

14 Day Natural Tasmania

Day 1	Arrive Launceston	D
--------------	--------------------------	----------



On arrival in Tasmania, be greeted at the Launceston Airport by your Tasmanian tour guide and transfer to your overnight accommodation. Guests arriving in the morning will have the opportunity to travel down the Tamar Valley for lunch (own expenses) at one of the beautiful vineyards. Guests arriving in the afternoon can explore the city centre and visit the historic city park. Enjoy dinner this evening at the hotel and take the opportunity to meet your fellow adventurers.

Day 2	Launceston ~ Sheffield ~ Penguin ~ Smithton	BD
--------------	--	-----------



Travel west today through quiet back roads, rural villages and mountain ranges to explore the central North and North West Coast. Visit the magnificent Cataract Gorge with its cliff-side gardens, peacocks, pools, suspension foot bridge and one of the longest single span chairlifts in the world (ride is optional and own expense). Spend time in the quaint village of Deloraine situated on the banks of the Meander River and sample the produce at the Chudleigh Honey Farm. Cross the rolling pastures of the North West Coast, dominated by the majestic Mt. Roland, to the town of Sheffield and admire the wonderful out-door art gallery of murals. Follow the scenic coastal drive through Ulverstone, Penguin and Burnie, stopping along the way at points of interest. Arrive at the far North West town of Smithton in the late afternoon and your accommodation at Tall Timbers Resort.

Day 3	Woolnorth ~ Arthur River	BLD
--------------	---------------------------------	------------



Tasmania's far North West tip is a wild and beautiful region that takes the full brunt of the roaring 40's. For this reason it is the location of an air monitoring base station that records the purest air in the world. It is also the location of an historic property named Woolnorth. Established in 1825 by Royal Charter from King George IV, the property offers spectacular views over the wild southern ocean and the state's largest wind farm. After a guided tour and a Cape Grim steak for lunch continue down the West Coast to Arthur River and the "Edge of the World". Enjoy a walk along the isolated beaches keeping an eye out for treasure washed ashore by the huge surf. Return through the rich dairy land of Marrawah and Redpa to Tall Timbers Resort.

Day 4	Stanley ~ Cradle Mountain	BD
--------------	----------------------------------	-----------



This morning visit the historic village of Stanley nestling at the foot of an ancient volcanic core known as 'The Nut'. Tour past Highfield, historical headquarters of the early Van Diemens Land Co. and explore the quaint town with its terraces and craft shops. For spectacular views along the North West Coast take the very steep walking track to the top of The Nut or gain access via the chairlift (ride is optional and own expense). Continuing along the coast, marvel at the breathtaking views from the rich agricultural Table Cape and enjoy the deep rain forest through "The Gorge" en route to the iconic Cradle Mountain. On arrival there are a number of short walks available before dinner at your accommodation. This evening take a rare, up close opportunity of seeing the endangered Tasmanian devil in a group feeding situation. As devils are nocturnal they are far more active at night.

Day 5	Cradle Mountain	BD
--------------	------------------------	-----------



Cradle Mountain has gained a global reputation for its natural beauty and quality walking trails. The area was proclaimed a national park in 1922 and gained World Heritage status in 1982. Enjoy a free day to immerse yourself in the natural beauty of the area with any of the day walks, including the famous Dove Lake Loop Track. Shuttle buses run every 15 minutes in and out of the park. After a invigorating day why not relax in the cozy bar area with a glass of award winning Tasmanian red wine or fine Tasmanian single malt whisky (own expense).

Day 6	West Coast	BD
--------------	-------------------	-----------



Departing Cradle Mountain, travel through the steep gorges and winding roads en route to Strahan. Along the way enjoy morning tea on the banks of Lake Rosebery at Tullah and walk the abandon railway into Tasmania's largest single drop waterfall at 104 metres, Montezuma Falls. Spend time in at Zeehan visiting the West Coast Heritage Centre and climb Tasmania's largest sand dune system, the Henty Dunes. On arrival in Strahan spend some free time wandering the waterfront or just relax in your hotel room overlooking the harbour.

Day 7	Gordon River	BLD
--------------	---------------------	------------



Today we to cruise the incomparable Gordon River into the heart of Tasmania's wilderness and the edge of World Heritage. Cross vast Macquarie Harbour, past Sarah Island, worst convict settlement of all, and follow the Gordon through stands of ancient Huon pine, sassafras and myrtle rainforest to step ashore for a wilderness board-walk at Heritage Landing. Voyage to Hell's Gates, the aptly named harbour entrance where many early ships were destroyed by ferocious ocean swells. On return to Strahan we take a short drive to Ocean Beach and enjoy a stroll along this remote coast before returning to Strahan for dinner. This evening you may like to experience Australia's longest running play, "The Ship That Never Was" (own expense).

