TASMANIA

As Australia's only island state, Tasmania has always been slightly cut off from the mainland, which means that its natural wilderness and colonial legacy have been superbly preserved. There is an astonishingly diverse geography, from the alpine waterfalls and dense rainforests of Cradle Mountain, to the white sand beaches, and gigantic granite peaks of the Freycinet Peninsula. A fifth of the island is designated as World Heritage Sites, protecting the native habitats of the echidnas, kangaroos, and of course – the Tasmanian Devils.

TOP EXPERIENCES

Visit Salamanca Place market every Saturday in Hobart. Walk or Kayak around Freycinet National Park to discover beautiful white sandy beaches and world famous Wineglass Bay.

Explore Cradle Mountain National Park and stay at Cradle Mountain Lodge with its wonderful alpine spa.

FACT FILE

Climate: Tasmania enjoys a temperate climate with seasons opposite to those of the UK. Spring starts in September, Summer in December, Autumn in March and Winter in June.

Driving Times: Hobart to Freycinet - 2 hours & 30 minutes. Hobart to Cradle Mountain - 4 hours & 30 minutes. Hobart to Launceston - 3 hours GMT: + 10 hours



The Bruny Island Long Weekend



3 Day Luxury Guided Tour from £480 per adult

Jeanneret Beach, Bay of Fires

Join this three day luxury guided food, wine and walking tour to experience the true natural beauty of Tasmania. Stay in luxury tented accommodation while your guide will prepare locally sourced food in stunning surroundings.

DAY 1: Cruise by private catamaran exploring the River Derwent on the way to Bruny Island. Enjoy the coastal walk to Cape Queen Elizabeth and cool off in the crystal clear waters of Great Bay to harvest your own oysters. Enjoy a glass of wine before dinner and a nights rest in your luxury tent.

DAY 2: Walk to East Cloudy Head (12km return) for views of the rugged South Coast before a well earned rest sampling wine at Australia's southern-most vineyard. As darkness descends on camp, watch as the nocturnal wildlife emerges.

DAY 3: Enjoy a short walk through the rainforest to learn of the unique flora and fauna, before a wilderness and wildlife cruise with the chance to see seals, dolphins, whales and albatross. Finish your three days on a high and return to Hobart by seaplane for marvellous views of this area.

Please Note: Includes two nights accommodation in a luxury tent, catamaran to Bruny Island and seaplane back to Hobart, plus food and drinks. Departs from November to March – selected dates. Please ask you expert Travel Designer for details.

Grand Port Arthur Tour

Make your way across the Tasman Bridge to the Forestier Peninsula, visiting Norfolk Bay and the Tasman Arch on your journey.

Take a guided walking tour around the Port Arthur historic site with access to over 30 restored buildings and ruins. Cruise Carnarvon Bay around the Isle of the Dead, before returning to Hobart.

FROM £94 PER ADULT



HOBART

The small city of Hobart sits in the sheltering arms of the giant Mount Wellington. In its heyday, Hobart's whalers and ship builders enjoyed a thriving trade from the handsome Georgian warehouses that decorate the harbour. Today, the harbour fills with yachts for the Royal Hobart Regatta, and the warehouses at Salamanca Place house boutiques, cafés and galleries.



Bonorong Wildlife - Feeding Frenzy! Get up close with native wombats, tasmanian devils and koalas and join one of the unique guided tours at Bonorong Watch them being fed and learn about the work of the sanctuary to help the native animals survive. FROM £85 PERADUIT



Day Tour

Bruny Island Cruise

This full day tour from Hobart includes a three hour cruise around Bruny Island's rugged coast to see wilderness and wildlife. Look out for seals, dolphins and birds of prey around some of Australia's highest sea cliffs and caves. FROM £111 PER ADULT

Henry Jones Art Hotel ****

Standing on the harbourfront, this former jam factory has been transformed, with stylish suites and over 250 original artworks.

FROM £98 PER ADULT



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FROM £44 PER ADULT



ALL PRICES ARE A GUIDE. PRICES AND SUPPLEMENTS CAN INCREASE OR DECREASE. Prices in £ per person per night based on 2 adults sharing a room or per person for day tours where shown. Prices shown are a starting price and will vary according to departure date and time of booking. Package prices do not include international flights unless stated. Accommodation prices will be dependant on date of occupancy and not date of departure. Hotel and peak supplements may apply. Important: See the back of the brochure for terms and conditions - a full version can be found on our website and must be read prior to booking.

