

THE ARKABA WALK JUST FOR FAMILIES

12 APRIL, 28 JUNE, 15 JULY & 30 SEPTEMBER 2021



THE ARKABA WALK
Wild Bush Luxury



YOUR FOUR DAY WILD BUSH LUXURY EXPERIENCE
AT A GLANCE

DAY ONE	<p>ADELAIDE TO ARKABA</p> <p>Meet your Rex Regional Express flight ZL4412 departing Adelaide 9:10am, arriving Port Augusta 10:05am, where you will be met by your Arkaba field guide for a road transfer through the Flinders Ranges to Arkaba. Set off on foot for 7km through Arkaba wilderness to Black’s Gap signature swag camp.</p>
DAY TWO	<p>BLACK’S GAP TO ELDER CAMP</p> <p>Stretch out in one of the world’s oldest landscapes, learn about Arkaba’s 500-million-year journey and how we are protecting and allowing natural processes to reassert themselves in this country. We cover 14km over the course of the day with plenty of rest stops for breathing in, wondering & discovering nature along the way.</p>
DAY THREE	<p>ELDER CAMP TO ARKABA HERITAGE HOMESTEAD</p> <p>Depart Elder camp on a safari drive adventure scaling Arkaba’s ridge tops for birds eye views, ending up at Arkaba Homestead in good time for lunch. This afternoon, immerse yourself in indigenous stories through the eyes of a local Adnyamathanha elder.</p>
DAY FOUR	<p>SCENIC ROAD TRANSFER ARKABA TO ADELAIDE</p> <p>Depart Arkaba Homestead after breakfast at 8:30am for a scenic drive through gorgeous outback towns, with lunch and entry into Mintaro Maze to stretch the legs on the way. Arrive Adelaide airport or hotel to meet onward flights departing from 6pm.</p>



