

Media Release



December 6, 2023

Southern Ocean Lodge Opens on Kangaroo Island

After almost four years in the planning, design and construction, Baillie Lodges flagship property Southern Ocean Lodge has today reopened on the wildly beautiful south coast of South Australia's Kangaroo Island.

Southern Ocean Lodge's original architect Max Pritchard and his team have led the recreation of the property and have included all the features guests loved best along with some considered extras, set for a new era of travel on Kangaroo Island.

The new iteration of the globally acclaimed Southern Ocean Lodge holds almost the same footprint as the original with the Great Room taking centre stage on the island's limestone cliffs and with twenty-three luxurious suites easing along the coastline. In a deft design manoeuvre, the guest suites have been reoriented to open towards the southeast, each taking in uninterrupted views of the Southern Ocean and rolling coastal wilderness. All guest suites feature private decks, an EcoSmart fireplace and sink-in bathtub.

New to the property is the ultra-premium Ocean Pavilion, cleverly designed to offer a single four-bedroom owner's residence or two separate two-bedroom suites to create the ultimate Kangaroo Island hideaway for families and friends travelling together. The Great Room terrace now boasts a wet-edge pool, while spacious new surrounds for the Southern Spa allow for three treatment rooms, a gymnasium, sauna and hot and cold plunge pools.

Designed for a new generation of travel to Kangaroo Island and in the context of a changing climate, Southern Ocean Lodge sets new benchmarks for environmental sustainability in the tourism industry.

Clever design employs cutting-edge technologies including boosted rainwater water capture and solar power generation, smart building materials, a remote-controlled sprinkler system and a reinvigoration of the surrounding natural environment with some 45,000 biodiverse native plants propagated onsite and planted in a natural buffer from the wilderness. There's more detail on the [Sustainability Backgrounder](#) here.

Guests arriving at Southern Ocean Lodge can tune in to a virtually guided welcome via [Baillie Lodges Luxury Redefined podcast](#) which features interviews with those closest to the lodge's recreation, including Baillie Lodges founders James and Hayley, Southern Ocean Lodge General Managers Alison Heath & John Hird, architect Max Pritchard as well as local artists, winemakers and food producers - the podcast is ideal listening for guests as they commence their journey to the lodge.

Baillie Lodges founder James Baillie said the occasion to open the recreated Southern Ocean Lodge on December 6, 2024 was both a real privilege and an emotional day for the whole team.

"We feel very fortunate to be able to present the new-look Southern Ocean Lodge to the world. Hayley and I had lived and breathed the original lodge from the concept and planning stages to its award-winning reality, celebrated for its timeless design," Mr Baillie said.

"With the benefit of hindsight and learning, we saw the chance to rebuild Southern Ocean Lodge as a special chance to return the property that seemed to touch so many guests over the years and with some considered additions to take her to a next generation traveler and a sustainable future," he said.

"It's a 'full-circle moment' for us and one that brings some closure to the past, as well as an optimistic look towards the future and an even more sustainable, leading experiential tourism offering for South Australia," he said.

Baillie Lodges founder Hayley Baillie said it had been wonderful to work with the original lodge's local suppliers as well as discovering new entrants to the region, including food and beverage producers, artists and designers.

"We have a chance now to show the world the incredible depth and diversity of the regional Southern Australia and Kangaroo Island offering as it stands today and into the future, and we're looking forward to working in rewarding partnerships with local communities once again," Mrs Baillie said.

"We've been buoyed by the unwavering support of so many of our guests and the broader tourism industry for which we're very grateful, and we're thrilled to be bringing Southern Ocean Lodge back today," she said.

With the same generous inclusions as the original - all dining, the renowned open bar, five signature Kangaroo Island experiences and airport transfers - rates at Southern Ocean Lodge start at AU\$3,400 per couple per night.

For more information and to make a booking, please visit www.southernoceanlodge.com.au, email reserve@baillielodges.com.au or call the reservations team on 61 2 9918 4355.

IMAGES A selection of new images is available for download [here](#); please credit photographer George Apostolidis.

ABOUT

Baillie Lodges: Baillie Lodges is a growing portfolio of luxury lodges renowned for setting benchmarks in premium experiential travel. Set in exclusive locations of unique natural or cultural significance, the boutique properties appeal to the discerning global traveller seeking a remarkable experience. The Australia-based collection was founded in 2003 by James and Hayley Baillie and includes Longitude 131° at Uluru-Kata Tjuta, Capella Lodge on Lord Howe Island, Silky Oaks Lodge at the Daintree Rainforest, and The Louise in the Barossa Valley. Flagship property Southern Ocean Lodge on Kangaroo Island was razed in the 2020 bushfires and reopened in December 2023. In 2019, an affiliate of KSL Capital Partners acquired Baillie Lodges with the aim to further expand the unique collection of luxury lodges. The 2022 addition of Chile's esteemed Tierra Hotels group marks a continuation of the collection's foray into international waters, joining the Clayoquot Wilderness Lodge on Canada's Vancouver Island and New Zealand's Huka Lodge. Baillie Lodges' Australian properties are honoured as members of [Luxury Lodges of Australia](#). For more information, please visit baillielodges.com.au.