

DISCOVER TASMANIA

12 day ACCOMMODATED Tour

Sat 7th - Wed 18th October 2023



Tasmania is a place of wild and beautiful landscapes, friendly people with a relaxed island lifestyle, wonderful food and wine, and a haunting history evoked by world famous convict ruins. On this tour we visit Cataract Gorge at Launceston and stay overnight in St Helens on the east coast. We travel via Bicheno and the beautiful Freycinet Peninsula. We also visit the wild west coast to enjoy a cruise on the pristine Gordon River and spend time in the quaint village of Strahan. Plus visit Cradle Mountain National Park and explore the North West Coast.

This tour is operated by Sonshine Travel - a family operated business that has been operating tours throughout Australia and overseas for the past 30 years. We are delighted to offer you a wonderful tour to Tasmania. We stay in the best available ensuite Motels, including cooked breakfasts, morning teas and lunches most days, and 2 course restaurant dinners daily. 5 lunches at your own expense as per itinerary.

We would be delighted to have you join us for this 12 day tour, offering you the best of Tasmania.
Dennis & Sandra Felton

Included in your Tour

Air Flights Brisbane to Launceston return (economy class)	Airport Transfers from Sunshine Coast return
Launceston City Park & Monkey Island	Cataract Gorge & Chairlift
Tamar River Cruise	Gourmet Sauce Company
House of Anvers – Belgium Chocolate	Sheffield – Town of Murals
Ransley Veteran Ford Collection	Tulip viewing
Table Cape – Stanley - The Nut	Little Penguin Colony
Cradle Mountain National Park	Guided Park Explorer Tour
Dove Lake	Waldheim Homestead
World Heritage Gordon River Cruise	Wilderness Gallery
MacQuarie Harbour - Strahan	Wall in the Wilderness
Salamanca Markets	Richmond
Hobart Royal Botanical Gardens	Mures Seafood Restaurant
Huon Valley	Tahune State Forest Airwalk
Coles Bay	Port Arthur Penal Settlement
Tasmanian Devil	Spiky Bridge
Beaconsfield Mine & Heritage Centre	Freycinet National Park
	Tamar Valley

4 night stay : Hobart
2 night stays : Launceston, Burnie & Strahan
1 night stay : St Helens

Day 1: SAT 07 October

Launceston

We **transfer from the Sunshine Coast**, we make our way to Brisbane Airport for our direct flight to Launceston – gateway to northern Tasmania. On arrival you will be met by your Sonshine Travel crew, and head straight to our accommodation to relax and get ready for your holiday on the “Apple Isle”.

Overnight: **Best Western PLUS, LAUNCESTON** (2 nights)

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Day 2: SUN 08 October

Launceston highlights

We commence our Tasmanian holiday by taking in the sights of **Launceston**. Right in the centre is **City Park** with its conservatory and Monkey Island. Next is beautiful **Cataract Gorge** with its cliff-side gardens and peacocks. Stroll over the suspension footbridge or ride on one of the longest single-span **chairlifts** in the world. We enjoy an afternoon on the water and cruise the magical **Tamar River and Cataract Gorge** on-board the **Tamar Odyssey**. We cruise a 40km round trip down the river to see Tamar Island, wildlife sanctuaries, historical properties, notable vineyards, St. Matthias Church and of course the spectacular Cataract Gorge. After a great day we return to our Launceston Hotel to relax before dinner.

Overnight: **Best Western PLUS, LAUNCESTON**

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Day 3: MON 09 October

Sheffield-Devonport-Burnie

After a leisurely breakfast, we depart Launceston and drive to the **Tasmanian Gourmet Sauce Company** to sample their delicious range of locally made sauces, jams and conserves. Then drive through to the hinterland town of **Sheffield** where the local community has recorded the history of the area in life size paintings on the town walls. Time for a lunch break, then on to the **House of Anvers** for a taste of Belgium Chocolate. We take a short tour of **Devonport** on the mouth of the Mersey River, and then follow the Bass Highway and scenic coastal route through to Ulverstone and Penguin. Tonight we stay in the industrial city of **Burnie** for our next 2 nights.

