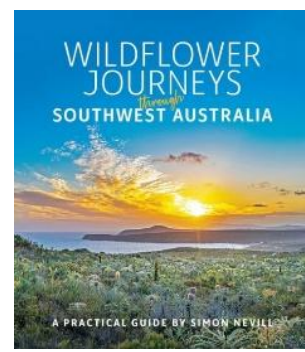
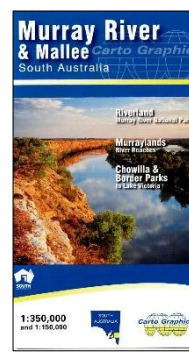
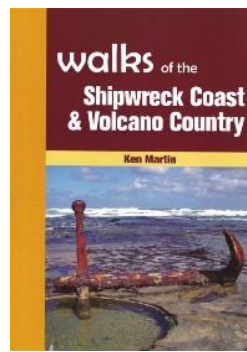
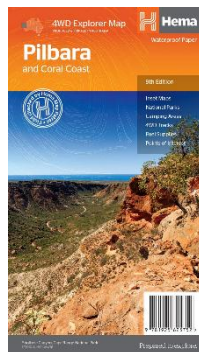
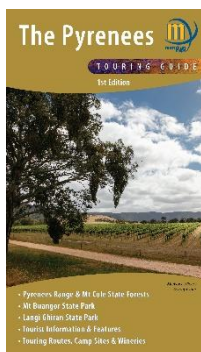


The Meridian Line - Sunday 14.02.2026

**The earth has music for those who listen.”
— William Shakespeare**

Focus on Five



The Pyrenees Touring Map – from \$15.95

The entire Pyrenees region is mapped on this double-sided 1:50,000 scale map. It covers the area from Beaufort to Redbank and Navarre to Avoca, making it the perfect companion for 4-wheel drive adventures and touring. The map highlights all the region's key attractions, including wineries, historic sites, picnic spots, and much more. It also features the long-distance Pyrenees Endurance Track and the walking trails around Mt Buangor and Mt Cole. You'll find information on pet-friendly campgrounds, accommodation, local produce, petrol stations, waterfalls, and plenty of other tourist tips to help you make the most of your visit.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/the-pyrenees-touring-map/>

Pilbara and Coral Coast – \$15.95

This regional waterproof map of the Pilbara and Coral Coast is perfect for exploring the northern reaches of Western Australia. The main map highlights

the region's diverse attractions, from the marine wonders of Shark Bay, François Peron National Park, and Ningaloo Reef to the rugged gorges of Karijini, the lush landscapes of Millstream Chichester National Park, and the striking Marble Bar. It also provides useful information on permits, contacts, and historical context for some of the area's most popular destinations. The map features GPS-surveyed roads and tracks, fuel stops, 4WD routes, camping areas, historic sites, and detailed inset maps, making it an essential companion for any adventure in the region.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/the-pilbara/>

Walks of the Shipwreck Coast & Volcano Country - from \$24.95

Walks of the Shipwreck Coast & Volcano Country presents 60 walks suitable for all ages and abilities. Each walk includes simple maps to guide you along the trail, accompanied by clear descriptions and extra information to help you get the most out of every outing. Compiled by walking enthusiasts, this book aims to share the beauty of the natural environment across South Eastern Australia and the Shipwreck Coast. Inside, you'll find detailed descriptions, maps, and full-colour photographs for all 60 walks, covering over **175 kilometres**. The book also provides guidance on what to take on your walk, references to Vicmap and SA maps, walk durations ranging from 15 minutes to more than four hours, a quick-find reference map, and a comprehensive walk index. The walks explore areas including **Port Campbell, Mt Gambier, Warrnambool, Portland, and the surrounding regions**. This softcover book spans **205 pages** in full colour and is an essential companion for anyone wanting to discover the natural and scenic highlights of the Shipwreck Coast and Volcano Country.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/walks-of-the-shipwreck-coast/>

