



ULTIMATE TASMANIA

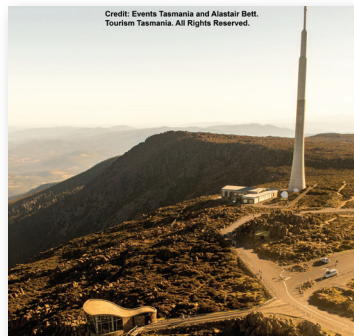
with Val Henry

11 Days / 10 Nights



TRADE TRAVEL
Group Travel Specialists

Tour Departs: Wednesday 13 May - Saturday 23 May 2020



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Day 1. Wed 13 May: Home - Brisbane - Hobart

Lunch & Dinner

VA702 departs Brisbane 8.30am, arrives Hobart 12.25pm

This morning we meet at Brisbane Airport for our onward flight into Hobart. On arrival we meet up with our experienced local coach captain and make our way into Hobart, arriving at **Customs House Hotel for lunch**. After lunch we enjoy a highlights tour including **Battery Point, Glenorchy, Queens Domain, Tasman Bridge, Rose Bay, Bellerive and Hobart City**. We finish up at our accommodation for check in and a rest before dinner.

Overnight Hobart: Best Western Balmoral Motor Inn

Day 2. Thu 14 May: Bruny Island Traveller

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Today after breakfast we make our way down to Kettering to board the ferry across to **Bruny Island**. Once here, we are joined by our **Bruny Island guide** and begin our Bruny Island Traveller Tour, exploring the beautiful scenery and sampling the delicious gourmet produce made on Bruny Island. We'll be engaging with local artisan producers from the island such as a cheese maker, oyster farmer, fudge maker, honey producer, viticulturist and a whisky distiller to hear the stories behind their harvests. This is more than a tasting tour, at every stop we sit back, relax and enjoy a fully inclusive experience. **Our Bruny Island Traveller experience** will include visits to **Bruny Island Cheese Co** where we meet the cheese maker and share in a platter of their award-winning cheeses and hand crafted beer. **Get Shucked Oyster Farm** to savour the clean salty flavour of oysters straight from the shell. Wine tastings and lunch at **Bruny Island Premium Wines**, Australia's southern-most vineyard. **Bruny Island Fudge and Chocolate Factory** which is home to handmade fudges, chocolate and truffles. **Bruny Island Honey** to sample the highly prized Manuka honey and shop for all things honey including personal care products, candles and more! We then try a Tasmanian single malt whisky or a handcrafted gin at **Bruny Island House of Whisky**. Along the way we will also enjoy **morning tea and Pennicott's Beachfront Cafe** and short walks along deserted beaches and see white wallabies, native wildlife and birds in their natural habitat. At The Neck, we'll stand at the top of Truganini's Steps and see the narrow isthmus stretch away south in graceful curves. At the end of our day on Bruny Island we board the ferry once more, returning to then mainland and our accommodation for a well-deserved rest before dinner in the motel restaurant.

Overnight Hobart: Best Western Balmoral Motor Inn

Day 3. Fri 15 May: Hobart - Queenstown

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

This morning we depart Hobart and travel up to **Shene Estate** for an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of this historic site on the **Butler's Bounty Tour**. We discover Tasmania's colonial past and Australian history with an escorted tour of the historic site. Guided by a Shene custodian the tour includes exclusive access including the properties homestead, stables, barn, dairy and the Estate's outbuildings. After our tour and morning tea we make our way to the beautiful **Tarraleah Estate**. A special place with stunning views of the Tasmanian Highlands and wilderness, and once the home of hundreds of Hydroelectric pioneers.



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Day 3 continued..

We enjoy a light lunch before travelling west to Derwent Bridge, where we visit the amazing **Wall in the Wilderness**. "The Wall" is Greg Duncan's commemorative of those who helped shape the past and present of Tasmania's central highlands. A constant work in progress, The Wall is being hand carved from three-metre high wooden panels. These magnificently carved timber panels tell the history of the harsh Central Highlands region - beginning with the indigenous people, then to the pioneering timber harvesters, pastoralists, miners and hydro- workers. After leaving Derwent Bridge we travel up to **Queenstown**, driving through the **pristine wilderness** of the **Franklin Gordon Wild Rivers National Park**, showcasing some of the state's most spectacular lakes and mountain areas. Our steep ascent into Queenstown is an eerie highlight in itself. We stop via Nelson Falls, Surrounded by mountains, which were once covered in vegetation, they are now strangely bare and stained by the sulphur fumes from mining processes. Bushfires, logging and heavy rain have combined to wash the soil away and stripped many of the hills of vegetation and created Queenstown's famous "moonscape". We check in at our accommodation before enjoying dinner in the motel restaurant.

