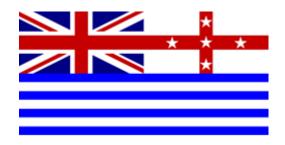
My Lady



Voyage Planning Guide



This Voyage Planning Manual should be read in conjunction with the current version of the *My Lady Instruction Manual*.

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1 Introduction

Fully implementing this guide would be complete overkill for a weekend trip, but it does address points relevant for shorter voyages. Each voyage is different, so the guide attempts to provide a wide range of suggestions. You should tailor the checklists to remove or add items to suit. A suggested way to use this document is to photocopy the checklists. Look at each step and see if it is relevant to your voyage. If not, cross it out and ignore it. Add any specific requirements for your voyage. You may want to photocopy the customised lists to use as your master checklists.

2 Voyage Plan

2.1 General

A voyage plan can range from one that simply sets a destination with the approximate arrival, right up to one that maps every hour of the voyage. At the very minimum, your voyage plan should be enough to tell a friend or relative, approximately where you will be during the voyage so that you can be located if necessary. Anyone looking after your home should have a copy to contact you if necessary.

In addition to being a safety precaution, a voyage plan will give you confidence that you will be able to do the things you want and return from your destination in the time available. It will let you know whether you can stay that extra day in that dream spot you find on your voyage or whether it will have to wait until next time.

A voyage plan will assist you determine the provisions needed for each leg of the voyage. If you know approximately how long you will be away from civilisation, you will be able to estimate how much fuel, food, water, and drink you will need to carry. It will also help you determine when and where you may need to pump out your black water (sewage) holding tanks.

The My Lady Voyage Plan provided with this guide is a template for a simple voyage plan to leave with a responsible person. In addition to the itinerary of the voyage, the template provides information such as phone numbers, information about your boat, point of departure and the registration of your vehicle.

2.2 Know the Seasons and the Weather

The seasons and the weather can have a significant impact on the performance of the houseboat, not only fuel consumption and travelling speed, but also on the capacity of the solar panels and batteries.

The flow of the river is programmed by seasonal allocations, as well as by weather events such as floods and droughts. Periods of high flow have a much greater impact on the travelling speed (and fuel consumption) when the houseboat is travelling upstream. Periods of low flow are also often associated with low river levels. Information about the flow can be found on the Internet (https://riverdata.mdba.gov.au/system-view).

Weather events on a voyage can also affect the houseboat's speed and fuel consumption during periods of strong wind. The wind can change the height of the river and blow the houseboat into the bank, making it difficult to cast off.

Finally, both the season and the current weather can affect the ability for the solar panels to recharge the domestic and refrigerator batteries. Cloudy days are especially an issue in winter when the hours of sunlight are reduced.

2.3 Planning Calculators

2.3.1 Travel calculator

The Murray River trip calculator on the <u>River Murray Boat Owners Association</u> (RMBOA) website covers from Wellington (lower limit of permitted travel) to beyond Wentworth. Using the cruising speed and fuel consumption provided in the *My Lady* Handbook, you can calculate expected travelling times, fuel consumption and the cost of the voyage.

While travelling for many hours for a day or two will probably not be too onerous, it can become tedious if you need to travel long hours every day to achieve your travel plans. It is recommended that time is set aside without travel. This will allow you to relax, go shopping in townships, explore the riverbanks and have time to address any unexpected events that may arise.

PLEASE NOTE: Consider that the houseboat's speed is influenced by the speed of the current and the direction/speed of the winds. Check what the seasonal weather is likely to be during your voyage. 7-day predictions of the weather including local windspeed and direction can be found on the Bureau Of Meteorology (BOM) MetEye web page (http://www.bom.gov.au/australia/meteye/?ref=ftr).

2.3.2 Blackwater Calculator

The RMBOA website contains a black water holding tank calculator that can be used to calculate when the black water tanks will need to be emptied. It is best to pump out the tanks well before they are full as it can be very unpleasant if the tanks back up into your toilets.

Please Note: The water from the sinks in the kitchen, bathroom and outside toilet all empty into the black water tank. The water from these sinks must be considered when calculating the amount of black water in the holding tanks.

3 Before You Leave Home

Just as it is important to plan your trip, it is important to plan to secure your home. *Para 16* contains the "Before You Leave Home" checklist. Photocopy the list and cross out any items that are not relevant. Add any additional items specific to your circumstances.

3.1 Monitoring Your House

One of the most important parts of your voyage is to ensure that your home is well looked after when you are away. An obviously empty house is unfortunately an invitation to burglary and/or vandalism.

If your home would otherwise be empty, ask a relative or friend to live in your house while you are away. If you cannot find a reliable person to house-sit, then there are organisations that can arrange a free house sitter for you - a Google search using "house sitting" will point you in the right direction.

If this is not practical, an alternative is to have a friend or relative periodically visit the house to make sure there are no obvious signs that no one is living in the house.

If you are leaving your house unoccupied, examine your property and see whether you are giving any indications that you are not there. The most obvious signs that a house is unoccupied are away, is a bulging letterbox. Although you can get the Post Office to hold your mail and you can cancel the daily papers, it is harder to stop junk mail. Get a neighbour or a friend to collect them so they don't advertise you are away.

More subtly, any extra security measures you may take may advertise that you are away. If your front gates are always open and your blinds are always up, seeing the gates suddenly locked and all the blinds down may be enough to show that you are absent. If you are going to make these changes, consider making them well before you leave so that they will seem normal where you are not there.

