

# Bushfire traveller safety

AT WORK OR ON HOLIDAYS, STAY SAFE  
WHILE TRAVELLING THIS BUSHFIRE SEASON



## Information Hotline

1800 362 361 (TTY 133 677)

[cfs.sa.gov.au](http://cfs.sa.gov.au)



Government  
of South Australia



# Know your risk

## Fire Ban Districts

Fire restrictions apply throughout South Australia's Fire Ban Districts during the Fire Danger Season. Knowing which Fire Ban District you are visiting is the first step in finding out which restrictions apply.

**Which Fire Ban District are you travelling through?**

## Fire Danger Ratings

The Fire Danger Rating is an indicator of how dangerous a bushfire could be if it occurs, not the likelihood of it happening. Understand the Fire Danger Rating to assess your level of bushfire risk and decide what actions you will take.

**Do you know today's rating?**

## Total Fire Bans

The CFS may declare Total Fire Bans in any Fire Ban Districts or even across the whole state on days when high temperatures, strong winds and low humidity could cause fires to become uncontrollable. Barbecues and camp fires are not permitted on these days.

**Do you know what you can and can't do today?**

## Do you know today's rating?

To find your District, Rating or if it's a Total Fire Ban:

- Visit [cfs.sa.gov.au](http://cfs.sa.gov.au)
- Call the Information Hotline 1800 362 361 (TTY 133 677)

Hearing or speech impaired? Contact us via the National Relay Service – by calling TTY 1300 555 727 or through other contact options available at [relayservice.gov.au](http://relayservice.gov.au)

**CALL 000 to report a fire**

## Be aware of the Fire Danger Rating and know what to do

Fire Danger Rating	What should I do?
<b>CATASTROPHIC</b> TOTAL FIRE BAN	<p><b>For your survival, leave bush fire risk areas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stay safe by leaving high risk bushfire areas the night before or early in the day— do not wait and see</li><li>• Your life may depend on the decisions you make even before there is a fire:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>— When you will leave</li><li>— Where you will go</li><li>— How you will get there</li><li>— When you will return</li><li>— What you will do if you cannot leave</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>EXTREME</b> TOTAL FIRE BAN	<p><b>Take action now to protect your life and property</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Check your Bushfire Survival Plan and that your property is fire ready</li><li>• If a fire starts, take immediate action. If you and your property are not prepared to the highest level, go to a safer location well before the fire impacts</li><li>• Reconsider travel through bushfire risk areas</li></ul>
<b>HIGH</b>	<p><b>Be ready to act</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Be alert for fires in your area</li><li>• Decide what you will do if a fire starts</li></ul>
<b>MODERATE</b>	<p><b>Plan and prepare</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Stay up to date</li><li>• Be ready to act if there is a fire</li></ul>

## Stay safe while travelling in South Australia

**Bushfires can occur without warning and can quickly impact your travel route or holiday location.**

- Know the risk of the area you're travelling in: know the Fire Ban District and the Fire Danger Rating
- Modify or postpone your travel plans when dangerous fire weather is forecast
- Know what you can and can't do on any given day during the Fire Danger Season
- Stay safe on fire danger days; plan safer activities and know where the nearest Bushfire Safer Places and Bushfire Last Resort Refuges are
- Keep woollen blankets, first aid kit, protective clothing (not synthetic) and sturdy boots, food and plenty of water in your car
- Let family, friends or colleagues know where you will be and when and if your plans change
- Know what to do if there is a bushfire in the area
- Ask your accommodation what their plan is in the event of a bushfire
- Stay alert and informed
- Be aware that in some remote areas of the state emergency services may not be able to get to you for several hours

## On fire danger days

**Fires can still start and be dangerous on days that aren't a Total Fire Ban.**

- If your travel or activities take you into high risk areas, can you postpone your trip, plan a different route, swap to an activity that is safer on Total Fire Ban days?
- Can a work-related job be done on another day / or move to a safer location?
- Do your plans involve activities or tools not permitted on a Total Fire Ban day?
- Where is your nearest Bushfire Safer Place if a bushfire threatens?