Overnight Queenstown: Comfort Inn Gold Rush

Day 4. Sat 16 May: West Coast Wilderness Railway

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Today we take a spectacular half-day steam train journey departing Queenstown Station and travelling to Dubbil Barril along the steep grades of the rack and pinion that the **West Coast Wilderness Railway** is renowned for. The King River Gorge and old growth rainforest complete the experience. Sit back in comfort as our guide brings stories of the railway and its resilient people to life and discover how the feud of the Irishmen helped shape the wild West Coast. Once on board, we enjoy a welcoming glass of sparkling wine, canapés, complimentary hot beverages, morning tea and a light lunch while we get up close to the rain forest with access to the open balcony. When we return to Queenstown we make our way to Zeehan and visit the **West Coast Heritage Centre**. The centre incorporates four historic buildings, the Zeehan School of Mines and Metallurgy, Zeehan Post Office, Police Station-Court House and the Gaiety Theatre-Grand Hotel, as well as 30 themed exhibition spaces. After arriving back in Strahan we enjoy time in the Village before checking in to our accommodation and freshen up before dinner.

Overnight Strahan: Strahan Village

Day 5. Sun 17 May: Gordon River Cruise - Cradle Mountain

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

After arriving in the picturesque town of Strahan this morning we begin our **delightful Gordon River Cruise** on board a multi-million dollar state-of-the-art World Heritage Vessel for our cruise to **Macquarie Harbour** and the famous Gordon River. We travel to Hells Gate, the harbour entrance to the great southern ocean, and then arrive at the dreaded **Sarah Island**. This infamous piece of land became the largest ship yard in British colonies, turning out 113 vessels in 12 years. Re-join our cruise vessel to enjoy a superb smorgasbord lunch. At the southeast corner of the harbour, we enter the majestic Gordon River, well known for its stunning mirror like reflections, Huon pine trees and wilderness boardwalk, where we pass by a **2000-year-old Huon pine**. After our tour we make our way to Cradle Mountain to check in to our accommodation before dinner in the hotel restaurant.

Overnight Cradle Mountain: Cradle Mountain Hotel

Day 6. Mon 18 May: Cradle Mountain - Stanley

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

This morning we make our way to **Dove Lake** to tour and develop a new understanding of glacial lakes and deep rugged gorges. See the alpine flora and fauna which flourishes in this unique environment. See Buttongrass plains to temperate rainforest and King Billy Pines thousands of years old. **Dove Lake** offers the most beautiful views and our **'personally guided tour'** will prove to be one of the highlights of our time in Tasmania. After our tour we visit the **Devils at Cradle for a "Daykeepers Tour"**. The sanctuary houses a large number of adult, sub-adult and baby devils within a range of naturally landscaped viewing enclosures. We see the animal's daylight habits, sleeping in their dens, sun-baking, play fighting or fossicking for food. After our tour we enjoy a **light lunch at the Cradle Mountain Hotel** before we travel up to Stanley for check in. **Stanley** is nestled at the foot of a **volcanic core called the "Nut"**, which is a rocky outcrop towering above the town. Those wishing may take a ride on the chair lift [own cost] before dinner.

Overnight Stanley: Stanley Seaview Inn

Day 7. Tue 19 May: Stanley - Tamar Valley

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Today we travel across through Wynyard to the delightful **Hellyers Road Distillery**. We experience a behind-the-scenes tour of the working distillery and have the opportunity to pour and wax seal our very own bottle of Hellyers Road, complete with a signed Certificate of Authenticity. After our tour we make our way to Beauty Point to visit Seahorse World for lunch followed by a guided tour. **Seahorse World** offers a rare chance to see seahorses in captivity. The working farm and aquarium gives a real insight into the mystical and elegant seahorse. We are able to see various stages of development, along with the leafy sea dragon and the Pipe Fish. We take a short walk to call in at **Platypus House** in hope that we might catch a glimpse of the unique Tasmanian Platypus and Echidna. We learn about these beautiful egg-laying mammals, and are guaranteed to see platypuses during our visit. Watch platypuses feeding and playing; see echidnas foraging in a bushland setting, visit the Interpretation Centre explaining the biology of both platypuses and echidnas and view a 15 minute film on the platypus. You are assured of some great photographic opportunities throughout our visit. After our tour we visit **Beaconsfield** and the famous site of the great escape by Todd and Brant. We stop at the mine site and the **Mine and Heritage Centre**, which occupies the site of Tasmania's largest gold mine. Between 1877 and 1914 this mine alone produced \$450 million worth of gold - at present values. This afternoon we arrive at our accommodation to check in before dinner in the restaurant.

Overnight Grindelwald: Aspect Tamar Valley Resort

Day 8. Wed 20 May: Launceston - Longford

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

This morning we make our way down to Deloraine, stopping at **Yarns Artwork in Silk**, “a story woven around a valley”. Yarns is a large scale community art project of quilted, soft sculpture silk panels, one for each season, drawing us into the landscapes and lifestyles of the Meander Valley people. Yarns was created by more than 300 community members using numerous hand working techniques. After our visit we stop by **Brickendon**, a World Heritage listed Colonial Farm Village located in Longford. We enjoy a guided tour of the convict farm village and the heritage gardens as well as a light lunch. This afternoon we board the **Lady Launceston** and enjoy a **50min Cataract Gorge Cruise**. We explore the Old Launceston Seaport before cruising to Kings Wharf viewing historic vessels and Launceston’s delightful riverfront precinct. The highlight of the experience is cruising into the spectacular Cataract Gorge. We can cruise in silence as we engage the Lady Launceston’s unique silent electric drive. View the sheer cliffs and cascades from your comfortable seat with unobstructed views on the multi award winning 1890’s style vessel. After our cruise we return to our accommodation for a rest before dinner.

