

THE ARKABA WALK EX ADELAIDE

IKARA-FLINDERS RANGES OUTBACK SOUTH AUSTRALIA



THE ARKABA WALK
Wild Bush Luxury





A FOUR-DAY ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

DAY ONE

ADELAIDE TO ARKABA

Check-in for your private charter flight by 7:30am, departing Adelaide General Aviation Terminal at 8am, arriving into Hawker airstrip in the Ikara-Flinders Ranges 8:50am. A 45 minute road transfer connects Wilpena Pound and the start of the Arkaba Walk.

ARKABA HOMESTEAD TO BLACK'S GAP CAMP

Traverse the basin of Wilpena Pound before crossing onto Arkaba's private conservancy and descend to Blacks Gap Signature Swag Camp.

DAY TWO

BLACK'S GAP CAMP TO ELDER CAMP

A challenging hike through creeks and broken country approaching the foothills of the Elder Range to Elder Camp.

DAY THREE

ELDER CAMP TO ARKABA HERITAGE HOMESTEAD

Walk across varying terrain through Mallee and cypress forests before ascending the beautiful Red Range for views across the neighboring ranges and crossing Arkaba Creek to arrive at the Arkaba Homestead.

DAY FOUR

SCENIC ROAD TRANSFER TO ADELAIDE

Depart Arkaba Homestead after breakfast at 8:30am for a scenic transfer through charming outback towns with wine tasting and lunch in the Clare Valley wine country. Arrive Adelaide Airport at 5pm to meet onward flights departing from 6pm.



DAY ONE - ADELAIDE TO ARKABA

Make your way to the Adelaide General Aviation Terminal (Sir Richard Williams Avenue, Adelaide Airport, SA 5950) by 7:30am for your private charter flight departing 8:00am. Land at Hawker Airstrip at 8:50am where you will be met by an Arkaba field guide for the 45 minute road transfer to Wilpena Pound.

Please arrive dressed to walk, as your walking guide will provide an informative briefing of what to expect over the coming days and nights, with a light breakfast provided, on your way to Wilpena Pound. Set off on foot on the first leg of the trail. The distance today is approximately 13km, from Wilpena Resort into Wilpena Pound, crossing the flat interior and a gradual 1.5km ascent to the rim of the Pound, climbing about 200m, before a steeper descent of about 1km into the Arkaba Wilderness and Black's Gap Signature Swap Camp.

Expect to walk into camp at around 5.30pm in time to settle in; take a hot bush shower and enjoy a drink and canapes service, while enjoying the evening light on the Pound. Our signature camp is located between Bunbinyana Range and Wilpena Pound, on a site previously occupied by a shepherd in the late 1850s. His stone chimney still stands to this day and we camp overlooking the creek where he used to take his water. Our guides and camp assistant will prepare a three-course camp dinner, taken al fresco under the evening sky and accompanied by fine wine and some interesting tales about Arkaba and the Ikara-Flinders area. Retire to your deluxe swag, and enjoy a night under a canopy of stars.

