



Outback South Australia

Includes →

FLINDERS RANGES	132
Southern Ranges	132
Quorn	134
Flinders Ranges National Park	135
THE OUTBACK	137
Coober Pedy	138
Oodnadatta Track	140
Birdsville & Strzelecki Tracks	141

Best Places to Eat

- Woolshed Restaurant (p136)
- Quorn Cafe (p134)
- Wilpena Pound Resort (p136)
- Outback Bar & Grill (p140)

Best Places to Sleep

- Rawnsley Park Station (p136)
- Quorn Caravan Park (p134)
- North Star Hotel (p133)
- Down to Earth B&B (p140)
- Marree Hotel (p141)

Why Go?

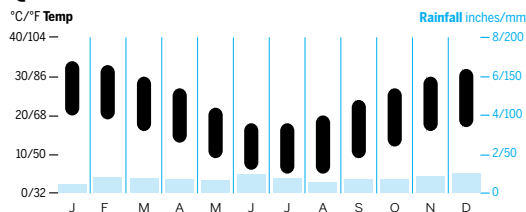
If you want to experience Australia's astoundingly large outback, wheeling into the Flinders Ranges in South Australia is a great way to start.

Approaching the Flinders Ranges from the south, the wheat fields and wineries of SA's midnorth district give way to arid cattle stations beneath ochre-coloured peaks. This is ancient country, imbued with the Dreaming stories of the Adnyamathanha people. Emus wander across roads; yellow-footed rock wallabies bound from boulder to boulder.

Trucking further north on the Stuart Hwy, the *real* desert shows its face: a sun-ravaged visage of red sand, spinifex and bullet-straight ribbons of tarmac, running for hundreds of kilometres between quirky outposts of civilisation like Coober Pedy, Woomera and Marree. And if the highway is still too 'city' for your tastes, the legendary Oodnadatta, Birdsville and Strzelecki Tracks stir up plenty of desert dirt.

When to Go

Quorn



Apr–May Sun-baked desert colours shimmer as things cool at the end of autumn.

Jun–Aug Winter is peak season here: mild temperatures, clear skies.

Sep–Oct Native wildflowers bloom in the Flinders. Last chance to hit the outback before 35-degree days.



Outback South Australia Highlights

1 Mt Remarkable National Park (p133)

Exploring gorgeous gorges and scenic slopes via meandering tracks.

2 **Melrose** (p133) Cycling single-track trails then sinking a cold beer at the North Star Hotel.

3 **Quorn** (p134) Checking out the Wild West vibes.

4 **Ikara (Wilpena Pound)** (p135) Hiking for knock-out views up at the Wangarra Lookout.