

Mount Remarkable National Park 16,000ha



Immerse yourself in the dramatic beauty of Mount Remarkable National Park, its high ochre ridges, deep gorges and watercourses lined with River Red Gums.

Within easy reach of Adelaide, Mount Remarkable National Park is an ideal place to take the family. There's lots of diverse wildlife and campgrounds with good facilities. The park is a popular destination for bushwalking, with trails for all ages and abilities. There are some incredible views to be had – the 960m high Mount Remarkable Summit presides over the Willochra Plain and looks out to the Spencer Gulf.

When to visit

The mild temperatures from April to October are the most comfortable for walking. It's also the best time of year to see wildlife and admire the park's spectacular native flora. Summers are warm to hot with little rainfall. During the summer months, temperatures range from 30-45°C, making walking more challenging. A responsible approach to bushwalking is essential for your safety.

Opening hours

Mount Remarkable National Park is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The park may be closed on days of extreme fire danger.

Getting there

The park is located 45km north of Port Pirie. Access is from National Highway One via Mambray Creek.

Alligator Gorge can be reached via a picturesque – but sometimes challenging – drive commencing 1km south of Wilmington on Main North Road. This road is very steep and is unsuitable for caravans, camper trailers and buses.

You can walk into the park from the adjacent town of Melrose, which lies at the foot of Mount Remarkable.

Please note that there are no public roads that pass through Mount Remarkable National Park. Horrocks Pass and Port Germein Gorge are the public roads nearest to the park where you can pass over the Flinders Ranges in an east-west direction.

Fees

Fees apply to enter Mount Remarkable National Park in a vehicle, and to camp. There are no fees for entering the park on foot.

Park entry permits can be purchased online or through one of our agents in adjacent townships. To camp at Mount Remarkable, you must pre-book your site and pay online.

- Purchase your entry permit; book and pay for camping and accommodation: parks.sa.gov.au/mountremarkable.
- Buy annual or holiday passes: parks.sa.gov.au.

Failure to purchase a valid permit or to book a campsite may result in a fine.

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Things to see & do

The dramatic scenery, spectacular geological landforms and native wildlife of the Southern Flinders Ranges make this park a photographer's paradise, but you don't need a camera to take in some of the best views in Australia.

Rangers recommend:

- Trying to spot the beautifully marked, rare Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby.
- Admiring the ancient geology at The Narrows and The Terraces at Alligator Gorge, and Cathedral Rock near Melrose.
- Discovering early pastoral life at the restored shepherd huts, and the Old Baroota Station ruins and cemetery.
- Taking the Hidden Gorge Hike for the amazing views (tip: walk clockwise, it's downhill at the end).
- Visiting the Ali Lookout Walk for the amazing views of Alligator Gorge below.

Wildlife

You will see animals everywhere in Mount Remarkable and many of them are not shy. Goannas lurk on rocks as you walk by, emus trot through the camps and along the tracks, and kookaburras mock you while you cook dinner. You may even spot an elusive echidna. A birdwatcher's delight, the park has 117 native bird species including brightly coloured variegated wrens, Australian Ringneck Parrots and Wedge-tailed Eagles.



Campgrounds

Mambray Creek is a well-established campground set among the River Red Gums. The sites are level, and suitable for caravans, camper trailers and other large vehicles. The toilets are wheelchair accessible and there are heated showers, a baby change room and communal fireplaces.

Baroota Ruins offers 10 caravan-accessible sites and basic toilet facilities. Communal fireplaces are dotted around the campground.

All sites at Mambray Creek and Baroota Ruins must be booked and paid for online. You'll also find information about each campsite and its facilities.

Visit parks.sa.gov.au/mountremarkable.

Group camping

Native Pines and Red Gums are two large group campsites ideal for school, community and family groups. Native Pines can fit 40 people, and Red Gums 60 people. Facilities include a communal area, a fire pit and access to toilets. Suitable for tents only. Call the Clare Natural Resources Centre on (+61 8) 8841 3400 to book.

