



ARKABA STATION

Wild Bush Luxury

**MEDIA RELEASE
WILD BUSH LUXURY
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Arkaba Station Open November 1 – Wild Bush Luxury in the Flinders Ranges, South Australia.

Opening Celebration Special Offers

Arkaba Station – one of Australia’s most beautiful outback stations – opens to guests on November 1, 2009, following an extensive makeover of the historic, five-bedroom homestead. Arkaba is the newest addition to the award-winning Wild Bush Luxury portfolio of properties and experiences, which include Bamurru Plains (NT); Sal Salis Ningaloo Reef (WA) and Blue Mountains Private Safaris (NSW).

To celebrate, Wild Bush Luxury is offering guests a choice of opening specials: stay three nights and have the choice of either an additional, free night’s accommodation, or a 30-minute, private scenic flight over one of the world’s most awe-inspiring land formations, the massive geological amphitheatre of Wilpena Pound.

“Arkaba is a natural fit with our other properties. It’s a chance to stay on a working station, while the Flinders Ranges offer some classic outback scenery, fantastic geological formations and prolific wildlife. It’s obviously very different from the floodplains of the Top End and the coastal reefs at Ningaloo, however, we have retained the core Wild Bush Luxury attributes of providing an exclusive wilderness experience, supported by key luxury standards,” said Charles Carlow, CEO of Wild Bush Luxury.

Arkaba is a 60,000-acre (24,300 ha) working sheep station, located on the edge of Wilpena Pound and the Flinders Ranges National Park in South Australia. The five-bedroom heritage homestead was built in 1856 and retains its original Flinders region settler lines.

Drawing inspiration from Arkaba’s spectacular setting and its sheep station heritage, renowned local wildlife artist, Rosie Woodford Ganf has produced a very different and very ‘Wild Bush Luxury’ homestead feel, with a focus on early settler and safari style. Her natural eye and creativity brings a rustic but supremely comfortable feel to the interior, incorporating station items, local materials, and her own wildlife artwork.

In keeping with the Wild Bush Luxury philosophy, touches of luxury include supremely comfortable beds, fine dining – and some down-to-earth country hospitality, with managers, Pat and Sally Kent.

The en-suite bedrooms open on to a deep verandah with comfortable chairs – the ideal spot to take in the sunset, as the surrounding ranges take on the rich red hues of a Namatjira painting and the river red gums along Arkaba Creek vibrate with the chatter of galahs and corellas.

There are comfortable leather sofas and a log fire in the library for cool nights and a swimming pool for hot days. An open bar is available for guests and dinner is served on the terrace overlooking the garden and ranges. A purely South Australian selection of wines has

been sourced that cover all of the state's wine regions and the varieties that they are particularly known for.

The focus, however, is on immersing guests in the surrounding environment: staying at Arkaba is an insight to life on a working sheep station and into the ecosystems that support its abundant native wildlife, including emus, kangaroos, wallaroos, many bird species and the rare Yellow-footed Rock Wallaby. Arkaba's guides share their passion and knowledge on guided walks and safari drives, showcasing the spectacular natural assets of the region – and there is the option to take to the air for a jaw-dropping scenic flight over Wilpena Pound.

In keeping with the Wild Bush Luxury ethos of working in harmony with the property's natural surroundings, strong environmental practices will be followed in the operation of the business. As with its sister properties, a proportion of the bed-night revenue at Arkaba will be donated directly to the company's conservation partner, the Australian Wildlife Conservancy.

Arkaba Station opens on November 1, 2009, costing \$790 per person, per night, twin share. This includes all meals, beverages (based on a select open bar), round trip transfers by road from Port Augusta or Hawker and scheduled activities (4WD safaris, mountain biking, wildlife viewing, daily guiding). There is a minimum two-night stay.

The opening celebration specials are valid for guests staying for three nights (with a choice of a fourth night at no cost or a 30-minute, private sight-seeing flight) and for travel from November 1, 2009 to January 31, 2010, excluding December 22 to January 3, for bookings of a minimum of two adults.

For further information, visit www.arkabastation.com, www.wildbushluxury.com or call 1300 790 561.

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