



Bushwalking in Ikara-Flinders Ranges National Park

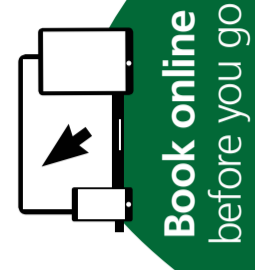
Bushwalking in Ikara-Flinders Ranges National Park
Ancient and dramatic mountain landscapes, peaceful tree-lined gorges, a seasonal wealth of wildlife and the sense of space unique to the semi-arid zone combine to make the Ikara-Flinders Ranges National Park one of South Australia's best bushwalking destinations.

Ikara-Flinders Ranges National Park is located 450 kilometres north of Adelaide in the central Flinders Ranges. The park comprises approximately 95,000 hectares and includes the Heysen Range, Brachina and Bunyerroo gorges and the breathtaking Wilpena Pound. There are a variety of walking trails that allow visitors to explore the park's major attractions, highlighting the contrasting diversity of plant and animal communities unique to this region.

Mild temperatures from April to October make this period the most comfortable for walking. During the summer months, temperatures range from 30°C - 45°C making walking more difficult. Some walking trails may be closed on days of Extreme Fire Danger. No matter what time of year you are visiting, a careful responsible approach to bushwalking is essential for your safety.



Yacca (Yaca)
Xanthorrhoea quadrangulata



Book online before you go

Parks SA
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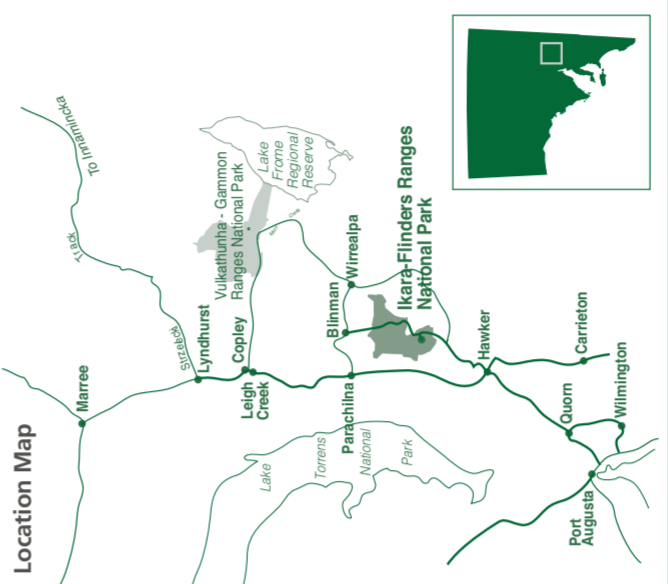
Local emergency numbers
Police 000 or 131 444
(08) 8648 4028
Ambulance 000
Fire 000

Telephone Information Line
(08) 8204 1910

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Further information
Ikara-Flinders Ranges National Park
PMB 22 Wilpena via Hawker SA 5434

Wilpena Visitor Centre
T: (+61 8) 8648 0048
F: (08) 8648 0092
E: VisitorsCentre@wilpenapound.com.au



Painted Dragon
Ctenophorus pictus

Thank you for leaving the bush in its natural state for the enjoyment of others.

- The use of chainsaws are not permitted
- Be considerate of other park users.
- Keep to defined vehicle tracks and walking trails.
- Disturb animals, or remove native plants.
- Do not feed or disturb native plants.
- Respect geological, cultural and heritage sites
- Camp only in designated areas.
- Conserve native habitat by using liquid fuel or gas stoves.
- Observe fire restrictions, usually 1 November to 30 April. Check CFS hotline 1300 362 361.
- Leave your rubbish with you.
- Take your pets at home.

The national parks code

Help protect your national parks by following these guidelines:

Hills Homestead Walk
Follow Wilpena Creek and encounter relics and reminders of pioneering life inside Wilpena Pound. Signs titled 'If the walls could talk', tell the story of Jessie Hill, daughter of the first pioneer family to live in the homestead. A shuttle bus is available to shorten the walk.

