



6 to 21 May 2023

Ride Guide

**900km Mountain Bike adventure
through the Australian Outback
Adelaide to Blinman, Flinders Ranges
South Australia**



WELCOME TO THE 2023 OUTBACK ODYSSEY!

Over 900km along the Mawson Trail from Adelaide to the Flinders Ranges

The following itinerary information will help you plan for each day, but there is plenty of additional information in supplementary documents that you'll find useful:

- MY RIDE
- MY TRAINING
- MY GEAR
- MY BIKE

This information can be found in the Participant Information tab of the Outback Odyssey web page

<https://bikesa.asn.au/outback-odyssey>

Please make sure you read through the above well before the start, so you are fully prepared and can get the most out of the Outback Odyssey.

Note: Every effort is made to ensure that the information in this Ride Guide is correct and up to date. Please be aware some details may be subject to change and further information regarding optional activities will be added as it is confirmed. A final updated version will be published just prior to the event.

DAILY ITINERARY

A typical day begins with breakfast, then on your bike until a stop for refreshments, followed by more riding until lunch. On longer days we keep riding through until afternoon refreshments, then on until the campsite is reached. There you can unwind, socialize, explore your surroundings, sip a drink and watch the sunset over dinner. Later, the stars come out and riders share their stories to the early hours or until weary bodies hint it is time for bed. We hope you enjoy sharing this Outback Odyssey with us.

Mawson



T R A I L

DAY ONE – SATURDAY 6 MAY

ADELAIDE TO LOBETHAL

- CHECK-IN AND LUGGAGE LOADING - 7:00AM – 8:10AM
@ HINDMARSH SQUARE, ADELAIDE CBD
- WELCOME AND BRIEFING - 8:10AM
- DEPART – 8:30AM

REFRESHMENTS	24KM	GORGE ROAD
WATER STOP	32KM	FOX CREEK BIKE PARK
LUNCH & FINISH	40KM	LOBETHAL FOOTBALL CLUB

Welcome to the start of the 2023 Outback Odyssey! Gather early, so you have plenty of time to register, receive your exclusive Outback Odyssey jersey and load your luggage on to the luggage truck. Make sure you have had breakfast beforehand and maybe grab a last-minute coffee before embarking on the first of over 900km to the Flinders Ranges!

Our bicycle maintenance team will be on hand to help with any last-minute tweaks for your bike. After the welcome and briefing, you will enjoy a picture postcard ride along the banks of the River Torrens, via Linear Park shared use path to Gorge Road and the start of the Adelaide Hills. The ride up Castambul will get your legs working and heart pumping, as you climb over 600m in less than 10km. The trail rises through Mount Crawford Forest and there are some stiles and gates to negotiate (please leave the gates as found; if closed when you arrive then make sure it is closed when you leave).

Take your time and enjoy the lush Australian bush as well as the spectacular views, both in the valleys and back towards Adelaide and the coastline. Take care on the single and forest tracks as there are some steep downhill sections and rutted fire tracks. Please consider other riders who may be faster or slower than you, as it will be very difficult to pass on some sections of the single track.

At the top of the climb you will exit the Cudlee Creek Forest Reserve and come out onto Croft Rd where you will find Anderson Hill Winery – a great spot to enjoy a fabulous Adelaide Hills wine, a refreshing craft beer or coffee / snack. Pause to take in expansive views across the Hill landscape and countryside that is still recovering from the bushfires of 2019/20. You will pass the entrance road to the Fox Creek Bike Park, also severely damaged in the recent fires but now being rebuilt with fantastic MTB trails to suit all types of riding. If your legs are up for it, check out some of the green, blue and black mountain bike trails that wind through the bike park here. Check out the map and work out where you want to go. Even the short ride into Thomas Hill House at the end of the entrance track is worth it for the panoramic views overlooking Adelaide and further to the west.

From here you climb to Gold Mine Range, and then enjoy some (undulating) downhill on the final 7km to Lobethal – our lunch stop and final destination for the day. Our first campsite is at the Lobethal Recreation Grounds, and your luggage will be ready for you when you arrive.

This first day is intentionally short, giving you the chance to ease your legs into the ride. You have the afternoon for a ride or stroll around Lobethal and check out the shops and cafes. There is a great bakery, a couple of pubs as well as Emma & Ivy café & Amberlight café to grab a coffee or a snack. If you have a taste for the amber fluid, check out the local offerings at the Lobethal Bierhaus.

This Saturday night we will share our first meal as well as plenty of important information to help you make the most of your adventure. Each evening throughout the Odyssey we will run through the following days' route and schedule, provide a weather forecast, and enjoy a few laughs. There will be plenty of good food and drinks to be enjoyed from the Handle Bar

Some of you will hit the hay early, ready for a bigger day in the saddle tomorrow.



CHECK OUT ...

En route

- River Torrens <https://www.southaustraliantrails.com/trails/river-torrens-linear-park-trail/>
- Fox Creek Bike Park <https://foxcreekbikepark.com.au/>
- Anderson Hill Winery <https://www.andersonhill.com.au/>

In Lobethal

- Shops,cafes,pubs,bakery <https://southaustralia.com/destinations/adelaide-hills/places/lobethal>
- Emma & Ivy café <https://emmaandivy.com.au/>
- Amberlight Café
- Lobethal Bierhaus <https://bierhaus.com.au/>

DAY TWO – SUNDAY 7 MAY

LOBETHAL TO TANUNDA

REFRESHMENTS 26KM

LUNCH 61KM

FINISH 74KM

LUCKY HIT ROAD / FOREST ENTRY

STEINGARTEN RD, ROWLAND FLAT

CHATEAU TANUNDA, TANUNDA

We pick up the trail again heading out of town to the north. The riding becomes gentle in comparison to yesterday's ride as you reach Birdwood, a romantic and charming town, full of reminders of life in the last century. Beyond Mount Pleasant is a little bitumen before you get back into another tract of Mount Crawford Forest and some fun bits of single track.

Out of the forest, the track meanders through farming and then into wine country – the Barossa Valley. There are some great rolling hills with lots of good downhill runs, including the track into Rowland Flat. You summit Steingarten Hill and wander through the vineyards, but then you head STRAIGHT DOWN, so take care! You go through a gate into what looks like a vineyard and all of a sudden the track heads down and you can see for miles. Make sure you take things easy as you descend Steingarten Rd to your lunch stop, about 600m before you reach the junction of the busy Barossa Valley Highway.

CHATEAU TANUNDA

It is a short ride after lunch to the finish at Chateau Tanunda, just off the main street on Basedow Road. What a place to finish! Chateau Tanunda is a tranquil oasis at the centre of the world famous Barossa Valley. Proprietor John Geber is a keen cyclist and the proud custodian of Chateau Tanunda's impressive range of wine, including The Three Graces, 100 Year Old Shiraz and the premium Old Vine Shiraz and Grenache.

The Chateau is on your right as you ride in and freewheel down past the cellar door to the Cricket Pitch, home to the annual pilgrimage of former cricketers for their fundraising match. There won't be any cricket today, because you are pitching your tents on the oval turf (avoid the centre square, lovingly tended by the Chateau groundsmen).

You can instead play some croquet on the green by the downstairs cellar door, where you can treat yourself to a cheese platter to accompany complimentary wine-tasting. 'Croquet Packages' include a cheese platter, two glasses of wine *plus* a game of croquet. Espresso coffee and fresh cakes are also available.

The upstairs bar, by the Grand Ballroom and Chateau Forecourt, is serving wine, beer and soft drinks all afternoon and into the evening ... the perfect place to put your feet up and relax.

The Grand Ballroom is the venue for tonight's "BLACK TIE" dinner so don't forget your silk gown or white shirt/tux or crazy attire. For more information visit www.chateautanunda.com



CHECK OUT ...

