



SUGGESTED DAY TRIPS & TIPS



The charm of Tasmania lies in its history, its relaxed way of life and its charming out-of-the-way valleys and villages. Make the most of each day with our personal recommendation of what you “must see and do” while in Tasmania.



TASMANIA

0 10 20 30 40 50
kilometres



For more detail on roads, visitor attractions and services, refer to Visitors Map of Tasmania available at Service Tasmania outlets, Visitor Information centres and selected retail outlets statewide.

TASMAP

www.tasmap.tas.gov.au



LAUNCESTON

The city of Launceston first saw European settlement in 1806. Lonnie as it's known by the locals is a valley city that owes its origins to the gold rush days and the discovery of what was at the time the largest and richest tin deposit in the world – Mount Bischoff. Both the farming and wool industry played their roles as they also utilised the facilities at the port of

Launceston. Like the mighty North and South Esk rivers which share their confluence in Launceston, so did industry converge on Launceston to shape the city to what it is today. Launceston not only grew on this prosperity but also sits in a unique geological setting, the main feature of which is the Cataract Gorge. This natural amphitheatre is on the doorstep of the city and can be accessed via walking tracks from the CBD.

Launceston enjoys four distinct seasons, which are featured in the large amount of parks and gardens. Launceston retains a huge amount of its early architecture and has what many call the best preserved early streetscapes showcasing all the various styles of early architecture.



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, home renovations, 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.

Drive along the seaside up to the bluff. Park your vehicle here and wander along the beach. There's a great playground for the kids and a lovely café. Take a walk up to the lighthouse for some excellent views and great photo opportunities. Check out some of the local shops in Devonport city before heading back to Launceston.



LAUNCESTON TO BRIDESTOWE LAVENDAR 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. As there is only one road in and out, you will return past these on your way out of Pyengana. The falls walk is lovely 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 VALLEY



Depart Launceston on the West Tamar Highway and head towards Beauty Point.

On the way you may like to stop at the Swiss Village at Grindelwald. The village is set in the grounds of Tamar Valley Resort and has a range of activities, dining and shopping options.

After this, you can head up to Beauty Point, stopping at either Brady's Lookout or Beaconsfield on the way.

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.

If you wanted to visit a beach, you can head up to Greens Beach.

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. Hillwood Berries Farmgate is also a great little stop where you can pick your own berries.

At Low Head you can see the lighthouse and lookout 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.

The Tamar Valley is well known for its abundance of wineries. Please see the below list of recommended wineries to visit –

Velo Wines at Legana

Tamar Ridge Cellar Door at Rosevears.

Stoney Rise Vineyard at Gravelly Beach.

Marions Vineyard at Deviot.

Winter Brook Vineyard, Moores Hill Estate & Swinging Gate Vineyard at Loira and Sidmouth.

Goaty Hill Wines at Kayena.

Holm Oak Vineyard at Rowella.

Special mention to Turners Stillhouse, a craft distillery working in a rich tradition of quality Tasmanian spirits. Located in the Grindelwald region.



LAUNCESTON TO SHEFFIELD AND TASMAZIA



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 of 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.

Head down 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, home renovations, dress up "on the spot" costumes and in my opinion the best fudge.

Pop into the Cherry shed, the Cafe and Gift Shop are open all year round; the Cafe offering an exciting café menu with a hint of 'cherry', and the Gift Shop stocking many interesting cherry related products, and a great range of local Tasmanian products and souvenirs, before heading back to Launceston.



THINGS TO DO IN LAUNCESTON

Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery

Australia's biggest regional museum, located between two sites; the museum being at Inveresk and the Art Gallery at Royal Park. The range of collections include fine art, decorative arts and design history, physical sciences and astronomy.

The Cataract Gorge

A unique geological and wilderness wonder just 20 minutes walk from the heart of the Launceston CBD. Enjoy the view from the worlds longest single-span chair lift, utilize the many walking and hiking trails or take a dip in the pool. There is also a restaurant and kiosk, suspension bridge and inclinator.

J. Boag & Sons Brewery

This brewery was founded in 1883, guided tours and beer tasting (for 18 yrs+) are available.

City Park

Located in the centre of Launceston, this feature offers beautiful park lands and mature trees and is a great place to sit and enjoy a picnic lunch. City Park also has a monkey enclosure, the John Hart conservatory, duck ponds and monuments. Open all year round, admission is free.

The Penny Royal

Located right next to the iconic Cataract Gorge, Penny Royal Adventures aimed to re-create 19 century's Van Diemen's Land. It provides a village experience for everyone from history-themed boat rides to ultimate cliff adventures such as cliff jump, zip lines and cliff walk. Penny Royal also offers a range of dining experiences for brunch, lunch and dinner.

Hollybank Wilderness Adventures

A short trip from Launceston takes you to Hollybank for a Treetop spectacular ride (all ages). Fly through the trees on Australia's longest flying fox. Tour time is 3-4 hours. Hollybank is really stunning and offers great walks and push bike tracks for the whole family. You can even take a picnic lunch!



