

## Media Information

### Southern Ocean Lodge

Southern Ocean Lodge is one of Australia's most extraordinary luxury retreats, perched dramatically atop limestone cliffs on the unspoilt south-west coast of Kangaroo Island.

The flagship of the Baillie Lodges collection, it opened in 2008 to international acclaim and set new standards in Australian luxury accommodation. The Lodge won the title of Hotel of the Year from Tatler magazine soon after it opened and has gone on to secure a succession of other international accolades in the years since, from titles including Conde Nast Traveller, Travel+Leisure and Australian Gourmet Traveller.

Combining a spectacular location with striking architecture and a refined aesthetic, the Lodge provides a luxe base from which to explore the pristine landscapes and prolific wildlife of Kangaroo Island. It embodies Baillie Lodges' own distinct style of hospitality, providing attentive first-name service with warmth and a spirit of generosity.

Sensitively designed to have a minimal impact on both the landscape and delicate coastal ecosystems, Southern Ocean Lodge treads lightly on its surrounds yet still allows guests an intimate contact with the island environment. Each of its 21 suites offers sweeping views of the wild Southern Ocean and rugged coastal surrounds, providing a luxury refuge from which to enjoy the constantly changing scenery.

All suites at Southern Ocean Lodge feature generous sleeping areas, inviting sunken lounges, modern glass-walled bathrooms and outdoor terraces. The contemporary design by architect Max Pritchard enhances the Southern Ocean views from every suite, while the use of local materials such as recycled timber and limestone provides a subtle link to the landscape, adding to a sense of place.

At the heart of the Lodge is the magnificent Great Room, a breath-taking space framing remarkable views of the rugged coastline. It provides a stylish area in which to relax, read, socialise or reflect on the surrounds, while an adjoining outdoor terrace allows an opportunity to enjoy the pure ocean air and uninterrupted views from outside.

Dining at Southern Ocean Lodge is an experience in itself, capitalising on Kangaroo Island's rapidly developing status as a haven for artisan growers and food producers. The Lodge chefs work closely with island providers to source fine seasonal produce and create innovative contemporary menus. Each meal is a showcase of local delicacies such as oysters, lobster, marron, free-range lamb and Kangaroo Island's famous Ligurian honey, while an open bar and well-stocked cellar offer a superb collection of exclusively South Australian fine wines.

Secluded from the main Lodge along a short boardwalk is the acclaimed Southern Spa, a cliff-top sanctuary offering an indulgent menu of signature treatments to cleanse and revive. Incorporating the Dreamtime-inspired LI'TYA range of spa treatment products, it utilises ingredients inspired by the island environment including mineral salts, pink clay, eucalyptus, lavender and Ligurian honey.

Central to a stay at Southern Ocean Lodge is a tailored offering of Signature Experiences, each providing an authentic connection with the island's natural landscapes, wildlife, scenery and lifestyle. A personalised itinerary is created for each guest on arrival, allowing them to enjoy as much or as little as they choose – from guided walks on the limestone cliffs and excursions to the landmark Remarkable Rocks, to sea lion encounters at Seal Bay and sunset canapés served among the wild kangaroos.

Southern Ocean Lodge is a founding member of Luxury Lodges of Australia and National Geographic Unique Lodges of the World.

## Kangaroo Island

Located off the coast of South Australia's Fleurieu Peninsula, Kangaroo Island is celebrated for its pristine natural environment, stunning coastal landscapes, abundant natural wildlife and artisan food and produce.

Positioned about 110km from the state capital of Adelaide, the island is widely regarded as the jewel among South Australia's tourism destinations. Iconic Australian animals including kangaroos, koalas, wallabies and echidnas can all be found in abundance, while marine mammals such as sea lions, seals, whales and dolphins make their home in surrounding waters.

Kangaroo Island is Australia's third-largest island, after Tasmania and Melville Island. At 155km in length and about 4500 square kilometres in area, it is approximately 20 per cent larger than Long Island, New York.

Largely undeveloped and home to just 4400 people, the island offers large areas of native woodland, farmland, coastal heath, sand dunes, turquoise bays and limestone cliffs. Its Flinders Chase National Park and Kelly Hill National Park both adjoin Southern Ocean Lodge, while natural landmarks like Admirals Arch, the Remarkable Rocks and Seal Bay are close by.

