

THE ABSOLUTE BEST DAY WALKS IN TASMANIA
Saturday 24 February – Sunday 17 March, 2024



Saturday 24 February to Sunday 17 March 2024

23 days ex-Hobart (including 2 rest days)

(timed for the best weather and to avoid Easter/Tasmanian school holidays)

Leader: Phillip Donnell

Estimated price: \$5500 (excluding airfares)

(based on a minimum of 10 participants and subject to currency fluctuations)

A comprehensive walking tour covering the whole of Tasmania. Experience a tremendous range of landscapes across 14 national parks, all four coasts, numerous reserves and several wilderness areas. Encounter the wildlife, discover the convict past and enjoy Tassie's relaxed style! This is a beaut little holiday...

PRICE INCLUDES:

- Accommodation – shared rooms in self-contained hotels, cabins, motels.
- Transport in a hired minibus, possibly with luggage trailer.
- All breakfasts and subsidised farewell celebration dinner.
- Experienced Kiwi trip leader throughout.
- National Park entry fees.

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Flights to / from Tasmania (direct flights are now available).
- Airport transfer fees.
- Lunches and dinners.
- Travel insurance.
- Personal incidentals, excursions, and entry to attractions.

Cradle Mountain



Wineglass Bay

TASMANIA 2024 ITINERARY

DATE	POSSIBLE WALK(S)	OVERNIGHT
HOBART		
Day 1 Saturday 24 February	<p>Arrival Day</p> <p>It is recommended that you fly into Hobart early. Transfer to the hotel in downtown. Use any free time to explore Hobart: Battery Point, Queen’s Domain, MONA. <i>A wander through the Battery Point historic area of Hobart reveals the delightful original cottages, beautiful stone and brick homes and also the maritime history of this very walkable city. The downtown embraces the harbour, where you will find a wide range of terrific cafes, bars and restaurants in honey-coloured sandstone buildings. For something completely different, head to MONA - the world renowned Museum of Old and New Art, by taking the ferry trip up the Derwent.</i></p> <p><i>Possible Walks:</i> https://www.greaterhobarttrails.com.au/tracks/walking/hobart/ Battery Point Sculpture Trail (2km), Historic Battery Point (5.8km), Bicentennial Park and Lambert Park (2.9km), City to Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens Loop (6.7km), Cornelian Bay to the Botanical Gardens (2.6km), Fern Tree Park to Silver Falls (1.7km), Fern Tree to Neika (4.4km), Fern Tree to Wellington Falls (12.7km), Pipeline Track (Fern Tree to Waterworks, 3km), Hobart Rivulet Park (2.7km), O’Grady’s Falls (2.2km), Summit Loop Knocklofty Reserve (4km), Alum Cliff and Brickfields (4.7km,2-3h)</p> <p>6.00 p.m. Initial briefing, followed by dinner together. NB: We spend 2 more days in Hobart (tomorrow and at the end of the tour).</p>	Hobart
Day 2 Sunday 25 February	<p>Walks In and Near Hobart</p> <p>Mount Wellington and Wellington Park <i>Looming behind Hobart is Mt Wellington and at 1270m it has marvellous views over the city, harbour and Derwent Valley. The flanks hold many interesting tracks and trails and several hours walking here has many rewards.</i></p> <p><i>Possible Walks:</i> https://www.greaterhobarttrails.com.au/tracks/walking/hobart/ Circle Track (1.2km), Lost World (5km,3-4h), Cascade Track (2.4km), Fern Glade Circuit (1.7km), Hobart to the Pinnacle (14.2km), Lenah Valley to the Pinnacle Loop (17km), North-South Track (11km), Organ Pipes Circuit (9.2km,3-4h), Pinnacle to Zig Zag Track Lookout Loop (1.4km), Myrtle Gully (2km), The Organ Pipes (2.5km), The Ice House Track (3km), Collins Bonnet/Trestle</p>	Hobart