NOTE: If you are leaving your house unoccupied, it is best to check with your insurance company to see if they will continue coverage for the period during which the house in unoccupied. A typical maximum period may in the order of 28 days, but it is best to check.

3.2 Paying Bills

If you don't have any bills overdue when you go on that weekend or weeklong trip, it is unlikely that your boat, house, or car insurance will expire while you are away. An extended trip is another matter. There is a real possibility that a bill may arrive and pass its final notice while you are away. The last thing you want to hear is that your house has burnt down, and the insurance has lapsed; or that your car was uninsured when a truck backed into it.

If you have automatic payments, the bills will not be an issue (if you leave enough money in the appropriate account). If you pay your bills manually, you will need to check if the important bills such as insurance, registration, and utilities (water, gas, power) are due or will fall due while you are away. Once you know what bills need to be paid, you can address them before they become a problem. In most cases, the best practice is to contact the organisation sending you the bill and ask what options are available. An early payment may be possible, the company may be happy to defer the bill until you return, or you may need to set up an automatic transfer from your bank.

Para 15 0 contains the "Bills To Pay" checklist.

4 Maintenance

A smooth voyage depends on your vessel operating as expected. This is only likely to occur if your vessel has been properly maintained before the voyage. The *My Lady Instruction Manual* for pre- and post-voyage maintenance information.

5 Problem Areas

There are several problem areas along the river, especially in times of low or high river flow. Where these areas are, depends on the draught of your vessel and the prevailing river conditions. Information from social media or clubs such as the River Murray Boat Owners Association (RMBOA) may provide valuable information about current or expected river conditions.

It is advisable to check with the Locks or locals on whether these levels may cause problems. Since the Locks essentially control the depth of the river, it is advisable to consult them to see if there are any major level changes expected. Such changes occur when the flow rates change on a seasonal basis and for environmental or other reasons. See *Para 6* and *Para 7* for the Lock and Opening Bridge contact details.

The following website will provide you will provide you with information about river heights and water flow: https://riverdata.mdba.gov.au/system-view. The only disadvantage of this website is that it generally provides the river level as metres above mean sea level (msl), rather than the depth of water to the bottom of the river above or below the Lock. If you do not know the area, this can make it difficult to know whether the depth in the channels is enough for your vessel.

To help gauge the expected depth of the river, the table below provides the normal pool levels above and below the Locks. It should be noted that the Murray River is normally a series of pools behind the weirs (hence the term "pool level"). The variation in pool level only gives an indication of whether the river levels are higher or lower than normal, not the actual clearance for your vessel at any location.

Table 1 - River Murray Pool Levels

Level Below Lock Nominal Pool 1

Lock	Nominal Pool Level Below Lock (metres above mean sea level)	
1	0.75	3.2
2	3.2	6.1
3	6.1	9.8
4	9.8	13.2
5	13.2	16.3
6	16.3	19.25
7	19.25	22.1
8	22.1	24.6
9	24.6	27.4
10	27.4	30.8

In times of low river flow, excessive weed becomes a serious problem as it can foul propellers and/or block cooling water to engines. It is difficult to predict where there may be areas of weed, so take care to check propellers and engine cooling water tell-tales (and/or engine temperature) periodically to ensure that engines are operating correctly. When travelling keep an eye out for any unusual river conditions that may warn of possible problem areas.

In times of high-water flow, the cruising speed of the vessel can be significantly impacted. The Trip Calculator mentioned elsewhere can adjust cruising speeds used in the calculations based on the current flow. It is likely that the maximum reduction in upstream speed, compared to normal engine revs, will only be about 2.5kph this is significant if your cruising speed in normally only 6kph. Travelling downstream will result in a comparable increase in speed.

6 Locks/Barrage

Time of Year	Barrage Opening Times
1 st December to 30 th May	0800 to 1245; 1345 to 1800
1 st June to 30 th November	0800 to 1245; 1345 to 1630

Table 2 - Goolwa Barrage Opening Times

Time of Year	Lock 1-9 Opening Times
All year (except Christmas Day)	0800 to 1130; 1300 to 1630

Table 3 - Lock 1 to 9 Opening Times

Time of Year	Lock 10 Opening Times	
All year	0800 to 1630. Downstream on the	
	hour, upstream on the half hour.	

Table 4 - Lock 10 Opening Times

The Locks and the Barrage opening times may vary due to maintenance requirements. If you intend to use them on your trip, find out if amended operating times will be in place. *Table 5 – Lock/Barrage Contact Phone Numbers* shows the contact details and the times of the major maintenance scheduled for the locks at the time of publishing this guide. If there is difficulty contacting any of the locks using the number below, ring the SA Water Berri Office on **(08) 8595 2222** for additional information.

Lock/Barrage	Phone Number	UHF CB Channel
Lock 1	(08) 8540 5001	
Lock 2	(08) 8543 2246	
Lock 3	(08) 8588 7005	
Lock 4	(08) 8582 1388	
Lock 5	(08) 8595 5114	
Lock 6	(08) 8595 8025	Channel 6 (Duplex)
Lock 7	(03) 5027 8225	
Lock 8	(03) 5027 8231	
Lock 9	(03) 5028 2235	
Lock 10	(03) 5027 3190	
Lock 11	(03) 5023 1396	

Table 5 – Lock/Barrage Contact Phone Numbers

7 Bridges

7.1 Clearances under the Bridges

Bridges along the river have different clearances. This may determine where you can travel along the river. Table 6 – Bridge Clearances provides the approximate clearance for the bridges along the river in South Australia.

