

## Small group holidays to Adelaide and surrounds

### Reading List

#### **The Crow Eaters: A journey through South Australia**

by Ben Stubbs

Outsiders think of South Australia as being different, without really knowing much about it. Combining his own travel across the million-square kilometres of the state with an investigation of its history, Ben Stubbs seeks to find out what South Australia is really like.

In the spirit of the best travel writing and literary non-fiction, he lingers in places of quiet beauty and meets some memorable people. Along the way he debunks most of the clichés that plague the state. Travelling to Maralinga, Ceduna, Kangaroo Island, the Flinders Ranges, Coober Pedy, the storied Adelaide suburb of Elizabeth and the once-mighty river that is the Murray, Stubbs brings this diverse state to life. He even addresses head-on the question 'Is South Australia weird?'

Readers will find it hard to resist the book's implicit invitation to take a look at places much closer to home, to take the time to drink in dramatic landscapes that are slow, deep and speckled with unforgettable characters.

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#### **Adelaide Remember When**

by Bob Byrne

Remember childhood visits to the Adelaide Zoo with a ride in the elephant cart? School lunches and a glass bottle of sun-warmed milk? Spending Saturday night at Downtown or Tilt to play arcade games or go rollerskating? Rides at Magic Mountain or Dazzleland, dances at local clubs with local bands, early TV shows and sleeping on the lawn on a hot Adelaide summer night? *Adelaide Remember When* is the city we remember, in pictures and words.

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#### **Adelaide A Brief History**

by Kathryn Gargett, Susan Marsden

On 7 February 1837 Colonel Light completed a sketch plan for the 'town of Adelaide'. This colourful

book traces how this vision grew into the attractive and comfortable city we know today.

Photographs, illustrations, a chronology and a map of 'places to find' direct readers to Adelaide's distinctive features - its Aboriginal environment, its plan, its British foundations, its buildings and the growing enjoyment of its cultural diversity.

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### **South Australia's Barossa Valley**

by Brian Lawrenson

The state of South Australia is Australia's most productive wine area. It is also rich in history and artistically, culturally and scenically wonderful. This is the story of a couples exploration of the capital city, Adelaide, then follow them as they spend seven days exploring three of the most developed wine regions: the Barossa Valley, Clare Valley and the McLaren Vale. Their journey starts on The Ghan train from the centre of Australia and ends as they travel on the Indian Pacific intercontinental railway across Australia.

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### **Conversations with winemakers: Barossa Valley and McLaren Vale, South Australia**

by Christopher Barnes

The story of the Barossa Valley and the McLaren Vale in South Australia told through the voices of winemakers.

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### **Cry Me A River: The Tragedy of the Murray-Darling Basin**

by Margaret Simons

The Murray-Darling Basin is the food bowl of Australia, and it's in trouble. What does this mean for the future - for water and crops, and for the people and towns that depend on it?

In *Cry Me a River*, acclaimed journalist Margaret Simons takes a trip through the Basin, all the way from Queensland to South Australia. She shows that its plight is environmental but also economic, and enmeshed in ideology and identity.

Her essay is both a portrait of the Murray-Darling Basin and an explanation of its woes. It looks at rural Australia and the failure of politics over decades to meet the needs of communities forced to bear the heaviest burden of change. Whether it is fish kills or state rivalries, drought or climate change, in the Basin our ability to plan for the future is being put to the test.

"The story of the Murray-Darling Basin ... is a story of our nation, the things that join and divide us. It

asks whether our current systems - our society and its communities - can possibly meet the needs of the nation and the certainty of change. Is the Plan an honest compact, and is it fair? Can it work? Are our politics up to the task?"

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## **The Ship That Never Was: The Greatest Escape Story Of Australian Colonial History**

by Adam Courtenay

### **The greatest escape story of Australian colonial history by the son of Australia's best-loved storyteller**

In 1823, cockney sailor and chancer James Porter was convicted of stealing a stack of beaver furs and transported halfway around the world to Van Diemen's Land. After several escape attempts from the notorious penal colony, Porter, who told authorities he was a 'beer-machine maker', was sent to Macquarie Harbour, known in Van Diemen's Land as hell on earth.

Many had tried to escape Macquarie Harbour; few had succeeded. But when Governor George Arthur announced that the place would be closed and its prisoners moved to the new penal station of Port Arthur, Porter, along with a motley crew of other prisoners, pulled off an audacious escape. Wresting control of the ship they'd been building to transport them to their fresh hell, the escapees instead sailed all the way to Chile. What happened next is stranger than fiction, a fitting outcome for this true-life picaresque tale.

*The Ship That Never Was* is the entertaining and rollicking story of what is surely the greatest escape in Australian colonial history. James Porter, whose memoirs were the inspiration for Marcus Clarke's *For the Term of his Natural Life*, is an original Australian larrikin whose ingenuity, gift of the gab and refusal to buckle under authority make him an irresistible anti-hero who deserves a place in our history.

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## **The Kangaroo Islanders: A story of South Australia before colonisation 1823**

by W. A. Cawthorne

Written in the mid-1850s before any official or more orthodox history of the South Australian colony had appeared, *The Kangaroo Islanders* is one of the few colonial novels that represents in fleeting glimpses some of the improvisational and interactive encounters between the colonisers and the colonised on the edges of the island continent.

A remarkable and colourful book, this novel represents life on Kangaroo Island in the period between 1802–1836. Rick Hosking has annotated the book extensively with absorbing historical information and fascinating details of personalities and events, making this new edition of *The Kangaroo Islanders*

a delight for both fiction fans and history buffs. And art lovers too, for the book includes pages of many of W.A. Cawthorne's best watercolours, reproduced in colour.

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