Day 1 is approximately 13km, 5—6 hours

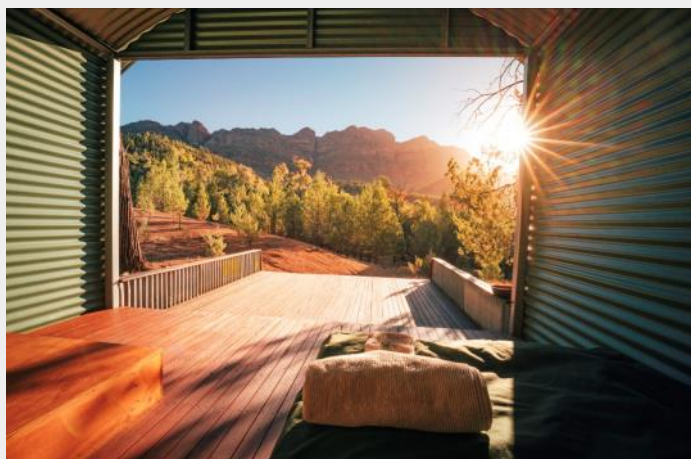


DAY TWO - BLACK'S GAP CAMP TO ELDER CAMP

Today is arguably the most scenic, as we move out from Black's Gap meandering riverbeds into the rolling hills more suited to the sheep farming activities previously carried out across the property. The first 2km will follow the famous Heysen Trail through Black's Gap itself revealing a fascinating insight into the pastoral history of the region, pausing at old shepherds' camps and mustering yards, with Red and Grey Kangaroos and Emus all regular sightings. The last leg of the day will take us slightly west into rolling hills culminating in a sharp 1km climb of about 100m in elevation to the summit of the Red Range where we'll be rewarded with panoramic views of the Ikara-Flinders Ranges before moving on to the foot of Elder Range passing through beautiful stands of native Cypress trees.

Your luggage and swags will have been transported by vehicle to our new signature swag camp, the Elder Camp. You can expect to arrive around 5.30 pm in time for a hot bush shower with a view, a 3 course dinner and another beautiful night under the stars.

Day 2 is approximately 14 - 15km, 6 - 7 hours





DAY THREE - ELDER CAMP TO ARKABA HOMESTEAD

Wake to the glorious morning light on the Elder Range directly ahead and above you. The pace will be unhurried, with plenty of time to stop for photographs, bird watching, botanizing and discussion. We will traverse multiple habitats today, and as we move south east, the first few kilometers will be amongst hill country at the foot of the Elder Range. Walking through Mallee and Native Pine forests, we cross Slaty Creek, which holds water well into the dry season, sometimes even offering the opportunity to drink from crystal clear, ice cold springs. Ascending up to the ridge top of the beautiful Red Range and down to the banks of the Arkaba Creek, we'll have an opportunity to see the home to hundreds of magnificent River Red Gums. You will enjoy strategic stops along the way for rests and a relaxing lunch, and can expect to arrive at our final destination, the tastefully restored Arkaba Homestead, in early to mid afternoon.

Experience Wild Bush Luxury, a beautifully chef prepared meal and some excellent South Australian wines in a quintessentially Australian outback setting before retiring for your final night.

Day 3 is approximately 14 - 15km, 6 - 7 hours





DAY FOUR - ARKABA HOMESTEAD TO ADELAIDE

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast at the Arkaba Homestead before meeting your driver and departing at 8:30am for your scenic transfer to Adelaide via the Clare Valley wine country.

Drive through the historic outback towns of Quorn, Wilmington, Mount Remarkable and Melrose, all famous for their nature filled valleys and riverbeds. Lined with massive River Red Gum trees, the land around these towns is home to a multitude of native Australian animals and birds.

Head from Melrose into the beautiful Clare Valley, a region famous for its wines. You will have the opportunity to visit Skillogalee winery and enjoy a wine tasting before enjoying a two course lunch.

From the Clare Valley you continue to travel south through the Adelaide Hills, arriving at Adelaide Airport at approximately 5:00pm. Please arrange your departing flights from 6:00pm, to allow enough time for check-in. Alternatively, if you are staying on in Adelaide we are happy to arrange to drop you at your city hotel.





SLEEP AND DINE UNDER THE STARS

Each signature swag camp has five permanent swag decks. The low timber decks are slightly elevated, and each have a ½ metre corrugated iron screen around three sides, to give privacy – the fourth side is left open to the views over the countryside, while above you is the night sky and a canopy of stars. There is also a sheltered section of your swag deck, in the event of wind or rain. Your bed is a ‘swag’ – the bedding of choice for generations of Australian pioneers, a canvas envelope that is comfortable and waterproof, protecting you from the elements. Inside each swag will be an all season’s sleeping bag with liner.

Each camp site has two waterless composting toilets – each in their own little ‘dunny’ shed and strategically located to enjoy the best of the views. Each camp has two bush showers – essentially buckets that will require filling by hand with water warmed on the fire, and equipped with taps to regulate the flow. Some special Wild Bush Luxury touches will ensure these showers will be a feature of your trip!





THE ARKABA HOMESTEAD YOUR OASIS OF COMFORT AT THE FOOT OF THE ELDER RANGE

The final night is spent in the comfort of Arkaba's tastefully restored homestead, possibly the most beautiful outback property in the country, and member of Luxury Lodges of Australia. Arkaba's rustically chic 150 year old homestead is an exclusive outback experience. As the layout of the original homestead has been retained, each room has a character of its own and has been named after early settlers, explorers or property owners.

