

Best of Tasmania

Distance: 90km Duration: 10 Days / 9 Nights



Find out why Tasmania is regarded as Australia's bush walking Mecca by so many who've visited. Over ten days, starting and finishing in Hobart, we'll drive around the island, stopping to walk Tasmania's best day walks. Staying in a range of comfortable accommodation, from motel-style rooms to chalets and cabins, this tour is a wonderful way to take in this tiny but mighty island

Level: *Moderate*

What our guests say:

This was my first tour with Inspiration Outdoors... and I certainly hit the jackpot. Our small group of like minded adventurers tramped sections of several iconic Tasmanian walks. Our guides were virtual walking encyclopedias as far as local history and anecdotes, fauna and flora went...and most importantly they carried the essentials..homemade cake and morning tea/coffee to be soak up the scene atop a stunning view or by a pristine wilderness lake. We had so much fun together and brought away a terrific sense of achievement and wonder at the beauty of this country.Can't wait to grab the next opportunity to join them again.."

Mumnette, Sydney, Trip Advisor, Apr 17

2017/18 DEPARTURES:

14 - 23 November 2017

9 - 18 February 2018

23 February - 3 March 2018

Give us a call if you have any questions!
08 8 6219 5164 or
walk@inspirationoutdoors.com.au



Itinerary

Day 1

Lady Barron Walk and the Needles

We leave early from Hobart and head west to Mt Field National Park. Our introductory walk is an easy 2.5hrs walk through a forest of towering tree ferns, moss and lichens leads us to the beautiful Russell Falls – one of the prettiest in Tasmania. A great introduction and “get to know you” walk.

From Mt Field we will check in to our accommodation and have a bite of lunch before heading out for our next adventure. The Needles is another shortish walk (2-3hrs) but it has some steep and reasonably challenging terrain. The views are absolutely spectacular though! It's all worth it. From the Needles it is back to the accommodation for some Platypus spotting in the pools.

Day 2

The Tarn Shelf, Mt Field

A steep drive up to Lake Dobson brings us to the start of our day's main walk, the Tarn Shelf circuit (15.3km). A bit of a climb gets us up to the small mountain lakes, or tarns, of the Rodway Range, with magnificent views over the glacier-formed landscape. From there we will walk along the shelf with its small rock gardens and pools.

The walk then changes to a more forested path for a shady afternoon. We should make it back to the visitor's centre in time for a coffee before they close.

Happy and tired after a full day we'll head back to our accommodation at the Giants Table Cottages in Maydena for a second night.

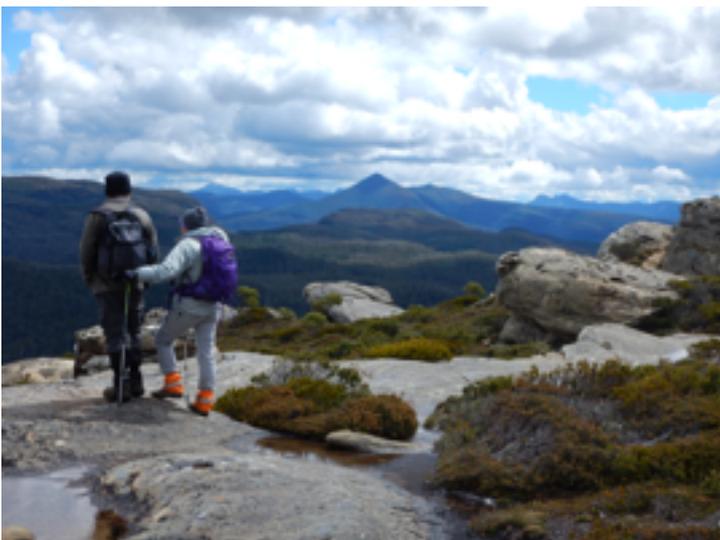


Day 3

Lake St Clair, Cynthia Bay to Echo Point

It's a couple of hours drive to Lake St Clair where we'll take a fairly easy walk alongside the picturesque lake to Echo Point through an enchanting temperate rainforest. Sassafras, myrtle, celery-top pine and leatherwood provide a thick canopy for the mosses, lichens and fungi below. We'll take the ferry back to our start point at the main settlement.

Our accommodation for the next two nights is in the very nice cabins at Lake St Clair and we'll eat together at the Lake St Clair Lodge.



Day 4

Mt Rufus Circuit or Shadow Lake Circuit

A challenging but amazing day walking the Mt Rufus circuit awaits us! This 17km walk takes us through a wide variety of

vegetation and landscapes as we make our way up to the summit of Mt Rufus. From the summit the views over the surrounding mountain ranges are sensational.

There is an option for those who want a shorter day to do the Shadow Lake Circuit. This reduces the walk by about 2 hours and cuts out most of the vertical ascent.

At the end of the day we can walk straight into our Lake St Clair cabins and enjoy a rejuvenating shower.

Day 5

travel day - we're off to Cradle Mountain

Today is a mainly driving day, good for recovering after yesterday's strenuous walk and before tomorrow's walk around Cradle Mountain.

