



## SELF DRIVE HOLIDAYS

# 9 Days Tasmanian Rhapsody

### Suggested Itinerary



#### PACKAGE INCLUSIONS:

- ✓ 2N @ **Launceston, Mercure Hotel** or similar
- ✓ 1N @ **Stanley, Seaview Inn** or similar
- ✓ 1N @ **Cradle Mountain Wilderness Village**
- ✓ 1N @ **Hamilton, Curringa Farm**
- ✓ 3N @ **Hobart, Old Woolstor Apartment Hotel** or similar
- ✓ Entrance to Platypus House
- ✓ Devils@Cradle After Dark Tour
- ✓ Port Arthur Bronze Experience Pass (include cruise)
- ✓ Tahune Airwalk
- ✓ 8 Days Hertz 1.8L car hire

#### DAY 1 Launceston and Surrounds

Distance: 213km, Approx. Travel Time: 3Hr 30Min

Welcome to Launceston, Tasmania's second largest city and gateway to the north. Its magnificent original Victorian streetscapes and architecture lend a historic ambience to the city. Head north to the **Tamar Valley**, pick seasonal berries at **Hillwood Berry Farm**; visit some of Tasmania's acclaimed cool-climate wineries such as Leaning Church, Ninth Island, Moores Hill Estate and more. Smell the flowers at **Lavender House** and don't miss **Seahorse World and Platypus House** at Beauty Point. Visit **Bridestowe Lavender Estate** at Nabowla and, in summer walk through fields of lavender. Before heading back to Launceston, ride the chairlift across the **Cataract Gorge** located in a scenic inner-city reserve. Its central span of 308 metres is believed to be the longest single chairlift span in the world. **Overnight: Launceston**

#### DAY 2 Launceston – Stanley

Distance: 226Km, Approx. Travel Time: 2 Hr 45 mins

Head west to Elizabeth Town for a 'raspberry' breakfast at **Christmas Hills Raspberry Farm**, before visiting **Ashgrove Cheese Farm**. View the cheese making and maturing area, plus taste and buy a range of cheese including exotic flavors of wild wasabi and native peppercorn. If you need a chocolate fix, drive north to the **House of Anvers Chocolate Factory** in Latrobe to see the factory in action behind the viewing windows and taste fine couverture chocolate and truffles. Continue on the scenic coastal route via the town of Penguin and stop at Boat Harbour Beach to enjoy the sugar-white sand and intense aqua waters, in a little-known sanctuary of tranquility and picture book scenery. **Overnight: Stanley**

#### DAY 3 Stanley – Cradle Mountain

Distance: 298Km, Approx. Travel Time: 3Hr 30Min

In the morning, take the chairlift to **The Nut** for views of Australia's prettiest fishing village before heading to Woolnorth and Cape Grim to breathe the world's cleanest air and photograph the spectacular coastline. In the afternoon, admire fields of striped tulips (September – October) and seasonal blooms like iris, daffodils and lilies at Table Cape. Explore **Burnie Makers' Workshop**; a celebration of local artisans with demonstrations and the engaging **Paper Tour** before heading up to **Cradle Mountain** via the B18. In the evening, join the animal spotlight tours of the **World Heritage Area** or visit **Devils@Cradle** to see **Tasmanian Devils feeding**. **Overnight: Cradle Mountain**

#### DAY 4 Cradle Mountain – Launceston

Distance: 200Km, Approx. Travel Time: 3Hr 30Min

Explore **Cradle Mountain National Park**, the jewel of Tasmania's natural and wilderness areas. Hike around **Dove Lake**, take short walks to the Boat Shed or Glacier Rock and explore the surroundings or join in activities such as horse-riding, fly-fishing, wilderness flights or canyoning. In the late morning, discover

**Tasmazia** and visit **Sheffield** on the way back to Launceston to view the many murals throughout the town depicting the regions' history. Drive through **Paradise** (yes, that's the village's name), take a tour at **Marakoopa Cave** to see glow worms; pause at **Melita Honey Farm** to taste Tasmania's famous Leatherwood honey and **41<sup>o</sup> South Tasmania Salmon and Ginseng Farm** to browse around the shop and taste the hot-smoked salmon and the famous ginseng spice. **Overnight: Launceston**

