

# **TASSIE'S EAST**

SOLOS ONLY 45 Years and Over



# **5 DAYS / 4 NIGHTS**

The ideal introduction to Tasmania for first timers or a beautiful way to return and experience other parts of the Apple Isle. This discovery includes a four night stay and travel from Launceston to Hobart via Tasmania's East Coast.

After arriving to Launceston, join together with your group for a beautiful welcome dinner. The next morning set off for the scenic Tamar Valley. Our first stop is Platypus House for the opportunity to watch live Tasmanian platypuses and echidnas, and take a guided tour. The rest of the day is an indulgence at a beautiful winery and a craft gin distillery, both fabulous examples of the burgeoning craft industry success stories of Tasmania.

From Launceston making our way to the east coast, we stop by the quaint town of Ross before arriving to Freycinet National Park. A highlight experience is a Wineglass Bay cruise on board the Schouten Passage II catamaran. Take in the stunning scenery of the land and coastline, admiring the sheer beauty of Wineglass Bay from the rarely seen perspective of the water. Disembarking the cruise, we make our way to the capital, Hobart for an overnight stay.

Like to see more? This tour provides the option to extend your stay in Hobart with a full day tour of Tasmania's Bruny Island.

This is a boutique small group tour for solo travellers.

MARCH 2023 CONNECTS WITH: Tasmanian Highlights

# SIGHTSEEING HIGHLIGHTS

- Launceston highlight dinner
- **Platypus House**
- Beaconsfield Mine & Heritage Centre
- Beautiful Tamar Valley touring
- Tamar Valley winery visit and tasting
- Tamar Valley lunch
- Craft gin distillery visit and tasting
- Wine Glass Bay Half Day Cruise, Sky Lounge upgrade with lunch & beverages

SINCE 2006

TRAVEL

5010

Optional extension with Bruny Island tour

## FELLOW TRAVELLERS

You will enjoy this group experience with a maximum of 18 travellers. This is a Solos Only (couple-free) tour. You are welcome to join with a friend.

## TRIP PACE - 2 OUT OF 5

An easy paced tour. Touring is most enjoyed with a good level of fitness. A minimum of an average level of fitness is recommended for this tour. .





# **TOUR INCLUSIONS**

## ACCOMMODATION & MEALS

- 4 nights' hotel accommodation
- Daily breakfast
- 3 lunches
- 2 dinners

## SIGHTSEEING & GUIDES

- Services of a Coach Captain
- Platypus House
- · Winery visit and tasting
- Craft gin distillery tastings
- Wineglass Bay Scenic Cruise with Sky
  Lounge upgrade included

#### TRAVEL

- Private air-conditioned vehicle
- Cruise boat

Travel insurance is a mandatory requirement for joining this tour and is in addition to the package price.

# **TOUR EXCLUSIONS**

- Airfares (unless requested)
- Airport Transfers
- Travel insurance
- Excess baggage
- Visa fees
- Any tips or porterage at airports, hotels, drivers & local staff
- Meals and beverages not specified on itinerary
- Items of a personal nature such as laundry & medical expenses
- Incidental expenses such as taxi fares, telecommunications

## **CONTACT US**

Encounter Travel Monday to Friday 9:30am to 5pm (Sydney time)

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# **TOP 5 REASONS TO JOIN**

- 1. Age-matched holiday groups
- 2. Travel with like-minded solo travellers
- 3. Small groups
- 4. Early bird savings with many tours
- 5. Roommate matching option

# **ABOUT US**

At Encounter Travel we offer holiday groups for solo travellers. All trips are age-matched so there's more chance you'll share your journey with like minded travellers. Visiting destinations across Australia and around the globe, choose from short escapes to adventure trips and leisurely touring.

We are a multi award winning tour company; two time winner of the global Solo Travel Awards, winner in the Australian Travel Awards 2019 in the specialist category, LUXLife 2021 Hospitality Best Specialist Solo Travel Agency – Australasia, and LUXLife 2022 Travel & Tourism Best Solo Traveller Tour Operator - Australia. We are ATAS accredited and a member of the Australian Council of Tour Operators (CATO). Encounter Travel is a registered trademark of A Rendezvous Group Pty Ltd ABN 23 119 642 992.

