



New Year on the Murray Princess

Murray River Magic combined with Hahndorf and the Barossa

7 Days | Tuesday 29 December 2026 to Monday 4 January 2027

Celebrate the arrival of 2027 with a magical cruise along South Australia's iconic Murray River. Begin with a relaxing stay in Adelaide before stepping aboard the PS Murray Princess, the largest inland paddle wheeler in the Southern Hemisphere. Experience a four-night river journey filled with breathtaking scenery, unforgettable experiences, and all the charm of days gone by. Glide through tranquil waters to historic riverside towns like Curnamont, Blanchetown and Sunnysdale. Ring in the New Year under the stars with a bush BBQ and celebratory dinner. Other highlights include wine tasting at Burk Salter Winery, a visit to the ancient Ngaut Ngaut Aboriginal Reserve and a tour through the picturesque Barossa Valley. With gourmet meals, unique shore excursions and warm hospitality, this is an exceptional way to see in the New Year in true Villa style.

Highlights

- Five-night PS Murray Princess Cruise
- Celebratory New Year's Eve Dinner
- Hahndorf, nestled in the Adelaide Hills
- Beautiful Burk Salter Boutique Winery
- Ngaut Ngaut Aboriginal Reserve
- Sunnysdale's classic Australian Woolshed Show
- Wine tasting in South Australia's wine country
- Farewell lunch in the Barossa Valley

Inclusions

- Pre/post tour transfers (ex Perth, WA)
- Airfares & taxes (ex Perth, WA)
- 17 meals
- 6 nights' accommodation
- Tours & attractions
- Professional Villa Tour Leader

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📞 08 9754 2026

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Your holiday itinerary (ex Perth, Western Australia)

Day 1. Perth to Adelaide (D)

We collect you from home for your flight to Adelaide. Once settled in to your hotel, we will meet for a welcome dinner.

Overnight: Majestic Roof Garden, Adelaide.

Day 2. Hahndorf and Murray River Cruising (BD)

Today we visit Hahndorf, a historic German-style village nestled in the Adelaide Hills, gain an insight into German-style architecture and artisanal food. The hills are home to picturesque wineries and rolling landscapes. This afternoon you are treated like royalty as you step foot on the prestigious Murray Princess. Mid-afternoon the Murray Princess departs historic Mannum, the birthplace of the Murray River trade and communication, and heads upriver while you enjoy a Welcome Dinner. As we cruise under floodlight to our overnight mooring at Curnamona, you may see nocturnal wildlife on the riverbank. Watch for kangaroos, hairy-nosed wombats, tortoises, egrets and many other species. An on-board entertainer provides music for the night owls. Five nights: PS Murray Princess.

Day 3. New Year's Eve on the Murray (BLD)

Daybreak and it's time for the keen photographers to be out to capture the special light and the morning movement of wildlife. Enjoy a leisurely morning and lunch cruising upriver to Blanchetown through one of 13 locks which maintain the flow and levels of the river's water. This afternoon we moor opposite the township of Blanchetown to visit Burk Salter Boutique Winery for wine tasting at the cellar door which is fitted out with beautiful red gum bars. Continuing upriver we will moor at Roonka Conservation Park and celebrate the year of 2026 and welcome in 2027 with a spectacular New Year's Eve Dinner and celebrations.

Day 4. Wake up to 2027 (BLD)

This morning you may like to join some of the crew for a scenic tender boat ride before continuing upriver. After lunch we'll reach Pelican Point where we'll turn around in the afternoon we'll enjoy a regional Riverland and Murrayland food and wine presentation in the Sturt Dining Room. Following dinner, join us for all the fun and excitement and participate in our "Murray River Cup".

Day 5. Wooldshed Show and Native Wildlife Shelter (BLD)

After breakfast we cruise downriver to picturesque Swan Reach. The town first settled in the 1850s, was originally the largest of five sheep and cattle stations in the area and is now home to native flower and fruit growers. When we arrive at Sunnyside, it's all ashore for the Woolshed Show as we recreate typical Australian woolshed history. Later we visit the Native Wildlife Shelter where some of South Australia's most interesting native animals are cared for. And then of course, there is the great Aussie Barbecue – cooked and served in a bush setting on the banks of the mighty Murray River.

Optional tour: Sunnyside Nocturnal Tour (additional cost \$20pp, advance booking available)

Day 6. Ngaut Ngaut Conservation Park (BLD)

Today the vessel cruises slowly downriver past magnificent cliffs scoured by the river over millions of years. We reach Ngaut Ngaut Conservation Park, one of Australia's most significant archaeological sites, for a step back in time – tens of thousands of years – for a guided boardwalk tour to view ancient rock carvings and to learn about Aboriginal history in the area. We return to the vessel to cruise downriver to Youngusband. Along the way, adventure seekers can also take a scenic tender boat ride.

****Optional: Bush Tucker Breakfast (additional cost \$40pp, Book in advance with Villa.)**

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D7. Younghusband to Mannum (BL)

After breakfast we reluctantly say farewell as we arrive at the Mannum Wharf. Spend the day exploring the best of South Australia's gourmet wine, food and fascinating history in the beautiful Barossa Valley. Your first stop is Jacob's Creek Visitor Centre, where you will enjoy a wine tasting while taking in the breath-taking views over the vineyards. Enjoy a vineyard lunch before enjoying a drive along the scenic Seppeltsfield Road and on through the picturesque Eden Valley. The perfect way to end your time in South Australia before your evening flight home to Perth. Upon arrival into Perth, we will see you safely home.

Note: The Murray Princess itinerary may change due to water levels. Your daily itinerary will be placed at turn down in the evening in your cabin.

Itinerary subject to change. Terms and conditions apply. Call 08 9754 2026 for details.

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Cost per person twin share (inc GST)

Price: \$ 5,275

Single option: \$ 1,615

Earn 104 villabucks



Moderate

For travellers who walk confidently and unaided. In addition to *Relaxed* requirements, expect guided walking tours that may include gentle inclines and stair climbs, some longer days, and multiple hotel changes. Access to accommodation may involve stairs, short walks to facilities and showers over baths. Walking sticks are welcome unless the tour includes overnight rail or cruising—please check with staff.

OPTIONAL TOURS

Day 5 - Sunnydale Nocturnal Tour - \$20 pp

Enjoy a real Australian wildlife experience as your hosts take you spotlighting on the remnants of the old Sunnydale station. A unique experience in comfortable, purpose-built carts will give you the opportunity to view kangaroos, wombats, foxes, bats and owls, or just view the starlit skies as you meander through the bush. Special stops along the way are included to view the spectacular night sky which is part of the River Murray International Dark Sky Reserve. Blankets and commentary are provided.

Day 6 - Bush Tucker Breakfast at Sunnydale - \$40 pp

For that special experience, Murray Princess passengers can enjoy bush tucker, combined with a traditional breakfast on the shores of the Murray River wetlands at Big Bend. Your hosts will collect you and transport you to the bush kitchen for a two course Aussie Bush Tucker breakfast. The early morning sounds of the river and its birdlife create a peaceful ambience for the start of your day, topped off with a welcome glass of bubbles.

Enhance your journey by reserving an optional tour before you depart. Simply arrange your preferred tour with our friendly Villa staff at time of booking.

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