

Kangaroo Island

27 October - 1 November 2027

Just off the Adelaide, SA, coast, Kangaroo Island harbours a unique, diverse wildlife, specialised birds, striking scenery (including remarkable granite formations) and vast tracts of wilderness, protected in many reserves. The dawn chorus at sunrise is something to behold, and walking through the bush is rewarded with a delight of sounds and images from a huge variety of different bird species. Spectacular coastlines harbor an amazing variety of birds and wildlife.

Well-known for its wildlife, Kangaroo Island is home to "Kangaroo Island Kangaroos", Tammar Wallabies, Echidnas, Brush-tailed Possums, Bottle-nosed Dolphins, Australian Sea Lions, Australian and New-Zealand Fur Seals and many of the 250 birds listed for the island can be seen year-round in their natural habitats during our 4-day guided tour. Key birds include the endangered Glossy Black Cockatoo, colonies of Short-tailed Shearwaters, Hooded Plover, Cape Barren Goose, Rock Parrot, the elusive Western Whipbird and the cute Fairy Penguin as well as many sea and land birds.

This all-inclusive guided tour departs from and returns to Adelaide, SA. You will stay on the island and take daily trips out exploring its natural wonders, fascinating habitats, prolific birds and varied wildlife.



Itinerary

Day 0: 27 October 2027 Arrival in Adelaide

Please arrive in Adelaide on 27 October 2027, in preparation for an early departure tomorrow morning. Transport, meals and accommodation are your own responsibility today. We will pick you up from your accommodation in the city centre tomorrow morning. If you're staying elsewhere, please contact us to arrange a central meeting location.

Day 1: 28 October 2027 Fleurieu Peninsula and ferry to Kangaroo Island

After breakfast you'll be picked up from your hotel and we will travel down the scenic Fleurieu Peninsula, stopping along the way to look at some of the mainland birds such as Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo, Adelaide Rosella and various waterbirds. At the end of the peninsula we will reach Cape Jervis, the departure point for the Kangaroo Island ferry. The ferry takes about 45 minutes to cross, and we may see ocean birds such as Australian Gannet and up to three species of Shearwater during the crossing.

After arrival on the island, we will have lunch as we travel to our accommodation scenically located at the bay of American River where will be staying for two nights in quality ensuite rooms at the Mercure Kangaroo Island lodge, surrounded by lush bushland.

Once settled in we can head out birding for the rest of the day. The bay across from the lodge often has Black-tailed Native Hens, Latham's Snipe and a host of other bush birds.

In the evening spotlighting in and around the park can be very rewarding with an amazing range of nocturnal animals such as Tammar Wallabies, Koalas and Brown Bandicoots which can all be commonly encountered here.

Overnight: Western River Kangaroo Island Park, en-suite cabin Meals included: L, D

Day 2: 29 October 2027 Cape du Couedic, Seal Bay, American River, and Penneshaw

Today we'll explore the various National Parks which cover many parts of the island. Kangaroo Island offers easy viewing of the rare Cape Barren Goose, and it is also famous for its abundant Koalas and Kanga-











Crested Tern, Koala, Tammar Wallaby, and Cape Barren Goose All photos by Peter Waanders.



roo Island Grey Kangaroos (the kangaroo from which the island gets its name). We may also see the Short-beaked Echidna as it forages for ants and termites.

First thing in the morning we'll head down to the south coast in the hope of spying the hard-to-see White-bellied Whipbird and Southern Emu-wren. The coastal scenery here is spectacular and is home to a colony of New Zealand Fur Seals at Cape du Couedic where we'll also find the magnificent Admiral's Arch, a spectacular coastal grotto. We'll allow plenty of time to photograph the various rock formations at Remarkable Rocks and Admiral's Arch while we search the surrounding bush for Crescent, Tawny-crowned and Purple-gaped Honeyeaters. We'll head back to the visitor centre for lunch and then visit the seal colony at Seal Bay.