You could be at risk travelling in the country during the bushfire season. Recognise the warning signs, and learn what to do to keep yourself safe.

## Bushwalking

Avoid bushwalking on Total Fire Ban days, but if you are caught in a bushfire:

**Do not try to outrun the flames.**

- Head for natural fire breaks, e.g. clearing or rocky outcrop
- Keep away from high ground in the path of the fire
- Cover yourself or shelter behind a solid object (e.g. a rock or solid structure) to protect yourself against radiant heat

## Camping and houseboats

If camping, staying in a caravan park or travelling in a houseboat:

- Ask if there is a Bushfire Safer Place or safe area nearby
- Sheltering in a brick toilet building or shower block might be an option
- Be careful using generators
- Make sure you are familiar with local restrictions applying to fires and barbecues
- If you are visiting a national park, contact your local parks office or ask the Rangers about the local fire and barbecue regulations. Some parks are closed on fire danger days so you may need to leave your campsite

**Check the CFS website [cfs.sa.gov.au](https://cfs.sa.gov.au) and fact sheets for more information**

# Bushfire traveller safety

## If you are caught in the path of a bushfire

**A car is one of the deadliest places to be in a bushfire.**

**The only sure way to survive is to be nowhere near the fire.**

- If you see smoke, slow down and be aware there could be people, vehicles or animals on the road
- Turn around where safe to do so and drive to the nearest township or Bushfire Safer Place
- Pull over to the side of the road and stop your vehicle in a clear area
- Turn your car headlights on and close windows and outside vents
- Ensure you are not in the path of the fire
- Keep your headlights and hazard lights on and wait until the smoke clears

## If you can't escape the path of the fire.

- Stay inside your vehicle – it offers better protection than being in the open
- Park in a clear area, preferably behind a solid structure to block some of the radiant heat
- Face your car towards the fire
- Turn the engine and air-conditioning off
- Tightly close the doors, windows and air vents
- Lie on the floor and shelter under woollen blankets to protect yourself from radiant heat
- Avoid dehydration: drink lots of water
- Heat and smoke from the fire and fumes from the car may make breathing difficult – stay under the blankets and cover your mouth with a P2 mask
- Stay down until the sound of the fire has passed, carefully leave the car (it will be hot)
- Move to a safe area (e.g. land that has already burnt)

## Where to go on fire danger days

Leaving a high risk bushfire area early, before a fire starts, is always the safest option for your survival.

We have identified places that can offer relative safety from a bushfire. For more information, maps of these places and to find out if you are travelling in or near a Bushfire Safer Place visit [cfs.sa.gov.au](http://cfs.sa.gov.au).

### Bushfire Safer Places

#### BUSHFIRE SAFER PLACE



Adelaide Metropolitan area, outer suburbs and rural settlements. Use if you need to relocate early.

Suitable for use during forecast bad fire weather or during bushfire. May be subject to sparks, embers and smoke.

#### BUSHFIRE LAST RESORT REFUGE



Ovals, buildings in rural areas. Use only if your plan has failed and you cannot reach a designated Bushfire Safer Place.

Only use if your plan has failed and you cannot reach a Bushfire Safer Place. Not Suitable for extended use and provides only limited protection during bushfire.

## Stay informed

ABC Local Radio, FIVEaa Radio, Sky News Television, ABC News 24

### Contact the Information Hotline

on 1800 362 361 (TTY 133 677) [cfs.sa.gov.au](http://cfs.sa.gov.au)



[cfs.sa.gov.au](http://cfs.sa.gov.au)



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[www.alert.sa.gov.au](http://www.alert.sa.gov.au)



