

# GREAT SOUTHERN RAIL JOURNEY AND KANGAROO ISLAND, SA

## RAIL FROM BRISBANE TO SYDNEY, MELBOURNE AND ADELAIDE EXPLORE KANGAROO ISLAND

Sunday 11 to Monday 19 December 2022

'With its rugged coastline, sun-kissed beaches, forested peaks, and exhilarating capital cities, the stunning journey between Brisbane and Adelaide feels like nowhere else in Australia.' *Journey Beyond Rail*. Join us for a **nine day / eight night tour that includes the Great Southern train journey (4 days / 3 nights)** from Brisbane through Sydney, Melbourne and to Adelaide, and then **four nights on Kangaroo Island**. In the warmer months of December and January, when the Ghan from Adelaide to Darwin does not operate, the train is rebranded as the Great Southern and offers a rare opportunity to travel in style between Brisbane, Sydney and Adelaide – and vice versa. Kangaroo Island is the third largest island in Australia, and as it is not on the tourist trail, has stayed remarkably untouched by mass tourism. Indeed, a third of the island has been set aside as a Natural or Conservation Park, and the rest of the island is composed of farms, wineries and sanctuaries, and a couple of tiny towns. The island is better known abroad than by Australians – it is a unique destination worthy of discovery.



### Outline of the tour

**Sunday 11 December 2022 (D)** – join a mid-morning flight to Brisbane (rail options are available) then transfer to our city hotel. Enjoy the afternoon sightseeing, exploring along the Brisbane River, and with dinner together. Overnight Brisbane.

**Monday 12 December 2022 (B/L/D)** – enjoy breakfast, then transfer to the Great Southern train, and familiarise yourself with your compartment. After setting off from Brisbane, enjoy lunch on board and a relaxing afternoon settling in to your private cabin before arriving at the coastal town of **Coffs Harbour**. As the sun dips beneath the horizon, enjoy a unique beachside dinner where you'll feast on local produce and fresh seafood matched with fine wines, while the waves lap at the shore nearby. After a few leisurely hours, you'll reboard the train and set off for the night.

**Tuesday 13 December 2022 (B/L/D)** – begin with a hearty breakfast aboard before a full day of Off Train Excursions. Today you can choose your own adventure - the **Hunter Valley, Newcastle or Port Stephens**.

*Hunter Valley Wine Region:* Meander through the picturesque and historic vineyards of the Hunter Valley, where you can sample wines from both world-renowned brands and boutique cellar doors. Your day will include cellar door experiences, winery tours and a sumptuous lunch.

*Port Stephens by Land and Sea:* Select to either travel to Nelson Bay and enjoy a relaxing cruise taking in the beauty of the Bay and the areas history. Alternatively, head to Stockton Bight Sand Dunes where you'll explore the beach by 4WD van, stopping to hunt for pippies and driving to the tops of sand dunes. After your morning excursions, relax and enjoy a magnificent lunch with a view before returning to the train in the afternoon.

*Newcastle Explorer:* Take in spectacular coastal views and discover Newcastle's unique blend of old and new with a guided walking tour and sumptuous lunch before free time to explore the city.

In the evening, return to the train to enjoy a regionally-inspired meal prepared on board before retiring for the night.

**Wednesday 14 December 2022 (B/L/D)** – after enjoying breakfast on board, you can choose to take a road trip to the **Great Ocean Road** or a relaxed afternoon in the **Moorabool Valley and Geelong Waterfront**.

*Wonders of the Great Ocean Road:* Set off on a road trip by coach through regional Victoria to the Great Ocean Road, stopping for lunch along the way. After lunch, visit unforgettable highlights such as the Twelve Apostles, Loch Ard Gorge or Bay of Islands majestic collections of crumbling pillars rising from the Southern Ocean. Relax on the road-trip back to the awaiting train at Inverleigh for your final dinner on board.

*Wine and Waterfront:* Enjoy lunch, wine tasting and stunning views at a regional Victorian vineyard before heading to the Geelong Waterfront. Set your own pace by wandering along the foreshore discovering public art and history such as the Pier, Eastern Beach and Baywalk Bollards or just sit and soak up the sights and sounds of the foreshore. Finish the day with a drink before returning to the train for your final dinner on board.