Next, we're off to the north coast where we hope to see breeding Hooded Plovers on the beach and have our first chance to see the endangered Glossy Black-Cockatoo. Biologists and local landholders have taken steps to expand the breeding opportunities of this species, and its population is slowly growing. Back to American River for another chance of seeing the Glossy Black Cockatoo along with waders, waterbirds, the elusive Nankeen Night-heron and bush birds such as the Beautiful Firetail. We'll have dinner in Penneshaw before visiting the Penguin Centre after sunset for the chance of seeing breeding Little Penguins on a guided tour of their colony.

Overnight: Western River Kangaroo Island Park, en-suite room Meals included: B, L, D

Day 3: 30 October 2027

Flexible morning birding, ferry to the mainland, and Murray Estuary

If required, we'll have another search for the Glossy Black Cockatoo or any other birds we may still need before checking out of our accommodation and heading back toward Kingscote. We'll look for breeding Eastern Ospreys before heading to Penneshaw to take the ferry back to the mainland. We'll keep an eye out for Short-tailed Shearwaters and Australian Gannets that may be foraging above the ocean.

Not far from here is the estuary of Australia's largest river, the Murray, and we'll skirt around this huge lagoon checking out various sites enroute. One of these sites is Tolderol Reserve, which is one of South Australia's best kept birding secrets. A series of small lagoons with varying water levels harbor an amazing variety of water-dependent bird species, including Caspian and Whiskered Tern, numerous migratory waders—Sharp-tailed Sandpiper is common, there are usually a few











New-Holland Honeyeater, New Zealand Fur Seals, Glossy Black-Cockatoo, Scarlet Robin, and Eastern Osprey. All photos by Peter Waanders.



Pectoral Sandpipers around, and more often than not, some rarity turns up here. Ducks, swans, grebes, herons, egrets and the rare, elusive Australian Bittern also live here. One of the cutest 'little brown jobs' is the Golden-headed Cisticola and with luck we'll see a few of these little gems. At the end of the day we arrive in Meningie, on the far eastern end of the estuary, at the start of the longest salt lagoon in the world: the Coorong National Park.

Overnight: Lakeview Motel, Meningie, en-suite room

Meals included: B, L, D

Day 4: 31 October 2027 Coorong National Park, and return to Adelaide

This morning we'll head into the Coorong National Park to see the stunning coastal scenery—salt pans, tranquil lagoons, huge sand dunes—and looking for birds such as Purple-gaped Honeyeater, Southern Scrub-Robin, the elusive and local specialty Rufous Bristlebird and who knows, with much luck a Malleefowl.

Stopping on the way back to Adelaide in the scenic, lush Adelaide Hills we look for a variety of colourful parrots including the Adelaide Rosella, Scarlet Robin, Brown and White-throated Treecreeper, Owlet Nightjar on its daytime roost, White-winged Chough, many species of hone-yeaters and with luck, the beautiful Diamond Firetail (finch). We arrive back in Adelaide sometime in the afternoon.

After breakfast tomorrow (included) you'll need to make your own onward transport arrangements. Or why not continue on our Great Southern Tour? Read on here: https://bellbirdtours.com/great-southern-tour/.

Overnight: Hotel in Adelaide, en-suite room

Meals included: B, L, D

Day 5: 1 November 2027 Departure or continuation on Great Southern Tour

Meals included: B











Western Whipbird, Crimson Rosella, Black-faced Cormorant, Fairy Tern, and Australian Pelican. All photos by Peter Waanders.



QUICK OVERVIEW

SCHEDULED DATES

Kangaroo Island Tour: 27 October - 1 November 2027

Tour commences with a pickup from your hotel (own arrangements) in Adelaide **after breakfast on 28 November 2027**. Please arrive on or before 27 October 2027. Tour finishes with breakfast on 1 Nov 2025. Please depart on or after 5 Nov.

Or why not continue on our 2-week Great Southern Tour (1 - 15 November 2027) which departs that same morning from Adelaide: https://bellbirdtours.com/great-southern-tour/.