# Stay informed

# Listen for emergency warnings and alerts

Adelaide	ABC Radio Adelaide	891 AM
Adelaide	Cruise 1323	1323 AM
Adelaide	FIVEaa	1395 AM
Adelaide	Nova 919	91.9 FM
Adelaide	Mix 102.3	102.3 FM
Adelaide	Triple M	104.7 FM
Adelaide	SAFM	107.1 FM
Andamooka	ABC Radio North & West	105.9 FM
Ceduna	ABC Radio Eyre Peninsula	693 AM
Ceduna	Flow FM	106.1 FM
Clare/Mid North	ABC Radio North & West	639 AM
Clare/Mid North	ABC Radio Adelaide	891 AM
Clare/Mid North	Flow FM	107.5 FM
Coober Pedy	ABC Radio North & West	106.1 FM
Coober Pedy	Flow FM	99.7 FM
Coonalpyn	Flow FM	97.7 FM
Glendambo	ABC Radio North & West	106.1 FM
Kapunda/Barossa	ABC Radio North & West	639 AM
Kapunda/Barossa	ABC Radio Adelaide	891 AM
Kapunda/Barossa	Flow FM	99.5 FM
Kingscote	ABC Radio Adelaide	891 AM
Kingscote	Klx FM	90.7 FM
Kingston SE	ABC Radio South East	1161 AM
Leigh Creek	ABC Radio North & West	99.3 FM
Coalfield	ABC Radio North & West	103.3 FM
Leigh Creek	ABC Radio North & West	1602 AM
Leigh Creek South	ABC Radio North & West	103.3 FM
Maitland	ABC Radio Adelaide	891 AM
Maitland	ABC Radio North & West	639 AM
Maitland	Flow FM	90.9 FM
Marree	ABC Radio North & West	105.7 FM
Minlaton	ABC Radio Adelaide	891 AM
Minlaton	ABC Radio North & West	639 AM
Minlaton	Flow FM	98.9 FM
Mintabie	ABC Radio North & West	88.7 FM
Mt Barker	ABC Radio Adelaide	891 AM
Mt Barker	Cruise 1323	1323 AM
Mt Barker	FIVEaa	1395 AM
Mt Barker	Nova 919	91.9 FM
Mt Barker	Mix 102.3	102.3 FM

Mt Barker	TripleM	104.7 FM / 98.3 FM
Mt Gambier	ABC Radio South East	1476 AM / 1161 AM
Mt Gambier	Triple M	963 AM
Mt Gambier	SAFM 96.1	96.1 FM
Murray Bridge	ABC Radio Adelaide	891 AM
Murray Bridge	5MU	94.3 FM / 96.3 FM / 97.1FM
Murray Bridge	Power FM	98.7 FM
Naracoorte	ABC Radio South East	1161 AM
Naracoorte	SAFM 96.1	96.1 FM
Naracoorte	Star FM	100.9 FM
Padthaway	ABC Radio South East	1161 AM
Padthaway	Flow FM	100.3 FM
Pinnaroo	Flow FM	96.5 FM
Pinnaroo	ABC Radio Riverland	1062 AM
Port Augusta	ABC Radio North and West	639 AM
Port Augusta	5AU	97.9 FM
Port Augusta	Magic FM	105.9 FM
Port Lincoln	ABC Radio Eyre Peninsula	1485 AM
Port Lincoln	5CC	765 AM
Port Lincoln	Magic 899	89.9 FM
Port Pirie	ABC Radio North & West	639 AM
Prominent Hill	Flow FM	91.3 FM
Riverland	5RM	801 AM
Riverland	ABC Radio Riverland	1062 AM
Riverland	Magic 931	93.1 FM
Roxby Downs	Flow FM	97.9 FM
Roxby Downs	ABC Radio North & West	102.7 FM
Streaky Bay	ABC Radio Eyre Peninsula	693 AM / 102.7 FM
Streaky Bay	Flow FM	99.3 FM
Victor Harbor	ABC Radio Adelaide	891 AM
Victor Harbor	ABC Radio North & West	639 AM
Victor Harbor	Power FM	99.7 FM
Woomera	ABC Radio North & West	1584 AM
Woomera	Flow FM	101.7 FM
Wudinna	ABC Radio North & West	639 AM / 693 AM
Wudinna	5CC	765 AM
Wudinna	Flow FM	106.9 FM
Yalata	ABC Radio North & West	105.9 FM