

30 March 2023

Dear Outback Odyssey rider,

The days keep flying by and there are now just over 5 weeks left to go before our Outback Odyssey adventure begins.

The [2023 Outback Odyssey Ride Guide](#) is now available to view on the [website](#). Take some time out from chocolate indulgence over the Easter break to read all the information.

An updated printed copy of the Ride Guide including any last minute amendments will be included in the rider Welcome Pack on the first day of the ride, along with your Outback Odyssey jersey and a complete set of the Mawson Trail maps that you will need to refer to along the way.

For more information about navigating your way along the trail each day please refer to the following information sheet in the [Participant Information](#) tab of the website - [Mawson Trail Navigation Information - How do I find my way?](#)

Car Parking

Bookings for car parking are essential and places will be offered on a first come first serve basis. Contact (08) 8168 9999 or office@bikesa.asn.au

All bookings and payments must be made by Monday 24/4/23.

Adelaide - Bicycle SA has made arrangements for Outback Odyssey participants to park at [UPark Grote, 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 \$18 per day per standard vehicle space. This parking facility is a multi-story park with monitored security. Access is available between 6am and midnight but you will need to collect your discounted parking ticket from Bicycle SA

Burra – Free 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. Bookings essential by emailing office@bikesa.asn.au

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. Bookings essential by emailing office@bikesa.asn.au

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

Some more light reading.....

Sir Douglas Mawson & Sir Hubert Wilkins

Perhaps you may like to catch up on your history knowledge when you are recovering from your training sessions?! Yes, the Mawson trail is named after Sir Douglas Mawson, the famous Antarctic explorer. He also spent a great deal of time in the Northern Flinders Ranges, researching the geology of the area. So when you are cycling along a section of the Mawson Trail, exhausted battling a head wind – you may like to remember some of Mawson's experiences of his survival in Antarctica to inspire you to keep those pedals turning! Guarantee your pain will be nothing compared to what he endured.

Recommended reading: "Alone on the Ice" by David Roberts. [Click here](#) for further reading recommendations about Sir Douglas Mawson and Sir Hubert Wilkins - another intrepid adventurer and unsung hero of polar exploration, born and raised near Hallett in South Australia.



Sir Douglas Mawson

Sir Hubert Wilkins

Visit the South Australian Museum's Australian Polar Collection

<https://www.samuseum.sa.gov.au/collection/australian-polar>

If you have some free time in Adelaide before or after your Outback Odyssey adventure, we can highly recommend a visit to the South Australian Museum's Australian Polar Collection which includes the extensive Mawson and Wilkins Collections of exhibits and information. You can also visit the statue of Sir Douglas Mawson (sculpted by renowned Southern Australian artist John Dowie AM) on North Terrace, in front of the University of Adelaide. You can also find a bust of Sir Hubert Wilkins (also sculpted by John Dowie) nearby at the State Library of South Australia.

Special limited-numbers opportunity for a guided tour of the Australian Polar Collection

For those who may have some free time in Adelaide on the day prior to the start of Outback Odyssey, we are hoping to arrange for an exclusive, out-of-hours, 1 hour guided tour of the Australian Polar Collection led by Mark Pharaoh, Senior Collection Manager of the Australian Polar Collection.

This would take place at 9am on Friday 5 May prior to the museum opening to the general public at 10am. Entry would be free however numbers would be limited. To gauge the level of interest we ask you to [register your interest in attending by completing the online registration form via this link.](#)

For those who can't make it on Friday 6 May, there may also be the possibility of arranging a similar tour on Monday 22 May at the conclusion of Outback Odyssey. Bookings will be on a "first come, first served" basis and will be confirmed once we have a clear indication of how many people are interested.

What sort of bike are you riding?

Have you filled in our bike survey yet? If not, please take a few minutes to do so. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/OdysseyBikeSurvey2023>

This information will assist our bike support mechanic, prepare stock of spares so please take time to do so now.

We hope you've got some great pedalling planned for the Easter weekend.

Stay tuned for the next update coming soon.

The Bike SA Team