



Venture to Van Diemen's Land

Departing 6 April 2018

Join us for a visit to captivating Hobart, compelling Bruny Island, historic Port Arthur, picturesque Huon Valley and the interesting Tamar Valley.

Day 1, Friday 6 April

HOME TO CANBERRA

(D)

Welcome to our 10-day tour of **Tasmania**. Today we head to Canberra, so we can be well positioned for our morning flight to **Launceston**. Mid-afternoon we arrive and check in, then have dinner at the Vibe Hotel Canberra Airport. (*Lunch at own cost / dinner in hotel*).

Day 2, Saturday 7 April

ARRIVE LAUNCESTON

(BD)

Today we board our flights through to **Launceston**, where, upon arrival, we are met by our local coach captain who will be showing us this great state. After our day's travelling, we drive to our city based hotel to check in, have dinner and retire for the evening (*lunch at own cost / dinner in hotel*).

Day 3, Sunday 8 April

LAUNCESTON AND SURROUNDS

(BD)



We start our sightseeing this morning with a tour of Launceston, being the second largest centre in Tasmania's north. Situated at the point where the South and North Esk rivers meet to become the Tamar, the city is nestled in the wide valleys formed by the river systems and is surrounded by mountains. Our tour also includes a visit to **Cataract Gorge**, a magnificent reserve in the city centre. Now we make our way north along the western side of the Tamar River to **Grindelwald**, a village established in 1980 inspired by the alpine style architecture of Switzerland. We have some time to enjoy its magnificent setting amid lakes and mountain views. We travel back through this rich country to **Beaconsfield** - the site of Tasmania's largest gold discoveries and of course more recently the incredible rescue in 2006 of two miners trapped underground. We'll visit the **Beaconsfield Gold Mine and Heritage Museum**, home to Australia's only waterwheel-driven stamp battery and features an extensive collection of memorabilia and artefacts. We then cross the Batman Bridge for a close-up view of the mighty Tamar River before driving down the eastern side to return to **Launceston** for dinner (*breakfast and dinner in motel / lunch at own cost*).

Day 4, Monday 9 April

LAUNCESTON TO ST HELENS

(BLD)

We farewell Launceston this morning and make our way northeast towards **Scottsdale**, the main centre in this area, serving some of the richest agricultural and forest country in the State. Here we visit **Scottsdale RSL Military Museum** which was officially opened in October, 2015. The centrepiece is a Vietnam era Iroquois helicopter; these were known as a "Huey" by the troops in Vietnam. These helicopters were used extensively by the Australian troops during the Vietnam War. There is also an extensive range of military memorabilia covering all wars from the Boer War to present day conflicts. We leave Scottsdale veering off the highway to a little township called **Legerwood**. There are some incredible tree carvings here. On 15th October 1918, a ceremony was held in the railway reserve at Ringarooma Road (Renamed Legerwood in Dec.1918). Nine trees were planted to honour soldiers killed in World War I. In 2001 a report on the condition of the trees showed that they were no longer safe and the community was devastated that their memorials would be lost. In 2004, it was suggested that the stumps be carved into a likeness of each soldier the trees represented. Eddie Freeman, a chainsaw carver from Ross, was employed to sculpt the masterpieces we will see today. Our lunch stop is at Pyengana. The **Pub in the Paddock** is



one of Tasmania's oldest pubs (Circa 1880) and is nestled in one of Tasmania's most beautiful valleys. This afternoon we continue through to **St Helens** and **Binalong Bay** where we can drive along the coast at the **Bay of Fires**. The unusual name was given to the area in 1773 by Captain Tobias Furneaux who saw fires by Aboriginal people on the beaches. A scenic view of the bay can be glimpsed driving along the coast towards The Gardens (*breakfast and dinner in hotel / lunch in Pyengana*).

Day 5, Tuesday 10 April

ST HELENS TO PORT ARTHUR

(BLD)

We have a most interesting day planned today. The scenery during our travels today is simply stunning. Our coastal drive takes us through Scamander and Bicheno, arriving in **Swansea** for lunch at the **Bark Mill Tavern and Bakery**. Continuing south has us arriving at our accommodation in **Port Arthur** late this afternoon (*breakfast and dinner in hotel / lunch Bark Mill Tavern*).

