



PLATINUM JOURNEYS

TASMANIA GRANDE

13 Days - Sunday 17th October to Friday 29th October 2021

A place of wild beauty, friendly people and haunting history evoked by world-famous convict ruins.



Day 1: HOME TO MELBOURNE Sun 17 Oct 21 (D)

Welcome to our wonderful tour to Tasmania. Our first day is a travel day. Read a good book, watch the scenery roll by the window or chat to your fellow travellers make our way into Melbourne for our welcome dinner. Lunch at own expense | dinner at hotel

Overnight: Canterbury International Hotel (PH: 03 9878 4111)

Day 2: MELBOURNE TO LAUNCESTON Mon 18 Oct 21 (BLD)

This morning we arrive in Launceston, Tasmania. First, we travel to Sheffield, a quirky, rural town at the foothills of the majestic Mount Roland, where history and art merge to create an entire town of murals. Once a centre for industry, the town has reinvented itself as an arts community and features more than 140 murals. We arrive at Mole Creek Caves, where we'll embark on a guided tour of Marakoopa Cave. Discover the lower chamber as we are dazzled by its sparkling crystals, reflection pool, stalactites and stalagmites. Take the time to listen to the music of underground streams and soak up the silence of abandoned river passages. Breakfast & dinner at hotel | lunch included

Overnight: Best Western Plus Launceston (PH: 03 6333 9999)



Day 3: LAUNCESTON Tue 19 Oct 21 (BLD)

Joining Tamar River Cruises, we explore the magical river onboard the Tamar Odyssey. We'll be captivated by the captains interesting commentary as we see Tamar Island, wildlife sanctuaries and historical properties while enjoying a delightful morning tea. Next, we stop at Longford to visit the historic Woolmers Estate where we enjoy lunch and a guided tour.

Woolmers Estate was settled by Thomas Archer in 1816 and is the oldest property in Australia to have been owned by one family. We spend our afternoon at leisure in Cataract Gorge Reserve, a rare natural phenomenon in central Launceston. The unique gorge, surrounded by cliffs and bushland features stunning wildlife, including resident peacocks, beautiful gardens and the world's longest single span chairlift (own expense). Breakfast & dinner at hotel | lunch included

Overnight: Best Western Plus Launceston (PH: 03 6333 9999)

Day 4: LAUNCESTON TO BICHENO Wed 20 Oct 21 (BLD)

Enjoy the clean air and open space of the world's largest privately-owned lavender farm, Bridestowe Estate. Watch the farm in action on a tour of the flower shed and distillery. Tasting a hint of lavender in our morning tea, we'll then have time to browse their extensive gift shop. Next, we veer off to a little place called Legerwood to see the incredible tree carving, honouring fallen soldiers of World War I. we stop for lunch at Pub in the Paddock before continuing down the coast to Bicheno. As the sun sets, we are given a fascinating insight into the Little Blue Penguins making their nightly journey to their burrows. After a short wait, the penguins will begin to swim to the surface, stand up and preen and waddle up the beach. Breakfast & dinner at hotel | lunch included

Overnight: Beachfront at Bicheno (PH: 03 6375 1111)

Day 5: BICHENO TO HOBART Thu 21 Oct 21 (BLD)

We travel to the seaside holiday village of Coles Bay. Sitting beneath stunning, sheer pink granite mountains and overlooking the crystal clean waters of Oyster Bay it's the ideal stop. We enter the Freycinet National Park and head to Cape Tourville Lighthouse to enjoy spectacular views across Lemon Rock and the Freycinet Peninsula. At the historic town of Richmond, where the streets are paved with history, we stop to capture the oldest bridge in Australia, the convict built, Richmond Bridge. Within the town, we stroll the pretty nineteenth century lanes before arriving in Hobart. Breakfast & dinner at hotel | lunch included

Overnight: Best Western Hobart (PH: 03 6232 6255)

Day 6: PORT ARTHUR Fri 22 Oct 21 (BD)

Today we stop to see some natural attractions on the Tasman Peninsula. We'll see the Blow Hole, Doo Town, famous for the villages quirky house names, the Tasman Arch and Devils Kitchen. Then we discover the unimaginable story of the Port Arthur Historic Site. The penal settlement has a special place of vivid history, cultural heritage and stories so compelling; you'll want to hear them again and again. It's a place where up to 12,000 prisoners were kept in an atmosphere of hopelessness and misery. Even though the Tasman Peninsula is spectacular, you can imagine the conditions, especially on a cold winter's day, endured by the prisoners 150 years ago. We take a fascination journey, retracing the life of convicts in the Visitor Interpretation Centre before a walking tour through the settlement and a harbour cruise. Breakfast & dinner at hotel | lunch at own expense

Overnight: Best Western Hobart (PH: 03 6232 6255)

Day 7: HOBART Sat 23 Oct 21 (BD)

Meeting our local guide, we'll discover the hidden gems of the waterfront capital, Hobart. Offering a contrasting blend of heritage, scenery and culture, the city oozes charm. We visit the Salamanca Markets, one of the most vibrant and loved outdoor markets. Take some time exploring the stalls and discovering the entertaining buskers. This afternoon is at leisure. Some may like to take the optional Peppermint Bay Cruise (additional expense), taking in the harbour and city views before cruising to the pristine waters of Peppermint Bay. Breakfast & dinner at hotel | lunch at own expense

Overnight: Best Western Hobart (PH: 03 6232 6255)

Day 8: HOBART TO QUEENSTOWN Sun 24 Oct 21 (BLD)

