

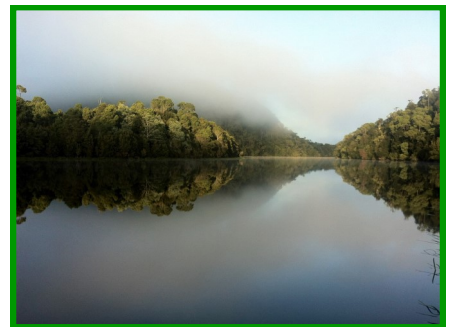
POTTER TRAVEL

TASMANIA

15 DAY TOUR

DEPARTING: SATURDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2019

RETURNING: SATURDAY 02 MARCH 2019



Day 1 (LD): CANBERRA TO THE SPIRIT OF TASMANIA: Saturday 16 February

Welcome to our 15 day tour to **Tasmania**. Departing Canberra we make our way to Albury where we'll break for **lunch**. Our afternoon journey takes us through to the Port of Melbourne where we join the **Spirit of Tasmania** across to Devonport. While the coach is being loaded onto the cargo deck we'll board and be shown to our cabins. Dinner this evening is onboard at the Tasmanian Market Kitchen Restaurant.

Spirit of Tasmania (porthole cabins)

Day 2 (BLD): DEVONPORT TO SMITHTON: Sunday 17 February

On arrival into **Devonport** this morning, our coach is unloaded and we head to our **breakfast** stop at the **Bass Strait Maritime Centre**. The centre is built around the former Harbour Master's House, and has been recently renovated. We'll also be given a **guided tour** of the centre and the 12 exhibition areas including the story of Joshua Slocum the first man to sail around the world solo. Slocum spent time in Devonport and wrote about his stay while *The Spray* underwent repairs on the slips at Woods Point. Leaving Devonport we follow the coast, detouring to Table Cape lookout for spectacular views. From here we make our way to the historic village of **Stanley**. Upon arrival we enjoy a self guided tour of **Highfield House**, the mansion which many regard as the birthplace of European settlement in the North West of Tasmania. Built from 1832 to 1835 as a residence for the chief agent of the Van Diemen's Land Company, Edward Curr, it represents an important part of

TOUR COST

\$4,795.00 Per Person Twin/Double Share

\$5,975.00 Sole Occupancy

Please call the office for Direct Deposit details

PICK UP TIMES:

6.40am: Crawford Street, Queanbeyan
7.00am: Woden Bay 19

7.20am: West Row Bus Stop, City
7.30am: Riggall Place, Lyneham

Tasmanian historic heritage. With outstanding views of Stanley and The Nut, it is hard to believe this area was once a convict enclave but the proof is all around us in the convict barracks, cottages, chapel, pigsties and barns. After our tour we enjoy **lunch** at the **Seaview Inn** and some free time to explore the town. A chairlift operates (weather permitting) to the summit of The Nut where we can get magnificent views of the area (*own expense*). We now drive the short distance to Smithton and check into our accommodation.

Tall Timbers Hotel Motel, Smithton (ph 1800 628 476)

Day 3 (BLD): SMITHTON: Monday 18 February

This morning we experience the wild Tarkine region of the North West with the **Arthur River Cruise** aboard the **MV George Robinson**. We depart from the mouth of the river and cruise upstream to the junction of the Arthur and Frankland Rivers. We enjoy **morning tea** along the way whilst cruising through the coastal heath, eucalyptus and wattles and into the rainforest. Arriving at Turk's Landing we have a leisurely stroll through the temperate rainforest with our **guide**. This area is home to many threatened and endangered species, such as the Giant Freshwater Crayfish and the Wedge Tailed Eagle, the largest eagle in Australia. Upon return to our camp amongst the trees, we are served a **barbeque lunch** accompanied by a selection of fresh salads, bread rolls and wine. We then return to the dock to disembark and make our way back to Smithton.

