

Adelaide

Eguide



Adelaide is, of all the Australian capital cities except Canberra (which dates from almost a century later), that which shows the greatest influence of thoughtful planning. In its centre it is the work of one man, Colonel William Light. He had first to choose a site for his capital. Despite opposition, he chose Adelaide and commenced his survey, at the junction of the present North and West Terraces, on 11th January 1837. An obelisk marks the place. The survey was completed on 10th March and the naming of the streets occurred on 23rd May 1837.

The city was named Adelaide after the Queen of the time, the consort of King William IV. Light's plan consisted of a city of one square mile, completely surrounded by park land, and with five additional small parks in its centre. That plan survives today and sets Adelaide apart from the other capital cities which, although not lacking in green spaces, seem to have had them positioned as an afterthought. In fact, Adelaide is regarded as one of the best planned cities in the world.

There are two places in particular where Light is remembered. One is at Montefiore Hill in North Adelaide. His statue was moved to this apt location so that he could have a commanding view over the city which he had created, the place and statue now being dubbed Light's Vision. The second place is his grave in Light Square, right in the heart of his city. He resigned from his position in 1838, feeling that the task assigned had been performed, but also tired of the criticism and disputes, and he died of tuberculosis, almost penniless, only a year later, on 6th October 1839, at the age of 53. On 10th October, he was buried in Light Square, and a towering monument has been erected over his grave, a tribute to all that this city owes him.

Adelaide Animal Attractions

Anstey Hill Recreation Park

This park is situated in Adelaide's north eastern suburbs, 16km from the CBD. Up to 35 species of reptile and amphibians live here with 145 species of native birds. Other native animals to be seen are echidnas, kangaroos, bats, carpet snakes, skinks and koalas. There are no visitor facilities or amenities, but, there is a comprehensive network of walking tracks.



Adelaide Zoo

This popular zoo is located in shady parklands and only walking distance from the city centre. Highlights are the South East Asian rainforest and the Children's Zoo which has a petting area and nursery. *Frome Road, Adelaide (08 8267 3255).*

Warrawong Wildlife Sanctuary

This native wildlife sanctuary was established in 1969; it is home to 100 species of birds and native mammals and is situated 25 minutes from the city. There are animal shows; self guided walks and nocturnal tours. *Stock Road, VIA Sterling (08 8370 9197).*

Hahndorf Farm Barn

At this unique farm you can hold, touch and feed the animals. Guests are free to roam around the barn and can also jump into the pens to touch and feed the many tame animals.

You can hold guinea pigs and baby chickens pat miniature horses and bottle feed lambs and goats. Located in the popular tourist village of Hahndorf in the Adelaide Hills, a thirty minute drive from the city. *Lot 100 Mount Barker Road, Hahndorf (08 8388 7289).*

Gorge Wildlife Park

This park has one of the most comprehensive collections of privately owned animals and birds in Australia. See all your favourite native animals as well as some exotic breeds such as monkeys, alligators, meerkats and otters. *Reddan Drive, Cudlee Creek (08 8389 2206).*

Cleland Wildlife Park

These beautiful parklands are situated just 12km from the city centre and offer magnificent views of Mt Lofty and the scenic Waterfall Gully. Highlights are the Ocean to Outback Interpretive Centre which is an interactive journey through South Australia's diverse landscapes. There are daily animal feeding presentations, koala close up and handling sessions and 90 minute guided nocturnal wildlife tours. *Mount Lofty Summit Road, Crafers (08 8339 2444).*

Adelaide Art Galleries

Adelaide Central Gallery

This gallery was founded in 1987 and has quickly become a prominent contemporary art gallery in Adelaide. *45 Osmond Terrace, Norwood (08 8364 2809).*

Art Gallery of South Australia

This impressive gallery holds one of the finest art collections in Australia, which are housed in a beautiful, historic building. *North Terrace, Adelaide (08 8207 7000).*

Art Images Gallery

This modern gallery is located in Norwood and features contemporary Australian art, by local and interstate artists. *32 The Parade, Norwood (08 8363 0806).*

The Jamfactory

The Jamfactory has four onsite studios that specialise in contemporary craft and design. Visitors can watch the artists in action as they create designs in glass, ceramics, furniture and metal. Located in Adelaide's West End Arts precinct. *19 Morphett Street, Adelaide (08 8410 0727).*

Greenaway Art Gallery

This large converted warehouse shows a variety of artworks including painting, sculpture and photography. *39 Rundle Street, Kent Town (08 8362 6354).*

Hill Smith Gallery

Established for twenty years and featuring two floors of exhibition space, this gallery is in the heart of the CBD. It displays contemporary artwork by local and interstate artists. *113 Pirie Street, Adelaide (08 8223 6558).*

New Land Gallery

This public gallery provides an opportunity for emerging country and regional artists to display their works with a series of exhibitions. *2 McLaren Parade, Port Adelaide (08 8444 0400).*

Adelaide Beaches

Beaches stretch all the way down the coast from Semaphore in the north, via Henley Beach, West Beach, Glenelg, Brighton, Marino, O'Sullivan Beach, Christie Beach and Aldinga Beach to Sellick's Beach in the south.