## At a Glance

- ➲ Southern Ocean Lodge is positioned atop limestone cliffs at Hanson Bay on the south-west coast of Kangaroo Island in the state of South Australia.
- ➲ Owned and operated by Baillie Lodges, a collection which also includes Capella Lodge on Lord Howe Island and Longitude 131° at Uluru.
- ➲ Conceived by owners James and Hayley Baillie and designed by architect Max Pritchard to maximise views while having minimal impact on the local environment.
- ➲ Twenty-one suites with sweeping views of the Southern Ocean and surrounding coastline, including Flinders Suites (11), Ocean Retreats (5), Ocean Premium (2), Remarkable Suites (2) and the Osprey Pavilion.
- ➲ Communal areas include the Great Room, an outdoor terrace, the restaurant and bar, and the Baudin Lounge.
- ➲ Superb dining with a focus on fine local ingredients, including those of celebrated Kangaroo Island farmers and artisan producers. An open bar and cellar of exclusively South Australian wines.

- The Southern Spa is located a short distance from the main Lodge along a cliff-top boardwalk, offering an indulgent menu of treatments featuring the LI'TYA range of products and local ingredients.
- All dining at Southern Ocean Lodge is included in the tariff, along with an open bar with premium wines and spirits (cellarmasters list additional) and an in-suite bar.
- A tailored itinerary of signature experiences is included in the tariff, allowing guests to discover the island's wildlife and unique natural attractions. A further selection of bespoke experiences can be arranged for an additional charge, providing an extended choice of excursions, activities and private touring.
- Southern Ocean Lodge welcomes children ten years and over.

## Getting There

Southern Ocean Lodge is located 50 minutes' drive from Kingscote Airport and provides complimentary airport transfers. Regional Express (Rex) operates regular daily flights from Adelaide to Kingscote (30 mins). QantasLink offer direct flights to Kingscote from Adelaide (35 mins) on selected days and a seasonal flight from Melbourne (MEL) (125 mins) commencing December 2017. A 15kg luggage limit per person applies for Rex and 23kg for QantasLink.

The lodge is 90 minutes' drive from the Penneshaw ferry terminal where SeaLink operates a regular 45 minute crossing from Cape Jervis on the mainland, about two hours' drive from Adelaide.

## Rates & Packages

Rates are per person per night and include all dining, an open bar with premium wines and spirits (cellarmasters list additional), an in-suite bar, signature experiences and island airport transfers. A minimum two-night stay is required.

Current rates are available at [southernoceanlodge.com.au/rates](http://southernoceanlodge.com.au/rates)

**KI Classic Rates** - stay three nights or more and receive one \$50 Southern Spa treatment credit and one \$50 Bespoke Experience credit (conditions apply).

**Classic Platinum** - stay four nights or more and receive a bonus upgrade to next suite category (subject to availability), one \$100 Southern Spa treatment credit and one \$100 Bespoke Experience credit.

Additional offers including Cool Season Deals and Solo packages are also available and can be viewed via the above link.

## Accommodation

Each of the twenty-one suites at Southern Ocean Lodge is cantilevered above the coastal heath on a cliff-top ridge, commanding mesmerising views of the ocean and wilderness setting through floor-to-ceiling windows.

Interiors feature lavish king beds, sunken lounges, dramatic glass-surround bathrooms, rain showers and outdoor terraces with seating and daybeds. Other features include walk-in robes, a complimentary in-



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room bar, a twice daily housekeeping service, optional climate control, heated floors, wireless internet, music system, safe and telephone.

Signature design elements such as limestone floors and recycled spotted gum feature walls - as well as contemporary bespoke furnishings and artworks commissioned from local Kangaroo Island artisans - reflect the natural landscape and environs.

These features are all included in the eleven **Flinders Suites**, which offer a generous 65 square metres of space. The five **Ocean Retreats** are larger at 75 square metres and feature an additional hand-cut limestone EcoSmart fireplace and a porcelain bath in the ensuite. Two **Ocean Premium** suites offer 120 square metres of space, with a second bedroom that can be configured with king or twin beds.

