





TASMANIAN HIGHLIGHTS
10 Days
Fully Escorted From Launceston
Departing 9 March 2021

ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Tamar Valley and Beaconsfield Mine
- East Coast Natureworld
- Port Arthur Historical Site
- Salamanca Markets
- Huon Valley
- Derwent Valley
- Wild Rivers National Park
- Gordon River Cruise to Hell's Gate
- Cradle Mountain
- Cataract Gorge
- Evandale

INCLUDES:

- **Private single rooms** in quality accommodation
- **Meals** as per itinerary 9 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches, 8 Dinners
- **Sightseeing** tours and transfers as per itinerary
- **Tour Host** – travels with group from Launceston
- Local Driver Guide

From \$5,277* per person

Terms and Conditions apply. Flights not included. Tour Host will meet group in Launceston. Solo Connections reserves the right to amend all hotels, airlines, restaurants and tours for an equal substitute at any time. Beverages, additional meals, hotel mini bars, laundry, phone calls, any items of personal nature not included. Tours subject to availability. Further booking conditions apply, please check all prices, availability and other information with your travel agent at time of or before booking. Package cancellation fees apply. Denise Marie Falsay trading as Solo Connections. ATAS Accredited A11424. ABN 92 582 582 996



Tuesday, 09 March 2021
Arrive Launceston

D

Today we meet at Launceston Airport. **Your tour host will be arriving on a flight at 5.20pm with passengers from Brisbane. When booking flights please book for a similar arrival time.**

Upon arrival we will be greeted by our friendly coach captain, board our coach and travel to our hotel.

A **Welcome Dinner** will be take place this evening within the hotel.

Accommodation: Best Western Plus Launceston or similar (1 night)

Wednesday, 10 March 2021
Launceston – St Helens

B-D

This morning after breakfast we will check out and then tour the picturesque **Tamar Valley** to the **Mine & Heritage Museum** in the gold mining town of **Beaconsfield**, site of the 2006 mine disaster and miraculous rescue.

Cross the unique A-frame **Batman Bridge** and tour the north east through agricultural Scottsdale, Branxholm and former tin-mining centre of Derby. Visit **Legerwood** and view the **War Memorial Tree Carvings**, honouring the fallen soldiers of the region.

Tour the myrtle rain forest of **Weldborough Pass** before descending to the East Coast at **St. Helens** and our overnight stay overlooking **Georges Bay**.

Accommodation: Panorama St Helens or similar (1 night)

Thursday, 11 March 2021
St Helens – Hobart

B-D

After breakfast this morning we travel beside the Tasman Sea, stopping off at the **East Coast Natureworld** to meet a Tasmanian devil. Learn about the threat to their survival during an informative ride on the 'Pelican Express'.

Moving on to the east coast resort town of **Bicheno** we tour the **Gulch Fishing Harbour** and view the Blowhole before taking in the stunning **Great Oyster Bay**, encompassing **Maria Island** and the rugged **Freycinet Peninsula**. Gain magnificent views of picturesque **Freycinet National Park** with its jagged pink granite peaks, crystal clear waters and white sandy beaches. Following the Tasman Highway we will pass through Swansea, pausing at the convict built **Spiky Bridge**.

From Orford follow the **Prosser River Valley** through historic **Buckland** before heading to the historic town of **Richmond**. Here you may view the spire of **Australia's oldest Catholic Church** from beneath the arch of Australia's oldest stone bridge still in use. Wander the streets of this delightful Georgian town and discover the arts and crafts, bakeries and tea rooms before heading to the city of Hobart.

Accommodation: Old Woolstore Hobart or similar (4 nights)



Friday, 12 March 2021
Port Arthur

B-D

This morning after breakfast we will travel via **Sorell Causeway** and **Midway Point** for our full day tour to Tasman Peninsula. Take in magnificent views from the look-out above picturesque **Eaglehawk Neck** and **Pirates Bay** before continuing to the **Port Arthur Convict Settlement**.

Within the 40 hectares of landscaped grounds lies a rich history of Australia's convict past. Included in the entry is a guided walking tour, a short harbour cruise, access to the Visitor Centre and Interpretation Gallery as well as more than 30 buildings, ruins, restored gardens and houses; explore as you wish before departing the historic site to tour beside **Norfolk** and **Frederick Henry Bays** back to Hobart.

Saturday, 13 March 2021
Hobart – Free Time

B-D

As it is Saturday morning, after breakfast we will take the opportunity to explore the famous **Salamanca open-air Market** with its bustle and buskers, colour and excitement.

The remainder of the day is free to relax and visit some of Hobart's wonderful attractions at your own pace. Your tour host will give the group some ideas of what options are available.

