

MURRAY RIVER WALK

DISCOVER THE MAGIC OF THE MURRAY RIVER

Everything you need to know to make your journey a magical experience



WELCOME

Welcome to one of the Great Walks of Australia – Murray River Walk.

Our aim is to help you discover the magic of the Murray River.

Murray River Walk is a 4 day, 3 night guided walking journey combining gentle walking with peaceful cruising that will immerse you in a landscape rich with stories.

Our guides will lead an experience that encounters diverse wildlife and waterbirds along the river, creeks and old oxbow lagoons that meander through ancient redgum forests. The journey is entirely within the Riverland Ramsar wetland of international importance.

Throughout the journey you will be dwarfed by spectacular red ochre coloured cliffs where the stories of our ancient landscapes are revealed. You will also stand atop those cliffs and marvel at the vast river valley carved by Australia's greatest river.

You'll spend three nights on board a spacious and modern houseboat that cruises to your daily walking destination. Relax each evening with a foot dip in the river, hot shower, top deck spa and a comfortable bed with million dollar views of the Murray River. Savour three course dinners each night, created from local food and wine showcasing the produce of the Riverland. This is a sensational part of Australia.

Within the following pages you will find important information relating to your journey. We answer some common questions that our guests have had when they book a walk – such as where to meet your guides, how to get to Renmark, what to bring and how to prepare for your walk.

Please take your time to review the information and at any time, please contact our office with any questions you may have.

It is our aim to ensure you have an incredible experience and we look forward to helping you discover the magic of the Murray River.

Kind Regards,



Tony Sharley
Managing Director



Getting to Renmark

The Murray River Walk starts in Renmark in the Riverland region of South Australia. Renmark is an easy 3 hour drive from Adelaide Airport or a 1.5 hour drive from Mildura Airport.

Secure car parking is provided, free of charge, at the Renmark Hotel for guests of Murray River Walk

Guests will need to make their own transport and payment arrangements

Adelaide or Adelaide Airport to Renmark return

Option 1 - Bus Biz Travel

Contact: 08 8586 6333, PaulW@busbiz.net.au

Bus Biz offers door to door pick up and drop off and have an 11 seater mini bus and a 6 seater mini van available for hire. Indicative rates only, all pricing must be confirmed with Bus Biz.

- From \$715 per person per 2 people
- From \$360pp per 4 people
- From \$240pp per 6 people
- From \$200pp per 8 people
- From \$160pp per 10 people

NOTE: These prices can be halved for one-way transfer

Option 2 - Hertz Car Hire from Adelaide Airport

Contact: 08 8234 4566, www.hertz.com.au

Offer small and large vehicles for hire. Please discuss rental fees, terms and conditions of hire with a Hertz Consultant. Advice and prices provided below are only an indication.

It is cheaper to hire a small car and store it (at the Renmark Hotel) for the walk duration before returning to Adelaide, compared to 2 one way hires to the Hertz Agency in Renmark.

A small car - eg Toyota Corolla, will cost approximately \$300 to \$350 for a 5 day hire.

NOTE: Car hire costs above do not include fuel and insurance costs

NOTE: All indicative prices listed above are current at January 1st 2018 and are subject to change





Getting to Renmark continued...

Mildura or Mildura Airport to Renmark Return

Secure car parking is provided, free of charge, at the Renmark Hotel for guests of Murray River Walk

Walkers will need to make their own transport and payment arrangements

Option 1 - Bus Biz Travel

Contact: 08 8586 6333, PaulW@busbiz.net.au

Bus Biz offer door to door pick up and drop off and have an 11 seater mini bus and a 6 seater mini van available for hire. Indicative rates only, all pricing must be confirmed with Bus Biz.

- From \$330 per person per 2 people
- From \$165pp per 4 people
- From \$110pp per 6 people
- From \$90pp per 8 people
- From \$72pp per 10 people

NOTE: These prices can be halved for one-way transfer

Option 2 - Hertz Car Hire from Mildura Airport

Contact: 03 5022 1411, www.hertz.com.au

Offer small and large vehicles for hire. Please discuss rental fees, terms and conditions of hire with a Hertz Consultant. Advice and prices provided below are only an indication.

It is cheaper to hire a small vehicle and store it for the walk duration, compared to hiring it one way to Renmark and hiring it one way back to Mildura, as both one way hires incur a one way penalty fee of \$150.

