Luxury Lodges of Australia Media Backgrounders: DNA Series (9 of 11)

# Our DNA:Environmental Sustainability

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| An increasing number of travellers are actively seeking experiences that allow them to have not only a memorable holiday, but positive impact while travelling. Our guests are interested in sustainable tourism best practice and operations, and to know that their visit is an active contributor to environmental conservation and regeneration, and to the sustainability and wellbeing of local communities and cultures. Purpose and positive impact is at the core of what it means to be a Luxury Lodge of Australia (LLoA). From leadership in conservation and environmental sustainability to engagement with Traditional Owners and local communities via employment, procurement of local food and beverage producers, engagement with artists, scientists craftspeople and more. The lodges actively and deeply engage with the environments they operate in, the communities they engage with and the culture and cultures they represent.Each of the 19 LLoA member lodges makes a positive contribution to the natural environment in which it operates. Indeed, the business of operating each of the lodges depends on the ongoing appeal and health of the environment and community; without a thriving environment the lodge’s appeal is diminished. The approach to environmental conservation varies greatly between lodges depending on their location and the nature of their environment, making for a rich and diverse response to environmental sustainability across the collection. The [Business with Purpose](https://luxurylodgesofaustralia.com.au/sustainability/) page on the LLoA website details the sustainability initiatives of each luxury lodge. It’s a useful media resource with an overview and more details PDF available for download. Three standout examples of a lodge’s commitment to environmental sustainability include: |
| Arkaba ConservancyFlinders Ranges, SA | Since 2009 Wild Bush Luxury’s dedicated team has transformed Arkaba Station from an historic sheep station into a thriving 60,000-acre private wildlife conservancy. All sheep stock has been removed from the property, and conservation programs have focussed on feral species eradication and on regenerating the ancient landscape to its natural state. Today, Arkaba’s wildlife is prolific, with regular sightings of Red Kangaroo, Western Grey Kangaroo, Common Wallaroo and echidnas, along with a general increase in native bird, mammal and reptile populations. Native grasses have also re-established, and Red Gum saplings are reappearing along creeks, halting the erosion along watercourses. Meanwhile, a focus on cultural heritage includes [interpretive walks](https://luxurylodgesofaustralia.com.au/activity/arkaba-through-adnamatna-eyes/) for guests guided by a local First Nations Adnyamathanha Elder. “Our strongly held belief is that tourism should help foster conservation of our natural and cultural heritage.” says founder Charlie Carlow. [More](https://luxurylodgesofaustralia.com.au/lodges/arkaba/business-with-purpose/) |
| Saffire FreycinetFreycinet, TAS | Guests are encouraged to gain a deeper understanding of Saffire’s ‘eat local’ philosophy and supply chain during their stay, by donning a full-body apiarist suit to visit the beehives and see how Saffire’s home-grown honey is produced; or stepping into a pair of waders on a nearby oyster farm to taste prized, freshly shucked Pacific oysters. Aboriginal guide, Mick Quilliam leads coastal strolls that uncover the history of the First Nations Oyster Bay people and the local flora and fauna. Guests can sample bush tucker, learn about foraging tools and gain their own appreciation of connecting to the land. Onsite is a private sanctuary for the endangered Tasmanian Devil. [More](https://luxurylodgesofaustralia.com.au/lodges/saffire/business-with-purpose/) |

Southern Ocean Lodge Design for a New Generation of Travel
*Kangaroo Island, SA*

###  After four years in the planning and construction, Southern Ocean Lodge reopened on Kangaroo Island’s wild south coast in December 2023. The plans for the new lodge would return all the essential features that guests had loved best, whilst adding some considered extras in a design to lead the future of luxury tourism to Kangaroo Island. At the same time, a raft of leading environmental initiatives was introduced, allowing the lodge to operate both even more sensitively in its precious natural environment and sustainably in the context of a future changing climate.