En route

- Birdwood <https://www.aussietowns.com.au/town/birdwood-sa>
- Birdwood Motor Museum <https://motor.history.sa.gov.au/>
- Further sections of Mount Crawford Forest
- Steingarten Hill

At Tanunda

- Barossa Cycle Hub <https://barossabikehire.com/>
- Barossa Visitor Information Centre <https://www.barossa.com/info/visitor-information-centres>
- Barossa Bike Path <https://www.barossa.com/see/cycling>
- Barossa Valley Brewing <http://bvbeer.com.au/home/>
- Cafes, pubs, shops

DAY THREE – MONDAY 8 MAY

TANUNDA TO RIVERTON

REFRESHMENTS	28KM	KAPUNDA
LUNCH	53KM	CANTS HILL (Cnr Cornvale Rd & Hydedale Rd)
FINISH	78KM	RIVERTON CARAVAN PARK, RIVERTON

From Tanunda you ride north beyond Nuriootpa to Kapunda (take extra care when you cross the Sturt Highway), arriving via the Old Kapunda Copper Mine that dates back to 1844. Kapunda is a lovely town, with significant historic interest. You can take the 10 km Heritage Trail to view examples of magnificent sandstone and bluestone buildings this region is famous for, as well as Australia's best example of cast iron lacework that decorates these heritage buildings. The first sight to greet visitors from the south is 'Map the Miner' which looms over the road into town. This is a depiction of 'The Cornish Miner', who was instrumental in the development of this whole region.

There are some good single track sections just out of Kapunda, and a fairly steep short climb, then fantastic ridge rides around the local properties (don't forget to shut the gate!) You slowly wind your way through picturesque farmland over to today's finish at Riverton.

CHECK OUT ...

En route

- Penfolds Winery <https://www.penfolds.com/>
- Map the Miner https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Map_the_Miner
- Old Kapunda Mines <https://www.lightcountry.com.au/kapunda-mine-site>
- Kapunda Heritage Loop Trail <https://www.light.sa.gov.au/discover/points-of-interest/kapunda-heritage-trail>
- Kapunda Mural Trail and Silo Art <https://kapundamuraltown.com.au/>

At Riverton

- Historic Railway Station <https://www.blackstumpwines.com.au/riverton.html>
- Riverton Light Gallery <https://www.rivertonlightgallery.com/>
- Gilbert River Park <https://riverton.sa.au/>



DAY FOUR – TUESDAY 9 MAY

RIVERTON TO BURRA

REFRESHMENTS	29KM	WATERVALE - RIESLING TRAIL / SOLLYS HILL RD
LUNCH	56KM	BEFORE CAMELS HUMP RANGE
FINISH	87KM	BURRA COMMUNITY FOOTBALL CLUB

From Riverton the trail links with the redeveloped loop trails where the Mawson Trail makes its way through farmland, before arriving at the southern start of the Riesling Trail at Auburn. As an option you may wish to take the Rattler Rail Trail from Riverton to Auburn. It is the same distance but you ride the route of the old railway line.

Auburn to Clare is a relatively gentle meander on SA's best known rail trail, through the vintage towns of Leasingham, Watervale, Penwortham and Sevenhill. Wineries with evocative names and fine wine beckon – Annie's Lane, Kilikanoon, Skillogalee, Neagles Rock and many more – but don't lose sight of the end goal, Burra.

From Clare you head out to the tiny town of White Hut. You are traversing the Goyder Council area, named after the Surveyor General of South Australia from 1861 to 1893. He put his name to the Goyder Line, which separates, in his humble opinion, the arable land suitable for long-term agriculture, from the arid grazing lands further north. All the historic ruins to the north of Goyder's Line are testament to those who did not heed his advice.

Note the change in the landscapes, from the lush valley of the Clare region to the bald hills and flat open plains. But the cycling is lots of fun, especially on the backside of The Camels Hump Range!

Burra is an amazing place, the history and charm just ooze out of this town. The community football club is your home for two nights, so relax and enjoy your new home.

We also farewell some of our new-found riding buddies – those heading home tomorrow after completing the first Mini Mawson.

THE RIESLING TRAIL

Traversing the picturesque Clare Valley wine region, the Riesling Trail is one of the first rail-trails in South Australia. Developed by the Office for Recreation and Sport and the Clare Valley community, the trail runs for 27-kilometres along the old Riverton to Spalding railway line.

The trail runs between Auburn and Clare. Named after the grape and wine variety that the region is famous for, the Riesling Trail leads you past many cellar doors and other visitor attractions, making it ideal for those wanting a leisurely ride with a distraction or two!

There are additional loop trails so you can take a detour and return to your starting point without travelling over old ground.

CHECK OUT ...

En route

- Rattler Trail – Riverton to Auburn <https://riverton.sa.au/discover/rattler-trail/>
- Riesling Trail – Auburn to Claire & White Hut <http://rieslingtrail.com.au/>
- Cellar doors <https://www.clarevalley.com.au/drink/cellar-doors>
- Clare Visitor Information Centre <https://www.clarevalley.com.au/>

Burra

- Visitor Information Centre, 2 Market Square
- Burra Historic Passport
- Museums
- Pubs, supermarket, bakery, etc



DAY FIVE – WEDNESDAY 10 MAY

REST DAY, BURRA

Enjoy a well-earned rest in this wonderful town –whether you cruise the cafés and pubs or catch up on laundry and get some bonus shuteye, it's up to you. No lunch provided today! There are plenty of great local eateries. Breakfast will be slightly later this morning to allow a bit of a sleep in – available from 7:30am until 9:00am. Those Mini Mawson riders leaving us this morning will be departing for Adelaide at 8am.

From 4pm we welcome a group of new Mini Mawson riders, joining us for the first time. Tonight we will all enjoy a meal together, and Full Mawson riders will share tales, both tall and true, of the previous days' adventures.

BURRA

This State Heritage town has a wealth of outstanding historic buildings and offers a rare opportunity for the visitor to appreciate what life in a 19th century copper mining town was like. In more recent times the area around Burra has been used as a setting for films including the highly regarded 'Breaker Morant'.

The Historic Passport local Tour Program covers a total of 43 heritage sites (yes, there are that many) and includes details of an 11 km walk for those of you with too much energy to spare. There are some of the historic sites that need to be opened by a key and this is provided with the Historic Passport.

<https://www.visitburra.com/burra-heritage-pass/>

Part science, part history, part open-air museum "Who was Johnny Green?" is a new location based mobile adventure to discover the national heritage of Burra where Cornish mining technology, skills and culture were once demonstrated to a high degree. Download 'Discover Goyder' app and print the decoder map. Cycle or walk to take on the challenges, decode the clues and solve the mystery!

CHECK OUT ...

- Monster Mine
- Redruth Gaol <https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/places/redruth-gaol/>
- Unicorn Brewery historic site <https://southaustralia.com/products/clare-valley/attraction/unicorn-brewery-cellars>
- Morphett's Engine House Museum <https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/places/burra-mine-site-grassland/>
- Bon Accord Mining Museum
- Malowen Lowarth Museum <https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/places/malowen-lowarth-cottage/>
- Burra Creek Gorge (25km each way)
- Several bakeries and cafes
- Historic Railway Station Tour – Megafauna Fossil display <https://www.visitburra.com/fossil-display/>

For more information

Burra Visitor Centre, 2 Market Square (08) 8892 2154

discover@visitburra.com

www.visitburra.com



DAY SIX – THURSDAY 11 MAY

BURRA TO HALLETT

REFRESHMENTS	21KM	MOKOTA CONSERVATION PARK
LUNCH	49KM	DARES HILL SUMMIT RD / DUST HOLE CRK RD
REFRESHMENTS	66KM	WILKINS HISTORIC SITE
FINISH	85KM	HALLETT

The first point of call just north of Burra is the most photographed ruin around. If you are a fan of Midnight Oil then you will recognise the scene.

