



EXPERIENCE NATURAL TASMANIA

With the National Parks Association of Queensland

Itinerary with Uplift Tours and Travel

06 – 15 November 2017

DAY 1	Monday	6 November	Brisbane – Hobart	[D]
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Today we meet at the Brisbane airport for our flight to Hobart. On arrival at the Hobart Airport we will be greeted by our tour guide and welcomed aboard the comfortable 5 star coach. We cross the Tasman Bridge to Hobart city nestled at the base of the majestic Mt Wellington. If time permits, there are a number of short walks on offer around Mt Wellington where you can stretch your legs after a long journey. Enjoy a short city sights tour around Hobart's historic waterfront district before arriving at our overnight accommodation.

Overnight: Hobart - Fountainside Motor Inn or similar

DAY 2	Tuesday	7 November	Tasman Island Cruise	[B/D]
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Today we join the world class eco-adventure cruise which travels along the spectacular coastline of the Tasman National Park between Port Arthur and Eaglehawk Neck. One of the highlights of the cruise is Tasman Island, a great landmark of the Southern Ocean with its slender white lighthouse a beacon for seafarers entering Storm Bay. Few places on Earth have such a rich variety of marine wildlife and seabirds. The Continental Shelf runs close to Tasman Island and the nutrients from the ocean's depths creates a smorgasbord for all the creatures in this complex food chain. We're likely to see seals basking on the rocks, a feeding frenzy of diving gannets, albatrosses and sea eagles wheeling on the wind, cliffnesting peregrine falcons and playful dolphins surfing in the bow wave of the boat. Don't forget to keep an eye out for migrating humpback and southern right whales. Back on shore, tour the geological sites of the Tasman Arch, Devils Kitchen and Eaglehawk Neck before continue along the highway back to Hobart.

Overnight: Hobart - Fountainside Motor Inn or similar

DAY 3	Wednesday	8 November	Salmon Ponds – Russell Falls – Lake Pedder	[B/D]
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Travel through the delightful Derwent Valley to New Norfolk and the Plenty Salmon Ponds. Circa 1861, this is the oldest trout hatchery in the Southern Hemisphere. It was the birthplace of trout in Australia and the origin of Tasmania's legendary trout fishery. Enjoy the original 19th century English style public open space of superb trees, hedges and lawns before visiting Mt Field National Park which is one of Tasmania's most loved national parks. An easy 10 minute stroll will take us to the iconic Russell Falls, the track is edged with graceful ferns and giant eucalypts tower overhead. Continue into the South West World Heritage region that offers some of the best mountain scenery in Tasmania. View the highest dam wall in Tasmania at the Gordon River (140m) and overnight at Strathgordon on the banks of Lake Pedder.

Overnight: Lake Pedder Wilderness Lodge or similar

DAY 4	Thursday	9 November	Lyell Highway – The Wall – Queenstown	[B/L/D]
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This morning we travel the Central Plateau. Follow the Wild Way through trout lakes, mountains, gorges and the Wild Rivers National Park. Pass through Tarraleah Gorge, site of early hydro-electric installations and take a tour of "The Wall", a work in progress depicting the history of the region beautifully carved in Tasmanian timbers. Take a break at Derwent Bridge before a short walk into the delightful Nelson Falls. Cross Lake Burbury and descending through the ghost towns of Linda and Gormanston to the copper mining town of Queenstown. This afternoon we check into our accommodation for the next two nights.

Overnight: Queenstown - Comfort Inn Gold Rush or similar

DAY 5	Friday	10 November	Macquarie Harbour – Gordon River Cruise – Strahan	[B/L/D]
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Early departure for the port of Strahan this morning to cruise the incomparable Gordon River into the heart of Tasmania's wilderness and the edge of World Heritage. Cross vast Macquarie Harbour, past Sarah Island, worst convict settlement of all and follow the Gordon through stands of ancient Huon pine, sassafras and myrtle rainforest to step ashore for a wilderness boardwalk at Heritage Landing. Voyage to Hell's Gates, the aptly named harbour entrance where many early ships were destroyed by ferocious ocean swells. On return to Strahan, there will be opportunity to explore the village including the Visitor Centre and Huon pine saw mill. Return to Queenstown for our overnight accommodation.