A small car - eg Toyota Corolla, will cost approximately \$300 to \$350 for a 5 day hire.

Mildura to Renmark return is approximately 300 km. There is an excess km fee for more than 200km travelled.

NOTE: Car hire costs above do not include fuel and insurance costs.

NOTE: All indicative prices listed above are current at January 1st 2018 and are subject to change.



Riverland accommodation before or after you walk

Murray River Walk meeting point is at the historic Renmark Hotel on the Renmark waterfront. Therefore, in addition to the Renmark Hotel, we have suggested some of our favourite accommodation providers.

When booking, please mention you are walking with Murray River Walk and the date of your departure to receive the best possible rates.

Luxury Accommodation

The Frames

Location: Paringa, 10 minutes from Renmark

Phone: 08 8595 7217

Website: www.theframes.com.au

Built high on the cliff-top, looking out over the Murray River, the award winning villas are the ultimate in luxury. Each of the three self-contained villas boast a balcony overlooking the river, plus private outdoor area, heated pool, spa, sauna, BBQ. The perfect retreat for couples looking for something extra special. We highly recommend staying here post walk for a few nights to extend relaxation and recover in the spa.

Pike River Villas

Location: Lyrup, 20 minutes from Renmark

Phone: 0428 831 045

Website: www.pikeriver.com.au

The majestic views and indulgent surroundings will lift your spirit and relax your mind. The award winning fully self-contained eco villas boast panoramic views of Pike River, sunken deck spas and star gazing ceilings over chiropractic supported king beds.

Unique Accommodation

River Murray Houseboats

Location: Paringa, 5 minutes from Renmark

Phone: 0427 899 102

Website: www.rivermurrayhouseboats.com.au

Five well-appointed houseboats, ranging from 10 berth to 4 berth, are available for hire. This floating accommodation is great for groups of all sizes. Wake up to the sounds of the morning song and watch the sunrise from your bedroom.

Wilkadene Station Houseboats and Cottage

Location: Murtho, 20 minutes from Renmark

Phone: 08 8595 8118

Website: www.aboverenmark.com.au

The historic Wilkadene Station is located north of Renmark and provides various accommodation options including two 5 star luxury houseboats (Outback Star & Amazon Star) and the fully restored Wilkadene Cottage. All options are great for couples and groups and provide secluded and stunning riverfront experiences.



Accommodation options continued....

Murray River Queen

Location: Renmark

Phone: 08 85414411

Website: www.murrayriverqueen.com.au

The Murray River Queen was the first tourist paddle boat to operate on the Murray. The iconic vessel has recently been restored and is permanently moored at the Renmark Town Wharf. On board are spacious and modern rooms, a regional cellar door and a Thai restaurant, all with panoramic views of the river, especially upon sunset.

Waterfront Accommodation

Renmark Hotel

Location: Renmark

Phone: 08 8586 6755

Website: www.renmarkhotel.com.au

The Renmark Hotel, which has been community owned since 1897, sits majestically on a long sweeping bend of the Murray River in the heart of the township. Providing great accommodation options and facilities, including secure parking and alfresco dining it is also where you meet your guides on the morning of day 1. Offering a special room rate for guests of Murray River Walk.

Big 4 Renmark Riverfront Holiday Park

Location: Renmark

Phone: 08 8586 8111

Website: www.big4.com.au/caravan-parks/sa/riverland/renmark-riverfront-holiday-park

The Renmark Big 4 is located directly on the riverfront between Renmark and Paringa. Their riverfront villas are merely 10m from the water's edge and can sleep up to 8 people. With spacious living area, preparing meals and enjoying some 'rivertime' has never been easier. Offering 10% off for guests of Murray River Walk (capped at \$40 discount).

Boats and Bedzzz

Location: Renmark

Phone: 08 8586 5749

Website: <http://www.boatsandbedzzz.com.au/houseboat-hire>

Located along the riverfront at Renmark, Boats and Bedzzz have two houseboats that operate as 'moored' accommodation, meaning they can remain stationary during your stay. Great for groups, the boats sleep 9-10 people and are within walking distance to the popular Murray River Queen, Arrosto Coffee & the Renmark Club.