Murray River & Mallee South Australia – from \$12.95

This 1:350,000 scale touring map offers a detailed view of the South Australian Murray River and Mallee region, stretching from the Murray Mouth to Lock 8. It shows both major and minor roads with names, as well as national parks and conservation reserves, and includes road distance and surface information to help with planning your journey. On the reverse side, you'll find detailed strip maps of the South Australian Murray River, covering the route from Lake Alexandrina upstream to Lake Victoria and Lock 8 in New South Wales.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/murray-river-mallee-map/>

Wildflower Journeys through Southwest Australia – \$49.95

Local author Simon Nevill draws on four decades of research and photography to present 10 journeys of wildflower discovery across the greater southwest region of Western Australia, one of the world's rare floral hotspots with over 7,000 species. These journeys are carefully designed to showcase the widest possible variety of wildflowers, ranging from easily accessible locations to areas that may require a 4WD in parts. The book is richly illustrated with hundreds of wildflower photographs and dozens of mud-maps highlighting the best spots for wildflower viewing. The ten journeys include Ellis Brook Valley Reserve, The Wandoo Woodland, a Shorter Northern Journey, a Longer Northern Journey, Wotto Nature Reserve to Mullewa, The Rocks, The Inner Wheatbelt, The Outer Wheatbelt, a Big South Coast Journey, and a Deep South West Journey, providing a comprehensive guide for anyone keen to explore Western Australia's stunning floral diversity.

<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/wildflowers-southwest-australia/>

Meridian Musings

In just a couple of weeks, on March 1, we'll be celebrating the anniversary of the Clean Up Australia movement. It all started back in 1989 when Ian Kiernan, an avid sailor, got fed up with the rubbish and pollution he kept seeing in the world's oceans. He decided to do something about it and organised a community event called 'Clean Up Sydney Harbour', with a little help from some friends. He thought maybe a few hundred people would turn up — but to his surprise, 40,000 volunteers showed up! The success of that one-day clean-up sparked a national movement, and later that year it became Clean Up Australia Day, which now happens every year all around the country. If you want to get involved, you can either sign up to organise your own clean-up or join one that's already happening near you. Check out <https://www.cleanup.org.au/get-involved/>

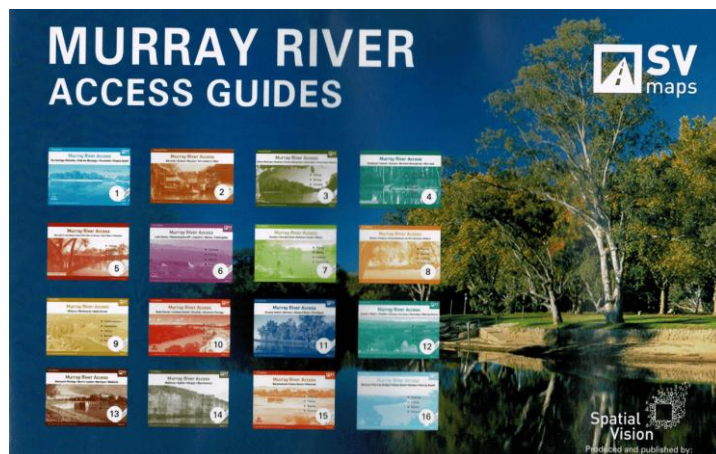
What's New to the Website

Murray River Access Guides - \$8.95 each or \$128.90 for the set of 16 books

- *Book 1 – Yarrowonga to Ulupna Island*
- *Book 2 – Barmah to Torrumbarry Weir*
- *Book 3 – Albury-Wodonga to Yarrowonga*
- *Book 4 – Gunbower Island to Murrabit*
- *Book 5 – Murrabit to Tooleybuc*
- *Book 6 – Lake Hume to Tallangatta*

- *Book 7 – Murrabit to Tooleybuc*
- *Book 8 – Wemen to Mildura*
- *Book 9 – Mildura to Neds Corner*
- *Book 10 Neds Corner – Renmark-Paringa*
- *Book 11 – Ulupna Island to Deniliquin*
- *Book 12 – Jingellic to Murray Source*
- *Book 13 – Renmark-Paringa to Waikerie*
- *Book 14 – Waikerie to Blanchtown*
- *Book 15 – Blanchtown to Mannum*
- *Book 16 – Mannum to Murray Mouth*

The Murray River Guides assist visitors in finding the best camping and fishing spots, planning their journey, and making the most of what this iconic river has to offer. They also serve as the official maps for the Murray River Marathon. Designed for those touring the region, the booklet includes information on recreation facilities such as camping, boating and fishing within NSW and Victorian parks and forests, as well as major walking tracks.