Lunch own expense/arrangement

Overnight: **Beachfront Voyager, BURNIE** (2 nights)

BD

Day 4: TUE 10 October

Wynward – Table Cape – Stanley

Our first stop this morning is in Wynyard to visit the **Ransley Veteran Ford Collection**. This collection is a must see for the nostalgic car enthusiast. Wynyard local Ford enthusiast, Francis Ransley offers his world class collection of locally restored veteran Fords. There are over 14

motor vehicles including the equal oldest Ford in the world, the 1903 Model A. This vehicle toured 58 locations around Australia covering more than 28,000 kms to celebrate Ford's centenary year 2003. From here you will marvel at the breathtaking views from the rich agricultural **Table Cape**



with it's amazing diversity of crops and farms. We are hoping the Tulips will still be in season, as they are a spectacular sight to see. Then into the historical village of **Stanley**, nestled at the foot of an ancient volcanic core known as "**The Nut**". Treat yourself to a chairlift ride (*own expense*) to the top for great views of the town and northern coastline. We return to our

accommodation in Burnie. At dusk tonight, take a stroll along the foreshore and enjoy an interpretative guided experience to the Burnie **Little Penguin colony**. You will have an opportunity for an intimate view into the seasonal life of penguin families from courtship, through to chick rearing and to moulting adults at the end of the breeding season.

Lunch own expense/arrangement

Overnight: **Beachfront Voyager, BURNIE**

BD

Day 5: WED 11 Oct Cradle Mountain – Queenstown – Strahan

We take the Murchison Highway into the mountains, passing button grass plains and alpine cattle country to reach **Cradle Mountain National Park**. A local guide takes us through to **Dove Lake** at the foot of the crags of **Cradle Mountain**, also visiting **Waldheim**, the forest home of pioneer Gustav Weindorfer. Lunch is at the beautiful **Cradle Mountain Hotel** where you will have the opportunity to visit the **Wilderness Gallery**. This afternoon, we drive via Tullah enjoying views of Mount Murchison, then Zeehan en route to Strahan.

Overnight: **Strahan Village, STRAHAN** (2 nights)

BLD



Day 6: THU 12 Oct Macquarie Harbour - Gordon River Cruise

We cruise the incomparable **Gordon River** this morning, into the heart of Tasmania's wilderness and the edge of World Heritage. We cross the vast **Macquarie Harbour** to visit **Sarah Island**, the worst convict settlement of all - and follow the Gordon through stands of ancient Huon pine, sassafras and myrtle rainforest. We step ashore for a wilderness boardwalk at **Heritage Landing**. We voyage to **Hell's Gates**, the aptly named harbour entrance where many early ships were destroyed by ferocious ocean swells. On return to Strahan, there will be opportunity to explore the Village including the **Visitor Centre** and **Huon Pine saw mill**.

Overnight: **Strahan Village, STRAHAN**

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Day 7: FRI 13 Oct Nelson Falls – “The Wall” – Derwent Valley

This morning we drive through to **Queenstown**, a historic mining town with nineteenth century pubs and a brightly painted post office. Mount Sedgewick and Mount Owen are the two largest mountains that surround the town. The **Western Wilderness Railway terminal** at the



end of Orr street is where the restored Abt steam locomotives leave to pull passenger carriages up the steepest tracks in Australia, into dense rainforest and cavernous gorges. Experience the wonders of Gondwanaland during a short rainforest walk to **Nelson Falls** in the **Wild Rivers National Park**. Visit **“The Wall in the**

Wilderness”, an extraordinary work of art carved out of Huon Pine telling the story of Tasmania's Central Highlands. We climb the **Tarraleah Gorge**, site of an early Hydro-electric Power Station, before descending the Central Plateau through to New Norfolk on our way into the city of **Hobart** nestling at the foot of majestic **Mt. Wellington**.