First stop is The Wall – a work in progress by sculptor Greg Duncan, depicting the history of Tasmania's central highlands in a series of carved wood panels. It's an amazing feat of creativity and work that needs to be seen.

We'll stretch our legs with a walk to Donaghys Lookout before heading to Queenstown for lunch and then on to Cradle Mountain for the evening. The views of the passing landscape are absolutely incredible as we drive.

Day 6

Cradle Mountain

Depending on the weather and the energy levels of the group, there are a number of options for today's walk. We'll enjoy imposing mountain vistas, pristine glacial lakes, vast buttongrass plains, freezing cascades and an all round fantastic day of walking. This is a fairly busy park – and we'll see why!

Day 7

To the east coast we go

Today we say goodbye to the wild mountain country and hello to the beautiful east coast of Tasmania.

We'll stop in at some lovely small towns along the way where you might pick up a souvenir or two, or enjoy the local coffee shops and bakeries. Some of Tasmania's best wineries can be found near the east coast and, time permitting, we'll drop into one or two and sample a drop.



Day 8

Cape Freycinet, Wineglass Bay Circuit

The view over Coles Bay toward the Hazard Range Freycinet Peninsular draws us in to this iconic national park.

Enjoy a gorgeous 11.5km circuit walk which takes in the white sand beach of Wineglass Bay and the equally beautiful Hazards Beach on the other side of the Cape Freycinet isthmus.

After our walk, and perhaps an icy but refreshing swim, we head back to Swansea.

Day 9

Maria Island

There are few options today but the most scenic is a challenging but rewarding climb up Mt Bishop and Clerk. The walk is steep but the views from the dolerite columns at the summit of the mountain are sensational. The forested section of path offers delightful walking, with glimpses of ocean beyond the sheer cliffs.

For those wanting an easy day, there's plenty to explore including the Painted Cliffs, the Fossil Cliffs and the old Darlington settlement, which has seen many transformations over the years.

After our ferry trip back to the mainland we'll head south to the historic town of Port Arthur for our final night together.



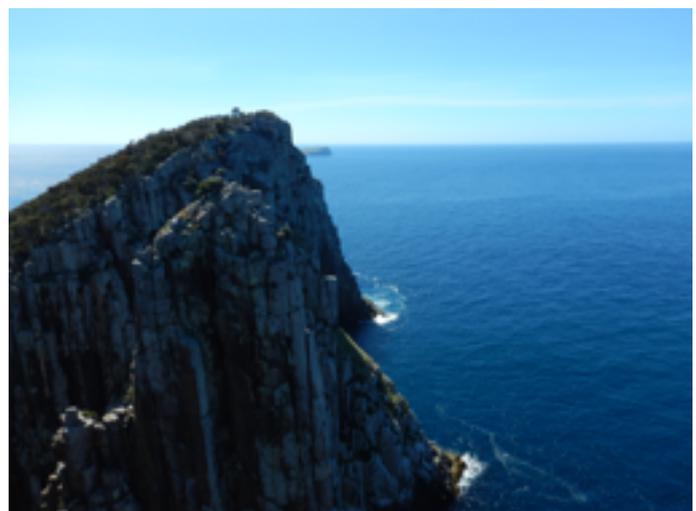
Day 10

Tasman Peninsular, Cape Huay

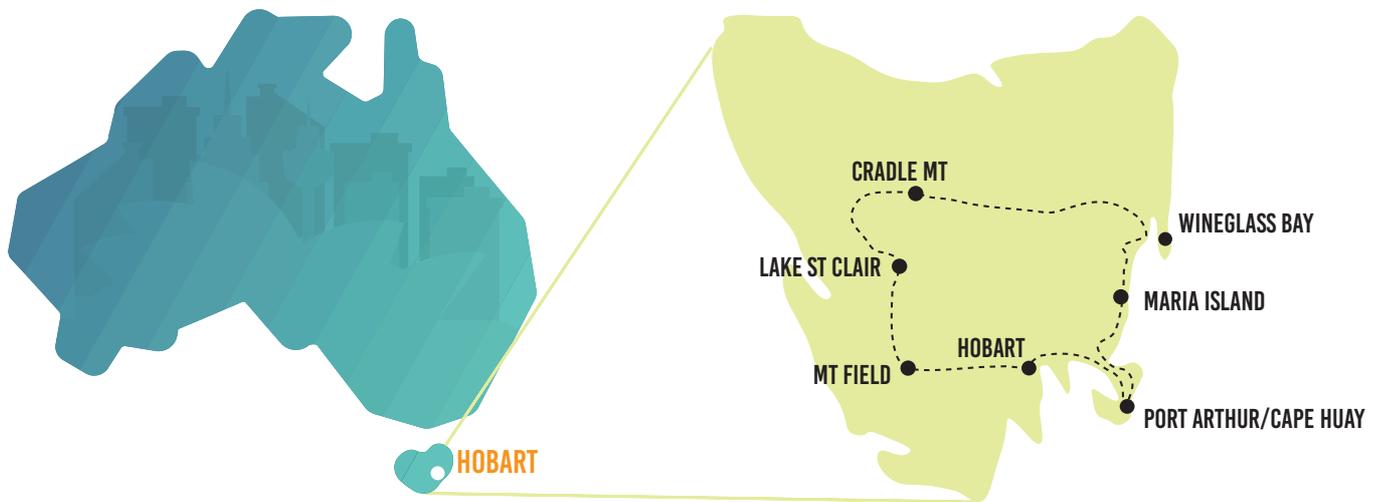
Our last walk, on the Tasman Peninsular, is nothing short of spectacular. As we've come to expect from Tasmania, there are up's and there are downs and there are absolutely incredible views to marvel at.

