

CAMPERS INFORMATION PACKAGE



Welcome to Roonka Water Activities Centre here on the banks of the Murray River. To ensure you and all other campers have a pleasant stay please take the time to read through the following information. We ask that you please follow our guidelines and protocols during your stay with us to help keep you and your group safe and to ensure our Activities Centre can be enjoyed by all.

During your stay, the Roonka Campsite is under the control of a Host or Caretaker who is available for all campers should you need help or information about the campsite. Please follow any directions given by the Host or Caretaker. Failure to comply with the Caretaker or Hosts' directions or disregard of our guidelines and protocols may result in your camping or day entry being revoked and you being asked to leave the premises.

UPON ARRIVAL Please report to the Host or Caretaker in the cottage area on the north side of the property (past kitchen 2). Please ensure you have completed the Guest List form and all in your group have signed Participation Agreements (See your booking confirmation).

PARKING AND SPEED LIMIT The speed limit onsite is 10km/p/h and a car park is provided to minimise dust and congestion around campsites and bunkhouses. After unloading, please move your vehicle to the car park, behind the ABC bunkhouse on the entry road. If unloading boats please move your vehicle as soon as possible to allow others access and park in the car park on the roadway on the south side of the billabong.

CAMPING AND NEIGHBOURS Please only camp in the designated camping areas given to you by the Host/ Caretaker. Please respect our neighbours by keeping within the fenced boundaries and your fellow campers by adhering to the 10:30pm noise curfew. Finally, our Host and Caretaker are also your neighbours and resides onsite, please be aware that their residents and workshop area are for the Host and Caretaker and their families only.

OUR ENVIRONMENT Roonka is a bush camping site so please be aware of our uneven terrain, be kind to our native plants and animals, help us protect the environment, conserve our resources and be aware that during the warmer months snakes love hiding in the bushes and under rocks. Please take care and wear shoes at all times.

WATER Rainwater is in limited supply and available for drinking purposes only from selected taps and in the two kitchens (please check with the Host/Caretaker). All other taps supply unfiltered river water including supplies to the toilets and showers. Please consider bringing your own drinking water due to the limited and varying quality of the onsite rainwater.

RUBBISH Bins are provided throughout the campsite for use by all. Additional bins and plastic bin liners are available from the Host or Caretaker. Please assist us in recycling by placing bottles (caps off), cans, paper and cardboard in the wire baskets around the campsite (rinsed food cans and plastic containers can also be recycled).

FIRE BAN AND CAMPFIRES We love a good campfire here at Roonka and have 2 communal fire pits available to utilise. However, during fire ban season (1st Nov – 31st March) fires are prohibited. On days of Catastrophic fire danger Roonka will close to all to keep you and your group safe. On total fire ban days our Host or Caretaker will advise you on what stoves/cooking facilities may be used and where they may be set up.

BUILDINGS ON SITE Be aware that toilet and shower blocks are shared by all campsite users so please leave them tidy. Our bunkhouses, Kitchen 1 and 2 are only to be accessed by those who have booked them.

ALCOHOL AND SMOKING All campers are asked to follow responsible drinking guidelines while onsite and to consider other campers. Smoking is only permitted in the open-air at on the west side of the entry road and an ash tray must be used - available from the Host or Caretaker. Alcohol and smoking are prohibited in ALL buildings. Please note that smoking is NOT permitted on days of Catastrophic fire danger anywhere onsite. Please dispose of cigarette butts carefully in the ashtrays provided.

DOGS We love our furry friends here at Roonka which is why we let you bring them with you but please keep them on a leash at all times and out of others campers' areas. Dogs are not allowed in any of our buildings (including dorms) and please be sure to keep them on our side of the fence as we would hate to see your furry friend injured.

EMERGENCY AND FIRST AID On hearing a continuing alarm horn, please immediately go to the Emergency Assembly Area on the northern side of the campsite and await instructions from the Host or Caretaker. If the fire alarm sounds in your bunkhouse or kitchen, please leave immediately and await instructions from the Host or Caretaker. In the case of an injury on site campers are responsible for their own treatment during their stay. However, injuries of a significant nature (requiring external care or follow up), they need to be reported immediately to the Duty Host/Caretaker.

BEFORE DEPARTURE Please check out with our caretaker to ensure we have got all your details correct and all payments have been finalised.

FRUIT FLY EXCLUSION ZONE Roonka is located within the Riverland Fruit Fly Exclusion Zone. Currently only certain fruit and vegetables may be brought into the area. Random roadside checks may occur. Please call 1300 666 010 or head to <https://fruitfly.sa.gov.au/travelling-restrictions/travelling-to-the-riverland> for further information.

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Emergency services	000
Waikerie Public Hospital	(08) 8541 0555
State Emergency Service	132 500
Blanchetown Police	(08) 8540 5013
Roonka Host	(08) 8540 5104

ONSITE ACTIVITIES

PLAYGROUND Right next to the billabong and down the rise from the campground is our adventure playground. Kick back and relax while the kids jump, run, climb and have fun.

SWIMMING Jump in the water and go for a swim in the billabong or the river. PFDs are available for all guests at no extra charge upon request. We highly recommend wearing one to keep yourself safe in the water.