The most famous and most popular is that at Glenelg. The nudist beach is Maslin Beach, between Noarlunga and Aldinga.

Aldinga Beach

This beautiful scenic beach is located in the seaside resort of Aldinga, close to Glenelg. This beach is popular with sunbathers, families, swimmers and scuba divers. *The Esplanade, Aldinga Beach, Adelaide (08 8323 9944).*

Glenelg Beach

Glenelg is Adelaide's most popular seaside resort, located 11km southwest of the city. Its long white sandy beach is clean and safe which makes it a great beach for families and swimming, it is also surrounded by lovely picnic areas, an esplanade and many restaurants, cafes and bars.

Boomer Beach

This beach is suitable for experienced surfers due to its huge waves and strong currents. A great beach in winter for whale watching as often humpback whales can be seen from the shoreline. *Ocean Road, Port Elliot (08 8552 5738).*

Brighton Beach

This beach in the Glenelg area is another good family beach, also popular for fishing and snorkelling. *Esplanade, Adelaide (08 8229 9980).*

Henley Beach

This is one of Adelaide's most popular beaches due to its proximity to the city. A great beach for swimming, and has plenty of eateries and shops nearby. *Esplanade, Henley Beach, Adelaide (08 8463 4500).*



Adelaide Historic Buildings

Ayers House

Ayers House in North Terrace is one of the most historic of Adelaide's buildings. From 1855 until 1897, this was the home of Sir Henry Ayers, the man after whom Ayers Rock is named. He was premier of South Australia on five different occasions, but only for a total of four years, between 1863 and 1873. The house was actually built in 1846 for William Paxton, a chemist in the city, but it was purchased by Ayers in 1855 and he then lived here until his death in 1897. *288 North Terrace, Adelaide (08 8223 12340).*

Light Square

Light Square contains the grave and memorial to the man who designed this city, Colonel William Light.

Beehive Corner

This small but incredible building gained its unusual name because of its turret and beehive cement mouldings. It was built in 1895 and is a good example of neo gothic architecture. Restored in 1998, it is the entrance to the Rundle Mall in the CBD. *32-40 King William Street, Adelaide.*

Government House

This is the oldest Government house in Australia. The oldest part of Government House, the East wing, dates back to 1839. *Corner North Terrace and King William Street, Adelaide (08 8223 1655).*

Edmund Wright House

Edmund Wright House was built in 1878 as the Bank of South Australia. The ornamental work required the skills of expert craftsmen, some brought from overseas to undertake the task. The building became unoccupied in 1995, and was used as the State History Centre. It now hosts occasional functions and exhibitions. *King William Street, Adelaide*

Holy Trinity Church

This is the oldest church in South Australia. The foundation stone was laid by Governor Hindmarsh in 1838. The clock was made in 1836 and shipped from England. *North Terrace, Adelaide.*

Memorial Rock

Memorial Rock in Glenelg marks the place where Colonel Light and his team disembarked in 1836 to begin the task of searching for a site for the capital of South Australia.

H.M.S. Buffalo

In Glenelg, five minutes walk north of the town centre and close to the Sailing Club is a replica of H.M.S. Buffalo, which made the journey from Portsmouth in 1836 to bring the first settlers here. The original ship was later wrecked off New Zealand, but this replica was constructed from the original Admiralty plans. It was built here between 1980 and 1982 and is a seafood restaurant and museum. *Corner Adelphi Terrace and Anzac Highway, Glenelg (08 8294 7000).*

King William Street

King William Street, the principal street of the city, is wide and lined by some imposing buildings.



Parliament House and Old Parliament House

Parliament House is in North Terrace between King William Street and the Railway Station. The western part of this building (Old Parliament House) was constructed in 1889, but the remainder was not added until 1939.

Scots Church

The Scots Church is in North Terrace, on the corner of Pulteney Street. It was constructed in 1850 and is the second oldest church in Adelaide, known for its stained glass windows and its sanctuary furnishings.

Victoria Square

Victoria Square, in the heart of the city, has a fountain in its centre. From its southern end the only remaining tram service in Adelaide departs for Glenelg.