Bridge		Horizontal Clearance	Vertical Clearance	
Swanport Bridge		67 metres	11.5 metres	
Old Murray Bridge		73 metres	8.7 metres	
Murray Rail Bridge		35 metres	9.3 metres	
Blanchetown Bridge		Unknown but about 20 metres	13.6 metres	
Kingston Bridge		22 metres	12.1 metres	
Paringa Bridge	Lowered	21 metres	3.8 metres	
	Raised	21 metres	12.3 metres	
Berri Bridge		Unknown, wider than 20 metres	12.8 metres	

Table 6 – Bridge Clearances

7.2 Opening Bridges

The Paringa and Wentworth bridges can be raised to provide more clearance. The normal clearance of the Paringa Bridge is approximately 4.5 metres while the Wentworth Bridge has a normal clearance of about 5.75 metres. Table 7 - Opening Bridge Contact Numbers & Opening Times gives the nominal lifting times of the bridges. Bridge opening times may vary to maintenance, so it is essential to check the opening times if you need the bridges opened.

Bridge	Contact Details	Opening Times

Paringa	Phone: 0408 955 322 (at least 2 hours'	Monday to Friday: 09:30am and 02:30pm; Weekends and Public Holidays: 11:00am
	notice)	
Wentworth	Phone: (03) 5027 3381	Monday to Friday : 09:30am, 11:30am, 02:30pm
	UHF CB Channel 14	Weekends/Public Holidays: also 05:00pm

Table 7 - Opening Bridge Contact Numbers & Opening Times

8 South Australian River Ferries

South Australia currently has ferries at ten (10) locations along the river as shown in Table 8 - Ferry Locations in South Australia. These ferries operate 24 hours per day and have right of way over other river traffic.

Ferry Location	River Distance	Ferry Location	River Distance
Wellington	76 km	Tailem bend	88 km
Mannum (dual ferries)	116 km	Purnong	192 km
Walker Flat	208 km	Swan Reach	246 km
Morgan	320 km	Cadell	328 km
Waikerie	382 km	Lyrup	537 km

Table 8 - Ferry Locations in South Australia

9 Internet Access

The most flexible way to get an Internet connection is to use a smart phone or by installing an Internet device with an external antenna on your houseboat. Do not expect universal access along the river using these devices.

Many main streets and wharf areas in towns along the river provide limited free Internet Access – such as a limit of one (1) hour per day. This limit is associated with the computer being used, so if you have a second computer with a Wi-Fi connection, you may be able to get a second hour of free Internet access per day.

Internet access in the libraries is usually free but may require a booking. Some libraries may restrict Internet access to locals. Table 9 - Public Internet Access below lists a selection of towns along the river where there is known to have public Internet Access (apart from free public access in the streets or wharf area). These locations are often limited to business hours, so phone ahead to be sure.

Township	River Distance (km)	Internet Access Location	Contact Phone
			Number
Tailem Bend	88 km	Tailem Bend Community Library	(08) 8572 3266
Murray Bridge	112 km	Murray Bridge Library	(08) 8539 1175
Mannum	150 km	Mannum Community Library	(08) 8569 2005
Blanchetown	274 km	Blanchetown Information Centre	(08) 8540 5453
Morgan	320 km	Council Complex	(08) 8540 2290
Waikerie	383 km	Public Library	(08) 8541 0720
Loxton	490 km	Public Library	
Berri	526 km	Public Library	(08) 8589 2666
Renmark	568 km	Public Library	(08) 8586 5544

Table 9 - Public Internet Access

10 Fishing

10.1 Fishing Licence

Although recreational fishing in South Australia does not require a licence, a licence for each person is required if you are fishing in New South Wales. The Old Customs House store at Border Cliffs sells New South Wales fishing licences.

Please Note: It is believed that having fishing equipment onboard is deemed to show an intent to fish in New South Wales (NSW) and as such, a licence would be required. If entering NSW, check if a licence is required.

10.2 Fishing Restrictions

There are number of fishing restrictions that apply in South Australia and New South Wales. They are not identical, and they can vary from season to season. The South Australian fishing limits can be found at: https://www.pir.sa.gov.au/recreational_fishing/rules/species_limits

The New South Wales fishing limits can be found at: https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/recreational/fishing-rules-and-regs/freshwater-bag-and-size-limits

10.3 Fishing Equipment

Some fishing equipment is provided onboard, include yabby traps, small rods and some hooks and sinkers. It is recommended that if you are seriously into fishing that you provide your own equipment and bait.

If you just want to casually try fishing, the available fishing equipment, plus a small can of corn kernels for bait will be enough to fish for Carp. Caught Carp can be used as bait for the yabby traps.

11 Provisioning Your Voyage

Para 17 contains the "Provisioning" checklist. Photocopy the list and cross off any items that are not relevant. Add any items specific to your personal needs. The most important aspect of provisioning is to ensure that your party maintains a balanced diet. As this varies between individuals, you will probably need to add items to the checklist. Once you have customised the list, photocopy that list for future use.

11.1 Food

Books about 4WD adventures can provide additional advice on the selection and storage of food.