Day 6, Wednesday 11 April

PORT ARTHUR TO HOBART

(BLD)

Our morning is spent at the **Port Arthur Historic Site**. The penal settlement is a stark reminder of the harsh conditions endured by the earliest European inhabitants of this one-time island jail. The ruins are the greatest single tourist attraction in Tasmania and the place where up to 12,000 prisoners were kept in an atmosphere of hopelessness and misery. Even though the Tasman Peninsula is spectacular, we can imagine the conditions, especially on a cold winter's day, endured by the prisoners 150 years ago.



The first part of our tour involves time at the **Visitor Interpretative Centre** where we take a fascinating journey, retracing the life of a convict from the time of his petty crime in England, to his transportation to Port Arthur and finally his life in the penal colony. We then take a **guided walking tour** through the Penal Settlement before plenty of time to explore on our own. We meet together for lunch in the café on site. Leaving Port Arthur for Hobart, we make a stop just south of Eaglehawk Neck to see two dramatic natural coastal attractions - the **Tasman Arch** and the **Devils Kitchen**. After our brief look, we continue through to Hobart (*breakfast and dinner in hotel / lunch at Port Arthur historical site*).

Day 7, Thursday 12 April

HOBART

(BD)

Hobart is a wonderful place to explore so we spend the day getting to know the city's highlights. Set between the towering peak of Mount Wellington and the Derwent River, it is a most beautiful city. Founded in 1804, Hobart is



Australia's second oldest capital and everywhere we go the past steps out to meet us. Sullivan's Cove is lined with sandstone warehouses reflecting the area's rich maritime history and at Battery Point tiny cottages vie for space with grand mansions and Victorian terraces. The best way to get to know a place is hearing about it from a local so we meet our guide who hops onto our coach to explain why Hobart is so special. We leave our **guide** and make our way to **The Cascades Female Factory**. The Factory was a self-contained, purpose-built institution intended to reform female convicts, where the inmates did laundry and

needlework services, offsetting some of the colony's penal costs. Today, we have a "part history lesson, part roaming theatre show" as we follow Her Story - an accurate and emotional depiction of the harsh life within the Cascades Female Factory in 1833. Her Story will help us to really understand the significance of this place and what happened here. While we are in South Hobart we make our way to **Cascades Brewery** for our lunch and a tour. We return to our hotel with some time to relax or enjoy some of the hotel's facilities. This evening, we are going out for dinner at an iconic Hobart restaurant – **The Drunken Admiral** – in the historic wharf area (*breakfast in hotel / lunch at Brewery / dinner in restaurant*).



Day 8, Friday 13 April

BRUNY ISLAND

(BL)



We have an early breakfast this morning. Today we are in for a fantastic experience with the multi-award-winning Bruny Island Traveller. We spend the full day on **Bruny Island**, exploring spectacular landscapes and gourmet local produce. This is a delicious day out where every course on the menu is a stop on our journey. We'll visit the home of Bruny Island's cheese, oysters, fudge, berries, wine and whisky to savour their produce and hear the stories behind the harvest. This is more than a tasting tour - at every stop we sit back, relax and enjoy a fully inclusive experience. Throughout the day we'll see incredible scenery. At the Neck, see the narrow isthmus stretch away south in graceful curves. Take a stroll and leave our footprints in the sand of a deserted beach. The light bush of the northern island gives way to the dense rainforest of the south - this pristine wilderness is home to diverse wildlife including rare white wallabies. It will be a wonderful day! (*Breakfast in hotel / lunch included on cruise, no dinner included today**)

**Due to the amount of food offered today there is not evening meal included tonight. However, if you are hungry, the hotel restaurant will be open or room service will be available (own expense)*

Day 9, Saturday 14 April

HOBART

(BD)