	<p>Mountain/Collins Gap (14.9km loop,7h)), Collins Bonnet (8.4km,4h), Collins Cap (5.4km,2h30m), Kunanyi/Mt. Wellington Summit (13.8km loop,5-7h), Fern Tree to Mt. Wellington Summit Circuit (14.4km,6h or 10.6km,4h30m), Wellington Falls Circuit (13.4km,7h), Cathedral Rock (8.4km,3h30m), Montague Thumbs (10.8km,5h).</p> <p><i>The Springs to:</i> Lenah Valley (7km), Milles Creek Lookout (2.8km), Pinnacle Loop (8km), Sphinx Rock Loop (2.7km), The Pinnacle (3.4km), Wellington Falls (via Milles Track, 6.5km, or via Disappearing Tarn 12km).</p> <p>Truganini Track (1h30m) An alternative is the excellent Truganini Track, a 5km/2h return tramp right in Hobart that commemorates the Aboriginal heritage of the area.</p> <p>For other walking options, see Day 1 above.</p>	
SOUTHWEST COAST		
<p>Day 3 Monday 26 February</p>	<p>Drive from Hobart to Cockle Creek (120km,2h). <i>Cockle Creek sits at the edge of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area and is the furthest point south that one can drive in Australia. Once a settlement with over 2,000 residents, its rich history is found today in Aboriginal sites, abandoned tramways, gravestones and ruins. The area is known for its scenic beauty of deserted white beaches and turquoise waters of Recherche Bay and a variety of short and multi-day bushwalks. including the end of the 82 km South Coast Track.</i></p> <p>Southwest National Park <i>Possible Walks:</i> Fishers Point (2-3h), South Cape Bay (the final section of the South Coast Track, 15.5km,4-5h), Mystery Creek Cave (4.7km,2h – possibly with historic Ida Bay Railway)</p> <p>Drive from Cockle Creek to Geeveston (65km,1h)</p>	Geeveston
<p>Day 4 Tuesday 27 February</p>	<p>Drive from Geeveston to Hartz Mountains Visitor Centre (21km,25m). Hartz Mountains National Park <i>Hartz Mountains National Park is marked by dolerite peaks rising out of a plateau. This area was carved out by glaciers which left oddly placed piles of boulders and carved small alpine lakes, known as tarns, into the landscape. You'll also find wet eucalypt forests and alpine heaths throughout the park.</i></p> <p><i>Possible Walks:</i> Lake Esperance (3.2km,1h30m), Ladies Tarn (5.2km,2h30m), Hartz Lake (7.5km,4h), Hartz Pass (3h30m), Hartz Peak and Lake Esperance (5h), Hartz Peak/Mt. Snowy (10km,4-5h), Hartz Peak out and back (8km,3-4h), Waratah Lookout (5m), Arve Falls (20m), Lake Osborne (40m).</p>	Hobart

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drive to Tahune Forest Reserve (23km,30m). <i>The famous Tahune Airwalk is an elevated walkway 30 metres above the forest floor, with the final cantilever section sitting at a height of 50 metres above the Huon River, with spectacular views to the confluence of the Huon and Picton and beyond.</i> <i>Possible Walks:</i> Airwalk (1h, own cost), McKays Track (1h), Huon Pine Track (20m). • Drive from Tahune to Hobart (90km,1h20m) 	
TASMAN PENINSULA		
Day 5 Wednesday 28 February	<p>Port Arthur Area</p> <p>Drive from Hobart to Port Arthur (100km,1h30m). <i>We are heading east now to the Tasman Peninsula with photo stops at the many attractive coastal features on the way to Port Arthur.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historic Richmond Town (4km,1-2h) • Port Arthur Historic Reserve (entry own cost) <p><i>Port Arthur Historic Reserve is the most important site of Australia's convict heritage (a World Heritage listed site) and makes for a fascinating visit. The night time ghost tour is recommended.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coal Mines Historic Site (entry own cost) <p><i>The remains of a coal mine operated by 'the worst of the worst' criminals.</i></p> <p><i>Possible Walks:</i> Settlement to Mineshaft (2h), Main Shaft to Settlement (1h20m), Settlement to Plunkett Point (50m), Full loop (4.7km,2h).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drive to: Remarkable Cave, Tessellated Pavement, Tasman Blowhole, Tasman Arch, Devil's Kitchen. <p><i>Many striking rock formations along the coastline are easily accessed by car, including Tasman Arch and The Blowhole, two of Tasmania's most visited attractions, as well as Waterfall Bay, Remarkable Cave and the Tessellated Pavement.</i></p>	Port Arthur
Day 6 Thursday 29 February	<p>Tasman National Park</p> <p><i>Famous for its soaring sea cliffs and monumental rock formations, Tasman National Park is an area of dramatic beauty and natural diversity. The park is situated on the rugged Tasman Peninsula and contains a spectacular coastal environment including soaring 300 metre high dolerite sea cliffs.</i></p> <p><i>The park is home to a wide range of land and marine animals, including the brushtail possum, Australian fur seals, penguins, dolphins and migrating whales. It's also home to the endangered swift parrot and many forest-dwelling birds. Endangered wedge-tailed eagles and sea eagles can also be seen overhead.</i></p> <p><i>Great views are also found on the park's many bushwalks. Even a stroll of just an hour or two will bring you to the edge of sheer drops overlooking deep chasms, surging ocean, off-shore islands, white-sand</i></p>	Port Arthur