You head into the hills again for a wonderful ride through grazing land that produces the highest quality Merino Wool in Australia. Take care on the downhill runs along White Hills Road – there are some sharp corners and lots of loose dirt. Then onto Dares Hill, where the views are amazing! Continuing on around Mount Bryan, you ride past “Netfield”, the birthplace and childhood home of Sir Hubert Wilkins, now restored as a historic site. Sir Hubert Wilkins, polar explorer, ornithologist, pilot, soldier, geographer and photographer (1883–1958) was perhaps the last of the modern explorers.

Recommended reading: The Last Explorer: Hubert Wilkins, Australia’s Unknown Hero by Simon Nasht

Today’s overnight campsite will be at the Hallett oval with dinner a short stroll away at the Hallett Hall.

HALLETT

Home to the historic Wildongoleeche Hotel and, as already mentioned, the birthplace of Sir Hubert Wilkins, an epic adventurer, pilot and arctic explorer of the 1900s, Hallett has a long association with adventure. In his first major publication, 'Undiscovered Australia', published in 1928, George Hubert Wilkins wrote “Twenty years ago I set out from Adelaide as a stowaway. I was in search of adventure and something out of the ordinary. Since then I have wandered around the world from east to west, from west to east and from the Arctic to the Antarctic, exploring many unknown places.” The restored Wilkins cottage is a great attraction to see on your way to Hallett.

The Hallett General Store provides limited retail facilities, snacks, coffee, etc.

CHECK OUT ...

En route

- Mokota Conservation Park <https://www.parks.sa.gov.au/parks/mokota-conservation-park>
- Old Mount Bryan East School
- Dares Hill summit
- Sir Hubert Wilkins cottage <https://www.visitburra.com/sir-hubert-wilkins-cottage/>

At Hallett

- Wildongoleeche Hotel <https://wikiaustralia.com/destination/clare-valley-to-the-north-and-west/>
- Hallett General Store <https://www.hallettmidnorth.com/trails.html>



DAY SEVEN – FRIDAY 12 MAY

HALLETT TO SPALDING

REFRESHMENTS	20KM	PARKER ROAD
LUNCH & FINISH	45KM	SPALDING OVAL

A relatively short day of riding through more of the Mid-North's scenic agricultural landscape. A steady climb after the morning refreshment stop brings you to a prime viewing point for the huge turbines of the Hallett windfarm and fantastic vista across the countryside towards Hallett.

Today and tomorrow you get to test the mettle of your tyre protection. If you haven't already been visited by the spectre of the calthrop (aka bindi-eye or 3 corner jack), then be prepared. The Spalding and Bundaleer Channels – themselves incredible feats of engineering – have a habit of surprising the unwary. Tubeless tyres with a fresh dose of sealant are highly recommended, not only for today but the entire trip. Otherwise, tyre protection in the form of tyre liners or thorn proof tubes is also a good idea.

CHECK OUT ...

En route

- Willalo Hall
- Hallett Windfarm – Brown Hill Range <https://www.agl.com.au/content/aglenergy/nsw/en/about-agl/how-we-source-energy/hallett-wind-farms>

In Spalding

- Barbed Wire pub! <https://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/2013-07-16/barbed-wire-pub/4811736>
- Spalding General Store

DAY EIGHT – SATURDAY 13 MAY

SPALDING TO LAURA

REFRESHMENTS	27KM	CAMPBELL RANGE ROAD & RM WILLIAMS WAY
LUNCH	55KM	MANATOO RD AND HILLAM RD
WATER STOP	73KM	ZANKERS ROAD & MCKENZIE ROAD
FINISH	80KM	LAURA OVAL

Just north of Spalding is Bundaleer Reservoir and a ride along Never Never Range into Bundaleer Forest. The beautiful forest of oaks, ashes, elms and sycamores was Australia's first plantation forest.

From Bundaleer you ride on to Laura, focus of the regional Folk Fair and a main street busy with local businesses in original period buildings. Laura was home to CJ Dennis, and his influence can be found in the many galleries, craft and antique shops along the main drag. Don't forget to sample the amazing locally made Golden North icecream!

Tonight's home is at the Laura Football Club and Oval.

CHECK OUT ...

En route

- Bundaleer Forest <https://visitjamestown.com.au/bundaleer-forest/>

In Laura

- Craft shops and galleries <https://laurasa.com.au/>
- CJ Dennis monument



DAY NINE – SUNDAY 14 MAY

LAURA TO MELROSE

REFRESHMENTS	18KM	WIRRABARA FORESTRY OFFICE
LUNCH	38KM	WILLOW DAM & YELLOW CUTTING ROADS
FINISH	57KM	MELROSE CARAVAN PARK

From Laura you head north via some single track before getting into Wirrabara Forest. You continue through the forest for around 20kms, with some good single track sections to test you out.

Just north of the forest is the Bangor Historic Site and the Gorge Hotel Ruin. You wander through the Peach Tree Hill Cutting and Mount Remarkable winery. The last few kilometres into Melrose along Survey Road are a real hoot, but like all good hills, it has a stop sign at the bottom, so take care!

Your home for a couple of nights is the caravan park, where there is a welcome village atmosphere and toasty campfire. Dinner and brekky is in the Institute Hall in the heart of town, a short walk from the campsite. At dinner, Bartagunyah Wines will have plenty of their local drop to try before you buy. It's also time farewell to the Mini Mawsoners who leave tomorrow (but never fear, more are coming to join you).

MELROSE

Melrose, the oldest town in the Flinders Ranges, came into existence because of a copper deposit found in the area in 1840s. However, today, situated safely within the assured rainfall area, grazing, wheat and barley growing are the main activities

A charming reminder of early South Australia, Melrose nestles at the foot of Mount Remarkable National Park, serving a rural community and at the same time offering a pleasant holiday retreat.

Many of Melrose's features are within walking distance. Climb to the War Memorial for a panoramic view over the Willochra Plain or to Lookout Hill near the water tanks. Cathedral Rock is a spectacular formation along the edge of Mount Remarkable Creek west of the town.

There is also, more importantly, one of South Australia's finest sustainable trail networks developed as a loop trail off the main Mawson Trail. Take some time to check out the maps of the area and get ready to spend your rest day honing your skills on some of the finest trails around!

CHECK OUT ...

En route

- Bartagunyah Winery <https://www.bartagunyah.com.au/>

In Melrose

- The Monument
- Courthouse Museum <https://www.melrosemuseum.com/>
- Over the Edge Sports <https://otesports.com/locations/melrose/>
- North Star Hotel <http://www.northstarhotel.com.au/>
- Mount Remarkable Hotel <https://www.mtremarkablehotel.com/>
- Store 54 Cafe & Food Market
- The Vault Café <https://www.melrose-mtremarkable.org.au/tucker/>
- Mount Remarkable National Park <https://www.parks.sa.gov.au/parks/mount-remarkable-national-park>



DAY TEN – MONDAY 15 MAY

REST DAY, MELROSE

Another day to rest your bones, maybe catch up on some correspondence, and give your Outback Odyssey jersey a thorough wash. We are well aware that the purpose of today is all of the above. However, the prospect of venturing out onto the sustainable trails and challenges of the Melrose loop network may be too much to resist. We will give you the opportunity for a small sleep in if you wish with breakfast available between 7:30am and 9:00am. Those Mini Mawson riders leaving us this morning will be departing for Adelaide at 8.00am.

Melrose's trails have in a short time gained an awesome reputation as some of the most grin-inducing, challenging and well-designed trails in the state. The trails are well marked with all skill levels catered for. As home to the annual Melrose Fat Tyre Festival (every June long weekend) the town of Melrose will welcome you with open arms on the trails (built on private land with community support), in the pubs (sample both just to be sure) and even when you lock your bikes up in the main street. Melrose is a booming MTB Mecca in South Australia.

Your legs might be tired, but you have come this far, to leave without sampling the trails would be criminal, wouldn't it?

