Naracoorte Caves National Park and World Heritage Area

Welcome to South Australia’s only World Heritage Site!

Providing a rare insight into the South Australian landscape from 500,000 years ago, the Naracoorte Caves are recognised as one of the world’s most valuable fossil sites.

Every one of Naracoorte’s caves has something different to offer – from stunning cave formations and adventure caving opportunities, to observing the natural habitat of the endangered Southern Bentwinged Bats via infra-red cameras. In addition, the Wonambi Fossil Centre recreates the world of the 120 species of vertebrate animals that have been recorded to date, and brings them to life in spectacular fashion.

But there’s more to do here than just cave tours. Why not take a walk on one of our trails, picnic or use one of our BBQ facilities? Or discover something new in our trails, picnic or use one of our BBQ facilities.

World Heritage

Naracoorte Caves is home to Australia’s most complete fossil record of the past 500,000 years – a fact which was officially recognised in 1994 when it became a World Heritage Site.

Many of the tours available at Naracoorte Caves cover the important history of the fossil record and the relevance it has to science today. Victoria Fossil Cave, the World Heritage Walk, the Wonambi Fossil Centre and the World Heritage Tour are strongly recommended for visitors interested in this subject.

Currently there are 19 World Heritage sites in Australia including Uluru, Kakadu, the Great Barrier Reef and Naracoorte’s sister fossil site, Riversleigh in North Queensland.

Making the most of your visit

From half a day to an entire weekend – it’s up to you!

Cave tours

Access to most of the caves is by guided tour only. These tours leave at different times of the day and range in duration from 30-60 minutes. For tour times and costs, please refer to the signs located in the Wonambi Fossil Centre or visit: www.naracoortecaves.sa.gov.au

Walking trails

Naracoorte Caves boasts a number of walking trails that showcase the Park’s natural heritage.

The World Heritage Walk takes you to the Victoria Fossil Cave from either behind the Wonambi Fossil Centre or from the Wet Cave entrance and identifies several areas of World Heritage significance along the way. Look across the landscape and see if you can see the ridges of the ancient coastal dunes. The trail is 1.2 km long and takes about 30 minutes to complete one way.

If nature and wildlife are more your style, take the Stoney Point Walk from the Victoria Fossil Cave to the Stoney Point picnic ground, taking in ancient limestone features, stringybark scrub and River Red Gums. The trail is 1.5 km long and takes about 35 minutes one way.

Camping and Accommodation

Are you planning on staying a little longer? We have ten powered sites and a large area for tents onsite, as well as a laundry and covered barbeque and washing up facilities.

We also provide dormitory style accommodation at the Wirreanda Bunkhouses for 45-49 people. As this accommodation is mainly used for group bookings, please call ahead to check availability, fees and conditions.

Something Special

Adventure Caving

Available by prior booking only, these tours are designed for visitors with an excellent sense of adventure. Novice tours can accommodate family groups and even people who are not comfortable with tight squeezes! Extended adventure tours are available by prior arrangement.

Overalls and helmets are supplied and safety is our number one priority.

World Heritage Tour

Available by prior booking only, this behind-the-scenes tour will let you get a close look at the research that has taken place in Victoria Fossil Cave. Discover the caves through the eyes of a palaeontologist as one of our experienced guides takes you through the main research areas, some areas not usually seen by the general public and then into the fossil laboratory.

Wonambi Fossil Centre

Step back into the ancient world of megafauna which comes to life in the Wonambi Fossil Centre. The self-guided walk through the simulated forest and swampland is wheelchair accessible and suitable for all ages.

Weather

The temperature of the caves remains at a constant 17°C all year round.

Visitors with disabilities

Both the Wonambi Fossil Centre and the Bat Observation Centre are wheelchair accessible.

Food and drink

The award-winning Caves Cafe is ideal for lunch or a light snack. Our menu is made daily on site from local produce and we pride ourselves on being able to cater for the entire family. Wine from neighbouring vineyards complements items on our menu.

Please remember

In order to make your visit as enjoyable as possible, there are a few things you need to remember:

- Smoking, eating and drinking are not permitted in the caves or the Wonambi Fossil Centre and smoking is not permitted in the café.
- The use of the handrails is recommended. These are located near steps and ramps for your safety.
- Do not touch the cave formations.
- Cameras may be used in the caves, but not video cameras.
- Thongs and high heels are not suitable.
- Enclosed footwear is essential for adventure caving.

Please assist in caring for the environment by reusing or recycling this map.