



Barossa Vintage Festival

South Australia

▶ WALKING EMERGES A WINNER

GO FOR: A walking safari-cum-gastronomic indulgence. The four-day Arkaba Walk through parts of the Flinders Ranges National Park is accompanied by experts in the region's unique geology, flora and fauna (arkabawalk.com). The walk is rated a moderate to challenging hike, the route taking you across Wilpena Pound to Black's Gap Camp and Arkaba Homestead. Why walk? To see salt lakes, be immersed in the region's pastoral history, pass among magnificent stands of native cypress and enjoy bush silence. At day's end, a hot shower, three-course meal and



luxury swags or beds at a homestead await. The Arkaba Walk is one of seven that form the newly launched Great Walks of Australia collective (greatwalksofaustralia.com.au). The Arkaba Walk takes place from March to October and starts from Wilpena Pound Resort, a five-hour drive from Adelaide. Independent walkers stay or camp at the resort or at Rawnsley Park Station (rawnsleypark.com.au) on the western side of the Pound.

STAY FOR: Australia's longest-running food and wine fest, the Barossa Vintage Festival. Held from March 30 to April 7, the wine region plays host to more than 100 events, including an auction of rare and distinguished local wines, concerts performed in cellars - and tastings, of course (barossa.com).

WHILE THERE: Break bread with Maggie Beer over a Romanesque banquet and sample creations by George Calombaris from *MasterChef Australia* at Kangaroo Island Feastival, from April 25-30 (tourkangarooisland.com.au).



The Arkaba Walk