#### **DAY 5 Launceston – Hamilton**

Distance: 208 Km, Approx. Travel Time: 2 Hr 45 Min

Today, head off on the Heritage Highway; the historic heart of Tasmania. Discover **Woolmers and Brickendon Estates** near Longford; two of the eleven Australian **UNESCO World Heritage** listed convict sites. The towns along the Heritage Highway are a shopper's delight. At **Evandale**, taste Tasmania's finest jams, sauces and condiments at **Tasmanian Gourmet Sauce Company**. At **Ross**, find quality woollen garments, crafts, gifts and antiques at the Classwood, **Tasmanian Wool Centre**, **Church Street Antiques** and **The Little Box** at Ross. Not to be missed is the **Ross Bakery Inn** which has a 19th century wood-fired oven producing a wide range of breads and pastries. Bakery 31 is famous for its **scallop pies**. Pause at the convict-built **Ross Bridge** to see historic carvings before heading south and stopping at **Callington Mill** in Oatlands. Be sure to taste one of the locally stone-milled sourdough breads at Companion Bakery. Arrive at **Curringa Farm** for a real farm experience. **Overnight: Curringa Farm**

#### **DAY 6 Hamilton – Hobart**

Distance: 134 Km, Approx. Travel Time: 2 hr

After a relaxing morning enjoying some farm activities, visit **Russell Falls** in **Mount Field National Park**. Its three elegant tiers, framed by lush vegetation, have attracted many visitors especially in autumn for the turning of the fagus (when the native trees are a kaleidoscope of colour). Next onto **Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary** to observe Tasmanian devils and many other fascinating native animals before arriving into Hobart, one of the world's most beautiful and friendliest cities; nestled between **Mount Wellington** and the sea. White beaches on its outskirts, historic buildings at its heart; Australia's second-oldest city has a lifestyle of its own. In the evening, dine on trawler-fresh seafood at harbourside restaurants like Fish Frenzy, Mures Upper Deck or Blue Eye. **Overnight: Hobart**

#### **DAY 7 Hobart – Huon Valley**

Distance: 154 Km, Approx. Travel Time: 2 hr 30 Min

Head south to the beautiful **Huon Valley** and walk above the treetops at the **Tahune AirWalk** near Geeveston. Traverse the Eucalyptus forest canopy, home to the Earth's tallest flowering plant (*Eucalyptus regnans*) and leatherwood trees. If you are feeling adventurous, cable hang glide down the valley from near the AirWalk. Take a thrilling **jet boat ride at Huon River Jet Boats**; visit fruit orchards and the **Apple and Heritage Museum** to explore Tasmania's apple history; or even stop by roadside stalls to buy fresh Tasmanian apples and other fruits by just paying using an 'honesty box'. In the afternoon, drive up to **Mount Nelson Station Café** for afternoon tea by the fireplace while admiring the glorious views of Hobart. Just before sunset, take a **scenic flight** over Hobart with seaplanes taking off from the Hobart waterfront. For the energetic; paddle around the Hobart docks. **Overnight: Hobart**

#### **DAY 8 Hobart - Tasman Peninsula (338 km – 5 hours)**

Visit **Sorell Fruit Farm** to pick seasonal fruit. Experience close encounters with Tasmanian devils at Tasmanian Devil Conservation Park, then explore **Port Arthur Historic Site** and take the **Tasman Island Eco-cruise**. **Overnight: Hobart**

#### **DAY 9 Hobart and Surrounds – Departure**

Before your departure today, take some time to browse through antique stores, discover stunning arts and crafts, linger over a coffee in one of the street cafés, explore the fishing harbour and check out **Salamanca Markets** on Saturday mornings where two blocks of stalls are bustling with traders offering you some of the finest arts and crafts found in Tasmania. On a week day, visit the **Cadbury Chocolate Factory** for shopping bargains or visit historic town of Richmond. Purchase abalone at **Tas Live Abalone** processing factory and take a tour of **Barilla Bay Oyster Farm** and taste freshly-shucked oyster conducted every Friday morning. Extend your stay in Tasmania to visit the East Coast regions or fly onwards to your next destination.



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