Day 8	Strahan ~ Hobart	BD
--------------	-------------------------	-----------



Departing Strahan, travel to Queenstown and the spectacular Mt. Owen, the winding Gormanston Hill and ghost towns of the Chamonoi Valley. Cross Lake Burbury to enter the Wild Rivers National Park and experience the wonders of Gondwanaland during a short rainforest walk to Nelson Waterfalls. At Derwent Bridge visit "The Wall in The Wilderness", an extraordinary work of art being crafted telling the story of Tasmania's Central Highlands. In Tarraleah Gorge view the penstocks and workings of an early Hydro-electric installation before crossing the Central Plateau. Descend through hills and hop fields to historic New Norfolk. Take a short walk to the beautiful Russell Falls before following the picturesque Derwent Valley to the city of Hobart and our accommodation for the next 3 nights.

Day 9	Hobart and surrounds	B
--------------	-----------------------------	----------



Today you have a free day to take advantage of Hobart's exciting attractions (optional, own cost), including:

- MONA (Museum of Old and New Art)
- Port Arthur
- South West Wilderness Scenic Flights
- Bruny Island Adventure Cruise

Dinner tonight is your own choice and expense. Our centrally located accommodation gives you easy access to Hobart famous waterfront and a wonderful range of quality restaurants.

Day 10	Huon Valley	BD
---------------	--------------------	-----------



Tour the apple orchards and fruit growing regions of the Huon Valley; through Huonville, Franklin, and Geeveston; to Tasmania's southern eucalypt and Huon pine forests. Along the way visit the Wooden Boat Centre and the Apple Shed. Walk among the giants of the forest and experience the power of nature at the Tahune AirWalk. With breathtaking views of the forest canopy and spine-tingling swinging bridges across the Huon and Picton Rivers. Visit the Forest & Heritage Centre at Geeveston on our return to Hobart.

Day 11	Richmond ~ Freycinet	BD
---------------	-----------------------------	-----------



Today we say goodbye to Hobart and make our way along the Tasman Highway to Coles Bay and the Freycinet National Park. First stop is at the historic village of Richmond where you can walk across Australia's oldest bridge, built by convict labour between 1823 and 1825. Visit the cemetery of Australia's oldest remaining Catholic Church, St Johns, built in 1836; or browse through the many delightful craft shops, galleries and teashops. Follow the Tasman Highway via Orford and Triabunna to tour north beside the blue waters of the Tasman Sea. Pause at the convict built, enigmatic Spiky Bridge then continue to our overnight accommodation at picturesque Freycinet National Park with its jagged pink granite peaks, crystal clear waters and white sandy beaches. The remainder of the day is free to relax before dinner at the hotel.

Day 12	Freycinet	BD
---------------	------------------	-----------



Freycinet National Park consists of knuckles of granite mountains all but surrounded by azure bays and white sandy beaches. The dramatic peaks of the Hazards welcome you as you enter the park. Freycinet is effectively two eroded blocks of granite joined by a sand isthmus. Here you will find the jewel in the crown - Wineglass Bay. You have a free day today to explore some of the beautiful day walks in the region including Wineglass Lookout, Cape Tourville and Coles Bay. Other activities (own expense) in the area include the Wineglass Bay Cruise, sea kayaking and quad bike tours. After a full day of adventure relax on the deck watching the sun set over the ocean before enjoying dinner at the hotel restaurant.

Day 13	East Coast ~ North East	BD
---------------	--------------------------------	-----------



This morning we continue along the coast visiting the fishing villages of Bicheno, Scamander and St Helens. Take a short detour and spend time at "The Bay of Fires", voted as one of the top 10 beaches in the world. Turning inland, pass through the rain forest of the Weldborough Pass and admire the tree carvings at Legerwood before arriving in Scottsdale for afternoon tea. Taking the scenic route to Launceston, enjoy a wine or two (own expense) at one of the many acclaimed wineries of the Tamar Valley.

Day 14	Home	B
---------------	-------------	----------



Enjoy free time in Launceston city before transferring to the Launceston Airport.

B=Breakfast L=Lunch D=Dinner