**Thursday 15 December 2022 – (B/L)** as the train journeys through the charming Adelaide Hills, enjoy your last breakfast on board before a mid morning arriving into Adelaide and the end of your Great Southern train journey. We then board our coach and travel south towards Port Willunga and Aldinga, and to the McLaren Vale for lunch, before arrival in Cape Jervis, our departure point for the 50 minute ferry crossing to Penneshaw, **Kangaroo Island**. On arrival on Kangaroo Island we travel by coach to our base for the next four nights – Kingscote. Overlooking Nepean Bay and St Vincent Gulf, our accommodation is in comfortable Executive Sea View Rooms, each with King or two single beds. Enjoy a late afternoon stroll along the waterfront before an evening meal of your choosing - then relax in your room with sea views and enjoy the evening light.



**Kangaroo Island** boasts an abundance of wildlife and high quality food and wine. You'll see kangaroos, koalas and wonderful native birdlife in their natural habitats, wander past wild Australian sea lions, and enjoy gourmet picnic lunches. Experience nature at her most spectacular as you visit Flinders Chase National Park where you'll get time to walk around Remarkable Rocks and see Long-nosed Fur Seals at Admirals Arch. See one of South Australia's first lighthouses at Cape du Couedic, enjoy the island's wines in a tasting session, taste its local spirits at the KI micro distillery, as well as other great local produce.

**Friday 16 December 2022 (B/L/D)** – after breakfast we head to the south west of the island and explore Flinders Chase National Park, Hanson Bay Sanctuary and Vivonne Bay. Flinders Chase National Park occupies the western end of the island, and much of the park is mallee scrub and tall sugar gum forests. The fires of the 2019/20 Christmas / New Year period caused extensive damage to the National Park, but 11 months on the green shoots are taking hold and regeneration is occurring. Rocky River, where the Visitors Centre was located, is often full of kangaroos, wallabies and Cape Barren geese, and is the entrance point for the drive to wild Cape du Couedic and its 1906 lighthouse. View Admirals Arch, a huge archway ground out by heavy seas, that hosts a colony of New Zealand fur seals basking in the sun. Nearby the Remarkable Rocks are a cluster of hefty, weather gouged granite boulders atop a rocky dome that arcs down 75 metres to the sea. Enjoy a picnic luncheon today, then return towards Vivonne Bay, with a stop at Hanson Bay Sanctuary to see island wildlife. At Vivonne Bay, the beach itself and the small jetty area speak all for themselves. There are a few boats around the bay, that look like they're floating on glass - as the only safe harbour on the southern coast of Kangaroo Island, Vivonne Bay is also the base for crayfishing boats between November to May. We return to Kingscote for a later afternoon stroll, and dinner at leisure.

**Saturday 17 December 2022 (B/L)** – after breakfast we head to the southern shore to the Seal Bay Conservation Area. Seal Bay is home to the third largest population of one of the world's rarest marine mammals, the Australian sea-lion. Guided beach tours give you the opportunity to observe the natural behaviour of these wild animals. The 900 metre Don Dixon boardwalk is an easy stroll through the terrestrial habitat of the Australian sea-lion. A platform overlooking the beach gives you a great view of sea-lions resting and coming and going from foraging trips at sea. The boardwalk has interpretive signage along the way giving you an overview of the habits of the Australian sea-lion. Then to the settlement of American River, names after the seal hunters who made the mammal almost extinct – we enjoy Kangaroo Island oysters, a seafood luncheon, and inspect the building of a replica of the boat *Independence*. Then to the Emu Ridge Eucalyptus Farm for a short tour of its site.

Enjoy a refreshment at its café, and then to Clifford's Honey Farm to taste and see the activity of the Ligurian bees that have made Kangaroo Island their home. We return to Kingscote in the late afternoon, and dinner is at leisure.

