

Flinders Ranges National Park

Ancient and dramatic mountain landscapes, peaceful tree-lined gorges, a seasonal wealth of wildlife and the sense of space unique to the semi-arid zone combine to make Flinders Ranges National Park one of South Australia's iconic destinations.

The park comprises approximately 95 000 hectares and includes the Heysen Range, Brachina and Bunyeroo gorges and the breathtaking Wilpena Pound. Experience the native wildlife, rich cultural heritage, impressive geological features, camping opportunities and a range of activities including bushwalking, four-wheel driving, birdwatching, photography and cycling.

Getting there

Flinders Ranges National Park is situated approximately 450 kilometres north of Adelaide in the central Flinders Ranges. From Adelaide, take one of several routes to Hawker and then follow the signs to Wilpena. If arriving from Leigh Creek in the north, travel south to Parachilna and then either enter the park from the north or west, or head east from Leigh Creek towards Vulkathunha-Gammon Ranges National Park, and then follow the signs south to the park. If approaching from Broken Hill, turn north at Yunta on the Arkaroola Road and follow signs to Blinman.

Park access

The main road through the park and into Wilpena Pound is sealed. Unsealed roads with changing surfaces occur throughout the park and are further affected by weather conditions. All public roads are accessible by two-wheel drive vehicles, caravans and trailers. Please drive slowly and respect other road users.

When to visit

Mild temperatures from April to October make this period the most comfortable for bushwalking and cycling. During the summer months, maximum temperatures range from 30°C to 45°C, making activities more difficult. Some walking trails are closed during days of Extreme Fire Danger.

Park fees



Fees apply for entering and camping in Flinders Ranges National Park. On-the-spot fines apply to vehicles not displaying a valid permit.

Entry and camping permits can be obtained from any of the self-registration stations shown on the map. Fees collected are used for conservation and to maintain and improve park facilities for your ongoing enjoyment.

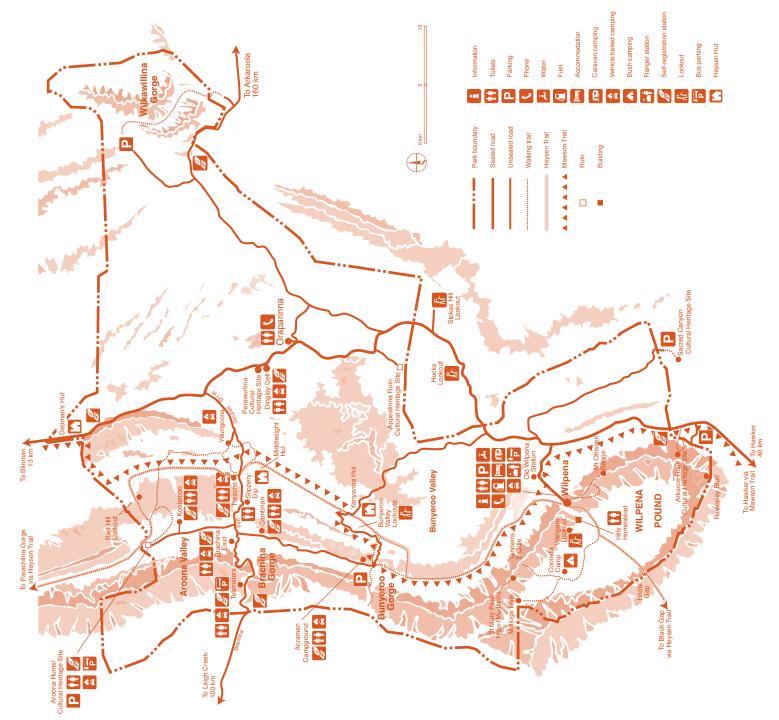
Annual park passes can be purchased from the Visitor Centre at Wilpena Pound or by phoning the DENR Information Line on (08) 8204 1910.

Cultural heritage

Flinders Ranges National Park has a rich and complex cultural heritage combining Aboriginal and pastoral history.

The Adnyamathanha people (meaning hills or rock people) are the traditional custodians of the Flinders Ranges. Their connection with the land stretches back many thousands of years. Ancient rock paintings and engravings can be seen at Arkaroo Rock, Sacred Canyon and Perawurtina Cultural Heritage Site.

