

# TASMANIA

Experience the best of Tasmania

## Suggested 10 Night Self-drive Itinerary

**Day 1:** Explore around Sullivan's Cove, where settlers came ashore in 1804. Wander around the historic waterfront to Salamanca Place (markets every Saturday), then to Battery Point with its Georgian cottages, art and craft shops, restaurants and superb views over the Derwent River. A 20 minute drive takes you to the top of Mt Wellington (1,271 metres) for a stunning panoramic vista of Hobart and the Derwent. On the way down, stop off at the Female Factory Historic Site and visit the Fudge Factory. Tonight, dine at one of the many restaurants on Elizabeth Street in North Hobart or near the water-front. Overnight - Hobart

**DAY 2:** Heading west from Hobart take the Lyell Highway to historic New Norfolk, which has a fine collection of heritage buildings, antique stores and Australia's oldest Anglican church. Stop for morning tea at the cafe by the Salmon Ponds then follow the signs for the Mt Field National Park - take a stroll to the impressive Russell Falls. Continuing on the Lyell Highway travel west via Ouse, stop for lunch at Tarraleah, an old Hydro town, or at Lake St Clair, the end of the famous Overland Track. Descend into Queenstown - it's an authentic west coast mining town, so stop for a while to take in the character and history. It's about a 45-minute drive to your accommodation for two nights in Strahan. Overnight - Strahan



**DAY 3:** Today you will experience Tasmania's true wilderness aboard a cruise on the Gordon River. A luxury catamaran will take you into Macquarie Harbour, past the convict ruins on Sarah Island and into the Gordon River. Lunch is included and make sure to take your camera with you; the reflections of the wilderness rainforest in the dark water are remarkable. The cruise ends around 3.30pm, so spend the late afternoon browsing the town centre shops; several art and craft shops, some woodturners and lovely Huon Pine souvenirs. Alternatively, join the West Coast Wilderness Railway from Strahan to Queenstown and return via coach. The 5 hour tour takes you through stunning wilderness country on the restored rail line connecting Strahan and Queenstown. Overnight - Strahan

**DAY 4:** Drive into Cradle Mountain National Park to Dove Lake. It will take 2 - 3 hours to walk around the lake, but the scenery is sensational. Return to the A10 road to the North Coast and Wynyard. Table Cape is well worth a visit, especially in tulip time (late September). At Stanley, stretch your legs with a walk to the top of The Nut (about 30 minutes) or take the chairlift for a nominal cost. Stanley is a beautiful fishing village with some good restaurants. In the evening, try a penguin tour with local operators, who takes you along the beach to point out the penguin nests at the foot of The Nut and explains all about these remarkable creatures. (These tours are seasonal.) Overnight - Stanley

**DAY 5:** Wander through Stanley to the cottage where Australian Prime Minister, Joseph Lyons was born. Cheese lovers can sample the excellent local products at Lacrum in Smithton or Lactos in Burnie. Take a tour of Woolnorth or visit the Tarkine Forest Adventures at Dismal Swamp. Towards Burnie, stop off at pretty Boat Harbour or Sisters Beach just west of Wynyard. Devonport (where the 'Spirit of Tasmania' docks) has a pleasant walking path to the mouth of the Mersey River. Elizabeth Town has the Ashgrove Cheese Farm and the Christmas Hills Raspberry Farm (well worth a visit for afternoon tea). Next, on to Deloraine's antique shops, galleries and museums. East, you'll find two fine National Trust properties: the White House at Westbury and Entally House at Hadspen. Tonight you might like to experience one of Launceston's award-winning restaurants. Overnight - Launceston



**DAY 6:** Explore Launceston's history, colonial churches and fine buildings, the Design Centre and the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery. Cruise the scenic Tamar River on the "Tamar Odyssey". Walk from Launceston Seaport past Kings Bridge up Cataract Gorge to the Victorian Gardens at the Cliff Grounds and Alexandra Suspension Bridge. Return on the Chairlift or walk the Zig Zag Track. On the Tamar Valley Wine Route from Legana, sample award-winning wine and cheeses at Strathlynn Wine Centre, St Mathias and Rosevears Estate. On to Deviot, visit Aviemore Blueberry and Cheese Farm, Sea Horse World and Platypus House at Beauty Point. See George Town's colonial buildings and Lighthouse, or visit more wineries and vineyards - Delamere, Dalrymple and Pipers Brook. Back to Launceston for another night and perhaps a meal at one of the Launceston Seaport waterfront cafes. Overnight - Launceston