Overnight Grindelwald: Aspect Tamar Valley Resort

Day 9. Thu 21 May: North East Adventure

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

After breakfast we travel through **Scottsdale to The Legerwood Memorial Tree Carvings**. After a cuppa from the coach and a chance to browse the memorial, we continue into Pyengana Valley. Our next stop is for lunch at **the Pub in the Paddock** which is one of Tasmania’s oldest country pubs literally sitting in the middle of a paddock in the verdant Pyengana Valley. We even get to **have a drink with “Priscilla” the beer guzzling pig**. This afternoon we call at the **Pyengana Dairy Company** to observe the production of English-style cheddar cheese and the robotic milking of the cows. In addition to the twelve varieties of cheeses, Pyengana Dairy Company now sells full cream, non-homogenised milk, hand made ice cream with natural flavourings right on the farm where it all began. After leaving the farm we visit the **Cranks and Tinkerers Museum**, showcasing railway and mining memorabilia, also photographic display, old cameras, kitchenalia, gramophones, ships, planes, vintage comics and much more. After our tour we continue into the fishing village of Bicheno to check in to our accommodation.

Optional: Bicheno Penguin Tour (In May Penguins are nest building)

Overnight: Beachfront at Bicheno

Day 10. Fri 22 May: East Coast - Port Arthur

Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

This morning we travel down into the magnificent **Freycinet Peninsula** and out to **Cape Tourville Lighthouse** where we take in the spectacular and rugged coastal views from the easily accessible boardwalk. We enjoy a cuppa from the coach before continuing our drive down the **spectacular East Coast** and across the isthmus into Port Arthur. We stop to enjoy our packed lunch in Triabunna before arriving at the Port Arthur Historic Site. We experience a guided **short walk and talk on the history of this penal colony and a short harbour cruise past the Isle of the Dead**. Later this afternoon we check into our Port Arthur accommodation and tonight we enjoy a farewell dinner in the motel restaurant.

Overnight: Port Arthur Motor Inn

Day 11. Sat 23 May: Hobart - Home

Breakfast & Lunch

This morning we depart early for Hobart to experience the sights, sounds, action and colour of **Salamanca Market**, one of Australia’s best markets with over 300 stalls offering Tasmanian arts and crafts, fresh fruit and vegetables, flowers, clothes, books, skincare products and lots more. We purchase an early lunch then make our way to the **historic township of Richmond**, the perfect place to enjoy some free time to soak up the village history. Richmond boasts Australia’s oldest bridge, built in 1823 and more than 50 19th Century Georgian buildings. We then transfer to **Hobart Airport** for check in before our flight back to Brisbane after a wonderful adventure touring Tasmania with Trade Travel.

VA1327 departs Hobart 3.05pm, arrives Melbourne 4.20pm

VA341 departs Melbourne 5.00pm, arrives Brisbane 6.10pm



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Tour Highlights:

Hobart Highlights Tour; Mount Wellington Lookout; Full Day Bruny Island - Cheese Company, Get Shucked Oyster Farm, Premium Wines, Fudge & Chocolate Company, Honey & House of Whiskey; Shene Estate - Butlers Bounty Tour; Tarraleah Estate; Wall in the Wilderness; Franklin Gordon Wild Rivers National Park; Nelson Falls; West Coast Wilderness Railway; West Coast Heritage Centre; Gordon River Lunch Cruise; Dove Lake at Cradle Mountain; Devils at Cradle; Lunch Cradle Mountain Hotel; Stanley "Nut"; Hellyers Road Distillery; Seahorse World; Platypus House; Beaconsfield Mine & Heritage Centre; Yarns Artwork in Silk; Brickendon Farm Village & Gardens; Cataract Gorge Cruise; Legerwood Memorial Tree Carvings; Lunch at the Pub in the Paddock; Pyengana Dairy Company; Cranks and Tinkerers Museum; Freycinet Peninsula & Cape Tourville Lighthouse; Notorious Convict Settlement of Port Arthur; Salamanca Markets; Historic Township of Richmond & much more!

Tour Price Includes:

- Return flights Brisbane to Hobart
- Luxury coach travel
- Quality accommodation (10 nights)
- Breakfast, lunch & dinner as per itinerary (30 meals)
- All attractions including entry fees and guides as per Itinerary
- **3 Cruises - Gordon River, Cataract Gorge, Port Arthur**

Tour Cost from: \$4148.00 per person Twin Share (\$680.00 single supp)

Minimum 20 Paying Passengers. Tour Price is valid for travel 2020.

For all bookings & Travel Insurance contact Maddison:

Free call: 1800 034 439 or Email: maddison@tradetravel.com

PAYMENT DETAILS:

\$500.00 DEPOSIT to be paid together with completed booking form by Monday, 16 December 2019

FINAL PAYMENT to be paid on or before Friday, 13 March 2020



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