From  
**\$4,559** NZD

Single Room

\$5,603 NZD

Twin Room

\$4,559 NZD

Prices valid until  
30th December 2022**8 days**

Duration

**South Australia**

Destination

**Level 1 - Introductory to  
Moderate**

Activity

## Small group holidays to Adelaide and surrounds

Aug 07 2022 to Aug 14 2022

### Small group tour of Adelaide city and surrounds

The state capital of South Australia is Adelaide city. Contemporary Adelaide and the surrounds of the Fleurieu peninsula and Barossa Valley make for a refreshing destination to visit as the size and scale of



the city against Melbourne and Sydney.

***This, like all Odyssey Traveller small group tours is limited to 12 people.***

Our small group Adelaide tours spends 8 days in Adelaide city and the surrounding area including the Adelaide hills, the Barossa Valley and the McLaren Vale Wine Region, the Fleurieu peninsula and the Murray river. Each day of our Adelaide tours, the group learns about and visits a particular part of Adelaide city and surrounding area. There are a lot of things to do in Adelaide and the surrounding area and the itinerary reflects this. The full day tour arranged including a Murray river cruise and wine tasting with cellar door visits and a wine tour at selected wineries. Our small group Adelaide tours for seniors seeking to enjoy their holidays to Adelaide city, has a maximum group size of 12 travellers including couples and solo travellers . The program aided by your tour guide, delves extensively not only into the history of the Adelaide CBD but also historic Port Adelaide as well. To tour South Australia and learn about the history of the state, then these small group guided holidays to Adelaide are a great program to start with.

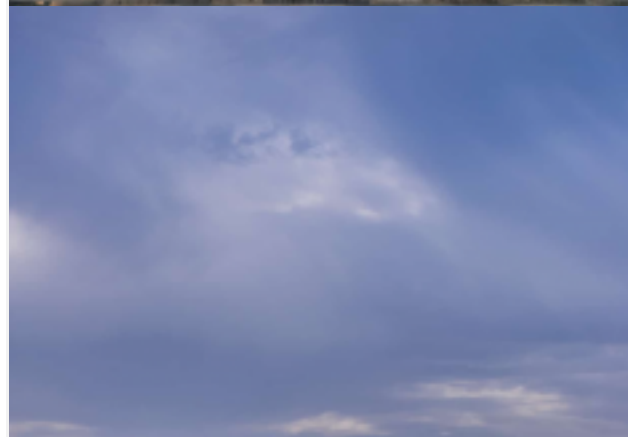
## Early history of Adelaide City

Before Europeans arrived, the Kurna people lived in the Adelaide area. The Indigenous Australians of Southern Australia called the Adelaide area Tandanya, which means the Place of the Red Kangaroo. However, in the early 1830s the British drew up plans to settle this region of Southern Australia. It was planned that the new colony in South Australia would be of “free people” not convicts. Surveyor-general William Light selected the site for the capital of the new colony in December 1836. Adelaide was a planned city and it was named after the wife of King George IV. Adelaide ‘s CBD was laid out as an orderly grid, bordered by North, South, West and East terraces, with King st as the main thoroughfare in the city .

The first governor of the new colony was Captain John Hindmarsh who landed on 28 December 1838. At first the settlers were British or Irish but in the mid-19th century it was predominately a German settlement.

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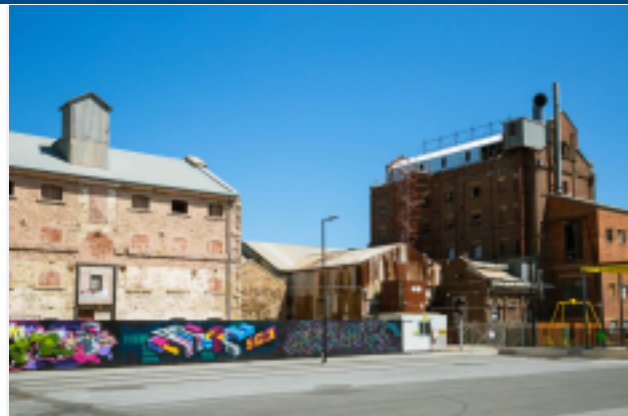
Meanwhile in 1840 Adelaide was incorporated (given a corporation). It was the first city in Australia to be incorporated. The first mayor of Adelaide was James Hurtle Fisher. Also, in 1840 The Royal Adelaide Hospital was founded. In 1840 Adelaide had a population of over 2,000. By 1850 Adelaide had a population of over 14,000. In 1900 Adelaide had a population of 162,000.