**Sunday 18 December 2022 (B/L/D)** – after breakfast we head west to explore the northern side of Kangaroo Island – through Pandarna and its fascinating Soldier Settler Museum, and to its Wildlife Park – whilst Kangaroo island abounds with fantastic wildlife, including kangaroos, wild koalas, short-beaked echidnas, tamar wallabies, brushtail possums and more, we will see the rehabilitation work being done to preserve and protect these and other animals on the island. We'll explore the northern coastline, exquisite beaches, bushland and undulating pastures. Snelling Beach from Constitution Hill is a spectacular view, and clamber through a 20 metre tunnel in the cliffs at Stokes Bay to see the broad rock pool and beach. Then via the Lavendar Farm to Kingscote, and this evening we enjoy a quality two course meal together.

**Monday 19 December 2022 (B/L)**– after breakfast we head east to the spectacular Pennington Bay to view more of Kangaroo Island's stunning southern coastline. The onto the Dudley Peninsula and to Cape Willoughby Lighthouse – the most eastern point of the island. Admire the spectacular ocean backdrop to Cape Willoughby Lightstation and learn about working and living in such a harsh and remote environment, about the importance of coastal shipping to early colonial trading and passenger transport well into the 20th century. Kangaroo Island is one of South Australia's newest wine regions with some fifteen growers and more than 100 hectares of vines. It is unique that the region is spread over such a large area, with such varying soil compositions, weather patterns and rainfalls, and also that no vineyard joins another in the vast region. At Dudley Wines and its cliff top cellar door we taste their wines and enjoy luncheon – with a maritime environment, the isolated nature, and the pristine surrounds of the vineyard contributing to the unique characters of Dudley's range of wines. We rejoin our coach and head to Penneshaw, where we board the mid-afternoon Sealink Ferry for our crossing back to the mainland at Cape Jervis. Then by coach to either Adelaide Airport for late afternoon flights back to the east coast, or there is also the opportunity to remain overnight in Adelaide and return the following day on a mid-morning flight, or aboard the Indian-Pacific on Tuesday 20 December, 2022, arriving back in Sydney on Wednesday 21 December 2022 - either directly late morning or after an included off train excursion to the Blue Mountains, with a mid-afternoon return to Sydney.

#### **GREAT SOUTHERN ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS**

Gold Twin accommodation provides a comfortable sleeper cabin featuring private ensuite with shower / toilet / washbasin, and upper and lower berths that convert to a three-seater lounge by day. Gold Single accommodation is a compact sleeper cabin featuring a bed that converts to a seat by day and shared shower/toilet facilities located at the end of the carriage. Gold twin and Gold single service includes power outlets in cabins; in-cabin music channels and journey audio commentary available; all-inclusive dining in the Queen Adelaide Restaurant; all-inclusive Australian wines, beers, base spirits and non-alcoholic beverages; all-inclusive Off Train Excursions.

Platinum accommodation provides stylishly appointed, spacious suites complemented by discreet, personalised service and world-class food and wine making this a very special travel experience. Platinum guests enjoy premium extras like a full-size en suite, expansive window views from both sides of the train, and exclusive use of the Platinum Club carriage. You'll also notice the Bollinger champagne, Australian Appelles Apothecary toiletries, Haigh's chocolates, a nightcap at turndown, luxuriously soft linen, and more ... it's this attention to detail that you'll recall long after your journey's end.

By day, your cabin is configured as a private lounge with deluxe seating, a table and two ottomans. By night, you'll enjoy a deep, comfortable sleep as the lounges convert into a comfortable bedroom with either a double or twin beds. It's the perfect place to relax and take in the amazing views passing by your panoramic windows but, for a more social experience, head to the Platinum Club. Thoughtfully appointed to embody the spirit of the train's Australian heritage, the décor features quartzite tabletops, timber flooring, brass fittings and leather banquette lounge seating in tones of ash, moss and sepia. The carriage offers a daytime lounge setting with adaptable dining options. As you'd expect from a first-class service, the food and wine included in the Platinum Service is of the highest standard. Your fare includes hearty breakfasts, two-course lunches and four-course dinners. As a Platinum guest, the premium service level begins before you even board with private transfers included at the start and end of your journey in Adelaide and Brisbane within a 50 kilometre radius of the terminal.

