Suggested Tasmania Day Trips...

Make the most of each day with Samantha’s personal recommendation of what you “must see and do” while in Tasmania.
Day Trip – Launceston to Latrobe and Devonport.

Depart Launceston mid morning and travel along the Meander Valley Highway heading towards Devonport. Travel through Elizabeth Town where you can drop into the Christmas Hills Raspberry Farm; they offer light meals and extremely nice chocolate coated raspberries. One is never enough, they are really good.

Continue on the road to Ashgrove Cheese Factory; taste the wide variety of cheeses and learn about the cheese making process. There’s a viewing window and samples are available.

They also offer light refreshments and a wonderful variety of Tasmanian Cheeses. They have painted cows for photo opportunities there also.

Continue along the highway just past the Latrobe roundabout. Here you will find Anvers House Of Chocolate. Not only do they have a wide selection of fudge and chocolate which is available for tasting but also have a delightful restaurant, all in a huge garden setting.

Consider having lunch here, they offer hearty meals in winter and light lunches in summer. The iced and hot chocolates are extremely delicious also.

But don’t leave without visiting the tastings shed or view the chocolate being made through their viewing window.

Return to the town of Latrobe and visit the “one of a kind shop” Reliquaire. This shop will appeal to everyone whether it’s for shopping or browsing. Puzzles, dolls, homerenovations, dress up “on the spot” costumes and in my opinion the best fudge.

If time permits return to the highway and travel to Devonport, a seaside town from which the ferry travels to Melbourne daily.

Devonport offers a lovely sea side township where you can walk along the river banks which leads to the sea.
Day Trip: Launceston to Bridestowe Lavender Estate, Pyengana and St Helens

Depart Launceston early via Lilydale Road. This will take you through Lilydale (the town of the painted poles) and on towards Scottsdale.
First stop is the Bridestowe Lavender Farm. Open most of the year this is one of the largest Lavender Farms in the southern hemisphere. The staff are more than happy to show you around the estate and explain the harvesting process. The Lavender Farm is in bloom Nov/Dec but is lovely to see anytime of the year. Here you are able to purchase the famous Lavender Bobby Bear and sample the Lavender ice cream, they offer a huge variety of Tasmanian Lavender Products.

Continue along to the town of Scottsdale. You may wish to stretch your legs and have a coffee but don’t eat too much! Lunch is not that far away.
When leaving Scottsdale head towards St Helens. This is a lovely drive through various small towns and will lead you to Pyengana. Turn off here and Head towards St Columba Falls (on the way you will pass the Pyengana Cheese factory and the Pub in the Paddock).
Continue to the falls campervan Rental as there is only one road in and out so you will return past these on your way out of Pyengana. The falls is a lovely walk and well worth the drive. St Columba Falls is the highest waterfall in Australia and is a sight to behold.

On returning back along the same road stop at the Pub in the Paddock.

There is always an open warm fire in the cooler months and heaps of history to see, dating back to the ox ploughing days where they were used to farm the land. Also if you hadn’t heard there is a beer drinking pig named Priscilla. You can buy a ‘pig beer’ and feed it to her if you’d like to!
Don’t forget to stop at the Pyengana cheese factory for a taste test; they offer amazing hard cheeses and have tastings available. As the milk is from their own farm, try their milk shakes or even a coffee by their open fire. (They also have great ice cream).

From Pyengana continue towards St Helens; you have the option to take a left turn towards the Bay of Fires if time allows, or make it a must ‘return to place’.

You may wish to continue further along the coast to St Marys and Bicheno where you can return to Launceston via the St Marys pass or return the way you came back through Pyengana and Scottsdale rather than taking the Lilydale route.
Tamar River Day Trip

Depart Launceston on the West Tamar Highway and head towards Beauty Point. On the way there you may like to stop at Grindelwald (a Swiss Village) or Beaconsfield, where you’ll find a working Gold Mine; take time to do the tour where you will experience the shaft the miners were trapped in for the 12 days they were underground prior to their rescue.

On the wharf at Beauty Point you can visit Seahorse World (fascinating – and so many different shapes and colours), along with Platypus World next door. Both attractions offer light refreshments or you may wish to have lunch at Beauty Point.

For the return trip we recommend crossing the Batman Bridge (longest single pylon bridge in the Southern Hemisphere) and then travelling on the other side of the river to George Town and Low Head.