Each of the five guestrooms has its own ensuite bathroom and opens out on a shaded verandah with private views of the surrounding ranges. The décor has been hand-fashioned by wildlife artist, Rosie Woodford-Ganf. Bedheads are fashioned from recycled fence posts and fleeces, curtains tied back by gumnut tassels, lights are perched on explorers' tripod theodolites. The Arkaba Homestead retains a real sense of history and place.





PACKING GUIDE

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Expert field guides

**Two night's camping in deluxe swags
on our signature star beds**

**One night in the 150 year old Arkaba Homestead,
member of Luxury Lodges of Australia**

All gourmet meals and trail snacks

All drinks including premium South Australian wine

**Support vehicle transporting
your luggage between camps**

Suitable hydration backpack for your use

Sock protectors

Basic toiletries

National Park entry fees

PLEASE ARRIVE DRESSED READY TO WALK

YOUR GUIDE WILL CARRY

Satellite phone and navigation aid

Hand held UHF radio for communication

Additional water to keep you hydrated

First aid kit

Flora and fauna identification guides

Expert knowledge and passion!

WHAT TO BRING

- ☐ Hiking boots offering good ankle support and are well worn in
- ☐ Light long pants – eg zip-off leg types or shorts
- ☐ Light wicking shirts (with SPF recommended) or light cotton shirts, preferably long-sleeved
- ☐ Camera and spare batteries (no charging facility available until you reach Arkaba Homestead on day three)
- ☐ Wide brimmed hat, sunglasses and sunscreen
- ☐ Small personal first aid kit including blister protection and insect repellent
- ☐ Gators if you plan on walking in short pants
- ☐ Pair of slip on shoes for wearing around camp in the evening
- ☐ Head torch for evenings in camp, with spare batteries
- ☐ Comfortable attire for evening around camp
- ☐ Warm Clothing for the winter months including a hat, thermals, scarf, gloves and fleece (May – August). Note: in mid-winter the nights and early mornings can be very cold
- ☐ Walking poles are optional depending on your preference
- ☐ Wind cheater / waterproof jacket
- ☐ Binoculars for wildlife and bird viewing
- ☐ Swimming costume to use outdoor pool at the Arkaba homestead (in season)



WALK GRADING

A WALKING HOLIDAY CAN BE A VERY PERSONAL EXPERIENCE ONE MAN'S STROLL IS ANOTHER'S EXPEDITION

The Arkaba Walk is a 'moderate to challenging' walk. You will cover between 6 to 15km per day over steep, hilly terrain with some mountain scrambling. The route follows some thick vegetation, up hillsides and rocky surfaces. You can be walking up to 7 hours per day with plenty of ascents and descents and across uneven ground. Whilst you do not need previous trekking experience, a good level of fitness is required.



THE ARKABA WALK
Wild Bush Luxury



RESERVATIONS

RATES

AUD\$2,500 per person twin-share.

Inclusive of a one-way private charter flight Adelaide to Hawker, a road transfer from Hawker to Arkaba , all chef-prepared meals, drinks, a naturalist guide, two night's camping in deluxe swags, one night in the 1850s Arkaba Homestead, a support vehicle for transporting your main luggage between camps and a suitable hydration backpack with plenty of room for lunch, camera and items of a personal nature. You'll also enjoy a road transfer back to Adelaide with scenic stops, wine tasting and lunch included.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACCOMMODATION IN ADELAIDE

You will need to stay in Adelaide to make the early flight to Hawker and here are a few suggestions. We have personally stayed at both and know first hand these are fabulous centrally located options.