STARTING IN

Adelaide, South Australia

FINISHING IN

Adelaide, South Australia

GROUP SIZE

BRIEF ITINERARY

Day 0: 27 October 2027: Arrival in Adelaide

Day 1: 28 October 2027: Fleurieu Peninsula and ferry to Kangaroo Island

Day 2: 29 October 2027: Cape du Couedic, Seal Bay, American River, and Penneshaw

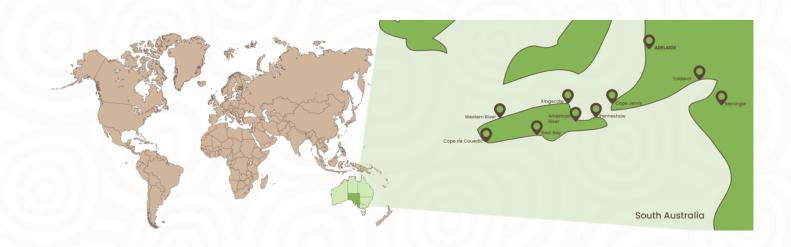
Day 3: 30 October 2027: Flexible morning birding, ferry to the mainland, and Murray Estuary

Day 4: 31 October 2027: Coorong National Park, and return to Adelaide

Day 5: 1 November 2027: Departure or continuation on Great Southern Tour

BOOKING

Please book at: https://www.bellbirdtours.com/bookings/.





COST

COST

AU\$3,199 per person including accommodation and all meals, based on double or twin-share occupancy. Single occupancy surcharge of AU\$720.

Earlybird discount of AU\$99 for bookings received up to 12 months before departure date. Return client discount may apply.

INCLUDED

All meals commencing with lunch on Day 1 and finishing with breakfast on Day 5, morning tea/coffee, some snacks, some fruit, some drinks, unlimited drinking water refills. Accommodation in private ensuite rooms where available. Transport using comfortable and reliable vehicle, Expert guiding, any entry fees, taxes.

EXCLUDED

Travel to & from departure and finish points, pre- & post trip accommodation, any meals before lunch on Day 1 and after breakfast on Day 5, drinks except where provided, personal expenses, tips, insurance.

PRE & POST TOUR OPTIONS

This tour links with our **Great Southern Tour** commencing 31 October 2027 in Adelaide. This exciting tour specifically concentrates on the many specialties of the southern regions of Australia, parts of the outback and the great inland rivers. An optional extension to Tasmania is also available. During the main tour we are likely to find over 250 species and experience an amazing variety of landscapes and habitats, including outback mountains and deserts, vast expanses of eucalypt scrubland at Birds Australia's Gluepot Reserve, wetlands and rivers including Australia's greatest river, the Murray, spectacular coastal areas including the famous Great Ocean Road and tall, dense eucalypt forests. Read more about it here: https://bellbirdtours.com/great-southern-tour/.

DISCLAIMERS

(1) itinerary may be modified slightly due to factors such as availability of accommodation, updated information on the state of accommodation, roads, or birding sites, the discretion of the guides and other factors; (2) until we've received your final payment, tour price may be subject to adjustment in the event of significant cost increases in ground arrangements. See our Terms and Conditions: https://bellbirdtours.com/terms-and-conditions/.

BOOKING

Please book at: https://www.bellbirdtours.com/bookings/.



PRACTICAL DETAILS

LEADERS

David Kowalick.

DIFFICULTY

Low level of fitness required. The tour has a relaxed pace, and walks are on varying surfaces, from paved roads to sandy or rocky walking trails with some short climbs. We generally walk slowly, with lots of stops. You can opt out of any challenging walks.

ACCOMMODATION

Private en-suite rooms in hotels or lodges. Standards of the lodgings are generally very comfortable. Expect slow, if any, wi-fi access.

CLOTHING

Lightweight long pants, t-shirt and long-sleeved shirt, over the top of which you can wear layers that can be taken off as necessary, including a jumper / sweater and a wind- and rain-proof jacket.