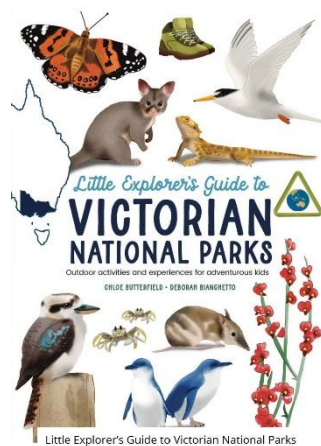
<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/murray-river-access-guide-collection/>

Little Explorers Guide to Victorian National Parks – \$19.95

Discover some of Victoria's most remarkable wild places, from deserts and rocky coastlines to extinct volcanoes, wetlands and dense forests, and everything in between. This book invites young wildlife enthusiasts to step outside, connect with nature and embrace the adventure that awaits.

Journey through extraordinary ecosystems and encounter fascinating creatures along the way, from koalas and Little Penguins to gliders, dragons and even the tiny yet brilliantly coloured peacock spider. Every page introduces new species, habitats and perspectives, encouraging curiosity and a deeper appreciation of the natural world. Featuring realistic illustrations, easy-to-follow maps, engaging activities and animal facts throughout, this

book is a companion for exploring the wild and discovering new interests along the way. Both educational and entertaining, the book explores 11 of Victoria's standout national parks, including Budj Bim, Croajingolong, French Island, the Grampians, Great Otway, Kinglake, Little Desert, Mount Buffalo, Murray Sunset and Wilsons Promontory. It is filled with information about notable wildlife, along with quizzes, puzzles, activities and practical ranger tips to help make each visit more rewarding.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/little-explorers-victorian-national-parks/>

Australia Map 1000 Piece Puzzle - \$39.95

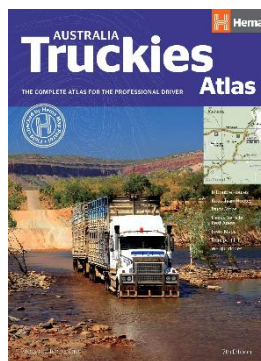
Experience an immersive and educational adventure with Hema's iconic Australian Map, now in puzzle form. The Map of Australia Jigsaw Puzzle invites you to explore the vast and diverse landscapes of the Land Down Under, piece by piece. With 1000 intricately crafted pieces, the completed puzzle measures an impressive 750 x 500mm. Designed with precision, this puzzle features an accurate map of Australia.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/hemas-australia-map-puzzle/>

Truckies Atlas - \$55.00

The Australia Truckies Atlas is designed specifically for professional drivers, combining a complete Hema road atlas with essential truck-focused information to support safe and efficient travel across Australia. Each map clearly shows B-double and road train routes, along with truck stops, heavy vehicle rest areas, weighbridges and low-clearance bridges. These features are also included in a comprehensive directory, providing key details and map references for easy planning on the road. The atlas includes 112 detailed town maps to complement the Australia-wide coverage, with truck routes, truck stops and weighbridges clearly marked throughout. An extensive information section covers national heavy vehicle dimension and mass limits, access schemes, measurement adjustments, fatigue management requirements, loading guidelines and dangerous goods codes, as well as major truck stops and a complete dealer and service listing. Fully updated maps and listings, along with expanded suburban mapping, ensure this latest edition continues to be a reliable and essential atlas for truck drivers nationwide.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/australia-truckies-atlas/>

Seasonal Updates

Please be aware that road and Park closures are constantly changing and it is always best to check for changes before you set out.

For more regular updates on closures, please check our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MeridianWestprintMaps> as we try to include warnings and advice as we become aware of them.

