

Goolwa starts holiday destination revamp

REGIONAL SHOWCASE

G'day Group's holiday park complex has broken ground on the newest tourism drawcard for the Fleurieu Peninsula.



Construction began on Goolwa's holiday park this week with, from left, G'day Group's CEO Grant Wilckens, Minister for Primary Industries David Basham, G'day Group's General Manager of Investment Amanda Baldwin and Alexandrina Council Mayor Keith Parkes breaking ground. Photo: G'day Group

A vision to develop Goolwa into a kid's paradise is becoming reality as construction of a new holiday park began this month.

The G'day Group Discovery Park will include a new waterpark, outdoor and indoor swimming pools, an outdoor cinema, and a coastal nature playground, and is expected to open in time for summer.

The park will also allow access to neighbouring sports facilities, such as the basketball stadium.

G'day Group's CEO Grant Wilckens said the upgrades better accommodate people with facilities to compliment the nearby Goolwa Skate Park and Pump Track.

"There will be some innovative nature play so kids can just enjoy the freedom of being kids, getting dirty and letting their imaginations run wild."

The new waterparks and facilities will be free for guests and day passes will be available for locals depending on capacity.

Alexandrina Council Mayor Keith Parkes said the Goolwa development is not only a major attraction for tourism but also highlights business confidence in local investment and is a significant economic stimulus.

"G'day Group's investment in Goolwa confirms the confidence levels we are currently experiencing, with 60 new accommodation cabins, 100 new and improved caravan and camping sites, improved amenity and the addition of a nature play area and water park."

"This will further accommodate visitors and customers for our existing businesses ensuring the creation of more local ongoing jobs, as well as tapping into the visiting 'friends and relatives market', a very important contributor to our local economy," Mayor Parkes said.

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The G'day Group's General Manager of Investment Amanda Baldwin said the investment supports their confidence in South Australian regional tourism which has been thriving since the COVID lockdowns of 2020.

"People are rediscovering regional tourism which is increasingly providing that touch of luxury and connection with nature they are looking for – we're excited by the potential of regional tourism," she said.

Based in Adelaide, G'day Group is Australia's largest regional accommodation provider with almost 300 properties across Australia.

The Goolwa development is a part of G'Day Group's \$40 million investment into the region, which includes the acquisition of the McCracken Country Club and Goolwa Camping and Tourist Park – now called Discovery Parks – Goolwa – which were acquired late last year.

Major redevelopment plans to both properties were announced in May including a golf tourism development at the McCracken Country Club as well as upgrades and additional accommodation to the Goolwa holiday park.

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