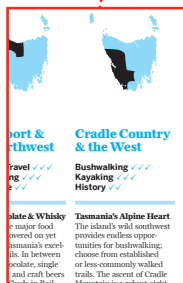


PLAN
YOUR TRIP

YOUR PLANNING TOOL KIT

Photos, itineraries, lists and suggestions
to help you put together your perfect trip

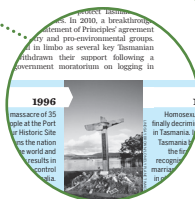
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UNDERSTAND
TASMANIA

GET MORE FROM YOUR TRIP

Learn about the big picture, so you
can make sense of what you see

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THIS EDITION WRITTEN AND RESEARCHED BY

Brett Atkinson
Gabi Mocatta



Look out for these icons:



Our author's
recommendation



A green or
sustainable option



No payment
required

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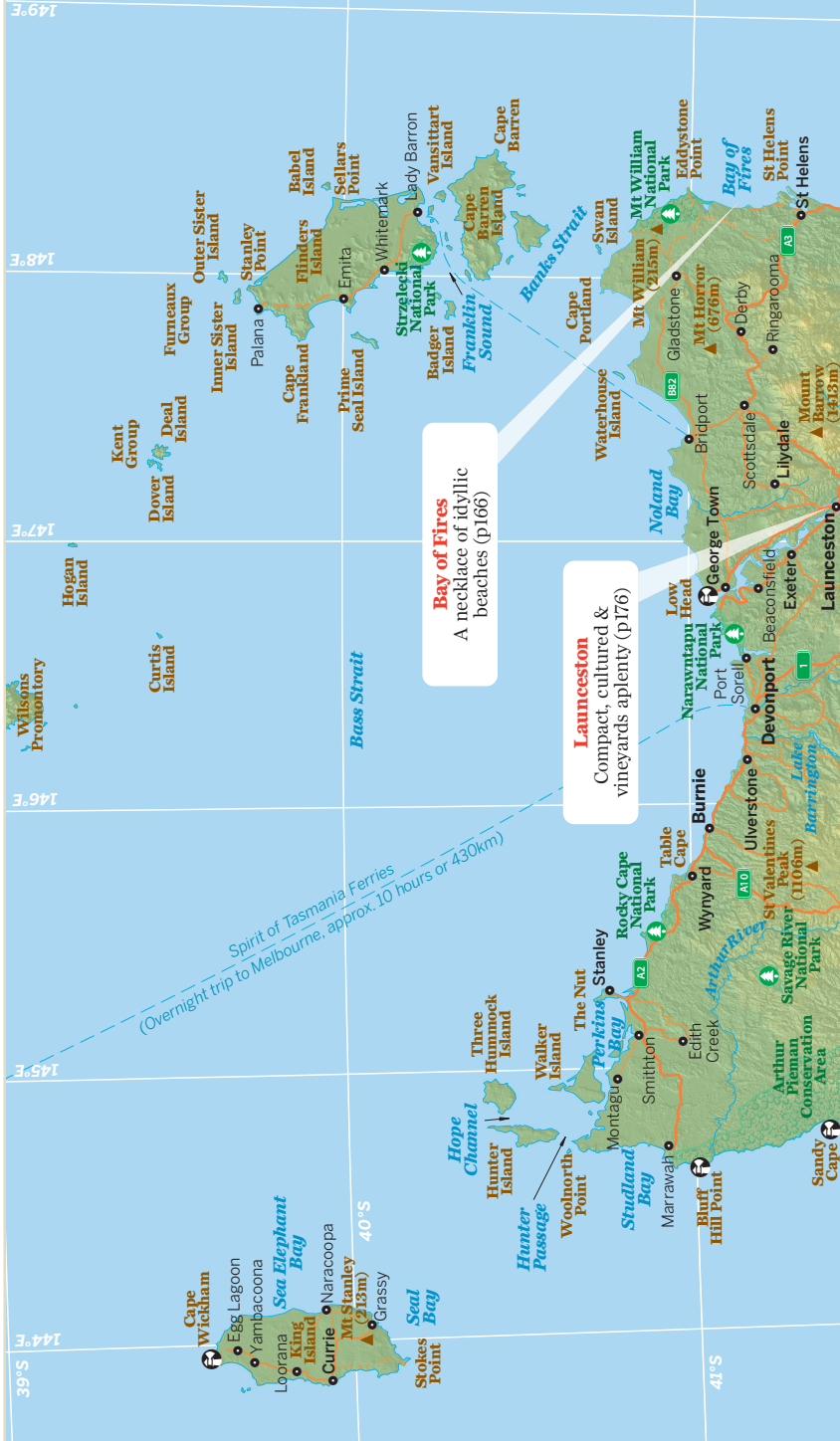
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Cradle Mountain

