

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

# DIVING EXPERIENCES

Dive and let dive.

With its unique marine life and exceptional underwater scenery, South Australia is undoubtedly a diver's paradise. Its clean, uncrowded, temperate waters are among the most biologically diverse in the world and there are plenty of sites for both experienced divers and beginners. Combined with the state's sandy beaches, pristine coastlines, culture, food and wine, they form an ideal diving holiday destination.

Submerge yourself in another world by diving with giant cuttlefish spawning off the coast of Whyalla; great white sharks near Port Lincoln; the rare leafy sea dragon off Kangaroo Island and Fleurieu Peninsula; the former battle destroyer *HMAS Hobart* off the Fleurieu Peninsula; or shipwrecks off Yorke Peninsula and the Limestone Coast.

The jewel in South Australia's diving crown is the Fleurieu Reef, an hour south of Adelaide, which features the scuttled *ex-HMAS Hobart*. There are more than 700 shipwrecks along the state's coastline, many of which are open to divers. Adelaide's Underwater Heritage Trail on Gulf St Vincent links four of the most historic wrecks: the *Grecian*, the *Zanoni*, *Star of Greece* and *Norma*, all of which sank between 1841 and 1893.

South Australia also gives divers the chance to swim with sea lions at Baird Bay on Eyre Peninsula. Suitably qualified divers can also

explore the other freshwater caves and sinkholes of the Limestone Coast, including the freshwater crystal clear Piccaninne Ponds and Ewen Ponds.

Others, along with macro photographers, will find the jetties at Edithburgh, Point Turton and Port Hughes on the Yorke Peninsula ideal areas for photography and less strenuous diving.

And a cage dive with the Great White Sharks will deliver the most memorable and exhilarating dive experience of a lifetime.