	<p><i>beaches, and a waterfall that tumbles down a sheer cliff face into the sea.</i></p> <p><i>Possible Walks: Waterfall Bluff (1h30m), Waterfall Bay and Paterson's Arch (3.2km,1h30m), Tatnell's Hill and Waterfall Bay (11.5km,4h30m), Canoe Bay (2h), Shipstern Bluff (3h), Bivouac Bay (3-4h), Crescent Bay and Mt. Brown (11.5km,4-5h), Cape Hauy (9.4km,3-4h), Cape Raoul (13.6km,5h), Cape Pillar (or part - up to 10h), Fortescue Bay to Devil's Kitchen (21km,6-9h), Mount Fortescue (14.6km,6-7h), Tatnell's Hill Circuit (19.2km,7h)</i></p>	
EAST AND NORTHEAST COAST		
<p>Day 7 Friday 1 March</p>	<p>Morning: Scenic drive from Port Arthur to Coles Bay (190km,3h). <i>This is a picturesque drive north that more or less follows the east coast. The coast has a string of little settlements and fishing villages, such as Triabunna and Swansea. We will take the 35km Wielangta Forest Drive up to Orford, which saves driving the much longer main highway.</i></p> <p>Afternoon: Freycinet National Park</p> <p><i>Possible Walks: Friendly Beaches (5m-5h), Cape Tourville (20m), Wineglass Bay Lookout (2.8km, 1h), Wineglass Bay 6km,3h), Wineglass Bay and Hazards Beach Circuit (11km,3h30m), Mount Amos (6km,3h).</i></p> <p><i>The Wineglass Bay - Hazards circuit makes for a fine day walk with a swim included. The famous bay of white sand is one of the most photographed in the world and the saddle lookout is a good spot. Even better for the views and a bit of a grunt is the track up Mt Amos, as the summit is so much higher up. Sea kayaking is also a popular activity in the park and don't forget to check out the excellent visitor centre.</i></p> <p>The pub adjacent to Iluka Holiday Centre is perfect for dinner.</p>	<p>Coles Bay</p>
<p>Day 8 Saturday 2 March</p>	<p>Morning: Further walks in Freycinet National Park (see above)</p> <p>Afternoon: Drive from Coles Bay to St.Helens (110km,1h30m).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bicheno <p><i>Bicheno is a firm favourite with most Tasmanians, both as a family friendly destination and for those seeking a slower pace or sea change. It has an interesting granite bound harbour and blowhole.</i></p> <p><i>Possible Walk: Foreshore Footway (1h)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Douglas-Apsley National Park <p><i>Douglas-Apsley National Park contains one of the few uncleared dry forests in the state, with a long history of use by farmers, miners and animal trappers before it was declared a protected area. The park is incredibly diverse, with river gorges and waterfalls, eucalypt forest and heathlands overlooked by a dolerite-capped plateau. The park also supports many rare and endangered species that only exist here.</i></p> <p><i>Walks in the park range from short, easy strolls to demanding overnight walks. The Apsley Waterhole, a 10-min walk from the car</i></p>	<p>St. Helens</p>

