

Heysen

The Heysen Trail

The Heysen Trail is a 1,200-kilometre trail that extends from Cape Jervis on the south coast of the Fleurieu Peninsula to Parachilna Gorge in the Flinders Ranges. The trail passes through some of South Australia's most scenic areas, including national parks, state forests and popular tourism destinations including the Adelaide Hills, Barossa and Wilpena Pound.

The trail is ideal for all levels of walkers, with sections of the trail suitable for shorter walks. Although walkers of all ages can enjoy the Heysen Trail you are advised that the majority of the trail corresponds to Class 4-5 of the Australian Standard 2156.1-2001 Walking Tracks - Classification and Signage. Track conditions are generally distinct with limited modifications to natural surfaces. There is minimal clearing of debris along the trail and the gradients may be steep in sections with unmodified surfaces. Though mainly a walking trail, there are multi-use sections where cycling and horseriding are permitted.

Fire Risks

During the fire risk season of December to April, many sections of the Heysen Trail are closed to the public. On some sections the fire season extends beyond this period. Information on fire ban restrictions is available from www.heysentrail.sa.gov.au.

Markers

The trail is clearly marked by a distinctive red and white logo or red way markers. Warning and information signs, stiles over fences, bridges over creeks and other trail furniture are also provided. The trail is divided into 15 sections and a detailed map, including safety and planning issues, is available for each section. Maps are available from numerous retail outlets. Contact +61 8 8124 4792 for stockists.

Campsites and shelters

There are numerous campsites and shelters scattered along the Heysen Trail, however most of these facilities are quite basic and offer only a small shelter and rainwater tank. In some locations huts, containing a rainwater tank, simple bunkbeds, a toilet, fireplace, a table and seat, have been provided. Huts cannot be pre-booked or reserved so walkers are advised to carry a tent in case shelters are fully occupied. As a rule, walkers planning an overnight stay along the Heysen Trail should be self-reliant. Camping permits may be required – contact the Department for Environment and Heritage or Forestry SA for details.

Accommodation

The Heysen Trail passes through many towns with excellent overnight accommodation, including bed and breakfasts, farm stays, hotels, motels and caravan parks. Information on accommodation can be obtained by visiting www.southaustralia.com

Water

The Heysen Trail traverses a wide variety of South Australia's regions and temperatures can vary dramatically. Walkers should carry sufficient water and make water drops where availability is uncertain. When walking, be sure to regularly top up your water supplies with good quality water. If you're uncertain about the quality be sure to filter, boil and/or use purifying treatments or tablets.

Route Changes

From time to time it has become necessary to change the route of the Heysen Trail, so it's important to check you have the latest edition of trail maps. Visit www.heysentrail.sa.gov.au for details.

Keeping a trail diary

We recommend you keep a diary of your day's walking to enable you to refer to any highlights, hints, problems and issues that may arise. As an added incentive, the Friends of the Heysen Trail issue a badge to those who manage to walk the trail from end to end – another good reason to keep a diary.

Friends of the Heysen Trail

The Friends of the Heysen Trail is an incorporated volunteer organization that was established in 1986 under the umbrella of National Parks and Wildlife SA. Its role is to assist DEH in building and maintaining the Heysen Trail and other walking trails throughout South Australia. Friends of the Heysen Trail volunteers have been involved in a number of projects, including marking and development, ongoing maintenance of the trail, construction of bridges, campsites, a sand ladder and other trail infrastructure and erosion control work. For more information visit www.heysentrail.asn.au

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN TRAILS



— Walking Trail
● Cities
○ Towns



This map is for reference only and is not intended as a navigational tool.