Two aptly named **Remarkable Suites** provide a further level of indulgence. Each is 120 square metres in area with a handmade timber bathtub overlooking the Southern Ocean, defining the generous ensuite bathroom. An EcoSmart fireplace warms the living area while an expansive terrace and private outdoor spa survey the surrounding landscape.

The ultimate in luxury is the **Osprey Pavilion**, with its unique curved floor plan of more than 120 square metres and a position that captures spectacular 180-degree vistas. Its open bathroom commands views to the horizon and boasts a hand-sculpted stone bath, while its sunken lounge has an EcoSmart fireplace and opens to an awe-inspiring outdoor terrace with sun lounges and a private plunge spa.

## Design

Southern Ocean Lodge has been designed to showcase contemporary luxury and style while at the same time embracing perhaps its biggest drawcard: its rarefied isolation.

South Australian architect Max Pritchard collaborated closely with owners James and Hayley Baillie to achieve a shared vision, creating a lodge that is both breath-taking and sensitive to its surrounds.

Incorporating materials that reflect its location including recycled timbers and local white hand-cut limestone, the Lodge appears to float over its cliff-top position at Hanson Bay. Likened to both the structure of the surrounding cliffs and ridges as well as the wave patterns of the surf below, it takes a low profile on the landscape.

Arriving through the fauna-rich bushland, the Lodge deliberately disguises the view of the Southern Ocean until guests enter through grand rusted-steel doors. Once inside, the views open up to reveal a vast expanse of sea and rugged unspoilt coast. From the panorama first presented in the Great Room, the views continue throughout the Lodge and each of its cantilevered suites.

Artworks on display are predominantly by Kangaroo Island artists, including leaf mandalas by Janine Mackintosh and 'Sunshine' the watchful kangaroo, created with found objects by local sculptor Indiana James. Glassworks and ceramics are sourced from Adelaide's Jam Factory, a showcase for South Australian designers, while signature tableware from Malcolm Greenwood and Bison reflect the raw Australian landscape.

James and Hayley Baillie have commissioned luminaries such as Adelaide designer Khai Liew for his artisan timber furnishings and dynamic Melbourne duo Pierre and Charlotte Julian for a series of contemporary chairs and tables. Iconic Australian artist Florence Broadhurst is honoured in the wallpapers and soft furnishings in the Southern Spa.

## Signature Experiences

Often described as 'Australia's Galapagos', Kangaroo Island is known for its prolific wildlife and natural beauty, offering a rich concentration of iconic Australian experiences in a compact area. Southern Ocean Lodge provides an opportunity to enjoy the best of Kangaroo Island in style with its tailored selection of Signature Experiences, each providing an authentic connection with the island's natural landscapes, wildlife, scenery and lifestyle.

A personalised itinerary is created for each guest on arrival, based on their choice of activities and excursions. To provide an intimate and personal experience, excursions usually operate with no more than ten guests per group, in custom vehicles with private naturalist guides.

Signature Experiences are included in the tariff at Southern Ocean Lodge and include:

**Wonders of KI** - A half-day experience exclusive to Lodge guests, providing a spectacular introduction to Kangaroo Island's wildlife, maritime heritage and stunning coastal landscapes. Taking advantage of the Lodge's unique location, it visits Cape du Couedic Lighthouse, the Remarkable Rocks and the fur seal colony at Admirals Arch. Guests can spot the rare Cape Barren Geese and search eucalypt trees for a sleepy koala.

**Seal Bay** - Seal Bay is home to Australia's third largest colony of Australian sea lions. Led by a naturalist guide, this excursion provides an opportunity to walk on the beach to observe these wild animals. Guests learn about their unique breeding cycle and the ongoing research programs conducted on site.

**Coastal Clifftop Walk** - A scenic walk starting on the Lodge's doorstep atop the limestone cliffs of Hanson Bay. This easy walk affords a bird's eye view of thundering waves crashing along the coastline, with nothing else but ocean between the island and Antarctica. Guides offer an opportunity to learn about local flora, fauna and coastline ecosystems.

**Kangas & Kanapés** - A chance to soak up the history of the early island settlers at Grassdale, a historic island property close to the Lodge where local wildlife including kangaroos and wallabies congregate to graze. Guests can observe these creatures in their natural environment, sip premium South Australian beverages and enjoy a 'Kanapé' while the sun goes down.