Suberb views from a Tasmanian icon (p264)

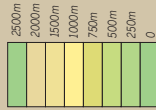
Franklin River

Negotiating Tasmania's wild, forested heart (p262)

Mt Field National Park

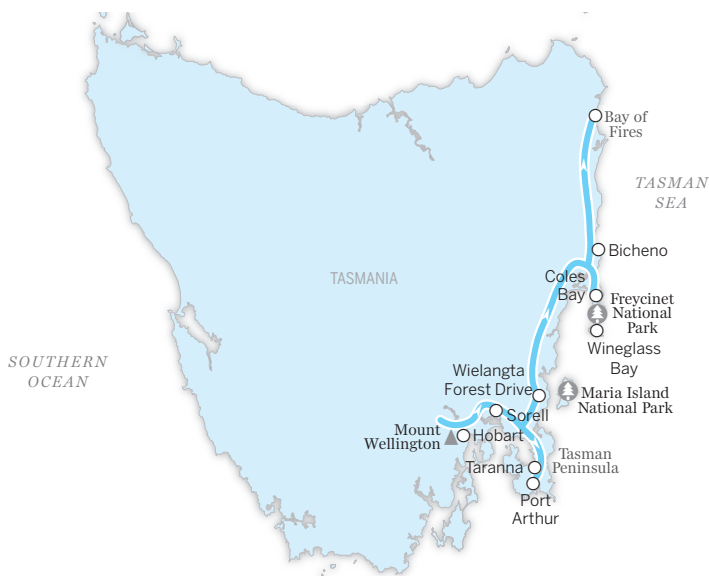
Waterfalls, wildlife & wonderful walking (p85)

ELEVATION



itineraries

Whether you've got six days or 60, these itineraries provide a starting point for the trip of a lifetime. Want more inspiration? Head online to www.lonelyplanet.com/thorntree to chat with other travellers.



One Week to 10 Days East Coaster

Spend a few days enjoying the cosmopolitan ambience in Hobart, combining great pubs and cafes, brilliant restaurants, and a heritage vibe. Explore the city's vibrant arts scene, including the eclectic and dramatic Museum of Old & New Art (MONA). Head south to the dramatic coastal crags of the **Tasman Peninsula** and to experience the grim convict stories of **Port Arthur**. Wind your way back north, stopping to say g'day to the Tasmanian devils in **Taranna** and to pick fresh fruit at **Sorell**. Near Copping, take the shortcut to the east coast via Wielangta Forest Drive. Take a boat out to **Maria Island** for camping, bushwalking and wildlife spotting on some rare west-facing east-coast beaches. Get your camera ready for **Freycinet National Park** and **Wineglass Bay**, and indulge in sea kayaking and oyster appreciation at **Coles Bay**. Continue north to the chilled-out fishing town of **Bicheno** for penguin spotting, before checking out the rocky lagoons and headlands of the **Bay of Fires**.



Three to Four Days Hobart as a Hub

Take advantage of Tasmania's relatively small driving distances by using **Hobart** as a hub for a variety of day trips out and about around the Tasmanian state capital, maybe as a long week-end escape from the Aussie mainland. Commence with a day-long outing to the relaxed heritage streets of **Richmond**. Don't miss the graceful Richmond Bridge before checking out the **Bonorong Wildlife Centre** followed by a leisurely lunch at **Meadowbank Estate** in the Coal River Valley. Next, catch a ferry from the Hobart waterfront up the Derwent River to the **Moorilla Estate**. Make it a day filled with all things gourmet and cultural, including wine and beer tasting, lunch at the Source restaurant, and diving into the pleasantly bewildering **Museum of Old & New Art (MONA)**. Continue the gourmet and foodie theme with a booking at the **Agrarian Kitchen** cookery school near New Norfolk. Its most popular class is 'The Agrarian Experience', a day-long celebration of the seasons commencing with choosing the freshest of fruit and veggies in its very own orchard and garden.

10 Days to Two Weeks Exploring Cradle Country

Kick off in **Launceston** with a stroll through Lonnie's Cataract Gorge, before exploring the excellent Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery (QVMAG). Discover the eclectic attractions of the **Tamar Valley**, including seahorses, gold mines, lighthouses and wineries. Don't miss having lunch at one the vineyard restaurants around the **Pipers River region**. Loop through the historic towns of **Evandale** and **Westbury** before drifting west to **Deloraine** and the caves at **Mole Creek**. A roundabout route (via Moina) takes you to iconic **Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park**, arguably Australia's top national park. Spend a few days here bushwalking, including the popular two-hour return track to Crater Lake. From Cradle Mountain, drive southwest to the lunar landscapes of **Queenstown** and ride the West Coast Wilderness Railway to **Strahan**. From Strahan, track north through the vast **Arthur Pieman Conservation Area**, spy devils in the wild around **Marrawah**, and clamber up the Nut in **Stanley**. An ocean dip at idyllic **Boat Harbour Beach** is the perfect journey's end.