Of course, there are always the fine eating and drinking establishments of the town, as well as some challenging and rewarding walks in the Mount Remarkable National Park, offering stunning views of where you have been and where you are going. A great way to stretch out those calves and hamstrings mid-trip!

Local MTB gurus at Over the Edge cycle shop will provide some additional MTB instruction to the Full Mawson riders, as well as introduce the Mini Mawson newcomers to the wonders of the Mawson Trail - because tomorrow the serious stuff begins ...

No lunch will be provided today, but there are plenty of places to eat your fill.

From 4pm we welcome another group of new Mini Mawson riders, joining us for the final leg to Blinman time. Tonight, we will all enjoy a meal together, and Full Mawson riders will share tales, both tall and true, of the previous days' adventures.

No doubt the revelry will migrate back to the campfire later on.

CHECK OUT ...

In Melrose

- Over The Edge bike shop otesports.com.au
- The trails!
- Mount Remarkable National Park
- Jacka Brothers brewery <https://www.jackabrothersbrewery.com.au/>

For more information

Tel 1300 764 227

www.southaustralia.com

www.parks.sa.gov.au

www.southernflindersranges.com.au



DAY ELEVEN – TUESDAY 16 MAY

MELROSE TO QUORN

REFRESHMENTS	31KM	WILMINGTON
LUNCH	52KM	GUNYAH ROAD & OLD GUNYAH ROAD
FINISH	71KM	QUORN TOWN OVAL

Today's leg crosses into the pastoral lands with Mount Remarkable in view. The relatively flat ride along the trail via a couple of rocky creek beds brings you to Wilmington in an area known as Beautiful Valley. Check out the Toy Museum and the historic pub in the main street. As an alternative you could also take a more direct route via the Melrose to Wilmington rail trail.

After lunch we wander off into the Richman Valley region. We cross the range at Richman Gap, where the rocky downhill section will test any budding Downhill racers. From here it is a delicious 10km run into Quorn.

QUORN

Prior to European settlement it is thought the Nugunu Aborigines lived in the area. The first European settlers arrived in the 1850s. The town came into existence in 1875 and was named after Quorndon in Leicestershire. The name was given by Governor Jervois whose private secretary originated from near Quorndon.

In 1878 the government sold plots of land in the area and by 1879 it had become an important stopping point on the Great Northern Railway line when the narrow gauge railway reached Quorn from Port Augusta. However its greatest period of importance as a railway centre was between 1917 and 1937 when it was the junction for both the east to west and north to south railway services. This importance continued through World War II when over 400 people in the town were working for the railways. During this time thousands of troops passed through the town and it has been estimated that the local branch of the Country Women's Association provided over one million meals to the servicemen!

The first Quorn railway station was built in 1860. This handsome limestone building was completed in 1916 and is characterised by a bull-nosed iron roofed veranda with cast iron decoration.

Situated in Railway Terrace, the Quorn Mill was constructed for John Dunn in 1879. Dunn was one of the most successful millers in the district and took advantage of the good years in the late 1870s when the wheat crops were substantial. Unfortunately a couple of years after it was built the district experienced a period of sustained drought which drove many of the wheat farmers off the land.

First settled in the 1850s, Quorn soon became a railway hub of the north, with narrow and standard gauge lines. Take the 4.7 km historic walk around town, or visit one of the four pubs.

CHECK OUT ...

En route

- Wilmington Toy Museum
- Mount Brown

In Quorn

- Pichi Richi train & Quorn Railway Station <https://www.pichirichirailway.org.au/>
- Quorn Visitor Information Centre
- Historic loop walk <https://www.frc.sa.gov.au/tourism/what-to-do/walks-and-lookouts>
- Several pubs!
- Quondong café <https://quandongapartments.com.au/>
- Teas On The Terrace <https://www.teasontheterracequorn.com.au/>
- Quorn Silo Light show <https://quornsilolightshow.info/>
- Supermarket, Pharmacy



DAY TWELVE – WEDNESDAY 17 MAY

QUORN TO HAWKER

REFRESHMENTS	30KM	WILLANGRI WELL
WATER STOP	44KM	SIMMONSTON
LUNCH	65KM	KANYAKA (Cnr Flinders Ranges Way / Springfield Rd)
REFRESHMENTS	85KM	CRADOCK
FINISH	112KM	HAWKER CARAVAN PARK

Your biggest day, but a great day's riding. You begin with the spectacular Yarra Vale Road, which winds its way up to a fantastic lookout point, then through the Yarra Vale Gorge. Warren Gorge is just off the trail by 2km but is well worth the short side trip.

The trail then travels through the abandoned town of Simmonston, which is a reminder of the harsh conditions faced here by early pioneers. This is one of many ruins around this area, the most famous being Kanyaka.

The scenery just seems to get more spectacular the further we go, and you will start to feel like you are really in the Outback. The area is isolated, with little or no traffic along the graded dirt roads. Relax and settle into your cycling rhythm, with the only distraction likely to be the occasional kangaroo bounding across the plains and the spectacular views across the ranges.

KANYAKA

Located south of Hawker on the road to Quorn, the Kanyaka Ruins are definitely worth visiting. A strange collection of ruins dating back to 1851 when Kanyaka Station was a huge wheat property (984 square kilometres) on the limits of the desert. At the time it supported a station population of nearly 70 families (working on farms at the time was labour intensive) but the inevitable droughts drove the people away so that all that is left are the ruins of the buildings. The buildings include remnants of a stable and harness room, a woolshed and an overseer's cottage. Detailed information about the ruins and their history is provided on a number of excellent information plaques which include photographs of the buildings before they became ruins.

HAWKER

Take some time to see the Jeff Morgan Gallery, on Cradock Rd Hawker - **The home of Wilpena Panorama**, a complete, uninterrupted 360 degree, circular painting of the view as seen from St Mary Peak, the highest peak of Wilpena Pound and the highest peak in the entire Flinders Ranges. The painting also takes in the rest of the Pound and all visible surrounding countryside all to scale as if you were there. Having climbed the central stair case of the specifically designed circular building view the beautiful uninterrupted panorama of the majestic ranges, expansive plains and shimmering salt lakes as seen from St Mary Peak, and painted by well known award winning Hawker artist Jeff Morgan.

CHECK OUT ...

En route

- Proby's grave
- Simmonston
- Kanyaka

In Hawker

- Wilpena Panorama <https://wilpenapanorama.com/>
- General Store <https://hawkervic.info/>
- Hawker Motors – Tourist Information
- Flinders Food Co Café <https://www.flindersfoodco.com.au/>



DAY THIRTEEN – THURSDAY 18 MAY

HAWKER TO RAWNSLEY PARK

REFRESHMENTS	22KM	MOUNT LITTLE STATION
WATER STOP	40KM	MAWSON TRAIL & PARACHILNA RD
LUNCH	52KM	MORALANA SCENIC DRIVE – WEST END
REFRESHMENTS	80KM	MORALANA DRIVE & WILPENA RD
FINISH	94KM	RAWNSLEY PARK STATION

Another big day, but one with many rewards. You cross the Wonoka creek twice, then pass Wonoka ruins and climb Wonoka Hill, with a very challenging downhill section over boulders (exercise extreme caution!).

You pass Mount Little Station and camp hut, then wind your way over some goat tracks, with many small creek crossings. This should satisfy the lovers of single track. You have about 10km of bitumen before you hit the Moralana Scenic Drive. This 28km section is very rough with corrugations, but very scenic, as you ride around the back of the Wilpena Pound Ranges.

You ride into Rawnsley Park Station for a very special camp out.

RAWNSLEY PARK

Overlooking the southern side of Wilpena Pound, Rawnsley Park Station provides the perfect base for exploring the Flinders Ranges. Accommodation includes luxury eco-villas, holiday units, a caravan park and some of the best campsites you will find in the Flinders Ranges.

