

SCHOOL TASMANIA TOUR

Prose Itinerary

Day 1: School – Melbourne ~ Spirit of Tasmania ~ Bass Strait



Did you know Tasmanian devils once lived on mainland Australia 600 years ago? Did you know the first parking meters in Australia were installed in Collins Street, Hobart in 1955? And did you know the first telephone call in Australia was made in Tasmania between Launceston and Campbell Town? Discover many more interesting facts on your tour of Tasmania. Depart school at 8.00am to arrive in Melbourne at 3.00pm for an early dinner before boarding the Spirit of Tasmania

for the overnight cruise to Devonport departing at 7.30pm. Explore the vessel or relax in your multi-share cabin with private facilities.

Day 2: Sheffield ~ Cradle Mountain ~ Port Sorell

BLD

Rise and shine!! Welcome to Tasmania. Disembark in Devonport about 6am. and board the coaches with the first port of call being breakfast. Travel through fertile farmland to Sheffield – the town of murals where close to 50 life-like paintings decorate shops and buildings. Our next stop is the famous Cradle Mountain National Park and a walk around the picturesque Dove Lake. Join a ranger guided tour discovering the unique flora and fauna, history and challenges that makes this World Heritage Park what it is today. Travel back to the north coast to the port town of Burnie, the site of the now closed paper milling industry before traveling to the coastal township of Port Sorell.



Day 3: Midlands Highway ~ Tasman Peninsula ~ Port Arthur ~ Ghost Tour

BLD



Turning south today travel down the historic Midland Highway passing through Campbell Town and onto the Tasman Peninsula and onto the Port Arthur. Between 1830 and 1877 about 12,500 convicts were transported and imprisoned at Port Arthur. Punishment was severe and many tried to escape. Discover more about the site and its history on the guided walking tour. Cruise the harbour on a luxury catamaran and learn about ship building at Port Arthur, the boy's prison of Point Puer and the Isle of the Dead. Check in into your accommodation for the night. Return

to the historical site for dinner and a spooky night time Ghost Tour.



Day 4: Eco Cruise ~ Tasmanian Devil ~ Hobart**BLD**

Today we join the world class 3 hour eco-adventure cruise that travels along the spectacular coastline of the Tasman National Park between Port Arthur and Eaglehawk Neck, southern Tasmania. See Tasman Island, a great landmark of the Southern Ocean – its slender white lighthouse is still a beacon for seafarers entering Storm Bay including during the famous annual Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race. Few places on Earth have such a rich variety of marine wildlife and seabirds. The Continental Shelf runs close to Tasman Island and an

up welling of nutrient from the ocean's depths creates a smorgasbord for all the creatures in the complex food chain of the sea, from plankton and birdlife such as albatross to sharks, dolphins and southern right whales. Ever been face to face with a ferocious Tasmanian devil? Today you get a chance with a visit to the Tasmanian Devil Conservation Park. Watch out - Tasmanian devils have such strong jaws they can bite as hard as a dog four-times their size. Tour beside Norfolk and Frederick Henry Bays back to Hobart, Tasmania's vibrant capital city where you will be staying for the next two nights.

**Day 5: Cadburys ~ Huon Peninsula ~ Tahune Airwalk ~ Putt Putt Golf****BLD**

Travel to Cadburys Chocolate Factory for an instructional video of how they make that great Cadbury's taste. Sample the sweet delights followed by opportunity to purchase at the Chocolate Shop. Heading south west from Hobart, tour the apple orchards and fruit growing regions of the Huon Valley, passing through Huonville, Franklin, and Geeveston to Tasmania's southern eucalypt and Huon pine forests. A major attraction has been established in the Tahune State Forest at the junction of the Picton and Huon Rivers. Explore the Visitor Centre and take a breathtaking walk high amongst the canopy at the Tahune Forest Airwalk. Visit the Forest & Heritage

Centre at Geeveston before returning to Hobart via Kingston and the bay side suburbs of Taroona and Sandy Bay. After dinner, tonight's entertainment is a chance to improving your golf handicap at the nearby 18 hole Adventure Mini Golf Centre.

Day 6: Salamanca Markets ~ Cataract Gorge ~ Spirit of Tasmania**BLD**

Saturday morning in Hobart means the Salamanca open-air market! – Join the bustle and buskers, colour and excitement as you explore the many and varied stalls for treasures and bargains. Travel north this morning to Ross and its enigmatic Herbert Archer Bridge. Travel to the City of Launceston and its famous Cataract Gorge. Enjoy time exploring this natural phenomenon located in the heart of Launceston. If you are feeling brave you may choose to ride the world's longest single-span chairlift at Cataract Gorge (included in the tour) returning by the gorge's suspension bridge. Return to Devonport for a BBQ dinner before settling back into your cabins on the Spirit of Tasmania for your crossing of the Bass Strait back to the mainland.

**Day 7: Station Pier ~ Port Melbourne ~ Home**

Sadly your island adventure ends today when you step off the ferry in Port Melbourne. It's back to school on Monday but we hope you enjoyed your trip to Tasmania. Have a safe journey home.