	<p>park off Rosedale Road at the southern end of the park, is a great spot for a picnic, scenic bushwalk and a leisurely dip on a hot summer day. Short strolls from the waterhole take in water views and the picturesque Apsley Gorge, with its tranquil pools and undisturbed river scenes.</p> <p><i>Possible Walks:</i> Apsley River Waterhole (15m), Apsley Waterhole and Gorge circuit (6km,2-3h).</p> <p>The east coast of Tassie has glorious crunchy white sand beaches and is also well known as the 'seafood coast'. There are a string of little settlements starting with Bicheno. Further north are Chain of Lagoons, Falmouth, Scamander, Beaumaris.</p> <p>*St. Helens, once a centre for tin mining, is the largest town on the east coast and Tasmania's largest fishing port.</p> <p><i>Possible Walk:</i> St. Helens Point (1h)</p>	
<p>Day 9 Sunday 3 March</p>	<p>Rest Day: St. Helens</p> <p>Optional excursion to the Bay of Fires Conservation Area (and possibly Mount William National Park)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bay of Fires: Eddystone Point, The Gardens, Binalong Bay, Skeleton Bay Reserve, Policeman's Point. Binalong Bay Coastal Walk (8.5km,3h) <p><i>A little further north at Binalong Bay begins the Bay of Fires area. The glorious beaches are interspersed with granite rock formations and a reddish orange lichen that from out at sea looked for all the world like fires on shore – hence the name. A wonderful area for beach walking.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mount William National Park: Mount William (1h). 	St. Helens
LAUNCESTON AND TAMAR VALLEY		
<p>Day 10 Monday 4 March</p>	<p>Drive from St Helens to Launceston (130km, 2h15m)</p> <p>Exploring Launceston and Environs</p> <p><i>Launceston is Tasmania's other 'big city' and northern rival to Hobart. Here we stay for a couple of nights in centrally-located accommodation, with most sights in easy walking distance.</i></p> <p><i>Possible Walks:</i></p> <p>Bridport Walking Track (12.5km,3-4h)</p> <p>Cataract Gorge Loop (9km,3-4h): <i>A walk through Cataract Gorge is a must. At a leisurely pace, it can fill a couple of hours.</i></p> <p>Cataract Gorge and Trevallylyn Dam Circuit (13.6km,4h30m)</p> <p><i>Launceston is known for its parklands and heritage architecture. The city is also the start of the Tamar Valley wine route, and a lovely day can be had on a driving amble northwards along both sides of the valley. There is a wildlife refuge just to the north of the city, numerous little hamlets and excellent wineries offering tastings, the interesting Seahorse World (which also has platypus and echidnas), the imposing Batman Bridge and other interesting sights. If there is enough interest, we could take the van for a circuit up one side and down the other for a very enjoyable day.</i></p>	Launceston

