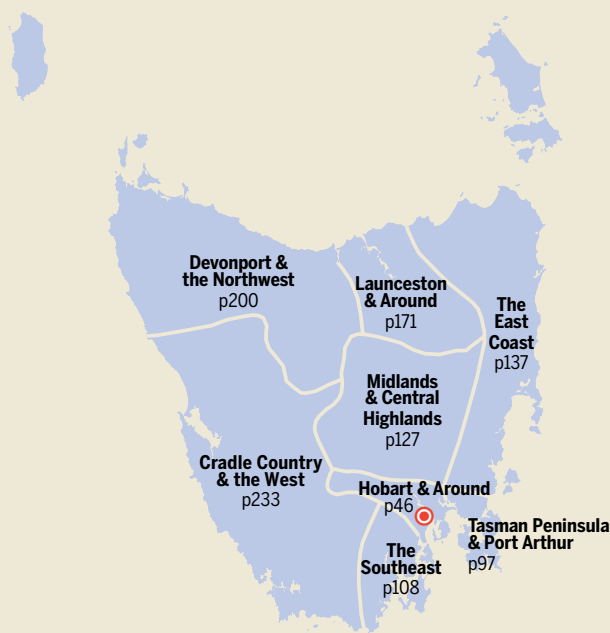




Tasmania



THIS EDITION WRITTEN AND RESEARCHED BY

Anthony Ham, Charles Rawlings-Way and Meg Worby

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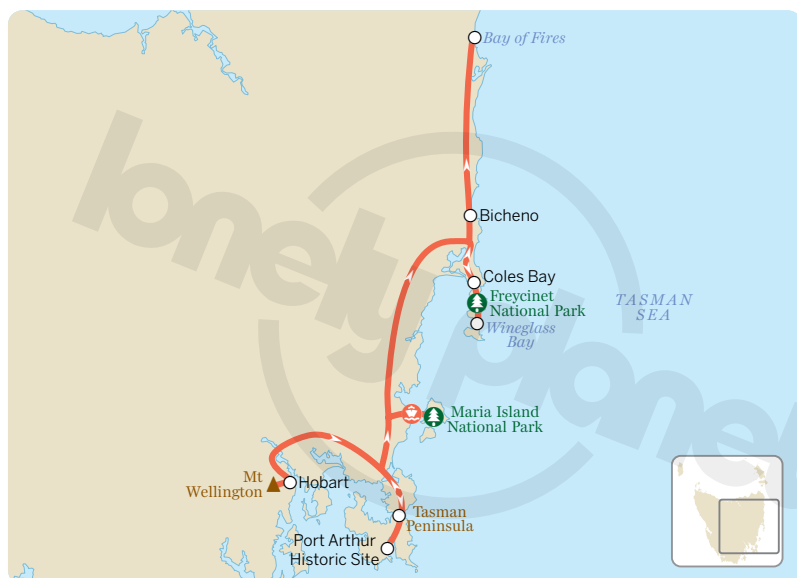
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Itineraries



10
DAYS

East Coast Classic

Hobart, Port Arthur, Freycinet and the gorgeous Bay of Fires: check out four of Tasmania's greatest hits on this sunny east-coast cruise.

Hear the heartbeat of **Hobart**: great pubs and cafes, brilliant restaurants and heritage vibes. Don't miss Salamanca Place (and Salamanca Market if it's Saturday morning), an afternoon at the amazing MONA and the view from atop **Mt Wellington**.

From Hobart, head southeast to the dramatic coastal crags of the **Tasman Peninsula** and the grim convict stories of **Port Arthur Historic Site**. Near Copping, shortcut to the east coast via the Wielangta Forest Drive. Hop on a ferry out to **Maria Island National Park** for mountain biking, camping, bushwalking, wildlife spotting and west-facing beaches (rare for the east coast).

Get your camera primed for a trip to **Freycinet National Park** and **Wineglass Bay**, and follow with sea kayaking and oyster appreciation at **Coles Bay**. Continue north to the chilled-out fishing town of **Bicheno** for some penguin spotting then unwind with some serious downtime among the rocky lagoons and headlands of the **Bay of Fires**.