11.1.1 Quantities of Food

What quantity of provisions you need depends on how many are onboard, how often you will be near shops; and whether you have any special requirements. While the shops close to the river supply most of your basics, if you just must have that special "Olde English Breakfast Marmalade" or special medications then you will probably need to take enough with you to last the voyage. If you intend to spend days from away from civilisation, then you will need to carry more provisions that if you are planning to moor each night in a township.

One of the primary considerations in selecting provisions is whether there is a suitable place to store them. There is little point in bringing a month's worth of frozen meals if you only have a cooler box. Not only are there limitations on refrigerated storage on most vessels, but there is also often a limit to the amount of space available for general storage. It certainly may be the case that you can save money by making bulk purchases at the local supermarket. If you must climb over boxes of food for the first half of the voyage, it probably won't be worth it.

Irrespective of the type of storage, some guidelines can be used to extend the shelf life of food. Select fruit and vegetables with no blemishes, as blemishes may be the start of decay. It is better to have a whole item, like a pumpkin, instead of a piece of one as a complete skin protects the pumpkin from decay or drying out.

It is better to have two small items, rather than one large item because you can use one item without cutting the skin of the other. Vacuum-sealed items prevent air from reaching the item extending its shelf life. Packet and tinned products generally have the longest shelf life.

11.1.2 Types of Food

The types of food that you should plan to take depend on the storage facilities that you have onboard. Each type of food (frozen, canned, packet, sealed pouch, fresh, etc) has advantages and disadvantages on a voyage.

11.1.2.1 Fruit and Vegetables

Some fruit and vegetable types have relatively short shelf lives, while others are capable of being stored for relatively long periods. For example, vegetables like potatoes, pumpkins, onions, and cabbages as well as fruit like apples, oranges, and lemons can have a long shelf life if stored properly.

Ideally, all items of fruit and vegetable should be stored without touching each other and in a cool, dark place. The saying "One bad apple can spoil the whole barrel" is true, so it is important to only store items that are in good physical condition. Each item should be in good condition and where possible individually wrapped in paper. Unwashed potatoes stored in the dark will store longer than brushed potatoes stored in the light.

Some fruit and vegetables do not store well if they are ripe but can be stored and left to ripen. Bananas and avocados are quite robust before they ripen but have a limited shelf life once they ripen.

If you are unsure of the shelf life of a fruit or vegetable, ask the local fruit and vegetable shop for advice.

PLEASE NOTE: The Murray River flows in and out of fruit fly zones and depending on your voyage, you may need to consider this. Depending on current conditions and regulations, you may not take fruit and fruiting vegetables into the South Australia Riverland Fruit Fly Free Zone (FFFZ). Please contact the authorities relevant to the areas in which you will be travelling for current restrictions which may be stricter if there is a current fruit fly outbreak. In South Australia, the boundary for the FFFZ along the river is the South Australian Border and downstream of Purnong. **Also note that fruit fly outbreaks may restrict the transport of fruit and fruiting vegetables in areas outside of the FFFZ.**

11.1.2.2 Frozen Meals

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Frozen meals like the *Lite 'N' Easy* brand, or similar, provide a range of balanced meals after just a few minutes in the microwave. They have the advantage that they can be stacked in the freezer section of the floor fridge and the upright fridge. For example, approximately thirty (30) meals can be stacked in the freezer section of the floor fridge.

The only waste from those meals in the cardboard carton holding the meal. On the negative side, the meals are expensive compared to making meals from scratch, but they are compact and there is no need to carry a large range of ingredients to enjoy a wide range of meals.

11.1.2.3 Canned Food

Canned food has the advantage of almost indefinite storage life without cooling; the contents are often complete within themselves. Heating is usually the only processing required. The disadvantage of canned food is that it is heavy, and the round tins can waste storage space.

11.1.2.4 Packet Food

Packet food such as dehydrated meals, pasta, soups, cakes, and scones are usually light, easy to store and like canned food can have an indefinite shelf life without cooling. These foods generally need water in their preparation, and this may be an issue if water is limited.

11.1.2.5 Eggs, Cheese, and Meat

Fresh eggs have a rather long life if stored properly in a cool, dark space, preferably in an egg carton or individually wrapped in paper. Coating the shells with vegetable oil to reduce evaporation through the shell extends their shelf life. Studies have shown that coated eggs in good condition can be stored in a refrigerator or ice chest for several months.

How long cheese can be stored will depend on the type of cheese. Packet processed Cheddar does not need to be refrigerated, but natural cheeses will continue to mature and dry out. Completely sealed cheese (in a packet or by a wax coating) has a better shelf life that, say, a wedge of cheese where a large surface area is exposed.

Tinned meat provides the longest shelf life, followed by processed meats such as Salami and Jerky, which can be stored without refrigeration. Although cured meats like bacon need to be refrigerated, they have a longer shelf life than fresh meat. If you vacuum seal meat, then you can extend its shelf life – label the package as it can be hard to identify different cuts when it is packaged. Vacuum-sealed meat still needs to be refrigerated, but it can be stored in the ice of an icebox, under the drinks, instead of being in the fridge. Of course, it is important that you do not forget that it is there because it will eventually go off, especially when the ice melts! If you store meat in the freezer, make sure that it is individually packaged, or the portions kept separate so that you do not need to thaw out the whole lot to get a piece. Do not re-freeze thawed raw meat without cooking.