This morning we join the hustle and bustle of Hobart's famous **Salamanca Markets**. Every Saturday crowds gather to experience the atmosphere and excitement at Salamanca Place where hundreds of stallholders set up temporary shops on a street lined with lawns and elm trees. Historic sandstone warehouses from the century before last, now renovated and converted into cafes and galleries complete the scene. From here a pleasant drive takes us into the **Huon Valley**, an area to the south of Hobart. The Huon Valley and D'Entrecasteaux Channel provide some of the most picturesque touring in Tasmania. Our first stop is at Grove, home to the **Apple Shed Museum & Willie Smith Organic Cider**, to experience a **guided tour** and a **cider tasting**. We can purchase our own lunch in Geeveston before we make our way into the Tahune Forest and the **Tahune Forest Airwalk**. What an exhilarating experience it is to take a walk high in the tree top canopy. Our day complete we return to Hobart for our final dinner together on tour (*breakfast and dinner in hotel / lunch at own cost*).



Day 10, Sunday 15 April

HOBART TO HOME

(B)

We farewell our hosts this morning and transfer to the airport for our return flights via Melbourne and onto Canberra. We arrive back later today completing our fabulous 10-day tour (*breakfast in hotel / lunch at own cost*).

All itineraries are subject to change due to occasional restrictions in opening times/days of some attractions, e.g. churches, wineries etc. We cannot be held responsible for any changes due to closures, inclement weather etc.

COST PER PERSON:	Travel Club Members	\$4300.00 per person
	Non-Members	\$4515.00 per person

Cost Includes: Return economy airfares, 9 nights' accommodation, 9 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 8 dinners, tours and attractions as per itinerary, entrance fees, luxury coach travel.

Tour Bookings & Payments: \$800.00 booking confirmation per person within 7 days of booking and balance required by 6 March 2018.

Cancellation Policy:

Notice Given	Reservation to 46 Days	45-31 Days	30-14 Days	Under 14 Days
Amount payable	\$800.00	25%	50%	100%

Accommodation: Your comfort is important to us so our accommodation will be of a high standard, offering a reasonable range of room amenities all with private facilities and hotel services. Furnished to a comfortable standard. Facilities in some remote areas may be less elaborate.

Meals: A full cooked breakfast is supplied each day at the accommodation. Lunch is not supplied and evening meal is supplied each night. All meals supplied will offer a wonderful diversity. An excellent standard of cuisines is an essential part of your holiday.

Meal codes as seen in itinerary: (B) = Full cooked breakfast (L) = Lunch (D) = Evening

What to Bring: Usually casual so bring comfortable casual clothing. Nights can be cooler, so bring some warm clothing to suit. Remember to bring sun hat, sunglasses, sunscreen and a pair of sturdy walking shoes.

The Small Print: Bega Valley Coaches / helloworld Bega

- Advises the price is effective for the dates specified but maybe subject to change without notice.
- The itinerary may be subject to change without notice. Whilst every effort is made to adhere to the itinerary as provided. We reserve the right to vary the itinerary in anyway at any time deemed necessary, by circumstances and conditions outside the company's control. Alterations may be made to ensure the smooth running of the tour. Every attempt will be made to ensure alteration do not adversely affect the operation of the tour. All additional expenses incurred as a result of such delays, cancellation or alterations will be the sole responsibility of the passenger.
- Accepts no responsibility for damage or loss of personal belongings and suggest that suitable insurance be affected for the protection of the same.
- Accepts no responsibility or liability for delays, accidents, injury, irregularity or damage caused by other transport / touring companies used as part of this tour
- If a passenger is a Forced Single and there is no one to share with within the group, they will have to pay the sole use component.
- This tour may be cancelled if numbers are insufficient to warrant economic operation.
- Seat rotation will take place on tour. Passengers suffering from motion or travel sickness are advised to take necessary precautions.

Exclusions: Travel Insurance is not included but is recommended and available if required for an additional cost. Tour cost excludes room service, telephone calls, drinks, meals not mentioned in inclusions and other items of a personal nature. Optional touring is not included. If you wish to take any of the optional tours, please advise at the time of booking.



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