The latest Desert Parks Bulletin has been uploaded to our website. For this and other Desert Pass updates, please go to <https://meridianmaps.com.au/deserts-pass-update/3>

The Department of Infrastructure and transport in South Australia have a website that details their outback unsealed roads grading program which

advises on the repairing and reconstruction of unsealed roads in the Outback that are affected by traffic and weather events. To access this information, please visit their website:

<https://www.dit.sa.gov.au/infrastructure/projects/statewide-road-improvement-and-renewal-works/outback-unsealed-roads-grading-program>.

Road and park closures in Victoria are constantly changing due to existing bushfires and the threats of bushfires. Please follow any directions given in relation to these closures. If you do not need to be in these areas, please avoid them.

Before you travel, please check the emergency websites for up to date information: <https://emergency.vic.gov.au/respond/>

Birdsville Inside Track and Birdsville Track – Cooper Creek Causeway are closed until further notice

Strzelecki Track - Della/Dullingari Rd junction to Moomba – currently closed.

Meridian Line: however, this may have been some time before the actual event. Please make your own enquiries before travelling to an event.

What's On

20 – 22 February – Royal Canberra Show. Annual show has agriculture at its core, but it has broadened over the years to reflect more entertainment, educational features and exhibitions, ensuring that there is a vibrant mix of 'city meeting country' and 'country meeting city'.

<https://www.canberrashow.org.au/>

21 February – Chudleigh Show in Tasmania. Annual event showcases the magic the area has to offer. Expect to see poultry, cattle, sheep, horses and dairy heifers and sheep dogs, as well as vintage tractors. The unique climax is the running of the Chudleigh Cup, featuring a lot of people dressed up as horses.

<https://chudleighshow.com/>

21 – 22 February – Willunga Chilli Fest in South Australia. Some like it hot ... and if you do, the Willunga Chilli Fest is the place to be. See and enjoy chilli plants, produce, foods and cooking demonstrations, and buy all manner of chilli merchandise.

<https://willungarecpark.com.au/chilli-fest-willunga/>

22 February – Minyip Show and Shine in Victoria. This classic Aussie car and bike event brings together enthusiasts from near and far to celebrate motoring history, country hospitality, and community spirit. From vintage Holdens and Fords to custom builds and modern classics, there's something for everyone to admire. Enjoy a relaxed day among beautifully restored vehicles, local food stalls, family entertainment, and good old-fashioned country charm.

<https://www.visitmelbourne.com/regions/grampians/whats-on/community/minyip-show-and-shine>

27 February - Rylstone Kandos Show in NSW. The Show is an opportunity for the community to meet, enjoy and celebrate the excellent agricultural produce, talent, animal husbandry, cooking, crafts, and artistry skills that underpin the emerging and thriving Rylstone-Kandos community.

<https://www.midwestern.nsw.gov.au/Community/Events-directory/Rylstone-Kandos-Show>

27 February – 1 March – Spoke Motorcycle Festival in Tasmania. A unique event that celebrates the love of motorbikes and the joy of racing and riding. A combination of motorcycle races, demonstrations and the best of Tasmania's locally produced food, beer, wine and spirits, local artists and musical entertainment, workshops, sales and family-friendly activities.

<https://spokemcfestival.com.au/>

28 February - Beachport Crayfish Festival in South Australia. Celebrates the town of Beachport and our most important crustacean, the Southern Rock Lobster! An opportunity to introduce everyone to everything crayfish. An amazing day of local food, wine and entertainment.

<https://crayfishfestival.com.au/>

28 February - South Gippsland Garlic Festival in Victoria. Celebration of Australian garlic! Learn about, taste, and purchase the huge array of garlic varieties. Growers selling a range of fresh and preserved garlic products, and food vendors cooking up garlic-inspired dishes, local chef demonstrations, an educational hub, breweries, winemakers, live entertainment, kids activities, and more.

<https://southgippslandgarlicfestival.au/>

Do you have a story?

If you've got a trip or tips to share, we'd love to hear from you - rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au.