Initially devoted solely to sheep grazing, Rawnsley Park Station ventured into tourism in 1968, when the first cabin was established and sheep shearing demonstrations began. Although tourism is now the main industry on the property, the Station still runs 600 sheep.

Clem's son, Tony, took over ownership and management of the property in 1984. Since then, Tony and his wife, Julieanne, have transformed a small struggling sheep station into an award-winning tourism facility that attracts 20,000 visitors each year.

Active members of the South Australian tourism industry, Tony and Julieanne are passionate about the Flinders Ranges and the tourism opportunities it presents. They were one of the first tourism operators in South Australia to gain official ecotourism accreditation and are also interested in developing the 'geotourism' sector, which involves understanding how the earth was formed.

Committed to environmentally responsible and sustainable tourism, Tony and Julieanne entered into a Heritage Agreement with the South Australian Department of Environment and Heritage in order to protect the diverse vegetation of Rawnsley Bluff. Their substantial financial investment into the new Rawnsley Park eco-villas is further evidence of this commitment.

CHECK OUT ...

En route

- The Flinders Ranges!
- Wonoka Creek

In Rawnsley Park

- Wilpena Pound from the south side
- Rawnsley Bluff <https://www.rawnsleypark.com.au/>
- Flinders Ranges By Bike loop trail
- Scenic Flights



DAY FOURTEEN – FRIDAY 19 MAY

RAWNSLEY PARK TO WILPENA POUND

LUNCH & FINISH

26KM

WILPENA POUND

Although today's ride is the shortest of distance travelled on our adventure it takes us through some of the most spectacular scenery of the whole journey. It also allows you some additional time to explore the iconic Wilpena Pound - a rather remarkable rock amphitheatre which covers a huge 80sq. km and reaches a height of about 500m. One of the most photographed features of the Flinders Ranges – it was formed over 640 million years ago by sedimentary deposits under the sea. The deposits were folded into mountains whilst millions of years of erosion have resulted in the amazing chiseled formation that can be seen today. The area has wonderful scenery and is home to a whole host of animals, including plenty of birds, kangaroos and wallabies. If you are up to it when you arrive, there are some magnificent walks in the area, which really allow you to see the beauty of Wilpena Pound.

<http://www.southaustralianhistory.com.au/wilpena.htm>

Despite the short ride there is plenty to keep you active with lots of walking trails and the opportunity for a scenic flight to take in the spectacular views of this iconic landscape. This is an opportunity of a lifetime – to really appreciate the wonder of this huge natural structure. The walk to the top of St Mary Peak is a great option for those with the energy to make the climb and from the top you are rewarded with spectacular views of Wilpena Pound and surrounding ranges. If you just feel like taking it easy you can soak up some sunshine and enjoy a coffee/beer/wine at the nearby Wilpena Resort bar and restaurant.

CHECK OUT ...

- Wilpena Pound www.wilpenapound.com.au
- St Mary Peak
- Awesome single trail!
- Scenic Flights

DAY FIFTEEN – SATURDAY 20 MAY

WILPENA POUND TO BLINMAN

REFRESHMENTS

22KM

BUNYEROO VALLEY LOOKOUT

LUNCH

48KM

BULLS GAP TRACK / FLINDERS RANGE WAY

FINISH

67KM

BLINMAN

Your last day's ride is arguably the best, taking you all the way to the northernmost point of the Mawson Trail. Leaving Wilpena Pound the trail continues through the Flinders Ranges National Park in the shadow of the many mountain ranges that make up this spectacular region.

Sandwiched between the Heysen and ABC Ranges, the Mawson Trail follows the Wilcolo Creek fire access track to Bunyeroo Creek. This is your chance to enjoy the serenity of relative isolation amongst the undisturbed bush, or pick up the pace for an exhilarating ride. There is a steep climb to Bunyeroo Valley lookout, but it is well worth it as this point is one of the most photographed in the Flinders Ranges, with splendid views of the ABC and Heysen Ranges.

From the lookout the trail then descends down to the Yanyanna fire access trail passing Elatina Hut and Middlesight Water and leading to Etina and Brachina Creeks. These creeks are of significant size and you need to pay careful attention to the map and signage when crossing.

The trail then takes the Trezona fire access track through to the northern boundary of the Park and onto the sealed road that leads into Blinman.

You will ride to the finish at the North Blinman Hotel, where you can celebrate your magnificent achievement with a welcome cold drink. Check out the Miner's Crib Café for a fantastic range of home-baked goodies and great coffee. The very last Mawson Trail sign is attached to the verandah post of the North Blinman Hotel.



PARTY TIME

Once you have finished saluting your triumph in Blinman, you will be in the spirit for our final night fling back at our overnight camp. The theme is of course, The Outback, so dress appropriately and join together in a group celebration of everything Mawson. Hey, it is our last night together and what happens on the Odyssey stays on the Odyssey!

BLINMAN

On a hot December day in 1859 Robert Blinman, a shepherd employed at H.C. Swan's Angorichina station observed a great mineral outcrop on top of a hill, about thirty metres above a creek. To him it looked not only big, but also promising enough to gamble a few weeks' wages on. He needed at least \$10 to make a mineral application to secure the outcrop and the area around it. Blinman's application was approved on 9 February 1860 and surveyed on 10 May.

Today there is little more than a pub and a few houses with the main interest lying in the remnants of the old mines which exist in all their rusted glory. You can explore a local treasure trove of old buildings, mines and history. On the hill above the town there are old smelters and bits and pieces which are remnants of the late nineteenth century, when the town was alive with miners. <https://blinman.org.au/>

CHECK OUT ...

En route

- Great Wall of China

In Blinman

- Celebratory drink at Blinman! <https://www.northblinmanhotel.com.au/>
- Heritage Blinman Mine tours <https://heritageblinmanmine.com.au/>
<https://www.aussietowns.com.au/town/blinman-sa>

DAY SIXTEEN – SUNDAY 21 MAY

RETURN COACH BLINMAN TO ADELAIDE VIA MELROSE AND BURRA

This is the end and for most of you, it is the coach ride back to Adelaide. The service departs 8.30am, so there is time to load up your bike, as well as exchange contact details with your fellow riders.

For some, the Outback Odyssey is a life changing experience. For others it is simply a great ride. Something of everyone's feelings – the joy, the thrill ... the pain – will be captured in the group photo at the top of the trail, the majestic ranges a fitting backdrop to an outback odyssey.

Some of you will be back (again) as veterans in 2025, eager and wary in equal measure. Bicycle SA will be waiting, with open arms, to share the journey with you.

Until then, whether you're staying on to explore more of South Australia, or returning home with wonderful memories and photos to prove it (not to mention legs like iron), we wish you farewell and safe riding. Happy cycling!

COACH TRANSFERS – BLINMAN TO ADELAIDE, MELROSE & BURRA

If you are travelling with us to Adelaide, Melrose or Blinman you must ensure your luggage is loaded onto the correct luggage truck at Alpina Station, because one coach / truck will be travelling direct to Adelaide, while the other coach / truck will stop at Melrose and Burra. Coaches will return to the Adelaide Central Bus station in Franklin Street but arrangements can be made to drop off at the airport, if you are planning to fly out that night. We anticipate being back in Adelaide by approximately 6pm.



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF THE OUTBACK ODYSSEY

The new day on the campsite usually begins between 6.30am – 7am. If you are a really early riser, we ask you to be considerate of others still in bed by keeping as quiet as possible. We ask all riders to refrain from talking in the tent area before 6am so that those who cherish that last half an hour of sleep can rest undisturbed. We don't give wake up calls so it's up to riders to get themselves going and on the road each morning.

Before breakfast you may need to freshen up for the day and visit the toilet. The toilet facilities are open throughout the night, and where possible the showers are too. We use on site facilities, which vary from campsite to campsite. Sometimes they're big, plentiful and spotless, and other times they can be football club style (i.e. communal showers). Where possible, we always make sure there are private shower facilities. In addition, we will have the services of a mobile toilet and shower truck to supplement onsite facilities. The showers in this facility will close at 9pm every evening to enable cleaning and may not be available the following morning. Toilets will remain open throughout.

