

PORT PIRIE

Port Pirie is a small city located in the Mid North region of South Australia and is only 223kms north of Adelaide, the state capital. Port Pirie is known as the city of opportunity and has a rich history and industrial heritage.

A beautiful holiday destination with extensive town history, social events, shopping and much more. There's something for everyone.

Let's plan your Port Pirie adventures!

There is so much to see and do in Port Pirie! Things to consider when booking your holiday are the town's many events that are organised by our locals throughout the year. The Port Pirie Markets are held on the second Sunday of the month, with a lot of local produce and unique products for sale.

If you chose to visit in August, you will catch our Port Pirie SALA (South Australian Living Artists) Winter Festival, an annual arts and cultural event. It is a must-see event for art lovers, families, and anyone who wants to experience the unique atmosphere and creative energy of the festival.

If visiting in September, you can head along to the annual Smelter's Picnic, held on the last Wednesday of the month. The picnic features a range of family-friendly activities and entertainment for all ages, including live music, dancing, games, and competitions. Visitors can also enjoy a range of food and drink options, unique local entertainment, rides, side show alley, and show bags.

Day 1:

And so, the Adventure begins!

We encourage you to arrive before lunch, mid-morning is preferable to make the most of your stay.

The Port Pirie Visitor Information Centre, located within the Cultural Precinct, is a great place to start your visit to Port Pirie. The centre provides a wealth of information on the local area, including tourist attractions, accommodations, restaurants, and events. The staff at the Port Pirie Visitor Information Centre are a great resource for visitors looking to learn more about the region and make the most of their time in Port Pirie.

The Cultural Precinct is so much more than tourism information, there are in-house attractions including Shakka the Great White Shark exhibition. This exhibition allows you to become up close and personal with a 5.5 metre replica of a Great White Shark that quickly became part of Port Pirie's history in 1998. Come and see Shakka, learn about the history of her arrival and view pictures of the day she entered local legend.

For the over 12s, experience the thrill of shark cage diving without the fear of meeting a real-life Shakka in the water. Try the Virtual Reality Shark Cage Diving, a realistic and spine-chilling 360-degree experience that will keep you on the edge of your seat. Enjoy the excitement, anticipation, fear, and relief that you don't have to face a real-life shark. Don't miss out on this heart-pumping adventure!

Calling all young art lovers! While visiting the Precinct, drop into the Port Pirie Regional Art Gallery, where you will find a diverse range of exhibitions throughout the year, including paintings, sculptures, photography, ceramics, and textiles. Enjoy the colourful and vibrant

artwork on display, see unique sculptures up close, and learn about different artistic styles and techniques.

From the Visitors Centre, head down to the boat ramp and take a short stroll to grab some of our town's famous hot chips from Happy Birds Chicken shop. Happy Birds chips are the stuff of local legend – they are unique fat chips served with a special chicken salt. You won't find chips like these anywhere else in the world! Wander down to Solomontown Beach to enjoy your lunch as you take in the spectacular Flinders Ranges. If you enjoy a swim and the weather is right, the beach has a safe inlet for swimmers to enjoy or perhaps just relax on the beautiful lawn areas. Be sure to keep a look out for the group of swans often seen in the area, which are sure to delight the whole family.

After lunch, unwind while the kids enjoy the numerous attractions of the Solomontown Beach playground. Bring along the kids bikes or skateboards and take a stroll to the state-of-the-art skate park, where they can showcase their skateboarding or BMX skills. Brought your family's kayaks? Paddle along the Port Pirie River at your leisure, taking in the beautiful surrounds of the Southern Flinders Ranges and stop off at one of the many scenic spots along the way.

While you're down this end of town, stop in at Baker Bear's Bakery and enjoy a milkshake, coffee or one of their many show case cakes, cream buns or donuts. Then wander across to 'The John Pirie Bridge' or what the locals refer to as 'The Bridge to Nowhere'. The John Pirie Bridge will show you a spectacular view of Port Pirie and the Flinders Ranges from a different angle. Don't forget to come back and see this unique view at night when the city centre and Smelter light up.

Ready for some down time before the sun sets? Let's check you in to your accommodation.

Brought your own accommodation and just need to park it? Take your wheels to Port Pirie Beach Caravan Park (pet friendly) or the CMCA RV Park.

Prefer a hotel instead? Book a room at the John Pirie Motor Inn or Flinders on Main, just 2 of our great affordable accommodation options.

If you're travelling with your four-legged friend, be sure to make use of the dog park, where you can let your pet run free in a very large, fenced dog park. Let your pet run free!

Now you're all checked in, what's for dinner?

Take the family to the Sporties Tavern. The Sporties Tavern has wonderful indoor and outdoor dining areas and often has live music to follow. The recently upgraded dining area includes comfortable booths with plenty of room for the family to enjoy their meals, and an outdoor seating option. It has a kid's menu and a private play area with plenty of games to keep the kids busy and entertained while you relax. No matter the night of the week, the menu has many dishes to offer.

Day 2:

Enjoy a bit of exercise? Why not kick the day off with a Parkrun! Memorial Park Parkrun is a must go, organised by local volunteers, all are welcome. Parkrun takes place every Saturday morning at 8.00am with the starting point at Memorial Park entrance. The early bird catches the worm!

A sleep-in or a run whichever is preferable still makes you peckish! Did someone say coffee aroma? Visit The Fam Coffee & Tea House/Black Pig Bar & Grill for a sensational breakfast including Eggs Benny, Buttermilk Pancake Stack, Waffles and many more choices.