Many famous buildings were erected in Adelaide's cbd in the 19th century. The foundation stone of Holy Trinity Church was laid in 1838. Old Adelaide Gaol was built in 1841. (It was decommissioned in 1988). Government House was completed in 1855 and St Francis Xavier Cathedral was dedicated in 1858. Ayers House was built in 1846. From 1855 to 1897 it was the home of Henry Ayers. Meanwhile Adelaide Town Hall was built in 1866. Adelaide General Post Office was built in 1867-72. It opened on 6 May 1872. (However the Adelaide cbd Post Office did not get its clock until 1875). Then in the year 1878 St Peter's Cathedral was consecrated. Edmund Wright House was also built in 1878.

## Creating the Modern Adelaide city

In 1900 the population of South Australia Adelaide was 162,000 and it was growing rapidly. As Adelaide expanded more buildings were added. Parliament House in Adelaide was built in two parts. The West Wing was built in 1889 and the East Wing was built in 1939.

In 1904 a statue of the explorer John McDouall Stuart was erected in Adelaide. In 1906 a statue of William Light was unveiled. Meanwhile amenities in Adelaide improved. The Botanic Gardens opened in 1857. Adelaide gained a gas supply in 1863 and an electricity supply in 1900. Meanwhile Adelaide Oval was established in 1871. Adelaide University was founded in 1874. The Art Gallery of South Australia Adelaide



was established in 1881.

Adelaide airport dates from 1921. The War Memorial in Adelaide was built in 1931. Flinders University opened in 1966.

Adelaide is also known for the South Australian Museum and the Migration Museum , which opened in 1986. The South Australia Maritime Museum also opened in 1986. Today Adelaide is a thriving city . Now the population of Adelaide is about 1.3 million and there are plenty of things to do in Adelaide .

## What you experience on these small group Adelaide tours & Surrounds.

To tour South Australia and Adelaide this program has three elements; the City of Adelaide tour, Fleurieu peninsula tour and Barossa Valley tour. The first day of this Adelaide city tour explores the cities settlement history including Port Adelaide and Adelaide's beaches and then the small group has a day tour each exploring individual regions around Adelaide.

### Adelaide city

So to familiarise ourselves with the city centre and some of historic buildings and superb Architecture of the Victorian era we start with a walking tour to take in the city highlights and Adelaide's main attractions for those travellers keen to learn about the history of the city. After lunch we travel to Port Adelaide and Glenelg. We familiarise ourselves this morning with a walking tour of the city with a tour guide explaining the rich history on offer in this city. This morning's tour takes us on a tram to South terrace and we walk back to take in a key Adelaide attraction, the Adelaide central market an important part of the culture of Adelaide, pausing for morning tea in a cafe. After morning tea we carry on up to North terrace into " North Adelaide " to the botanic garden, on the banks of the river Torrens, University of Adelaide, the art gallery, Adelaide museum and state library. After lunch we will leave the city centre by public transport taking the tram for a half day tour of Port Adelaide

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Historic Port Adelaide is known for its well preserved 19th-century pubs and hotels, reflecting South Australia's maritime history in catering to the sailors of trading ships. Victorian History is very present in the Port. A key location for the export of Australia's Wool clip, the port played an influential role in shipping for some 130 years until containerisation in the 1970's. There are several museums in the area, we will take the opportunity to visit the maritime history museum before taking the tram back to Glenelg for a walk on the esplanade and then return back to Adelaide city via Adelaide's beaches.

### **McLaren Vale Fleurieu Peninsula, and Victor Harbour**

Today our tour of Adelaide takes us to McLaren Vale wine region drive, Fleurieu Peninsula, and Victor Harbour. The tour leaves the city for the Fleurieu peninsula tour, we head south of the city. The tour visits the McLaren Vale wine region passing many of Australia's famous wineries. We have a guided tour of the region. Stops at Sellicks Beach and Rapid Bay are included. At Cape Jervis where the ferry departs for Kangaroo Island we pause to look across the water to the island before carrying onto the Victor Harbor township and lunch. Victor Harbor and Granite island are popular day trip attractions in South Australia. If the horse drawn tram is operating, we can enjoy a ride across to the island. The tour group then travels onto Port Elliot. We visit here because in the 1850's a big future was envisioned for Port Elliot when it was earmarked in 1854 as the major Encounter Bay outlet through which the rich agricultural bounty shipped down the Murray River would be exported from Australia, instead Port Adelaide become the centre. Today, a battered breakwater is all that remains of the failed attempt to construct a safe shipping harbour.