We farewell Hobart and begin our journey to the West Coast. We visit Russell Falls, arguably Tasmania's prettiest waterfall and one of the easiest to get to. Located in Mt Field National Park, Russell Falls forms as one of three falls that share the same watercourse. Wander through the mossy, deep green forest and watch the water cascading gently over multiple levels creating a unique and beautiful waterfall. We continue onto the geographical centre of Tasmania, Derwent Bridge. Here we view the Wall in the Wilderness. The beautifully carved works set out in relief sculpture depict the history, hardship and pay homage to the individuals who settled and protected the area. After lunch at the Wilderness Hotel, we drive through the pristine wilderness of the Franklin Gordon Wild Rivers National Park before arriving in the historic mining town of Queenstown. Breakfast & dinner at hotel | lunch included

Overnight: Comfort Inn Gold Rush Motor Inn, Queenstown (PH: 03 6471 1005)

Day 9: GORDON RIVER CRUISE Mon 25 Oct 21 (BLD)

Cruising down the iconic Gordon River is a must do when visiting Tasmania. Our cruise will bring the river and its rich history to life for an unforgettable experience. Cruising the scenic waterways, we'll listen to the intriguing stories of the region, passage through Hells Gates and step ashore Sarah Island to see some of Australia's oldest convict ruins. Breakfast & dinner at hotel | lunch included

Overnight: Comfort Inn Gold Rush Motor Inn, Queenstown (PH: 03 6471 1005)

Day 10: QUEENSTOWN TO CRADLE MOUNTAIN Tue 26 Oct 21 (BLD)

All aboard the West Coast Wilderness Railway for the spectacular Rack and Gorge Tour. Enjoy the steam train journey through remote rainforest to the incredible King River Gorge while listening to guides share stories of the determined and visionary people who carved out their fortunes in one of the most difficult and remote landscapes imaginable. A highlight will be seeing the loco being turned on the manual turntable at Dubbil Barril. Returning to Queenstown Station, we travel to Cradle Mountain. Breakfast & dinner at hotel | lunch included

Overnight: Cradle Mountain Hotel (PH: 03 6492 1404)

Day 11: CRADLE MOUNTAIN TO BURNIE Wed 27 Oct 21 (BLD)

Discover the rugged mountains, ancient rainforests and stunning scenery of Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park. Bring your camera as we travel to Dove Lake, a glacially carved lake directly beneath Cradle Mountain, this stop offers epic views of the iconic Cradle Mountain.

After the awe of viewing the area, we take a short drive to Waldheim chalet, the first accommodation in the area. At the interpretation centre, is a short boardwalk meandering through the pencil pines and myrtle rainforest. We'll be rewarded with views of the cascading waterfall, Pencil Pines Falls. After an early lunch, we travel to Burnie for our overnight's accommodation. Breakfast & dinner at hotel | lunch included

Overnight: Beachfront Voyager Motor Inn, Burnie (PH: 03 6431 4866)

Day 12: STANLEY & SPIRIT OF TASMANIA Thu 28 Oct 21 (BLD)

This morning we make our way to the Makers Workshop. This interesting facility celebrates the regions makers, innovators and artists. Here we'll experience an amazing paper making tour where we can learn how we use materials such as recycled denim jeans, natural plant fibres, apples and even kangaroo poo to make paper. We'll also have the opportunity to make our own sheet of paper before travelling to the historic town of Stanley. With its village atmosphere, small craft shops and historical houses, Stanley is the ideal spot from some free time. You may also like to take the chairlift to the summit of the Nut (own expense). We continue onto Emu Valley Rhododendron Gardens, where we have time to wander the gardens and enjoy the tranquillity of this lush environment. We continue to Devonport for our overnight sailing onboard the Spirit of Tasmania. Fall asleep to the light rock of the waves and sound of the soothing ocean as we cross the Bass Strait. Breakfast at hotel | lunch included | dinner onboard

Overnight: Spirit of Tasmania (PH: 1800 634 906)

Day 13: MELBOURNE TO HOME Fri 29 Oct 21 (B)

Up at sparrows call this morning as have an early breakfast after disembarking the Spirit of Tasmania. We continue our journey home, stopping for convenience breaks and time to purchase lunch. What a wonderful adventure we've had, exploring the wild and wonderful Tasmania. Breakfast included | lunch at own expense.

Ex-Bega Valley

Twin/Double per person \$6645.00 Solo Traveller \$7895.00

Ex-Melbourne or connect from home port

Twin/Double \$6495.00 per person Solo Traveller \$7695.00

Tour cost based on a minimum of 14 passengers.



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(B) Breakfast. (L) Lunch. (D) Dinner. Alterations to the itinerary may occur – a final confirmed itinerary will be provided with your travel documentation approximately 3 weeks prior to departure.

TOUR COST INCLUDES:

Air conditioned, restroom equipped vehicle travel with experienced crew
One way travel aboard Spirit of Tasmania
Twin share accommodation with ensuite facilities
Meals as per the itinerary
All entry fees to sightseeing activities as listed in the itinerary

TOUR COST DOES NOT INCLUDE:

Airfare from Melbourne to Launceston at the start of the tour
Travel insurance – please enquire for a quote or to purchase a policy
Items of a personal nature eg laundry/phone and any optional extras/trips
Alcoholic & non-alcoholic beverages plus meals not listed in the itinerary

CONDITIONS OF BOOKING

All bookings must be accompanied by a deposit of \$600.00 per person
The balance and final payment must be received 90 days prior to departure.

CANCELLATION POLICY

More than 90 days notice : full refund less \$600.00 deposit
90 - 60 days before tour : 50% refund
Less than 60 days: no refund

ALTERNATIVE CREDIT OPTION

For cancellations with more than 30 days notice
75% credit towards a future tour

Platinum Journeys strongly recommend all passengers take out travel insurance at the time of booking, in case of unexpected illness or accident