At Low Head you can see the lighthouse and look out to Bass Strait.

Depending on the time of day you may also like to join in on a Fairy Penguin Tour in which you can see these amazing creatures up close.

Make your way back to Launceston either by travelling down the East Tamar Highway or crossing the bridge to return to the West Tamar Highway.
Day Trip: Launceston to Sheffield, Lower Crackpot and Latrobe

Departing Launceston and travel along the Meander Valley Highway, heading towards Devonport. Before reaching Elizabeth Town turn left towards ‘Sheffield’. Follow along the winding country roads enjoying the beautiful scenery along the way.

Once in Sheffield stretch your legs and go for a stroll around ‘the town of murals’. This country town is widely known for its murals that are painted on the buildings throughout the town.

Upon departing Sheffield continue through the town and take the first left following the signs to “Tasmazia”.

“Tasmazia” is located in the township of Lower Crackpot and is great fun for all ages. Whilst there you will make your way through up to 5 mazes, visit cubby town and have your photo taken with some on the craziest little houses you will ever come across! Remember, getting lost is half the fun but we strongly recommend taking a bottle of water with you. There is the ‘fountain of youth’ if you get thirsty. When you have finished why not recoup and get back that lost energy with a pancake or a browse in the souvenir shop.

Upon departure, exit travelling back through Sheffield but continue along to Latrobe. Drive slowly through Railton and see who can spot the most Topiary Statues for which the town is known.
Things to do around Launceston..

Hollybank TreeTops Adventure: A short trip from Launceston also takes you to Hollybank for a TreeTops spectacular ride (all ages). Fly through the trees on Australia’s longest flying fox. Tour time is 3-4 hours. Check opening times as in winter you need to be there earlier than summer due to shorter daylight hours. Take a picnic lunch or BBQ though as Hollybank is really stunning and offers great walks and push bike tracks for the whole family.

Launceston Aquatic Centre: The Aquatic Centre offers an 8-lane indoor competition pool, a 25m outdoor pool and interactive water play equipment for children. For those who would rather stay dry, why not relax and enjoy the breath-taking views and some refreshments at the Cube Aqua Café? (The café has a separate entrance).

Launceston City Ghost Tours: Learn interesting and scary facts that the locals don’t even know as you complete this 90 minute walk through the city of Launceston. With Launceston being the 3rd oldest town in Australia there are bound to be some interesting and scary stories.

Launceston City Park: Who would have thought you would find monkeys in Tasmania? Well, it’s true; Launceston’s City Park is home to a small community of Japanese Macaque Monkeys. These cute and active animals are bound to entertain all in their specially-built enclosure.

Launceston Country Club Casino: Enjoy a round of golf on their public golf course, enjoy a horse ride on one of the stunning horses or simply enjoy a casual or fine meal there is something for everyone.

Launceston Design Centre: The design centre holds Australia’s only museum collection of contemporary wood design. Many of the pieces are limited editions they are all really unique and well worth the purchase as a timely and quality remembrance of Tasmania. They are exquisite designs in beautiful timber.

Launceston Gorge: The magnificent “Gorge” is a must see. Follow the path into the heart of the gorge for magnificent gardens and once there, there’s a cafeteria as well as a restaurant. Please don’t feed the peacocks/peahens. After all that walking we recommend taking a ride on the longest single span chairlift in the Southern Hemisphere over the Gorge before returning to your car. The Restaurant on the pool side offers great breakfasts and lunches. While the Gorge Restaurant offers really fine dining of an evening in winter they offer a (winter special) so take the time to make a call and enjoy the experience. (Make sure that all your personal items are hidden from view, and put items in the boot before you arrive at the Gorge’s 2 parking areas).

National Automobile Museum of Tasmania: Filled with over 100 vintage cars and motorbikes, with a fantastic gift shop, this museum is sure to impress any car or bike enthusiast.

Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery: Found on Invermay Road, the Museum and Art Gallery is sure to please all ages. Offering interactive displays, including the Phenomena Factory, it’s all too easy to learn some new and interesting facts whilst holidaying!

