

# TASMANIA

Experience the best of Tasmania

## Suggested 14 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 sell 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 on the restored rail line connecting Strahan and Queenstown. Overnight - Strahan

**DAY 4:** Heading North-East from Strahan through Tasmania's rugged mining towns, stop for a while and see one of the best displays of 19th century photography of the area and other mining artifacts at the renowned Zeehan Mining Museum. Continuing on the road winding through the small towns of Roseberry and Tullah, the rugged west coast gives way to the sub-alpine forests of Cradle Mountain. 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! Overnight - Cradle Mountain

**Day 5:** Enroute to the North West Coast and the township of Stanley, Table Cape Lighthouse and Tulip Farm are well worth a visit, especially when the flowers are in bloom (late September). Once you reach 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 guides. These remarkable creatures nest at the foot of The Nut. (These tours are seasonal.) Overnight - Stanley

**DAY 6:** 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 Wind Farm 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 7:** 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. Back to Launceston for another night and perhaps a meal at one of the Launceston Seaport's waterfront cafes. Overnight - Launceston

**DAY 8:** Travel via the North East Coast farmlands to the scenic East Coast. 40 minutes from Launceston is the Bridestowe Estate Lavendar Farm is just north of Nabowla (in flower Dec/Jan). Continue onto St Helens, the gateway to the wild beaches that make up the Bay of Fires. Wander the vast beaches along 30 kilometers of the Bay of Fires or stop at The Gardens for breathtaking views. Overnight - St Helens



**DAY 9:** Take the A3 south to the Coles Bay turn-off and gateway to Freycinet National Park. Explore the quiet sheltered beaches and take the breathtaking 30 minute walk to the lookout over looking Wineglass Bay's gleaming crescent of sand. 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. Stop for dinner at the stunning Freycinet Lodge - a chance to enjoy some fresh Tasmanian seafood. Head South to Swansea. Overnight - Swansea

**DAY 10:** This morning refresh and savour the home-grown fruit and ice-cream at Kate's Berry Farm. Follow the scenic drive south past the convict-built Spike 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). Overnight - Swansea

**Day 11:** Continue on your journey south to the Tasman Peninsula and wander through the Port Arthur Historic Site, cruise the Isle of the Dead or try the Tasman Island Eco-Cruise. Enroute visit 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. For a memorable evening head to the Historic Site for dinner and a Ghost Tour. Overnight - Port Arthur



**DAY 12:** Today drive further 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. Overnight - Huon Area

**Day 13:** Today experience Cascade, Cadbury Chocolate and Lark Whisky on the popular Taste Hobart Tour! Let your senses take over as you sample some of the best chocolate, beer and whisky products Tasmania has to offer! Tonight enjoy a seafood experience at the Prosser's on the Beach at Sandy Bay. Overnight - Hobart

**DAY 14:** Explore Hobart's beautiful waterways on the Peppermint Bay Cruise. This cruise offers a relaxing and rejuvenating day discovering the real Tasmania on board a luxury catamaran. The Peppermint Bay Cruise takes in the harbour, the River Derwent, and the magnificent waters of the D'Entrecasteaux Channel. See rare and majestic sea eagles or spot a seal sunbaking near the Atlantic Salmon fish farms. Enjoy a Peppermint Bay regional platter whilst cruising or dine ashore at Peppermint Bay in the dining room. This evening visit Wrest Point, Australia's first legal Casino situated on the banks of the Derwent Estuary. Overnight - Hobart

**Day 15:** Before heading home today take time to visit 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. Make your final stop the Barilla Bay Oyster Farm, directly opposite the Hobart Airport, and grab a take home pack of very affordable, freshly shucked oysters.



# 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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