WHAT TO BRING

Please travel light. Binoculars, camera, mobile phone, chargers, power adaptors if you're an international guest, insect repellent, sunscreen, personal medications, sun hat, water bottle, hand sanitizer. Sturdy footwear recommended. Scopes, super-telephoto lenses with tripods, and heavy suitcases are discouraged.

RECOMMENDED READING

The comprehensive (but large and heavy) Australian Bird Guide by Danny Rogers, Peter Menkhorst, and Rohan Clarke, or the (smaller and lighter) Compact Australian Bird Guide (2022) by the same authors.



HOW TO BOOK THIS TOUR?

Step 1: Essential reading

- Download, save and read the itinerary (this document);
- Read our terms and conditions and the release of liability waiver (both can be found on https://www.bell-birdtours.com/terms-and-conditions);
- Read our health & safety information page (https://bellbirdtours.com/health-and-safety/).

Step 2: Online booking

Head over to our secure online booking page: https://www.bellbirdtours.com/bookings (should you prefer a paper booking form, this can be downloaded from there).

Step 3: Pay the deposit

To secure your seat, a deposit of 20% of the tour price is required at the time of booking. Full payment is due 60 days prior to the departure date. Until full payment has been received, Bellbird Tours reserves the right to change the tour price (e.g. due to changing fuel prices).

Payment options:

Domestic electronic funds transfer: please send funds to the following bank account:

- bank: Australia & New Zealand Bank (ANZ), 112 Rundle Mall, Adelaide SA 5000
- account name: Bellbird Tours Pty Ltd
- branch no. (BSB) 015-140 and account no. 206136528
 - Please use your surname as the booking reference.

Visa, Mastercard & Google Pay: through Pin Payments (an easy, secure online payment system). They charge us a processing fee of ~3%. Please contact us to use this option, and we'll email you a secure payment link.

International electronic funds transfer: please send funds in Australian Dollars (+ bank charges) to the following bank account:

- international swift code: anzbau3m (no IBAN codes are used in Australia)
- bank: Australia & New Zealand Bank (ANZ), 112 Rundle Mall, Adelaide SA 5000
- account name: Bellbird Tours Pty Ltd
- branch no. (BSB) 015-140 and account no. 206136528
 - If possible, please use your surname as the booking reference.
 - If you are asked to provide our physical address, this is: 101 Chilton Road, Berri, SA 5343, Australia.
 - Please specify AU\$ as the recipient's currency, and the correct amount. Select the option for you to incur any charges at both ends.

Any discrepancy between the amount payable and amount received will be added to the final balance, or payable in cash at the start of the tour. Prices and fees are not negotiable.

Step 4: You're done!

Sit back and wait for your booking confirmation to arrive (24-48 hrs). Meanwhile, should you have any questions, please contact us via: https://www.bellbirdtours.com/about-us/.



POSSIBLE SPECIES LIST (NOT EXHAUSTIVE)