### **Strathalbyn, Goolwa & the Murray**

Our portfolio of Adelaide, Fleurieu and Barossa valley tours has the group return again to the south east part of South Australia. This is a full day tour to several locations. The group initially visit and explore on a short walking tour, the historic township of Strathalbyn. Strathalbyn has over 30 buildings of historic interest. Of particular interest is the

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Terminus Hotel, which is the town's first building, located on Franklin Street. It was here in 1869 a dinner to honour Prince Alfred, the Duke of Edinburgh was held. From Strathalbyn we tour Goolwa, a place with an interesting back story.

Before 1837 the area Goolwa was considered for the site of the new colony's capital. A wharf was constructed in 1852 and government buildings soon followed, including a post office in 1853. However, the treacherous waters of the mouth of the Murray river made it difficult for shipping and made the town unsuitable as a major port. Goolwa nevertheless developed as Australia's first inland port (1853) built to connect the town to Port Elliot and later extended to Victor Harbor, allowing goods to move from river boats to sea boats, so that neither had to negotiate the Murray Mouth.

The spread of railways to inland Australia put an end to the river trade and Goolwa's significance as a port. With the decline of the river trade Goolwa became dependent on local farming and fishing, as well as becoming a popular destination for holidaymakers from Adelaide city and South Australia.

In 1935 a permanent barrage (called the Goolwa Barrage ) was constructed between Hindmarsh Island and Sir Richard Peninsula on the south eastern outskirts of Goolwa. The barrage separates the fresh water of the River Murray from the saltwater coming up from the River Murray mouth. The barrage was constructed to prevent the saltwater of the Southern ocean traversing further up the River Murray and polluting much needed fresh water.

After pausing for lunch in Goolwa this afternoon we take a short Murray river cruise to the mouth of the Murray River on the Coorong.

The Murray river is the third longest navigable river in the world and for Australia its longest river traversing 3 states before reaching South Australia and the end of its 2,508 Kilometre run to the Southern Ocean. We then return back to the city.

## Adelaide Hills, Stirling, Hahndorf & the Barossa Valley

Today this tour of Adelaide heads up into the Adelaide hills for our Barossa Valley tour. This is an area of South Australia famous for its fine wine. We stop at Mt Lofty in the Mount Lofty ranges. Mount Lofty was named by Matthew Flinders in 1802 during his circumnavigation of the Australia. It was first climbed by a European when the Military explorer Collet Barker climbed it in April 1831, almost six years before Adelaide was settled. Mt Lofty on a clear day the tour group will have a great view back over Adelaide city, to the Flinders range and round to Kangaroo Island over Fleurieu Peninsula and across to Yorke Peninsula and Eyre Peninsula. The tour continues first to on to Stirling. Settled in 1854, Stirling has some of the South Australia's most beautiful homes. Initially the site of orchards and market gardens, the late 19th century saw the town become popular with Adelaide city's wealthy residents who built summer houses up in the Adelaide hills to escape Adelaide's weather. We travel on a little further to Hahndorf, a small town in South Australia. Settled by 19th-century Lutheran migrants, it's known for its original German-style architecture and artisanal food. Hahndorf Academy is home to the German Migration Museum, tracing local history. North of town, the Cedars houses the studio and art of German-born landscape painter Sir Hans Heysen. We have time for morning tea before pressing on.

Our small group tour continues onto Auchendarroch House before heading north to the Barossa valley.

Auchendarroch House Built in 1860 by Scottish immigrant, Lachlan McFarlane, began its life in Mt Barker as the Oakfield Hotel, and remained as such until 1878 when it was sold to another Scotsman, Robert Barr Smith, for the sum of 3000 pounds. Robert Barr Smith, a wealthy businessman and philanthropist, chose Mt Barker and the Oakfield Hotel to be the summer house for himself, his wife Joanna and their children. He employed a young architect, John H. Grainger to build a "thirty roomed mansion in the French Renaissance of The Modern School Style" around the old hotel.

As with their other homes, the house was extensively decorated in the William Morris style with all the wallpapers, fabrics, furnishing and

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carpets by Morris & Co. The original hand-blocked “Spring Thicket” wallpaper still adorns the Ballroom (formerly the Drawing Room) today. Shortly after completion Barr Smith named it “Auchendarroch”. Auchendarroch derives its origins from the Scottish-Gaelic term “holy place of the oaks”. A visit to Auchendarroch House begins the transition to last two days visiting and learning about the incredibly lavish homes decorated in Adelaide city in the Victorian era.

