

SOUTH AUSTRALIA – BAROSSA, CLARE VALLEY & McLAREN VALE

7-days / 6-nights small group, guided cycling with gourmet food & wine



Regarded as home to one of world's best wine regions, South Australia not only offers the Barossa Valley but also the diverse, yet equally outstanding wine and food of the Clare Valley, Adelaide Hills, and McLaren Vale. Explore by bike on a network of wonderful off-road trails that pass right through the heart of these beautiful regions. The scenery and cycling routes reflect the *terroir* and offer something different at each destination.

Start with the vast swathes of vineyards of the Barossa Valley, first founded in 1836 by George Fife Angas, then farmed by German settlers who brought their culture, food and wine knowledge to this fertile region. Cycle the Barossa Rail Trail, a sealed, off-road bike path which runs for over 40km from Gawler to Angaston. The Barossa is renowned for its locally produced, artisan food and as a great wine growing region, especially for Shiraz and of course the legendary Grange Hermitage.

European settler history continues as we shift to the Riesling Trail in the Clare Valley, north of Adelaide. The landscape, weather and wine all bear the influence of the Hutt and Hill rivers. The Clare Valley is one of the nation's oldest wine regions, home to heritage towns, trails, boutique wineries, museums, galleries and beautiful scenery and some of the best Riesling in Australia. We also visit the up-and-coming wine region of the Adelaide Hills, and spend two nights in the charming German-influenced town of Hahndorf.

End with a visit to McLaren Vale that has an almost Mediterranean climate and overlooks the Southern Ocean. Cycle the Shiraz Trail enjoying the downhill ride to the vineyards. Whilst there enjoy a winemaking & tasting tutorial with a winemaker. This is a great chance to compare the unique differences each of the three regions have to offer in wine, food and of course, cycling!

We provide multi-gear hybrid bikes or bring your own if you prefer. E-bikes are also available (at extra cost).

Maximum group size is just 10 riders so availability is strictly limited.

Cost from: **\$3850** per person, twin-share Single supplement from \$600

Departs: 20 September; 18 October; 22 November, 2024
 7, 21 March; 4, 25 April; 9 May, 2025

We also offer this as a self drive **SELF GUIDED** tour with daily departures, from **\$2850** per person twin share. Minimum of two people per departure. Supplements apply for peak dates and groups of less than 6 people. Group transfers for larger groups on request. Ask us for prices, dates and a detailed itinerary.

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations

Includes: 6 nights in comfortable 4 or 4.5-star accommodation with ensuite; 6 full breakfasts, 5 winery lunches with tastings, 4 restaurant dinners (2 x courses); all wine tastings and farm gate tastings; wine-making tutorial; hire of 27-gear hybrid bike with rack bag, water bottle; experienced guide and vehicle support; luggage transfers; detailed route notes and maps; transfers from/to Adelaide accommodation.

Not included: Meals not mentioned, other drinks, personal expenses; flights/trains to/from Adelaide. Bike helmets are available, but we recommend you bring your own for fit and hygiene purposes.

Grade: Easy to Moderate, with undulating terrain mainly on rail trails, bike paths and quiet country roads. The itinerary is at the discretion of the guide and subject to local conditions and weather.



Suggested itinerary:

Day 1 – Arrive Adelaide

Make your own way by mid-afternoon to the city of Adelaide. It is well worth spending the afternoon strolling around the recently updated Torrens River precinct and the city centre to see its impressive historic monuments, bluestone buildings and beautiful architecture. Meet your group and guide for dinner and an introduction.

Day 2 – Barossa Valley Rail Trail

Cycling @ 30km

After breakfast we travel 60km to the Barossa Valley for a full day of cycling, wine tasting and sampling gourmet food. Founded in 1836 by George Fife Angas, the Barossa Valley was a farming enclave for German settlers who brought their culture, food and wine knowledge with them. Now it is renowned as one of the world's great wine regions, home to the iconic Grange Hermitage and boasting more than 150 wineries producing varieties including Shiraz, Cabernet Sauvignon and Grenache. We ride sections of the Barossa rail trail and detour to visit notable food and wine venues including Penfolds, Yalumba and Seppeltsfield cellar doors, and Maggie Beer's shop and café in Nuriootpa. We stop for a delicious platter lunch at a winery and sample some characteristically big wines. Stay overnight in the Barossa Valley, with a group dinner at a local bistro.

Day 3 – Clare Valley Riesling Trail

Cycling @ 35km

After breakfast, we transfer to Auburn, the charming historic gateway to the Clare Valley, and cycle the Riesling Trail to Clare in the heart of the valley. Historic Clare features sandstone buildings and monuments and is surrounded by green rolling hills. The Riesling Trail was once part of the Adelaide to Spalding railway line and is now a bike path linking Auburn and Stanley Flat. We stop often as the trail winds its way through vineyards, farmland, towns and villages such as Leasingham, Watervale and Sevenhills, home to the oldest winery in the Clare Valley. We have a gourmet lunch at the multi-award winning Skillogalee Winery, a small family-owned venue in a historic cottage. We stay in Clare and dinner is at a local restaurant.

Day 4 – Clare to Auburn, Transfer to Hahndorf & Adelaide Hills

Cycling @ 30km

There is much to offer in this historic region from scenic rural landscapes, classic stone buildings and tales of pioneering pastoralists. From Clare we make our way back to Auburn along a slightly different route with lots of optional detours. We have a platter lunch showcasing local produce at the O'Leary Walker Winery with views over endless vines and rolling countryside. After lunch, a scenic 2.5 hour coach transfer to the historic German-inspired town of Hahndorf in the beautiful Adelaide Hills. We stay in a 4-star boutique motel just off the main street, with dinner at your own arrangements (not included).

Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations

Day 5 – Adelaide Hills

Cycling @ 25km

After breakfast, a short transfer to the beginning of the Amy Gillett Bikeway in the Adelaide Hills. Despite its location, the trail, on a disused railway line, is relatively flat. We cycle through the Adelaide Hills, with stops at Melba's Chocolate factory, Woodside Cheese Wrights and lunch and the delightful Lobethal Road winery. We leave this afternoon free in Hahndorf to explore this delightful village, followed by a very special evening with dinner at exclusive Hardy's Verandah Restaurant at Mt Lofty House.

Day 6 – McLaren Vale Shiraz Trail

Cycling @ 25km

A scenic one hour drive to the wine region of McLaren Vale, located near the sea and quite a different in terms of grape growing and cycling. The ride today is fairly flat along the Shiraz Trail, although this wine region also excels in Cabernet and Grenache varieties. It is interesting to compare the bold, full-bodied wines of the Barossa to with the softer, fruit intense, spicy complexity of those from McLaren Vale. Enjoy an exclusive wine and food matched lunch at Wirra Wirra Vineyards. Transfer back to Adelaide for the final night stay. Dinners is at your own arrangements (not included) and there is much choice of restaurants and cuisines in the city.

Day 7 – Departure day

Tour arrangements end after breakfast. Onward transfers to Adelaide airport or train station can be arranged, please ask for details. Ask about additional nights in Adelaide (at extra cost).



Contact Outdoor Travel for more details and reservations:

- Call Toll free 1800 331 582 or (03) 57551743 or Fax (03) 57501020
- Email: info@outdoortravel.com.au
- Web: <http://www.outdoortravel.com.au>
- Mail: Outdoor Travel Pty Ltd, PO Box 286, Bright, VIC 3741, Australia