DAY ONE

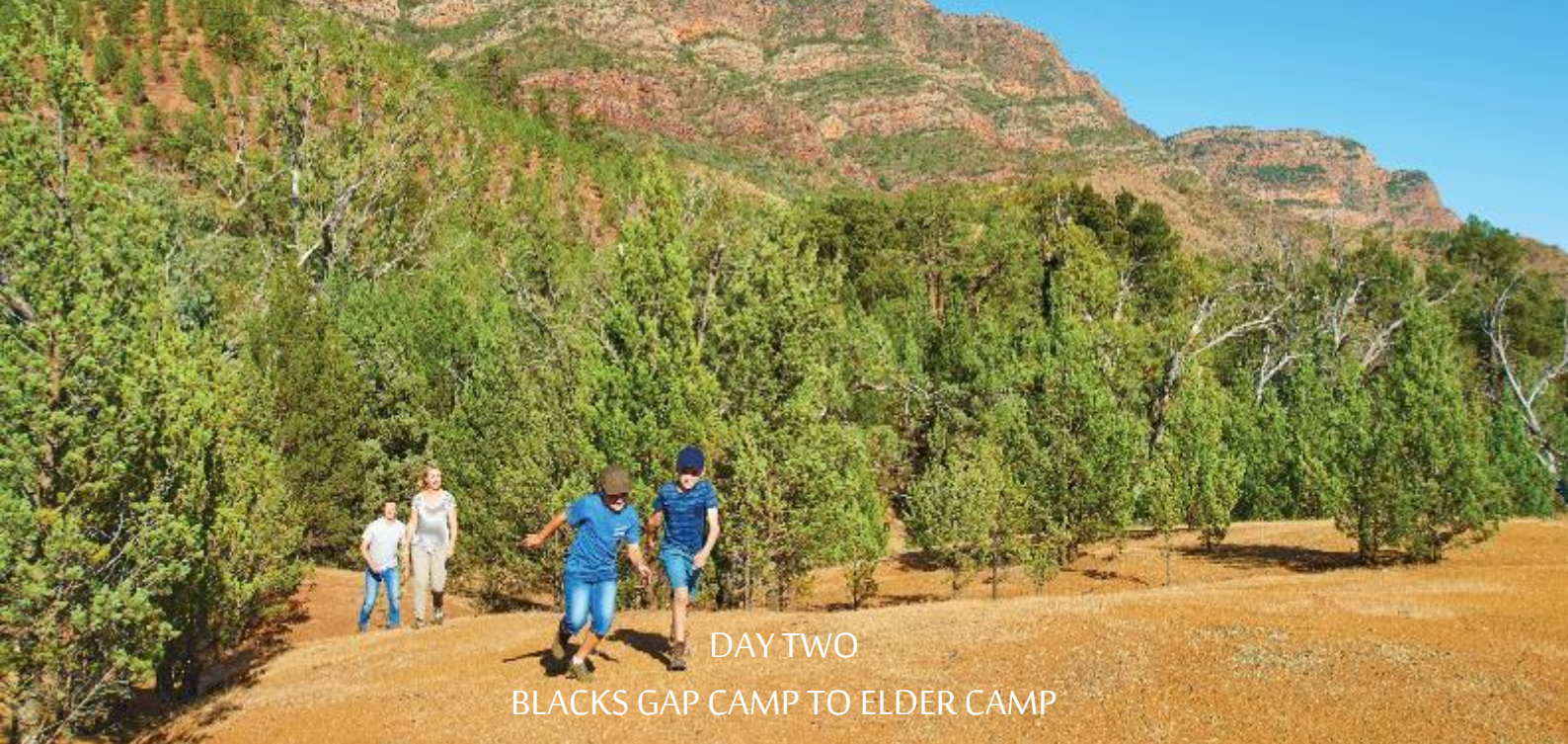
ADELAIDE TO ARKABA & BLACKS GAP CAMP

Make your way to Adelaide Airport by 8:10am, dressed and ready to walk, for your Regional Express flight ZL4412 departing at 09:10am. Land at Port Augusta South Australia's Flinders Ranges at 10:05am. You will be met by an Arkaba field guide for the 150km road transfer to begin your Wild Bush Luxury experience on the Arkaba Walk. You will enjoy a light breakfast on the way to ensure the whole family is charged up and ready to explore.

Set off on foot on the first leg of the trail. The distance today is approximately 7km, keeping Wilpena Pound in view to our right, through valleys and usually dry ancient creek lines before arrival at Black's Gap signature swag camp.

Expect to walk into camp at around 4:30pm in time to settle in; take a hot bush shower (with a view!) and enjoy a pre-dinner drink and canapes service as the sun sinks behind the ancient ramparts of Wilpena Pound. Our signature camp is located between Bunbinyana Range and Wilpena Pound, on a site previously occupied by a shepherd in the late 1850s. His stone chimney place still exists and we camp overlooking the creek where he used to take his water. Our field guide and camp assistant will prepare a three-course evening feast, taken al fresco under the evening sky and accompanied by local South Australian wine (for the adults!). Enjoy some interesting tales around our bush TV, the good old camp fire, and retire to your swag bed for an unforgettable night under a canopy of stars.

Day 1 is approximately 7km, 3-4 hours



DAY TWO
BLACKS GAP CAMP TO ELDER CAMP

Today is arguably the most scenic, as we move out from Black's Gap into the rolling hills more suited to the sheep farming activities previously carried out across the property. The first 2km will follow the famous Heysen Trail through Black's Gap itself revealing a fascinating insight into the pastoral history of the region, pausing at old shepherds' camps and mustering yards, with Red and Grey Kangaroos and Emus all regular sightings. The last leg of the day will take us slightly west into rolling hills culminating in a sharp 1km climb of about 100m in elevation to the summit of the Red Range where we'll be rewarded with panoramic views of the Ikara-Flinders Ranges before moving on to the foot of Elder Range passing through beautiful stands of native Cypress trees.

Your luggage will have been transported by vehicle to your next signature swag camp, our Elder Camp. You can expect to arrive around 5.30 pm in time for a hot bush shower, dinner and another special night under the big, beautiful great Australian sky.

