

Mount Lofty Summit

Mount Lofty Summit, the majestic peak of the Mount Lofty Ranges in the Adelaide Hills, is just 15 minutes from the City by car, and overlooks some of the most picturesque scenery in South Australia. Its spectacular panoramic views of Adelaide are a result of its prime location 710.1 metres above sea level, the highest peak closest to Adelaide.

Visiting

Mount Lofty Summit is a major attraction, with around 350,000 people visiting the site annually. A \$4m National Parks Centre opened in 1997.

Admission to the Centre is free although a parking charge applies.

[Fees and Charges](#)

Natural Attractions

Mount Lofty Summit is the junction of many bushwalking trails, such as the [Heysen Trail](#). Many of these trails wind through bushland and take visitors to the renowned Cleland Wildlife Park and historic Waterfall Gully.

History

Mount Lofty Summit was greatly affected by Ash Wednesday in 1983, when fire destroyed all that remained of the kiosk and parking facilities. The Fire Tower and The Obelisk were not destroyed, however. The Obelisk is known as Flinders Column in honour of the Matthew Flinders, the Captain of the *Investigator* who sighted and named Mt Lofty from Kangaroo Island on 23 March 1802. On 22 March 1902, 100 years after the sighting, Lord Tennyson unveiled a tablet at the site in honour of Flinders. A second plaque was unveiled this year on 23 March 2002 by the Governor of South Australia Her Excellency Marjorie Jackson-Nelson commemorating 200 years.

Facilities

The accredited Visitor Centre at Mount Lofty Summit provides visitors with free information about tourist attractions in the Adelaide Hills and the rest of the state. High impact panels and multi-media touch screens provide an interactive way of showcasing information about conservation initiatives, tourism opportunities and European and Aboriginal heritage.

The Mount Lofty Summit Gift Shop is a great place for quality souvenirs. The shop displays Australian-made items, as well as a variety of gifts hand-made by talented local people.

The fully licensed Summit Restaurant Mount Lofty is a great place to take in the stunning views of Adelaide whilst enjoying a hearty breakfast, lunch or dinner. Serving 'Modern Australian' food, it is open 7 days for breakfast and lunch, and 5 nights for dinner (Wednesday to Sunday). The venue is also available for functions on Monday and Tuesday nights. For more details or bookings the Restaurant can be contacted on (61 8) 8339 2600.

Opening times:

Visitor Information Centre and Gift Shop:	9 am to 5 pm daily
Restaurant:	9 am to 5 pm Monday to Tuesday 9 am to late Wednesday to Sunday

Further information is available from the Mount Lofty Summit Visitor Centre on (61 8) 8370 1054.