# TOURS

## Adventureland Diving & Sports Centre

**Address** Lot 155/156 Beach Crescent, Baudin Beach SA 5222

**Region** Kangaroo Island

**Phone** 08 8553 1072

**Email** advhost@bigpond.com

## Baird Bay Ocean Eco Experience

**Address** Lot 8 Government Road, Baird Bay SA 5671

**Region** Eyre Peninsula

**Phone** 08 8626 5017

**Email** sealions@bigpond.com

**www.bairdbay.com**

## Calypso Star Charters Shark diving

**Address** Port Lincoln SA 5606

**Region** Eyre Peninsula

**Phone** 08 8364 4428

**Email** info@calypsostarcharter.com.au

**www.calypsostarcharter.com.au**

## Fishing and Diving Charter Adventures

**Address** Lincoln Cove Marina, Port Lincoln SA 5606

**Region** Eyre Peninsula

**Phone** 1300 788 378 (Australia only)

**www.visitportlincoln.net/attractions**

## Glenelg Scuba Diving Centre

**Address** Patawalonga Frontage, Glenelg North SA 5045

**Region** Fleurieu Peninsula, Adelaide

**Phone** 08 8294 7744

**Email** info@glenelgscuba.com.au

**www.glenelgscuba.com.au**

## Kangaroo Island Marine Tours

**Address** Kingscote Wharf, Kingscote SA 5223

**Region** Kangaroo Island

**Phone** 08 8553 0016

**Email** enquiries@kimarinetours.com

**www.kimarinetours.com**



## Kangaroo Island Diving Safaris

**Address** RSD 451, Kingscote SA 5223

**Region** Kangaroo Island

**Phone** 08 8559 3225

**Email** kids@kin.net.au

**www.kidivingsafaris.com**



## M.V. Coinda Fishing & Diving Charters

**Address** Lot 155 Beach Crescent, Baudin Beach SA 5222

**Region** Kangaroo Island

**Phone** 08 8553 1072

**Email** advhost@bigpond.com

**www.kidiving.com**



## Point Turton Dive & Fish Charters

**Address** 52 Esplanade, Point Turton SA 5575

**Region** Yorke Peninsula

**Phone** 08 8854 5214

## Rodney Fox Shark Experience

**Address** Town Hall, beach end of Jetty Road, Glenelg, SA 5045

**Region** Adelaide

**Phone** 08 8376 3373

**Email** admin@rodneymfox.com.au

**www.rodneymfox.com.au**

## Surf & Sun

**Address** 70 Seaview Avenue, Middleton SA 5213

**Region** Fleurieu Peninsula, Kangaroo Island

**Mobile** 0400 881 565

**Email** info@surfandsun.com.au

**www.surfandsun.com.au**



## Surf Culture Australia

**Address** 38 Compass Drive, Seaford SA 5169

**Region** Fleurieu Peninsula, Yorke Peninsula

**Phone** 08 8327 2802 or mobile 0427 796 845

**Email** surfculture@bigpond.com

**www.surfcultureaustralia.com.au**



## Temptation Sailing

**Address** Holdfast Shores Marina, Glenelg SA 5045

**Region** Adelaide

**Mobile** 0412 811 838

**Email** info@dolphinboat.com.au

**www.dolphinboat.com.au**



## Underwater Sports Diving Centre

**Address** 4/1048 Grand Junction Road, Holden Hill SA 5088

**Region** Adelaide, Fleurieu Peninsula, Eyre Peninsula

**Phone** 08 8263 3337

**Email** dive@underwatersports.com.au

**www.underwatersports.com.au**

## Whyalla Diving Adventures

**Address** Shop 4, 1 Jenkins Ave, Whyalla SA 5608

**Region** Eyre Peninsula

**Phone** 08 8645 5693

**Email** whydive@whyalladivingadventures.com

**www.whyalladivingadventures.com**



## NATIONAL PARKS

### Innes National Park

On the southern tip of the Yorke Peninsula, Innes National Park encompasses spectacular coastal landscapes, a diversity of wildlife habitats and a wide range of recreational opportunities. Hear the waves crash on the beaches, the wind whispering through the sheoaks, view the rugged coastlines sculpted by the Southern Ocean and wander through remnants of South Australia's mining and maritime history.

**Region** Yorke Peninsula  
**Phone** 08 8854 3200  
[www.parks.sa.gov.au](http://www.parks.sa.gov.au)

### Piccaninnie Ponds Conservation Park

The crystal clear waters have been slowly filtering through the limestone and forming the ponds' features over thousands of years. The fresh water rising to the surface under pressure has eroded a weakness in the limestone to form The Chasm, with its white walls covered in delicate green algal growth contrasting with the dark depths below. This same process has formed the large underwater cavern known as the Cathedral because of its majestic white walls of sculptured and scalloped limestone. With visibility that can exceed 40 metres, this is one of the prettiest and most spectacular underwater sites in Australia.

**Region** Limestone Coast  
**Phone** 08 8735 1177  
[www.parks.sa.gov.au](http://www.parks.sa.gov.au)

### Ewen Ponds Conservation Park

Ewen Ponds is a series of three shallow basin shaped ponds. The clarity of the water means plants can grow underwater to a depth of about six metres, some not found growing fully submerged underwater anywhere else. You will glide along on top of the 1-1.5 metre deep channel and float past dense stands of plants and come face to face with a variety of fish. When in the ponds, look for the telltale bubbling limestone sand that indicates where the ground water rise from the bottom. At night or on a cloudy day, freshwater crayfish are seen scuttling along the pond's floor scavenging for food, while the small native fish, Pygmy Perch and galaxids, prefer to hover just below the surface.

**Region** Limestone Coast  
**Phone** 08 8735 1177  
[www.parks.sa.gov.au](http://www.parks.sa.gov.au)

### Troubridge Island Conservation Park

Troubridge Island Conservation Park is a fragile sand island and important breeding area. It is home to a large colony of Little Penguins, Black-faced Cormorants and Crested Terns. Access to the island is by guided tour only. Heritage accommodation is available in the old lighthouse keepers' cottage.

**Region** Yorke Peninsula  
**Phone** 08 8854 3200  
[www.parks.sa.gov.au](http://www.parks.sa.gov.au)

## TRAILS

### Garden Island Ships' Graveyard Maritime Heritage Trail

The southern shore of Garden Island in the North Arm of the Port River is one of the largest and most diverse ships' graveyards in the world. Containing vessels dating from 1856, the graveyard is a haven for birdlife and marine creatures. The ships are best seen by canoe or kayak. Diving is also available.