4
DAYS

Hobart & Around

Fancy a long weekend in Hobart? Take advantage of Tasmania's short driving distances, by day-tripping around the hip southern capital.

Spend a day mooching around the **Hobart** waterfront and Battery Point, taking a boat trip up the Derwent River to the dazzling **MONA**, and ending with dinner at Garagistes and drinks at Knopwood's Retreat. Next day, drive out to history-rich **Richmond**. Don't miss the stoic Richmond Bridge, **Bonorong Wildlife Centre** and a lazy picnic lunch at **Puddleduck Vineyard**.

On day three, continue the foodie theme with a cooking class at the **Agrarian Kitchen** near New Norfolk. The day-long 'Agrarian Experience' is a paddock-to-plate celebration of the seasons, with fresh fruit and veggies from the kitchen garden.

If you have another day up your sleeve, truck out to **Mt Field National Park** for an accessible alpine bushwalk, or book a place on the Mt Wellington Descent – a 22km downhill mountain-bike run from the summit of **Mt Wellington** behind Hobart to the waterfront.

2
WEEKS

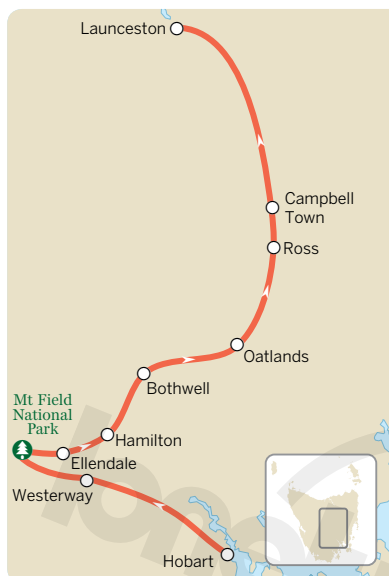
Cradle Country & the Northwest

Launceston, the west coast, Cradle Mountain and the northwest: this is certainly the least-visited corner of Tasmania.

Kick off with a couple of days in much-improved **Launceston**: check out Cataract Gorge and the excellent Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery (QVMAG), and have dinner at Stillwater and drinks at Saint John.

From Launceston, explore the eclectic enticements of the **Tamar Valley**: sea-horses, gold mines, lighthouses and wineries. Loop south through historic **Evandale** before drifting west to **Deloraine** and the **Mole Creek** caves. Don't miss a few days walking in impressive **Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park**.

From Cradle Mountain, skate southwest to the lunar landscapes of **Queenstown** and ride the West Coast Wilderness Railway to **Strahan**. From Strahan, head north through the vast **Arthur Pieman Conservation Area**; check out the surf at **Marrawah**; and clamber up the Nut in **Stanley**. An ocean dip at photogenic **Boat Harbour Beach** is the perfect journey's end.



10 DAYS

Highlands & Midlands

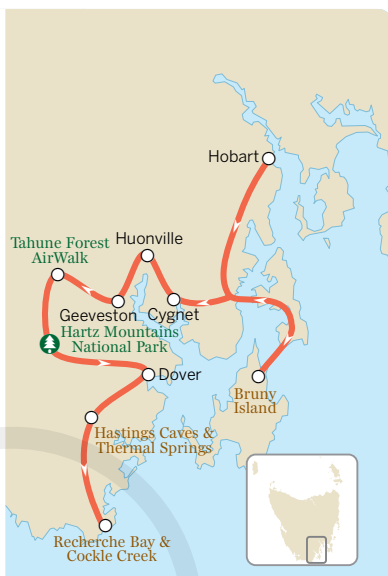
The historic Midlands is Tasmania's agricultural heartland; the Central Highlands are the state's alpine core.

Get started in **Hobart** with coffee at Jackman & McRoss and a waterfront walk. Check out Saturday's sensational Salamanca Market and the engaging new Mawson's Huts Replica Museum.

From Hobart head northwest to **Mt Field National Park** for waterfalls and bushwalking – just a hint of the vast southwest wilderness beyond.

Track along the Derwent Valley through pretty **Westerway**, **Ellendale** and **Hamilton**, continuing to soporific **Bothwell**. Tee off at Ratho, Australia's oldest golf course, then hit Nant Distillery for some peppy Tasmanian whisky.