	<p><i>Possible Walks:</i> Tamar Island (4.6km,1h30m)</p> <p>Narawntapu National Park</p> <p><i>Possible Walks:</i> Badger Head (9km,3h), Springlawn Nature Walk (1h), Archers Knob (3h), Springlawn Lagoon and Bakers Beach (12km,3-4h), Archre's Knob-Copper Cove-Bakers Beach (15.5km,5h), Point Vision (15.5km,5h).</p>	
THE CENTRAL NORTH		
<p>Day 11 Tuesday 5 March</p>	<p>We drive from Launceston to Mole Creek (75km, 50m), with several possible walks en-route:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Western Tiers: Liffey Falls (45m), Projection Bluff (2h), Split Rock (2h), Meander Falls (10km,3-4h), Meander Falls and Split Rock (12 km, 4-5h), Pine Lake Pencil Pines (30m), Alum Cliffs (1h), Quamby Bluff (5.8km,3h). • Mount Roland: Mt. Roland Track (17km,5-6h) • Mole Creek Karst National Park <p>Commercial tours in Marakoopa Cave (1h30m) and King Solomon's Cave (45m) (own cost)</p> <p><i>Wrapped in natural beauty, Mole Creek is the departure point for guided journeys into the famous Mole Creek Caves. These fragile limestone caves are a hidden world of spectacular formations, sparkling crystals and underground streams, with glow worms and other rare creatures that never see the light of day.</i></p> <p>NB: <i>Walls of Jerusalem National Park</i> is nearby but is only suitable for overnight or multi-day treks.</p>	<p>Mole Creek</p>
<p>Day 12 Wednesday 6 March</p>	<p>Canyons and Creatures</p> <p>Today's journey is in 3 stages...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drive from Mole Creek to Leven Canyon (93km,1h30m). <p>Leven Canyon Regional Reserve</p> <p><i>The Leven Canyon Regional Reserve is home to the mighty Leven Canyon. The Leven River cuts the deepest limestone ravine in all of Tasmania and it's easily viewable from Cruickshank's Lookout. High-elevation alpine vegetation, fresh mountain air, well-maintained tracks and informational displays that educate you on Tasmania's wild flora and fauna, await in this regional reserve. And it's a great way to experience an entirely different landscape from the north coast.</i></p> <p><i>Possible Walk:</i> Circuit Walk (including Cruickshank's Lookout, Forest Stairs, Fern Walk) (45m).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drive from Leven Canyon to Wings Wildlife Park (28km,30m) (Entry: own cost). <p><i>This family owned multi award winning wildlife park boasts the largest collection of Tasmanian wildlife in Australia. See over 150 different species!! Pat a devil, koala, kangaroo, wombat, be amazed by the birds of prey, frolic with the farm animals, mingle with the meerkats, and marmoset monkeys, throw some pellets to the fish, smile with the reptiles.</i></p>	<p>Burnie</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drive from Wings Wildlife Park to Burnie (44km,40m). <i>Burnie, Tasmania's fourth-largest city, is a thriving port. When founded in 1827, it was named Emu Bay, being renamed after William Burnie, a director of the Van Diemen's Land Company, in the early 1840s. At the 2016 census Burnie had an urban population of 19,385.</i> <i>Local sights include:</i> Pioneer Village Museum, Burnie Regional Art Gallery, Burnie Park, Emu Valley Rhododendron Garden, Annsleigh Gardens and Tearooms, Round Hill Lookout, Lactos Cheese Factory, Creative Paper Mill, West Beach Penguin Observation Centre. <i>Possible Walk:</i> Fern Glade (1h). <i>Trips to spot platypus in Emu Creek leave at 6.30 p.m.</i> 	
THE NORTHWEST		
<p>Day 13 Thursday 7 March</p>	<p>Day trip to Rocky Cape and Stanley</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drive from Burnie to Rocky Cape (50km,40m). <p>Rocky Cape National Park <i>Striking rock formations, an incredible variety of flowering plants and important Aboriginal heritage all make this park, on the shores of Bass Strait in Tasmania's far north-west, worth exploring. Gnarly rocks contrast with the wild blue ocean and waves pound the coast with intensity, sending up a salty sea spray that fills the air as you meander along the rugged coastline. Swimming in the crystal-clear waters on Boat Harbour Beach is memorable.</i></p> <p><i>Tucked around the small hamlets of Boat Harbour and Sisters Beach, Rocky Cape National Park is mainly a day use park and is best discovered on foot. Choose from short easy strolls or longer day walks into the less-travelled parts of this park, taking in scenic hills, tranquil bays and rocky headlands.</i></p> <p><i>Dig a little deeper and you'll uncover mysterious sea caves, rock pools and secluded beaches perfectly suited to fishing and swimming. As you explore the Park, you will discover rock shelters and caves used by Aboriginal Tasmanians for numerous generations. You'll learn about Tasmanian Aboriginal life in North-West Tasmania as it was when these caves were first occupied many thousands of years ago.</i> <i>Possible Walks:</i> North Cave and Lighthouse (30m), South Cave (30m), Rocky Cape Circuit (2h30m), Wet Cave/Lee Archer Cave/Banksia Grove (45m), Postman's Track (1h), Inland Track (4h), Coastal Route (4h), Coastal Route and Sisters Hills Traverse (19km,5-6h), Broadview Hill Circuit (10km,3h), Banksia Grove (2km,1h), Sisters Hills Circuit (16km,5h30m).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drive from Rocky Cape to Stanley (35km,30m). <i>Stanley is a town of perfectly preserved colonial buildings, genteel cafes and quality B&B cottages, all sheltering in the imposing shadow of the Nut, an immense flat topped, volcanic plug rising 150 metres straight up from the water's edge.</i> 	Burnie

	<p><i>Climb the winding path to the top of the Nut for a spectacular 360-degree view and an aerobic workout. For a less strenuous trip, take the open chairlift ride and look out for seals basking in the sun.</i></p> <p><i>Stanley has plenty of fascinating stories, too. You can take a history tour through Stanley's streets, lined with quaint stone cottages dating back to the town's early days when it hosted the headquarters of the Van Diemen's Land Company or visit Highfield Historic Site, home and farm of the company's chief agent.</i></p> <p><i>Possible Walk: The Nut (summit 20m, base track 1h, Plateau circuit 35m), Historic Town and The Nut (5.5km,2h).</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After enjoying Stanley's famous fish and chips, enjoy an evening drive back to Burnie. 	
THE WEST		
<p>Day 14 Friday 8 March</p>	<p>Drive from Burnie to Cradle Valley (120km, 1h30m). Cradle Mountain/Lake St Clair National Park (North) <i>We spend the day walking in Cradle Mountain/Lake St.Clair National Park. At the visitor centre, which has a café on site, we park up and use the park shuttle buses to access the northern end of the park. From here, the circuit track around Dove Lake, with the brooding ruggedness of Cradle Mountain soaring behind, is inspiring and very beautiful. There are other options as well, plus another visitor centre to check out. A visit to Weindorfers Hut is worthwhile; Gustav Weindorfer, an Austrian pioneer, settled here and it was his conservation efforts that eventually led to the creation of the national park and promotion of visitors to this stunning region.</i></p> <p><i>Possible Walks: Crater Lake Circuit (9.4km,5h), Pencil Pine Falls/Knyvet Falls (30m), Mt Campbell and Twisted Lakes (4h), Dove Lake Circuit (6.5km,2-3h), Dove Lake High with Cradle Mountain Face (11km,4-5h), Dove Canyon Loop (5.6km,2h30m), Lakes Loop (7.3km,3h), Enchanted Walk (20m), Marion's Lookout (3h15m), Cradle Mountain Summit (15.4km loop, 6-7h), Cradle Mountain Circuit (12.2km,7h), Barn Bluff (23.8km,8h30m).</i></p>	<p>Cradle Valley</p>
<p>Day 15 Saturday 9 March</p>	<p>Morning: Further walks in Cradle Mountain/Lake St Clair National Park (North) (as above).</p> <p>Afternoon: Drive from Cradle Valley to Strahan (via Roseberry and Zeehan) (140km,1h45m). <i>Possible Walks: Montezuma falls (highest in Tasmania, 11km,3h), Mount Murchison (10km, 5h).</i></p> <p><i>The drive to Strahan is an interesting drive as we now head in a southwest direction towards the west coast, through some rugged country. and get to see some of the lakes and dams of the extensive hydro schemes. The towns of Tulley, Roseberry and Zeehan along the way also have mining connections and Zeehan in particular is worthy of a stop. Its mining museum is a real gem and includes the huge Gaiety Theatre where Dame Nellie Melba sang.</i></p>	<p>Strahan</p>

