

14 Day | Tasmania Explorer

Monday 7 November – Sunday 20 November 2022

A place of wild beauty, friendly people and haunting history evoked by world-famous convict ruins.



CT TRAVEL
Coolum Tours & Travel

14 days – Twin / Double pp \$ 6250.00
Single \$7355.00
Deposit \$500.00

Inc – Return Airfares – Bris > Melb > Bris
Return Coach t/fers Sunshine Coast

Experience Tasmania's spectacular rugged beauty dotted with the colours of Spring. Journey into pristine wilderness by land and river and uncover the compelling convict heritage set deep within the historical towns.

YOUR TOUR HIGHLIGHTS... Bruny Island, Port Arthur Historic Site, Cradle Mountain, Arthur River and much more!



DAY 1: (D) BRISBANE – MELBOURNE – DEVONPORT**Mon 7 Nov 2022**

Welcome fellow explorers! Greeting our coach captain, we head to Brisbane Airport where we find ourselves boarding our flight, eager to begin our holiday to the stunning state of Tasmania! Arriving in Melbourne, we board the **Spirit of Tasmania** for our evening departure. The cabins on “the Spirit” are very comfortable and the facilities on the vessel are extensive with lounges, bars and viewing areas.

1 night | Spirit of Tasmania | 1800 635 877

Dinner onboard Spirit of Tasmania

DAY 2: (BLD) GOLDMINES, UNIQUE WILDLIFE AND BEAUTIFUL LOOKOUTS**Tue 8 Nov 2022**

We arrive in Devonport early morning and make our way to Argosy Motor Inn for breakfast. With a spring in our step, we set out to explore the Tamar region. Visit **Beaconsfield Gold Mine and Heritage Museum**, a place where you can lose yourself within its history. Play with treasures from the past and uncover a different story around every corner. At Beauty Point, gain unique access into the world of the mysterious **seahorse** and meet the playful Tasmanian **platypus** in an intimate indoor setting. In **Launceston**, we visit **Cataract Gorge** - a magnificent reserve in the city centre with pleasant walks throughout the landscaped gardens before the remainder of the day at leisure.

Breakfast and dinner at hotel | lunch at Seahorse World

DAY 3: (BLD) LAUNCESTON TO ST HELENS**Wed 9 Nov 2022**

This morning we enjoy the clean air and open spaces of the world’s largest privately-owned lavender farm, **Bridestowe Estate Lavender Farm**. Watch the farm in action on a tour of the flower shed and distillery. Tasting a hint of lavender in our morning tea, we then have time to browse their extensive gift shop. Next, we veer off to a little place called **Legerwood** to see some incredible tree carvings, honouring fallen soldiers in World War I. Enjoy lunch at one of Tasmania’s oldest pubs, **The Pub in the Paddock**, before continuing the day through Binalong Bay as we make our way to the **Bay of Fires**. Back down the coast to **St Helens** we arrive at our hotel for dinner and a good night’s rest.

1 night | Panorama St Helens - Eco Nature Resort | 03 6376 1999

Breakfast and dinner at hotel | morning tea at Bridestowe Estate Lavender Farm | lunch at The Pub in the Paddock

DAY 4: (BD) ST HELENS TO HOBART**Thu 10 Nov 2022**

Stopping in **Swansea**, a town nestled on the magnificent blue waters of Great Oyster Bay, we enjoy our morning break while marvelling at the mountain range called the **Hazards**. Leaving Swansea, we spot the Spikey Bridge – there’ll be no doubt as to how it got its name. Feasting our eyes upon the spectacular coastal views to Orford, we peel away to **Buckland**, where we find a quaint little church with a stained-glass window depicting the life of **John the Baptist**. At the historic town of **Richmond**, where the streets are paved with history, we stop to capture the oldest bridge in Australia, the convict-built **Richmond Bridge**, we’ll see pretty Georgian architecture and stone buildings housing galleries and craft boutiques. Relaxing back on the coach, we head for **Hobart**, which will be home for the next 4 nights.

4 nights | Wrest Point Hotel Casino, Hobart | 03 6225 0112

Breakfast and dinner at hotel | lunch at own arrangements and cost

DAY 5: (BLD) EXPLORING HOBART AND MORE**Fri 11 Nov 2022**

Embark on a sightseeing tour Hobart, where everywhere we go, the past steps out to meet us. Discover **Sullivans Cove** and the tiny cottages of **Battery Point** with architecture that whispers stories of a bygone era. Thanking our guide, we visit the **Cascades Female Factory**, to be captivated by **The Proud and the Punished**. The story centres around a female petty criminal rallying against the system of punishment and redemption. The tale of tragedy and triumph is brought to life in this short dramatization, highlighting the strength of character of a woman enduring the hardships of the female factory. Afterwards we head to **Huon Valley**, to be wowed by some of the most picturesque scenery in Tasmania. At the Tahune Forest, enjoy lunch before experiencing a gentle tree top stroll through the canopy along the **Tahune Air Walk**, capping off a wonderful day!