11.2 Water

Although your voyage will be on a river from which much of South Australia draws its water, it is not suitable for human consumption without treatment. Each person requires about 2 litres of water per day. Use drinking water when cooking. Some periodic river water contaminants, such as the toxins from Blue-Green algae are not destroyed by boiling.

Take care when refilling water tanks, as taps in riverside parks may not provide treated drinking water. If you are obtaining fuel from marinas, you may be able to refill your water tanks as you refuel. If you intend to get water from a local service station, remember that a full 20-litre container is heavy if you intend to carry it more than a short way. *Para 11.3.2* discusses methods of carrying containers.

11.3 Fuel

My Lady uses two types of fuel: unleaded petrol for the outboards and the generator; and gas for cooking, hot water, and heating.

11.3.1 Worst-case Petrol Consumption

The important thing when calculating consumption is to consider the likely worst-case scenario. This is usually that your vessel is running against the current and into the wind where the houseboat will slow considerably. The result is much higher consumption that expected. For example, if *My Lady* is travelling around eight (8)

kph downstream on a calm day, and a strong wind, or the current when going upstream, slows it to six (6) kph for the same engine speed, you can expect to use at least 25% more fuel to travel the same distance.

There are two basic options with high wind. The first is to moor until the wind subsides, saving fuel but losing travelling time. The second is either to continue at a slower speed, or to open the throttles to keep the same cruising speed, either way contributes to higher fuel consumption. There is not much that can be done with a high current other than selecting the most economical cruising speed to get the best possible range.

The fuel consumption gauges on the motors are invaluable for knowing how much fuel you have used and at what rate you are using fuel. The *Speed Vs Fuel Consumption Chart* can help you determine the most economical cruising speed under various river conditions.

11.3.2 Petrol Refuelling

Using the information provided in the *My Lady Instruction Manual*, the Murray River Cruise Calculator will help you estimate where you will need to refuel on your voyage. Once you know where you plan to refuel, you can look for local marinas or service stations on the internet or the phone directory for the area.

If you are planning to get fuel from a marina, you should contact the marina to find out if they sell to the public; and when they are available for sales. Some marinas may ask how much fuel you intend to purchase and when you intend to buy it. You should not be surprised if when you want to buy a few litres of fuel on a Friday afternoon when the marina staff are busy booking out hire boats, they aren't interested in serving you.

There are two significant legs on the river in relation to petrol. One is between Goolwa and Wellington (64km across open water). *My Lady* is not fitted out with the required safety equipment, or insured for travel across the lakes, so this leg is <u>forbidden</u>.

For the Border Cliffs to Wentworth (188km) leg, at nominal consumption, it would require about 200 litres of fuel. Assuming the nominal worst fuel consumption for the entire trip, it could take over 300 litres of fuel.

Apart from Morgan to Waikerie (62 km), most other legs are less than 40km.

Purchasing fuel from a marina is convenient but may incur a premium of up to 20 cents or more a litre. This is because marinas have a lower turnover than a roadhouse resulting in a higher cost per litre. If the extra cost outweighs the convenience, use the local service stations. Be aware that not all river towns, even large ones, have petrol stations convenient to the river. You may need to carry your fuel quite a distance.

A convenient way to transport and store fuel is in approved 20-litre containers, and while they are light going to the service station, they will get very heavy on the way back. Use the trolley or sack truck if you intend to carry containers any distance.

Table 10 – A Selection of Refuelling Locations lists a selection of possible refuelling locations between Goolwa and Wentworth. This table is only a guide and if you plan to refuel along the way, you will need to verify that the fuel is still available and that the fuel will be available when it is required. As noted above marinas may not refuel passing boats when they are busy with other work.

The names in the table are colour coded. Locations in **bold-italic** have fuel on the riverfront. Locations in italics only have fuel within easy walking from the mooring locations. Locations in red have fuel, but it is inconvenient, being more than 500~600 metres from the mooring locations and often uphill.

Refuelling Location	Distance	Distance To Next Location (km)		
	From River	Upstream	Downstream	
	Mouth (km)			
Wellington	76 km	26 km	NOT PERMITTED	
Riverglen Marina	102 km	8 km	26 km	
Long Island Marina	110 km	2 km	8 km	
Murray Bridge	112 km	36 km	2 km	
Mannum Waters (!)	148 km	38 km	36 km	
Bowhill	186 km	22 km	27 km	
Walker Flat	208 km	33 km	22km	
Swan Reach (*)	246 km	28 km	5 km	
Blanchetown	274 km	46 km	28 km	
Morgan	320 km	63 km	46 km	
Waikerie	383 km	53 km	63 km	
Kingston On Murray (#)	436 km	7 km	53 km	
Cobdogla	443 km	9 km	7 km	
Moorook	452 km	37 km	9 km	
Loxton (Bookpurnong Road)	489 km	37 km	37 km	
Berri	526 km	11 km	37 km	
Lyrup	537 km	50 km	11 km	
Renmark (Liba Liba Houseboats)	587 km	50 km	50 km	
Old Customs House (Border Cliffs)	637 km	188 km (<i>CAUTION</i>)	50 km	
Wentworth	832 km		188 km (<i>CAUTION</i>)	

Table 10 - A Selection of Refuelling Locations

(*) Assistance might be available from the shopkeeper to get fuel back to the boat.

(#) Check for riverside signboard to see if petrol is available for sale at the Caravan Park.

(!) 24-hour riverbank fuel using a credit card.

More specific location information is on the websites of the major fuel companies.