DISCOVER TASMANIA

One of the best ways to explore Tasmania is at your own pace – as Australia's only island state, Tasmania has a natural wilderness and colonial legacy that has been superbly preserved. It is also the perfect setting for a hiking adventure over the spectacular Cradle Mountain ranges or around the rugged coastline of the Bay Of Fires.





Cradle Mountain Huts Walk

Hidden in forest along the Overland Track, the Cradle Mountain Huts are the only private huts allowed in the area and offer a wilderness retreat along one of the world's greatest walks. Trek through extensively glaciated landscapes with a profusion of threatened and rare endemic plants on this 6 day journey you'll never forget.

FROM £3,554 PER ADULT

Bay of Fires Walk

4 Day Walk from £2,732 per adult

At the edge of Mount William National Park, the magnificent wilderness coastline of the Bay of Fires in the north east of Tasmania is home to dramatic landscapes, ecology and wildlife. Explore the fascinating beach environment and rich diversity of woodlands with a local Tasmanian guide. The four day walk includes a stay at the outstanding Bay of Fires Lodge in a wilderness paradise.

Freycinet Lodge

Just two and a half hours drive from Launceston or Hobart. Cabins nestle in a 14 acre secluded bush setting, just minutes away from sandy beaches and local wineries. FREE BREAKFAST -Selected dates FROM £83 PER ADULT



Peppers Cradle Mountain Lodge

With log fires in the cabins, wildlife all around and some of the most spectacular scenery in the world, this hotel provides a great feel of the outdoors. FREE BREAKFAST -Selected dates FROM £75 PER ADULT



Strahan Village

Strahan Village offers a choice of accommodation from Waterfront Cottages which reflect the history of the region, to Hilltop Harbour View Rooms overlooking the magnificent harbour.

FROM £36 PER ADULT

Saffire Freycinet

A stylish sanctuary on the east coast of Tasmania, with breathtaking views over Great Oyster Bay, and luxurious suites. SPA CREDIT - Selected dates

FROM £595 PER ADULT





Grand Circle

10 Day Self Drive from £696 per adult

DAY 1: HOBART

Spend the day exploring the Royal Botanical Gardens, Constitution Dock, Sandy Bay, Salamanca Place and Battery Point.

DAY 2: HOBART – STRAHAN

Head out of Hobart and travel through the heart of Tasmania towards Strahan, on the West Coast. Enroute stop off and enjoy one of the short walks that lead off from the highway.

DAY 3: STRAHAN – CRADLE MOUNTAIN

This morning you may want to take an optional cruise along the Gordon River before heading north to Zeehan, previously a booming mining town in the early 1900's.

DAY 4: CRADLE MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK

A day at leisure to explore the Cradle Mountain National Park, including the many walks.

DAY 5: CRADLE MOUNTAIN – LAUNCESTON

Set off eastwards from Cradle Mountain to Launceston, nestled in the hills. Just 10 minutes from the city centre is the magnificent Cataract Gorge.

DAY 6: LAUNCESTON - ST HELENS

Depart Launceston and travel northeast, to the small bayside town of St Helens, well known for its seafood.



Bay of Fires

DAY 7: ST HELENS – FREYCINET NATIONAL PARK

Head south from St Helens, through the towns of Scamander and St Mary's, before stopping for pancakes at Elephant Pass. The small resort town of Bicheno is also worth a visit.

DAY 8: FREYCINET NATIONAL PARK Explore all that the Freycinet National Park has to offer, including spectacular beaches.

DAY 9: FREYCINET NATIONAL PARK – HOBART

Make an early start to enable you to spend some time at Port Arthur, one of Australia's best known historic sites, complete with the well-preserved convict settlement. Travel back to Hobart via the historic village of Richmond.

DAY 10: HOBART

Return your vehicle and depart Hobart.

Please Note: Itinerary valid from 1st April 2014 and may alter prior to this. Prices are per person and include nine nights twin share accommodation, an information pack and are based on a group B car hire. Accommodation, board basis and prices are subject to change with availability. Minimum nights and surcharges apply on some properties on certain dates. Driving times and distances are approximate. (Hor)

Please see austravel.com for full details

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