Gold Escort Route



The Gold Escort Route stands as one of the most significant overland transport corridors in South Australia's colonial history. Established in 1852, the route linked the Victorian goldfields—particularly around Mount Alexander and Bendigo—with the South Australian border and onward to Adelaide. While several escorts were later extended to the Ballarat region, its primary purpose remained constant: to transport gold safely back to South Australia at a time when the colony's economic future hung in the balance.

Discovery of gold!



The first officially recorded discovery of gold in Australia was made by James McBrien near Bathurst in February 1823. However, anecdotal evidence suggests that gold may have been found long before this. In 1816, a convict living in the Bathurst region reportedly uncovered gold, but he was punished for possessing it. Under British law at the time, any gold or silver found on land automatically belonged to the government. Authorities feared that publicised discoveries would trigger a gold rush, drawing people away from farms, factories, and essential work, creating severe labour shortages. As a result, many early finds are believed to have been deliberately kept secret.

The discovery of gold in California in 1848 marked the beginning of the first modern gold rush. The find occurred by chance when labourers constructing a sawmill noticed shiny flakes in a nearby river. James Marshall identified the flakes as gold, and although attempts were made to keep the discovery quiet, news spread rapidly. People from across America and around the world soon flocked to California in search of fortune.

When news of the Californian rush reached Australia, many Australians left for America to try their luck. Concerned about the loss of workers, both the government and employers discouraged people from travelling to the American goldfields. Instead, authorities shifted their stance and began to support the search for gold within Australia. A request was sent to Britain for a surveyor to be appointed to investigate potential Australian goldfields.

One of the Australian to go to America was Edward Hargraves. He was a local farmer who hoped to make his fortune on the American goldfields. Hargraves spent 12 months in California but had no luck. However, during this time, he became convinced that the terrain and soil were similar to the conditions that he had seen in Australia. Believing this indicated the presence of gold back home, he returned determined to search again.



Upon returning to Australia, Hargraves travelled on horseback to Bathurst, where he persuaded John Lister to accompany him to Lewis Ponds Creek. On 12 February 1851, they washed six pans of gravel and found traces of gold in five of them. Joined shortly afterwards by William Tom, the group continued prospecting and achieved modest early success.

The period from 1851 to 1900 became one of rapid expansion and transformation in Australia as goldfields appeared across the country. Although the earliest major finds were in New South Wales, Victoria soon emerged as the most productive gold-producing colony, followed later by significant discoveries in Western Australia. Smaller but notable finds were also made in Queensland and Tasmania.

Northern Territory

The first payable gold discovery in the Northern Territory was made by G. C. McLachlan in 1871, about 200 kilometres southeast of Darwin. The area soon became known as Pine Creek, which reached its peak in 1894 with around 800 miners working the field. Additional discoveries were made in central parts of the Territory, but development was hampered by a chronic lack of drinking water. Eight men died from dehydration before the government intervened and began sinking wells to support the growing mining population.



Western Australia

Following major gold discoveries in the eastern colonies, the Western Australian government offered rewards to encourage prospecting. While surveyors had already identified traces of gold and small finds had been made in the Pilbara and Murchison regions, it was the 1892 discovery at Coolgardie that triggered Western Australia's greatest gold rush. The find by Arthur Bayley and William Ford was substantial, and the rich reef was named *Bayley's Reward*. A year later, Patrick Hannan's discovery at Kalgoorlie proved even more significant. The area became known as the Golden Mile and is recognised as one of the richest gold-producing regions in the world. Further goldfields soon opened across the Eastern Goldfields, and several remain active today, now mined using advanced modern techniques.



