

Editorial: Renmark

Renowned as the eastern gateway to South Australia, Renmark is an easy three hour drive from Adelaide along the Sturt Highway where you can't help but notice the change in landscape as you get that little bit closer.....the mallee scrub turns to lush, green and fertile irrigated land that runs as far as the eye can see, lined with grape vines, almond trees, citrus and stone fruit to name a few.

Whether you're living the Australian dream on the road, looking for a long-weekend family adventure or a romantic couples getaway, Renmark is a destination for everyone and with a variety of accommodation to match, you really will be spoiled for choice. If you're a lover of nature, the local National Parks & low cost Recreational Vehicle (RV) camps offer peace & tranquillity to sooth the soul or maybe you'd prefer to float your days away aboard a houseboat stay. The options are plentiful for self contained apartments or hotel motel rooms within easy walking distances to local dining venues. Boasting three family friendly caravan & holiday parks there are options for every budget and every travellers' desires. If you're looking for the perfect romantic escape the world class luxurious retreats will have you immersed in ultimate bliss. We recommend you allow yourself at least 4-5 days to truly absorb the beauty of Renmark and explore all there is to discover.

Settled in 1887, Renmark was established as the first irrigation colony in Australia by two Canadian brothers, The Chaffey Brothers. Their home, Olivewood Historic Homestead and much of the irrigation infrastructure has stood the test of time and continues to contribute to the vibrant and expansive town we see today.

The Murray River is the heartbeat of our riverside town. As locals, we love seizing any opportunity to get out on the river and you too can soak up some river time while visiting.... Bringing your own boat along? Perfect! If not, our friends at Riverland Boat Hire, will have you sorted and you'll be in the tinny exploring the unique and extensive network of creeks that wind their way in and out of the main Murray River, paddling the backwaters or behind the back of a boat - skiing, boarding or tubing in no time. Over the warmer months the number of river users swell, as do the squeals of pleasure and laughter that echo from the river with boats towing the young (and not so young) at heart up and down the waterway with agility and enthusiasm. If you'd prefer for someone else to be the Captain, sit back and let Renmark River Cruises get you out on the water with one of their leisurely cruises. Time your visit right and enjoy a ride on the historic Paddle Steamer Industry, where you can step back to the bygone era and cruise the majestic Murray River, hear the unique sounds of the paddle wheel hit the water, the hiss of steam and see the woodfired boiler being stoked, taking you back to the time when Renmark was a bustling river port. Of course, you could wrap it all up and truly immerse yourself in nature with the award winning Murray River Trails, where the guides will have you discovering our diverse wildlife, spectacular scenery, topping it off with our indulgent local food and wine.

If you're looking to explore a little more of the river, a self-paced houseboat holiday may be just the thing and after some detailed operating instructions, you're ready to captain your own river adventure! Renmark boasts the largest fleet in the state, with

some of the most modern houseboats on the river at your fingertips. Whether it's the stories around the campfire shared amongst friends, the picturesque sunrises as they peak through on a foggy morning, trying your luck by throwing a line in or some fun in the sun out on the water. A houseboat holiday is a unique experience, no matter the season.

Food, glorious food! Our local producers will make tasting your way around Renmark so inviting... Within a short drive from town, you can experience locally roasted coffee, almonds in all flavours, gin amongst the roses, wineries including the regional wine centre & tours from the vine to wine with the winemaker himself, distilleries producing brandy, gin (and a violet one at that), vodka, rum and whisky and our iconic craft brewery set in a historic woolshed on the rivers edge.

The richly coloured golden limestone river cliffs are a must see! Headings Cliff, is one of the most photographed and iconic views in the region and perfect at any time of day for that 'insta' worthy shot or a selfie or two!

With all this and so much more, Renmark sure is a place of endless discoveries!