Tall Timbers Hotel Motel, Smithton (ph 1800 628 476)

Day 4 (BLD): THE NORTH COAST: Tuesday 19 February

After a slower start we check out and have a further look around this wilderness region before making our way to **Burnie**. The **Emu Valley Rhododendron Garden** is a garden widely known internationally and its unique design makes it one of Australia's major rhododendron gardens. See over 20,000 rhododendrons and other select plants set among 11ha with a series of "countries" from which the wild rhododendrons originate, within authentic built environments. We have plenty of time to wander through the gardens and this is also our **lunch** venue. Our next stop is the **Makers Workshop**, a new facility with interpretive displays and studios for working artists. We enjoy a papermaking **tour** with **Creative Paper** and learn how ancient paper making techniques are used to create beautiful, eco-friendly Tasmanian papers. We will also learn how we use materials such as recycled denim jeans, natural plant fibres, apples and even Roo Poo to make paper. Plus, we have the opportunity to make our own sheet of paper! We check into our motel and relax prior to dinner

Beachfront Voyager Motor Inn, Burnie (ph 03 6431 4866)

Day 5 (BLD): BURNIE TO QUEENSTOWN: Wednesday 20 February

Today we have an early start and make our way through to **Cradle Mountain**. Upon arrival we take a **tour** of the National Park including Waldheim and **Dove Lake**. The lake is a beautiful glacial lake located about 7kms from the park headquarters, at the base of Cradle Mountain. After our tour we'll have **lunch** at the nearby **Cradle Mountain Hotel** and have some time to view the **Wilderness Gallery**, featuring stunning photography of the National Park. This afternoon we travel south to our destination of **Queenstown**.

Comfort Inn Goldrush Motor Inn, Queenstown (ph 03 6471 1005)

Day 6 (BLD): QUEENSTOWN: Thursday 21 February

Queenstown's history has long been tied to the mining industry. This mountainous area was first explored in 1862. Soon after alluvial gold was discovered at Mt Lyell and so began the Mt Lyell Mining and Railway Company. It went on to become the dominant copper mining company of the west coast. This morning we join the **Rack and Gorge Tour** with **West Coast Wilderness Railway**. This half day tour sees us board the steam train in Queenstown for a journey travelling along the original Mt Lyell Mining Railway, built on the edge of civilisation in 1896. Guides will bring the stories of the railway and the resilient people to life as we make our way along King River Gorge and through cool temperate rainforest. Upon return to Queenstown we have a **light lunch** before heading to **Strahan**. Here we join **World Heritage Cruises** mid afternoon for their **cruise to Sarah Island**. This was once known as 'hell on earth' when this became Tasmania's first and most brutal penal settlement. Our cruise will also show us the narrow entry into the harbour from the Southern Ocean known as **Hells Gates**. Next we dock at Sarah Island for a **Heritage Walk** to see the remains of the penal settlement and hear the story of its past. Back on board we enjoy our **dinner** and a cruise along the **Gordon River** prior to returning to Strahan. We re-board the coach and travel back to Queenstown.

Comfort Inn Goldrush Motor Inn, Queenstown (ph 03 6471 1005)

Day 7 (BLD): QUEENSTOWN TO HOBART: Friday 22 February

The drive as we head out of Queenstown is quite steep, providing excellent views. We then travel through the pristine wilderness of the **Franklin Gordon Wild Rivers National Park** containing some of the state's most spectacular lakes and mountain areas. Our next stop is at **Derwent Bridge** in the central highlands and also the geographical centre of the state. Here we take the opportunity to view **The Wall in the Wilderness**. The purpose-built gallery houses the 'wall', a work in progress of carvings, mostly from Huon Pine, that has been years in the making. The artist, Greg Duncan, has created panels that spans about 100m in length, each telling a story unique to Australia. **Lunch** is at the **Derwent Bridge Hotel** before making our way to **Hobart** via Hamilton and New Norfolk. Upon arrival we check into our accommodation – our base for the next four nights.