Dinner this evening will be at one of the many nearby local restaurants.

Sunday, 14 March 2021
Huon Valley Gardens

B-L

Take in the panoramic views of the city and estuary from **Mt Nelson** before travelling to the seaside town of **Margate**. Stretch your legs at the "**Margate Train**" before visiting our first garden. **Avi Flora** has colour all year round with spring bulbs, annuals, flowering shrubs, roses, irises and perennials, there is also a wonderful collection of birds

Continue along the **Derwent River** which broadens into the **D'Entrecasteaux Channel**, once a haven for sealers and whalers, now one of Hobart's aquatic playgrounds.

Stop at **Crawleigh Wood Garden**, a wonderful 2 hectare garden nestled in the picturesque hills of **Cygnnet**. The garden features lush woodland and rainforest with an eclectic variety of plants.

Enjoy lunch at a local winery before we return to Hobart through the southern suburbs of Hobart passing the iconic shot tower, which is one of Tasmania's most historical industrial buildings.

We will finish the day in the sheltered, landscaped grounds of the **Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens** which holds historic plant collections and a large number of significant trees, many dating from the nineteenth century.

Dinner tonight is free choice at one of the many nearby restaurants (own expense).



Monday, 15 March 2021
Hobart - Strahan

B-D

After breakfast we will be departing Hobart to follow the **Derwent Valley** through hop fields and hills to historic **New Norfolk**. Climb the Central Plateau through highland trout-lakes country to **Tarraleah Gorge** site of an early Hydro-electric Power Station. We visit "**The Wall in The Wilderness**", an extraordinary work of art telling the story of Tasmania's Central Highlands which has been carved out of Tasmania's famous Huon pine.

Then we enter the **Wild Rivers National Park** and experience the wonders of **Gondwanaland** during a short rainforest walk to **Nelson Waterfalls**. Observe the altered landscape of bare, colourful hills as we cross Lake Burbury and descend through the ghost towns of the **Chamouni Valley** to the copper mining town of **Queenstown**.

After a short town tour we continue to Strahan. After checking in, freshen up before we meet for dinner.

Accommodation: Strahan Village or similar (2 nights)

Tuesday, 16 March 2021
Gordon River Cruise

B-L-D

Today we embark on a full day cruise of the incomparable **Gordon River** into the heart of Tasmania's wilderness and the edge of **World Heritage**. Cross vast **Macquarie Harbour** past **Sarah Island**, the worst convict settlement of all, to follow the Gordon through stands of ancient Huon pine, sassafras and myrtle rainforest to step ashore for a wilderness board-walk at Heritage Landing.

We voyage to **Hell's Gates**, the aptly named harbour entrance where many early ships were destroyed by ferocious ocean swells.

On return to **Strahan** there will be time to explore the village including the visitor centre and Huon pine saw mill before we return to our accommodation.

Wednesday, 17 March 2021
Strahan - Launceston

B-L-D

After breakfast this morning we begin to traverse the **Reid Volcanics** for views of the **Tyndal** range and **Lake Plimsoll** in the Henty Anthony Valley en route to **Tullah**.

We continue north through rainforest and mineral rich mountains, crossing the **Vale of Belvoir** and alpine cattle country to reach **Cradle Mountain National Park**. Enjoy lunch at Cradle Mountain Hotel then board the shuttle bus to **Dove Lake** at the foot of the crags of Cradle Mountain and visit **Waldheim**, forest home of pioneer **Gustav Weindorfer**. We will visit the **Wilderness Gallery** before continuing along the highway through mountains and button grass plains to the north west coast.

Stopping to spend time in the town of **Sheffield**, we can admire the wonderful out-door art gallery of impressive murals before we continue to **Launceston**. This evening we will enjoy **Farewell Dinner** in the hotel.

Accommodation: Best Western Plus Launceston or similar (1 Night)



Thursday, 18 March 2021
Launceston - Home

B-L

This morning we will explore Launceston's city centre and the magnificent **Cataract Gorge** with its cliff-side gardens, peacocks, pools, suspension foot bridge and one of the longest single span chairlifts in the world (ride is optional and own expense).

Enjoy a stroll in **City Park** and the **John Hart Conservatory** noted for displays of begonias, cyclamens and other hot house blooms.

We will visit the historic village of **Evandale**, home of the **National Penny-farthing Championships** and visit the **Gourmet Sauce Company**. Maddie the Labrador, their 'Meet and Greet Lady' provides the welcome before we have an amazing BBQ lunch and garden visit.

Mid-afternoon* we will travel the short distance to the Launceston Airport where we say goodbye and board our flights home.

***Return flights should not depart before 5pm**