Emu

Australian Brush-turkey

Stubble Quail Brown Quail

Indian Peafowl

Blue-billed Duck

Musk Duck

Freckled Duck

Black Swan

Cape Barren Goose

Australian Shelduck

Australian Wood Duck Pacific Black Duck

Australasian Shoveler

Grey Teal

Chestnut Teal

Pink-eared Duck

Hardhead

Australasian Grebe

Hoary-headed Grebe

Great Crested Grebe

Little Penguin

Flesh-footed Shearwater

Short-tailed Shearwater

Wandering Albatross

Royal Albatross

Black-browed Albatross

Shy Albatross

Grey-headed Albatross

Yellow-nosed Albatross

Wilson's Storm-Petrel

Australasian Gannet

Darter

Little Pied Cormorant

Black-faced Cormorant

Pied Cormorant

Little Black Cormorant

Great Cormorant

Australian Pelican

White-faced Heron

Little Egret

Eastern Reef Egret

White-necked Heron

Great Egret

Cattle Egret

Nankeen Night Heron Australasian Bittern

Glossy Ibis

Australian White Ibis

Straw-necked Ibis

Royal Spoonbill

Yellow-billed Spoonbill

Osprey

Black-shouldered Kite

Black Kite

Whistling Kite

White-bellied Sea-Eagle

Spotted Harrier

Swamp Harrier Brown Goshawk

Collared Sparrowhawk

Wedge-tailed Eagle

Little Eagle Brown Falcon

Australian Hobby

Black Falcon

Peregrine Falcon Nankeen Kestrel

Buff-banded Rail

Baillon's Crake

Australian Spotted Crake

Spotless Crake

Purple Swamphen

Dusky Moorhen

Black-tailed Native-hen

Eurasian Coot

Painted Button-quail

Latham's Snipe

Black-tailed Godwit

Bar-tailed Godwit

Whimbrel

Eastern Curlew

Marsh Sandpiper

Common Greenshank

Wood Sandpiper

Terek Sandpiper

Common Sandpiper

Ruddy Turnstone

Red Knot Sanderling Red-necked Stint

Pectoral Sandpiper

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper

Curlew Sandpiper

Bush Stone-curlew

Pied Oystercatcher

Sooty Oystercatcher

Black-winged Stilt

Banded Stilt

Red-necked Avocet

Pacific Golden Plover

Grey Plover

Red-capped Plover

Double-banded Plover

Lesser Sand Plover

Greater Sand Plover

Black-fronted Dotterel

Hooded Plover

Red-kneed Dotterel

Banded Lapwing

Masked Lapwing

Great Skua

Pomarine Jaeger

Arctic Jaeger

Pacific Gull

Kelp Gull

Silver Gull

Gull-billed Tern

Caspian Tern

Crested Tern

White-fronted Tern

Fairy Tern

Whiskered Tern

Rock Dove

Spotted Turtle Dove

Common Bronzewing

Brush Bronzewing

Crested Pigeon Glossy Black-Cockatoo

Yellow-tailed Black-Cockatoo

Gang-gang Cockatoo

Galah

Little Corella

Sulphur-crested Cockatoo

Rainbow Lorikeet



Purple-crowned Lorikeet Crimson Rosella **Elegant Parrot** Rock Parrot Pallid Cuckoo Fan-tailed Cuckoo Horsfield's Bronze-Cuckoo Shining Bronze-Cuckoo Southern Boobook Owl Barn Owl Tawny Frogmouth Spotted Nightjar Australian Owlet-nightjar White-throated Needletail Fork-tailed Swift Laughing Kookaburra Sacred Kingfisher Rainbow Bee-eater Superb Fairy-wren Southern Emu-wren Spotted Pardalote Striated Pardalote White-browed Scrubwren Shy Heathwren **Brown Thornbill** Yellow Thornbill Striated Thornbill Red Wattlebird

Little Wattlebird Spiny-cheeked Honeyeater Singing Honeyeater White-eared Honeyeater Purple-gaped Honeyeater White-plumed Honeyeater Brown-headed Honeyeater White-naped Honeyeater Crescent Honeyeater New Holland Honeyeater Tawny-crowned Honeyeater Eastern Spinebill White-fronted Chat Scarlet Robin Flame Robin Southern Scrub-Robin **Hooded Robin** Western Whipbird Rufous Bristlebird Golden Whistler Grey Shrike-thrush Satin Flycatcher Restless Flycatcher Magpie-lark Grey Fantail Willie Waqtail Black-faced Cuckooshrike Masked Woodswallow

White-browed Woodswallow Black-faced Woodswallow **Dusky Woodswallow** Australian Magpie White-winged Chough Grey Currawong Australian Raven Little Raven Singing Bushlark Skylark Richard's Pipit House Sparrow Red-browed Finch Beautiful Firetail Diamond Firetail European Goldfinch Welcome Swallow Tree Martin Fairy Martin Australian Reed-Warbler Little Grassbird Brown Songlark Silvereye Bassian Thrush Common Blackbird

Common Starling