#### **FARES AND BOOKING – Sunday 11 to Monday 19 December 2022**

**FARES (incl. GST)** include rail and coach travel; meals and refreshments as indicated; three night's accommodation aboard the Great Southern; all-inclusive meals, fine wines, and beverages aboard the Great Southern; a regionally-inspired menu paired with a selection of local wines; Off Train Experiences at Coffs Harbour, the Hunter Region (Hunter Valley, Port Stephens or Newcastle) and Victoria (Great Ocean Road or Geelong); four nights accommodation on Kangaroo Island; sightseeing as indicated. The tour operates within guidelines of social distancing and applicable Government health requirements - rail, coach, restaurant/café and hotel operators have confirmed their operations meet these current requirements. Fares for travel to Brisbane and from Adelaide are additional.

**Great Southern rail journey Brisbane to Adelaide and Kangaroo Island Tour – includes** full tour as described above:

<b>Tour Fare:</b>	\$6,860 pp .....	Gold Twin Cabin (two persons occupying the cabin) and double / Twin hotel rooms
	\$9,730 pp .....	Gold Twin Cabin (sole use of the cabin) and sole use hotel rooms
	\$7,570 pp .....	Gold Single cabin and sole use hotel rooms
	\$8,970 pp .....	Platinum Twin / Double Cabin (two persons occupying the cabin) and double / Twin hotel rooms
	\$12,795pp .....	Platinum Twin / Double Cabin (sole use of cabin) and sole use hotel rooms

**Great Southern rail journey Brisbane to Adelaide only with the group – includes** dinner and accommodation in Brisbane, transfer to the Great Southern:

<b>Tour Fare:</b>	\$3,590 pp .....	Gold Twin Cabin (two persons occupying the cabin) and double / Twin hotel room in Brisbane
	\$5,810 pp .....	Gold Twin Cabin (sole use of the cabin) and sole use hotel room in Brisbane
	\$3,250 pp .....	Gold Single cabin and sole use hotel room in Brisbane
	\$5,250 pp .....	Platinum Twin / Double Cabin (two persons occupying the cabin) and double / Twin hotel rooms
	\$8,795 pp .....	Platinum Twin / Double Cabin (sole use of cabin) and sole use hotel room in Brisbane

**Return from Adelaide to Sydney on the Indian-Pacific train -includes** dinner and accommodation in Adelaide, and transfer to the Indian-Pacific

<b>Tour Fare:</b>	\$1,470 pp .....	Gold Twin Cabin (two persons occupying the cabin) and double / Twin hotel room in Adelaide
	\$1,670 pp .....	Gold Single Cabin and sole hotel room in Adelaide
	\$2,490 pp .....	Gold Twin Cabin (sole use of the cabin) and sole use hotel room in Adelaide
	\$2,350 pp .....	Platinum Twin / Double Cabin (two persons occupying the cabin) and double / Twin hotel rooms
	\$3,695 pp .....	Platinum Twin / Double Cabin (sole use of cabin) and sole use hotel room in Adelaide

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

Please call us on (02) 9326 9660, 0418 585 838 or email at [sjr@digitor.com.au](mailto:sjr@digitor.com.au) for further details or information.

**BOOKING, CANCELLATION AND TRAVEL CONDITIONS**

Bookings will be accepted on the attached form. Cancellation fees apply as follows: the initial deposit is non-refundable. After payment of further deposits towards the final tour cost, costs for tickets, accommodation, sightseeing etc made on your behalf will incur cancellation charges equal to the cancellation charges incurred to us, imposed by suppliers/operators, plus a fee to cover administrative costs – more than three months prior to departure, \$1,000 per person; within three months, \$2,000 per person. No refund will be made from three month's prior to departure. All cancellation or administration charges imposed by the suppliers/operators of components of this tour must be borne by you, the passenger. Responsibility - St James' Rail acts only as the organiser of the tour. Transportation, accommodation and other tour arrangements are made by our licensed travel agent, Jones and Turner Travel Associates, Paddington. On acceptance of tickets and travel documents for this tour, which may be evidenced in writing by a ticket, voucher, letter, or other document, you accept that neither St James' Rail nor