Access: begins from the bushwalking trailhead at the Wilpena Visitor Centre complex.

Sacred Canyon Walk
A short walk along a gum-lined creek leads to the site where ancient Aboriginal rock engravings are found in smooth sandstone walls. The images representing animal tracks, people and waterholes, have been pecked into the sheer rock faces with stone tools. Some images are very weathered and are best seen in the soft light of morning or afternoon. Out of respect for the Adnyamathanha culture please do not touch the engravings.

Access: begins from the Sacred Canyon car park, located 19 kilometres south-east of Wilpena off the Wilpena - Blinman road.

Wilpena Solar Power Station Walk
Discover the large Solar Power Station which supplies Wilpena with energy. A short walk to the lookout will give you a view of the set-up.

Access: begins from the Solar Power Station car park, one kilometre from Wilpena on the main road.

Living with Land Walk
Aboriginal people, European settlers and their descendants share the pastoral heritage of the Flinders Ranges. This self-guided walk discovers the themes of self-sufficiency, improvisation and survival in the remote and isolated pastoral settlements of the Flinders Ranges.

Access: Old Wilpena Station. Fee applies.

Please remember that fallen timber plays a valuable role in the natural environment and collection of firewood within the park is not permitted - penalties apply.

- Outside of fire ban season, wood fires are only permitted at designated areas in campgrounds.
- Wood fires are not permitted inside Wilpena Pound. Gas fires are only permitted on days of Total Fire Ban.
- Days of Total Fire Ban when **no fires** are permitted.
- Gas and fuel stoves are permitted except on days of Total Fire Ban when **no fires** are permitted.
- Wood fires are not permitted during the fire danger season, usually 1 November to 30 April.
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Fire restrictions



The park also contains sections of the Flinders Ranges by Bike cycle loop. Contact the Visitor Centre for information on the cycle loop.

Cycling in the park

Ikara-Flinders Ranges National Park has fantastic mountain scenery for visitors. The Mawson Trail and several roads provide access to some of the most stunning scenery in the park.

The Mawson Trail is accessible from Wilpena, Yanyanna and Trezona. Information on water availability en route is available at the Wilpena Visitor Centre. Please carry appropriate equipment including a puncture repair and first aid kit.

The park also contains sections of the Flinders Ranges by Bike cycle loop. Contact the Visitor Centre for information on the cycle loop.

Wangara Lookout Hike
Follow Wilpena Creek through towering River Red Gums, native pines, scented acacias and a seasonal array of wildflowers for spectacular panoramic views of Wilpena Pound. 'Ikara', the local Adnyamathanha peoples' name for Wilpena Pound, is a natural rock formation resulting from millions of years of erosion.

A shuttle bus is available to shorten the walk. The lower lookout is 300m on from Hills Homestead. Continue on another 300m to the upper lookout.

Access: begins from the bushwalking trailhead at the Wilpena Visitor Centre complex.

Trezona Hike
Discover some of the earliest life forms on earth in the Trezona geological formation. This area was heavily grazed when the park was a pastoral property.

Access: begins from Trezona Campground, 40 kilometres north of Wilpena along the Brachina Gorge Road.

Yuluna Hike
From the historic Aroona homestead and the restored pig and pine hut, experience the landscape that inspired painter Hans Heysen on his visits to the Flinders Ranges. The trail weaves through an impressive enclave in the ABC Range.

Access: begins from the Aroona car park, 50 kilometres north of Wilpena.



Within the Ikara-Flinders Ranges National Park, the Heysen Trail is closed on days of broadcast Total Fire Ban.