	<p><i>Finally down into Strahan, a fishing port and tourist town at the northern end of huge Macquarie Harbour (many times larger than Sydney Harbour). This is the gateway town to access a number of iconic west coast sights. Local sights include Henty Dunes and pleasant walks around Strahan Harbour. Just to the west is the excellent golden sand Ocean Beach stretching over 20kms.</i></p> <p><i>Strahan is quite small and easy to walk around. It has a good range of cafes and restaurants as well. Locals stage a very amusing play "The Ship That Never Was", which you may care to attend.</i></p>	
<p>Day 16 Sunday 10 March</p>	<p>Rest Day in Strahan Optional Excursions (own cost)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West Coast Wilderness Railway Full Day Excursion (Strahan-Queenstown) <p><i>The Queenstown Explorer will take you past quaint historic stations such as Lower Landing. You won't have to worry about being rushed, as you'll have time to get off at the stations and explore. A highlight is going on a walking trail through the rainforest near Dubbil Barril and seeing Huon pine trees. If you work up an appetite, you'll have roughly 90 minutes to explore Queenstown and find somewhere to eat before returning on the train to Strahan. 9 hrs.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harbour cruise to Sarah Island and the Gordon River. <p><i>A popular option is taking a World Heritage cruise out on the harbour which includes a guided walk over the convict settlement on Sarah Island and cruising up the sublime Gordon River in the Wild Rivers National Park.</i></p>	Strahan
<p>Day 17 Monday 11 March</p>	<p>Drive from Strahan to Derwent Bridge (125km,2h) <i>The first town passed through is Queenstown, a centre of the mining industry producing copper, silver and gold and surrounded by hills of tailings. Further on, the road climbs up on a high plateau incised by river valleys and with pockets of snowgum forest. More hydro lakes and dams appear.</i></p> <p>Franklin-Gordon Wild Rivers National Park (north) <i>Possible Walks: Franklin River Nature Trail (30m), Franklin Hills (8.2km,3h30m), Donaghy's Hill (2.4km,40m), Nelson Falls (20m).</i></p> <p>Cradle Mountain/Lake St Clair National Park (South) <i>Carved out by glaciers over millions of years, Lake St Clair is Australia's deepest freshwater lake. Located at the southern end of the Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park, it forms part of Tasmania's Wilderness World Heritage Area and offers spectacular scenery, and an award-winning visitor centre. It is at Lake St Clair that Tasmania's most iconic multi-day walk, the Overland Track, comes to an end.</i></p> <p><i>The atmosphere at Lake St Clair is moody and ethereal – there's an almost enchanted presence at this tranquil place. The Aboriginal name for Lake St Clair is leeawuleena, meaning 'sleeping water', and on still days you can truly appreciate the origins of this name.</i></p>	Derwent Bridge

