# TASMANIA BEST GUIDED WALKS

Find out why Tasmania is regarded as Australia's bush walking Mecca by so many who've visited. Over ten days, starting and finishing in Hobart, we'll drive around the island, stopping to walk Tasmania's best day walks. Staying in a range of comfortable accommodation, from motel-style rooms to chalets and cabins, this tour is a wonderful way to take in this tiny but mighty island.

Tasmania's best guided day walks tour at a glance:

- 3-4 Star lodge accommodation.
- 10 days seven full day walks and a couple of short leg-stretchers
- Includes the very best walks on the Overland Track, Three Capes Track and Maria Island walk
- Start and finish in Hobart, Tasmania
- Moderate to challenging walks, with some steep ascents and descents
- Professional guide/s
- Air conditioned mini bus
- Small group size (maximum 14)
  - Your guides will lead you through the natural wonders and a selection of the best day walks in Tasmania, enhancing your understanding of the nature and history of the areas you visit, making sure that everything goes smoothly. Each night we stay in comfortable accommodation to enjoy a shower and a good night's sleep. We will enjoy our evening meal in a local restaurant each night.
  - Please note, the plan may alter depending on weather conditions and local advice.



- Day 1: Mt Field National Park
- <u>8KM</u>

- We leave early from Hobart and head west to Mt Field National Park. An easy introductory walk through a forest of towering tree ferns, moss and lichens leads us to the beautiful Russell Falls one of the prettiest in Tasmania. We will then continue on this easy circuit back to the visitor's centre.
- After a bite of lunch, we will choose our second walk for the day. We have quite a few options depending on the weather conditions and your guides will pick the best one. Most options are quite easy, so don't worry, we won't wear you out too much!
- After all our first day exploring, we'll settle in for the next two nights at Giants Table Cottages in Maydena. Take a stroll down to the platypus ponds to see if you are lucky to spot one of these special creatures.
- Meals: L, D
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- Day 2: Mt Field NP, The Tarn Shelf Walk
- <u>16KM</u>
- Today its back to Mt Field to do the park's flagship walk. A steep drive up to Lake Dobson brings us to the start from where we will get up to and along the Tarn Shelf. A bit of a climb gets us up to the small mountain lakes, or tarns, of the Rodway Range, with magnificent views over the glacier-formed landscape.
- You will think you are in the Lord of the Rings as we pass through this amazing country. Lunch will be in one of the high- country huts, before we enter a more wooded part of the trail and back to the Lake Dobson. Today's walk is a challenging and quite long, but well worth the views and scenery of this absolutely stunning area.
- We'll head back to our accommodation at the Giants Table Cottages in Maydena for a second night.
- Meals: B,L,D



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- Day 3: Overland Track, Lake St Clair Cynthia Bay to Echo Point
- <u>11.2KM</u>
- It's a couple of hours drive to Lake St Clair where we'll take a nice walk on the iconic Overland Track. We will take the ferry to Echo Point and walk back to the main settlement alongside the picturesque lake. We walk through an enchanting temperate rainforest. Sassafras, myrtle, celery-top pine and leatherwood provide a thick canopy for the moses, lichens and fungi below.
- Our accommodation for the next two nights is in the very nice cabins at Lake St Clair and we'll eat together at the Lake St Clair Lodge.
- Meals: B,L,D
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- Day 4: Lake St Clair Mt Rufus Circuit or Shadow Lake Circuit
- <u>19KM OR 12KM</u>
- A challenging but amazing day walking the Mt Rufus circuit awaits us! This 18.5km walk takes us through a wide variety of vegetation and landscapes as we make our way up to the summit of Mt Rufus. From the summit the views over the surrounding mountain ranges are sensational.
- There is an option for those who want a shorter day to do the Shadow Lake Circuit. This reduces the walk by about 2 hours and cuts out most of the vertical ascent.
- At the end of the day we can walk straight into our Lake St Clair cabins and enjoy a rejuvenating shower.
- Meals: B,L,D



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#### Day 5: travel day – we're off to Cradle Mountain

- Today is a mainly driving day, good for recovering after yesterday's strenuous walk and before tomorrow's walk around Cradle Mountain.
- First stop is The Wall a work in progress by sculptor Greg Duncan, depicting the history of Tasmania's central highlands in a series of carved wood panels. It's an amazing feat of creativity and work that needs to be seen.
- We'll stretch our legs with a walk to Donaghys Lookout before heading to Queenstown for lunch and then on to Cradle Mountain for the evening. The views of the passing landscape are absolutely incredible as we drive.
- Accommodation: Cradle Mountain Discovery Holiday Park
- Meals: B,L,D



#### Day 6: Overland Track, Cradle Mountain area

#### APPROX 5HRS

- Depending on the weather and the energy levels of the group, there are a number of options for today's walk. We'll enjoy imposing mountain vistas, pristine glacial lakes, vast buttongrass plains, freezing cascades and an all round fantastic day of walking. This is a fairly busy park and we'll see why! This is the start point of the world renown Overland track.
- It's a short drive out of the park to our 2nd night at the Cradle Mountain Discovery Holiday Park.
- Meals: B,L,D
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#### Day 7: To the east coast we go

