

Kangaroo Island Wilderness Trail

Essential Information – 3 Day Tour



Thank you for choosing to travel with SeaLink and Kangaroo Island Odysseys.

3 Day Kangaroo Island Wilderness Trail Tour

Your small group touring package features a fully guided walk along selected sections of the Kangaroo Island Wilderness Trail, and includes accommodation, all meals and a full day of touring the real Kangaroo Island.

Day 1: Kangaroo Island Sightseeing (LD)

An early morning pick up and scenic coach journey to Cape Jervis to board the SeaLink Kangaroo Island ferry for the 45 minute crossing to Kangaroo Island. On arrival at Penneshaw you will be met by your local guide and your island nature experience begins. At spectacular Seal Bay Conservation Park, your guide will escort you on a memorable walk along the beach. Walk among the Australian sea lions as they bask on the beach - standing at a safe distance you can hear them sigh and watch them at play. Then it's on to our exclusive Heritage-listed natural bush property to enjoy a delicious gourmet picnic style lunch with South Australian wine. Follow your lunch with a pleasant bushwalk or a stroll along the beach. Travel through the island's interior keeping an eye out for koalas and echidnas. Listen for Australia's rarest cockatoo, the Kangaroo Island glossy black cockatoo and watch out for the Tammar wallaby, with its small fine features, in its natural habitat. Later in the afternoon, as the day draws to a close, see the kangaroos leave the safety of the bush to begin grazing on the open pastures as you head to your accommodation at Kangaroo Island Wilderness Retreat.

Day 2: Cape du Couedic to Sanderson Bay (BLD)

(6.5 hours, 13km)

This morning you will be transferred to Admirals Arch to complete the side trip off the wilderness trail to view the popular sites of historic Weirs Cove, Cape du Couedic lighthouse and Admirals Arch. You will be able to view the enchanting antics of Australian and Long-nosed fur seals that visit this section of the coast. Back on the Wilderness Trail the track heads east towards Sanderson Bay and enters dense coastal mallee before breaking out to the

awesome sight of the Remarkable Rocks. Continuing on, the trail hugs the coastline and offers cinematic views that inspire both awe and contemplation. At the end of the days walk, you'll find the Banksia Campground located in a sheltered area close to Sanderson Bay. Here you will be collected and transferred back to your accommodation at Kangaroo Island Wilderness Retreat.

Day 3: Sanderson Bay to Grassdale (BL)

(6.5 hours, 13.5km)

This morning you will be transferred back to the Trail to continue your walk. Today offers high energy coastal trekking at its best, with massive swells, towering cliffs and extended views along the coast. As the trail meanders inland you'll be treated to a dramatic change in vegetation from low coastal heath to tall, dense mallee and tea tree. Upon reaching the South West River you'll have the opportunity to use a punt to cross the river, marking the gateway to the Cape Bouguer Wilderness Protection Area. An optional side trip off the wilderness trail includes the nearby Hanson Bay Beach and small settlement of Hanson Bay. Back on the wilderness trail you'll follow the winding river to Kelly Hill Conservation Park and the Tea Tree Campground, located adjacent to the historic Grassdale property. Late this afternoon, you will be collected, and transferred back to Penneshaw for your ferry to the mainland and then coach transfer back to Adelaide.

Know your limits

A good level of fitness is required to walk the trail. Some sections are long, rough and very steep and directional signage is at times limited. You can expect to walk between 3.5 and 7 hours a day, not including side trips. Walk durations will also depend on your fitness level, weather conditions, how much weight you are carrying, and how long you stop for breaks and wildlife viewing. If you need to build up your level of fitness prior to the walk, we recommend starting with a 30 minute daily walk and building up to 6.5 hours. Be sure to trial walking with the pack you intend to take so that you feel fully prepared. For your own safety, be willing to seek assistance if the walk is more difficult than expected.

Kangaroo Island Wilderness Trail

Essential Information – 3 Day Tour



Weather

Weather on the trail is changeable and certain times of the year have a higher risk of bushfire and dangerous ocean conditions. Be aware of the dangers and check the forecast and weather warnings before you go. Depending on the conditions, you may need to change or adapt your itinerary. Walkers should be aware that on catastrophic fire days the park will be closed and walkers will be required to leave the trail. Kangaroo Island Odysseys will arrange alternative touring should the need arise.

Mobile phone reception

Mobile phone reception may be possible with a Telstra 3G or 4G phone service at some of the higher points along the trail, but it is not guaranteed. Please note, our guides will be carrying a satellite phone to maintain safety/touring information for the group.