**Region** Adelaide  
[www.southaustraliantrails.com](http://www.southaustraliantrails.com)

### Wardang Island Maritime Heritage Trail

Wardang Island is a natural breakwater against the south-westerlies that buffet the western coast of Yorke Peninsula. Until 1909 there was no light on the Island and wreckings were common. The trail includes eight shipwrecks – you can travel to them from Port Victoria, however be sure your boat is prepared adequately for a minimum return voyage of 25 kilometres. Underwater plaques are adjacent to each wreck, and an underwater guide containing maps and transits is available.

**Region** Yorke Peninsula  
[www.southaustraliantrails.com](http://www.southaustraliantrails.com)

## DIVE SITES

### ExHMAS Hobart

**Region** Fleurieu Peninsula  
[www.diveexhmarshobart.com](http://www.diveexhmarshobart.com)

### Ewens Ponds

**Region** Limestone Coast  
[www.dive.southaustralia.com](http://www.dive.southaustralia.com)

### Piccaninnie Ponds

**Region** Limestone Coast  
[www.dive.southaustralia.com](http://www.dive.southaustralia.com)

### Rapid Bay Jetty

**Region** Fleurieu Peninsula  
[www.dive.southaustralia.com](http://www.dive.southaustralia.com)

### Troubridge Shoals – Investigator Strait

**Region** between Kangaroo Island and Yorke Peninsula  
[www.dive.southaustralia.com](http://www.dive.southaustralia.com)

### Wardang Island

**Region** Yorke Peninsula  
[www.dive.southaustralia.com](http://www.dive.southaustralia.com)

### Whyalla

**Region** Eyre Peninsula  
[www.dive.southaustralia.com](http://www.dive.southaustralia.com)

### Port Lincoln

**Region** Eyre Peninsula  
[www.dive.southaustralia.com](http://www.dive.southaustralia.com)

### Nuyts Archipelago

**Region** Eyre Peninsula  
[www.dive.southaustralia.com](http://www.dive.southaustralia.com)

### The Zanoni Shipwreck

**Region** Yorke Peninsula  
[www.dive.southaustralia.com](http://www.dive.southaustralia.com)

**South Australian Dive Website**  
[www.dive.southaustralia.com](http://www.dive.southaustralia.com)

**exHMAS Hobart**

Call the Yankalilla Visitor Information Centre on 08 8558 2999  
[www.diveexhmashobart.com](http://www.diveexhmashobart.com)

For information on:

**Adelaide's Underwater Heritage Trail,  
Investigator Strait Maritime Heritage Trail,  
Kangaroo Island Maritime Heritage Trail,  
Port Elliot Maritime Heritage Trail,  
Southern Ocean Shipwrecks Trail,  
Jervis Basin Ships' Graveyard Maritime Heritage Trail  
and River Boat Trail**

visit [www.environment.sa.gov.au/heritage/shipwreck\\_trails.html](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au/heritage/shipwreck_trails.html)

**Trails SA**

[www.southaustraliantrails.com](http://www.southaustraliantrails.com)

**Department for Environment & Heritage**

Phone 08 8204 1910

[www.environment.sa.gov.au](http://www.environment.sa.gov.au)

**South Australian Visitor & Travel Centre**

18 King William Street, Adelaide SA 5000

Phone 1300 655 276

[www.southaustralia.com](http://www.southaustralia.com)

The South Australian Visitor & Travel Centre can give you more information on the regions, and make tour, transport and accommodation bookings for you. They also have a range of South Australian Experience brochures including: Adventure, 4WD, Wildlife, Fossils, Geology and Caves, Conservation, Fishing, Ecotourism, Flora, Cycling, Diving, Astronomy, Cruising the Coast and River, Birdwatching, Aboriginal and Walking.



When travelling, look for this symbol as your guide to finding tourism businesses that have achieved national accreditation for having the highest standards of consumer service and business practice.



Look for this logo which demonstrates a commitment to sustainable tourism practices when selecting nature based accommodation, nature based tours or attractions. The ECO logo is a symbol of ecotourism best practice to ensure you receive both a memorable and enjoyable ecotourism experience.



The South Australian Tourism Awards recognise and reward the State's most outstanding operators.