HOBART

Hobart the capital of Tasmania is a city that offers history, natural beauty, stunning architecture, great shopping and dining.

Hobart is the second oldest city in Australia, having seen the first European settlement in 1803.

Hobart City nestles in the foothills of rugged Mount Wellington and then wraps around the winding peaceful shoreline of the beautiful Derwent River.

Hobart is a great place to uncover some of Tasmania's history as you spend time wandering through the convict built sandstone buildings. Relax as you enjoy the experience of the restaurants, bars, craft shops and art studios. Be captured by the attractions Hobart has to offer, from the picturesque botanical gardens to the iconic museums.



HOBART TO RICHMOND



Departing Hobart via the A3, the beautiful town of Richmond is only a 25 minute drive away.

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.



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 Boy's 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.



HOBART TO TAHUNE AND HUONVILLE



Departing Hobart on the A6 Highway, drive through Huonville (this area produces more than half of Tasmania's apples and is a beautiful scenic drive! A great place to sit by the river and enjoy some fish and chips or a fun paddle boat ride) and Geeveston (gateway to the Hartz Mountains National Park where you can take a beautiful leisurely hike that's well worth the view).

Enjoy a slow, safe drive through the National Park until you reach Tahune Adventures.

Walk above the forest canopy – share the lives of the forest giants from up-close – look down from high to the place where the wild waters of the Huon and Picton rivers mingle. The 600-metre walkway ends at a spectacular cantilevered platform, 50 metres above the riverbank where the views extend to the mountains of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area. Enjoy local Tasmanian food, cider and wine in the licensed cafe and Visitor Centre, there's a full day of fun for the whole family.

The picturesque and thrilling trails include the Swinging Bridges and Huon Pine walks. Why not try the zip line, Eagle Hang Gliding experience, or book the Twin River Rafting adventures which is a gentle rafting experience.

Whether you're looking for a peaceful forest ramble or are up for a more challenging experience, one of Tahune Adventures activities is sure to fit the bill.



HOBART TO MARIA ISLAND



Departing Hobart on the Tasman Highway (A3), head 86km (about one hour and fifteen minutes) to Triabunna. The ferry leaves for Maria Island from the Triabunna Wharf. There is free parking available at the marina and surrounding streets. You will need to pre purchase ferry tickets, any accomodation fees (if you're planning to stay the night) and a national parks pass. These are all available via the website, encountermaria.com.au.

After arriving on the Maria Island ferry, start your exploration at Darlington Probation Station – a World Heritage Australian Convict Site.

From Darlington, continue your Maria Island discovery by weaving along the numerous trails on foot or by bike and leave your ordinary life behind.

Spectacular cliffs wrap around the eastern side of Maria Island, providing a perfect vantage point for watching birds dive and swoop into the ocean.

In season, you may even be lucky enough to spot the whales that frequent these waters during their annual migration. On the western side of the island, the Painted Cliffs are one of Maria Island's more memorable spectacles, showcasing the power of nature in their weathered contours, where the combination of wind and waves has eroded the sandstone to reveal a striking facade.

Maria is a special place where long sandy beaches, turquoise water, mountaintop vistas, abundant wildlife and a multi-layered human history come together to create a perfect island destination.



THINGS TO DO IN HOBART

Kunanyi / Mt Wellington

The 21-km drive to the summit passes through temperate rainforest to sub-alpine flora and glacial rock formations, ending in panoramic views of Hobart, Bruny Island, South Arm and the Tasman Peninsula.

Salamanca Markets

Tasmania's Own Market is a selection of your favourite stallholders and is open every Saturday from 8.30 am to 3 pm. The market consists of over 230 stallholders representing artisans, designers and producers.

Cascade Brewery

Cascade brewery is located in South Hobart. Set in the foothills beneath Mount Wellington, it's home of the oldest operating brewery in Australia. Step behind the scenes by booking a tour or take a seat and dine-in in the heritage beer garden.

Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens

The Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens is Australia's cool climate garden, with a number of unique collections including Australia's only Subantarctic Plant House. With a total of 14 hectares to explore, visitors can take time to relax and explore or tailor a walk based on personal interest.

Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery

Located on Hobart's historic waterfront, the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery (TMAG) is the second oldest museum in Australia. TMAG has something to offer visitors of all ages and interests, whether you are family seeking an educational and engaging experience, a tourist seeking to discover more about Tasmania's history or just simply an art lover who enjoys browsing.



THINGS TO DO ON THE WEST COAST

The West coast is home to some of Australia's most untouched wilderness environments, best discovered on foot. Find yourself immersed in peaceful solitude, just you and nature (and maybe even some wildlife).

We've listed a few recommended walks below;

Nelson Falls – 20 min – Easy.

Spray Tunnel – 15 min – Easy.

Mount Murchison – 6 hours – Hard.