Overnight: **Wrest Point Casino Hotel, HOBART** (4 nights)

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Day 8: SAT 14 Oct

Salamanca Markets - Richmond

As it is Saturday morning, we take the opportunity to explore the famous **Salamanca Open-air Market** with its bustle and buskers, colour and excitement. We take a drive up **Mt Wellington** (weather permitting) for panoramic views of Hobart City and Estuary before crossing the Derwent River to the historic village of **Richmond**. Walk across Australia's oldest bridge,



built by convict labour between 1823 and 1825 and view the spire of Australia's oldest Catholic Church from beneath it. Before returning to our accommodation, enjoy some quiet moments in **Hobart's Royal Botanical Gardens**. Dinner tonight will be at the award-winning **Mures Upper Deck Seafood Restaurant** - the ultimate seafood experience in Hobart where they catch their own fish and have stunning views of Victoria Dock. (alternative will be supplied for those who cannot eat seafood).

Lunch own expense/arrangement

Overnight: **Wrest Point Casino Hotel, HOBART**

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Day 9: SUN 15 Oct

Huon Valley & Forest Air Walk

Today we are off to the apple orchard and fruit growing region of the **Huon Valley**, through **Huonville, Franklin,** and **Geeveston** to



Tasmania's southern eucalypt and huon pine forests. A major attraction has been established in the **Tahune State Forest** at the confluence of the Picton and Huon Rivers. We explore the Visitor Centre and take a unique view of the environment during the 570 metre long walk between the magnificent canopies of the Tahune Forest high in the tree tops at **Tahune Forest**

Airwalk. We visit the **Forest & Heritage Centre**

at **Geeveston** before we return to Hobart.

Lunch own expense/arrangement

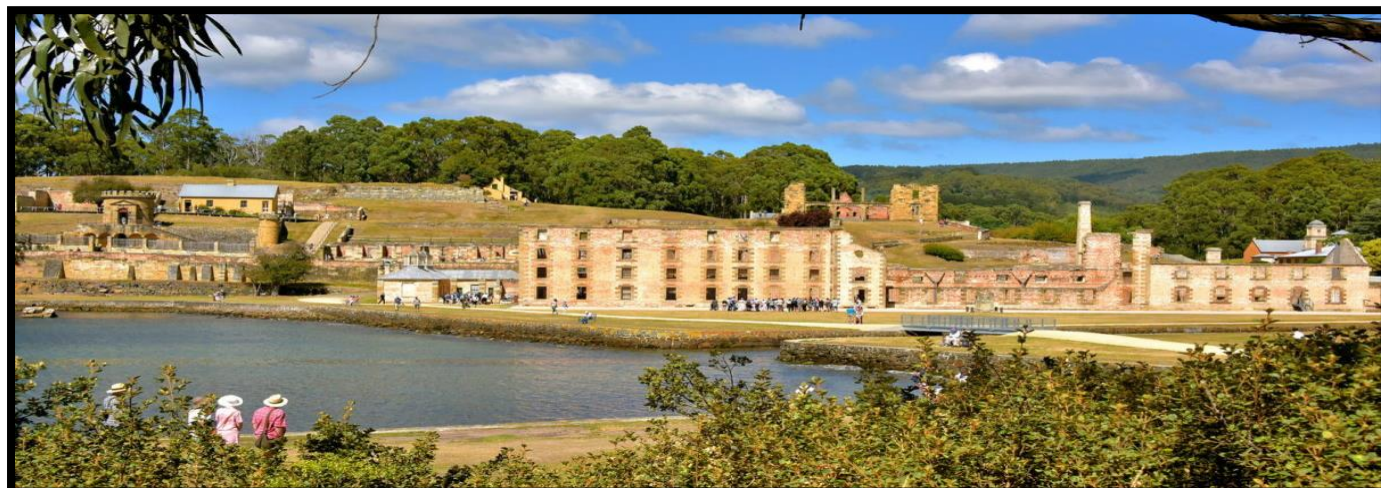
Overnight: **Wrest Point Casino Hotel, HOBART**

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Day 10: MON 16 Oct

Tasman Peninsula & Port Arthur

Travel via Sorell Causeway and Midway Point for our full day tour to the **Tasman Peninsula**, taking in magnificent views from the look-out to **Eaglehawk Neck** and **Pirates Bay** before continuing to the **Port Arthur Penal Settlement**. Within the 40 hectares of landscaped grounds lies a rich history of Australia's convict past. Included in the entry is a **guided walking tour**, a short **Harbour Cruise**, access to the **Visitor Centre and Interpretation Gallery** as well as more than 30 buildings, ruins



and restored gardens and houses. Explore as you wish before departing the Historic Site to tour beside Norfolk and Frederick Henry Bays back to Hobart.