**Discover Island Heritage** - Discover the intriguing natural heritage of this wild island in the Baudin Lounge. This informative visual presentation hosted by a resident naturalist provides insight into the island's discovery and natural history, giving an overview of its many spectacular attractions.

Included experiences may also be enjoyed on a private basis for an additional cost, subject to availability.

## Bespoke Experiences

A further selection of Bespoke Experiences is also available for an additional cost, allowing guests to tailor their itinerary to their particular interests.

Adventure activities are available including quad bike safaris, kayaking adventures, beach fishing expeditions and nocturnal tours. Guided adventure hikes can be arranged in locations including the rugged coastline of Cape Younghusband, the back country of Kelly Hill Conservation Park or among the platypus waterholes of the Flinders Chase National Park.

A range of half-day special interest tours are also available, focussing on art, birdlife, food and wine, wildlife, family activities and marine life, as well as full-day and half day private charters.



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The full selection of Signature Experiences and Bespoke Experiences can be viewed on the Lodge website: [southernoceanlodge.com.au/experience](http://southernoceanlodge.com.au/experience)

## Food & Wine

Kangaroo Island has rapidly become known for its fine food producers, developing a reputation for passionate growers and premium produce. Southern Ocean Lodge has adopted a culinary philosophy based around this unique local culture, emphasising fresh seasonal ingredients from island producers while at the same time drawing on South Australia's wider reputation as a source of artisan food and wine.

Dining is one of the highlights at Southern Ocean Lodge, where chefs work closely with island providores to source fresh quality ingredients for the daily changing menus. The Lodge acts as an ambassador for Kangaroo Island produce, often using local produce as the key component of its exquisitely prepared dishes, all of which are included in the tariff.

Among Kangaroo Island's celebrated delicacies are sustainably produced seafoods like marron, abalone, barramundi, lobster and oysters. Nearby farmers produce meats like free-range lamb, pasture-reared beef, and rare-breeds pork, while local distillery KI Spirits supplies baillies9 gin produced exclusively for Southern Ocean Lodge. Eggs, chickens and geese are all available from free-range farms, alongside specialist products like saffron, olive oil, samphire, mineral-rich salt and Kangaroo Island's exclusive pure Ligurian honey.

The cellar at Southern Ocean Lodge is another highlight, housing a diverse collection of exclusively South Australian wines. Each has been hand-picked to create a showcase of fine local wines, representing some of the best-known regions in South Australia.

Wines are also included in the tariff at Southern Ocean Lodge, where guests can choose from the wine list or select their own bottle from the walk-in cellar. A select cellarmaster's list of vintage South Australian wines and French Champagnes is also available for an additional charge.

Guests can also take advantage of the open bar, offering premium wines, spirits and craft beers. Staff are on-hand to assist with mixing a cocktail or making a selection, and sunset drinks are served each evening to allow guests to mingle and share the day's discoveries.

## Environment

Baillie Lodges operates all its properties under a detailed Sustainable Management Policy, having set new benchmarks for sustainable tourism development in Australia. All three lodges have been designed to minimise their impact on the local environment and utilise the best available technology to reduce energy consumption and waste.

Southern Ocean Lodge was approved under the Commonwealth Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act and on a state level under the South Australian Development Act, National Parks & Wildlife Act, Native Vegetation Act and Natural Resources Management Act.

One hectare of land was cleared in the construction of Southern Ocean Lodge, or approximately 1% of the total 102 hectares purchased by Baillie Lodges. The remaining 99% of this land is protected to guarantee its pristine state for future generations.

Prior to the construction of Southern Ocean Lodge, management undertook extensive flora and fauna surveys which identified that the rare and magnificent osprey and vulnerable hooded plover bird species

were found near the site, resulting in the introduction of management plans. These include buffer zones and strict access controls, guest awareness programs, signage and ongoing monitoring.

A commitment to best manage energy is ongoing at Southern Ocean Lodge, where the aspect and architectural design has been planned to maximise the benefit of flow-through ventilation and the capture of sunlight and natural heat through glazing.

Southern Ocean Lodge features a detailed Building Management System whereby power usage in certain areas can be shut down during off-peak periods.