There are also many historical remains from pastoral and mining activities, dating back to 1851. The most impressive is the restored Old Wilpena Station. The award-winning interpretive trail tells the stories of early pastoral life.



Flora and fauna

An abundance of plants and animals can be found throughout the park, including many rare species. Thanks to conservation programs such as Bounceback, the rare Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby can be seen in Brachina and Wilkawillina gorges. Spring brings a carnival of colour, with wildflowers carpeting the plains and foothills.

Walking trails

There are four walks and fourteen hikes within the park that cater for people with different interests and abilities. The Flinders Ranges provide some of the most scenic bushwalking in the state including a section of the Heysen Trail. The Heysen Trail is a long-distance walking trail that extends 1200 kilometres from Cape Jervis on the Fleurieu Peninsula to Parachilna Gorge, just north of the park.

For detailed information on walking trails in the Flinders Ranges refer to the Bushwalking in Flinders Ranges National Park brochure, available from the Wilpena Visitor Centre and DENR website.

Cycling in the park

Flinders Ranges National Park has fantastic mountain bike opportunities for visitors. The Mawson Trail and several roads provide access to some of the most stunning scenery in the park.

The Mawson Trail is accessible from Wilpena, Yanyanna and Trezona. Information on water availability en route is available at the Wilpena Visitor Centre. Please carry appropriate equipment including a puncture repair and first aid kit.

The park also contains sections of the Flinders Ranges by Bike cycle loop. Contact the Visitor Centre for more information.

Camping and accommodation

Scenic mountain views, kangaroos browsing on grasslands, cries of cockatoos and shaded woodland sites are some of the features on offer at the 10 campgrounds in Flinders Ranges National Park. Camping is on a first in basis, with no bookings taken.

Wilpena Pound Resort is privately owned and has various facilities and a range of accommodation options, including a caravan park and motel-style accommodation.

Fire restrictions

Wood fires are not permitted during the fire danger season, usually 1 November to 30 April. Gas and fuel stoves are permitted except on days of Total Fire Ban when no fires are permitted.

Wood fires are not permitted inside Wilpena Pound. Gas fires are permitted only at Cooinda Camp, except on days of Total Fire Ban.

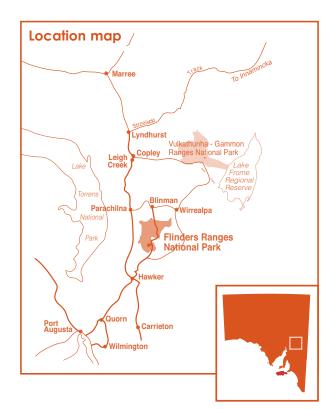
Outside of fire ban season, wood fires are only permitted at designated areas in campgrounds.

Please remember that fallen timber plays a valuable role in the natural environment and **collection of firewood within the park is not permitted** – penalties apply.

Friends of Parks

The Friends of Flinders Ranges National Park volunteer group assists in many practical ways with the preservation and restoration of the natural and cultural heritage of the park. Some of their work includes care of the garden and restoration of Old Wilpena Station outbuildings, revegetation, seed collection and weed control.

If you would like to know more about the group visit www.friendsofflindersranges.org.au





The National Parks Code

Help protect your national parks by following these guidelines:

- Leave your pets at home.
- Take your rubbish with you.
- Observe fire restrictions, usually 1 November to 30 April. Check CFS hotline 1300 362 361.
- Conserve native habitat by using liquid fuel or gas stoves.
- · Camp only in designated areas.
- Respect geological, cultural and heritage sites.
- Keep our wildlife wild. Do not feed or disturb animals, or remove native plants.
- Keep to defined vehicle tracks and walking trails.
- Generators and chainsaws are not permitted.
- Be considerate of other park users.

Thank you for leaving the bush in its natural state for the enjoyment of others.

For further information contact:

Flinders Ranges National Park PMB 22 Wilpena via Hawker SA 5434

Wilpena Visitor Centre

Phone (08) 8648 0048 Fax (08) 8648 0092

Phone Information Line (08) 8204 1910 Email denrinformation@sa.gov.au Website www.parks.sa.gov.au

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