Since 2006 we've paved the way for solo travellers to destinations in Australia and across the globe. ©









Since 2006, leading the way for solo travellers



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Our website has full trip details and content in this flyer is only a part of the information. For full details please refer to our website.

## **TRAVEL DATES:**

TUE 8 - SAT 12 NOVEMBER 2022 TUE 14 - SAT 18 MARCH 2023

#### **TOUR PRICE:**

Tour prices with own room NOV 2022: \$2585 MAR 2023: \$2585

SHARE & SAVE: Ask us about our share and save offer with a roommate matching option.

## PRE OR POST TOUR STAY

Maybe you'd like to arrive the day prior for an additional night of stay in Launceston. Enjoy the extra time and discover Cataract Gorge at leisure, and/or extend your stay at the end of the tour in Hobart to include our extension package with a Bruny Island tour.

#### SNAPSHOT

Day 01START. LauncestonDay 02Launceston/Tamar Valley returnDay 03Launceston to Coles Bay/Freycinet, overnight BichenoDay 04Bicheno/Freycinet to HobartDay 05Hobart. END.

## OPTIONAL EXTENSION

Day 05 Optional Bruny Island tour Day 06 Hobart - END

## ITINERARY

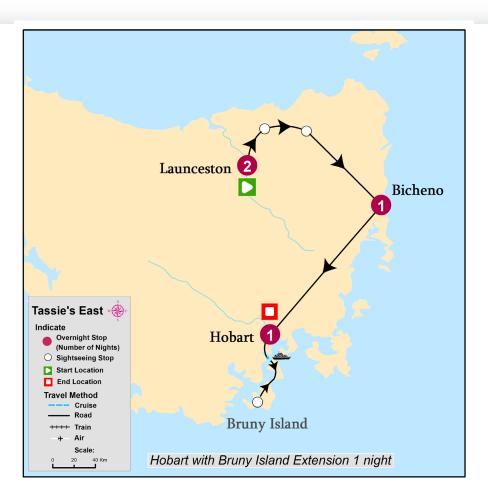
## DAY 01 Launceston

Arrive to Launceston today at your leisure. This evening, meet up with your fellow travellers at the hotel before enjoying a group dinner.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

SNAPSHOT - WHAT'S INCLUDED:

· An impressive welcome dinner



#### DAY 02 Tamar Valley Discovery

Today we discover the beautiful Tamar Valley, home to Tasmania's principal wine producing area where wineries snuggle side by side with picturesque orchards, forests and fertile pastures. The Tamar River is distinguished as Australia's longest tidal navigable river. Its long, lazy bends wind 65 kilometres inland, around hills and plains, beaches and bush. At the river's head is the pretty city of Launceston. At its mouth – wide sandy beaches.

Our first stop is Platypus House in the northern region of the Tamar valley for the unique opportunity to see Tasmanian platypuses and echidnas. As the Tamar region is well known for its boutique wineries, we visit a lovely winery for tastings. Then, onto nearby Beaconsfield Mine and Heritage Centre which includes the mine rescue exhibition that tells the incredible story of the 2006 underground mine rescue, before enjoying lunch together in the valley. On our way back to Launceston, we visit a local boutique craft gin distillery, showcasing their awardwinning gin including gin tastings. The is evening is at your leisure.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

#### SNAPSHOT - WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Platypus House
- · Tamar Valley winery visit and tastings
- Beaconsfield Mine & Heritage Centre
  - Lunch in the Tamar Valley
  - Visit a local craft gin distillery for a tour & tastings



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#### DAY 03 Launceston – Coles Bay - Bicheno

We set off from Launceston and head south to arrive to Ross, a quaint town with some splendid historic buildings mostly of Georgian architecture and there's also the beautiful Ross Bridge. It's here we stop at Ross Female Factory erected in 1833; the most archaeologically intact female convict site in Australia. With a short break in Ross, why not visit a local bakery for a coffee and delicious pastries and pies. From Ross we make our way east to reach Freycinet National Park, known for its postcard views, pristine beaches, turquoise water and red granite mountains. Enjoy a relaxed lunch with views over Wineglass Bay.