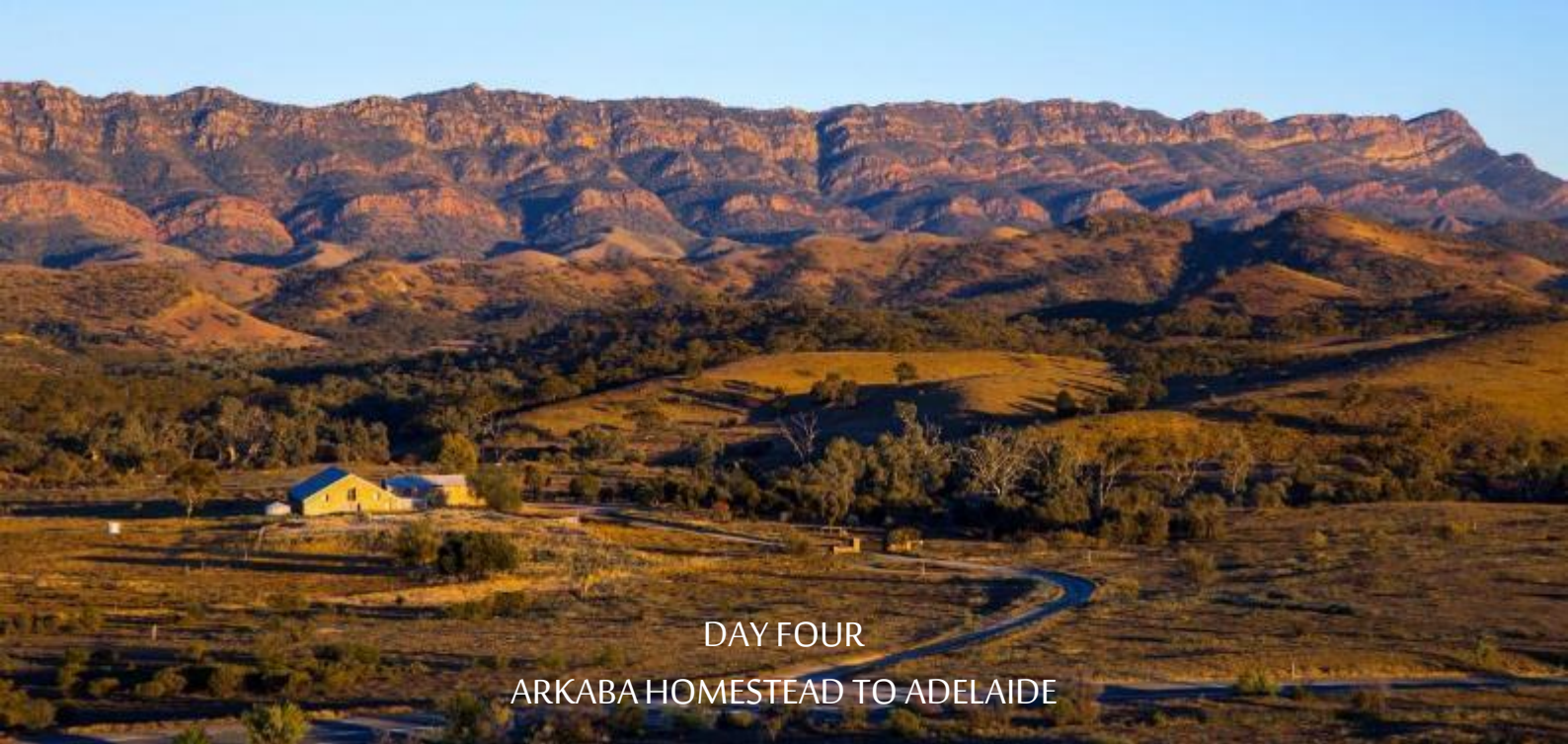
Day 2 is approximately 14 - 15km, 6 - 7 hours





Wake to the glorious morning light creeping up the Elder Range. After breakfast depart in a 4WD vehicle for a scenic drive across diverse habitats. From hill country at the foot of the Elder Range into Mallee and Native Pine forests, crossing creek beds, some of which hold water well into the dry season. Climb impressive ridge tops for beautiful views across Arkaba and pass through ancient River Red Gums before returning to the Arkaba Homestead in time for lunch. This afternoon, experience Arkaba through the eyes of an Adnyamathanha elder on a short immersive bush walk. Pauline McKenzie is a living library of her ancient Adnyamathanha lifestyle, and one of a few people who still speaks the language fluently. She spends a large amount of time teaching cultural stories and language at the Hawker area school, determined to pass on Adnyamathanha stories and culture. A walk with Pauline is an opportunity to connect with Australia's first people who have looked after the landscape and wildlife of the Ikara-Flinders Ranges for tens of thousands of years.





DAY FOUR
ARKABA HOMESTEAD TO ADELAIDE

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast at the Arkaba Homestead before departing at 8:30am for your scenic overland transfer to Adelaide via South Australia's Clare Valley wine country. We'll make our way through the historic outback towns of Quorn, Wilmington, Mount Remarkable and Melrose, all famous for their nature filled valleys and riverbeds. Lined with massive River Red Gum trees, the land around these towns is home to a multitude of native Australian animals and birds.

Head from Melrose into the beautiful Clare Valley, where you will visit the living hedge Mintaro Maze and enjoy a packed picnic lunch. When the bellies are full and the legs have been stretched continue your journey south through the Adelaide Hills, arriving at Adelaide Airport at approximately 5pm. Please arrange your departing flights from 6pm, to allow enough time for check-in. Alternatively, if you are staying on in Adelaide we are happy to arrange to drop you at your city located hotel with our compliments.





SLEEP AND DINE UNDER THE STARS AT OUR SIGNATURE SWAG CAMPS

Each signature walking camp has five permanent swag decks. The low timber decks are slightly elevated, and each have a ½ metre corrugated iron screen around three sides, to give privacy – the fourth side is left open to the views over the countryside, while above you is the night sky and a canopy of stars. There is also a sheltered section of your swag deck, in the event of wind or rain. Your bed is a ‘swag’ – the bedding of choice for generations of Australian pioneers, a canvas envelope that is comfortable and waterproof, protecting you from the elements. Inside each swag will be an all season’s sleeping bag with liner.