PADDLING Kayaking and canoeing are great fun and the backwaters around Roonka are a wonderful place to explore. On your journey you will see many of the bird species and other wildlife that call the area home. If you prefer to stick closer to home or have young children the billabong is a great place to build up your paddling skills in a safe environment. If you don't have your own kayak or canoe you are more than welcome to hire one of ours for the day. You can book one prior to your stay or chat to our Caretaker or Host once on site.

ECHIDNA TRAIL Roonka is home to a few echidnas that occasionally show their faces along our Echidna trail. Grab a pamphlet from our Caretaker or Host and wander along the trail while learning about our flora, fauna and environment.

BILLABONG A great place for all ages to have a dip and cool off. Take your kayak in for a paddle or hire one from Roonka. Watch the shrimp don't get your toes.

WATERSLIDE Come for a ride on our waterslide down on the river bank. Just have a chat to our friendly camp Caretaker or Host to get you sliding into the mighty Murray.

FLYING FOX Jump on one of our flying foxes and go zooming from one side of the billabong to the other. If you fall off you get the added benefit of cooling off in the billabong below!

FISHING Roonka is a great place to fish. Whether it's yabbying in the billabong, fishing off of the bank or one of our pontoons or in a boat. Hopefully you will come back with some dinner.

RIVER AND BOAT LAUNCH ACCESS Camping on the banks of the Murray comes with its perks like water skiing and tubing. Feel free to bring the boat along and make use of the boat launching area and spend the day out on the water. All we ask is that you leave the jet skis at home and let us know if you are bringing a boat (we limit the number of vessels at Roonka to keep our visitors safe).

LOCAL AREA

While you are with us why not check out the local area. The Riverland is a gorgeous region with much to offer and Roonka is conveniently located for you to be able to head out and explore some of the local attractions.

BLANCHETOWN is the home to Lock 1 and is the closest town to Roonka - just a short 10-minute drive away. You can wander along the old Blanchetown bridge to get a better view of the lock or drive to the Griffens Marina and admire the array of houseboats or around to the Paisley Lookout.

MORGAN If you head North from Roonka, after about 30 minutes you will hit the town of Morgan. Here you will find the PS Canally and what was once the longest inland Wharf in the Southern Hemisphere. Head to the Morgan Museum or to the old tea rooms which now house the Morgan craft shop. You can wander along the Morgan Historical walk or up to the Billy Goat Hill Lookout to take in the amazing view of the limestone cliffs and the River Murray.

WAIKERIE One of the larger towns on the Murray River. Waikerie is located 35 minutes from Roonka and is home to some spectacular silo art as well as the Riverland Citrus fruit industry. It is the best place to stop for some shopping or a trip to the bakery or you can spend some extra time and head to the Rainmoth Gallery or the Riverglen View Art Studio & Gallery. If your love a round of golf then head to the Waikerie Golf and Country Club or if walking is more your thing then the Hart Lagoon walking trails are for you. If you have the time to spare you can even jump on one of the cruises on offer by Rivergum Cruises.

CADELL is one of the smaller towns on the Murray and is about a 40 minute drive from Roonka (just past Morgan) You can go for a wander around the towns wetlands or visit the museum. If you are there at the right time of year you can visit the Cadell Harvest Festival and see the giant pumpkins in the Murray River Giant Pumpkin Competition.

CONSERVATION AND NATIONAL PARKS The Riverland boasts some stunning flora and fauna and the local parks give you plenty of opportunities to check this out. Just West of Blanchetown **Brookfield Conservation Park** is a sanctuary for a wide variety of birds and native animals. You can even jump on one of the 3 self-drive tracks to explore the park. One of the other local parks is the **Morgan Conservation Park**. located on near Morgan, this park is filled with lagoons and River Red Gums and is a great place to go for a wander, drive or spend an afternoon fishing. Meanwhile, if birdwatching is your thing then **Gluepot Reserve** is the place for you. Approx. 50km North of Waikerie, Gluepot is filled with an array of unique bird species and walking trails. It is easy to spend the day wandering the park. Finally, If you are more interested in the Indigenous history of the area be sure to visit **Ngaut Ngaut Conservation Park** South of Blanchetown. The traditional landowners (the Nganguraku people) will guide you through the park and give you some insight into their culture and history. [Ensure to book a tour ahead of time though.](#)

FOOD AND WINE There are many places to explore across the Riverland that boast some of the best food and wine in SA has. **Illalangi Gourmet Foods** in Waikerie is locally owned and brings together a range of local foods and products. Located close by, **Viewpoint Café** overlooks the Murray River and is a great place to stop for a quick coffee, some takeaway or to enjoy a meal. While further down the River **Caudo Vineyard** is a favourite of many and is located just out of Cadell. Stop in to pick up some of their famed sangria or stay for a wood fire oven pizza and a spot of wine tasting on the banks of the Murray. **Burk Salter Wines** is a boutique Cellar Door that are located just out of Blanchetown. They offer a great wetlands tour on a restored 1927 Chevrolet Truck as well as some great wine tasting.