

# Tasmania Road Trip

## - 14 night self-drive tour including car and accommodation

Spend 14 nights touring Tasmania – experience the best of the pristine wilderness, forever changing landscape and the fine food and beverages that make Tasmania an unforgettable experience.

14 nights allow you to take the time to get to relax and experience all regions. Base yourself in special parts of Tasmania for a few days to really immerse yourself.

All holiday packages are tailor made to suit your individual requirements and tastes and include areas such as cosmopolitan Hobart, the wild West Coast, famous Cradle Mountain, far North West, the wine region of Launceston Tamar Valley and the magnificent East Coast which boasts some of the best beaches in the world!

### **The 14 night Road Trip package includes:**

- 14 nights accommodation staying with TasVillas statewide.
- 14 days all inclusive economy manual car hire from Budget – ensuring no costly hidden extras!
- A National Parks Pass valued at \$60, providing free access into statewide parks – you're going to need it!
- A quality touring map of Tasmania.
- The statewide visitor guides to Tasmania, providing a range of local maps and a huge range of suggested activities and attractions.
- Free Tassie Dining Card – offering discounts at local cafes and restaurants.
- A bottle of Tasmanian Sparkling Janz

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Great Value from only \$1239\* per person twin share

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For bookings and enquiries contact Holidays Direct  
**1300 300 633** [www.holidaysdirect.com.au](http://www.holidaysdirect.com.au)

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\*Conditions apply, subject to availability. Valid for travel between 01.09.10 and 23.12.10. Price is per person, twin share. Car hire is all inclusive of airport surcharges, excess reduction coverage and administration fees.



# Suggested 14 night itinerary

**Day 1:** Explore around Sullivan's Cove, where settlers came ashore in 1804. Wander around the historic waterfront to Salamanca Place (markets every Saturday), then to Battery Point with its Georgian cottages, art and craft shops, restaurants and superb views over the Derwent River. A 20 minute drive takes you to the top of Mt Wellington (1,271 metres) for a stunning panoramic vista of Hobart and the Derwent. On the way down, stop off at the Female Factory Historic Site and visit the Fudge Factory. Tonight, dine at one of the many restaurants on Elizabeth Street in North Hobart or near the waterfront.

Overnight – Hobart area

**DAY 2:** Heading west from Hobart take the Lyell Highway to historic New Norfolk, which has a fine collection of heritage buildings, antique stores and Australia's oldest Anglican church. Stop for morning tea at the cafe by the Salmon Ponds then follow the signs for the Mt Field National Park - take a stroll to the impressive Russell Falls. Continuing on the Lyell Highway travel west via Ouse, stop for lunch at Tarraleah, an old Hydro town, or at Lake St Clair, the end of the famous Overland Track. Descend into Queenstown - it's an authentic west coast mining town, so stop for a while to take in the character and history.

Overnight – West Coast

**DAY 3:** Today you will experience Tasmania's true wilderness aboard a cruise on the Gordon River. A luxury catamaran will take you into Macquarie Harbour, past the convict ruins on Sarah Island and into the Gordon River. Lunch is included and make sure to take your camera with you; the reflections of the wilderness rainforest in the dark water are remarkable. The cruise ends around 3.30pm, so spend the late afternoon browsing the town centre shops; several art and craft shops sell lovely Huon Pine souvenirs. Alternatively, join the West Coast Wilderness Railway either from Strahan or Queenstown and return via coach. The 5 hour tour takes you through stunning wilderness on the restored rail line connecting Strahan and Queenstown.

Overnight – West Coast

**DAY 4:** Heading North-East from Strahan through Tasmania's rugged mining towns, stop for a while and see one of the best displays of 19th century photography of the area and other mining artifacts at the renowned Zeehan Mining Museum. Continuing on the road winding through the small towns of Roseberry and Tullah, the rugged west coast gives way to the sub-alpine forests of Cradle Mountain. Drive into Cradle Mountain National Park to Dove Lake. It will take 2 - 3 hours to walk around the lake, but the scenery is sensational!

Overnight - Cradle Mountain area

**Day 5:** Enroute to the North West Coast and the township of Stanley, Table Cape Lighthouse and Tulip Farm are well worth a visit, especially when the flowers are in bloom (late September). Once you reach Stanley, stretch your legs with a walk to the top of The Nut (about 30 minutes) or take the chairlift for a nominal cost. Stanley is a beautiful fishing village with some good restaurants. In the evening, try a penguin tour with local guides. These remarkable creatures nest at the foot of The Nut. (These tours are seasonal.)