Travelling to and from Murray River Walk

Explore the famous Barossa Valley before or after your walk

Accommodation

Stonewell Cottages

Location: Tanunda

Phone: 0417 848 977

Website: www.stonewellcottages.com.au

The Louise

Location: Seppeltsfield

Phone: 08 8562 2722

Website: www.thelouise.com.au

Experience

Barossa Valley Cheese Company

Location: Angaston

Phone: 08 8564 3636

Website: www.barossacheese.com.au/cheesecellar/

Seppeltsfield Winery

Location: Seppeltsfield

Phone: 08 8568 6200

Website: www.seppeltsfield.com.au

Discover Adelaide

Explore Adelaide before or after your walk

Experience

Adelaide Central Market Tour

Location: Adelaide CBD

Phone: 0403 864 286

Website: www.ausfoodtours.com/adelaide-central-market-tours



Pre Walk Information and Lists

Departure point

You will meet your guides at the Renmark Hotel - 7.30am on day 1, where you will start your journey. Please ensure you have breakfast before departing your accommodation.

Secure car parking is provided at the Hotel for the duration of the walk.

The walk will conclude at 2pm on day 4 when you will be transferred by bus back to your vehicles at the Renmark Hotel.

Special dietary requirements and health concerns

It is important that you advise us of any dietary requirements before your departure. We are more than happy to cater for special dietary requirements.

Please also make us aware of any health issues that may affect your walking.

If you are a smoker, please advise before arrival so we can supply you with a cigarette butt disposal container for use along the walking route.

Accommodation during your walk

Your houseboat accommodation moves each day to the daily walking destination.

The houseboat has 5 double rooms. Rooms can be configured with a queen bed or 2 single beds upon request. Please advise prior to departure which option you prefer.

Also on board are 2 shared bathrooms with hot showers, a spacious lounge area with library and a top deck area with spa and spectacular views.

Dine and relax each night aboard your houseboat.

What we provide

- Secure car parking at the Renmark Hotel
- Accommodation each night on a houseboat
- All sleeping linen & 1 bath towel
- Knowledgeable friendly guides
- A 34L Day pack
- A 1 Litre drinking water bottle
- Optional walking poles
- A thermos for hot drink
- All food including 3 course meals each night, breakfasts, lunches and snacks
- Non-alcoholic and alcoholic beverages
- Guides carry first aid kits, UHF Radio and satellite phone

What to bring

- Hiking boots or hiking shoes
- Beanies, scarves and gloves, essential for open boat cruising
- Sun hat for sunny winter days
- Long lightweight walking trousers
- Comfortable evening clothing - for relaxing
- Underwear and socks (bring an extra pair or two)
- Thermal base layers
- Warm fleece jumpers
- T-shirts and long-sleeved shirts for layering
- A waterproof rain jacket for wind (and rain) protection while walking and cruising
- Bathers and a towel for spa use
- Head torch or small hand-held torch

Recommended items

- Camera
- Binoculars
- Gaiters for extra leg and trouser protection and possible wet weather
- You are welcome to bring your own water bottle or hydration pack



Pre Walk Information continued...

Mobile Phone Coverage

Mobile phone reception is very poor along the Murray River Walk route enabling you to switch-off completely.

Travel Insurance

We suggest you consider an appropriate level of travel insurance to cover any unforeseen costs due to accident, injury or uncontrollable seasonal conditions.

Walk rating

Murray River Walk is an easy to moderate walk with daily distances ranging from 10 km to 14 km on days 1, 2 and 3. On day 4 you have the option for a 2km self-guided walk.

The terrain is relatively flat with two gentle cliff climbs up and down a 40 metre rise. Walking poles are available to guests.

Seasonal Conditions

Murray River Walk operates between May and September in the cooler autumn, winter and spring weather. Sunny days are typical in the Riverland during this period.

Mean maximum/minimum temperatures (degrees Celsius) and seasonal highlights are:

MAY (20/8) Average rain 24.8mm

Calm conditions and the first autumn rains trigger new growth on the floodplains. Emus start nesting and we occasionally startle them on their massive turquoise eggs. Red-capped Robins and Variegated Fairywrens are active in the undergrowth, and shy Echidnas are enjoying moist soils for foraging.

JUNE (17/6) Average rain 24.6mm

Early morning mists dance on the mirror-like water surface, lifting like a curtain to reveal Pelicans feeding and roosting on emergent logs. The winter sun radiates on our backs and ancient Redgum forests provide shelter. Walkers revel in an invigorating foot dip after a day's walk and spectacular sunsets and sunrises on the ochre coloured cliffs inspire us.