Disposal of Waste/Rubbish

As part of your pack you will be provided with a bag for your rubbish which you will be responsible to take with you. Please note this will include food scraps and toilet paper, which cannot be left behind. Your guide will carry a roll of toilet paper and a camping trowel for times when a Long Drop Toilet is not available.

Maps and guidebooks

Two products are essential for walkers, and both are provided with your souvenir backpack:

- The Kangaroo Island Wilderness Trail Map
- Trail Guide 'Walk the Wild Isle' produced by the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources contains trip notes and interpretive notes on the landforms, flora, fauna, fungi and history of the island.

Booking Terms & Conditions

A booking deposit of AU\$200 per person is required, with final payment due 30 days prior to travel. Should minimum numbers not be met, an alternate date will be offered or a full refund provided. Should you cancel your booking or part thereof, you will incur cancellation fees – please check www.kangarooislandodysseys.com.au for details.

Download the audio tour app

The Kangaroo Island Wilderness Trail Audio Tours mobile application includes over thirty guided audio tours to enjoy while you walk. Each tour is rich in immersive soundscapes and narration making the stories of the trail come to life. For each day, there is a geo-enabled map which offers walkers the ability to track your location even without an internet connection. Be sure to download the app and each of the five tours before starting your walk as internet connectivity is severely limited on the island. Available from GooglePlay and AppStore.

Top Tips

1. Only take what you need on the track and avoid carrying more than 1/3 of your body weight for a safe and enjoyable walking experience.
2. Look after your feet! Break in your boots before your trip, invest in quality socks and if you're prone to blisters consider preventative measures such as blister blocks, foot lubricants (available from camping stores) or wrapping and taping pressure spots.
3. Know your water intake requirements and carry adequate water. Even in cold weather you need to stay hydrated, so stop for regular drinks.
4. Wear your clothes in layers for easy addition or removal. Cotton and denim clothing soaks up water and will make you cold in wet weather. Merino (woollen) or polypropylene clothing is recommended for walking.
5. Keep your hat, raincoat, gloves, sunglasses and sunscreen in an accessible part of your pack and take them with you on any side trips. Wind, rain and sun regularly occur all at once – don't forget to protect your skin.
6. Keep something to eat in an accessible part of your pack or pocket so that you have food on hand in cold or wet weather.

Kangaroo Island Wilderness Trail

Essential Information – 3 Day Tour



Packing List

Packing the right equipment will help you have a great experience on the Kangaroo Island Wilderness Trail. When deciding on what gear to take remember that you are likely to experience a variety of weather conditions on the trail, so you'll need to be prepared for both sunny and calm conditions as well as wet and windy weather. We've made things easy by providing this packing list with all of your essentials.

Essentials

Backpack (you will receive a souvenir backpack as part of your tour, but

Backpack liner and/or rain cover (to keep everything dry)

Hiking boots (water resistant, lace up with good ankle support and sturdy soles)

Clothing

Rain jacket with hood (waterproof, windproof and breathable)

Overpants (waterproof, windproof and breathable)

Jacket (fleece or woollen/merino)

Walking trousers or shorts (quick-dry fabric)

Walking shirt (long or short-sleeved, quick-dry fabric)

Thermals (long-sleeved top and leggings - merino or polypropylene)

Good quality socks (several pairs)

Warm pants and jacket for night time

Lightweight footwear (thongs, sandals or crocs) for hotel

Underwear

Beanie & Gloves

Sun hat & Sunglasses

Toiletries

Sunscreen and lip balm

Insect repellent

Personal toiletries (toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, moisturiser and sanitary items)

Antibacterial hand gel

Food and water

2 x 600ml bottles of water, trail mix, muffin or cake, piece of fruit, baguette and juice will be provided as part of lunch and your souvenir backpack. Of course, you can bring additional water or extra snacks if you wish

Safety

Whilst you guide will be travelling with a First Aid Kit, please bring your own personal medication as well as antihistamine, paracetamol and antiseptic cream

Handheld or head torch (with spare batteries)

Personal identification (licence or passport)

Whistle

Compass and topographic map

Optional

Mobile phone and solar charger (mobile phone reception may be possible with a Telstra* 3G or 4G phone at some of the higher points along the trail, but it is not guaranteed)

Camera

Binoculars for bird and wildlife viewing

Walking poles and/or Gaitors

Book/journal

Pocket knife/Multi tool