Overnight – Far North West Coast

**DAY 6:** Wander through Stanley to the cottage where Australian Prime Minister, Joseph Lyons was born. Cheese lovers can sample the excellent local products at Lacrum in Smithton or Lactos in Burnie. Take a tour of Woolnorth Wind Farm or visit the Tarkine Forest Adventures at Dismal Swamp. Towards Burnie, stop off at pretty Boat Harbour or Sisters Beach just west of Wynyard. Devonport (where the 'Spirit of Tasmania' docks) has a pleasant walking path to the mouth of the Mersey River. Elizabeth Town has the Ashgrove Cheese Farm and the Christmas Hills Raspberry Farm (well worth a visit for afternoon tea). Next, on to Deloraine's antique shops, galleries and museums. East, you'll find two fine National Trust properties: the White House at Westbury and Entally House at Hadspen. Tonight you might like to experience one of Launceston's award winning restaurants.

Overnight – Launceston area

**DAY 7:** Explore Launceston's history, colonial churches and fine buildings, the Design Centre and the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery. Cruise the scenic Tamar River on the "Tamar Odyssey". Walk from Launceston Seaport past Kings Bridge up Cataract Gorge to the Victorian Gardens at the Cliff Grounds and Alexandra Suspension Bridge. Return on the Chairlift or walk the Zig Zag Track. On the Tamar Valley Wine Route from Legana, sample award-winning wine and cheeses at Strathlynn Wine Centre, St Mathias and Rosevears Estate. On to Deviot, visit Avimore Blueberry and Cheese Farm, Sea Horse World and Platypus House at Beauty Point. Back to Launceston for another night and perhaps a meal at one of the Launceston Seaport's waterfront cafes.

Overnight – Launceston area

**DAY 8:** Travel via the North East Coast farmlands to the scenic East Coast. 40 minutes from Launceston is the Bridestowe Estate Lavender Farm is just north of Nabowla (in flower Dec/Jan). Continue onto St Helens, the gateway to the wild beaches that make up the Bay of Fires. Wander the vast beaches along 30 kilometres of the Bay of Fires or stop at The Gardens for breathtaking views.

Overnight – East Coast

**DAY 9:** Take the A3 south to the Coles Bay turn-off and gateway to Freycinet National Park. Explore the quiet sheltered beaches and take the breathtaking 30 minute walk to the lookout over looking Wineglass Bay's gleaming crescent of sand. Take a wildlife cruise on Coles Bay or book a guided tour of the Freycinet Marine Farm. Nearby Cape Tourville Lighthouse has stunning coastal scenery. Stop for dinner at the stunning Freycinet Lodge - a chance to enjoy some fresh Tasmanian seafood.

Overnight – East Coast

**DAY 10:** This morning refresh and savour the home-grown fruit and ice-cream at Kate's Berry Farm. Follow the scenic drive south past the convict-built Spikey Bridge (c1841) through the fishing port of Triabunna. Take the Maria Island Ferry to Maria Island, where convict buildings date from 1825 (you will have to take all of your provisions for your time on this beautiful National Park island).

Overnight – East Coast

**Day 11:** Continue on your journey south to the Tasman Peninsula and wander through the Port Arthur Historic Site, cruise the Isle of the Dead or try the Tasman Island Eco-Cruise. En-route visit the Peninsula's natural wonders – tessellated Pavement, Blow Hole, Devil's Kitchen and Tasman Arch (all at Eaglehawk Neck) and Tasman National Park and Remarkable Cave (near Port Arthur). See wildlife close up at the Tasman Devil Park at Taranna. For a memorable evening head to the Historic Site for dinner and a Ghost Tour.

Overnight - Port Arthur

**DAY 12:** Today drive further south to the Huon Valley and 'walk on air' at the Tahune Forest Airwalk tree top walk. Refresh and taste some of Tasmania's finest Pinot Noir at Home Hill Winery near Huonville, or feel the breeze through your hair on the Huon Jet Boat ride.

Overnight - Huon Area

**Day 13:** Today experience Cascade, Cadbury Chocolate and Lark Whisky on the popular Taste Hobart Tour! Let your senses take over as you sample some of the best chocolate, beer and whisky products Tasmania has to offer! Tonight enjoy a seafood experience at the Prosser's on the Beach at Sandy Bay.

Overnight – Hobart area

**DAY 14:** Explore Hobart's beautiful waterways on the Peppermint Bay Cruise. This cruise offers a relaxing and rejuvenating day discovering the real Tasmania on board a luxury catamaran. The Peppermint Bay Cruise takes in the harbour, the River Derwent, and the magnificent waters of the D'Entrecasteaux Channel. See rare and majestic sea eagles or spot a seal sunbaking near the Atlantic Salmon fish farms. Enjoy a Peppermint Bay regional platter whilst cruising or dine ashore at Peppermint Bay in the dining room. This evening visit Wrest Point, Australia's first legal Casino situated on the banks of the Derwent Estuary.

Overnight – Hobart area

**Day 15:** Before heading home today take time to visit Richmond - a pretty village with historic homes, the Old Gaol and interesting shopping. Have a bite to eat at the award winning Meadowbank Estate winery just south of Richmond. Make your final stop the Barilla Bay Oyster Farm, directly opposite the Hobart Airport, and grab a take home pack of very affordable, freshly shucked oysters.

## key locations for the suggested 14 night itinerary