representatives from any other firm supplying services in conjunction with this tour programme, shall be liable in contract or in tort (actionable wrong) for any injury, loss, damage, accident, sickness, delay or additional expense to you or your possessions arising directly or indirectly by force majeure or other events which are beyond our control, or which are not preventable by reasonable diligence on our part, including, but not limited to, civil disturbance, fire, floods, acts of God, acts of Governments or other authorities, changes in itinerary, weather, strikes, war, transportation disruption, failure of machinery or equipment, industrial action, quarantine or any other cause. Where travel is by scheduled carrier, or charter service, that carrier's responsibility is limited in accordance with their conditions of carriage. Similarly all luggage is your responsibility, and we cannot be held liable for any loss or delay however caused. The care of your travel documents are your own responsibility. All expenses incurred by loss must be borne by you. Airline regulations and conditions are written on the airline tickets and are issued to passengers subject to their acceptance of these conditions. Changes in exchange rates, taxes and any land arrangements costs may alter the price of the tour, and St James' Rail reserves the right to change, amend or cancel this tour and/or itinerary if necessary. We reserve the right to amend the itinerary en route to account for unforeseen changes or conditions, or to improve the tour experience for the majority, as determined by the tour leader. Passports and visas – a valid passport with six months validity from the end of the tour is required. St James' Rail cannot accept responsibility for any losses or expenses incurred as a result of a passenger not holding valid and necessary passport or visa documents. The tour fares are based on current availability and fares on the Great Southern. In the event of the Great Southern not being able to operate as expected, Great Southern will hold payments made as a future travel credit, and will not refund payments. Cancellation conditions apply as follows: in the event you withdraw from the tour after 12 September 2022, there is no refund. Note other conditions above. In the event the tour cannot proceed, payments made to St James Rail will be returned in accordance with the policies of the various providers of services to the tour, and only when the providers of the services have refunded monies to St James Rail.

## **INSURANCE**

Travel insurance is highly recommended to protect yourself against cancellation fees, health and other travel risks. An insurance policy can be sent to you from our travel agent, Jones and Turner Travel Associates, Paddington, for your consideration. Obtaining insurance cover for the tour is your responsibility.

# GREAT SOUTHERN RAIL & KANGAROO ISLAND TOUR BOOKING FORM

## Sunday 11 to Monday 19 December 2022

**YOUR CONTACT DETAILS:**

Name: .....

Address: ..... Suburb: ..... Postcode: .....

Home tel: ..... Mobile: .....

Email: .....

**BOOKING DETAILS:**

Passenger 1 Name: .....

Passenger 2 Name: .....

Passenger 3 Name: .....

Passenger 4 Name: .....

**PAYMENT:** I have enclosed / sent by EFT \$ ..... as deposit (\$1,000 per person Gold / \$1,500 per person Platinum) for the above booking and agree to pay the balance by 31 October 2022. A letter acknowledging receipt of your deposit will be forwarded.

**SLEEPING CAR ACCOMMODATION ABOARD THE GREAT SOUTHERN:**

Gold single compartment - roomette .....

Gold Twin compartment - twinette .....

Gold Sole use twin compartment .....

Platinum Double / Twin compartment ..... Double or Twin bedding .....

Sole use Platinum Double / Twin compartment ..... Double or Twin bedding .....

**HOTEL ACCOMMODATION:** ..... Sole use Room ..... Double Room ..... Twin Room**TRAVEL TO BRISBANE AND FROM ADELAIDE:** We will call you to discuss your travel preferences.**SPECIAL REQUESTS:** Please indicate any **dietary** or any other special requirement:

.....

**YOUR SIGNATURE**

I have read the reservation conditions outlined above and accept them on behalf of myself and my party by whom I am authorised to make this agreement. I understand cancellation fees may apply. I have enclosed my deposit payment and agree to pay the balance as indicated above.

Signature of person making booking:..... Date: .....

Payment by cheque payable to St James Rail, call to make payment by credit / debit card – a merchant fee of 1% applies for MasterCard, Visa, or Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) to:

Bank: Westpac

Account name: Scenic Journeys by Rail

BSB: 033 364

Account: 612826

Reference: KI 2022 (and your surname) – some bank transfers cannot accept this, so please email your reference.

If paying by EFT, please send this form marked accordingly, and/or send an email to [sjr@digitor.com.au](mailto:sjr@digitor.com.au) to advise us of your payment.

December 2021