Breakfast and dinner at hotel | lunch at the Tahune Air Walk

DAY 6: (BLD) SALAMANCA MARKETS AND THE PORT ARTHUR HISTORIC SITE**Sat 12 Nov 2022**

Feeling the buzzing atmosphere while wandering through Hobart's weekly **Salamanca Markets** we then experience a humbling visit at the **Port Arthur Historic Site**, a stark reminder of the harsh conditions endured by the earliest European inhabitants. Our tour begins at the **Visitor Interpretative Centre** where we are taken on a fascinating journey, retracing the life of a convict from the time of his petty crime, to his transportation to **Port Arthur**. With time for lunch, we'll then be guided through the **Penal Settlement**. Afterwards, take a cruise around the Harbour passing the **Isle of Dead** before exploring the settlement at our own pace. Leaving the site, we journey back to Hobart, stopping to see some natural attractions on the **Tasman Peninsula** such as the **Tasman Arch** and **Devils Kitchen**.

Breakfast and dinner at hotel | lunch at Port Arthur Historic Site

DAY 7: (BL) EXPLORING BRUNY ISLAND**Sun 13 Nov 2022**

Today is all about the wonderful tastes produced from the one of Tasmania's most beautifully preserved natural environments, **Bruny Island**! Ferry to Adventure Bay and begin a true gourmet experience surrounded by incredible scenery. Keeping a keen eye out for the rare white wallabies, we'll visit the home of Bruny Island's Cheese, Oysters, Fudge, Wine and more, savouring their produce and hearing the stories behind the harvest. With full bellies we return to Hobart, where dinner will be at own arrangements... if you can fit it in that is!

Breakfast at hotel | lunch on tour | dinner own arrangement and cost

DAY 8: (BLD) HOBART TO STRAHAN**Mon 14 Nov 2022**

Packing our bags this morning we then journey to the West Coast. At **Derwent Bridge**, we discover the beautifully carved works of the **Wall in the Wilderness**, depicting the hardship and perseverance of the people in the Central Highlands. Enjoying lunch at the **Wilderness Hotel**, we travel through the pristine wilderness of the **Franklin Gordon Wild Rivers National Park**, stopping at the easily accessible **Nelson Falls**, for a chance to stretch our legs. The walk has education signs giving an explanation on how the habitat has evolved and the plants unique to this part of the world. Have your camera ready as we wander at our own pace through the lush rainforest to the stunning waterfall. Witness some spectacular scenery before making the climb into **Queenstown** before continuing to **Strahan**. Here we settle in for the next two nights.

2 nights | Strahan Village | 03 6471 4200

Breakfast and dinner at hotel | lunch at Wilderness Hotel

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2 nights | Strahan Village | 03 6471 4200

Breakfast and dinner at hotel | lunch at Wilderness Hotel

DAY 9: (BLD) EXPLORING THE GORDON RIVER**Tue 15 Nov 2022**

Cruising down the iconic **Gordon River** is a must do when visiting Tasmania. Our cruise will bring the river and its rich history to life for an unforgettable experience. Cruising the **scenic waterways**, we'll listen to the intriguing stories of the region, passage through **Hells Gates** and step ashore **Sarah Island** to see some of Australia's oldest convict ruins. It's a great day topped off with a beautiful buffet lunch. On return to Strahan, there will be time to explore the village including the visitor centre and **Huon Pine Saw Mill**.

Breakfast and dinner at hotel | lunch on cruise

DAY 10: (BLD) STRAHAN TO CRADLE MOUNTAIN**Wed 16 Nov 2022**

This morning we make our way to **Zeehan**, to discover the region's fascinating history. From mines and memories to trains and treasures, the **West Coast Heritage Centre** offers a unique insight into this history, enhancing the meaning of our visit of this beautiful part of Tasmania. Enjoying lunch in Tullah, we journey through Rosebery to **Cradle Mountain**. After settling into our hotel, there'll be time to enjoy the beautiful **Wilderness Gallery** or for anyone who would like to stretch their legs, there's a pleasant rainforest walk to **Pencil Pine Falls**. An early dinner will be served before our special evening with the iconic Tasmanian Devil. At **Devils@Cradle**, you are in for an unforgettable experience, discovering more about these unique carnivores! Witness these extraordinary animals in 'action' during a rare and up-close group feeding situation - a spectacular sight to be seen!

1 night | Cradle Mountain Hotel | 03 6492 1404

Breakfast and dinner at hotel | lunch at The Village Meeting Place

DAY 11: (BD) CRADLE MOUNTAIN TO SMITHTON**Thu 17 Nov 2022**

Discover the rugged mountains, ancient rainforest and spectacular scenery of **Cradle Mountain Lake St Clair National Park**. Bring your camera as we travel to **Dove Lake**, a glacially carved lake directly beneath Cradle Mountain, offering impressive views. We take a short drive to **Waldheim Chalet**, the forest home of pioneer Gustav Weindorfer. Leaving this stunning area, we journey onwards, stopping in Wynyard to purchase lunch before enjoying the coastal views from **Table Cape** to the historic **Stanley**. With its village atmosphere, small craft shops and historic houses, Stanley makes for an ideal stop. You also may like to take the chairlift to the summit of the Nut (own cost) before we head to **Smithton**. Here we'll settle into the **Tall Timbers Hotel**, a local timber building sitting on acres of land.