Wrest Point Hotel Casino, Hobart (ph 03 6225 7000)

Day 8 (BD): HOBART: SATURDAY FOR MARKETS: Saturday 23 February

After breakfast we set off for a sightseeing **tour** of **Hobart**. Founded in 1803 as a penal colony, Hobart is Australia's second oldest capital city and sits on both sides of the Derwent River at the base of Mt Wellington. Our **local guide** will also show us the port area of **Sullivan's Cove**, lined with sandstone warehouses reflecting the area's rich maritime history and **Battery Point**, named after the battery of guns established on the point in 1818. The battery however no longer exists. Late morning we drop off our guide then head to the **Salamanca Markets**. This is one of the weekly highlights in Hobart where hundreds of stallholders set up their stalls along the elm tree lined street. This afternoon is free to enjoy at our own pace and leisure. We'll meet up again this evening to have dinner together and share our afternoon's adventure.

Wrest Point Hotel Casino, Hobart (ph 03 6225 7000)

Day 9 (BD): PORT ARTHUR: Sunday 24 February

This morning we drive to **Port Arthur** and visit the **Port Arthur Historic Site**. This penal settlement is a stark reminder of the harsh conditions endured by the earliest European inhabitants of this one time island jail. The ruins of Port Arthur are the greatest single tourist attraction in the state and the place where up to 12,000 prisoners were kept in an atmosphere of hopelessness and misery. On arrival at the historic site we stop at the **Visitor Interpretive 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. Next is a **guided tour** through the Penal Settlement and a cruise on the harbour around the Isle of Dead. It was here that around 1,000 convicts and ex-convict paupers were buried, mostly in unmarked graves. We then begin our journey back to Hobart, but just south of Eaglehawk are two dramatic natural coastal attractions - the **Tasman Arch** and the **Devil's Kitchen**. We stop here briefly before returning to Hobart.

Wrest Point Hotel Casino, Hobart (ph 03 6225 7000)

Day 10 (BLD): BRUNY ISLAND: Monday 25 February

Today we are in for a treat, spending the day on **Bruny Island**. We will visit the home of Bruny Island's cheese, oysters, fudge, berries, wine and whisky. This is more than a tasting tour - at every stop we sit back, relax and enjoy a fully inclusive experience. Throughout the day we will see incredible scenery. At The Neck, see the narrow isthmus stretch away south in graceful curves. Take a stroll and leave 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 certainly will be one of the highlights of our holiday. After a fabulous day we return to Hobart.

Wrest Point Hotel Casino, Hobart (ph 03 6225 7000)

Day 11 (BD): HOBART TO SWANSEA: Tuesday 26 February

We farewell Hobart this morning and make our way to the historic town of Richmond. **Richmond** was proclaimed a township in 1824 and is probably Tasmania's best known man made tourist attraction. Its streets are paved with history and many of the fine colonial buildings have been adapted for use as art galleries, craft shops and restaurants. There is also a gaol here that predates Port Arthur by five years and is one of the best preserved of Australia's colonial prisons. The convict built **Richmond Bridge** over the Coal River is the oldest bridge in Australia. We make a stop at the **Old Hobart Town Model Village** for a look and a wander through. **Morning tea** has been arranged for us at the **Wicked Cheese Company**. We also have time for a self-guided tour of the **Richmond Gaol**, built over a period of 15 years, between 1825 and 1840. From 1877 until 1928 the gaol was utilised as the local lock-up and was then closed down. It opened again in the 1940's as a historic site and visitor attraction. We continue our drive, travelling via Buckland (here we can see the quaint little church with a stained-glass window depicting the life of John the Baptist) and onto **Orford**, where we'll stop for lunch (*at own expense*). Off the coast is **Maria Island**, once a penal settlement but was abandoned in favour of Port Arthur in 1842. Our destination is **Swansea**, a Classified Historic Town nestled on the magnificent blue waters of Great Oyster Bay, overlooking the **Freycinet National Park**. On arrival we check in to our accommodation and settle in for the next 2 nights. Dinner this evening is at **Bark Mill Tavern**.

