

WEST COAST & HOBART ADVENTURE

LAUNCESTON - HOBART

SAMPLE ITINERARY

This is a sample itinerary and may be subject to change. We may need to alter or amend itineraries, excursions, accommodation, or sightseeing arrangements from those published, with little or no notice. This may be due to road conditions, weather, cultural considerations, safety factors and other operational considerations or government regulations. Final itineraries are sent to passengers approximately 2-3 weeks before travel.

DAY 1 – Launceston

Today you will be met by a representative from Scenic Tasmania at the time and location specified above, before being transferred to your accommodation at the new Peppers Silo Hotel. You will be greeted by our friendly and professional Tour Directors at 6:30pm, before enjoying dinner with your fellow travellers in the Grain of the Silos Restaurant. (D)

DAY 2 – Launceston - Stanley - Smithton

After breakfast this morning we depart Launceston along the Bass Highway, heading for the majestic north-west. Travel through Ulverstone, Penguin and Burnie before arriving at Stanley, home to 'The Nut'. If weather permits, we'll take the chairlift to the top of the Nut for stunning views over Bass Strait.

Stanley was once the administrative centre for the Van Diemen's Land Company, a royal charter company formed in 1824 during the reign of King George IV. This afternoon we'll visit Highfield House, the company's original headquarters. We then continue on to Smithton where we spend the night at Tall Timbers Hotel. (B,L,D)

DAY 3 – Woolnorth - Cradle Mountain

Smithton is home to Tasmania's most fertile dairy and vegetable growing area. It's also home to the historic Woolnorth Station, which is still owned by the Van Diemen's Land Company. This morning we enjoy a fully guided tour of Woolnorth, including the Roaring 40's Wind Farm and rugged Cape Grim.

We then journey south to the World Heritage Listed Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park, where we spend the next two nights at Peppers Cradle Mountain Lodge. (B,L,D)

DAY 4 – Cradle Mountain Exploring

This morning experience the 'Enchanted Walk', a 45-minute easy stroll amongst the area's unique alpine flora and fauna. We then visit Waldheim Chalet, a replica of the original built by Gustav and Kate Weindorfer in 1912. The original chalet was still used as a guest lodge up until 1974, at which point it was deemed structurally unsound. The replica was built in 1976 using the same local materials.

Later on we make our way up to the stunning glacial-formed Dove Lake. Enjoy dramatic views of Cradle Mountain in the distance, the rugged jewel in the crown of this World Heritage Listed area. For the energetic, a 5.7 kilometre walk will take you around the lake and beneath the towering spires of Cradle Mountain. The track is a boardwalk for much of the way and is regarded as one of Tasmania's premier walks. Your guides will accompany you for the trek, which also passes through a magnificent cool temperate rainforest known as the Ballroom Forest. If you don't feel up to taking part in the walk, you'll be transferred back down to the Lodge where you can relax or enjoy the various short walks around the lodge.

This afternoon we'll sample some of Tasmania's finest wines and cheeses at the Lodge. (B,L,D)

DAY 5 – Cradle Mountain - Strahan

After breakfast we depart Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park and head south. Visit Queenstown and learn about the area's mining history with a local guide before continuing to Strahan.

We spend the next two nights at the Strahan Village Motel, set on a hilltop with commanding views over Macquarie Harbour. (B,L,D)

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DAY 6 – Gordon River Cruise

This morning we board the 'Spirit of the Wild' for a cruise up the Gordon River and into the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area. We'll be seated on the Premier Upper Deck and enjoy two guided shore excursions, including Heritage Landing (home to ancient Huon pines over 2,000 years old) and Sarah Island, once a dreaded penal colony. We also head out to Hells Gates where the harbour meets the ocean.

After returning to Strahan mid-afternoon, the rest of the day can be spent at your leisure. Wander through the village and perhaps call in to the Huon Pine Sawmill for a demonstration. (B,L,D)

DAY 7 – Lake St Clair - Russell Falls - Hobart

Departing Strahan early this morning we head through the scenic Franklin-Gordon Wild Rivers National Park to Lake St Clair, carved by glaciers during the last Ice Age. Then, discover the 'Wall in the Wilderness' at Derwent Bridge, an exquisite work in progress by artist Greg Duncan. The carved panels stretch down two rows and tell the history of the Central Highlands region, beginning with the Indigenous people, then to the pioneering timber harvesters, pastoralists, miners and Hydro workers. It is truly one of Tasmania's best attractions!

After lunch we continue heading south east towards Hobart, stopping off at the beautiful Russell Falls along the way. We arrive in Hobart late this afternoon and spend the next three nights at the Hotel Grand Chancellor, located on the waterfront overlooking Constitution Dock. Enjoy premium harbour view rooms. (B,L,D)

DAY 8 – Hobart - MONA / Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary - Royal Botanic Gardens

For today's touring, you can choose from some of Hobart's most popular attractions. Discover the highly-acclaimed Museum of Old and New Art (MONA) or delve into the natural world with a combined visit to Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary and the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens. MONA is home to the private ancient, modern, and contemporary art collection of David Walsh.

Noted for its unusual art curation, MONA makes for an invigorating change of pace with thought provoking artworks displayed alongside interactive and traditional museum pieces.

Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary in Brighton is Tasmania's largest wildlife rescue service. Come face to face with the native animals that the passionate Bonorong team are devoted to returning to the wild, including wombats, devils, quolls, birds, reptiles and more.

The Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens are the second oldest Botanic Gardens in Australia. Spend some time exploring the collection of cool climate species, historic plants, and significant trees, many of which date back to when the gardens were first planted.

Later this afternoon we return to Hobart and embark on an historical walking tour. Your guide will take you to various places including the Hobart Docks, Salamanca Place and the CBD with fascinating commentary and local insights.

This evening we enjoy dinner together at the hotel. (B,L,D)

DAY 9 – Bruny Island Cruise

Today we head to Bruny Island for a sensational three hour adventure cruise with Pennicott Wilderness Journeys, rated as one of the Top 100 trips in the world! Board your custom-built adventure craft and travel along Bruny Island's rugged southern coastline to spot the island's abundant marine and coastal wildlife. Spot Albatross and other seabirds that sit at the bottom of Bruny Island's towering sea cliffs, surrounded by hundreds of seals. Keep an eye out for dolphins surfing on the bow wave of the boat!

This afternoon we make our way back to Hobart. Enjoy dinner at the Old Wharf Restaurant located on the waterfront and celebrate an unforgettable journey around Tasmania. (B,L,D)

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DAY 10 – Hobart

This morning we enjoy a visit to Mount Wellington, which rises to 4170 feet above the city below. Admire the mesmerising views of Hobart and the Derwent River from several vantage points along the boardwalk, a perfect ending to your adventure around Tasmania. You will then be transferred according to the details below. (B)
Bon Voyage!

Every effort will be made by your crew to ensure that the above itinerary is followed. However, Outback Spirit reserves the right to alter the itinerary once on tour as required due to weather and track conditions or other operational considerations.