

Media Release



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Southern Ocean Lodge Gives Back to the Community with 'First In' Fundraiser

As works continue on the rebuild of Southern Ocean Lodge on the wild west coast of South Australia's Kangaroo Island, parent company Baillie Lodges is preparing to open reservations - already highly anticipated and with a growing waiting list - for guests at the new-look luxury lodge.

Baillie Lodges can announce Southern Ocean Lodge will reopen on December 6, 2023.

Founders James and Hayley Baillie and the team at Baillie Lodges had greatly appreciated the ongoing support from guests, media and industry over the past three years and are determined to give back to the community as part of the Southern Ocean Lodge's relaunch.

Responding to significant demand to be amongst the first guests to stay at the much-loved luxury lodge, Baillie Lodges has announced an auction of three 'first in' stays each of three nights. Guests who post the winning bids will win a special preview stay for the dates December 5-8, 2023, and be first to enjoy a luxurious, all-inclusive experience of the reimagined lodge as well as guided excursions of Kangaroo Island's wild landscape.

All proceeds from the auction will go to three Australian community organisations chosen for their significance to the team at Southern Ocean Lodge. The associations chosen as beneficiaries are:

- The Royal Flying Doctor Service
- The Maggie Beer Foundation
- The KI Country Education Fund.

The online auction is now live [here](#) and will remain open until April 24 when the winning bidders will secure their place at Southern Ocean Lodge for a special pre-opening stay.

Baillie Lodges founders James and Hayley said they were grateful for the ongoing support and interest in the rebuild of their award-winning flagship property and were keen to share the funds from the first guest stays with organisations that supported the community.

"We're very fortunate to have had the support of the Kangaroo Island community, the tourism industry, media and our loyal guests over the past three years during which we have been rebuilding Southern Ocean Lodge and regenerating the surrounding coastal wilderness," Hayley said.

"As we head towards the reopening of Southern Ocean Lodge at the end of the year, guests are already keen to book in to stay which is a wonderful feeling for the whole team," James said.

"We'll shortly announce a 'bookings open' date in early May, and in the meantime we're keen to make the most of the broader community's interest and goodwill by giving back to those organisations who routinely go above and beyond to help others," he said.

To make a bid to be 'First In' at Southern Ocean Lodge please visit [here](#), and to make a donation to any of the charities please visit the Journal at www.southernoceanlodge.com.au

ABOUT

Baillie Lodges: Baillie Lodges is a growing portfolio of luxury lodges renowned for setting benchmarks in premium experiential travel. Set in exclusive locations of unique natural or cultural significance, the boutique properties appeal to the discerning global traveller seeking a remarkable experience. The Australia-based collection was founded in 2003 by James and Hayley Baillie and includes Longitude 131° at Uluru-Kata Tjuta, Capella Lodge on Lord Howe Island, Silky Oaks Lodge at the Daintree Rainforest, and The Louise in the Barossa Valley. Flagship property Southern Ocean Lodge on Kangaroo Island was razed in the 2020 bushfires and its rebuild is in progress, with reopening slated for November 2023. In 2019, an affiliate of KSL Capital Partners acquired Baillie Lodges with the aim to further expand the unique collection of luxury lodges. The 2022 addition of Chile's esteemed Tierra Hotels group marks a continuation of the collection's foray into international waters, joining the Clayoquot Wilderness Lodge on Canada's Vancouver Island and New Zealand's Huka Lodge. Baillie Lodges' Australian properties are honoured as members of [Luxury Lodges of Australia](#). For more information, please visit baillielodges.com.au.

The Royal Flying Doctor Service: The Royal Flying Doctor Service SA/NT began in 1939 and delivers emergency aeromedical and community healthcare services throughout South Australia and the Northern Territory, be it an aeromedical evacuation, a GP and Community Health Nurse clinic, a telehealth call, a mental health or oral health clinic, or a child's immunisation. Every year, it assists more than 56,000 patients in South Australia and the Northern Territory - that's one patient every 10 minutes. The RFDS lands in Kangaroo Island four times a week to airlift critically ill patients to major hospitals for life-saving surgery or specialist medical treatment. Most recently, throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the RFDS delivered thousands of vaccinations to residents of KI to help safeguard the island from the impacts of the virus. "The RFDS flew me to hospital when an artery burst in my brain. If I needed to travel by road, then ferry, my chances of survival would have been minimal," said Patricia in Penneshaw.

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Maggie Beer Foundation

The Maggie Beer Foundation is dedicated to enriching the dining experience for current and future generations of Australians in aged care. We believe that food is the fuel of life, as important for emotional as it is for nutritional value. The Foundation is proud to support the culinary upskilling of cooks and chefs in the Aged Care sector via mentorships and online education modules. Through which, we acknowledge the myriad of factors influencing our elders in care, especially the transformative power of food and its relationship with overall wellbeing. "I'm thrilled that Baillie Lodges have chosen to support the Foundation as part of the Southern Ocean Lodge 2.0 launch. Wonderful food is of course synonymous with Kangaroo Island and it's the need for good food for those in aged care that drives me so food is important to us all. I have a long history with Southern Ocean Lodge and cannot wait to see James and Hayley's vision rise from the ashes, once more welcoming guests to this truly awe-inspiring slice of Australia," said Maggie Beer.

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Kangaroo Island Country Education Fund: Kangaroo Island, an Island off mainland Australia has increased demands on its youth seeking further education which can be challenging and expensive. Kangaroo Island Country Education Fund (KICEF) mission is to foster the further education, career and personal development opportunities of rural youth, through community-based encouragement and financial assistance. In many instances the pursuit of further education, be it vocational or tertiary, would not be possible without the support provided via KICEFs fundraising and grant allocation mechanisms. KICEF was established in 2007 and since that time has assisted over 300 local youth with financial support in pursuit of their educational aspirations. Often the KICEF grants provided to our youth can be matched through partnerships with several educational institutions. Fundraising support via sponsorships, donations and initiatives such as the Baillie Lodges auction of accommodation at the world-famous Southern Ocean Lodge are a vital component in ensuring the ongoing developmental support of our youth now and well into the future.

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