Time to explore!

Did you know, Port Pirie has multiple museums?

To understand the history of Port Pirie, take a wander through the National Trust Museum. The building is the original Port Pirie Railway Station, built in a striking Victorian Pavilion style in 1902. The former 1882 Customs House and Central Police Station form part of the historic museum and has impeccable historic items throughout. Climb the clock tower to see a unique view of the city and take in of the sights of other historic buildings, the Smelter, and the Port. A must see during your visit is the old steam engine, which is always a hit with the kids!

Are you ready to be enriched, educated, and inspired? Let's head towards the state-of-the-art RSL Military Museum. This museum pays tribute to all Australians who served in armed conflicts and peacekeeping missions. Come and sit inside 'Huey' the Helicopter cabin to gain a real life feel and imagine life at war. Look at the informative displays of all other well preserved military history.

Moving on to 'Stories from the Road' Museum. Stories from the Road Museum is a road transport museum dedicated to the trials and tribulations of the men, women and machinery that made Australia the great country it is today. The site also features the AR Kent Heritage Garage and Lizzie's Collectables and Curios Museum. So many wonderful things to see and lots of history for everyone to enjoy.

What a jam-packed day so far! Time for lunch! Head to the city centre and choose from one of our many cafes for lunch. All have a wide range of menu choices and daily specials to keep you fed for days!

Anyone for mini golf?

As one of only three indoor mini golf facilities in South Australia, Par Tee HQ offers a unique experience for visitors of all ages. Take on the course for a few rounds of indoor golf or unwind with a cup of coffee and snacks while the kids enjoy the fun. And don't worry about leaving the little ones out - Par Tee HQ has a free play area for children under five. With something for everyone, Par Tee HQ is a must-visit destination in Port Pirie.

Dinner time! Book into Carn Brae for delicious homemade wood fire pizzas. Carn Brae is a stylish, beautifully restored, heritage listed venue, built circa 1904. It has been beautifully restored to its historical magnificence and is decorated in modern vintage style, having been lovingly renovated, filled with beautiful photo opportunities. As you relax in the informal dining area while your pizzas are cooking, the kids will delight in watching the multitude of colourful fish swimming around in the pond.

After dinner, take a short walk to City Park in the centre of town and enjoy the City Park Projection Light Show. Spread out a blanket on the lawn, sit back and enjoy the colourful stories and tales being projected on the side of one of the town's historic buildings. With changing themes such as Anzac Day, Christmas, local history and art work, the light show is an engaging and entertaining experience for all. The projector can be seen nightly from sunset until around 10pm.

Day 3

Start the day at Cafe One 2 Four – with its welcoming atmosphere, delicious food and drinks, and friendly service you will enjoy range of breakfast made using (where possible) locally sourced and organic ingredients. The cafe also offers a range of vegetarian and gluten-free options to cater to all dietary requirements.

After breakfast, it's time for a short 10-minute drive to Napperby, where you will enjoy a bushwalk into Napperby Gorge along the Napperby Creek. The walk winds through a picturesque bushland setting, with views of the surrounding hills and countryside.

Next up is a drive to the Wirrabara Forest picnic grounds. Follow the Forest Road up towards the Bluff Lookout – a spectacular setting that offers panoramic views of the surrounding countryside. With its stunning views, peaceful setting, and abundant wildlife, the Bluff Lookout is a must-see destination.

Back to the city centre for dinner, and with many pubs to choose from, you'll find something for the whole family! Check out the Risdon Hotel, Central Hotel, Portside Tavern or take advantage of our many take-away venues including OSOS Mexican, Indian or Fish and Chips.

Day 4

Today is your last chance to discover the history of Port Pirie!

Start your final day in Port Pirie with breakfast at Serenity Bar and Restaurant, where you'll enjoy eggs benedict, waffles, or the in-house special Serenity Stack. There is something on the menu to suit every family member!

Time to explore!

Bring a bike? Discover the beautiful scenery of the Southern Flinders Ranges on two wheels. Cycling is a popular pastime here, and there are a variety of trails to choose from. One of the best is the Port Pirie to Napperby trail, which takes you through stunning landscapes and offers some great views of the surrounding countryside.

If you prefer to stick to the roads, there are plenty of options for road rides in and around Port Pirie. You can cruise along the existing foreshore path, taking in the sea breeze and views of the Spencer Gulf, or head out into the countryside for a longer ride. Make sure to bring plenty of water and sun protection, and check the weather forecast before you set out.

Lunchtime!

If you're a seafood lover, a visit to SD Caputo and Sons is a must-do while in Port Pirie. This iconic family-run business has been a part of the local community for over 70 years and is renowned for its fresh seafood offerings. If you're looking for a quick and easy meal, SD Caputo and Sons also offers cooked fish and chips on weekdays. Their fish and chips are cooked to perfection and are a favourite among locals and visitors alike. As your holiday is coming to an end, why not take home some fresh seafood to cook yourself, ensuring that you can enjoy the flavours of Port Pirie long after your visit.

Before you head out of town, stop in at the Visitor Information Centre where you can stock up on unique souvenirs and locally produced goods to remember your time spent in Port Pirie.

Thank you for choosing to visit Port Pirie, we hope you had an enjoyable time exploring all that our city has to offer and we look forward to welcoming you back again soon.