

## **SOUTH AUSTRALIA – BAROSSA, CLARE VALLEY & McLAREN VALE** 6-days / 5-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 and McLaren Vale. Explore all of this 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. Visit Maggie Beers Farm Shop and Café, Penfolds, Seppeltsfield & many more vineyards, cellar doors and local producers.

European settler history continues as we shift to the Riesling Trail in the Clare Valley replete with historic cellar doors, Irish settlers and Lutheran roots. Located north of Adelaide, the Clare Valley is strongly influenced by both the Hutt and Hill rivers. It is one of the nation's oldest wine regions, home to heritage towns, trails, boutique wineries, museums, galleries and beautiful scenery as well as some of the best Riesling in Australia.

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).

**Cost from:**    **\$3150** per person, twin-share                      Single supplement from \$700

**Departs:**        21 September; 9, 30 November 2023; 7, 21 March; 4, 25 April 2024.

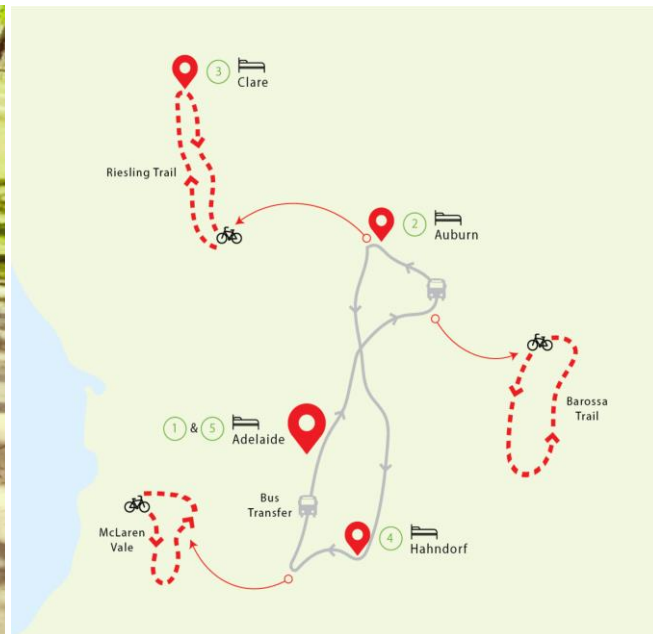
We also offer this as a **SELF GUIDED** tour with daily departures, from **\$1900** per person twin share. Minimum of two people per departure. Supplements of \$200 - \$400 per person apply for groups of less than 6 people. Ask us for prices, dates and a detailed itinerary.

**Call OUTDOOR TRAVEL on 1800 331 582 for details or reservations**

**Includes:** 5 nights in comfortable 4-star accommodation with ensuite; 5 full breakfasts, 4 winery lunches with tastings, 3 restaurant dinners (2 x courses); all wine tastings and farm gate tastings; wine-making tutorial; bike hire with rack bag, water bottle; experienced guide and vehicle support; luggage transfers; detailed route notes and maps; transfers from/to Adelaide.

**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 @ 20 - 30km**

After breakfast travel 60km northeast of Adelaide 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 became a farming enclave for German settlers who brought their culture, food and wine knowledge with them. 175 years later the Barossa is renowned as one of the world's great wine growing regions with more than 150 wineries, offering many wine varieties, including Shiraz, Cabernet Sauvignon, Grenache and of course the legendary Grange Hermitage.

Today's ride takes in sections of the Barossa rail trail plus detours to visit iconic food and wine venues including the cellar doors at Penfolds, Yalumba and Seppeltsfield as well as Maggie Beer's Farm Shop and Café in Nuriootpa. Stop along the way for a delicious platter lunch at a winery and a chance to enjoy the seasonal local produce for which the Barossa is well known and to sample its outstanding and characteristically big wines. Stay overnight in the Barossa Valley, with a group dinner at a local bistro this evening.

#### Day 3 – Clare Valley Riesling Trail

**Cycling @ 30 - 35km**

After breakfast, transfer to Auburn located on the southern edge of the Clare Valley and a charming historic gateway to the wine region. Today's ride is on the Riesling Rail Trail to the township of Clare in the heart of the famed Clare Valley. This historic town features sandstone buildings and monuments and is surrounded by green rolling hills. The Riesling Trail was originally part of the old Adelaide to Spalding railway line and is now a bike path that links quaint towns, historic sites and wineries between Auburn and Stanley Flat. There are many stops on today's route 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. Enjoy a full gourmet lunch at the highly regarded, multi-award winning Skillogee Winery - a small family-owned cellar door and restaurant set in an historic settler's cottage amongst pretty gardens and bushland. Dinner tonight is at your own arrangements (not included) from one of the many choices in Clare. Overnight in Clare.

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

**Cycling @ 25 - 35km**

There is so 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. Enjoy a platter style lunch showcasing local produce at the O'Leary Walker Winery with its endless views over the vines and rolling countryside. After lunch take a very scenic 2.5 hour coach transfer to the historic German-inspired town of Hahndorf in the beautiful Adelaide Hills. If time allows go for a stroll through this quaint themed village. Tonight's stay is in a 4-star boutique motel just off the main street, with dinner at your own arrangements (not included).

#### Day 5 – McLaren Vale Shiraz Trail

**Cycling @ 20 - 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 and farewell dinner at a restaurant in the city.

#### Day 6 – Depart Adelaide

After breakfast, depart Adelaide for your onward travel arrangements.



#### 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](mailto:info@outdoortravel.com.au)
- Web: <http://www.outdoortravel.com.au>
- Mail: Outdoor Travel Pty Ltd, PO Box 286, Bright, VIC 3741, Australia