South Australia

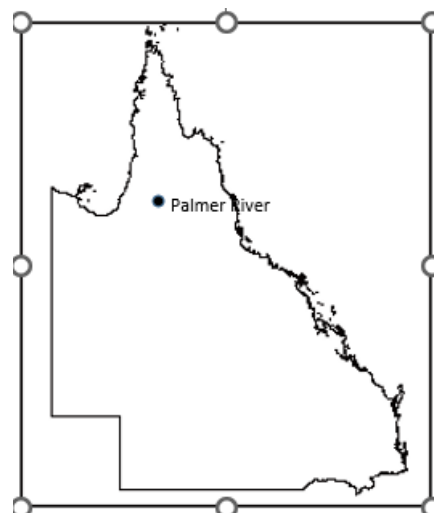
Gold was first discovered in South Australia in 1852, when William Chapman found payable deposits southeast of Adelaide. He received a £500 government reward, and around 10,000 prospectors quickly descended on the site, rapidly exhausting the accessible surface gold. In 1868, another major strike occurred near the Barossa Valley, where Job Harris and his party uncovered gold at Spike's Gully. The last major discovery in the colony came in 1886, when Thomas Brady and Thomas Smith found surface deposits at Teetulpa,

northeast of Adelaide. They were awarded a £1000 government reward for their find.



Queensland

Queensland's first recorded gold discovery was made in 1858 along the Fitzroy River in the north. This field was short-lived, and many prospectors left with little to show for their efforts. The first major goldfield in Queensland emerged at Gympie, on the Mary River, where James Nash found gold in 1867. Within a short period, about 16,000 men had arrived to work the field. While alluvial gold was quickly exhausted, larger mining companies moved in to extract deeper reef deposits. A similar pattern developed at Charters Towers after gold was discovered there in 1872. One of Queensland's most remarkable rushes occurred at Palmer River following J. Mulligan's 1873 discovery. This field attracted a large number of Chinese miners, and for a time it was one of the busiest goldfields in the colony. By the late 1880s, however, the gold was depleted and the settlement soon became a ghost town.



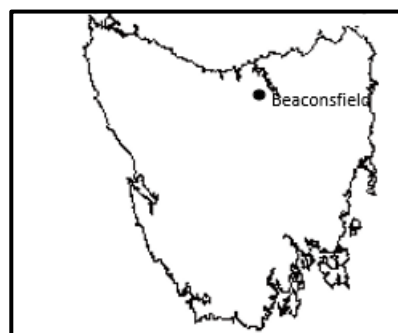
New South Wales

After the 1851 discovery by Lister and Tom at Ophir, prospectors poured into New South Wales in search of new goldfields. In February 1860, large numbers of diggers made their way to Kiandra on the Snowy River near Mount Kosciuszko. Within six months, around 15,000 people were living and working in the area. Reaching the field was extremely difficult, as no roads existed and all supplies had to be transported by packhorse. Cobar later emerged as one of the most productive goldfields in New South Wales, contributing significantly to the colony's mining output.



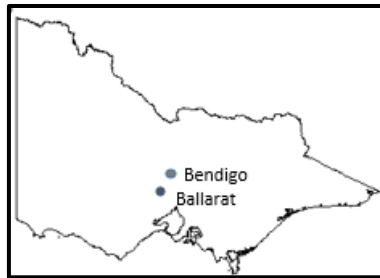
Tasmania

Tasmania never experienced the enormous gold rushes seen on the mainland, but several discoveries still played important roles in the island's development. In 1852, James Grant found alluvial gold at The Nook, attracting around 500 miners and establishing the site of Tasmania's first reef mine. The most productive Tasmanian mine was at Lisle, discovered by the Bessell brothers in 1878. Within a year, around 2,500 miners were working the field. Beaconsfield became another major centre after William Dally discovered a quartz reef there in 1877. Within a short time, 53 mining companies were operating in the district, making Beaconsfield the third-largest town in Tasmania.



Victoria

Victoria's goldfields—particularly Ballarat and Bendigo—became the most significant in Australian history. Ballarat is recognised as the richest alluvial goldfield in the world. The abundance of gold in these regions led to dramatic population increases and rapid development during the rushes between 1851 and 1860. This decade marked one of the most transformative periods in the history of the colony, shaping Victoria's economic and social foundations for generations.



The gold rushes had profound and lasting impacts on life across Australia, reshaping society, the economy, and patterns of settlement. As news of discoveries spread in the early 1850s, thousands of men abandoned their jobs on farms, in workshops, and in factories to seek their fortunes on the diggings. Entire districts were suddenly left without adult male workers, and labour shortages became severe. Farms struggled to harvest crops, businesses could not operate normally, and essential services faltered. With wheat and flour production reduced, food prices rose sharply.