Ampol: https://www.ampol.com.au/find-a-service-station Shell: http://www.shell.com.au/motorists/fuel-finder.html

Mobil: https://www.mobil.com.au/en/our-stations

11.3.3 Gas

My Lady has three (3) 45kg gas bottles and two (2) 8.5kg gas bottles. The 8.5kg bottles are "swap-and-go" bottles that can be exchanged at most fuel stations and many other shops.

It is difficult to get the Supagas 45kg bottles swapped over along the river, so they should only be used as a last resort. The 8.5kg bottles should last over a week with normal use for four (4) people (without using the gas heater). The 8.5kg bottles should be swapped for a full one as soon as practical.

12 Waste Disposal Stations

Any lengthy voyage will generate waste that cannot be stored for the duration of the voyage. This includes general garbage (food scraps/packaging/empty containers/etc) and black water (sewage). There are several public riverside Waste Disposal Stations for sewage pump-out and garbage disposal. These disposal stations are free of charge and better than using rubbish bins in riverside parks. There are additional pump-out stations run by private operators on a fee for service basis.

The pamphlet *Riverboat Waste Disposal Options* published by the South Australian Department of Environment and Heritage lists the locations of the Waste Disposal Stations. The pamphlet also provides guidance on mooring at each station and instructions on using the pump-out facility. A soft copy of this pamphlet is available from the EPA website.

Waste Disposal	Distance From	Distance From Distance Between Station	
Station	River Mouth (km)	Upstream	Downstream
Murray Bridge	112 km	38 km	
Mannum	150 km	58 km	38 km
Walker Flat	208 km	38 km	58 km
Swan Reach	246 km	29 km	38 km
Blanchetown	275 km	44 km	29 km
Morgan	319 km	63 km	44 km
Waikerie	382 km	50 km	63 km
Lock 3(*)	432 km	55 km	50 km
Loxton	487 km	37 km	55 km
Berri	524 km	42 km	37 km
Renmark	566 km	51 km	42 km
Lock 6	617 km	219 km	51 km
Wentworth	836 km		219 km

Table 11 – Public Pump-out Station Distances

(*) Pump-out not functioning.

Information about the riverboat waste disposal scheme is available. Each station has a contact number on the instructions in case of failure.

Office	Phone Number
Berri	(08) 8595 5343
Murray Bridge	(08) 8535 6111
Adelaide	(08) 8204 2004

Table 12 - WDS Advice & Assistance

Most riverside parks have rubbish bins where domestic rubbish can be placed in bins, however, many bins have devices on the top to limit how far the lids will open. This prevents large amounts of garbage from being dumped.

13 Public Toilets

When travelling into new territory, it can be difficult to find public toilets. The National Public Toilet Map provides more information about the public toilets around Australia. Website: https://toiletmap.gov.au

14 Emergency Services

PLEASE NOTE: All emergency services can be contacted by calling "000" (or "112" on a mobile phone).

For emergency calls, have the following information ready.

- The service that you need most (police, fire, or ambulance)
- Location of the emergency (exact address, if possible, otherwise best information, including landmarks, and the GPS location, if possible. As much detail as possible is needed, since the call may go to an operator located interstate)
- The phone number you are calling from (in case they need to ring back and can't detect your number)
- Description of the problem and how many people are involved.
- Indicate there is a GPS EPIRB on the houseboat that can be triggered (if emergency is near the houseboat)
- Any other relevant information that may assist the emergency services.
- DON'T HANG UP UNTIL THE OPERATOR SAYS YOU CAN.

14.1 Police

PLEASE NOTE: For emergency Police support, call "000" (or "112" on a mobile phone).

Location	Phone No	Location	Phone No
Tailem Bend	(08) 8572 4210	Murray Bridge	(08) 8535 6020
Mannum	(08) 8569 2211	Swan Reach	(08) 8570 2011
Blanchetown	(08) 8540 5013	Morgan	(08) 8540 2105
Waikerie	(08) 8541 2888	Loxton	(08) 8584 7283
Berri	(08) 8595 2020	Renmark	(08) 8586 6606

Table 13 - Police Stations in River Towns

More details about police stations are South Australia can be found at: https://www.police.sa.gov.au/about-us/find-your-local-police-station

NOTE: For attendance of Police for non-emergency issues, please contact 131 444, as local stations may have limited attendance hours.

14.2 Ambulance

PLEASE NOTE: For emergency Ambulance support, call "000" (or "112" on a mobile phone).

Ambulance services in regional South Australia use a combination of volunteer and professional staff. The following link provides a map locating the regional Ambulance stations: https://saambulance.sa.gov.au/about-us/locations/

14.3 State Emergency Service

Last Edited: 7 November 2024

PLEASE NOTE: For State Emergency Service support, call "000" (or "112" on a mobile phone).