In cooperation with Federal and South Australian governments, a set of 225 solar panels has been installed by South Australian company Solaris Technology, both on the Southern Ocean Lodge roof and on sun-tracking frames adjacent to breezeway which links lodge to suites. This constantly moving renewable energy source can generate an average 130kwh per day, saving around 42000kg of carbon dioxide per year in reduced diesel fuel consumption.

Southern Ocean Lodge uses low-wattage, energy saving light globes and LPG for laundry and kitchen facilities. The Lodge also employs the latest heat pump technology for an energy efficient hot water system, equivalent to a solar powered hot water supply.

The multi-award winning Australian-owned and invented Biolytix Filter System treats wastewater at Southern Ocean Lodge. Using a chemical-free process that is also odour absorbing, the system converts organic waste, wastewater and sewage to clean irrigation water which is utilised on plantings in the staff village area via a subsurface system that also ensures wildlife are not attracted by food waste.

Water is harvested from all roof surfaces at Southern Ocean Lodge and stored in tanks with a total capacity in excess of 1.5 million litres. A key aim is to have the property rainwater self-sufficient nine out of ten years.

## Local History

Kangaroo Island was connected to the Australian mainland until approximately 10,000 years ago when sea levels rose after the last ice age. It is now separated from Yorke Peninsula to the northwest by Investigator Strait and from the Fleurieu Peninsula to the northeast by Backstairs Passage.

The existence of stone tools and shell middens show that Aboriginal people once lived on Kangaroo Island, but disappeared several thousand years ago, prior to the arrival of European explorers.

British explorer Matthew Flinders named the island in 1802 after its population of Western grey kangaroos, having landed near Kangaroo Head on the north coast of Dudley Peninsula while charting South Australia aboard the HMS Investigator. He was followed soon after by the French explorer Nicolas Baudin, who was the first European to circumnavigate the island and provided its many French place names.

Seal hunters and whalers existed on Kangaroo Island at times from 1803, including American sealers at what is now known as American River. The island was also settled by runaway convicts from the eastern colonies, ship deserters, farmers and others, before South Australia was formally established as a colony of Britain with the founding of Adelaide in 1836. The island's largest town and administrative centre, Kingscote, was also established in 1836.

More than 50 ships have been wrecked on the Kangaroo Island coastline, including the largest, the 5865 ton Portland Maru, which sank at Cape Torrens on in 1935. The greatest loss of life occurred with

the wreck of Loch Sloy in 1899 at Maupertius Bay, when 31 people died. The first lighthouse was built at Cape Willoughby in 1852, followed by other landmark lighthouses on the island at Cape Borda, Cape du Couedic, and Cape St Albans.

## Weather

A year-round destination, Kangaroo Island has a climate as dynamic as its scenery – from season to season the island yields fresh perspectives. The Mediterranean climate produces warm summers and temperate winters. Daytime temperatures range from 25-35°C in summer to 14-18°C in winter.

Regardless of the time of year, guests should ensure they include sunscreen and a hat when packing.

## Photography

High quality photographs are available for download via the Southern Ocean Lodge [image library](#). Additional images and specific themes are also available on request.

Permits are required for commercial photography and filming at the Seal Bay Conservation Park and should be arranged well in advance of visiting.

## Baillie Lodges

Baillie Lodges is a collection of intimate luxury lodges in unique Australian destinations. Capella Lodge on Lord Howe Island launched the portfolio and continues to capture guests in its magic. Southern Ocean Lodge is Australia's most extraordinary luxury lodge offering a premium nature-based escape. Longitude 131° is a gathering of luxury tented pavilions overlooking outback icon Uluru, delivering a journey to Australia's spiritual heart.

Baillie Lodges was created by the partnership of James and Hayley Baillie. Founded in 2003, the venture aims to set new benchmarks for premium experiential travel in a unique Australian style.

## Luxury Lodges of Australia

Luxury Lodges of Australia is a collection of independent luxury lodges offering unforgettable experiences in Australia's most inspiring and extraordinary locations. Capella Lodge, Southern Ocean Lodge and Longitude 131° are honoured among the founding members of this prestigious collection, designed to celebrate a new era of Australian luxury accommodation and adventure. See [luxurylodgesofaustralia.com.au](http://luxurylodgesofaustralia.com.au)

## Reservations

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