THE MAYFAIR HOTEL

Adelaide's newest five star boutique hotel a stone's throw from Rundle Mall.

www.mayfairhotel.com.au

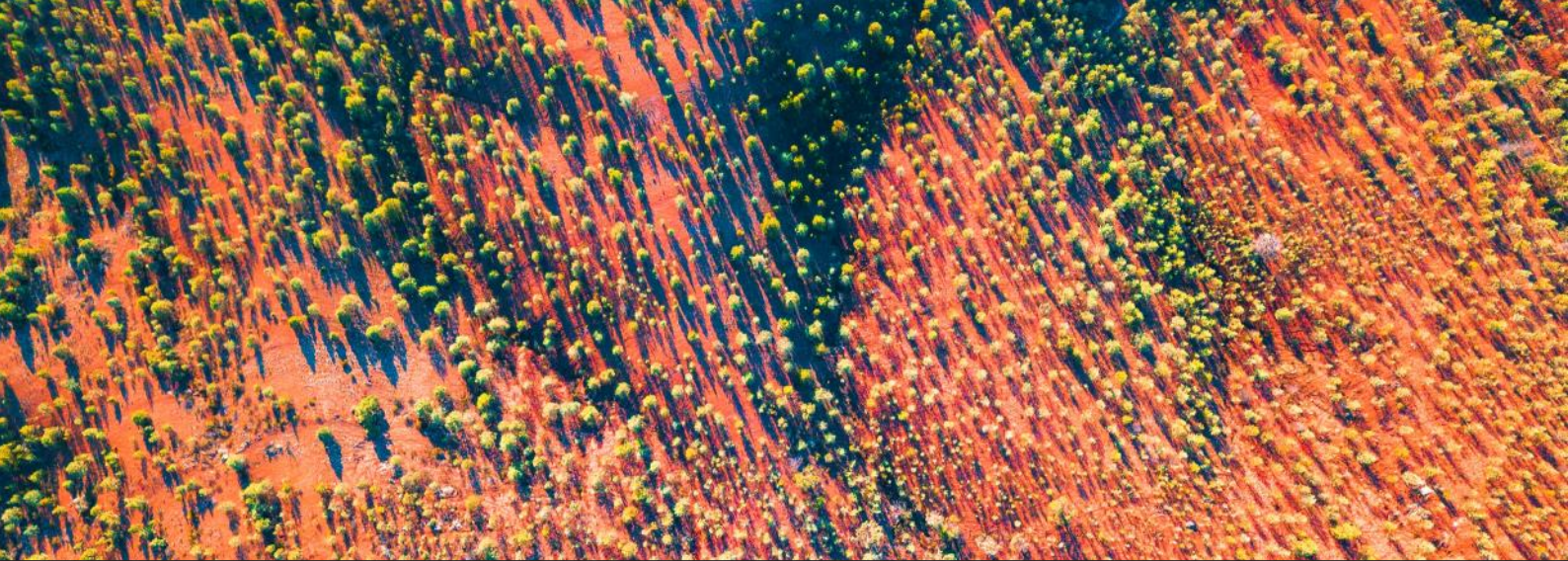
THE PLAYFORD

Luxury accommodation in the heart of Adelaide's art, culture and entertainment precinct.

www.theplayford.com.au

SECURING YOUR PLACE ON THE ARKABA WALK

A deposit of 20% is required within 7 days of making your reservation with the balance at 30 days prior to your arrival. For bookings made within 30 days, full payment is made within 48 hours of booking.



TERMS AND CONDITIONS

RESERVATIONS

Tel: 1300 449 792

Email: info@airtours.com.au

GROUP SIZE

Your Arkaba Walk ex Adelaide will operate with a minimum of 2 and maximum of 10 people.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We recommend that all guests obtain travel insurance including a cancellation policy and emergency medical care. Travel insurance is available from travel agents, general insurance companies, some medical funds. We can direct you to a link to QBE insurance if you wish to consider their options.

DEPARTURE FLIGHT

Your departure flight will depart from the General Aviation Terminal at Adelaide Airport. This is located a short walk or drive from the main terminal on Sir Richard Williams Avenue, Adelaide Airport, SA 5950. You should arrived dressed to walk no later than 07:30.

CANCELLATION POLICY

For cancellations outside of 30 days the deposit will be refunded in full less the cost of any credit card mer-chant fees and a \$50 per booking administration fee. For cancellations within 30 days of arrival all monies will be forfeited. In case of unscheduled camp closure (such as, but not limited to, the case of cyclone, fire or flood) full monies will be refunded.

ARKABAWALK.COM



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