

# Seasonal highlights and challenges

## Kangaroo Island Wilderness Trail

Every season offers something different on the Kangaroo Island Wilderness Trail, so no matter what time of year you visit you're sure to have an amazing experience. When planning your trip be sure to consider the seasonal challenges as well as the highlights.

### Autumn (March – May)

#### Highlights

- Temperature and winds moderate
- Increased platypus sightings in permanent pools
- First rains bring vegetation and waterways back to life
- Marine mammals viewing (dolphins and frolicking seal pups)
- With cooler weather echidnas are more active

#### Challenges

- Fire danger season (1 November to 30 April)– on days declared 'catastrophic' and significant fire risk the trail will be closed. Walkers will not be permitted to start and those on the Trail will be evacuated. On total fire days, liquid & gas fuel stoves cannot be used.
- Easter and April school holiday busy periods
- Rivers not yet flowing and Grassdale and Wilderness Lagoon may be dry

### Winter (June – August)

#### Highlights

- Wildflowers, orchids and fungi
- Flowing rivers and lush, green vegetation
- Active wildlife including Cape Barron geese breeding, echidna trains, whale migration and seal pups
- Stunning skylines including storm clouds and rainbows
- Powerful swells crashing into towering cliffs provide breathtaking spectacles
- Quietest visitor period

#### Challenges

- Highest rainfall and more inclement weather
- Storm surges, king tides and fast flowing rivers
- Slippery terrain
- Shorter daylight hours
- Fewer tourism services on offer

### Spring (September - November)

#### Highlights

- Wildflowers and orchids
- Flowing rivers and lush, green vegetation
- Breeding wildlife, migrating whales, frogs calling and birds nesting
- Moderate days and cool evenings

#### Challenges

- October school holiday busy period
- Access to beaches restricted in areas due to beach nesting birds
- Fast flowing rivers
- Slippery terrain
- Lightning fires

### Summer (December – February)

#### Highlights

- Warm weather and refreshing sea breezes
- Active wildlife including goannas, platypus, koala joeys, breeding fur seals and chirping crickets
- Spectacular summer storms and lightning
- Longer daylight hours

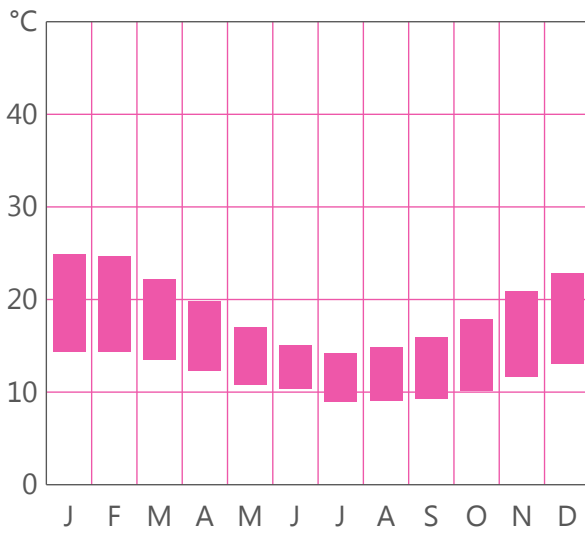
#### Challenges

- Peak visitor period
- Fire danger season (1 November to 30 April)– on days declared 'catastrophic' and significant fire risk the Trail will be closed. Walkers will not be permitted to start and those on the Trail will be evacuated. On total fire days, liquid & gas fuel stoves cannot be used.
- Snakes and bees more active
- Rivers stop flowing and Grassdale and Wilderness Lagoons may be dry
- Extra hydration will be needed

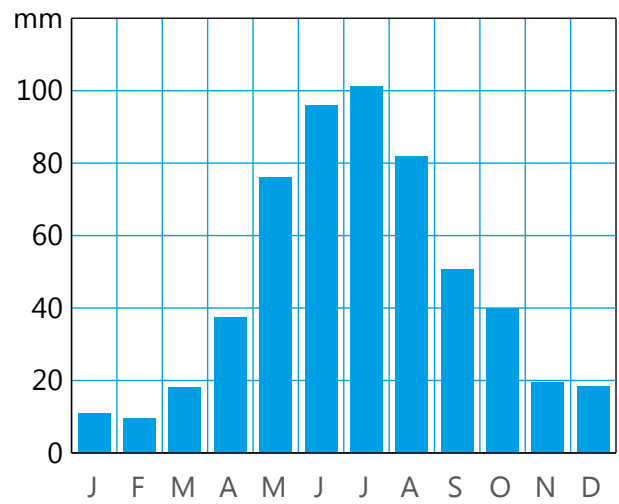


## Median temperature and rainfall

### Temperature

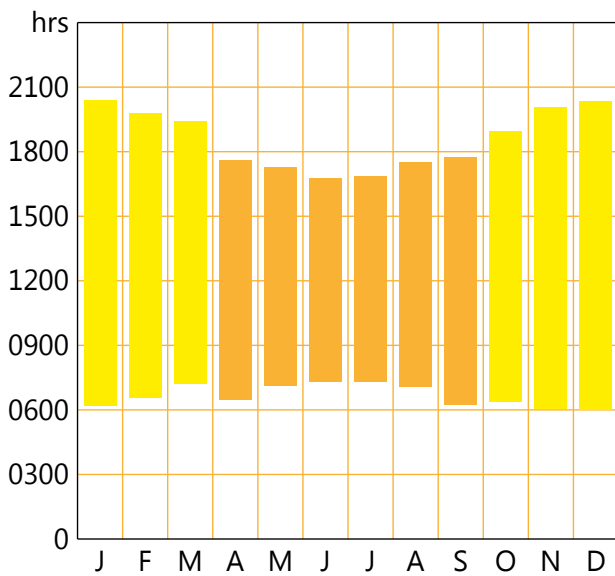


### Rainfall



Station: CAPE BORDA. Warmer temperatures may be experienced on inland sections of the trail.

### Daylight hours



Daylight is shown from sunrise to sunset.

- Australian Central Standard Time (ACST)
- Australian Central Daylight Time (ACDT) (daylight savings)