As we walk along Cape Huay the promontory narrows and the views get better and better. Massive dolerite cliffs descend vertically into the ocean on either side, making this an exciting walk to finish on.

After lunch we'll head back into Hobart, arriving late afternoon.



BEST OF TASMANIA TOUR. NEAREST AIRPORT: HOBART



Where do we start from?

We will pick you up from your accommodation in central Hobart on the day of departure between 7.00 and 7.30am. If you are staying outside of the CBD, we can pick you up from the Hobart Travel Centre (corner of Davey and Elizabeth Street).

With an early departure, we recommend a night in Hobart for those coming from interstate or overseas. We recommend to our guests the following hotels.

- **Mantra Collins Hotel** <http://www.mantra.com.au/tasmania/south/hobart/accommodation/mantra-collins-hotel/> - a lovely hotel, offering hotel rooms and 1 bedroom apartments. It's fairly expensive though (about \$350 per night).
- **RACV/RAC Hobart Apartments** <https://www.racv.com.au/travel-leisure/racv-resorts/our-destinations/hobart-apartment-hotel.html> - clean, well positioned, and more affordable than the Mantra.

Average Temperature (degrees):

November: 9 min - 19 max **February:** 12 min - 22 max

****IMPORTANT****Our itinerary covers mountainous areas, as well as coastal walks and with that comes a variety of climates. Tasmanian weather is typically hard to predict. In fact the only thing we can say for certain is that the weather will be unpredictable. Despite the fact we are going in summer, you need to be equipped for everything from snow to 30 degrees.

The Fine Details

Cost: \$3,690 per person

(\$4,090 single supplement)

What's included:

- All transport in a private mini bus, including a hotel pickup up from any accommodation in central Hobart.
- Professional guiding and support each day
- Emergency support: guides carry satellite phones and a full first aid kit
- Ferry tickets and National Park entrance fees
- 9 night's comfortable accommodation
- 9 healthy breakfasts – cereal, fruit, yogurt, toast
- 10 morning teas, carried by your guide
- 10 lunches
- Pre-dinner nibbles each night
- 9 delicious two course dinners
- Excellent itinerary and planning drawn from 14 yrs experience



Above Image: Lake St Clair Lodge



Above Image: Port Arthur Motor Inn

Where do we stay?

This tour is accommodated in comfortable cabins, motels and chalets. Admittedly there is a bit of a range in the accommodation during the tour as we are in some remote places with very few options. Consequently we will be staying in luxury whilst at Lake Sinclair, but much more modest lodgings in Maydena. The accommodation though is all clean and comfortable and perfect for our needs.

- Giants Table Cottages in Maydena
- Lake St Clair Lodge
- Cradle Mountain Discovery Holiday Park
- Swansea Motor Inn
- Port Arthur Motor Inn

At all of the locations we will come together in one of the houses for breakfast and dinner each day.

Accommodation is allocated on a double or twin share basis. A limited number of single supplements are available for an additional \$400. Single supplements are not mandatory for solo travellers, we will room solo travellers with a fellow solo traveller of the same gender.

Dietary requirements?

From vegetarians to pescatarians to meat loving carnivores with an aversion to cucumbers we cater for all dietary requirements and will make sure you are well fed and looked after on tour.

What's the average age of walkers?

The average age of our guests are between 55-75 years young but we welcome any adult on our tours.

Ready to book?

Your next adventure is two steps away...

- Jump onto our website www.inspirationoutdoors.com.au, find your tour in the menu and click on the orange button in the top right hand corner that states, 'CheckAvailability/Book Now' alternatively call us on **08 6219 5164** (international calls dial **+618 62195164**) or email us at walk@InspirationOutdoors.com.au.
- Pay a \$350pp deposit to secure your booking (full payment is required six weeks prior to departure or at time of booking if booking within six weeks).

Just in case...

All our tours are guaranteed departures.

We hope that you do not need to cancel your booking. However, if you do, our cancellation fee, based on the notice given prior to the departure date, is:

- More than 12 weeks: \$50 administration fee
- 6 to 12 weeks: loss of deposit
- 4 to 6 weeks: 25% of full tour cost
- 2 to 4 weeks: 50% of full tour cost
- less than 2 weeks: 100% of full tour cost, no refund

If you have any concerns about cancelling, please take out travel insurance covering this contingency. This policy will be adhered to despite the most compelling and compassionate circumstances.

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