



HEYSEN TRAIL | 6 DAYS | 80 KM

THE FLINDERS RANGES OFFERS SOME OF THE MOST DIVERSE WILDERNESS WALKING IN AUSTRALIA.

To explore the Flinders is to experience the essence of our great country. Sir Hans Heysen remarked it was akin to seeing ‘the bones of nature laid bare’. With its’ rugged mountain peaks, immense gorges, it sweeping arid desert country and alpine like forests, the Flinders is a truly unforgettable experience. The Heysen Trail is rated as one of the premier long distance walks of the world and Trek Tours Australia takes you to the heart of it - the Northern Flinders Ranges.

In February 2016 the Flinders Ranges National Park was officially renamed the Ikara Flinders Ranges National Park, in recognition of its traditional Aboriginal owners. The new name incorporates an Adnyamathanha word, Ikara, which means “meeting place” reflecting the traditional name for Wilpena Pound — a natural amphitheatre of mountains forming one of the most prominent features of the Ranges. It has always been a significant part of Adnyamathanha culture and the traditional owners maintain Dreamtime stories about the Pound and how it was formed.

Our all inclusive, fully accommodated trek has been designed to showcase the highlights of this world class walking trail. Sharing our passion and local in-depth knowledge we give you a truly memorable walking experience.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Transport from Adelaide and return.
- 5 nights cabin style accommodation (2 nights Quorn, 3 nights Northern Flinders Ranges) - shared rooms.
- 5 breakfasts, 6 lunches, 5 dinners.
- All delicious snacks on the trail.
- Services of professional wilderness guides.
- Emergency communication/GPS equipment.
- Group first aid kit.
- Alcohol is not provided. Please bring any alcohol you wish to enjoy or it can be purchased during the week.
- This is a small group walking tour - maximum 10 people.

TREK GRADING : MODERATE TREK

See: www.trektoursaustralia.com.au/faq/trek-gradings/ for more information about gradings.

DAY 1: DEPART ADELAIDE, WALK ALLIGATOR GORGE.

Picking you up from your Adelaide accommodation between 6:00 and 6:30am, we drive north out of the city to the Mt Remarkable National Park in the Southern Flinders Ranges. Alligator Gorge is one of the Flinders best kept secrets. A truly stunning walk which takes us into lush gorges, meanders between water holes and ascends into stands of Native Pine and massive River Reds. A magnificent start to our week's walking in the Flinders Ranges.

Transfer to Quorn, stay in motel/cabin-style accommodation, enjoying real country hospitality.

9kms

Meals: Lunch, Dinner

IMPORTANT NOTES

While our 6 day Heysen Trail trek is a day pack walking holiday it is a demanding walk - we advise you to do as much training as you can before your tour with us. The more you train for the walk the easier you will handle the terrain and the more you will enjoy this wonderful part of the world. It's also important to come along with an open mind, ready for an awesome experience whatever the weather, whoever the group. It is very important that you bring the right gear for the conditions. A comprehensive gear list is included in this brochure. If you are at all concerned about your ability to complete this walk, please contact us for more information/advice.

Note: This itinerary is subject to change with any change in community regulations as well as governmental changes and natural circumstances beyond our control.

DAY 2: SUMMIT DUTCHMANS STERN, LOOP WALK WARREN GORGE.

After a big healthy breakfast, a short transfer takes us to the Dutchmans Stern Conservation Park. Named by the earliest explorers in the region, it was thought to resemble a Dutch sailing vessel's rear end. A very well thought out trail - this section of the Heysen provides maximum reward of views over the Southern Flinders Ranges for a minimum effort. From the summit we are treated to spectacular views of Mt Brown, Spencer Gulf and the nearby township of Quorn. Later in the day a short transfer takes us to Warren Gorge, a haven for the once endangered Yellow Footed Rock Wallaby. A sunset loop walk of the gorge provides us with our best opportunity to get up close to the magnificently marked wallabies.

Stay in motel/cabin-style accommodation in Quorn.

17kms

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 3: WALK BRIDLE GAP, WILPENNA POUND.