Swansea Motor Inn, Swansea (ph 03 6257 8102)

Day 12 (BLD): WINEGLASS BAY CRUISE: Wednesday 27 February

Today we are going to take a spectacular drive to **Coles Bay** on the edge of the **Freycinet National Park**. Here we board our **Wineglass Bay cruise** which takes us along the exquisite Freycinet coastline, a place only a few will ever visit. Our skipper shares his vast knowledge of the peninsula, a shimmering crescent of white sand fringes at the edge of a perfect turquoise sea. We drop anchor in Wineglass Bay and enjoy **lunch**. We'll see stunning scenery, abundant wildlife such as dolphins, seals, albatross and sea eagles. Following disembarkation this afternoon we return to our motel.

Swansea Motor Inn, Swansea (ph 03 6257 8102)

Day 13 (BLD): THE NORTHEAST: Thursday 28 February

Our journey today takes us north along the east coast through the seaside towns of Bicheno and **Scamander**. Leaving the coast we travel inland to the quiet rural village of **Pyengana**. Nestled in a lush and fertile valley, Pyengana was once known for its tin mines. These days the lush green paddocks are filled with cows, with the region producing award winning cheeses. **Lunch** is at the **Pub in the Paddock** - one of Tasmania's oldest pubs (circa 1880), before we continue onto **Ledgerwood** to see some incredible tree carvings. On 15th October 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. We continue through to **Scottsdale**, the main centre in this area, serving some of the richest agricultural and forest country in the state. Near here located in Nabowla is the **Bridestowe Lavender Farm**. We take a brief **tour** of the farm - one of the world's largest single commercial lavender farms, producing the finest quality lavender flowers and lavender oil. From here we make our way into **Launceston**.

Hotel Grand Chancellor Launceston (ph 03 6334 3434)

Day 14 (BD): TAMAR VALLEY TO THE SPIRIT OF TASMANIA: Friday 1 March

This morning we'll drive along the east side of the Tamar River to the Batman Bridge where we can get a close up view of the mighty Tamar River. On the west side, we make our way to Beaconsfield, site of Tasmania's largest gold discoveries and now famous for the rescue of the two mine workers who were trapped underground in 2006. We visit the **Beaconsfield Gold Mine and Heritage Museum** (housing Australia's only waterwheel-driven stamp battery) for a **guided tour**. We then drive through to **Deloraine** - look out for the charming sculptures atop the old gas cylinders! Here we visit the **Folk Museum and Yarns: Artwork in Silk** - large artworks depicting the story of the valley. The main highlight of this attraction is the light and sound show presentation in the auditorium. Following time for lunch (*at own cost*) we continue through to **Ashgrove Cheese Company** where we are given a talk on the process of making cheese and, of course, we will have a few to taste. From here we head through Railton - watch out for the topiaries, then back up to Devonport where we reboard the **Spirit of Tasmania** service back to **Melbourne**.

Spirit of Tasmania (porthole cabins)

Day 15 (BL): MELBOURNE TO CANBERRA: Saturday 2 March

The Spirit of Tasmania sails through the Port Phillip Heads and into Melbourne for an arrival at around 7.00am. Once our coach has been unloaded we hop aboard and head to **Mercure Albert Park** where we have arranged **breakfast** this morning. Afterwards we join the Hume Highway making our way out of the city to Albury. Following **lunch** we express back to Canberra, completing our 15 day tour to **Tasmania**.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

DEPOSIT is required within 7 days of booking confirming your reservation. If no deposit is received, Potter Travel reserves the right to cancel the booking. Deposit is **\$500.00 per person**.