- Trezona to Aroona Hike (Moderate)**
4 hours one way – 13 km one way
- Yanyanna to Trezona Hike (Moderate)**
3 hours one way – 9.5 km one way
- Wilpena to Yanyanna Hike (Hard)**
6 hours one way – 20.5 km one way

Walker's purchase the relevant 1:50,000 topographic maps before commencing the following hikes:

The Heysen Trail
The Heysen Trail is a long distance walking trail, which traverses the state's principal mountain ranges between Cape Jervis, on the tip of the Fleurieu Peninsula in the south, to Parachina Gorge in the Flinders Ranges in the north. This trail passes through some of the most spectacular areas in Ikara-Flinders Ranges National Park. Many of the walking trails within the park utilise parts of this long-distance trail. Walkers may choose to undertake whole sections of the Heysen Trail. It is important that walkers purchase the relevant 1:50,000 topographic maps before commencing the following hikes:

Arkaroo Rock Hike
Admire Adnyamathanha rock paintings featuring ochre and charcoal images that tell the creation story of Wilpena Pound. Enjoy spectacular views of the Chace Range at sunset. The rock paintings are best seen in morning light.

Access: begins from the Arkaroo Rock car park, 17 kilometres south of Wilpena on the Hawker-Blinman Road.

Red Hill Lookout Hike
Enjoy spectacular views of the Aroona Valley and Heysen Range with Wilpena Pound in the distance.

Access: begins from the Aroona car park, 50 kilometres north of Wilpena. Quite steep in sections.

Aroona to Youngoona Hike
Follow in the footsteps of early shepherds and discover the ruins of old pastoral runs. Pass through contrasting rock formations and plant communities while enjoying views of the ABC, Heysen and Trezona ranges.

Access: begins from the Aroona car park, 50 kilometres north of Wilpena.

Wilkawillina Gorge Hike
Habitat of the Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby, this gorge features unique geological landscapes and permanent water in contrast to its drier surrounds.

Access: begins at the Wilkawillina car park, 45 kilometres north-east of Wilpena off the Orapirima - Wirralpa road.

Access: begins from the bushwalking trailhead at the Wilpena Visitor Centre complex.

This hike will be closed over the Summer months (Dec, Jan, Feb) due to public safety.

Malloga Falls Hike
A long flat trail that traverses the floor of Wilpena Pound to the spectacular rock faces of Edeowie Gorge and the stunning Malloga Falls. Beyond Cooinda Camp, bushwalkers need to be experienced and possess navigational skills.

Prior to commencing this hike, bushwalkers must discuss their route with the Wilpena Visitor Centre staff and fill in a **Let Us Know Before You Go** trip intention form.

This hike will be closed over the Summer months (Dec, Jan, Feb) due to public safety.

Access: begins from the bushwalking trailhead at the Wilpena Visitor Centre complex. Rangers recommend you leave on this hike no later than 6 am (or 10 am during Daylight Saving hours).

St Mary Peak Hike Ngarrri Mudlanha
Enjoy a challenging, long hike to the highest peak in the Flinders Ranges where you will be rewarded with 360° views of the ranges, salt lakes and surrounding plains. St Mary Peak (1171m above sea level) is central to the Adnyamathanha creation story. For this reason the Adnyamathanha people of the Flinders Ranges would prefer that visitors do not climb to the summit of the peak. The shorter option to Tanderra Saddle also affords spectacular views.

Cooinda Camp is an overnight walkers camp site within Wilpena Pound. Gas or liquid fuel stoves only. No water or toilet facilities are available.

This hike will be closed over the Summer months (Dec, Jan, Feb) due to public safety.

Mount Ohlssen Bagge Hike
Steep rocky inclines followed by rewarding views of Wilpena Pound and the surrounding area. This hike incorporates excellent reptile habitat.

This hike will be closed over the Summer months (Dec, Jan, Feb) due to public safety.

Access: begins from the bushwalking trailhead at the Wilpena Visitor Centre complex.

Bunyerroo Gorge Hike
This trail follows Bunyerroo Gorge, one of the most peaceful and scenic gorges in the park. The gorge provides great opportunities for observing wildlife and interesting rock formations. Bullock teams and coaches transporting copper, mail and produce used the gorge in the 19th century to access the western plains.