For many families, the rush brought hardship rather than opportunity. While a small number of men travelled with their families, most left alone, expecting a quick return. Instead, many remained away for months or years, leaving women and children to manage farms and households with little or no income. Poverty deepened in many communities as a result.

The shortage of labour opened opportunities for Aboriginal workers, who became increasingly relied upon as stockmen, jackaroos and farmhands. Their willingness to work long hours, often for lower wages, made them essential to maintaining agricultural production during this period.

The rapid movement of people also spurred major improvements in transport and infrastructure. New roads and railway lines were constructed to connect ports, towns, and emerging mining centres, while Cobb & Co coaches operated extensive services for more than fifty years, linking remote settlements with the larger colonies.



Many who headed for the goldfields were ill-prepared for the harsh conditions they encountered. Armed with little more than a blanket, a pick, and optimism, they quickly discovered that life on the diggings was far more demanding than expected. Yet the lure of wealth continued to attract countless newcomers. Ships arrived from around the world—carrying miners from California, Europe, New Zealand, and China—transforming the social fabric and cultural diversity of the colonies.

In South Australia, the impact was especially dramatic. The discovery of gold in Victoria drew vast numbers of South Australians eastward, emptying towns and crippling the local economy. Production fell, wages soared, and the colony faced the threat of financial collapse. However, many returning miners brought significant amounts of gold with them, and South Australian authorities recognised the potential benefit this could bring. If transported safely, the gold could stabilise the colony's finances and revive businesses. But moving it across the long, exposed route between Victoria and Adelaide came with serious risks, including bushrangers and hold-ups. This challenge would ultimately lead to the creation of the Gold Escort—a system designed to protect the precious metal and secure South Australia's economic future.

Birth of the Gold Escort

South Australia's lack of a direct route to Adelaide had serious economic consequences, as many local miners found it far easier to deposit their gold earnings in Melbourne banks rather than make the long return journey home. The urgent need for a faster and safer connection between South Australia and the Victorian goldfields led to the creation of the Gold Escort Route. Deputy Surveyor-General John McLaren played a central role, assembling a survey party in early 1852 to chart a practical overland route from Wellington on the Murray River to the Mount Alexander diggings, just south of Bendigo. Accompanied by sappers from the Royal Engineers, McLaren's team mapped the terrain, identified the most navigable tracks, marked key locations with

signage, and located reliable water sources for both horses and travellers. Building on this groundwork, Police Commissioner Alexander Tolmer proposed a government-supervised gold escort service, which gained strong support from merchants, politicians, and the public despite Tolmer's controversial reputation. The system involved small, armed teams of police troopers riding from Adelaide to the Victorian diggings to collect gold deposited by South Australian miners and escort it safely back across the border. Together, McLaren's careful preparation and Tolmer's leadership established a secure, efficient route that became a vital lifeline for the colony, protecting the gold from bushrangers, stabilising South Australia's economy, and supporting its growth during the gold rush era. On 10 February 1852, Tolmer accompanied by an indigenous guide and a party of mounted police set out from Adelaide to mark the route. Following the main road south from Adelaide to Wellington where a ferry crossed the Murray River, Tolmer's party passed McLaren whose team was sinking wells and erecting signs. Both parties followed station tracks in a south easterly direction to Mount Monster and Scott's Woolshed in the Tatiara and Bordertown districts.

The proposed route established by Tolmer was then the shortest taken to reach the Victorian gold fields. From Adelaide it led to Wellington, where the Murray River was crossed by ferry. It then progressed in a south-easterly direction, following closely what is now the Duke's Highway through Coonalpyn and Keith, entering Victoria at what is now Bordertown. The route continued easterly through Horsham to the Mount Alexander diggings near Bendigo. The distance of approximately 579 kilometres could be covered in ten days if the weather conditions were favourable and no mishaps occurred.

