

	<p>The Australasian Murray River</p> <p>1 Parker Street, Goolwa, 5214 Phone (08) 8555 1588 australasian1894@bigpond.com www.australasian1898.com</p> <p>Cost: Friday and Saturday nights, \$205 a double a night; Sunday, \$275 a night (two-night minimum stay, or one night with dinner package, \$400). Breakfast included.</p> <p>Distance: 35km south of Adelaide.</p> <p>Accommodation: 160 suites.</p> <p>Features: restaurant, EcoSmart fridges, large bathrooms (rain shower in island Royal), LCD TV with CD/DVD player, safe, queen-size beds, copper deck with outdoor settings, reading room, yukka bathroom.</p> <p>Neatly: Historic island (Cooking tours depart from Maudslayi Quay), steam train rides, Fleurieu Peninsula Art Trail, swimming and surfing beaches, snorkelling, coastal walks, fishing and cooking, sailing, bird- and whale-watching, numerous wineries (Curriemook, McLaren Vale, Langhorne Creek regions), restaurants and cafes, various markets, gift stores, Goolwa Doll & Toy Museum.</p> <p>Children: only in Garden Room.</p> <p>Wheelchair access: in the ground-floor Garden Room.</p> <p>Proprietors Juliet Michel and Deborah Smalley have spent the past 10 years painstakingly renovating a dilapidated two-story building which, from 1898 to 1934, was called The Australasian Hotel. Located in the historic township of Goolwa at the mouth of the Murray River, The Australasian is now an outstanding addition to the range of accommodation on South Australia's beautiful southern Fleurieu Peninsula. Presenting a stunning antidote to the formulaic blandness of much modern hotel décor, The Australasian's five rooms feature Chinese and Japanese antiques alongside mid-century modern classics and contemporary pieces.</p> <p>Despite the very stylish restaurant on the premises, we opted for dinner – a three-course, Asian-influenced meal – to be served in our room.</p> <p>For breakfast there is the choice of a superb cooked meal, or a bento box option with muesli, yogurt and fruit.</p> <p>Try also to check out the hotel's comprehensive DVD collection of Australian, contemporary and Asian (or Asian-themed) films. Wendy Walker</p> 
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