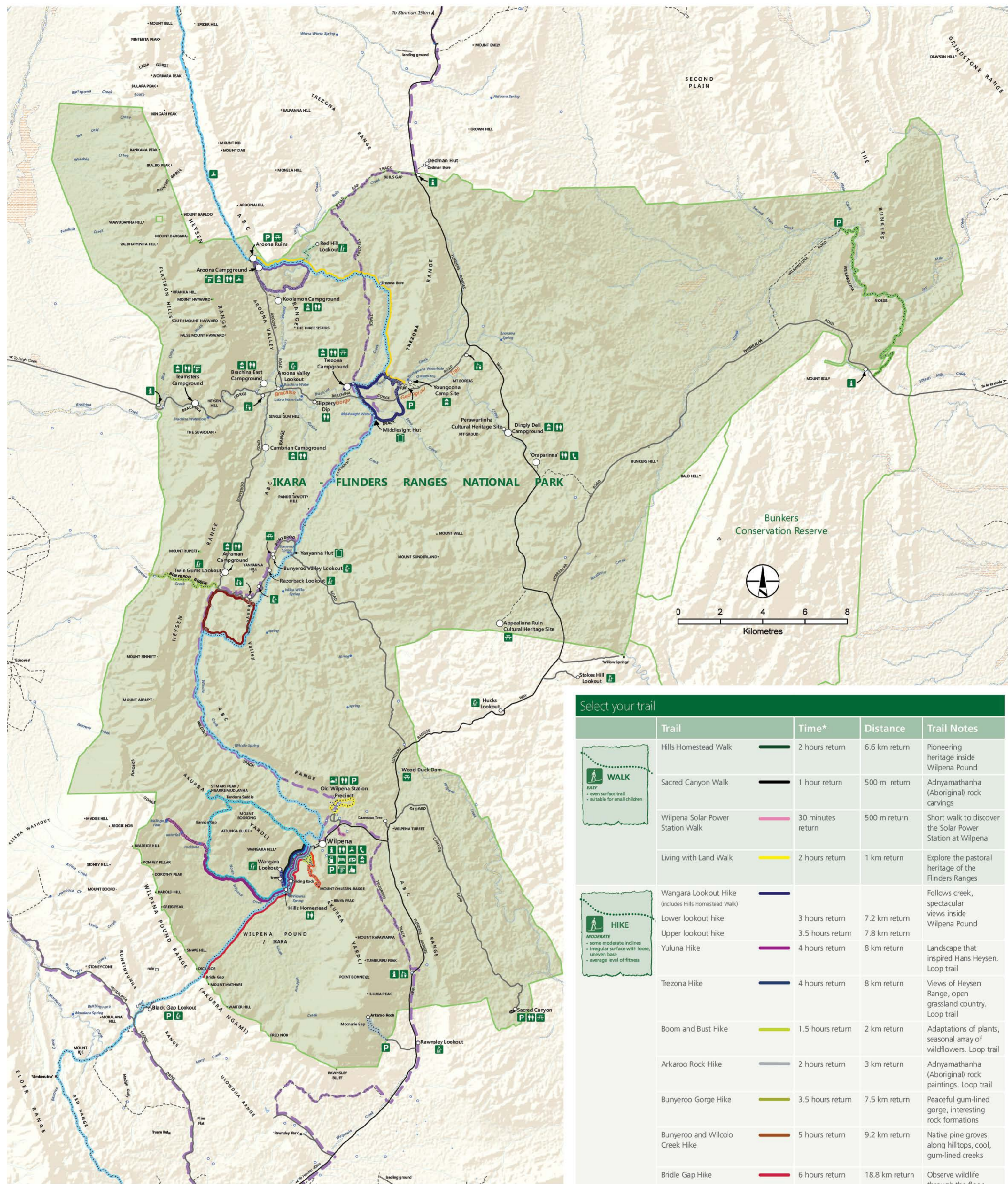
Access: begins from the Bunyerroo car park, 18 kilometres north of Wilpena along the Bunyerroo Gorge Road.