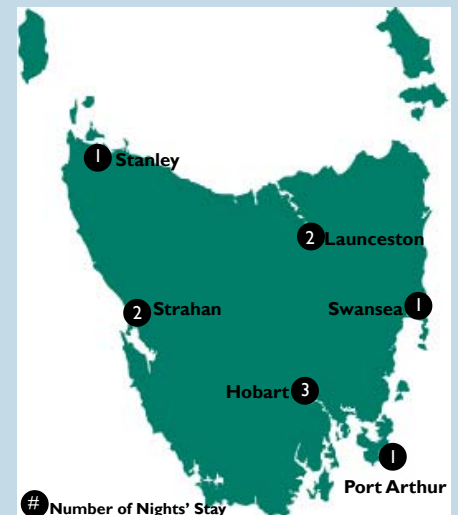
**DAY 7:** From Launceston it's only a short drive to charming Evandale, stage for the annual 'Penny Farthing' bicycle races, usually held in February. Each Sunday Evandale hosts a quaint country fair and is also home to the Tasmanian Gourmet Sauce Company. Visit Brickendon Historic Farm and Gardens and Woolmers Estate and National Rose Garden at Longford. Regarded as Australia's most significant colonial property, Woolmers Estate has a collection of buildings, antique cars, photographs, art and furniture - this is a must on every Tasmanian itinerary. Find examples of Georgian architecture and the convict built Red Bridge at Campbell Town. Continuing on, Ross is in the heart of the world's best superfine wool growing area. Photograph the famous convict carvings on the Ross Bridge (1836), wander the leafy streets, have a curried scallop pie at the Ross Bakery or visit the Tasmanian Wool Centre. Take the heritage walk to the convict female factory site and original burial ground. From Ross, head 12km north (back towards Campbell Town) and take the scenic drive on the B4 to Tasmania's East Coast. Take the A3 north to the Coles Bay turn-off and gateway to Freycinet National Park. Explore the quiet sheltered beaches and walk to Wineglass Bay's gleaming crescent of sand. Lunch or snack at the breathtaking Freycinet Lodge. Take a wildlife cruise on Coles Bay or book a guided tour of the Freycinet Marine Farm. Nearby Cape Tourville Lighthouse has stunning coastal scenery. Head South to Swansea. Overnight - Swansea.

**DAY 8:** Before departing Swansea refresh and savour the home-grown fruit and ice-cream at Kate's Berry Farm, just south. Follow the scenic drive south past the convict-built Spikey Bridge (c1841) through the fishing port of Triabunna. Take the Maria Island Ferry to Maria Island, where convict buildings date from 1825 (you will have to take all of your provisions for your time on this beautiful National Park island). Drive on to the Tasman Peninsula for your overnight stay at Port Arthur for dinner and memorable evening Ghost Tour. Overnight - Port Arthur



**DAY 9:** Wander through the Port Arthur Historic Site, cruise the Isle of the Dead or try the Tasman Island Eco-Cruise. See the Peninsula's natural wonders - tessellated Pavement, Blow Hole, Devil's Kitchen and Tasman Arch (all at Eaglehawk Neck) and Tasman National Park and Remarkable Cave (near Port Arthur). See wildlife close up at the Tasman Devil Park at Taranna. This afternoon, drive south to the Huon Valley and 'walk on air' at the Tahune Forest Airwalk tree top walk. Refresh and taste some of Tasmania's finest Pinot Noir at Home Hill Winery near Huonville, or feel the breeze through your hair on the Huon Jet Boat ride. Perhaps return to Hobart for a seafood experience at the 'Drunken Admiral' on Constitution Dock. Overnight - Hobart

**DAY 10:** Today experience Cascade, Cadbury Chocolate and Lark Whisky on the popular Taste Hobart Tour! Alternatively, enjoy Tasmanian wines at Moorilla on the Derwent then cross the Derwent Bridge and out to Richmond - a pretty village with historic homes, the Old Gaol and interesting shopping. Have a bite to eat at the award winning Meadowbank Estate winery just south of Richmond, then back to Hobart via Cambridge. The Barilla Bay Oyster Farm has very affordable, freshly shucked oysters. Stroll around Bellerive Village and visit the Kangaroo Bluff historic site with its original gun battery built in the late 1880's to protect Hobart from a suspected Russian invasion. Visit Wrest Point, Australia's first legal Casino situated on the banks of the Derwent Estuary. Overnight - Hobart



# TASMANIA

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## A Selection of Must Do Attractions

### Taste Hobart Tour

**Hobart:** The must do tour of Hobart's icons! Indulge at the Cadbury Chocolate Shop. Soak up the history, beauty and of course the beer whilst enjoying a Tasmanian taste platter at the Cascade Visitors' Centre. Concluding at the Lark Distillery, you will taste some of the finest liqueurs, spits and whiskies in Australia. Includes bonuses and excellent interpretation.