JULY (16/5) Average rain 23.1mm

Kangaroos have moved from the river's edge to graze on the plains and the first emu chicks are now out. The spectacular wild river lily flowers on sandy lunettes after rain and darters use the sun to dry their wings before their next dive for fish. Winter campfires, hot showers and hearty meals are reward for our day's journey.

AUGUST (18/6) Average rain 25.3mm

The days grow longer and warmer and Black Swans are pairing and building rafts to nest on. We spot stripy Emu chicks that stay close to dad as they discover the speed in their new legs. We can forage for fresh Saltbush leaves, Samphire and native River Mint which are a fun addition to our fabulous daily menus.

SEPTEMBER (21/8) Average rain 28mm

It's Spring time and the Murray River comes to life, river levels rise from winter rain and wetlands are filling. Purple Pigface carpets the floodplain and yellow Poached-egg Daisies create mosaics of colour. Ducks are pairing to breed as excited frogs join our conversations. Warming river temperatures may tempt a swim.





Itinerary

A 4 day walking journey on the mighty Murray River departing from Renmark in South Australia.

Day 1 – Renmark to Headings Cliffs (14 km walking, 15 km cruising)

Meet your guides and fellow walkers at the Renmark Hotel at 7:30am (please have breakfast prior to your arrival). After introductions and a safety briefing, you can secure your cars in the Hotel's secure compound, prepare your daypacks and board the "pontoon cruiser" for a 15 km cruise from Renmark along the Murray River to the start of the walking route.

Our destination today is spectacular Headings Cliffs on the Murray River where your houseboat accommodation is moored.

Explore red gum forest and black box woodlands of Woolenook Bend and discover the old river channels that are now havens for waterbirds.

Visit the Woolenook Bend World War II internment camp for lunch and admire the view of the river before arriving at the houseboat for a welcome foot dip in the river.

Day 2 – Headings Cliffs to Chowilla Creek (14 km walking, 5km cruising)

Our destination is opposite the historic Chowilla Station shearing shed on the banks of the Murray River, just downstream of the mouth of Chowilla Creek, part of the largest anabranch system in South Australia.

We arise early for a gentle climb up Headings Cliffs for a magnificent sunrise over the Murray River. Marvel at the geological layers in the cliffs formed by wind, oceans and freshwater lakes.

After sunrise, we descend the cliffs for breakfast aboard the houseboat. Departing for our daily walk we stand dwarfed beneath several Aboriginal Canoe trees before following an ancient river oxbow to the present Murray River for morning tea. Explore dense redgum forest on the way to lunch on the river, then follow the Amazon Creek through rejuvenated floodplains on Little Hunchee Island to meet your houseboat on the Murray River.





Itinerary continued...

Day 3 – Chowilla Creek to Queens Bend Cliffs (12 km walking, 5 km cruising)

Our destination is majestic Queens Bend cliffs above Lock 6. We cruise along Chowilla Creek and pass through the Chowilla Environmental Regulator before beginning the daily walk on the islands of the Chowilla Game Reserve.

Today you'll learn about the proposed Chowilla Dam, explore the rejuvenated wetlands and view water management structures that are vital for supporting the vast floodplain environment.

After lunch we follow the rim of the valley to the historic site of the proposed 1960's Chowilla Dam scheme before winding our way along the cliffs to Queens Bend to celebrate a 40km journey.

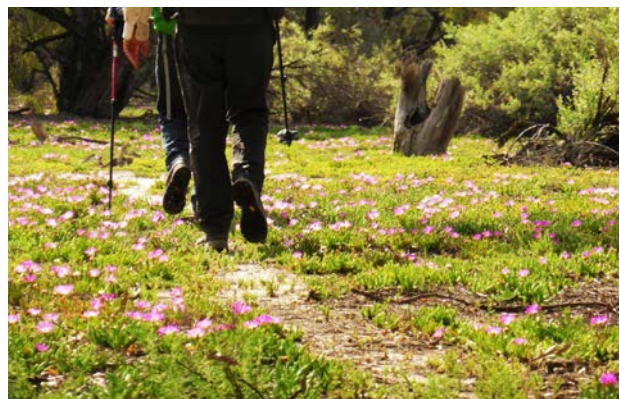
We complete the walking journey with a cruise along the base of the cliffs to the houseboat, moored downstream at Bunyip Reach Cliffs.