	<p><i>The environment around Lake St Clair is among Tasmania's most spectacular. Deep glacial lakes are fringed by dense forests of ancient pines, and the high mountains provide a dramatic backdrop. Native wildlife is abundant in the area – Bennett's wallabies, pademelons, wombats, echidnas, quolls, and platypus.</i></p> <p><i>In addition to the experiences to be had upon the lake, visitors can explore numerous walking trails throughout the park. A range of short and longer tracks meander off through ancient rainforests to alpine lakes or mountain summits. Regardless of which route you choose, you'll find yourself submerged in Lake St Clair's lavish wilderness.</i></p> <p><i>Possible Walks: Short Walk Combo (1h30m), Platypus Bay Circuit (30m), Shadow and Forgotten Lakes Circuit (14km,4h), Shadow Lake and Mount Rufus (18.5km,7h), Overland-Cuvier Valley Circuit (5-6h), Echo Point to Cynthia Bay (ferry up lake then walk back,11.2km, 3h), Narcissus Hut to Cynthia Bay (ferry up lake and walk back, 16.2km,5h30m).</i></p>	
Day 18 Tuesday 12 March	Further walks in Cradle Mountain/Lake St Clair NP (South) (See above)	Derwent Bridge
THE SOUTHWEST		
Day 19 Wednesday 13 March	<p>Drive from Derwent Bridge to Mount Field Visitor Centre (125km,1h45m).</p> <p><i>The highway descends into the excellent farmland of the upper Derwent Valley. We then reach a turnoff to the village of National Park which is the entrance to Mount Field National Park. Declared in 1916, the park is famed for its mountain scenery, alpine moorlands, lakes, rainforest and abundant wildlife.</i></p> <p>Mount Field National Park</p> <p><i>Possible Walks:</i></p> <p>Russell Falls/ Tall Trees/Lady Barron Falls/ /Horseshoe Falls Circuit (6km,2.5h). <i>This classic walk takes in the sublime cascading 40m high Russell Falls. This continues on past Horseshoe Falls to Lady Barron Falls on the Tall Trees Circuit. This superb walk highlights the extremely tall eucalypt forest and other features of the park. There are short walks into some impressive forest.</i></p> <p>Russell Falls (1.2km,30m), Lake Webster-Tarn Shelf Loop (13.5km,5h30m), Tarn Shelf Circuit (15km,5-6h), Mount Bridges (3h30m), (30m), Pandani Grove (40m), Mount Crooke Loop (3h30m), Marriotts Falls (6km,2h), Lakes Belton and Belcher (4-5h), Mount Field East Circuit (10km,5h), Mt. Field West (16.5km,7h)</p> <p>*The nearby National Park village pub is a good place to have dinner before we head to our accommodation at Maydena (15km,15m).</p>	Maydena
Day 20 Thursday	Further walks in Mount Field National Park (see above)	Maydena

14 March		
Day 21 Friday 15 March	<p>Southwest National Park <i>Heading west to the village of Maydena are the signs to the tall forests of the Styx Valley. These very impressive old growth trees reach over 80m and have been and remain at risk of logging but small reserves have been set up and the whole region is at the forefront of the current timber conservation lobby.</i> <i>Possible Walks:</i> Junee Cave Track (1h), The Needles (3km,2h), Styx Big Tree Reserve (30m), Tolkien Track (3km,1.5h), Mt. Eliza (10km,5h), Lake Judd (14km,5h), Mt. Anne (14.6km,8h), Mt. Eliza and Mt. Anne (8-10h), Junction Creek (5h), Red Knoll Hill (1h), Creepy Crawley Nature Trail (30m). Option: Railtrack Riders Railway (own cost) Drive from Maydena to Hobart (85km,1h20m)</p>	Hobart
GRAND FINALE IN HOBART		
Day 22 Saturday 16 March	<p>Exploring Hobart (see also Day 1) Salamanca Place Market and downtown. <i>Saturday in Hobart means the Salamanca Markets – arguably the best and most interesting in all Australia. Head on down and enjoy the vibe. A great opportunity to buy your final mementos, gifts and souvenirs!</i> Farewell celebration dinner at “The Drunken Admiral” (subsidised)</p>	Hobart
Day 23 Sunday 17 March	<p>Trip concludes after breakfast. Fly home to New Zealand or to Melbourne for the Footsteps VICTORIA excursion (20 March – 6 April, 2024).</p>	
<p><i>Below you will find:</i> Booking Conditions Registration Form Waiver Form</p>		



Bay of Fires



The Nut at Stanley

FOOTSTEPS WALKING AND TRAVEL CLUB OF AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