Each camp site has two waterless composting toilets – each in their own little ‘dunny’ shed and strategically located to enjoy the best of the views. Each camp has two bush showers – essentially buckets that are filled with water warmed on the fire, and equipped with taps to regulate the flow. Some special Wild Bush Luxury touches ensure these bush showers will be a feature of your trip!





THE ARKABA HOMESTEAD YOUR OASIS OF COMFORT
AT THE FOOT OF THE ELDER RANGE

The final night is spent in the comfort of Arkaba's restored 1850s homestead, member of Luxury Lodges of Australia. As the layout of the original homestead has been retained, each of the five homestead guestrooms has a character of its own and has been named after early settlers, explorers or property owners. Each has a private bathroom and opens out on a shaded verandah with views of the surrounding ranges. The décor has been hand-fashioned by wildlife artist, Rosie Woodford-Ganf. Bedheads are from recycled fence posts and fleeces, curtains tied back by gumnut tassels, lights are perched on explorers' tripod theodolites. The Arkaba Homestead retains a real sense of history and place. We unapologetically spare your room from noisy televisions and internet connections. We'd much rather share expansive views, ever-growing species checklists and binoculars so you won't miss a thing.





PRE DEPARTURE INFORMATION

WHAT'S INCLUDED

Expert field guides

One-way flight Adelaide to Port Augusta

One-way road transfer Arkaba to Adelaide

Two night's swag camping

**One night Arkaba Homestead, member of
Luxury Lodges of Australia**

All meals & beverages including trail snacks

2 walking days, 1 guided half day safari drive

Cultural Connections with Pauline McKenzie

**Support vehicle for transporting
your luggage between camps**

**Suitable hydration backpack for your use with
a water bladder insert**

Basic toiletries

**Entry to Mintaro maze and lunch in the Clare
Valley wine country**

YOUR GUIDE WILL CARRY

Satellite phone and navigation aid for
emergency use

Hand held UHF radio for communication
First Aid kit

Flora and fauna identification guides



WHAT TO BRING

- ☐ Hiking boots offering good ankle support and are well worn in
- ☐ Light long pants – eg zip-off leg types or shorts
- ☐ Light wicking shirts (with SPF recommended) or light cotton shirts, preferably long-sleeved
- ☐ Camera and spare batteries (no charging facility available until you reach Arkaba Homestead on day three)
- ☐ Wide brimmed hat, sunglasses and sunscreen
- ☐ Small personal first aid kit including blister protection and insect repellent
- ☐ Head torch
- ☐ Comfortable attire & slip on shoes for wearing evenings in walking camps
- ☐ Warm clothing including a hat, thermals, scarf, gloves and fleece
- ☐ Wind cheater / waterproof jacket
- ☐ Binoculars optional for wildlife and bird viewing

Please arrive dressed ready to walk

Take comfort in knowing we undertake robust cleaning practices after each walk. We encourage you to bring your own gear - water bottle, back pack, walking poles & gaiters - if you are not comfortable using ours.



WALK GRADING

A WALKING HOLIDAY CAN BE A VERY PERSONAL EXPERIENCE

ONE MAN'S STROLL IS ANOTHER'S EXPEDITION

The Arkaba Walk just for families is a 'moderate' walk. Your family will cover between 6 to 15km per day over steep, hilly terrain with some mountain scrambling. The route follows some thick vegetation, up hillsides and rocky surfaces. You can be walking up to 7 hours per day with plenty of ascents and descents and across uneven ground. Whilst you do not need previous trekking experience, a good level of fitness is required.





RATES

\$2,770 per person twin-share. One child 8-16 years will join with our compliments when booked with two adults!

DEPARTURE DATES JUST FOR FAMILIES

12 -15 April, 28 June – 1 July, 15 – 18 July, 30 September – 3 October 2021.

RESERVATIONS

Tel: +61 2 9571 6399 Toll free: 1300 790 561 Email: arkabawalk@wildbushluxury.com

YOUR HOLIDAY MAKES A DIFFERENCE

By joining us on your outback adventure you are actively contributing to our conservation mission to help save the biodiversity of Australia's wildlife. Over five million native animals (and counting!) thank you from the bottom of their fluffy, feathery and scaly reptilian hearts.

SECURING YOUR FAMILY ON THE ARKABA WALK

A 20% deposit is required within 7 days of making your reservation with the balance at 30 days prior to your arrival. For bookings made within 30 days, full payment must be made within 48 hours of booking.

GROUP SIZE

Our Arkaba Walk experience Just for Families operates with a minimum 3 and maximum of 10.

CANCELLATION POLICY

For cancellations outside of 30 days your deposit will be refunded, less a \$50 administration fee. For cancellations within 30 days of arrival all monies will be forfeited. In case of force majeure (such as, but not limited to, the case of fire or flood) full monies will be refunded less non-refundable portions through third party operators if within 30 days.