Day 4 – Bunyip Reach Cliffs to Renmark (35km cruising, 20km driving)

After breakfast there is an optional 2km self guided walk following the riverbank, before commencing our journey downstream to pass through Lock 6.

Enjoy the changing views while cruising on the houseboat over morning tea enroute to the Wilkadene Woolshed Brewery for a tour of the brewery, a tasting and lunch prepared by your guides.

We say our farewells after lunch as you depart for Renmark by bus at 1:30pm, arriving back at the Renmark Hotel to collect your vehicles by 2pm.





Riverland Experiences

Suggestions, hints and tips for exploring the Riverland, before or after your Murray River Walk experience.

IMPORTANT NOTE

The Riverland is a fruit-fly free zone and bringing fruit and vegetables into the region is not permitted.



There are quarantine bins on the Sturt Highway travelling from Adelaide and a quarantine station at Yamba travelling from Mildura. Please dispose of any fruit and vegetables in these bins.

Great Coffee Stops

Arrosto Coffee - Renmark
 Made From Scratch - Waikerie
 Flavours of the Riverland - Barmera
 Sunrise Bakery - Truro
 River Jacks Cafe - Berri
 Sprouts Cafe- Berri

Cellar Doors

Burke Salter Wines - Blanchetown
 Caudo Vineyard - Waikerie
 Banrock Station - Kingston-on-Murray
 919 Wines - Glossop
 Mallee Estate Wines - Renmark
 Angove Family Winemakers - Renmark

Dinner Favourites

Mallee Estate's Eleni's - Greek

Sharing their family's Greek heritage through traditional and home cooked dishes.

Murray River Queen - Thai Fusion

Thai flavours fused with modern cuisine on board the iconic paddle steamer's floating restaurant.

Mallee Fowl Restaurant - Thai & Australian

Featuring Australian & Thai cuisine in a restaurant with a great collection of Australiana paraphernalia

Renmark Club - Modern Australian

A water front bistro with unobstructed river views and seasonal menu showcasing local produce

Brewery

Wilkadene Woolshed Brewery - Murtho

Distilleries

23rd Street Distillery - Renmark
 St Agnes Brandy Distillery - Renmark

Local Produce

Bella Lavender - Glossop
 Illalangi Gourmet Food - Waikerie
 Riverland Sunfresh - Renmark
 Nuts About Fruit - Renmark

Visitor Information Centre - Berri
 Riverland Farmer's Market - Berri (Sat 7:30-11am)
 Aggie's Fruit Stall - Glossop
 Roadside Fruit Stall - Monash





We Welcome your Feedback

We hope that your experience on Murray River Walk is an enjoyable one. It is our aim that you discover the magic of the Murray River and we look forward to sharing this experience with you.

Inviting your thoughts is one way that we ensure continual improvement in the experiences we offer. We welcome feedback in many different ways and greatly appreciate the time our guests take to share their thoughts, feelings and moments of personal discovery experienced on Murray River Walk.

Trip Advisor - we invite you to share your thoughts with the Trip Advisor community and help other travellers learn more about Murray River Walk. You can leave a review [online here](#).

Email us - we welcome your thoughts or testimonials about the walk, please forward them to info@murrayriverwalk.com.au

Feedback Forms - At the end of your walk, your guides will ask you to complete a feedback form. This is voluntary, however we value your feedback and this is a great way to suggest improvements while they are still fresh in your mind.

Share your Images

We love seeing your interpretation of the Murray River through your photos and we encourage you to take pictures along your walk to share with friends and family and also with us.

This is easily done the following ways;

Email - info@murrayriverwalk.com.au

Facebook - share directly to the Murray River Walk page or tag us in your photos (@Murray River Walk)

Instagram - tag us on Instagram [@murrayriverwalk](#) and use the hashtags #MurrayRiverWalk and #GreatWalksofAustralia to share your images.

About Great Walks of Australia

The Great Walks of Australia are an exclusive collection of the best multi day walking experiences in Australia. Each independently owned and guided walking experience is unique and enables access to some of Australia's most iconic landscapes.

All of the Great Walks of Australia can be viewed on their [website](#). To qualify as a great walk we provide exceptional guided walking experiences in high value natural areas for small groups (in our case maximum 10 people). These experiences include outstanding accommodation, food & wine.