TASMANIA: 24 February – 17 March 2024

Booking Conditions

1. Participants agree to all terms and conditions by signing the Registration Form.
2. All prospective participants on this trip must be vaccinated against Covid 19.
3. Phillip Donnell and *Footsteps Walking and Travel Club* are not responsible or liable for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may arise from weather, pandemic, defect in any vehicle, vessel or aircraft, or through the acts or default of any person or company engaged in carrying out any of the arrangements of the trip. Everyone participates entirely at their own risk. The separate waiver form must be completed.
4. We reserve the right to cancel the trip if minimum numbers don't eventuate. In such an event, all monies paid will be refunded. The minimum number for this trip is ten.
5. *Footsteps* reserves the right to make any modifications to the trip that may be necessary. The walks undertaken each day are determined by group consensus, but as far as possible we endeavour to meet your personal preferences.
6. The trip fee includes subsidisation of the leader/driver administrative and travel expenses, as well as a gift of appreciation/gratuity.
7. Registrations close on **30 November 2023**, or earlier if all the spaces are filled. The trip is currently viable in terms of minimum numbers and will proceed.
8. Registrations are accepted in good faith on a first comer's basis on receipt of the Registration Form and passport scan. A deposit of \$500 per person is paid at the time of registration. The balance of the trip fee is due to be paid by **31 December 2023**.
9. Our preferred method of payment is internet banking to Footsteps, Kiwibank 38-9002-0435674-03. Please write your surname and the name of the trip ("Tasmania") in the reference box.
10. Cancellations: If you need to cancel your registration for any reason, you must advise *Footsteps* in writing as soon as possible. An email is acceptable, a phone call alone is not. **IN THE EVENT OF CANCELLATION DUE TO THE PANDEMIC, YOU WILL RECEIVE A FULL REFUND.** Under *normal* circumstance, cancellations up to 60 days prior incur a 10% cancellation fee. For 60-30 days prior, 30% is deducted. For 30-15 days prior, 60% is deducted. After 14 days prior, there is no refund. If you find a suitable replacement person, the above cancellation fees **MAY** be waived.
11. Personal travel insurance is compulsory. It is recommended that this includes cover for travel plans being disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic. This is currently available via Air NZ and a range of other insurance companies.

A registration form is below...

***Footsteps Walking and Travel Club of Aotearoa New Zealand
Tasmania 2024: Trip Registration Form***

Complete and send this (along with a passport scan and the waiver form) to our postal address (see base of page) or scan and email. The deposit required is \$500 per person. Our preferred payment method is internet banking into Kiwibank 38-9002-0435674-03 (with covering email please, or your surname/name of trip in reference column).

Your full name(s) and please underline or highlight your preferred first name(s):

Postal Address:

Day/Night phone:

Mobile:

Email:

Date(s) of birth:

Are you comfortable in close contact with like-minded travellers with all the give and take needed for harmony? Please extend your answers overleaf or on separate paper, or by email.

Specify any dietary requirements, allergies or medical conditions

Contact person in NZ for any emergencies : name, address, contact phone numbers, email and the relationship to you. In the event of any emergency, this is the sole person you are authorizing us to liaise with

I/We have read the trip information and booking conditions. I / We enclose the deposit of \$500pp. I / We agree to pay the remainder of trip costs by the due date.

(signed and dated by each person registering)

Send (with passport scan and waiver form) to :

Footsteps, 3/B Te Arawa Place, Welcome Bay, Tauranga 3112.

Email: footstepsanz@gmail.com

FOOTSTEPS WALKING AND TRAVEL CLUB OF AOTEAROA / NEW ZEALAND

RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY FORM

PROVIDER: Footsteps Walking and Travel Club (Phillip John Donnell)("Footsteps")

PARTICIPANT:

("the Participant")

I, the Participant, release and forever discharge and hold harmless Footsteps from all and any liability, claims, demands and damages, of whatsoever kind or nature, whether foreseeable or otherwise, either at law or in equity, which arise or may arise from the services and activities provided and arranged by Footsteps.

I understand and acknowledge that this Release and Waiver discharges Footsteps from any liability or claim that I may have against Footsteps in respect of personal injury, illness, medical treatment, death, property loss or damage, and otherwise howsoever, resulting from the services and activities provided and arranged by Footsteps. I hereby waive all such rights and remedies.

I accept that I participate in the services and activities entirely at my own risk.

I acknowledge and accept that this Release and Waiver:

- (a) Extends to and covers all contractors, agents, volunteers and employees of Footsteps; and
- (b) Binds the executors, administrators, successors, attorneys and assigns of both parties.

Signed by the Participant:

Date: _____