Seahorse World and Platypus House: Located at Beauty Point these two attractions offer an insight into the world of creatures living in the sea. There are many viewing tanks where you’re able to see the different stages of the Seahorses lives and an informative insight on their very delicate lives. At Platypus House you are able to see these shy creatures and also the Echidnas where they go about their day in the safety of the centre.

Tasmania Zoo: Tasmania’s largest wildlife park is home to many animals including the Tasmanian Devil. Just 18km from the city centre the Zoo offers you the opportunity to experience live feedings three times a day! The zoo is privately owned so there is that personal touch the staff are happy to offer educational information regarding the animals on display. This zoo also caters for orphaned wildlife caring for them until they are able to be returned to the wild. Many of the animals have their own unique story.
Day Trip: Hobart to Richmond

The Village of Richmond offers a whole day of fun and interesting activities. Richmond is rich in convict history and is even home to Australia’s oldest working bridge. A lot of the older buildings have been turned into Bed and Breakfast accommodation and offer charming alternatives from hotels. There are many activities to enjoy while visiting the idyllic town including:

Old Hobart Town, Model Village – This authentic and award winning model village is worth a look. Depicting Hobart in the 1920s, you will learn a great deal of the history of our fascinating capital city.

Peppercorn Gallery – See some great local pieces.

Richmond Gaol – Built in 1825 its open daily for inspections to see how the convicts lived.

Richmond Maze and Tea Rooms – Let the kids roam free in this picturesque maze while enjoying a much earned refreshment.

Saddlers Court Gallery – Offering a range of fine products from Jewellery to earthenware.

Sweets and Treats – A great selection of old favourites and new alternatives.

Zoo Doo Wildlife Park – Enjoy Tasmania’s own Safari Wildlife Park which is home to many animals including our much loved Tasmanian devil along with Monkeys and even Tigers and Lions! There are also 2 well grown white lion cubs now. Enjoy feeding the animals, watch the lion feeding and experience the Safari Bus Tour – A day that will never be forgotten!

The Richmond Bakery – Make sure you head to the little treasure that is Richmond Bakery before you leave. They’re famous for their scallop pies. This is a stop you will not regret.
Day Trip: Hobart to Port Arthur

Crossing the Derwent River via the Tasman Bridge you will start the 95km journey along the Tasman and Arthur Highways which form part of the Convict Trail Touring Route. This route will take you through beautiful landscapes and seascapes, vineyards and artists’ studios. Along the way you may like to stop at Richmond (see above) before reaching your destination.

In order to fully experience what Port Arthur has to offer we recommend at least a full day, although two-day passes are also available. Organised tours are available or you can customise your own. Port Arthur gives you the chance to really understand what it would have been like for the convicts who lived at Port Arthur in the 1860s, 70s and 80s. There are many places to explore around the port and we also recommend the following:

Gardens – For the green thumb there is plenty to enjoy at Port Arthur. Enjoy the Commandant’s Garden which has been reconstructed in unique heritage landscape. Enjoy the beautiful Government Gardens and even grow your own piece of history as the gift shop offers seed from the plants that are grown on site.

Harbour Cruise – This 20 minute cruise aboard a luxury catamaran offers a unique experience and interpretation of the ship building and the Point Puer Boys’ Prison.

Historic Buildings – The many buildings around the port will leave you in awe of the craftsmanship of the time. Visit the Penitentiary which housed 480 convicts, the Dockyards and the ruins of the hospital amongst many others.

Historic Ghost Tour – This is a must for everyone who visits Port Arthur. This lantern-lit walking tour takes you through convict buildings and relays documented stories and strange occurrences that have happened at the site.

Isle of the Dead Cemetery Tour – Although the name sounds scary this tour offers an insight into those who lived and died at Port Arthur. The cemetery holds over 1,000 graves, many of which belong to convicts, and are unmarked.

Point Puer Boy’s Prison – The first reformatory built exclusively for juvenile male convicts, Point Puer was home to approx 3,000 boys in its 15 year operation. A guided walking tour offers interesting insights into the lives and stories of the boys.
Day Trip: Hobart to Tahune Airwalk, Geeveston

Departing Hobart on the A6 Highway, drive through Huonville (this area produces more than half of Tasmania’s apples) and Geeveston (gateway to the Hartz Mountains National Park).

Enjoy a slow, safe drive through the National Park until you reach the Tahune Airwalk. The Tahune Airwalk gives you the opportunity to walk through the tree tops and extends for 597 metres! If you’re scared of heights don’t look down.