### The Peppermint Bay Cruise

**Hobart:** Experience the real Tasmania with a fully guided cruise from Hobart's magnificent harbour through 75km's of sheltered waterways onboard our high speed luxury catamaran. Discover sealife and giant kelp forests with our exclusive underwater cameras. Includes lunch onboard and a shore excursion to Peppermint Bay.

### Par Avion Wilderness Tours

**Hobart:** Award winning flights to Tasmania's World Heritage South West wilderness. Witness the Western Arthur Range, Federation Peak, Precipitous Bluff and the rugged southern coastline, before landing at Melaleuca. The tour includes a boat cruise on Bathurst Harbour and the opportunity to view endangered wildlife. This unforgettable day includes lunch.

### Robert Pennicott's Tasman Island Cruises

**Tasman Peninsula:** Join this spectacular coastal wilderness cruise for three hours along the coastline of Tasman National Park, between Eaglehawk Neck and Port Arthur. Experience the highest sea cliffs in the Southern Hemisphere, enter deep-sea caves; see wonderful wildlife, hundreds of seals and abundant bird species.

### Port Arthur Historic Site

**Tasman Peninsula:** Australia's premier convict site. Package includes 2 days site access, guided walking tour, interpretation gallery, harbour cruise & access to over 30 buildings, ruins and beautiful gardens. Lantern-lit Ghost Tour operates nightly. Convict Pass (site entry and ghost tour) available as well as an After Dark Pass which includes Ghost Tour and dinner.

### Huon Jet

**Huon Valley:** Enjoy an exhilarating 35 minute ride on the magnificent Huon River, only 30 minutes from Hobart. Travel 12 km up the picturesque Huon River at speeds of up to 80 kilometres per hour, whilst negotiating gentle rapids. Departs daily at 11am and 2pm.

### Tahune Airwalk

**Huon Valley:** Walk above the treetop canopy, 40 metres above the ground. Exhilarating, yet suitable for all ages, the 627 metre walk allows close up views of some of the most beautiful trees in the southern forests including Celery Top Pines, Sassafras, Myrtle and towering Eucalypts. The walk is suspended above the Picton River.

### World Heritage Cruises

**West Coast:** Cruise the Gordon River with the family owned and operated company which pioneered cruises on the Gordon River over one hundred years ago. Visit Hells Gates, a fish farm and stopover at Sarah Island convict settlement. Tour includes onboard commentary and a buffet lunch.

### West Coast Wilderness Railway

**West Coast:** Clamber through 35km of tight curves, spectacular bridges, rugged wilderness, dense rain-forest and steep gorges. Departs Strahan and Queenstown daily (& afternoon during peak season). Choose from one-way rail with coach return or return rail at extra cost.

### Gordon River Cruises

**West Coast:** Glide along the Gordon River onboard Lady Jane Franklin II, designed for World Heritage Area access, ensuring minimal impact to one of the world's last remaining pristine river systems. Includes buffet lunch and commentary. Ask about upgrading to the Captains Premier Upper-Deck.

### Stanley Seal Cruises

**North West Coast:** A 75 minute cruise to view Australian Fur Seals. Pass by the famous Stanley Nut to arrive at Bull Rock, 500 metres from the Tasmanian coastline. You are guaranteed excellent viewing of the Fur Seals.

### Tamar River Cruises

**Launceston:** Multi-award winning. Cruise into the spectacular Cataract Gorge, then down the river past Tamar Island, historic Freshwater Point, the vineyards and Batman Bridge. Morning tea, superb light lunch, Tasmanian cheese and fruit platter; wine tasting, commentary and unlimited tea and coffee. Another option is the Cataract Gorge 50 minute cruise.

### Seahorse World

**Beauty Point:** The world's first seahorse farm, situated at Beauty Point, only 35 minutes from Launceston in the stunning Tamar Valley. Open daily from 9.30am, with fully guided tours and fish feeding on each tour. An amazing experience that can be included with other attractions in the area.

### Bicheno Penguin Tours

**East Coast:** Experience penguins in their natural environment at Bicheno's rookery. Small groups are guided to the rookery to view the penguins, returning one hour later to the Penguin Tour Shop.

### Freycinet Adventures

**East Coast:** Pink granite mountains, pristine white sandy beaches and blue waters so clear you feel you can touch the marine life below. Experience the Freycinet Paddle - a 3 hour fully guided sea kayak tour in Freycinet National Park.



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