



Boolcoomatta Reserve, SA

COVID-19 ~ Message to Campers

Some important things for you to note in addition to the guidelines set out in the Camping Information document.

Bush Heritage continues to implement all COVID-19 government directives to ensure the ongoing health, safety and welfare of our workers and visitors.

While COVID-19 is a serious situation, with the necessary precautions and by exercising consideration for others, we will manage this challenging time while continuing our important conservation work and providing where possible, the opportunity for people to visit safely.

Please remember

- To keep abreast of the State/Territory COVID-19 regulations [click here](#).
- **Don't visit** if you are unwell or develop cold or flu like [symptoms](#) prior to your visit.
- If you become unwell with, or develop Coronavirus like [symptoms](#) (such as coughing, sore throat, runny nose, shortness of breath, loss of smell). It is important you
 - [prevent the spread](#) to others
 - depart the reserve as soon as practical, do not continue exploring the property
 - contact reserve staff as soon as possible as it's important we know of your situation and you are safe.
- If your symptoms are serious such as difficulty in breathing
 - **seek urgent medical help**, call **000** or activate your emergency device and contact reserve staff – who can provide earliest assistance and help coordinate evacuation.

Thanks for your cooperation and help during this unusual time.



Boolcoomatta Reserve, SA

Camping Information

Quick facts

Acquired: 2006 **Area:** 64,337 hectares

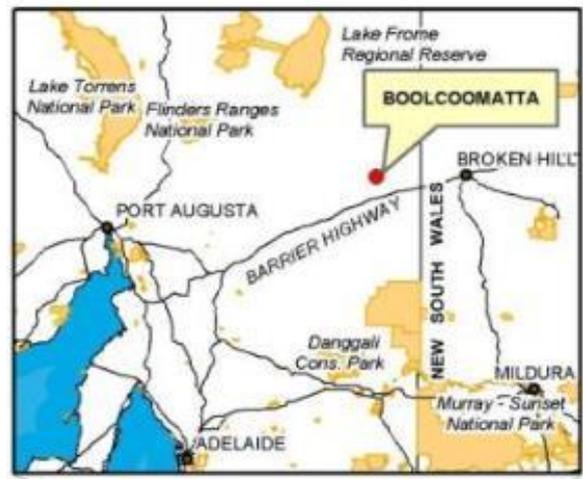
Traditional Custodians: Adnyamathanha and Wiljakali peoples

Average Annual rainfall: 199mm (extremely variable)

Temperature (mean min/max): Winter 3.3°-18°C' Summer 15°-33°C

Location: Eastern South Australia, about 100 kilometres west of Broken Hill

Camp site open: 1 June – 31 September, **bookings essential:** as sites are limited and bookings need to fit around other activities and management requirements. Please do not plan to arrive on a Sunday. To register please fill out the online registration form or for enquiries contact Katrina Blake phone: 03 8610 9124 email: visits@bushheritage.org.au



Essential: Vehicle: 4WD or AWD/SUV with high clearance. **Emergency communication equipment:** Satellite phone or EPIRB or SPOT or HF radio.

Camping fees



While there is no camping fee, we ask instead for people make a tax-deductible donation. This helps us undertake our work and maintain the visitor opportunities on this reserve. [Donations](#) can be made anytime online or by scanning the QR code with your mobile device (mobile reception required).

Location

Boolcoommatta homestead co-ordinates 31.96819°S 140.54686°E

Boolcoommatta Reserve is located in eastern South Australia, north of the Barrier Hwy and about 100 kilometres west of Broken Hill and 470km north east of Adelaide. The turnoff from the Barrier Hwy is 25km west of Cockburn and 43km east of Olary. Detailed instructions on how to get there will be provided on confirmation of your booking.

Come prepared

Boolcoommatta reserve is remote with minimal services at hand. Roads around the property are unsealed and vary from clay and sand to rugged rocky surfaces. Following rain, the reserve can be cut off until tracks are dry enough to travel on. It is essential visitors come well stocked with supplies of food, water, fuel, camping and safety equipment. Your vehicle needs to be in excellent working order.

Required Emergency Communications

Bush Heritage requires **all camping parties** to carry at least one form of emergency communication equipment with them – either a **satellite phone, SPOT device, EPIRB or HF radio**. There is no reliable mobile phone reception across the property, although for some phone providers you may chance weak reception at a few high points.

In addition to the required equipment above, a UHF radio is optional as it can be a useful form of communication on site, especially between vehicles. Boolcoommatta staff use **channel 2 duplex** across the reserve, although it has limited reception in parts of the property. This channel is also not monitored 24hrs and therefore cannot be relied upon as a form of emergency communication.

Visitor Safety

Visitors are responsible for their own safety and need to be prepared for remote travel in natural settings. You should have in place an emergency response plan. This means nominating a responsible person (usually family or friend) who will know of your travel and communication plan and expected date of safe return from the reserve. They will activate your emergency response plan should you fail to return ie contact police.