Breakfast 7:00 – 8:00am (unless otherwise stated)

If you're new to the Outback Odyssey, here's how our meal service arrangements work: breakfasts and dinners are served from the Mawson Morsels dining space (e.g. football club) or marquee (e.g. caravan park).

Except for the occasional fry-ups, breakfasts will include a selection of cereals, fruit and toast. This will be made available from a dedicated service area where our volunteer team will assist in providing your breakfast.

There's also tea, Milo, instant coffee. Due to the current Covid-19 protocols, self-service of food and beverage items will not be permitted. Our catering team will be there to assist you at designated times.

For those who can't go without a fresh brewed espresso or frothy cappuccino, we will also have a mobile coffee vendor with us for the duration of the event. Rory from Let There Be Coffee will be set up at each overnight venue and also at selected refreshment stations during the day. Rory will be able to accept cash or credit card.

Don't forget to bring all your own eating/drinking utensils with you. We suggest that you carry your plates, knife, fork and spoon and cup in a shoulder bag enabling you to keep both hands free to carry your food.

Once you've got your food you can either eat with your group or sit yourself down with a total stranger. Bicycle SA is known for its intimate, friendly rides and you will soon find that riders on the Outback Odyssey are a welcoming bunch.

After you have eaten breakfast, it's time to wash up your dishes and cutlery either at the kitchen sink or at the special Bicycle SA wash-up stand.

All that's left to do before you hit the trail is pack your bags and tents and place these on the luggage truck. You're required to deliver your bags onto the back of the luggage truck, where our luggage crew volunteers will stack them for you on the truck. Please don't drop off your bags on the ground beside the luggage trucks as these may get left behind.

IMPORTANT! By the luggage truck there is a check-list with every rider's name. Put a tick against your name EVERY MORNING when you leave, and put another tick EVERY AFTERNOON when you arrive at the next campsite and collect your luggage. In this way we know whether you're at campsite or en route. An information board is also by the luggage truck, with updated news, local information and is a place where riders can leave each other messages.

Lunch (approximately 11am - 1pm, though occasionally earlier on really long days). Lunch is at the designated lunch stop, typically around 60% along the route. Lunch may either be a filled roll or something hot. Note that lunch on both Rest Days is not provided.



Morning and Afternoon refreshments. While you will very occasionally pass a café or bakery along the trail, Bicycle SA offers refreshments approximately 25km – 30km into each day's ride. There will be water, Nippy's juices, tea, coffee, fruitcake, biscuits, snack bars and fruit, The same is provided at the occasional afternoon refreshment stations, though most often you'll enjoy all these goodies when you arrive at each campsite.

Dinner 6pm – 7.30pm. Each dinner includes 3 courses – soup, main and dessert. Each course is served separately. Typically the evening rider briefing from 7pm will take place between the main course and dessert.

The Handle Bar will be run either by the local (sports) club or, when no club is available, by Bicycle SA. The locally run bar require payment at the time, but Bicycle SA runs a tab for you for the other nights. Please respect local liquor licensing requirements that prohibit BYO alcohol.

Vegetarian riders and those with special dietary requirements are always catered for. Please only take these special meals if indeed they were requested at the time of your registration so those riders who need it don't miss out.

DAILY PROGRAMME

- 7.00am – 8.00am Breakfast (unless otherwise advised)
- 7.30am Route opens
- 8.30am SAG wagon departs
- 9.30am – 11am Morning Refreshments
- 11.30am – 2pm Lunch
- 2pm – 4pm Afternoon Refreshments (when applicable)
- 6pm – 7.30pm Dinner
- 7pm Rider Briefing

ARRIVING AT EACH CAMPSITE

Once you have got to the campsite at the end of your day's ride you will probably want to find your luggage, set up your tent and attend to your ablutions before enjoying a well-deserved drink or setting out to explore the nearby locale. But even before that, you must sign in with a tick against your name in the book by the luggage truck. This is very important, as it's our principal way of knowing who's safely in camp and who might still be out on the route and needing our support.

Bags from the luggage truck are laid out on the ground in rows. If it rains, the luggage crew will place tarpaulins over the rows of bags so please make sure you replace these covers carefully after you have retrieved yours so that other riders' luggage remains sheltered.

Generally you can pitch your tent wherever you like within the designated campsite, though be very aware of any areas marked out as no camping. Often irrigation systems are located near the surface and any tent peg driven through them will leave you very wet and removed from the grounds-person's Christmas card list.

By the luggage truck will be a notice board with a campsite layout, showing quiet / not-so-quiet / snoring camping areas; as well as location of water, showers and toilets.

Bear in mind that in your tent you have maximum visual privacy but minimal audible privacy, especially if space is limited and we're forced to camp close together. If you are a light sleeper, we recommend you select a quiet tent site apart from other campers or bring earplugs. If you are a snorer, be considerate and park your tent away from the others.

The loud and lyrical sounds of socializing are focused on the dining area and bar, where you're welcome to stay after dinner and share a natter and drink with fellow riders. Beyond 10pm noise and mayhem are not welcome in the camping areas, where tired bodies are snoozing.



GENERAL INFORMATION

TRAVELLING TO THE START

Travelling by air

All Australian airlines require your bike to be boxed. Qantas and JetStar will sell you a bike box at the airport while Virgin Australia requires that you provide your own. If in doubt about air travel arrangements for you, your luggage or bike you should check with your airline well in advance of your departure date.

Please note that due to limited storage capacity at our office we are unable to store luggage in the days prior to the start. You will need to make arrangements to store your bike at your accommodation on Friday night so you can ride directly to the start in the Adelaide CBD. For more information on transporting your bike check out [Bike Transport](#) document on the website.

Travelling by car

You can drive to the start in Adelaide CBD – Venue TBC - where you can be dropped off. If you have pre-booked car parking please allow plenty of time to check-in, drop off your car and return to the pre-start marshalling area.

FOR LONG TERM PARKING:

Bicycle SA has made arrangements for Outback Odyssey participants to park at [UPark, 82 Grote St](#) premises above the Adelaide Central Bus Station. Note: there is a 2.1m vehicle height limit. Alternative parking with a lightly higher 2.2m height limit is available at [UPark Pirie/Flinders, 191-207 Pirie Street](#). The cost is \$TBC per day per standard vehicle space. Bookings will be confirmed with payment and are essential as places will be offered on a first come first serve basis. Contact (08) 8168 9999 or office@bikesa.asn.au This parking facility is a multi-story park with monitored security. Access is available between 6am and midnight but you will need to check in at Bicycle SA office first to collect your discounted parking ticket.

Burra – Parking is available at the Department of Environment and Heritage depot, Landore Street, Burra. The DEH depot gate is locked overnight and when unattended. The depot will be open for the parking of vehicles between 3pm and 4pm 10 May; then again at approximately 10.30am on Mon 15 May and 2.30pm on 21 May (or whenever the transfer vehicle arrives from Melrose / Blinman). For emergency access contact DEH 8841 3400.

Melrose – Free unsecured public parking is available behind the Council offices. This location is in the centre of town, close to the Institute, where we will be having our meals. If leaving your car at Melrose, you can first drive your vehicle to the campsite to unload your gear.

Please note that all parking arrangements are at the owner's risk, and Bicycle SA cannot accept any liability for any damage or loss.

HOW DO I CHECK IN?

Check in takes place from 7:00am to 8:10am, Saturday 6 May, at (venue TBC) in Adelaide CBD. Just show your ID at check-in, to receive your exclusive Outback Odyssey jersey and any updated information. Please come dressed, ready to ride and drop your bags directly to the luggage truck.