Wineglass Bay Lookout Walk 2.6KM

After lunch there is the option to take a walk to the Wineglass Bay Lookout to see the view of one of the top ten beaches in the world.\*

We then travel to the seaside town of Bicheno. This tiny town boasts some of the prettiest scenery on the East Coast and features the Bicheno Blowhole. There is an optional penguin tour in the evening.

Enjoy a relaxed dinner at our hotel this evening.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

SNAPSHOT - WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- · Visit to the quaint town of Ross
- Relaxed casual lunch overlooking Wineglass Bay
- Optional bush walk to Wineglass Bay Lookout
- Dinner this evening is at our hotel's restaurant

#### SPECIAL NOTES:

\* **The Wineglass Bay Look:** some bushwalking experience recommended. Tracks may have short steep hill sections, a rough surface and many steps. It is a 1-1.5 hour return trip, 2.6km. The walk is a grade 3 out of Grade system where 1 is the easiest, and 5 is the most challenging. The walk is unguided.

FREE TIME EXTRAS:

Bicheno Penguin Tour This is optional as it is low season for penguins. You can expect to see penguins but the numbers will be lower than other times of year. Bookings by your own arrangement. Price AUD40

## DAY 04 Bicheno - Freycinet - Hobart

After breakfast, we head off from Bicheno to arrive to Coles Bay, on Tasmania's East Coast and the entrance point for visitors to the Freycinet National Park.

Today we cruise the spectacular coastline of Freycinet National Park from Coles Bay to Wineglass Bay (regularly voted in the world's top ten beaches). Enjoy this highlight cruise experience on board the Schouten Passage II, enjoy the SKYLOUNGE upgrade included with your tour, the adults only top deck of the boat. The cruise is on board a luxurious 150 seat catamaran.

Be enthralled by the stunning scenery of the land and coastline as you take in the sheer beauty of Wineglass Bay from the rarely seen perspective of the water. The waters surrounding Freycinet National Park are home to diverse and remarkable wildlife. Keep a look out for sea eagles, pods of dolphins and Australian fur seals hauling out along the coast. Spot diverse birdlife, including albatross, shearwaters, diving gannets, terns, little penguins and cormorants.

Returning mid afternoon to Coles Bay we board our coach and travel south to Hobart. Along the way, and not far from Hobart we will make a stop in the quaint town of Richmond. After a full but relaxing day we arrive to Hobart early evening to check into our hotel. Tonight, is at your leisure.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

#### SNAPSHOT - WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Wineglass Bay half day cruise
- · Lunch on board the cruise boat
- A stop at the quaint town of Richmond, not far from Hobart.

SPECIAL NOTES:

 The cruise boat is enclosed which protects you from the elements, however we still suggest you bring some warm clothes.

#### DAY 05 Hobart

After breakfast your visit comes to an end and you check out of the hotel. There's the option to extend your visit with a very worthwhile 1 night/1 day extension in Hobart including a Bruny Island tour.

Meals: Breakfast

# OPTIONAL EXTENSION: Bruny Island Tour

## DAY 05 Hobart – Bruny Island – Hobart

Extend your visit with another night's stay in Hobart and join the Bruny Island Traveller tour. See Bruny Island with a local guide who will show you the very best of what the island has to offer including visits to cellar doors and local providores.

This is a full day tour of 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 your journey. You'll visit the home of Bruny Island's cheese, oysters, fudge, honey, wine and whisky to savour their produce and hear the stories behind the harvest. At every stop, sit back, relax and enjoy a fully inclusive experience.

See incredible scenery; take a stroll and leave your footprints in the sand of a deserted beach and see the light bush of the northern island give way to the dense rainforest of the south - this pristine wilderness is home to diverse wildlife including rare white wallabies.

This is a full day; depart Hobart approximately 7:30AM and return around 5:30PM. The evening is at your leisure.

Meals: Lunch

SNAPSHOT - WHAT'S INCLUDED:

- Full day, locally guided Bruny Island Tour
- Gourmet food tastings
- Morning tea
- Winery Lunch and Whisky Distillery visit

SPECIAL NOTES: Have warm and comfortable clothing



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#### including a jacket.

This tour may have guests join that are not booked with Encounter Travel. Maximum group size is 20 travellers.