Not just a leisurely stroll, the airwalk offers a wide variety of activities including:

**Cantilever** – Offering breathtaking views this cantilever is thrilling as you are suspended 48 metres about the ground.

**Eagle Glide** – Soar through the tree tops like a bird on the Eagle Glide Hang Gliding Adventures. Duration 10 minutes.

**Swinging Bridges** – Allowing you to walk over the two rivers, this swinging bridge is a replica of the Picton River Bridge which was destroyed by floods 40 years ago.

**Rafting** – For those wishing to add an extreme edge why not participate in a day long rafting expedition?
Day trip: Hobart to MONA

Getting to MONA is relatively easy from Hobart. You can either make a 20 minute drive via The National Highway or jump on the MONA ROMA ferry that departs from Brooke Street Pier. (Please note, once getting off the ferry when you arrive, there's quite a few stairs leading up to the museum)

The MONA ROMA ferry is quite an experience in itself, full of art and quirky little features. You can either book a standard ticket and sit with the (fake) sheep near the bar or upgrade your ticket to the posh pitt where you will be seated in a private lounge as staff serve complimentary drinks and canapes, very VIP!

Though filled with amazing artworks and antiquities, the building itself is an extraordinary architectural feat.

Once you arrive head inside the museum to experience the wonder that is MONA. Keep in mind that MONA, described by the owner as "subversive adult Disneyland", houses one of the most controversial private collections of art and antiquities in the world.

Some of the exhibits may not be child friendly. There are no labels on the walls so before you go in, head to the desk, there staff will provide you with an O device, headphones and show you how to use it, or you can download the app to your iOS device.

Departing you may either drive back up The National Highway or jump back on the ferry, make sure you keep your ticket!
**Things to do around Hobart..**

**Hobart Harbour Jet:** Available to suit everyone’s requirements whether it’s a scenic tour or fast paced adrenaline rushes, the Hobart Harbour Jets have a license to thrill!

**Huonville:** Home of Hastings Caves and Thermal Springs, this is one of the world’s greatest dolomite caves. Jet boat rides on the Huon River are also available.

**Mt Wellington:** Only 25 minutes drive from the city centre, Mount Wellington offers amazing views and an indoor observatory. (It's cold up there because it's 1271m high)

**Peppermint Bay Cruise:** With magnificent scenery and amazing wildlife on offer (including Dolphins) this cruise is a must and also offers lunch and refreshments on board.

**Putters Adventure Golf:** For the golfing enthusiast or those who just want to have fun, Putters Adventure Golf is mini golf of a grand scale! Offering two full swing Golf simulators and both indoor and outdoor courses, Putters Adventure Golf is not only challenging and fun but is also set amongst beautiful landscaped gardens.

**Salamanca Market:** The largest outdoor market in the Southern Hemisphere only on Saturdays, offers a great selection of local and international crafts and food. With street performers and fantastic waterfront views you can’t help but enjoy yourself.

**Tahune Airwalk:** Literally walk through the tree tops on the unforgettable journey through Tasmanian’s bushland.

**Tasmanian Museum:** With free admission, this museum offers a range of exhibits from dinosaurs to the amazing Antarctic world of Islands to Ice.
Strahan: With beautiful scenery and rich history this traditional fishing village is the hub of the west coast. Although the town is full of attractive nineteenth century buildings and friendly locals, it is the water that mostly draws people to Strahan. Whether it is slow and leisurely or fast pace there is something for everyone from the cruises offered along the Gordon River which include lunch and a guided tour of the famous Sarah Island, to a fifty minute fast pace Jet Boat ride. And for those who enjoy a spot of fishing; Fishing Charters are also available for fishing, deep sea fishing and crayfishing.

On the land, the fun continues with Strahan offering a multitude of activity for the whole family including:

**Four Wheelers Guided Tours** - A variety of tours are on offer from a 45 minute sand dune tour to a 4 hours’ ride through the rainforest.

**Henty Dunes** - Located 11km north of Strahan this mass of sand dunes is great for walking or sandboarding.

**Morrison’s Huon Pine Sawmill** - Visit the mill and see a demonstration of a 100 year old working Vertical Frame Saw.

**West Coast Wilderness Railway** - An original steam railway will take you through dense rainforest, gorges and rivers offering a beautiful and exhilarating experience to be enjoyed by all ages. This is a fantastic trip and one you’ll talk about for days afterwards.