If you are arriving on Friday, you will be able to check-in at Bike SA's office 11a Croydon Rd, Keswick 5035, between 3pm and 5pm only that day. If you wish you may have your bags loaded directly onto the luggage truck at this time as well. Pack a small bag for your overnight stay and come dressed in your riding kit the next day and load your bags on to the luggage truck at the start venue.

At check-in you will receive your rider pack including Outback Odyssey jersey, Ride Guide & ID.

Once checked-in, all riders will gather in the pre-start marshalling area where coffee will be available. We also suggest that you have a substantial breakfast beforehand, so you are properly fueled for the day. You will also find public toilets here.

The important rider briefing takes place at 8:10am before **departing at 8.30am**.



ACCOMMODATION

Saturday 6 May

Lobethal Football Club & Oval

Onkaparing St, Lobethal

Sunday 7 May

Tanunda

Chateau Tanunda, Basedow Road

Telephone (08) 8563 3888

Monday 8 May

Riverton

Riverton Caravan Park, corner Oxford Terrace & Torrens Road

Telephone (08) 8847 2419

Tuesday 9 May & Wednesday 10 May

Burra

Burra Football & Community Club, Smelts Road

Thursday 11 May

Hallett Oval

West Tce, Hallett

Friday 12 May

Spalding

Spalding Football Club, Clare / Peterborough Road

Saturday 13 May

Laura

Laura Football Club & Oval, East Terrace

Sunday 14 & Monday 15 May

Melrose

Melrose Caravan Park, Joes Road

Telephone (08) 8666 2060

Tuesday 16 May

Quorn

Quorn Town Oval

Park Terrace

Wednesday 17 May

Hawker

Hawker Caravan Park

Chace View Terrace, Hawker

Telephone (08) 8648 4006

Thursday 18 May

Rawnsley Park Station

Rawnsley Caravan Park

Wilpena Road

Telephone (08) 8648 0008



Friday 19 May
Wilpena Pound
Wilpena Pound Resort Campground
Telephone (08) 8648 0004

Saturday 20 May
Blinman
tbc

ARRIVING AT EACH CAMPSITE

Once you have got to the campsite at the end of your day's ride you will probably want to find your luggage, set up your tent and attend to your ablutions before enjoying a well-deserved drink or setting out to explore the nearby locale. But even before that, you must sign in with the "check-in" marshal by the luggage truck. This is very important, as it is our principal way of knowing who is safely in camp and who might still be out on the route and needing our support.

Bags from the luggage truck are laid out on the ground in rows. If it rains, the luggage crew will place tarpaulins over the rows of bags so please make sure you replace these covers carefully after you have retrieved yours so that other riders' luggage remains sheltered.

Generally, you can pitch your tent wherever you like within the designated campsite, though be very aware of any areas marked out as no camping. Often irrigation systems are located near the surface and any tent peg driven through them will leave you very wet and unpopular with the groundskeeper!

By the luggage truck will be a notice board with a campsite layout, showing quiet / not-so-quiet / snoring camping areas; as well as location of water, showers and toilets.

Bear in mind that in your tent you have maximum visual privacy but minimal audible privacy, especially if space is limited and we are forced to camp close together. If you are a light sleeper, we recommend you select a quiet tent site apart from other campers or bring earplugs. If you are a snorer, be considerate and park your tent away from the others.

The loud and lyrical sounds of socializing are focused on the dining area and bar, where you are welcome to stay after dinner and share a natter and drink with fellow riders. Beyond 10pm noise and mayhem are not welcome in the camping areas, where tired bodies are snoozing.



DELUXE CAMPING

Deluxe Camping is ideal for those riders who don't want the hassle of putting up and packing down their tent each day. The package includes a roomy 2-person tent that is tall enough to stand up in plus one self-inflating air mattress per person. Best of all, we put it up and pack it down for you each day. So, all you have to do is roll out your sleeping bag and relax. Everything is taken care of.

The cost includes all of the above and is per tent, so if you are riding alone, you can have the tent all to yourself. Couples only pay the single fee for their tents.

Air Mattresses

We provide 6cm self-inflatable air mattresses which have a high-density foam inner core bonded to a hardwearing outer cover. If you are one who feels the cold more easily you may want to supplement your sleeping bag with a lightweight thermal liner.

Each day the mat will be placed in your tent with the inflation valve left OPEN. If the weather is warm and the temperature inside the tent gets too high, it can cause the air inside the air mattress to expand and place undue pressure on the mattress seams and bonding. We ask that you leave the valve open during the day and gently twist it closed before you go to bed. In the morning simply open the valve again ready for transport. DO NOT place bags on the mattresses or walk on the mattress.

Bring a pillow

The air mattresses do not have pillows attached so you will need to BRING YOUR OWN PILLOW. We suggest using a small lightweight travel pillow that can be easily stuffed in your luggage. Most outdoor shops provide a wide range to choose from. Alternatively, you can bring along a pillow case and stuff your clothing inside to make your own pillow.

Tent Allocation

You will be allocated a specially numbered Deluxe Camping tent on Day 1. This will be your exclusive home for the tour. If you have any problems at all with your tent or air mattress during the ride, please don't hesitate to ask one of the volunteer tent team for assistance.

No bikes in or on tents please

Our Deluxe Camping tents are for human occupation only. Bikes are NOT PERMITTED to be stored inside tents. Please also do not lean bikes against the tent or tent / awning poles. The weight of the bikes can seriously damage the tents if they fall over especially if the wind picks up. We advise you to place your bikes upside down next to your tent whilst leaving plenty of room for other campers to walk freely along the line of tents.

Shoes off inside

We also ask that you remove your shoes before entering your tent to help keep the tents clean and prevent any damage to the floors and airbeds – especially from riding shoes.

Laundry / washing lines.

Please DO NOT hang washing lines from your tent as this can place undue stress on the tent structure and may cause damage to the tent, especially if windy. Please make use of a nearby fence or tree instead.

Daily access

Deluxe Camping tents will generally not be available **before 2.00pm each day**. It takes time to pack down and re-erect the tents each day, so your patience is appreciated. If you arrive early, take some time to explore the local surroundings whilst your tent is being prepared.

Packing up in the morning

On departure mornings please open the valve on your air mattress and take it to the "mattress truck" BEFORE you go to breakfast. Please have the majority of your bags packed before breakfast so that all you have to do is pack your eating utensils and toiletries before taking your bags to the luggage truck. This will assist the tent team in being able to pack up the tents each day in a timely manner and then move on to the next destination to commence setting up tents again ready for your arrival.



SECURITY AND SAFETY ON THE CAMPSITE

Bicycle SA is committed to best practice workplace safety and event management procedures for the comfort and safety of our riders and volunteer personnel. Please help us by following these few simple points:

- Sign out and in at the luggage truck. Put a tick against your name when you leave each morning and another tick when you arrive at each new campsite in the afternoon. This is our roll call in case we need to check who's on site and who may still be out on the route or in town.
- Lock your bike. Never leave your bike unlocked on the campsite. Many of our sites are unfenced and we depend on riders to be vigilant and help maintain good security for all.
- Secure your belongings. Reduce the risk of theft by keeping all your belongings inside your tent.
- Keep an eye out. Good campsite security depends on all riders being watchful and observant. Report any unusual incidents to event personnel.
- Except for Event Village braziers / campfires organized by Bicycle SA, no fires are permitted anywhere in the camping areas for safety reasons. Tent material can be highly flammable. This prohibition includes candles, fireworks, sparklers and camp stoves of any type.
- Camp only in the areas indicated. Check with luggage truck personnel regarding any 'no camping' areas, or areas marked with underground irrigation.
- Please keep out of all work areas marked by traffic cones or bunting. Experienced personnel undertake specific activities in these areas.
- The campsite is a quiet area between 10pm and 6am. Tents have thin walls and we will all be tired at the end of the day so please ensure you are quiet after 10pm. If you are returning from town late, please do not talk in the tent area.
- Alcohol free campsite. The dining area and bars are the only parts of the campsite where alcohol is permitted.