The South Australian Police coordinate marine search & rescue operations. More information can be found at the SES website: https://www.ses.sa.gov.au/home/

15 Bills to Pay Checklist

(Photocopy. Delete irrelevant items and add items as required)

	nt items and add items as rec		
Bill	Company/Organisation	Due Date	Payment Method
Insurance – House			
Insurance – Car(s)			
Insurance – Boat			
Insurance – Health			
Insurance – Personal			
Registration – Boat			
Registration – Dinghy			
Registration – Car(s)			
Registration – Trailer			
Council Rates			
Telephone – Fixed			
Telephone – Mobile			
Internet Account			
Electricity			
Gas			
Dog Registration			
House Mortgage			
Car Loan			
Personal Loan			
Credit Card			
Club Membership			
Club Membership			
Club Membership			
1			
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>

16 Before You Leave Home/Marina Check List

(Photocopy. Delete irrelevant items and add items as required)

Check Opening Times of Locks and Bridges on your itinerary (if required) Voyage Information handed to a responsible person Boat/car registrations current for duration of voyage Boat/house/car insurance current for duration of voyage Bill paying arranged Boat/car licence Mail/newspapers to be collected by friend/relative/neighbour Other regular deliveries cancelled or deferred Spare keys with friend/relative/neighbour Arranged regular inspections/mowing/garden watering by friend/relative/neighbour Hot water system booster turned off (energy saving) Automatic heaters/air conditioners turned off, or set to higher temperature (energy saving) All ladders and tools locked away All windows and doors locked (including garages and garden sheds) Security features (automatic lights, intruder alarms, etc) activated Medications for entire trip. Mobile phone and charger Wallet/Purse Boat/Marina keys	(Photocopy. Delete irrelevant items and add items as required)	
Voyage Information handed to a responsible person Boat/car registrations current for duration of voyage Boat/house/car insurance current for duration of voyage Bill paying arranged Boat/car licence Mail/newspapers to be collected by friend/relative/neighbour Other regular deliveries cancelled or deferred Spare keys with friend/relative/neighbour Arranged regular inspections/mowing/garden watering by friend/relative/neighbour Hot water system booster turned off (energy saving) Automatic heaters/air conditioners turned off, or set to higher temperature (energy saving) All ladders and tools locked away All windows and doors locked (including garages and garden sheds) Security features (automatic lights, intruder alarms, etc) activated Medications for entire trip. Mobile phone and charger Wallet/Purse		Checked
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Mail/newspapers to be collected by friend/relative/neighbour Other regular deliveries cancelled or deferred Spare keys with friend/relative/neighbour Arranged regular inspections/mowing/garden watering by friend/relative/neighbour Hot water system booster turned off (energy saving) Automatic heaters/air conditioners turned off, or set to higher temperature (energy saving) All ladders and tools locked away All windows and doors locked (including garages and garden sheds) Security features (automatic lights, intruder alarms, etc) activated Medications for entire trip. Mobile phone and charger Wallet/Purse	Bill paying arranged	
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Hot water system booster turned off (energy saving) Automatic heaters/air conditioners turned off, or set to higher temperature (energy saving) All ladders and tools locked away All windows and doors locked (including garages and garden sheds) Security features (automatic lights, intruder alarms, etc) activated Medications for entire trip. Mobile phone and charger Wallet/Purse	Spare keys with friend/relative/neighbour	
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All ladders and tools locked away All windows and doors locked (including garages and garden sheds) Security features (automatic lights, intruder alarms, etc) activated Medications for entire trip. Mobile phone and charger Wallet/Purse	Hot water system booster turned off (energy saving)	
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Security features (automatic lights, intruder alarms, etc) activated Medications for entire trip. Mobile phone and charger Wallet/Purse		
Security features (automatic lights, intruder alarms, etc) activated Medications for entire trip. Mobile phone and charger Wallet/Purse		
Mobile phone and charger Wallet/Purse	Security features (automatic lights, intruder alarms, etc) activated	
Wallet/Purse	Medications for entire trip.	
	Mobile phone and charger	
Boat/Marina keys Comparison of the Comparison	Wallet/Purse	
	Boat/Marina keys	

17 Provisioning Checklist

(Photocopy and delete unwanted items. Add or substitute items as required)

ITEM	QTY	CHECKED
Frozen Meals (variation to toota)		
Frozen Meals (varieties to taste)		
Basics		
Flour (plain / self-raising / corn flour)		
Stock (cubes / packet / liquid)		
Bicarbonate of Soda (Bi-Carb Soda)		
Baking powder		
Milk (UHT / powdered)		
Sugar		
Artificial sweetener		
Butter / Margarine		
Salt / Pepper		
Herbs and spices (curry powder / mixed herbs / parsley / cinnamon / etc)		
Vinegar		
Cooking oil (bottle / spray can)		
Rice (white / brown)		
Pasta (spaghetti / shells / noodles)		
Instant Noodles		
Tomato paste (bottle / tinned / sachet)		
Porridge / Rolled oats		
Breakfast cereals (Weetbix / Muesli / Porridge sachets)		
Breadcrumbs		
Bread (loaf / rolls / sliced)		
Unleavened bread (flat bread / pocket) – lasts longer than normal bread &		
can be used as a pizza base		
Condiments/Sauces/Spreads		
Tomato / BBQ Sauce		
Worcestershire sauce		
Sweet Chilli Sauce		
Oyster sauce		
Soy sauce		
Garlic (minced)		
Ginger (minced)		
Pickles		
Vegemite / Marmite		
Honey		
Jams/Marmalade		
Mayonnaise		
Chutney		

	OTV	CHECKED
ITEM	QIY	CHECKED
Peanut Butter		
Curry powder		
Curry powder		
Canned Fruit		
Fruit Salad		
Pineapple		
Apricots		
Peaches		
Pears		
Apples		
Canned Vegetables		
Beetroot		
Corn (kernels / creamed / baby)		
Tomatoes		
Mixed beans		
Baked beans		
Spaghetti		
Cucumber		
Mushrooms		
Canned Meat		
Ham		
Spam		
Tuna		
Sardines		
Salmon		
Turkey		
Dried Food		
Peas		
Mixed Vegetables		
Nuts		
Jerky (Beef / Turkey / etc)		
Apples		
Apricots		
Bananas		
Dates		
Prunes		
Pineapple		

