

ADELAIDE

Good weather comes as standard in this cosmopolitan state capital. Sarah Reid explores a city brimming with art galleries, distilleries and artisan local produce

Why go? Once better known for its churches and convict-free status, South Australia's capital is today one of the country's hottest culinary playgrounds, with an all-star cast of chefs, winemakers, producers and distillers – the state's gins are fast becoming as popular as its superb wines. Summer in Adelaide is synonymous with cricket, with plenty of matches to catch at the Adelaide Oval in January, not to mention festivals, with the famed Adelaide Fringe kicking off in February. And, thanks to a £93.3m airport expansion currently in the works, city access will soon be smoother than ever.

What to do Surrounded by parkland, Adelaide's compact centre is ideal for exploring on foot – there's also a free tram service from the Adelaide Entertainment Centre to South Terrace. The Art Gallery of South Australia artgallery.sa.gov.au on historical North Terrace, houses a huge collection of Australian works along with an array of international pieces, with no fewer than 20 bronze Rodins. The Tandanya National Aboriginal Cultural Institute tandanya.com.au is Australia's oldest Aboriginal owned and managed arts centre, with more than 500 pieces by indigenous artists. It's impossible to leave the bustling 150-year-old Central Market adelaidecentralmarket.com.au without sampling a few morsels of local produce from its 80-odd traders. Nearby, don't miss the Adelaide Hills wine region – a 30-minute drive from the city – for its Unico Zelo cellar door unicozelo.com.au – or tastings of its excellent gin line, Applewood, made from grapes that aren't up to scratch for winemaking.

Where to stay In the West End, the stylish, monochromatic Mayfair Hotel 00 61 8 8210 8888, mayfairhotel.com.au is Adelaide's standout boutique sleep. It's rooftop Hennessy bar is a choice spot for a nightcap. In the East End, The Soho 00 61 8 8412 5600, thesohohotel.com.au has a sleek, neutral-toned vibe. There's a great rooftop pool, and the complimentary laundry is a bonus. Just west of the city centre, The Franklin Boutique Hotel 00 61 8 8410 0036, thefranklinhotel.com.au offers seven modern, black-hued rooms. Head downstairs for craft beers in the playfully

Travel information

Currency is the Australian dollar (AUD). Local time is 10.5 hours ahead of GMT. Flight time from the UK is around 21 hours.

Getting there

Emirates offers flights from London Heathrow to Adelaide Airport, with a stopover in Perth. emirates.com

Qantas also flies the route from London Heathrow to Adelaide, with one stop in Singapore. qantas.com

AVERAGE DAILY TEMPERATURES AND RAINFALL

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Min C	15	15	14	11	9	7	6	7	8	10	12	14
Max C	27	27	25	22	18	16	15	15	17	21	23	25
mm	0	0	1	1	2	2	2	2	1	1	1	1

Clockwise from top left:
Adelaide's Beehive Corner;
Unico Zelo wines; café culture;
a city tram; sharing plates at
the Summertown Aristologist;
South Australia's rugged
terrain; sunset on the coast;
suburban Glenelg; boutique
style; the Prohibition Liquor Co;
stopping for coffee; an old
post office; artisan bakes



Photos by Martin Thompson; Josie Withers; South Australia Tourism Commission; Adam Bruzzone; Meaghan Coles; Mark Roper; Tourism Australia; Greg Snell