Back east in the Midlands, **Oatlands** offers the restored Callington Mill and more Georgian sandstone buildings than any other Australian town. **Ross** is a gorgeous colonial village with a great bakery and an historic bridge. **Campbell Town** makes a handy stop en route to laid-back **Launceston**: reward yourself with a tour of the hallowed Boag's Brewery.



1 WEEK

Southern Rambler

Tasmania's southeast is an agricultural and scenic smorgasbord, with an actual smorgasbord of local produce on offer.

From **Hobart**, trundle south to Kettering to catch the car ferry across to easy-going **Bruny Island**. Give yourself at least two nights to appreciate Bruny's charms, including artisan cheeses, Australia's southernmost vineyard and a boat cruise past seal colonies and cliffs. Don't miss the little penguins at Bruny Island Neck.

Back on the Tasmanian 'mainland', swing west to funky **Cygnet** for lunch at Lotus Eaters Cafe. Continue north along the scenic Huon River to **Huonville**. Roadside summer fruit stalls – apples, cherries and more – plus lunch at Summer Kitchen Bakery and cider at the Apple Shed are tasty distractions.

Travel south to **Geeveston**. Take to the treetops at **Tahune Forest AirWalk** or go bushwalking in **Hartz Mountains National Park**. Continue south through chilled-out **Dover** to **Hastings Caves and Thermal Springs**, then negotiate the winding, unsealed road to end-of-the-road **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 Franklin, London, Melbourne, Oakland, Beijing and Delhi, 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



Anthony Ham

Devonport & the Northwest, Cradle Country & the West Anthony was born in Melbourne, grew up in Sydney and has spent much of his adult life travelling the world. He recently returned to Australia after ten years living in Madrid and brings to this guide more than fifteen years' experience as a travel writer. As a recently returned expat, Anthony is loving the opportunity to rediscover his country and indulge his passion for wilderness. He brings to the book the unique

perspective of knowing the land intimately and yet seeing it anew as if through the eyes of an outsider. Check out his website, anthonyham.com.



Charles Rawlings-Way

Co-author: Hobart & Around, Tasman Peninsula & Port Arthur, the Southeast, Midlands & Central Highlands, the East Coast, Launceston & Around As a likely lad, Charles suffered in school shorts through Hobart winters. Ice on the puddles, snow on Mt Wellington...he dreamed of one day living somewhere warmer. Now that he does (Adelaide) and the world is hotting up, Hobart is looking good again! Returning to Tasmania on reconnaissance, he was thrilled to discover that

his old home town has good coffee now, Launceston has a craft beer hipster bar and there's still snow on Mt Wellington. Charles has penned 20-something Lonely Planet guidebooks. Charles also co-authored the Plan Your Trip, Understand and Survival Guide sections of this book.



Meg Worby

Co-author: Hobart & Around, Tasman Peninsula & Port Arthur, the Southeast, Midlands & Central Highlands, the East Coast, Launceston & Around Tucking in to a creamed scallop pie in Hobart and pondering erstwhile Tasmanian Errol Flynn, Meg realised that a love of beauty, a lust for adventure and a yearning for tightys must naturally have begun here. She is a former member of Lonely Planet's languages, editorial, web and publishing teams in Melbourne and

London. This is her ninth Lonely Planet guidebook as co-author, with another dashing Tasmanian. Meg also co-authored the Plan Your Trip, Understand and Survival Guide sections of this book.

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Anna Krien wrote the Environmental Politics in Tasmania chapter. Her debut book, *Into the Woods: The Battle for Tasmania's Forests* (Black Inc, 2010), won both the Queensland and Victorian Premier's Literary Awards in 2011. Her writing has appeared in the *Big Issue*, *Frankie*, the *Age*, the *Monthly* and the *Griffith Review*, and has been selected for *Best Australian Essays* and *Best Australian Stories*.

Published by Lonely Planet Publications Pty Ltd

ABN 36 005 607 983

7th edition – November 2015

ISBN 978 1 74220 579 3

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10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Printed in China

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