Backpack camping

There are also 11 hike-in campsites in the park with no facilities. These sites are closed during bushfire danger season (usually November to April). To book a site, visit parks.sa.gov.au/mountremarkable.

Camping facilities

	Mambray Creek	Baroota Ruins	Group sites	Backpack sites
Designated sites	54	10	N	N
Tent camping	Y	Y	Y	Y
Caravan accessible	Y	Y	N	N
Access	2WD	2WD	2WD	hike-in
Toilets	Y	Y	Y	N
Bring drinking water	Y	Y	Y	Y
Shared fire places*	Y	Y	Y	N
Bring own firewood	Y	Y	Y	N
Remove own rubbish	Y	Y	Y	Y
Pets allowed	N	N	N	N

*Restrictions apply. See Fire Safety.

Accommodation

There are two accommodation options in the park, **Mambray Creek Cabin** (sleeps three) and **Alligator Lodge** (sleeps 10).

These must be booked and paid for via the online booking system, where you'll also find more information about the features of each lodging.

Visit parks.sa.gov.au/mountremarkable.

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Walking

Walk (easy) <i>A walk is accessible to people of all ages and fitness levels. These are well defined trails, generally less than 3km in length, with even surfaces.</i>	Mambray Creek Walk. An easy walk through Red River Gums and native pine forest. The trail links the Day Visitor Area and the Mambray Creek Campground. Access: Mambray Creek.	1 hour return	3km
	Wirra Water Loop. This interpretive section of the Mambray Creek Walk explains the importance of water in the area as you explore rocky river beds. Access: Mambray Creek.	30 minutes return	1.6km
	Ali Lookout Walk. A short and easy walk with spectacular views of Alligator Gorge below. Access: Alligator Gorge.	15 minutes return	400m
	Gorge Lookout Walk. A short and easy walk with spectacular views of the Alligator Basin. Access: Alligator Gorge.	20 minutes return	600m
Hike (moderate) <i>A moderate hike is suitable for bushwalkers with an average level of fitness. These trails can be any length and may include moderate inclines and irregular surfaces.</i>	Daveys Gully Hike. Easy gradient. Great views into the Alligator Basin and across Spencer Gulf to Whyalla. Access: Mambray Creek.	1 hour return	2.4km
	Baroota Hike. Follow the Mambray Creek Walk then continue along a natural trail to visit Baroota Ruins, the Old Baroota Cemetery and the Baroota Ruins Campground. Access: Mambray Creek.	2 hours return	6km
	Sugar gum Lookout Hike. An easy hike along the valley of Mambray with a short but strenuous climb to the lookout. Access: Mambray Creek.	3 hours return	8km
	Hidden Gorge Hike. Discover narrow gorges and magnificent views from the high Battery Ridge. Uneven gorge floor. Access: Mambray Creek.	7 hours return	18km
	Mambray Creek to Alligator Gorge Hike. Best planned as a two day hike if returning, or get picked up at the end. Access: Mambray Creek or Alligator Gorge.	5 hours one way	13km
	Gorge Circuit Hike. A popular hike for most abilities through Alligator Gorge. Steep steps and uneven gorge floor. Slippery when wet. Access: Alligator Gorge.	2 hours return	2km
	Alligator Gorge Ring Route Hike. Follow the full length of Alligator Gorge. Uneven and loose gorge floor. Access: Alligator Gorge.	4 hours return	9km
	Melrose Nature Hike. A pleasant hike through the foothills of Mount Remarkable. Great views of Melrose. Access: Melrose.	3 hours return	4.7km
	Mount Remarkable Summit Hike. Magnificent views of the Willochra Plain. Relatively easy access to the summit. Access: Melrose.	5 hours return	12.2km
Trek (challenging) <i>A trek is generally physically demanding. Users should be experienced bushwalkers with good navigational skills. Treks are often overnight and pass through remote areas where the trail is unmarked.</i>	Mount Cavern Trek. A demanding trek to the summit of Mount Cavern then descending steeply back into Mambray Creek. Magnificent views of the Alligator Basin. Access: Mambray Creek.		
	To Mount Cavern summit	6 hours return	11km
	To Black Range Lookout only	2 hours return	3.6km
	Black Range Trek. A demanding trek, please use a topographic map. Discuss your plans with an emergency contact person who will know if you don't return at the designated time. Access: Mambray Creek, Alligator Gorge or Melrose (via the Mount Remarkable Summit Hike).		
	From Mambray creek to Alligator Gorge	1 day, one way	22km
	From Mambray creek to Mount Remarkable	1 day, one way	20km