FINAL PAYMENT: FRIDAY 14 DECEMBER 2018

CANCELLATION TERMS & CONDITIONS:

Reservations that are cancelled prior to **FRI 14 DEC 2018**: Full refund of deposit less \$50.00 SOT non-refundable deposit.

Reservations that are cancelled on or after **FRI 14 DEC 2018** and prior to **FRI 11 JAN 2019** : loss of 25% of total tour cost.

Reservations that are cancelled on or after **FRI 11 JAN 2019** and prior to **FRI 01 FEB 2019**: loss of 50% of total tour cost.

Reservations that are cancelled on or after **FRI 01 FEB 2019**: loss of 100% of total tour cost.

The Spirit Of Tasmania (SOT) has charged Potter Travel an upfront non refundable deposit to secure and confirm cabins on the ship for the dates of travel nominated on this itinerary.

The operation of the tour is subject to minimum numbers. Once inside the final payment date if your cancellation affects our minimum group numbers, Potter Travel reserves the right to impose further cancellation fees in addition to those noted above. Potter Travel reserves the right to pass on any additional fees or surcharges imposed by the airlines or wholesaler with or without notice.

Tour Includes: Dinner, bed and breakfast accommodation at the Hotels mentioned in the Itinerary, some lunches, morning and/or afternoon tea supplied from the coach, entry fees and/or guided tours to all attractions as mentioned in the itinerary, tickets to shows (if applicable), luxury coach travel and GST. Meals are stated in the itinerary as B = Breakfast, L = Lunch and D = Dinner.

Forced Singles are not permitted on our tours. If you wish to twin share you will need to organise your own travelling companion, otherwise single supplement is payable.

Not Included: Alcoholic beverages or other drinks (except wine tasting), meals not specified, room service, telephone calls, some morning/afternoon teas or any items of a personal nature.

Potter Travel recommends that **Travel Insurance** be taken to protect against unforeseen circumstances. Travel Insurance is available through Potter Travel.

Potter Travel reserves the right to alter itineraries without notice due to weather, road conditions or any other reason which is seen to be in the best interest of passengers travelling. The price is **subject to any changes imposed by other tour operators and carriers included in the itinerary**. The operation and provision of services from other tour operators and carriers included in the itinerary is the responsibility of these operators and no responsibility is taken by Potter Travel for the failure of such operators to provide the nominated service.

No guarantees will be given as to the exact arrival and departure times for carriers and operators used by Potter Travel. Drop offs may be in the opposite direction to the pickups depending on the touring route taken.

Daily **seat rotation** will take place on all extended tours, which all travellers must participate in as a condition of booking. Passengers suffering from motion sickness are advised to take the necessary precautions as seat rotation is compulsory.

Potter Travel accepts no responsibility for damage, loss of personal belongings or liability for delays, accidents, injury, irregularity or damage caused by other transport companies used for connecting tours operated by this company. Potter Travel reserves the right to cancel or postpone the tour due to insufficient numbers or as the result of circumstances outside the company's control.

IMPORTANT NOTICE CONCERNING CREDIT CARD HOLDERS

As the banking industry continues to impose a broad range of fees on bank transactions, it has come to the stage where Potter Travel can no longer absorb the merchant charges for all credit card transactions. As of 01 October 2009, Potter Travel will be charging the *1.03% banking fee on all credit card transactions. The charges will apply for partial or full payments by credit card. Cash, Cheque, Money Order and Eftpos payments will **NOT** incur any additional charges. *Subject to change, in accordance with National Australia Bank Flexipay Merchant Fees.

WAITLISTED PASSENGERS

Where tours are fully booked any future enquiries will be put onto a waitlist and as cancellations occur the person at the top of the waitlist will be contacted first and offered the seat followed by the second, the third and so on. In the instance that you are unable to be contacted on a daytime telephone number, the seat will be offered to the next person on the waitlist.

RESERVATIONS AND ENQUIRIES

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