9th August - Drive to Clare 3.5 hours (239kms)

Today we leave the Flinders Ranges and head south to Clare Valley to experience the vineyards and surrounds. In the afternoon we will visit the vineyards and enjoy the local wine. The area is well known for Riesling, Taylors wines and Claymore wines.

Stay in Clare near vineyards and Farewell Dinner
Meals: B,L,D

DAY 9 Saturday 10th August – Morning visit to The Cedars and return to Adelaide. Tour concludes.

This morning we’ll depart the Clare Valley to visit The Cedars (approx 2 hour drive) and enjoy a guided tour of the historic home of one of Australia’s most noted landscape artists, Sir Hans Heysen. We’ll have time to explore the gardens and studio before heading into the historic township of Hahndorf for lunch (on own account), and a wander at your leisure. We will return to Adelaide (or drop off at airport), where your trip concludes. Drop off at airport will be around 4pm. If you are flying home on this day we recommend booking your return flight to depart from 5pm onwards.

Meals: B
This Itinerary Is Subject To Change With Any Change In Community Regulations As Well As Governmental Changes And Natural Circumstances Beyond Our Control.

Climate
Generally speaking, the weather is fine in the Flinders Ranges and there is plenty of sun. We go in the coolest part of the year as this is the most comfortable time for walking. July can be cool to cold however from August to October the days get progressively warmer.

Night time temperatures can be cold at any time of year. From late May through to early August, the evenings can be very cold (down to minus 5°C/24°F). On rare occasions, rain can force us to alter our schedule. Though rain is unlikely, please be prepared for cold and wet weather at all times of year.

A Typical Day
The detailed itinerary outlines each day’s activity which gives you an idea of daily timing. Most days consist of some walking combined with sightseeing and touring. Breakfast will be at your accommodation and lunch will generally be picnic style, served along the way, by our talented guides. Over dinner your guides will give a briefing on the following day’s activities.

dietary requirements
Provided we are advised in advance of your departure we are able to cater for vegetarian diets and can assist with medically recommended diets (allergies and intolerances). Please ensure you discuss your requirements with us in advance (at least 1 month prior to your trip) to determine whether we can cater to such dietary requirements on your chosen adventure. Please note that options are likely to be limited in very remote locations or alternatives may be more expensive or unavailable. There may be times when those with special requirements may need to provide their own food. We are unable to guarantee a peanut-free or allergen-free trip, and therefore, we strongly encourage that travellers with life-threatening or severe allergies take all necessary medical precautions to prepare for the possibility of exposure. Passengers must travel with all necessary medications for food allergies and be capable of self-administering these medications.

Accommodation on the Trip
During the trip we experience a variety of properties. These range from simple outback homesteads through to twin share hotel style rooms. All accommodation has been chosen for its location, charm, history and character.

Night 1: Majestic Roof Garden Hotel, Adelaide - www.roofgardenhotel.com.au. This vibrant hotel boasts a great location right in the centre of town. Located near the Rundle St Mall area.
Night 2: Standpipe Golf Motor Inn, Port Augusta - www.standpipe.com.au
Night 3-4: Parachilna’s Prairie Hotel. Clean, comfortable and simple accommodation with shared bathroom facilities. Located in a charming historic hotel just off the Heysen Trail.
Night 7: Rawnsley Park Station, Twin Holiday Units - www.rawnsleypark.com.au. Located at the Southern End of the Flinders Ranges, it’s a perfect spot to explore the southern end of the range.
Night 8: Clare Country Club (or similar) - www.clarecountryclub.com.au

What you Carry
You will need to carry just a day-pack with your water and other items. You should plan on carrying at least 2 litres of water every day.

Equipment Required
A comprehensive gear list is provided in the pre-departure information supplied on booking.

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Use the hashtag #WorldExpeditions on your best travel photos and videos to be featured.

How to Book
Please fill out the booking form and return with a $500 deposit to Foundation & Friends of the Botanic Gardens to reserve your place on the tour. Please note that all reservations are subject to availability at the time of booking. The deposit is payable by cash, credit card or cheque (made payable to World Expeditions) and is non-refundable. Please direct your completed booking form and send to the following address:
Foundation & Friends of the Botanic Gardens
Cottage 6
Mrs Macquaries Road
Sydney NSW 2000
Ph: 9231 8182
Fax: 9241 3064
Alternatively, you may book your trip and pay your deposit online at: https://worldexpeditions.com/Australia/Trekking-Hiking/Flinders-Beyond-South-Australia