



# Birds Australia Gluepot Reserve

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## ***Visitor Information***

Gluepot Reserve is located 1.5 hrs drive on well-maintained dirt roads north of Waikerie, SA. The Reserve is open to visitors year-round. Entry fees are payable upon arrival. Facilities include a visitor information centre, campgrounds, birdhides, driving and walking tracks, and brochures. The following section provides prospective visitors with necessary pre-departure information.

## ***Climate***

Average rainfall is 200 mm (8 inches). The best time to visit is between April and October. In March and November temperatures can climb to over 35 degrees Celsius and during summer (December - February) temperatures can soar to around 40 degrees Celsius for some days.

## ***Location and directions***

Gluepot is located 64 km north of Waikerie and the Murray River in South Australia's Riverland district.

Topographic Map sheets:

1: 250,000 Chowilla Sheet SI 54-6

1: 100,000 Koomooloo 6830 South Australia, and Parcoola 6930 South Australia

An accurate, detailed 1: 100,000 map will be provided when you register at the Gluepot Reserve visitor centre, or can be downloaded from the website: <http://www.riverland.net.au/~gluepot/>

Gluepot's size is 51,300 hectares or 126,700 acres measures approximately 40 x 14 kilometres

The homestead is 64 km, and 1 - 1.5 hours drive north of Waikerie. The route to Gluepot Reserve from the Waikerie or the ferry and then to Taylorville is signposted. Taylorville, a small collection of houses 14 km north of Waikerie, is on the Renmark to Morgan road. Taylorville is 83 km west of Renmark and 31 km east of Morgan. Gluepot Reserve is signposted on the corner of Lunn Road. Lunn Road has a prominent Christadelphian hall on the corner. The dirt road is signposted all the way to the Gluepot homestead. The road is traversable by conventional two-wheel drive vehicles and small to medium sized caravans during dry weather, but is temporarily closed after heavy rain which mainly falls during summer storms.



#### DIRECTIONS TO GLUEPOT RESERVE

1. TURN LEFT OUT OF SHELL SERVICE STATION.
2. TAKE FIRST TURN RIGHT TO FERRY.
3. AFTER FERRY CROSSING, FOLLOW BITUMEN ROAD TO MORGAN/RENMARK ROAD - 11 KM.
4. TURN LEFT AND TRAVEL 3 KM TO CHRTADELPHIAN CHURCH ON RIGHT - LUNN ROAD.
5. TRAVEL 1.5 KM DOWN GRAVEL ROAD TO FIRST GATE.
6. FOLLOW SIGNS TO GLUEPOT.

### **Accommodation**

The only accommodation at Gluepot are camping sites.

There is a caravan park, hotel and motel at Waikerie. Similar services exist in other nearby Riverland towns such as Morgan, Barmera, Berri and Loxton. If you are likely to arrive at night, you are strongly advised to stay at one of these establishments rather than attempting to negotiate in the dark the 50 km of farm tracks and side roads into Gluepot. The one hour drive into the Reserve, registration at the shearing shed (which has no lights), and finding the ideal camping site will all be so much easier and enjoyable in the morning.

### **What to bring**

*Visitors should aim to be self-sufficient. Before driving into Gluepot Reserve you will need:*

- Water. Bring sufficient water to cover your own drinking, cooking and washing needs. Water is a scarce resource at Gluepot Reserve. Riverland towns are unlikely to provide visitors with rain water, though treated domestic water is generally available.
- Cooking. Only gas fires may be used. Gas bottles can be filled at the Waikerie Shell Service Station. No wood fires are permitted on the Reserve.
- Lighting. Use gas or kerosene lamps. Take spare batteries for torches.
- Vehicle fuel is available at the Waikerie Shell Service Station. Fuel is not available at Gluepot Reserve.
- Food. Note that fruit fly control programs mean that all fresh fruit and vegetables such as potatoes, onions, capsicums and tomatoes may not be carried into the Riverland district from elsewhere. These food items may be purchased at Riverland towns such as Renmark, Waikerie or Morgan. Ice is not available at Gluepot Reserve so plan your food requirements accordingly.
- Garbage bag. Visitors must remove all their own rubbish so bring garbage bags to take all your rubbish away.
- Equipment. Bring your binoculars, field guides, camera, notebook and pencil, compass, GPS (Global Positioning System), and vehicle spares. The Reserve's flat to undulating tracks are suitable for mountain bikes. Remember to carry a puncture repair kit.
- Firearms and pets are not permitted on the Reserve.

### ***Visitor safety***

- Register at the shearing shed near the homestead on arrival and sign out on departure.
- Observe Reserve speed limit of 40 kph. Drive only on defined tracks.
- Do not swim in dams. Muddy water can conceal old wire and steel posts.
- Tell someone where you are going. Walk along roads, marked trails and fence lines. Take plenty of water, a map, compass and protective apparel.
- Protective clothing. Hats, sunscreen, sunglasses and sturdy footwear are important. Summer days can be over 40 deg C and winter nights can be below 0 deg C. Plan your clothing needs according to the season and bring all your personal requirements, including any medication.
- Communications. Gluepot Reserve has HF, VHF and UHF base station radios. UHF channel 1 is used by the Gluepot rangers (but not monitored all the time!). A telephone in the Volunteer Ranger's house is available for emergency calls only (08 88929600). Telephone calls are expensive and must be paid for. Gluepot Reserve is outside any mobile phone network area.

### ***Reserve access***

To monitor and manage the potential impact of hundreds of visitors on the Reserve's fauna an area has been set aside where there continues to be minimal human impact. In consultation with Bookmark Biosphere Reserve, the eastern third of Gluepot Reserve has been selected. Every species of bird that occurs in the restricted access reference area can also be found elsewhere on Gluepot Reserve. Please help us achieve this management objective by not entering the reference area.

Birds Australia, through its Management Committee and Rangers, reserves the right to close Gluepot Reserve and to require visitors to leave the Reserve if their safety is threatened (eg on days of extreme fire danger). Parts of the Reserve may be closed to visitors during feral animal control programs. Should any visitor cause substantial environmental damage or behave unacceptably they may also be required to leave the Reserve.

## ***Entry fee and donations***

Due to the ongoing operating cost related to managing the Reserve, an honesty-based entry fee system applies:

- Day visitors \$5 per day per vehicle
- Campers \$10 per night per vehicle (do not have to pay day entry)
- Commercial tours \$2.50 per person per day
- Commercial tours staying overnight \$5 per person per night (do not have to pay day entry)

The donations of visitors, campers and supporters are essential for managing the Reserve effectively for the conservation of native plants and animals, and particularly its nationally threatened birds. All regular workers including the Rangers at Gluepot Reserve are volunteers and so your donation will go undiluted to its conservation targets.

- Tax-deductible donations may be made by filling in the forms at the shearing shed.
- All donations over \$250 will be acknowledged on a commemorative plaque.