The Heysen Trail

Part of the Heysen Trail passes through Mount Remarkable National Park. If you plan to walk the Heysen Trail, use topographic maps or the *Heysen Trail Northern Guidebook*. When walking on the Heysen Trail through private land, please keep to the trail. The Heysen Trail is closed during the fire danger season.

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Know before you go

Every national park is different. Each has its own challenging environment and it is important to understand how to stay safe, while enjoying all the park has to offer. Please:

- leave your pets at home
- take your rubbish with you
- walk and drive only on designated tracks
- respect geological and heritage sites
- do not feed or disturb animals, or remove native plants
- do not bring generators, chainsaws and firearms into the park
- be considerate of other park users.

Fire safety

This park may be closed on days of extreme fire danger. Listen to your local radio station for broadcasts, or call the CFS Hotline on 1300 362 361.

- Wood fires and solid fuel fires are prohibited during fire danger season (usually from November to April).
- Gas fires and stoves are permitted except on days of total fire ban. Fire ban information: cfs.sa.gov.au.
- On days of total fire ban all solid, liquid and gas appliances are prohibited.
- Small cooking fires are only allowed at Mambray Creek and Baroota Ruins Campgrounds (elsewhere in the park, wood fires and solid fuel fires are prohibited).
- BYO firewood and kindling, gathering firewood in the park is prohibited and fines apply.

Bushwalking safety

- Keep to defined vehicle tracks and walking trails at all times– don't try to take short cuts or wander off the trails.
- Pay attention to the weather– be extra careful in extreme weather conditions.
- Wear sturdy shoes, a hat and sunscreen. Make sure you have appropriate wet weather clothing.
- Carry enough food and drinking water to be self-sufficient. The hotter the conditions, the more water you will need.
- Choose a trail appropriate to your level of fitness and always leave yourself plenty of time.
- Do not rely on tanks or creeks in the park for drinking water.
- Carry a map of the park and the walks at all times.
- For longer hikes and treks, fill out a Trip Intentions Form with your route and expected time of return. They are available from parks.sa.gov.au. Give a copy of your Trip Intentions Form to an emergency contact person who will know if you don't return at the designated time. Rangers are not necessarily available to know when walkers return.

Mobile phone coverage

Mobile phone coverage can be patchy and unreliable in national parks, especially if you are in a low-lying area (such as a gorge or a gully). To get a signal, you may have to walk or drive to one of the higher areas in the park.

Phytophthora (Root-rot fungus)

Phytophthora (fy-TOFF-thora), otherwise known as root- rot fungus, is killing our native plants and threatens the survival of animals depending on plants for food and shelter.

This introduced fungus can be found in plant roots, soil and water. Please help stop the spread by staying on tracks and trails and by complying with all *Phytophthora* management signs.

Friends of Mount Remarkable National Park

The Friends of Mount Remarkable National Park is a community-based group of volunteers who work to protect and develop the natural and cultural heritage in the park. Find out more about volunteering in parks at parks.sa.gov.au.

Contact the friends group at members.westnet.com.au/venhoek.

Contact

Emergency: 000

Clare Natural Resources Centre
(+61 8) 8841 3400

Entry permits, campsite &
accommodation bookings:
parks.sa.gov.au/mountremarkable

General park enquiries: (+61 8) 8204 1910
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parks.sa.gov.au □ facebook.com/parkssa