#### DAY 06 Hobart

After breakfast, your visit comes to an end and you check out of your hotel.

#### Meals: Breakfast

Itineraries may be subject to change, due to circumstances outside of our control. If there is any itinerary change prior to departure of significance we aim to inform you prior to travel. Itinerary changes while on tour will be informed by your tour leader/guide while on tour.

## **HOTEL DESCRIPTIONS**

## **PEPPERS SEAPORT, LAUNCESTON**

In a vibrant new district of Launceston, overlooking the wharf strip and marina, Peppers Seaport Hotel puts you right amongst the action. This deluxe Launceston accommodation is located just 5 minutes from the city centre and is a short 15-minute drive from Launceston Airport. Stylish City View Studios are perfect for singles, with a king-size bed and television, opening window, and wifi.

#### **BICHENO BEACHFRONT, BICHENO**

All rooms are tastefully furnished with modern decor, reverse cycle air conditioner, free WiFi, TV, and walk-in shower. Additional facilities include a swimming pool (open through Spring/ Summer/Autumn, closed during the Winter months), BBQ, guest laundry, onsite bottle shop, & bistro 7 days a week. Either poolside or seaview rooms will be allocated.

## CROWNE PLAZA, HOBART

Located in the city centre, Crowne Plaza Hobart connects visitors to the heart of Tasmania. This contemporary hotel offers modern rooms designed to ensure you rest and relax while making the most out of your stay. Stroll the streets and explore what Hobart is renowned for with Salamanca Place and Constitution Dock just moments away and the best shopping next door. Or venture a little further on a ferry to the iconic Museum of Old and New Art. To round out your day, unwind with friends over a drink or casual meal at The Deck, or head to Core Restaurant and Bar for the finest local produce. Otherwise, indulge in champagne and oysters at Aura our rooftop lounge bar. Check from 2PM. Check out by 11AM. Superior rooms offer a king bed, lounge, touch pad controls, free WIFI, smart 55" TV's, great workspace, designer bathroom with Antipodes products. Enjoy a local indulgence from the minibar.

# **GETTING THERE**

#### **Tour starts: Launceston**

The first day is at your leisure until the evening. Meet your fellow travellers for a pre-dinner get together at the hotel bar, followed by a group dinner. Expect commencement time around 6-6:30PM (advised at time documents issued). We recommend booking flights that arrive to Launceston no later than 4:00PM.

#### Tour ends: Hobart

There are no tour excursions on the final day. You can depart Hobart at your leisure.

HOTEL CHECK IN /CHECK OUT TIMES Consider the hotel check in time on arrival and the hotel check out time on departure. Early check in or late check out can be requested but without payment cannot be guaranteed.

#### TRANSFERS

Airport Transfers are not included with this package. Transfers between the airport and the hotel are by your own arrangement.

## **DRIVER-GUIDE**

This is a private group tour with one driver-guide, leading the group. The trip suits an independent style traveller, content with travelling without the additional services of a tour escort. Your driver-guide will give direction on daily meeting times. However, where the group is 16 travellers or more we also include a group escort for days two to four of the itinerary.

Your coach captain and/or group escort, is there to assist with group arrangements

and to act as the liaison for all tour services. From time to time, as is the nature of travel, 'hiccups' can occur, such as unexpected delays to due to traffic congestion, unexpected weather conditions that make a change of plans necessary, and many other things that go hand in hand with travel. In these circumstances your group escort will do their utmost to make the best possible alternative plans – please be ready to accept that these situations are out of the control of anyone and trust in your group leader to assist as best as possible.

#### DISCLAIMER

Any content in this publication maybe subject to change or correction, and without notice.

We have taken great care to prepare and publish the trip information and in good faith we believe it to be accurate at the time we published the information. However, as is the nature of travel, plans may need to change from time to time and often unexpectedly.

If trip details need to change, in most cases your final documentation issued prior to your departure will be updated. However, it's also possible that an itinerary change may be necessary while on the trip. It could be related to unexpected weather or road conditions or another example could be an announcement of a closure of a facility we planned to use. In these cases, we will make all best endeavours to provide an alternative, of equivalent or similar standard.

Information in this publication is in part, and for full trip details please refer to our website.

Full terms and conditions are available on our website and provided when a quote is issued.