

South Australia, Adelaide beaches, Kangaroo Island and The Barossa Valley - Mandy visited in January 2014

The temperatures may have been soaring past 40 in **Adelaide** this past summer, but the combination of low humidity and beautiful clean beaches with cool water was perfect for me. My husband and I visited Adelaide for a few days to experience South Australia. We spent the first 3 days staying in **Glenelg at The Stamford on the beach**. The Stamford is a bit tired, but perfect for a family beach holiday. The golden sand beach is long and safe and dominating the hotel front is the Pier which is covered with people daily. The Jetty Road area near the beach has many great cafes for breakfast and lunch. The area we enjoyed for dinner was the Marina Pier a 5 minute walk from the hotel, which has numerous restaurants to choose from. We really enjoyed '**Sammy's on the Marina**' chosen for its great seafood menu and '**Zucca**' which was the best Greek restaurant I've been to. We ventured out of Glenelg and visited the beaches along the coast. Our favourite would have to be Port Noarlunga about a 20 minute drive south of Glenelg. This beach also has a Pier and a man-made reef which was used for diving and snorkelling. With the hot Sunset happening late in the evening many people were in the water until late, cooling off. We would go back to Adelaide in the future for a longer beach holiday, but would be prepared with beach tent for sun-cover.



Glenelg



Port Noarlunga

The next 2 days we spent on **Kangaroo Island** or **KI** as the locals refer to this amazing island. KI is south of Adelaide with 509km of Coastline & 155km from the East Coast to the West Coast. With native bush land, wildlife, adventure & exploring, white pristine beaches, local wines and sunsets all on your doorstep.

"There really aren't enough adjectives to accurately describe the beauty of Kangaroo Island. In fact, words can almost spoil the moment. Even photos don't do this wildly gorgeous destination justice".

Isaac Bober, Symmetry, Australia

We stayed at a small hotel at Penneshaw, close to the ferry terminal and the local pub, which really was the only place to eat. For a more luxurious stay we would recommend [The Southern Ocean Lodge](#). We took our rental car over on the car ferry from Cape Jervis, which I would recommend as a great way to reach KI. To get to most places you need to drive and the distances are big, as this isn't a small island. The wildlife is everywhere, even on the roads, so driving carefully is essential. I think for me nothing beats seeing animals in the wild and this is where you really see the native animals of

Australia living in their own environment, especially being able to walk along the gum trees and see Koalas snoozing. The coastline of KI is not only huge, but goes from serene beaches to dramatic, rocky outcrops and cliffs.



Baby White Kangaroo



Amazing Rock Shapes

The last 2 days of our holiday we spent in the **Barossa Valley**. We stayed at ['The Louise Barossa Valley'](#). Situated in the heart of the Barossa wine country. This luxury accommodation offers a range of suites, which are beautifully designed with private space, generous ensuites and amazing vineyard views. We had the added luxury of a suite with an outdoor shower, which was fantastic in 43 degree heat. We visited a few of the well-known vineyards, **Wolfblass, Grant Burges, Seppeltsfield** etc. We also made a visit to **The Barossa Valley Estate** which now has a Kiwi connection, as it is owned by **Delegates**. A visit to **Maggie Beers Farm shop** is essential. If you are there around 2pm there is a cooking demonstration daily.

We spent 30 minutes flying over the Barossa Valley in a Helicopter, which is really is a great way to get a good picture of the area. Billy-Jo our pilot comes from a family of helicopter pilots who run the only service in the area from home.

The Louise has an internationally respected restaurant, **'The Appellation'**, which is very popular so booking early is a must. We dined here one of the nights and also dined at **'1918 Bistro & Bar'** in the local town, Tanunda. The Barossa is beautiful and offers a great many things to do and see for both those who interested in Wine and those who aren't so much.



The Louise