Overnight: Queenstown - Comfort Inn Gold Rush or similar

DAY 6 Saturday	11 November	Murchison Highway – Cradle Mountain	[B/L/D]
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Traverse the Reid volcanic zone for views of the Tyndall range and Lake Plimsoll in the Henty Anthony Valley en route to Tullah. Continue north through rainforest and mineral rich mountains, crossing the Vale of Belvior and alpine cattle country to reach Cradle Mountain National Park. Board the shuttle bus to Dove Lake at the foot of the crags of Cradle Mountain and visit Waldheim, forest home of pioneer Gustav Weindorffer. Enjoy lunch and the visual delights of the Wilderness Gallery and spend the remainder of the day taking short walks within the National Park. This evening, visit Devils@Cradle for a night feeding and an in depth look into the life of the Tasmanian Devil and its struggle with the facial tumour disease.

Overnight: Cradle Mountain Hotel

DAY 7 Sunday	12 November	Wynyard – Stanley – Smithton	[B/D]
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Today we travel to the north west of Tasmania to spend time in the beautiful rich farm land of Circular Head. Departing Cradle Mountain travel through the deep rain forest of Hellyer Gorge arriving in Wynyard for morning tea (own expense). Enjoy the views of Bass Strait while travelling to the historic village of Stanley nestling at the foot of an ancient volcanic core known as 'the Nut'. Tour Highfield House, historical headquarters of the early Van Diemens Land Co. and explore the quaint town with its terraces and chairlift access to the top of the Nut (ride is optional and own expense). Travel to our accommodation at Tall Timbers, Smithton.

Overnight: Tall Timbers Smithton

DAY 8 Monday	13 November	Tarkine Wilderness	[B/L/D]
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Today we will discover the Tarkine Wilderness area. Unlike many places in the world the Tarkine remains as a hidden treasure and a forgotten wilderness. This expanse of uninterrupted 477,000 hectares of Tarkine wilderness is the largest single track of temperate rainforest in Australia and holds ancient relics of both plants and animals dating back millennia, and unique habitats not found anywhere else. Visit hidden lakes and explore wild beaches, battered by huge ocean swell and breath the purest air in the world delivered on the roaring 40's. Joined by a local guide, you will receive in depth information about the area and enjoy a memorable day on the wild west coast!

Overnight: Tall Timbers Smithton

DAY 9 Tuesday	14 November	Burnie – Penguin – Sheffield – Cataract Gorge	[B/D]
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Travelling from Smithton to Launceston we'll take the time to visit some hidden treasures off the main road such as Boat Harbour Beach. Marvel at the breathtaking views from the rich agricultural Table Cape with its amazing diversity of crops and farms. Continue to the coastal port of Burnie for a lunch stop (own expense) then tour east along the scenic coastal route through Penguin and Ulverstone to Sheffield and admire the evocative out-door art gallery of impressive murals. Arrive in Launceston this afternoon with time to explore the magnificent Cataract Gorge with its cliff-side gardens, peacocks, pools, suspension foot bridge and one of the longest single span chairlifts in the world (ride is optional and own expense).

Overnight: Launceston - Best Western Plus

DAY 10 Wednesday	15 November	Woolmers – Evandale – Gourmet Sauce Co – Brisbane	[B/L]
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Explore the nearby Longford / Evandale area with our first stop being at World Heritage Woolmers Estate, wander around and soak up the essence of 19th century Tasmanian life on a once working farm estate and admire their outstanding Rose Garden which represents one of the finest collections of historic roses in the Southern Hemisphere. Travel to the Tasmanian Gourmet Sauce Company where, after being welcomed by Maddie the Labrador (their 'Meet and Greet Lady'), we will sample some of their products which appeal to a wide range of tastes from the chilli lover to the sweet tooth. Enjoy a gourmet BBQ lunch before travelling to the Launceston Airport for our flight home.

Key: B=Breakfast LR=Light Refreshments L=Lunch D=Dinner

Tour Price based on Minimum 15 passengers: \$3839.00 per person twin share including all airport taxes. Single Supplement available at \$699.00 extra.

If numbers reach 20 passengers, the price will reduce to \$3579.00 per person twin share. The single supplement remains the same.

Non-refundable deposit of \$300 at time of booking, by 25th May 2017.

Balance due on/before 5th September 2017.

CONDITIONS: Tour departure subject to minimum numbers. Itinerary and costs correct at time of printing and subject to change without notice. Prices only guaranteed once full payment is received. Cancellation fees will apply. Travel Insurance is strongly recommended. Non-Refundable deposit of \$300 due at time of booking. Balance due on/before 5 September. Advertised price based on lowest available group airfares, subject to availability at time of group confirmation.

For enquiries and bookings please contact National Parks Association of Queensland or Uplift Tours and Travel:

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