The Barossa Valley is a renowned Australian wine producing region northeast of Adelaide city, in South Australia. This afternoon we explore the Barossa Valley passing along our way through towns such as Tanunda, Angaston and Nuriootpa. Shiraz grapes are the Barossa Valley wine speciality. Australia’s leading wineries are found in the Barossa valley wine region producing acclaimed Cabernet Sauvignon and Shiraz from the vine. The Barossa region with the valley, the vineyard, rolling hills all combined make for stunning scenery on this day. Our Barossa valley tours do stop for a wine tasting at a local winery . As we tour the Barossa valley, evidence of German settlers and their small settlements in the region is highlighted by place names such as Menglers hill, the stone cottages and Lutheran churches throughout the Barossa valley region.

## Arts and Craft movement and Adelaide in the Victorian era

The last two days of this tour of Adelaide are spent back in the city, where there are plenty of things to do in Adelaide! This portion of the Adelaide city tour examines the Victorian influence on the city and in particular the work of William Morris. William Morris was extremely influential on the arts and craft movement. Adelaide has the second largest collection of original William Morris & Co pieces in the Art Gallery of South Australia (the largest collection is held by the V&A in London). His biggest patron was a wealthy Adelaide family – the Barr-Smiths, who furnished 7 of their large houses with near continual shipments of rugs, stained glass windows, furniture, tapestries, wallpapers and furnishing fabrics sent from England. The Arts and Crafts period influenced many of the very large houses and their interiors designed in and around Adelaide city (Stirling in the Adelaide Hills has many of them) – Adelaide had many wealthy families at the

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time from Agricultural and mining booms in South Australia. As tends to happen amongst friends you will often find that one will influence the others, and many of the wealthy Adelaide families collected Morris & Co and designed houses in the then fashionable Arts and Crafts style. Our tour allows time to explore and Admire the Morris-designed stained-glass windows of St Augustine's Anglican Church and All Souls Church as well as a guided tour of

*Ayers House is Adelaide's finest Victorian-era home, and one of the last remaining grand 19th century residences that once lined the North Terrace cultural boulevard. At first a small cottage, the site evolved in several stages from a nine-roomed brick house built by chemist William Paxton in the early 1850s. Upon returning to England, Paxton leased the property to Henry Ayers, a fellow businessman poised to become one of the colony's most wealthy and influential politicians and financiers. From 1855 to 1897 the house was extended in stages to encompass more than 40 rooms over a two-acre property. Henry and his wife Anne created an opulent home with fine furnishings and fixtures, most imported from England, that showcased the wealth and status they had acquired since emigrating in 1840. For 40 years, the house was central to Ayers' family life and an entertainment destination for Adelaide's social and political elite.*

The tour also spends time in Art gallery of South Australia with the original William Morris works.

You can choose from one of our 10 Adelaide tours including the Fleurieu peninsula and the Barossa valley offered each year.

## Articles about Adelaide city and surrounds published by Odyssey Traveller:

- [History of Adelaide.](#)
- [Port Adelaide, the museums](#)

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- [Arts and Crafts, William Morris in Adelaide](#)
- [Fleurieu Peninsula](#)
- [The Barossa Valley and wine](#)

For all the articles Odyssey Traveller has published for mature aged and senior travellers, click through [on this link](#).

## External articles to assist you on your visit to Adelaide and South Australia:

- [Places to go: Adelaide](#)
- [Guide to Adelaide](#)
- [10 Must-visit attractions in Adelaide](#)
- [South Australian wine regions](#)
- [Fleurieu Peninsula](#)
- [A new way to hop around Australia's Kangaroo Island](#)
- [Why Adelaide deserves its place on the Lonely Planet list](#)

## Highlights

1. See and learn about the history of Victorian and contemporary Adelaide
2. Visit the McLaren Vale wine region and the Barossa Valley
3. Learn about the fascinating settlement history and influence of the Lutherans in South Australia
4. Explore and learn about the influence of William Morris and the Arts and crafts movement in Adelaide
5. Explore Fleurieu peninsula and some its coastal towns history and relationship with the Murray river

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## Itinerary

### Day 1

**Locations:** Adelaide

**Overview:**

We meet as a group in the hotel for a welcome dinner.

**Accommodation:**

Pullman Adelaide or similar

### Day 2

**Locations:** Adelaide

**Overview:**

So to familiarise ourselves with the city and some of historic buildings we start with a walking tour.