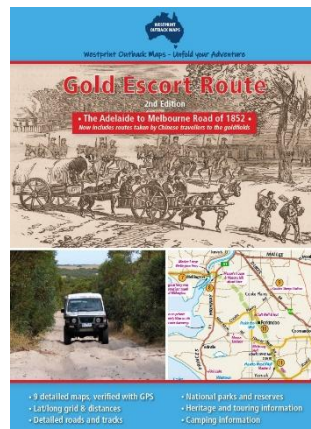
The first official gold escort, personally led by Alexander Tolmer, departed from Adelaide in February 1852 and returned five weeks later carrying 5,199 ounces of gold. Its safe arrival was met with public celebration, and confidence in the gold escort system grew rapidly. A total of eight similar escorts were completed that same year.

By 1853, however, the amount of gold transported to Adelaide began to decline. Eventually, the fees paid by miners to have their gold dust transported were no longer sufficient to cover the costs of the service. The final escort departed Adelaide in November 1853 and returned in December. Over the two years the scheme operated, eighteen gold escorts transported gold dust valued at approximately £1.2 million from the Victorian goldfields to South Australia, a sum that played a crucial role in preventing the colony from financial collapse.

Legacy and Modern Significance

Today, the Gold Escort Route is recognised as an important cultural and historical landscape. Sections of the route pass through conservation parks, pastoral land, and regional towns. Heritage trails, interpretive signage, and museum displays—particularly in Kapunda, Truro, Burra, and the Murraylands—preserve the story of the escorts and their role in sustaining the colony during a period of upheaval.

The legacy of the escorts extends beyond their immediate economic impact. They represent early examples of coordinated long-distance policing, logistical planning, and intercolonial cooperation. The routes they established helped shape later overland transport networks, and their success demonstrated the capacity of colonial institutions to adapt under extreme pressure.



<https://meridianmaps.com.au/product/gold-escort-route/>

Meridian Mirth

To share your jokes, please send them to rochelle@meridianmaps.com.au. Many thanks to Rob and Paul for their contributions!



Believe it or not!

1, We went through a drive through and our total was \$4.25, so I handed over \$5.25.

She said, 'you gave me too much money.'

I said, 'Yes I know, but this way you can just give me a dollar back.'

She sighed and went to get the manager who asked me to repeat my request.

I did so, and he handed me back the 25c, and said 'We're sorry but we don't do that kind of thing.'

The cashier then proceeded to give me back 75 cents in change.

2. We had to have the garage door repaired.

The repairman told us that one of our problems was that we did not have a 'large' enough motor on the opener.

I thought for a minute and said that we had the largest one made at that time, a 1/2 horsepower.

He shook his head and said, 'You need a 1/4 horsepower.'

I responded that 1/2 was larger than 1/4 and he said, 'NOOO, it's not. Four is larger than two.'

We haven't used that repairman since...

3. I live in a semi-rural area.

We recently had a new neighbour call the local city council office to request the removal of the DEER CROSSING sign on our road.

The reason: 'Too many deers are being hit by cars out here! I don't think this is a good place for them to be crossing anymore.'

4. My daughter went to a Mexican fast food and ordered a taco. She asked the person behind the counter for 'minimal lettuce.' He said he was sorry, but they only had iceberg lettuce.

5. I was at the airport, checking in at the gate when an airport employee asked, 'Has anyone put anything in your baggage without your knowledge?' To which I replied, 'If it was without my knowledge, how would I know?' He smiled knowingly and nodded, 'That's why we ask.'

6. The pedestrian light on the corner beeps when it's safe to cross the street. I was crossing with an co-worker of mine. She asked if I knew what the beeper was for. I explained that it signals blind people when the light is red. Appalled, she responded, 'what on earth are blind people doing driving?!'

7. When my wife and I arrived at a car dealership... to pick up our car after a service, we were told the keys had been locked in it. We went to the service department and found a mechanic working feverishly to unlock the driver's side door. As I watched from the passenger side, I instinctively tried the door handle and discovered that it was unlocked. 'Hey,' I announced to the technician, 'it's open!' His reply, 'I know. I already did that side.'





The Fine Print

At The Meridian Line

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