Whatever you choose to do throughout the day there is just one thing that is not to be missed in the evening. **The Ship That Never Was** is a hilarious pantomime which re-enacts a story of convict escape. With audience participation, everyone is part of the show and you will soon understand why this is Tasmania’s longest running play.
North West Coast

Cradle Mountain

Known for its beautiful scenery, fresh air and endless opportunities to explore or relax it’s no wonder that Cradle Mountain is such a popular destination for both locals and visitors. Cradle Mountain is known for its day walks as well as overnight treks. Popular walks include the Dove Lake Loop Walk (1-2hrs), Crater Lake Circuit (2hrs) and the Enchanted Walk (20mins). Bush walkers will love to explore the Tasmanian bushland but don’t think that is the only method of transport! Quad bike, helicopter and horseback tours are other alternatives also on offer.

Not only limited to day walks, Spotlight Tours offers a unique look at Tasmania’s wildlife at night in their natural habitat. Some animals that may be seen include; Wombats, Quolls and even Tasmanian Devils!

If all of the walking is tiring you out why not treat yourself to a massage in one of the two Day Spas available or perhaps browse at the Wilderness Gallery which showcases world class photographic exhibitions.

Accommodation and restaurants are of a high quality at Cradle Mountain and offer a range of fine Tasmanian cuisine including Tasmanian wines and cheeses.

Please note that if travelling between November and March you are advised to leave your vehicle in the National Parks car park and use the shuttle bus service available.
North West Coast

Stanley: Home of ‘The Nut’, this landmark of the North West Coast will capture your amazement as soon as you see this historic town. The Nut Chairlift will take you the 150 metres to the top where you will be able to see the expansive view of Bass Strait and a bird’s eye view of the town of Stanley. Take a picnic and truly enjoy the scenery. There are many attractions around Stanley including:

Blue Hills Honey - Taste some of Tasmania’s finest honest including their Leatherwood Honey collected from the nearby rainforest.

Stanley Seal Cruises - This cruise is a simply amazing and unforgettable experience. This 75 minutes cruise will bring you face to face with Australian fur seals, bottle-nose dolphins and a wide variety of bird life.

Tarkine Forest - Visit this magical ancient forest which is unique and beautiful. The forest offers fantastic views, hidden lakes and access for picnics or even kayaking / rafting. The Tarkine Forest Adventures allow you to experience the forest in a completely new and exciting way. Why not try the 110 metre slide down to the depths of Dismal Swamp?

Water Wheel Creek Timber Heritage Experience - Experience Tasmania’s only operational Timber Tramline which offers unique demonstrations and an interactive tour.
Devonport is the gateway to a lot of the destinations already listed including Sheffield, Cradle Mountain, Stanley and Strahan.

**Annsleigh Gardens & Cafe:** Visit this award winning garden featuring landscaped walks, gazebo and water features.

**Creative Paper Tasmania:** See traditional paper making and even try it yourself. Tours are available in which you will learn to appreciate the art of paper making and not to mention see outstanding life size paper sculptures.

**Don River Railway:** Travel in this vintage train to Coles Beach where you can relax and explore the beach before returning to view the largest collection of passenger carriages, and shop for model trains.

**Hellyers Road Distillery:** Australia’s largest single malt whisky distillery, Hellyers offers you the opportunity to learn the history and process of whisky making.

**Mini Golf Devonport:** Offering twilight golf and a BBQ area this is a great spot to relax, eat and have fun!

**North West Regional Craft Centre:** The perfect location for that uniquely Tasmanian gift. The centre offers a variety of crafts including Tasmanian Timber products, silk, glass, jewellery, folk art and much more.

**Penguin Markets:** Penguin is a lovely beach side town and offers a wide variety of craft, jewellery and Tasmanian produce. The market is open every Sunday, the friendly atmosphere will make it easy to explore the market and township. For the kids: try to count the number of Penguins that live in Penguin!

**Shearwater:** Worth taking a drive to the beautiful town of Shearwater with great eateries, gorgeous beaches and some lovely vineyards; there’s something to suits everyone’s taste.