We familiarise ourselves this morning with a walking tour of the city.

This morning's tour takes us on a tram to South terrace and we walk back to take in a key Adelaide attraction, the Adelaide central market, after we carry on up to North terrace to the botanic garden, University of Adelaide, the art gallery, Adelaide museum and state library. After lunch we will leave the city by tram to tour [Port Adelaide](#) .

Historic Port Adelaide is known for its well preserved 19th-century pubs and hotels, reflecting South Australia's maritime history in catering to the sailors of trading ships. Victorian History is very present in the Port. A key location for the export of Australia's Wool clip, the port played an influential role in shipping for some 130 years until containerisation in the 1970's. There are several museums in the area, we will take the opportunity to visit the maritime history museum before taking the tram to Glenelg for a walk on the esplanade.

The group returns back to Adelaide city via Adelaide's beaches.

**Accommodation:**

Pullman Adelaide or similar

### Day 3

**Locations:** Adelaide

**Overview:**

Today our full day tour takes us to McLaren Vale wine region drive, Fleurieu Peninsula, and Victor Harbour.

The tour visits the McLaren Vale wine region passing many of Australia's famous wineries along the way. We have a guided tour of the region. Stops at Sellicks Beach and Rapid Bay are included. At Cape Jervis where the ferry departs for [Kangaroo Island](#) we pause to look across the water to the island before carrying onto the Victor Harbor township and lunch.

Exploring Victor Harbor and Granite island are popular day trip attractions in South Australia. If the horse drawn tram is operating, we can enjoy a ride across to the island. The tour group then travels onto Port Elliot. We visit here because in the 1850's a big future was envisioned for Port Elliot when it was earmarked in 1854 as the major Encounter Bay outlet through which the rich agricultural bounty shipped down the Murray River would be exported from Australia, instead Port Adelaide become the centre. Today, a battered breakwater is all that remains of the failed attempt to construct a safe shipping harbour.

**Accommodation:**

Pullman Adelaide or similar

### Day 4

**Locations:** Adelaide

**Overview:**

This is a full day tour to several locations outside the Adelaide city.

The group initially visit and explore on a short walking tour, the historic township of Strathalbyn.

Strathalbyn has over 30 buildings of historic interest. Of particular interest is the Terminus Hotel, which is the town's first building, located on Franklin Street. It was here in 1869 a dinner to honour Prince Alfred, the Duke of Edinburgh was held. From Strathalbyn the coach takes us onto

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the coastal town of Goolwa, a place with an interesting back story.

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The spread of railways to inland Australia put an end to the river trade and Goolwa's significance as a port. With the decline of the river trade Goolwa became dependent on local farming and fishing, as well as becoming a popular destination for South Australian holidaymakers from Adelaide city and the regional areas of Port Lincoln and Mount Gambier for example.

In 1935 a permanent barrage (called the [Goolwa Barrage](#) ) was constructed between Hindmarsh Island and Sir Richard Peninsula on the south eastern outskirts of Goolwa. The barrage separates the fresh water of the River Murray from the saltwater coming up from the River Murray mouth. The barrage was constructed to prevent the saltwater of the Southern ocean traversing further up the River Murray and polluting much needed fresh water.

After pausing for lunch in Goolwa this afternoon we take a short Murray river cruise to the mouth of the Murray River on the Coorong.

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**Accommodation:**

Pullman Adelaide or similar

## Day 5

**Locations:** Adelaide

### Overview:

Today this tour of Adelaide heads up into the Adelaide hills for our Barossa Valley tour.

We stop at Mt Lofty in the Mount Lofty ranges. Mount Lofty was named by Matthew Flinders in 1802 during his circumnavigation of the Australia. It was first climbed by a European when the Military explorer [Collet Barker](#) climbed it in April 1831, almost six years before Adelaide was settled. Mt Lofty on a clear day the tour group will have a great view back over Adelaide city, to the Flinders range and round to kangaroo island over Fleurieu peninsula and across to Yorke peninsula and Eyre peninsula.

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After Stirling, we travel on a little further to Hahndorf, a small town in South Australia. Settled by 19th-century Lutheran migrants, it's known for its original German-style architecture and artisanal food. Hahndorf Academy is home to the German Migration Museum, tracing local history. North of town, the Cedars houses the studio and art of German-born landscape painter Sir Hans Heysen. We have time for morning tea before pressing on.

Our small group tour continues onto Auchendarroch House before heading north to the Barossa valley.

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School Style” around the old hotel.