Bunyerroo and Wilcollo Creek Hike
Follow this well-marked trail through native pine groves along the hillslopes of the ABC Range.

Enjoy views of Wilpena Pound.

Access: begins from the Bunyerroo car park, 18 kilometres north of Wilpena along the Bunyerroo Gorge Road.

Bridle Gap Hike
The trail, which forms part of the famous Heysen Trail, bisects the floor of Wilpena Pound. A variety of mallee, native pine and heath habitats provide excellent opportunities for keen naturalists to observe interesting local birds including wrens, robins, parrots and raptors.



Select your trail

Trail	Time*	Distance	Trail Notes
Hills Homestead Walk	2 hours return	6.6 km return	Pioneering heritage inside Wilpena Pound
Sacred Canyon Walk	1 hour return	500 m return	Adnyamathanha (Aboriginal) rock carvings
Wilpena Solar Power Station Walk	30 minutes return	500 m return	Short walk to discover the Solar Power Station at Wilpena
Living with Land Walk	2 hours return	1 km return	Explore the pastoral heritage of the Flinders Ranges
Wangara Lookout Hike (includes Hills Homestead Walk)	3 hours return	7.2 km return	Follows creek, spectacular views inside Wilpena Pound
Lower lookout hike	3.5 hours return	7.8 km return	
Yuluna Hike	4 hours return	8 km return	Landscape that inspired Hans Heysen. Loop trail
Trezona Hike	4 hours return	8 km return	Views of Heysen Range, open grassland country. Loop trail
Boom and Bust Hike	1.5 hours return	2 km return	Adaptations of plants, seasonal array of wildflowers. Loop trail
Arkaroo Rock Hike	2 hours return	3 km return	Adnyamathanha (Aboriginal) rock paintings. Loop trail
Bunyerroo Gorge Hike	3.5 hours return	7.5 km return	Peaceful gum-lined gorge, interesting rock formations
Bunyerroo and Wilcol Creek Hike	5 hours return	9.2 km return	Native pine groves along hilltops, cool, gum-lined creeks
Bridle Gap Hike	6 hours return	18.8 km return	Observe wildlife through the floor of Wilpena Pound
Red Hill Lookout Hike	4 hours return	9 km return	Aroona Valley and beyond views
Aroona to Youngoona Hike	7 hours one-way	15.4 km one-way	Pastoral heritage, excellent views, contrasting rock formations
Wilkawillina Gorge Hike	6 hours one-way	11.4 km one-way	Habitat of Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby, unique geological features
Mount Ohlssen Bagge Hike	4 hours return	6.4 km return	Excellent views of Wilpena Pound, diverse reptile life
St Mary Peak Hike - direct route (outside trail)	6 hours return	14.6 km return	Breathtaking views of central Flinders Ranges
loop route (inside trail)	9 hours return	21.5 km return	
Malloga Falls Hike	9 hours return	23.2 km return	Spectacular Edcovie Gorge

- Lookout
- Drinking water
- Sealed road
- Phone
- Ranger station
- Unsealed road
- Hut
- Caravan park
- 4WD track
- Rubbish bin
- Picnic area
- Walking trail
- Camping
- Fuel
- Watercourse
- Parking
- Accommodation
- Heysen Trail
- Bus parking
- Supplies
- Mawson Trail
- Toilets
- Information

Walk Safely

- Be prepared when bushwalking:
- Wear sturdy shoes, hat and sunscreen.
- Carry sufficient drinking water. Allow at least 4 litres of water per person per day.
- Keep to the defined walking trail and follow the markers.
- Inform a responsible person of your proposed route and expected time of return.
- Weather conditions can change quickly, ensure you have appropriate wet weather clothing.
- Allow enough time to comfortably complete your hike before dark.

* Time is generously estimated from an average walking speed varying from 1 to 3 km per hour. Allow extra time for resting and sightseeing.