

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

INNES NATIONAL PARK

Siggy and Heather | Travel Blog

Gypsum Country

The very end of the Yorke Peninsula was first settled in 1918 by a William Innes who built a thriving business based on gypsum found in the many salt lakes around the area. The industry collapsed in 1930 but it was 40 years before the area was declared a National Park. Our travels around the park over our first two days included a number of walks to bluffs and sandy bays where huge rolling waves broke at the base of rugged cliffs. The area is well known for fishing and surfing. Apart from an amazing array of native animals and impressive scenery the park is only one of three areas in the world where you can still see stromolites - ancient and strange circular bulbous plants that grow in shallow water. They have existed for millions of years and can also be found off the coast of Western Australia.



In the Wild

There is something memorable about seeing animals in the wild. It is a real privilege. We have such gorgeous animals in Australia. Imagine our surprise when we came across not just one mother with young, but two. We almost missed the first family with 3 chicks but the second was on the road in front of us. We stopped and opened the window to get a better view. Mother and family simply walked on, quietly passing our vehicle. The adolescent chicks were adorable. The 2 humans in the car were giggling as mother peeked inside our car and chicks quietly stopped and stared for a moment. Mum motioned her gaggle on and they slowly disappeared into the undergrowth. Such a big bird and so beautifully camouflaged.



Children's Crossing





Shipwrecks Ahoy

The rocky outcrops, steep cliff faces and dangerous rips have claimed over 70 lives and 30 shipwrecks. A number of rusting hulks are today barely visible as they disappear under sand. The sun was shining when we visited but we can imagine what it would have been like in foul weather.