One Week to 10 Days Up the Guts

Kick off in **Hobart** with a walk around Battery Point and the waterfront. Try to visit on a weekend to experience Saturday's sensational Salamanca Market. From Hobart travel northwest through New Norfolk en route to excellent bushwalking in the **Mt Field National Park**. Visit the Something Wild wildlife park at **Westerway**, before diverting via Ellendale through the Derwent Valley to sleepy **Hamilton** and easygoing **Bothwell**, maybe for a round of golf on Australia's oldest course. Continue east to join the Midland (Heritage) Highway and linger for a few nights in sandstone-built towns complete with country pubs, tearooms and colonial accommodation. **Oatlands** has the restored Callington Mill and more Georgian sandstone buildings than any other town in Australia; **Ross** is a gorgeous colonial town with a great bakery, a historic bridge, a friendly pub and plenty of places to stay; and **Campbell Town** makes a handy pit stop en route to laid-back **Launceston**. Reward yourself with a tour and a taste at the hallowed Boag's brewery and dinner at the excellent Stillwater.

One Week to 10 Days Southern Ramblings

From **Hobart**, trundle south to **Kettering** to catch the ferry across to windswept and easygoing **Bruny Island**. Allow at least three nights to appreciate Bruny's laid-back charm, including artisan cheeses, Australia's southernmost vineyard, and exciting excursions to the Southern Ocean for seals and spectacular scenery. Don't miss the fairy penguins on 'The Neck'. Return to the Tasmanian 'mainland', and divert west to funky **Cygnet** for two of the island's best little cafes, Red Velvet Lounge and Lotus Eaters. Continue north along the scenic Huon River to **Huonville**. Lots of summer fruit – apples, cherries and more – and lunch at the Home Hill Winery Restaurant are tasty distractions. Travel south down the river's opposite bank to **Geeveston**. Spend some time in the treetops at **Tahune Forest AirWalk**, before bushwalking in the **Hartz Mountains National Park**. Continue south to Dover, an excellent southern base for day trips: go underground at **Hastings Caves & Thermal Springs**, or negotiate the winding, unsealed road out to the end-of-the-road ambience of **Recherche Bay** and **Cockle Creek**.



OUR STORY

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that's all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, *Across Asia on the Cheap*. Within a week they'd sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born.

Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Melbourne, London and Oakland, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony's belief that 'a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse'.

OUR WRITERS



Brett Atkinson

Coordinating Author, Hobart & Around, Tasman Peninsula & Port Arthur, The Southeast, Midlands & Lake Country

Brett has been 'crossing the ditch' to Australia from his hometown of Auckland for more than 30 years now, and jumped at the chance to return to Tasmania, definitely his favourite Aussie state. He loves Tassie's wild and spectacular scenery, the laid-back and upfront nature of the locals, and the island's brilliant food and wine scene. Brett has previously written about Tasmania's wine and wildlife for New Zealand magazines, but for his first extended Lonely Planet research trip to the state, he ventured south to Bruny Island and the Tasman Peninsula, and conducted diligent investigation of the local beer scene in Hobart's great pubs. When he's not adding to his total of more than 20 Lonely Planet guidebooks, Brett is exploring the world as a freelance travel writer. See www.brett-atkinson.net for his latest articles and travel plans.

Gabi Mocatta



East Coast, Launceston & Around, Devonport & the Northwest, Cradle Country & the West

It was 10 years ago that Gabi first walked across the Hobart airport tarmac and breathed champagne-fresh Tasmanian air. She didn't know then, but that arrival was the start of many from far-flung travels, and the air is always as good as it was the first time: an exhilarating welcome home. Gabi now calls Hobart her base: with its forest and sea surrounds, it's the perfect city for someone who loves the outdoors. For this edition, Gabi beachcombed the east and west Coasts, savoured delicious Launceston; was wind-lashed in the wild northwest; and was breathtaken in the even wilder southwest – a sea kayaker's delight and one of the last temperate wildernesses on earth.

Contributing Author

Environmental Politics in Tasmania

Anna Krien's debut book, *Into the Woods: The Battle for Tasmania's Forests*, was published by Black Inc in 2010 and is shortlisted for the Douglas Stewart Prize. Her writing has appeared in the *Big Issue*, *Frankie*, the *Monthly*, the *Age* newspaper, *COLORS*, *Griffith Review* and has been selected for *Best Australian Essays* and *Best Australian Stories*.

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