Old Adelaide Gaol

The Old Adelaide Gaol was opened in 1841 and operated until 1988; it is located centrally in Adelaide's parklands. Forty-five prisoners were executed here during the Gaol's period of service, including Elizabeth Woolcock in 1873, the only woman to be executed in South Australia. At first the executions used to take place outside the main gate, but later condemned prisoners were hanged on a gallows inside the Gaol. *18 Gaol Road, Thebarton (08 8231 4062).*

Adelaide Museums

Australian Museum of Childhood

This unusual and fun museum for children of all ages is located in Port Adelaide. Some of the toys date back to the 1890's. *95 Dale Street, Port Adelaide (08 8240 5200).*

Ayers House Museum

Named after this states Premier Sir Henry Ayers, is the centrally located Ayers House Museum. Victorian domestic life is displayed right through the historic house, from costume, furniture and artwork. *288 North Terrace, Adelaide (08 8223 1234)*

Bradman Collection

In part of the State Library, the South Australian Institute, built in 1861, is the Bradman Collection. Australia's most famous cricketer Sir Donald Bradman's own collection of cricketing memories are displayed here.

Bradman lived much of his life in Adelaide, and died in this city on 25th February 2001 at the age of 92. *Corner of Kintore Avenue and North Terrace, Adelaide (08 8207 7595).*

Maritime Museum

The Maritime Museum is housed in the magnificent Bond Stores which were erected in 1850 in Port Adelaide. Highlights are a full scale copy of a sailing sketch and the lighthouse that was built in 1869, where you can climb the spiral staircase to the top. *126 Lipson Street, Port Adelaide (08 8207 6255).*

Military Vehicles Museum

This museum is home to war memorabilia and military vehicles from the First World War to present day. There are numerous displays of uniforms, vehicles and radio equipment, as well as an impressive restoration workshop. *252 Commercial Road, Port Adelaide (08 8341 3011).*

National Wine Centre of Australia

Whatever you have ever wanted to know about wine you can find out here. South Australia is the wine capital of the nation and this centre promotes that fact by using interactive technology and multi media displays.

There are also plenty of Australian wines available for tasting. *Corner of Botanic and Hackney Roads, Adelaide (08 8303 3355).*

Migration Museum

This museum is dedicated to displaying and retelling the many histories and diverse cultures that have made South Australia. The main galleries of the museum take you on chronological tour of South Australia's history. *82 Kintore Street, Adelaide (08 8207 7580).*

National Railway Museum

This unique museum houses the largest undercover collection of locomotives, passenger carriages and freight vehicles in Australia. There are steam and diesel engines as well as railcars, carriages and freight wagons on display. *Lipson Street, Port Adelaide (08 8341 1690).*

Rodney Fox's Shark Museum

Rodney Fox's Shark Museum is in Glenelg, and has photographs and models of sharks and other items relating to encounters with those formidable fishes, and also various displays of nautical objects. *Glenelg Town Hall, Jetty Road, Glenelg (08 8376 3373).*

South Australian Museum

This large Museum has six floors of permanent and temporary exhibits. It displays the largest Aboriginal exhibition in the world. Other highlights are the Ancient Egypt display, rare fossils, Adelaide's astronaut Andy Thomas's space suit and life sized mammals. *North Terrace, Adelaide (08 8207 7500).*



Adelaide Parks

Adelaide Botanic Gardens
At the eastern end of North Terrace are the Botanic Gardens, founded in 1855. Bicentennial Conservatory, the largest greenhouse in the southern hemisphere can be found in these gardens, it has up to 4000 plants from Australia and Malaysia, including rainforest trees. The Botanic gardens also feature an International Rose Garden. *North Terrace, Adelaide (08 8222 9311).*

Anstey Hill Recreation Park

This park is situated in Adelaide's north eastern suburbs, 16km from the CBD. Up to 35 species of reptile and amphibians live here with 145 species of native birds.

Other native animals to be seen are echidnas, kangaroos, bats, carpet snakes, skinks and koalas. There are no visitor facilities or amenities, but, there is a comprehensive network of walking tracks.

Botanic Park

This huge park of 34 hectares is located in the Northeast Parklands, close to the zoo and Torrens River. The park is ideal for picnics and hosts many major events. *Hackney and Frome Roads.*

City Sk8 Park

Adelaide's premier skate park was opened in 2000 and is very popular with skateboarders and spectators. The park can be used day and night as it has lighting and camera surveillance 24 hours a day. *North Terrace, Adelaide.*

Elder Park

This popular city park is adjacent the River Torrens and the Adelaide Festival Centre. There is a very modern outdoor dining area, as well as a kiosk. King William Street.

Mt. Lofty Botanic Gardens

These gardens are on the eastern slopes of the Mount Lofty Ranges, less than half an hour from the CBD. They include several walking trails that cover the seven valleys in the gardens, all displaying magnificent views. *Summit Road, Crafers (08 8370 8370)*

Victoria Park

This large park is comprised of a motor sports street circuit, the Victoria Park Racecourse, plus walking, running and cycling tracks and is bordered by some beautiful stately homes. *Fullerton Road, Wakefield Road and East Terrace.*

Wittunga Botanic Gardens

These gardens have a beautiful lakeside setting and are great for picnics, family gatherings and strolling through. They are located in Blackwood. *Sheperd's Hill Road, Blackwood (08 8379 8370).*

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