As with their other homes, the house was extensively decorated in the William Morris style with all the wallpapers, fabrics, furnishing and carpets by Morris & Co. The original hand-blocked “Spring Thicket” wallpaper still adorns the Ballroom (formerly the Drawing Room) today. Shortly after completion Barr Smith named it “Auchendarroch”.

Auchendarroch derives its origins from the Scottish-Gaelic term “holy place of the oaks”. A visit to Auchendarroch House begins the transition to last two days visiting and learning about the incredibly lavish homes decorated in Adelaide city in the Victorian era.

After lunch we explore the Barossa Valley a renowned Australian wine producing region northeast of Adelaide city. This afternoon we explore the Barossa Valley passing along our way through towns such as Tanunda, Angaston and Nuriootpa. Shiraz grapes are the Barossa Valley wine speciality. Our Barossa valley tours do stop for a wine tasting at a local winery. As we tour the Barossa valley, evidence of German settlers and their small settlements in the region is highlighted by place names such as Menglers hill, the stone cottages and Lutheran churches throughout the region.

**Accommodation:**

Pullman Adelaide or similar

**Day 6**

**Locations:** Adelaide

**Overview:**

The last two days of this tour of Adelaide are spent back in the city, where there are plenty of things to do in Adelaide!

This portion of the Adelaide city tour examines the Victorian influence on the city and in particular the work of [William Morris](#). William Morris was extremely influential on the arts and craft movement. Adelaide has the second largest collection of original William Morris & Co pieces in the Art Gallery of South Australia (the largest collection is held by the V&A in London). His biggest patron was a wealthy Adelaide family – the Barr-Smiths, who furnished 7 of their large houses with near continual shipments of rugs, stained glass windows, furniture, tapestries, wallpapers and furnishing fabrics sent from England. The Arts and

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Crafts period influenced many of the very large houses and their interiors designed in and around Adelaide city (Stirling in the Adelaide Hills has many of them) – Adelaide had many wealthy families at the time from Agricultural and mining booms in South Australia.

Our tour allows time to explore and Admire the Morris-designed stained-glass windows of St Augustine's Anglican Church and All Souls Church as well as a guided tour of *Ayers House is Adelaide's finest Victorian-era home, and one of the last remaining grand 19th century residences that once lined the North Terrace cultural boulevard*. At first a small cottage, the site evolved in several stages from a nine-roomed brick house built by chemist William Paxton in the early 1850s. Upon returning to England, Paxton leased the property to Henry Ayers, a fellow businessman poised to become one of the colony's most wealthy and influential politicians and financiers. From 1855 to 1897 the house was extended in stages to encompass more than 40 rooms over a two-acre property. Henry and his wife Anne created an opulent home with fine furnishings and fixtures, most imported from England, that showcased the wealth and status they had acquired since emigrating in 1840. For 40 years, the house was central to Ayers' family life and an entertainment destination for Adelaide's social and political elite.

The tour also spends time in Art gallery of South Australia with the original William Morris works.

**Accommodation:**

Pullman Adelaide or similar

**Day 7**

**Locations:** Adelaide

**Overview:**

This morning the group visits Carrick Hill is Australia's most intact twentieth-century heritage house museum and garden. Aspects of its privately-collected French, British and Australian fine and decorative arts collection are of an international standard, including masterpieces of British modernism and fine examples of seventeenth-century furniture and house fittings. The garden, grounds, house and



collections are all integral to the definition of Carrick Hill.

A very important aspect of the Haywards', and thus Carrick Hill's, influence on the cultural life of South Australia was through their patronage of the arts, in particular the visual arts. Both Ursula and Edward were keen collectors, and many works of art by contemporary European and Australian artists were on display in their home. We also have the opportunity to tour the gardens.

This afternoon the tour spends time in Art gallery of South Australia with the original William Morris works and a guide, as well as a time to view the exhibits.

This evening there is a farewell dinner.

**Accommodation:**

Pullman Adelaide or similar

**Day 8**

**Locations:** Adelaide

**Overview:**

Tour concludes after Breakfast today.

## Inclusions / Exclusions

**What's included in the tour.**

- 7 nights accomodation
- 7 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 3 dinners.
- Transport by modern and comfortable coach.
- Entrances and sightseeing as specified.
- Services of Tour Leader for the duration of tour
- Detailed Preparatory Information

**What's not included in our Tour**

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- Return Domestic airfares
- Comprehensive travel insurance.
- Items of a personal nature, such as telephone calls and laundry

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any requests for further information about this tour or any others offered by Odyssey Travel.