Medical and emergency services are **not** close at hand so think carefully about your actions and your safety.

We recommend all visitors have a current ambulance membership. Evacuation or search and rescue costs are not the responsibility of Bush Heritage Australia.

Vehicle Requirements

You will need a 4WD or high clearance SUV/AWD vehicle to visit this property. There may be access restrictions in place depending on road conditions at the time of your stay. **All vehicles must carry a spare tyre (ideally two or a puncture repair kit), as well as basic recovery gear**. Small trailers and off-road vans are ok, but large motor homes or caravans are not suitable.

Fuel

Fuel is not available at the reserve so please ensure you fill up at Broken Hill or Yunta and carry sufficient supplies with you depending on your vehicle, length of stay and intended travel on site. As a guide if you were to complete the 3 self-guided tour loops it would be approximately 80km without any extra travel or detours and not including your travel in and out of the reserve.

Remember fuel consumption can increase when travelling on unsealed roads and engaging 4WD

Travelling around

- Bush Heritage requires safety belts to be worn by all occupants of a vehicle when travelling around the reserve.
- Drive only on existing tracks and take care when parking or turning around to help minimise impacts. You will be provided information on where you can and can't travel.
- Travel to the conditions and avoid driving following rain—road maintenance is costly. Drive at appropriate speeds—we request 10km around the homestead and campground and 40km on tracks if conditions allow it.
- Remember wildlife has right of way and tend to be active at dawn and dusk but be prepared at all times.

Daily Trip Intentions Book

At the campground there is a trip intentions book. Campers are requested to fill this out on a daily basis. This information is not used as a daily safety check but will help us to find you if required or in the case of an emergency.

Other requirements

No pets, animals or firearms to be brought onto the reserve. No fires other than at the campground fire pit. No use of drones permitted.

Please follow directions from Bush Heritage staff.

Reserve staff

A full-time reserve manager lives on Boolcoomatta and throughout the year we have many workers including volunteers, researchers and contractors living on site. You may or may not see reserve staff during your stay, although they will make attempts to catch up with you. While staff are happy to provide you with information and assistance, they are unable to guide you around the property. We ask all visitors to be mindful of staff's time and privacy. The reserve is not only their workplace but also their home.

Campground and facilities

Boolcoomatta campground is a small, simple bush camp located about 4km from the homestead. It is predominantly open country with some Casuarina trees dotted throughout the landscape. It provides beautiful vistas of night skies but is exposed to the elements. There are 3 campsites. You will be allocated a number of sites on booking and instructions on site selection is provided on arrival.



Fires

A designated communal fire pit is provided but visitors will need to bring in their own wood supplies. Please do not create new fire sites or collect wood from around the campsite or elsewhere on the reserve. Fallen timber provides vital protection for many animals especially during the winter and summer months. Visitors must not rely upon a campfire for cooking. Please ensure you bring a fuel stove with you. Do not light fires if conditions are unfavourable or if a total fire ban has been declared. **Fires must be fully extinguished if being left unattended for any length of time.**

Toilet

A composting toilet is located at the camp. You will need to bring your own toilet paper supplies and hand soap. If nature calls when exploring, please ensure you carry a shovel and bury toilet paper.

Shower

There is a shower cubical set up for you to hang your own solar or bush shower bag. If we have good water supplies the cold-water shower may be operational.



Water

Water is a precious resource in this arid landscape. Visitors will need to bring all water supplies (including drinking and washing). There is a rainwater tank (untreated so use for washing only) at the camp but supplies are unreliable. Please do not use soap in or near water bodies including creeks and dams.

Shopping

All visitors must be self-sufficient when visiting the Reserve. The town of Cockburn is 52km, approximately 40min drive, from the Reserve. The town has minimal facilities such as a pub and local post office.

The largest centre for supplies is Broken Hill which is located ~100km from the reserve with a travelling time of ~1.5hrs. Broken Hill has all major facilities; however, the opening hours may differ from other centres, especially on the weekends.

Fruit fly Quarantine- a quarantine bin is located at Yunta. Bringing fruit and vegies from Broken Hill is not a problem as the quarantine station is further south. There is no issue bringing supplies from Adelaide but follow local signs and information if in doubt.

Power

There is no power on site. We ask that generators are not used if other campers are on site.

Rubbish

All rubbish must be taken out with you. There is no rubbish service to this property and therefore Bush Heritage asks for your assistance with minimising your impact on the reserve and our resources.

Enjoying the reserve

What to see and do

We recommend a minimum of 2 full days at the reserve. A number of self-guided driving tours have been established, taking you to places of interest and a diversity of environments. There is also plenty of exploring you can do on foot although we request you stick to tracks unless you are an experienced navigator and walker. A detailed visitor information folder including tour notes and maps will be issued to campers once on site.