

SA's Remarkable Seafood & AquaCulture Trail



Introducing South Aussie writer Di Ross and her partner, photographer John Batty, to F&B readers again. Following their acclaimed F&B series on the Gippsland Lakes, this time they've set out to produce an exceptional six part series closer to home. Over the last few months, they've taken us on a detailed tour of the boating facilities and resources in South Australia. Together, we've been exploring the mouth-watering SA seafood and aquaculture journey around the Gulfs, reminding us that in boating, more often than not, there's 'no place like home!'

Typical ramp activity at the end of a competition day during the Championship. The marina provides a four-laned ramp, moorings, a floating service jetty and excellent washing down and cleaning facilities



Above: The Whyalla foreshore looking toward Mt Young. Lovely lawns, BBQ facilities - and during the summer months, succulent crabs in the bay!

Below: The lucky winner, Heath Withers with the 2004 Trophy heading for Shell Cove, NSW



Part 5: Whyalla, SA

Leaving Cowell, we travelled 103km north along the Lincoln Highway to Whyalla, population 24,700, SA's third largest city. We have visited, fished and thoroughly enjoyed Whyalla on many occasions.

This city is truly one of contrasts - country lifestyle in the city - the desert meeting the sea - heavy industry amid modern buildings. Many South Aussies seem to paint Whyalla as hot and horrible whereas we view it quite differently and have gone into bat on a number of occasions in its defence, yet another contrast I guess!

Anyone travelling to Whyalla will note the general reddish-brown tinge impregnated into the buildings, footpaths and most structures, more

notably in the older section of the city. The discolouration is not totally due to the fine red dust from the desert. This is an

industrial city, the steel works and associated industry being an integral part of its subsistence, and as such some "fall out" seems inevitable. The crushing/screening process is being relocated to the mine site in the near future and emissions are expected to be significantly reduced. Red dust aside, Whyalla has a unique beauty, some wonderful old cottages, gorgeous parks and gardens and there is general pride in the manner in which the city and indeed the suburbs are kept. Whyalla has survived many booms and downturns, population peaks and



These two male cuttlefish are showing some of their vibrant colours during a mating display.