After a delicious breakfast, we transfer to the heart of the magnificent Flinders Ranges, continuing our trek on one of the world's finest long distance walking trails. Ascending the southern range of Wilpenna Pound to Bridle Gap, we experience the vast rugged beauty of the Northern Flinders. Upon reaching the saddle we are rewarded with the first magnificent views of the interior of the pound. Following a gentle slope down, large stands of Cyprus Pine, River Red Gums and Mallee surround us. The vast flat interior of the pound is home to many kangaroos and emus and an abundance of native bird species. Keep your eye out for Wedge Tailed Eagles and the brilliant Red Capped Robins. We may even be lucky enough to spot the newly introduced native Quoll. Time to explore the Ikara Flinders Ranges National Park Headquarters at Wilpenna Pound or enjoy a scenic flight (optional extra).

A short transfer takes us to our cabin accommodation tonight, set amongst the landscapes of the magnificent Flinders Ranges.

13kms

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 5: WALK YULUNA LOOP, BRACHINA GORGE.

Early morning light on the Heysen Range. It's hard to put into words the colours, the peace and the quiet. A loop walk back takes us through one of the most magnificent gorges in the entire Flinders Ranges and explores more of the beautiful scenery of the Heysen Trail. The Yuluna loop walk may only be 8kms, but every single one is a gem. Weaving through Coolabah, towering Gums, Pines and Silver Wattles, we encounter a plethora of birdlife and a profound sense of peace and quiet. For many of our guests this is their favourite walk of the trip. We transfer to the world renowned Brachina Gorge, a geological phenomenon which is a haven for the once endangered Yellow Footed Rock Wallaby. There is time to explore this magnificent gorge and a chance to discover some of the most significant fossil sites in Australia. Return to our cabin accommodation for our final delicious dinner.

12kms

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 4: ST MARY PEAK TREK.

Today we explore the highest mountain in the Flinders Ranges - St Mary Peak (1,171 metres). Beginning our day on the Heysen Trail we turn off and take the trail leading to the peak, passing through incredible alpine-like forests with inspiring views of the peak. St. Mary Peak stands proudly above the Pound below and is central to the Adnyamathanha creation story. For this reason the traditional owners of the Flinders Ranges ask visitors not to climb to the summit of the peak and thus we will climb as far as Tanderra Saddle just below the summit. The saddle offers spectacular views of the surrounding ABC, Heysen and Elder Ranges and plains. We will then descend from the saddle via a different route from the steep morning ascent, completing a loop hike exploring more of the stunning flora, fauna and scenery that the pound has to offer. Back at our cabin accommodation there is plenty of time to relax around the camp fire, and enjoy another tasty meal prepared by your guides.

20kms

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 6: SUMMIT DEVILS PEAK, TRANSFER TO ADELAIDE.

An early start this morning followed by another delicious breakfast, before a short transfer to the start of our trek today. A climb to the top of Devil's Peak (670 metres) is an awesome opportunity to take in our final views of the magnificent Southern Flinders Ranges and is a fitting finale to an outstanding week of walking on the Heysen Trail. Transferring back to Adelaide, we enjoy a tasty lunch in a scenic spot on the way, returning to your Adelaide accommodation at approximately 5pm.

5kms

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

WHAT EQUIPMENT TO BRING ON YOUR HEYSEN TRAIL TREK

The following list sets out all the clothing and equipment you are required to bring for you to participate in the Heysen Trail Trek.

E indicates essential item of equipment

Clothing	Equipment
Rain / windproof jacket with storm hood attached. We recommend waterproof breathable fabric (Gortex or equivalent membrane) E	Day pack with waist harness and waterproof cover E
Waterproof overpants (Gortex or equivalent membrane)	Head torch with spare batteries E
Thermals - top and bottom (wool or synthetic) E	Sunglasses
T-shirts/Long sleeve shirts	Water bottles or water bladder - minimum 3 litres E
Walking trousers/shorts (not jeans)	Fly net to cover your face - optional, but the flies can be very annoying at some times of the year!
Woollen/polar fleece jumper - wool or synthetic fibre E	
Walking socks - wool or thermal E	Personal Toiletries and First Aid
Warm beanie hat E	Personal toiletries
Warm gloves E	Travel Towel E
Sun hat E	Personal first aid kit - blister protection E
Casual clothing for evening	Sunscreen and lip balm E
Footwear	Optional Equipment
Boots must be lace up, ankle high, leather or leather/fabric construction with a sturdy rubber sole They must be well worn-in but not worn-out E	Maps
Spare comfortable shoes or sandals	Camera
	Binoculars
	Walking poles
	A good book or two!
Please contact us with any questions.	Garden style low cut gaiters