

Australia: Tasmania Itinerary

[Link: Australia: Tasmania](#)

Tour Overview

Tasmania encompasses a wide variety of habitats and climates. The Victorian countryside seems reassuringly familiar due to two centuries of European settlement, but wildlife is specifically Australian. Large flocks of exotic parrots feed on the highway verges and multicolored fairy-wrens and honeyeaters fill the woods, while kangaroos graze in the paddocks. Tasmania holds many endemics, among them some fascinating birds, even flightless ones such as the Tasmanian Native Hen.

Itinerary

Day 1: Hobart and Mt. Wellington



Our Tasmania birding tour begins after lunch. After meeting, we will visit Mt. Wellington and other birding spots near Hobart. Overnight Hobart.

Day 2: Mt. Field National Park



Today we will travel to Mt. Field National Park, which offers spectacular scenery and pristine forests, looking for birds and other wildlife along the way. This park is also part of the UNESCO World Heritage Area and the vast Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area. We will enjoy several short walks in the park and keep an eye out for platypus before we take a ferry to Bruny Island. Night on Bruny Island.

Days 3 and 4: Bruny Island



All twelve of Tasmania's endemic species are found on Bruny: Tasmanian Native-hen, Green Rosella, Dusky Robin, Tasmanian Thornbill, Forty-spotted Pardalote, Tasmanian Scrubwren, Scrub-Tit, Yellow Wattlebird, Black Currawong, Strong-billed Honeyeater, Black-headed Honeyeater, and Yellow-throated Honeyeater. We'll spend two full days birding on the island targeting the endemics and the non-endemics that are more abundant on Tasmania than on the mainland, including Hooded Plover, Brush Bronzewing, Swift Parrot, Flame and Pink Robins, Crescent Honeyeater, and the Forest Raven, Tasmania's only Corvid. Along the coast we should see Fairy Penguins, Black-faced Cormorants Short-tailed Shearwaters, and other seabirds. We will attempt to schedule a visit to the Inala Reserve where we have a good chance of seeing Forty-spotted Pardalote. At night we will spotlight for marsupials including Bennett's Wallaby, Tasmanian Pademelon, Long-nosed Potoroo, and Eastern Quoll. Overnights on Bruny Island.

Day 5: Bruny Island - Hobart



We will return to Hobart, stopping at Peter Murrell Reserve to search for any species we may have missed. Today is the final day of the tour. Participants can opt to stay in Hobart and fly home the next day or take an afternoon flight to Sydney and fly home from there the following day. Participants should book their flights after 3 pm today if they choose to depart today. You can also extend your visit and take an optional flight to the wild southwest corner of Tasmania in search of Orange-bellied Parrots. This is the most reliable site for this species and there is also a chance of encountering Ground Parrot, Black Currawong and Southern Emu-Wren. The flight is weather dependent and is at an additional cost.

What to Expect

Overview

The Tasmania tour is a moderately paced birding tour. There will be several early mornings, and most of the day will be spent out in the field.

Food

We will have breakfast at the hotel in Hobart, or at a local spot close to our accommodation in Bruny Island, before we head out for the day. Sometimes we will have optional pre-breakfast walks. Lunch will be a picnic out in the field. Dinner is usually at the lodge or a nearby restaurant. Each evening after dinner we compile the day's checklist, review the day's activities, birds, mammals and other observations, and discuss the next day's activities.

Accommodation

Generally we stay in comfortable hotels.

Walking

This tour involves easy to moderate walking and hiking, as well as short forays away from the van. There are several walks between 2 - 3 kms (up to 2 miles) which we take at a gentle pace.

Driving

Most days have a small to moderate amount of driving. There will be two longer drives, but we make several stops along the way.

Climate

It is likely to be cool in Tasmania, especially on Bruny Island, around 15-17°C (59-63°F), and nights can be cold with lows of 7°C (44°F). Warm clothing is recommended and rain is possible at any time. Wet weather protection is recommended with light waterproof pants and jacket ideal. The sun can be intense, so sunscreen and a brimmed hat are advised.

Boat Trips

Our itinerary includes ferry rides to and from Bruny Island. The ferry takes about 20 minutes between Hobart and Bruny Island. You can get out of the vehicle to stretch your legs, take photos, or use the restroom. It's a short trip so there is no food on the ferry.

We also take a boat trip around Bruny Island that is about 3-hours long. The boat is comfortable and it is semi-covered. There is a toilet on the vessel, and ample toilet facilities in the visitor center.

What's Included

Tour Price Includes

- Tour price includes 10% Australian GST
- All accommodations
- All meals included
- Ferry trips included
- One guide and vehicle with 4 - 8 participants, two guides and vehicles with 9 - 12 participants
- All park, conservation, entrance fees

Tour Price Does Not Include

- Travel to and from start/end location
 - Travel Insurance
 - Items of a personal nature
 - Optional flight to SW Tasmania in search of Orange-bellied Parrots
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