- Today we say goodbye to the wild mountain country and hello to the beautiful east coast of Tasmania.
- We'll stop in at some lovely small towns along the way where you might pick up a souvenir or two, or enjoy the local coffee shops and bakeries. Some of Tasmania's best wineries can be found near the east coast and, time permitting, we'll drop into one or two and you can choose to sample a drop.
- Our accommodation for the next two nights is at the lovely seaside town of Swansea at the Swansea Motor Inn.
- Meals: B,L,D
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Day 8: Cape Freycinet, Wineglass Bay Circuit

- <u>11.5KM</u>
- The view over Coles Bay toward the Hazard Range Freycinet Peninsular draws us in to this iconic national park.
- Enjoy a gorgeous 11.5km circuit walk which takes in the white sand beach of Wineglass Bay and the equally beautiful Hazards Beach on the other side of the Cape Freycinet isthmus.
- After our walk, and perhaps an icy but refreshing swim, we head back to Swansea, our home for the evening again.
- Meals: B,L,D



#### • Day 9: Maria Island Walk

- <u>12KM</u>
- A quick ferry ride and we are at the beautiful Maria Island Tasmania. There are are few options today but the most scenic is a challenging but rewarding climb up Mt Bishop and Clerk. The walk is steep but the views from the dolerite columns at the summit of the mountain are sensational. The forested section of path offers delightful walking, with glimpses of ocean beyond the sheer cliffs.
- For those wanting an easy day, there's plenty to explore including the Painted Cliffs, the Fossil Cliffs and the old Darlington settlement, which has seen many transformations over the years.
- After our ferry trip back to the mainland we'll head south to the historic town of Port Arthur for our final night together.
- Meals: B,L,D
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### Day 10: Three Capes Track, Tasman Peninsular, Cape Huay

- <u>8KM</u>
- Our last walk, on the Tasman Peninsular, is nothing short of spectacular. Part of the Three Capes Track, as we've come to expect from Tasmania, there are up's and there are downs and there are absolutely incredible views to marvel at.
- As we walk along Cape Huay the promontory narrows and the views get better and better. Massive dolerite cliffs descend vertically into the ocean on either side, making this an exciting walk to finish on.
- After lunch we'll head back into Hobart, arriving late afternoon.
- Meals: B,L
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- Details about accommodation, what to bring, transportation, food, etc.

#### Accommodation

- During our time in Tasmania we'll stay in variety of accommodation from comfortable, self contained cottages and cabins to motel style rooms. Accommodation is on a double or twin share basis. A limited number of single supplements are available – please let us know if you would like this option when booking.
- 2 nights: Giants Table Cottages
- Basic but comfortable self-contained cottages and houses in the little mountain town of Maydena, situated in the beautiful Derwent Valley region of South West Tasmania. We will spread out over two or three cottages, and enjoy dinner cooked by our guide/s.
- 2 nights: Lake St Clair Cabins
- Staying within a few hundred metres of the lake itself, this is a real gem! Rimmed by mountains and forest, Lake St Clair is a real highlight of Tasmania. We will spread out across a number of chalets in park grounds and enjoy dinner together in the lodge's excellent restaurant for meals.
- 2 nights: Cradle Mountain Discovery Holiday Park cabins
- Located on the perimeter of the World-Heritage listed Cradle Mountain Lake St Clair National Park, home of the famous Cradle Mountain in Tasmania's Western Wilderness. We'll spread out over a number of basic but comfortable self contained cabins. We'll enjoy our evening meals at the Cradle Mountain Lodge tavern bar and bistro.
- 2 nights: Swansea Motor Inn
- Swansea Motor Inn overlooks the Great Oyster Bay with the renowned Hazards of Freycinet National Park in the distance. Watch the sun rise over the water and pelicans fishing near the beach in the afternoon. We'll head to the Bark Mill Tavern for a generous and hearty dinner.
- 1 night: Fox and Hounds Inn.
- The motel is situated right next to Stingaree Bay a little outside of Port Arthur in a really picturesque and quiet setting. We will have dinner and breakfast at the restaurant, which rounds off an amazing 10 days!
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- At all of the locations we will come together in one of the houses for breakfast and to make our packed lunches for the days walk. Dinner will be cooked by

your amazing guides on the first two nights, then we will be enjoying local restaurants for the remainder of the tour.

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- What to bring
- We will send you a list of recommended clothing and equipment when you book.
- Food
- All meals are included unless indicated in the itinerary.
- Breakfast comprises cereal, fruit, yoghurt, toast and spreads with juice, tea and coffee.
- Lunch is self-made from supplied breads, salads and meats.
- We'll eat dinner at various local establishments close to, or at, our accommodation. Please let us know of any dietary requirements.
- Each day we provide morning tea whilst out on a walk and fruit is available for snacks. You're welcome to bring additional snacks (e.g. muesli bars, nuts) if you feel you need them. There will be some limited opportunity to purchase additional supplies and alcohol throughout the tour.

• Your out of pocket expenses for this trip include snacks and alcohol.

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- Transport
- We'll use a comfortable 12 seat, air conditioned commuter bus for the tour.

#### This walk includes

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- All meals, using fresh Tasmanian produce where possible
- Breakfast, morning tea, lunch and dinner are included each day throughout the tour. Some dinners may be at your own expense, as indicated on the itinerary
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- Excellent itinerary and planning
- Drawn from 14 years experience.
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- · Maria Island and Lake St Clair ferry
- We'll take to the water to access two of our fabulous walks
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