Lunch own expense/arrangement

Overnight: **Wrest Point Casino Hotel, HOBART**

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Day 11: TUE 17 Oct

Freycinet Peninsula - Tassie Devil

Today we head towards the East Coast on the Tasman Highway through Cambridge and Buckland following the Prosser River. We stop at the enigmatic, convict built **Spiky Bridge** before continuing via Swansea to **Coles Bay** and **Freycinet National Park** with its jagged pink granite peaks, crystal clear waters and white sandy beaches. Enjoy magnificent coastal views during the easy walk at **Cape Tourville** to the



Lighthouse, before our lunch break. Next stop is **Bicheno**, viewing the 'Gulch' fishing harbour and the ocean blowhole. Later this afternoon we meet a **Tasmanian Devil** at the **East Coast Nature World** and learn about the threat to their survival during an informative ride on the 'Pelican Express'. From here we follow the beautiful coastline beside the blue waters of the Tasman Sea, through fishing and holiday villages of **Scamander** and **Chain of Lagoons** on our way to **St. Helens**, a town of white sands and a large fishing fleet.



Overnight: **Panorama Hotel, ST. HELENS**

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Day 12: WED 18 Oct

Tamar Valley – Grindelwald - Home

Our drive today takes us through **Myrtle Rainforest** on the Weldborough Pass, then to the former tin mining township of Derby. We stop at **Legerwood** and view the **War Memorial Tree Carvings**, honouring the fallen soldiers of the region. We continue through **Scottsdale** a rich agricultural region, before crossing the Tamar River on the unique A-frame **Batman Bridge**. After a lunch break, we make our way back to the Launceston Airport in time to catch our direct flight home to Brisbane.



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COST:

\$5,280.00 per person Twin Share
\$1,250.00 Single Supplement



\$300 discount if booked direct with SONSHINE TRAVEL

➡ **\$4,980.00 per person Twin Share**
\$1,250.00 Single Supplement

Plus : Early Bird Discount less \$100 per person
Book & pay deposit before 7th April 2023

DEPOSIT:

At time of booking a **deposit of \$350.00** per person is required
Balance due on invoice approximately 60 days prior to departure

Deposit refundable up to 60 days prior to departure

60 – 45 days	BEFORE DEPARTURE	50% Refund of Tour Cost
44 - 22 days	BEFORE DEPARTURE	25% Refund of Tour Cost
Within 21 days of Departure date		NO REFUND

TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

- * Pick up from and return to Sunshine Coast
- * Airline Tickets Brisbane/Launceston Return (Economy class)
- * Air Conditioned, Seat Belted bus
- * Quality ensuite motels / resorts throughout Tasmania
- * All tours and interest venues as per itinerary
- * All meals : Full cooked breakfasts, restaurant dinners, most lunches
- * (5 lunches at own expense as per itinerary)
- * Meal Code: D=Dinner / L=Lunch / B=Breakfast
- * Fully Escorted by Professional Coach Crew throughout tour
- * Personalised name bar

*All passengers are required to co-operate with the seat rotation program determined by Sonshine Travel Tour Directors.
The Proprietors reserve the right to vary any accommodation, price or other features of the tour at any time at their own discretion (if and when circumstances arrive)*

TRAVEL INSURANCE is not compulsory, however is **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED &**
available from Sonshine Travel office

TO BOOK: Pay deposit to Sonshine Travel – BSB **064-474** / Account **1072 4184**
Please put reference on payment as TAS + your name

Please email us when payment is made, advising payment made, names of passengers (& preferred names if different), date of birth, email address, mobile number, double/twin or single, who you are rooming with, dietary & special requirements



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