Campsite evacuation. In the unlikely event of an emergency site evacuation you should leave your tent (and any luggage as well as your bike!) and go immediately to the evacuation assembly point, which is by the logistics truck (the biggest truck on site). The signal for an emergency site evacuation is a continuous car horn sounded for a minimum of one minute and repeated 15 seconds later.

Event volunteer personnel will assist you in the event of an emergency evacuation. Please follow their instructions and do not attempt to return to your tent until you have been advised that it is safe to do so. Emergency procedures have been designed for your safety and the safety of all riders and crew.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The luggage truck can be a quick source of information. It's where you will find campsite details and messages from other riders. More information, such as details about the locale and tourism attractions, can be found inside the big hall or marquee, on the Information Table near the tea and coffee servery. Lost property will either be at the luggage truck or on the Information Table. You can also put your name down for any extra-curricular activities (such as a led walk up Mount Remarkable) on the lists on the Information Table.



Toilets & Showers

There are usually plenty of toilets and showers at each campsite and we will also be travelling with a mobile toilet/shower facility. However you may still have to wait your turn, depending on when you want to perform your ablutions.

Predictably, toilets are busiest in the mornings, while the showers get used most in the mid-afternoon / early evening when riders come in from a day in the saddle. If you plan around these times, you often won't have to queue at all. Note: The hot water supply is often limited in many locations so please keep your showers short so everyone can have a warm shower – 4 minutes is more than adequate.

The number of toilets and showers, and their location, varies during the ride. Local facilities always factor, and sometimes these are augmented by hired portaloos or showers. The campsite map by the luggage truck indicates where these are. So if the local facilities are being used, you might like to check out any hired facilities elsewhere on site. Showers in the mobile facility will close at 9pm each night.

When staying on sports grounds, the showers are almost always football club 'communal' style. One of the changing rooms will be set aside for men and the other for women. Sometimes there are additional, more private club showers on site (e.g. at Burra, where there are the netball change rooms too). Please let Russell or Maureen know if you're uncomfortable about using the open showers and we will do our best to make other arrangements.

Mobile phone charging, internet access and banking

You should be able to charge your mobile when we have access to sporting club grounds. Other nights, when we dine in a big marquee, mobile phone charging will most likely not be available. It's a good idea to carry a small rechargeable power stick with you in case you get caught out.

Mobile phone coverage is mixed along the route, becoming patchier the further north we travel. Coverage is reasonable at each town, but along the route it is unreliable and often non-existent, depending on your network. Telstra offers the best overall network coverage along the route. It can be a good idea to carry your mobile phone as a precaution, and may be handy if you break down or are involved in an accident. You should also carry some change if you need to make a call from a public landline.

Banking and limited internet access is available at Tanunda, Burra, Laura, Melrose, Quorn and Hawker. Not all places have EFTPOS or credit card facilities and access to ATMs is more limited as we head further north so it's best to keep a stash of cash handy – especially for the cash only bars that will be available in some venues.

EMERGENCY 000 APP FOR YOUR PHONE

We recommend that you download this app to your smartphone, as a permanent safety feature. The Emergency+ app is free, and was developed by Australia's emergency services, the Government and industry partners. The app uses GPS functionality to help a Triple Zero caller provide critical location details to mobilise emergency services. You may not have mobile phone range on all parts of the Mawson Trail, particularly Section 3, but this is still worthwhile having this on your phone.

<http://emergencyapp.triplezero.gov.au/>



The Handle Bar

Each afternoon and evening you can relax in the campground and enjoy a drink from the Handle Bar. At most of our campsites the local clubs and community groups will run a cash bar, selling wine, beer and soft drinks over the bar.

At other places, Bicycle SA will provide cold beer, cans of soft drink, plus white and red wine (by the glass or bottle). To make it really easy on these occasions, you simply keep a tab of the items you drink in the Handle Bar book. You are allocated a page and you simply write down what you have and put your initials beside it each time.

Where possible, the Handle Bar will be open from 2pm, but never later than 5pm.

Note that alcohol can only be consumed in the Handle Bar and the dining area. BYO is welcome when Bicycle SA is running the Handle Bar, but not permitted at venues where the locals are running the club bar.

Massage

Hazeline and her team provide massage services each day during the Outback Odyssey. She has a comfortable, quiet place in each campsite, where you can be healed and pampered. Whether you need a quick going over of the leg muscles, or want to indulge in the luxury of a full-body massage, Hazeline is happy to sort you out. You need to book ahead though, as the diary tends to fill up quickly.

Hazeline has a schedule of applicable fees, depending on time booked. Fees are payable directly to her.

Outback Odyssey photographs

It's always great to see photographs from the Outback Odyssey. Some evenings, where possible, we show riders' photographs on the projector screen. You can help us by providing your edited photographs on a memory stick, but we may be able to show images direct from your digital camera if you have a cable.

Following the event we hope to bring together riders' photos into a compilation of images from the Outback Odyssey for everyone to enjoy. These will be uploaded to our Flickr webpage for all to see. Details will be available during the ride.

The Mawson Man

On the subject of photographs, there exists a couple of very grainy images of a man riding naked (wearing nothing but a helmet) along the Mawson Trail, often at dusk or at night. This is the Mawson Man and you should not be alarmed. The Mawson Man first appeared in 2005 and has been seen on occasion since, during the Outback Odyssey.

We believe the Mawson Man is a mysterious 'guardian' of the Mawson Trail, keeping the way ahead safe for all. We have on occasion had cause to celebrate the sudden appearance of the Mawson Man. Indeed plenty of champagne corks have been popped when the Mawson Man has appeared during our final evening together in the Flinders Ranges on several occasions.

The Mawson Man remains an enigma. But any photographic evidence would be very welcome.



TOURISM

For general tourism information on South Australia telephone 1300 764 227 or visit www.southaustralia.com

For information about parks, waterways and reserves telephone (08) 8204 1910 or visit www.parks.sa.gov.au

For information about the Mawson Trail and other trails visit www.southaustraliantrails.com

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK:

- OUR FANTASTIC TEAM OF VOLUNTEERS & SUPPORT CREW
- THE MANY LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS WHO HAVE PROVIDED CATERING AND LOGISTICAL ASSISTANCE THROUGHOUT THE RIDE
- DEW – DEPT OF ENVIRONMENT AND WATER
- OFFICE OF RECREATION, SPORT & RACING
- FORESTRY SA

NOTES:



Contact Information

Russell Miatke
Event Manager
0427 771 821

Maureen Merrick
Volunteer Coordinator and Catering
0407 600 326

Ray Merrick
SAG Wagon
0438 438 846

Brett Gillett CEO
0419 628 088

Bicycle SA office
Open 9am to 5pm 4 days (Mon-Thurs)
(08) 8168 9999

Keep trying these numbers until you make contact. Do not rely on messages through a third party. Once contact has been established this representative of Bicycle SA will assume coordination of the incident and all further communication should be directed via them.

First Aid is available from qualified volunteer personnel (identified with 'First Aider' on their ID), but with general non-urgent health issues see Maureen at the campsite. Please ensure you inform us of any pre-existing medical conditions *before* the start of the Outback Odyssey.

Emergency contacts. Your mobile phone is the most direct way for family and friends to contact you, provided that there is mobile phone reception along the trail or in town. As most riders do not reach the day's campsite until mid afternoon, it is best for people to phone you in the late afternoon or early evening.

If you can't be contacted directly, your family or friends should phone Russell Miatke, Maureen Merrick or the Bicycle SA office (numbers as above) and leave a message for you to ring home.

If something happens to you on the ride we will phone your nominated emergency contact person. Please ensure this information is accurate at the date you depart for the ride.

For more information go to www.bikesa.asn.au or email office@bikesa.asn.au