		GITEGITED
ITEM	QTY	CHECKED
Fresh Fruit		
Apples		
Oranges		
Lemons		
Pears		
Pineapple		
Bananas		
Misc. Canned/Bottled Items		
Self-Saucing Puddings		
Rice Cream		
Pie fillings (apple / apricot)		
Gherkins		
Pickled Onions		
Olives (Black / Green / Stuffed)		
Pâté		
Dips		
Artichoke Hearts		
Dried / Semi-Dried Tomato strips		
-		
Misc. Packet Items		
French onion soup		
Cup of Soup sachets		
Processed Cheddar cheese (no refrigeration required)		
Sweet biscuits		
Savoury biscuits (Jatz / Rice Crackers)		
Muesli bars		
Pikelet mix		
Cake mix		
Long life cream / custard		
Fresh Vegetables		
Potatoes		
Pumpkin		
Carrots		
Onions		
Celery		
Cucumber		
Capsicum		
Snow peas		
Cabbage		
Cauliflower		

ITEM	QTY	CHECKED
Zucchini		
Tomatoes		
Tonktoos		
Meat/Cheese/Eggs		
Fresh meat (steak / chops / sausages / mince / chicken / turkey)		
Vacuum packed fresh meat (lasts longer, can be stored in bottom of ice		
box)		
Salami (doesn't need refrigeration)		
Packaged cooked cold meats (ham / chicken / turkey / corned meat)		
Bacon (preferably vacuum sealed)		
Cheese (Block / Sliced / Shredded)		
Eggs (fresh / powdered)		
Drinks		
Tea		
Coffee (instant coffee / coffee beans)		
Chocolate drink		
Packet soup		
Soft Drinks (cola / lemon / lemonade / ginger ale / soda water)		
Fruit juice (Tomato / Pineapple / Orange / Apple)		
Cordials		
Alcoholic drinks (beer / wine / spirits)		
Water (still / sparkling)		
Pet Related Items		
Dog food		
Dog medications (heart worm tablets/medicines)		
Dog treats / chews		
Dog "poo bags" for walking in townships, etc.		
Medical		
Personal medications		
Sunscreen		
Sunglasses / Hat		
First Aid kit (complete and current)		
Photographic/Optical		
Camera		
Memory cards		
Laptop computer / digital storage device		
Spare batteries		
Spare valueties		<u> </u>

ITEM	QTY	CHECKED
oculars		
Torch		
Portable spotlight		
Torch / Lantern / Waterproof Floating Torch (required for night travel)		
Batteries		
Domestic		
Cleaning Products (Washing-up, Personal)		
Dish Mop		
Pot Scourers		
Insect Repellents / Sprays		
Dish cloths / Wipes / Paper Towels		
Paper Towels		
Garbage Bags		
General		
Battery charger for rechargeable batteries / Mobile Phone Charger		
Entertainment Media (CD / DVD / MP3)		
Book / Magazines / Crosswords		
Games / Puzzles		
Maps / Charts		
Vessel Logbook		
South Australian Recreational Boating Safety Handbook		
South Australian Fishing Guide		
Pens / Pencils / Erasers		
Fuel		
Extra Fuel in approved containers		
Extra gas bottle(s) (if required)		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
Other		
Extra water in approved containers		
Firewood & kindling (if having a fire, subject to fire restrictions)		
J \ J \ J \ J		

18 My Lady Voyage Plan

Boat Details	
Skipper's Name	Mark Little / Alexa Little
Boat Name	My Lady
Boat Registration	HI152S
Type of Boat	Houseboat
Engines	60 HP 4-Stroke Outboard (x2)
Amount of Fuel	500 litres (max)
Radios on Board	1 fixed, 1 portable
Normal Radio Channel	UHF CB Channel 24 or 20
Distress Beacon	MT406G (406 MHz)
Distress Beacon UIN	3EF475793F81FE0
Distress Beacon S/N	1403302213
Home Mooring	Blanchetown Boat Haven Marina
PFDs On Board	4 persons, 1 dog
First Aid Kit	Yes



Contact Information					
Email	mylady@little.id.au				
Mark Mobile	0434 602 091				
Alexa Mobile	0438 861 635				
Home Phone	(08) 8250 3753				

Crew					
Name	Gender	Other Information	Mobile Phone / Email		
Mark Little	Male		See Above		
Alexa Little	Female		See Above		
Marduk	Male	Desexed Dobermann, Microchip No. 9530010001319665			

Tender Details			
Boat Registration	IC116S		
Type of Boat	Blue Aluminium		
	3.3 m Dinghy		
Engines	5 HP 2-Stroke		
	Outboard		
Amount of Fuel	10 litres		
Home Mooring	Rear Swim Deck		

Kayak Details			
Type of Boat	Dagger Drifter		
Home Mooring	Port side deck		

Voyag	Voyage Starting Date: Expected Voyage Ending Date:				
Note: Itinerary is approximate only and subject to variation due to weather or other situations.					
Day No.	River km (approx.)	Location		Comment	
	+				
	1	1			