Horsetail Falls – 30min – Easy.

Montezuma Falls – 3 hours – Easy.

Trowutta Arch – 30 min – Easy.

Philosopher Falls – 1.5 hours – Easy.

Lake Chisholm – 30 min – Moderate.

Julius River – 30 min – Moderate.

Strahan

Strahan is a harbour-side village with a dark and fascinating convict past set on the edge of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area.

World Heritage Cruises / Gordon River Cruise

Starting in Strahan. Both are excellent experiences, the tours being very much the same. One is a local family owned company. Take a beautiful journey down the Gordon River and indulge in the rich Tasmanian history. Both cruises offer different seating options and delicious lunches. Definitely an experience you won't want to miss!

Roamwild

With a starting point located in the beautiful Paragon Theatre, Roamwild is an all round touring adventure with a mix of rich history. They have a range of tour types including 4x4, river rafting, MTB and walks.



THINGS TO DO ON THE EAST COAST

Beaches

Binalong Bay

The town of Binalong Bay is situated at the southern end of the beautiful Bay of Fires. The area is one of the most scenic and beautiful places in Tasmania. From the blue sea and fine white sand to the orange-tinged boulders that hug the coast, Binalong Bay is definitely a place you don't want to miss. 2 hour 30 minute drive from Launceston (170km).

St Helens

St Helens is the largest town on Tasmania's North East Coast and just a few kilometres away from Binalong Bay. St Helens offers all the services of a busy town with a positively laid back vibe. And with all the fishing going on around town, there's no shortage of amazing fresh seafood! 2 Hour drive from Launceston (163km)

Scamander

Scamander is a coastal town with wide sandy beaches, riverside retreats, nature reserves and fishing hot spots. Located between St Helens and St Marys, on the banks of the Scamander river, this seaside spot is popular with locals and visiting leisure-seekers alike.

Bicheno

Bicheno is a family seaside holiday town with lots to see and do, good accommodation, excellent fishing and close to wildlife. Located North of the Freycinet Peninsula, Bicheno has some of the best diving spots in Australia, which can also be viewed by glass-bottomed boat. There's plenty to do on land as well, with popular penguin tours, beautiful scenic walks, a local wildlife park and much more!

Bicheno is a 2hr 30min drive (182km) from Hobart.



THINGS TO DO ON THE NORTH WEST COAST

Sheffield & Mount Roland

Sheffield, in the foothills of majestic Mount Roland, is the gateway to Cradle Mountain and a friendly, quirky rural town where history and art merge to create an entire town of murals.

Penguin Markets

Tasmania's largest undercover market has been happening every Sunday for more than 20 years. With more than 100 stalls, the market features a mix of vintage and secondhand goods.

Burnie

Burnie is a port city with an industrial past that has reinvented itself as a vibrant and creative city on a beautiful stretch of Tasmania's north-west coast. Take a beachside and downtown stroll and find a vibrant mix of shops and eateries serving up fresh coffee, seafood and local produce.

Boat Harbour

If you enjoy a quiet bay with white sands and clear water, then Boat Harbour is guaranteed to steal your heart. The beach is what it's all about, with family-friendly waves, rock pools to explore, pacific gulls and clean white sand. From the winding road that descends to the water, the views of the harbour are captivating. Keep an eye out for dolphins, seals and whales that occasionally enter the bay area.

Table Cape Tulip Farm

A tulip farm atop a 12 million year old volcano, Table Cape Tulip Farm features acres of patchwork fields that fly into a rage of color each spring.

Gunns Plains Caves and Wings Wildlife Park

Enjoy the stunning cave formations, rich colours and sparkling crystals. Gunns Plains Cave is in the Gunns Plains State Reserve, approximately 30 kilometres south of Ulverstone in northwest Tasmania. Wings Wildlife Park is only an 8 minute drive from Gunns Plains Cave. Wings Wildlife Park is a multi-award winning family owned business and displays the largest collection of Tasmanian wildlife in Australia.



National Parks

Around forty per cent of Tasmania is protected in national parks and reserves. Most of them are stunningly beautiful and within easy reach of our major cities – and all of them are safe to visit.

Tasmania's national parks and reserves are managed by the Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service. Many have visitor centres where you can find out about the park's wildlife, history and geology, as well as buy parks passes, books, maps and refreshments. Parks passes are required to visit Tasmania's national parks. Please see a list of National Parks below.

Ben Lomond National Park

Cradle Mountain - Lake St Clair National Park

Douglas-Apsley National Park

Franklin-Gordon Wild Rivers National Park

Freycinet National Park

Hartz Mountains National Park

Maria Island National Park

Mole Creek Karst National Park

Mt Field National Park

Mt William National Park

Narawntapu National Park

Rocky Cape National Park

Savage River National Park

South Bruny National Park

Southwest National Park

Strzelecki National Park

Tasman National Park

The Tarkine

Walls of Jerusalem National Park

Wellington National Park






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