2 nights | Tall Timbers Hotel Motel, Smithton | 03 6452 9000

Breakfast and dinner at hotel | lunch at own arrangements and cost

DAY 12: (BLD) WOOLNORTH STATION**Fri 18 Nov 2022**

We have a sensational day planned, starting with a visit to **Woolnorth Station**, Australia's biggest dairy operation. Located in the far North West corner of Tasmania, we explore the historic precinct on a guided tour taking in the old farm buildings, Tasmania's first **wind farm** and interpretive centre. On our tour, we also visit **Cape Grim** where the Bureau of Meteorology has measured the cleanest air in the world since 1976. The cape offers sensational seascape views overlooking the islands off the North West Tip. We enjoy a delicious lunch before we return to our accommodation with the rest of the afternoon at leisure.

Breakfast and dinner at hotel | lunch at Woolnorth Station

DAY 13: (BLD) ARTHUR RIVER TO DEVONPORT**Sat 19 Nov 2022**

This morning we head to a truly remote and beautiful part of Tasmania. On the far north-west coast, the **Arthur River** winds through a completely wild and pristine wilderness, having never been logged, dammed or tarnished by fire for over six hundred years. While cruising this spectacular part of the world, our local guide will impart a wealth of knowledge on the plant life, history and the Aboriginal tribes who once lived here. You'll also witness the feeding of completely wild sea eagles, that nest on the banks of the river. Back on dry land we express to **Devonport** to catch the **Spirit of Tasmania** back to the mainland.

1 night | Spirit of Tasmania | 1800 635 877

Breakfast at hotel | morning tea and lunch with Arthur River Cruises | dinner onboard Spirit of Tasmania

DAY 14: (B) MELBOURNE TO BRISBANE**Sun 20 Nov 2022**

Wow, what a spectacular holiday to have experienced! Discovering breathtaking beauty from towering mountains to completely wild and pristine wilderness. Exploring charming towns and villages steeped with intriguing history and meeting the some of the unique native wildlife that call this island home! After an early morning arrival, we enjoy breakfast before flying into **Brisbane**. We arrive home eager to share our stunning photos and everlasting memories with friends and family.

Breakfast included

The itinerary may be subject to change without notice. Whilst every effort is made to adhere to the itinerary as provided, CT Travel reserves the right to alter the touring and attractions as dictated by circumstances and conditions outside the company's control. Alterations may be made to ensure the smooth running of the tour. Every attempt will be made to ensure alterations do not adversely affect the operation of the tour. CT Travel will not be held responsible for weather-based cancellations, or those closures made at a venue's discretion.

Tour Inclusions

- 11 night's motel accommodation
- 2 nights accommodation on the Spirit of Tasmania
- 11 cooked motel breakfasts
- 2 additional included breakfasts – see below
- 10 motel two course dinners
- 2 dinners on the Spirit of Tasmania
- 10 included lunches – see below

- Breakfast at Argosy Motor Inn (or similar)
- Guided tour of Beaconsfield Mine & Heritage Museum
- Guided tour and lunch at Seahorse World
- Guided tour at Platypus House
- Guided tour and morning tea at Bridestowe Estate Lavender Farm
- Lunch at Pub in the Paddock
- Guided tour of Hobart with a local guide
- Entry to 'Proud and the Punished' at Cascades Female Factory
- Entry, guiding walk and lunch at Tahune Adventures Tasmania
- Entry, guided tour, cruise and lunch at Port Arthur Historic Site
- Bruny Island Traveller including transfers, tastings, morning tea and lunch with Pennicott Wilderness Journeys
- Entry to Wall in the Wilderness
- Lunch at Wilderness Hotel
- Gordon River and Sarah Island cruise including lunch with World Heritage Cruises (premium seating)
- Entry to West Coast Heritage Centre
- Lunch at The Village Meeting Place Entry to Wilderness Gallery
- Guided tour at Devils @ Cradle
- Cradle Mountain Explorer Tour with McDermotts Coaches
- Guided tour and lunch with Woolnorth Tours
- Cruise including morning tea and lunch with Arthur River Cruises
- Breakfast at Rydges Geelong (or similar)

Accommodation

- Spirit of Tasmania (1 night)
- Best Western Plus Launceston (1 night)
- Panorama St Helens - Eco Nature Resort (1 night)
- Wrest Point Hotel Casino, Hobart (4 nights)
- Strahan Village (2 nights)
- Cradle Mountain Hotel (1 night)
- Tall Timbers Hotel Motel, Smithton (2 nights)
- Spirit of Tasmania (return 1 night)



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