



PS MARION

DARK SKY BIG BEND CRUISE

Cruise the magnificent Murray River to enjoy some of the darkest skies in the world!

20th – 23rd March 2020

- 4 days 3 nights - All meals provided, bar facilities on board.
- River Murray International Dark Sky Reserve, one of the most magnificent places on earth to see the night sky
- Observe our magnificent Murray River night sky at the iconic Big Bend Cliffs on board the heritage listed PS Marion.
- Highlights: Star experts - guest speakers, telescope observations on board and at Big Bend.
- **All-inclusive only \$599.00 per person twin share (including GST)**



RIVER MURRAY
INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY RESERVE



For bookings please contact:

Mannum Dock Museum, 6 Randell Street, Mannum SA 5238
Tel: (08) 8569 2733 email: museum@psmarion.com
More details & extended Itinerary: www.psmarion.com



P.S. “MARION”

Enjoy a unique experience under our amazing dark sky cruising the magnificent Murray River aboard this restored historic Paddle Steamer

20th-23rd March 2020 **Big Bend Dark Sky Cruise** **4 days 3 nights**

Friday 20th Lunch & dinner Overnight Walker Flat	Embarkation 9:00 AM Departing 10:00 Mannum is the birthplace of the Murray steamboat trade. Steamboat building and navigation on the Murray began at Mannum in 1852 when William R Randell built and launched his Mary Ann at Noa No Landing. Arriving to our overnight mooring at Walker Flat at approx. 5:00 PM. Walker Flat is a popular holiday retreat for well-known celebrities from Adelaide. Our guest speakers will enthral you with their knowledge of our region's dark sky over the four days.
Saturday 21st Breakfast, lunch, dinner Overnight Big Bend	We depart Walker Flat as we make our way further upstream. Relax and enjoy the passing river scenery and listen to the slap of the paddles. Lunch will be onboard en route to our overnight mooring on the banks of the Murray River with the magnificent Big Bend Cliffs as your backdrop. You will be treated to a night under the stars at the spectacular Big Bend (longest bend and the highest cliffs on the Murray River). Our expert Astronomers will guide you through the river galaxy.
Sunday 22nd Breakfast & lunch Overnight Purnong	Depart Big Bend as we cruise further downstream. After breakfast, join guides on tour through the Ngaut Ngaut Aboriginal Site and experience Aboriginal culture as you journey through the Ancestral home of the Nganguraku people, departing 2:00 PM and arriving at Purnong/ Caurnamont (196 mark) where we moor overnight. Enjoy a bush walk in the evening.
Monday 23rd Breakfast & lunch	Depart our bush mooring after breakfast approx. 10:00 for our last leg of the journey. Arrive Mannum approx. 3:00 PM.

Cost: \$599.00 per person twin share (including GST)

Note: All itineraries and arrival / departure dates and times are subject to change at any time dependant on river conditions and at the discretion of the Captain.

Overnight cruises costs include all meals and secure car parking at Mannum. Only 14 cabins twin share available.

The PS Marion is a heritage vessel, exempted from complying with AMSA regulations. Life jackets are provided on board the Marion for emergency purposes only, if passengers require life jackets or buoyancy vests they need to provide their own.

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General Information

The paddle steamer Marion, a fully restored heritage vessel (hull built in 1897), is one of the last operational, heritage, original, steam driven, wood fired, with overnight passenger carrying side paddle steamer in the world and was fully restored by volunteers over many thousands of hours. Her crew are all volunteers.

Marion has three deck levels and passengers will need to negotiate stairs. Bottom deck is the entry point to the boat on most occasions, although at times, e.g. steep banks or wharf; entry is then made to the middle deck. The bottom deck houses the steam plant, this being the original steam plant fitted to the vessel in 1900. Also found on this deck are the galley and passenger dining room. Middle deck is the main accommodation deck. The passenger lounge with bar is on this deck along with cabins 7 to 20 and the shower and toilet facilities. Top deck is made up of the wheelhouse, a further passenger lounge (formerly the gentlemen's smoking room) and cabins 1 to 6.

Passenger accommodation aboard the PS Marion is in the form of bunk style twin share cabins and can accommodate a total of 40 people (including crew). Sole occupancy is limited for twin cabins, it incurs a 80% charge on top of the cruise price and is subject to availability.

Four separate toilets and four showers are available for passenger use on the middle deck. Toilets are equipped with wash basin, mirror and power points. Electric razors and hair dryers can be used. A further crew toilet and shower is situated on the bottom deck. Two cabins located on the top deck have power points which can be used for sleep apnoea machines.

Neat casual clothing and flat shoes are recommended.

Linen is provided. This includes bedding, towels, face washers and bathmats.

All meals are included in the cruise price quoted and detailed in the itinerary. Alcohol and soft drinks are not included. Bar facilities are available. No alcohol is to be carried aboard by passengers.

Secure car parking is available in Mannum and is included in the cost of the cruise.

In the unlikely event of an emergency, passengers must follow the instructions issued by the crew. Life jackets are stowed under the bunks of each cabin as well as in lockers on each deck. The PS Marion is a heritage vessel, exempted from complying with elements of the SA Harbours & Navigation Act and passengers agree to travel on that basis. Life jackets are provided on board the Marion for emergency purposes only, if passengers require life jackets or buoyancy vests they need to provide their own. Smoking is prohibited in all areas except outside of the middle and top decks. The wheelhouse and galley are restricted areas and entry is only available by invitation from the Captain or the Chef respectively. If passengers require help in any way on board they should refer to the Purser.

To confirm your reservation a deposit of 20% of the total fare or \$100 per person (whichever is greater) must be paid at the time of the booking. Balance of payment is to be paid 30 days prior to cruise departure. In the event of cancellation the following fees are applicable:

-  Written notice of cancellation at least 60 days in advance of cruise departure date, no penalty. Passenger will be refunded full deposit paid.
-  Written notice of cancellation from 59 days to 30 days before the cruise departure date the passenger will forfeit the deposit paid.
-  Written notice of cancellation 29 days to 15 days before the departure date the passenger will be liable to pay 50% of the total fare.
-  Less than 14 days before the departure date the passenger will be subject to a cancellation charge equal to 100% of the total fare.

Comprehensive travel insurance is recommended.



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