

The Four Day Great Eastern Drive

Tour Code: GED4

Pickup: 8am, day one - Hobart Accommodation/Hobart Airport

Drop off: Approx. 2pm, day four – Launceston Accommodation

Inclusions: Private knowledgeable guide, travel in luxury air-conditioned vehicle, morning tea on days one and two, lunch daily, return ferry to and from Maria Island, one night's accommodation at Twamley Farm on day one, three hour twilight cruise, 30-minute scenic helicopter flight, one night's accommodation at Piermont on day two, one night's accommodation at ArtHouse Freycinet on day three, three hour bay of fires cruise and comprehensive commentary.

Day One

Your private guide will meet you at your accommodation this morning to begin your four-day adventure along the Great Eastern Drive, finishing in Launceston. Our first destination is Maria Island, a stunning National Park affluent in local wildlife, astonishing scenery, and world heritage convict history.

Departing Hobart, we travel inland through the historic township of Richmond, showcasing its elegant Georgian architecture and beautiful heritage buildings. We cross the Richmond Bridge as your guide explains the history of this convict built landmark, before continuing your journey to Triabunna. Here we will enjoy morning tea at one of the many cafes in this scenic port side town, before boarding the ferry for the 45-minute journey to the striking Maria Island.

Arriving on Maria Island, enjoy a moderate walk around the Island. Explore the beautiful Painted Cliffs, the dramatic fossil cliffs and the remarkable Darlington World Heritage convict site. The walk takes you through a variety of spectacular woodlands and forests with rare endemic birds, wallabies and wombats on show.

Continuing-on, we make our way to the dramatic sea cliffs of Fossil Bay and then head down to the remarkable fossils at Fossil Cliffs. You will have the opportunity for a picnic style lunch with your guide along the way. Arriving back at Darlington we board our ferry for our journey back to the mainland before continuing to our accommodation for the evening, Twamley Farm. A unique 1840s converted stable. The Stable is a beautifully renovated two storey sandstone building overlooking the hills of Twamley Farm and nestled underneath the canopy of century old English oaks.



Day Two

This morning we depart after breakfast and head north towards Freycinet National Park. On the way we stop to at Spiky Bridge, an old convict coach road that connected Swansea with Little Swanport and the east coast road to Hobart. Built by convicts in 1843, this bridge abruptly pops out of the landscape to baffle passers-by with its odd design. The bridge was made from field stones laid without mortar or cement and the parapet features field stones laid vertically, giving the bridge a spiky appearance. It sits on the western side of the highway opposite the beaches of Great Oyster Bay. Across the Bay are stunning views to the mountains of Freycinet National Park, a great photo opportunity.

Next, we stop for morning tea at Kates' Berry Farm. During the picking season, from November to May, punnets of freshly picked berries, dripping with deep red juice are available for purchase.

We reboard the vehicle and make our way into the town of Swansea, one of Tasmania's oldest towns. We take time to enjoy the scenic walk around the Loontitetermairrehoiner track, or to give it its English name, Waterloo Point. This was the site of the first settlement and military garrison in Swansea and offers spectacular views across the bay to The Hazards, Schouten Island and Freycinet Peninsula.

Afterwards, we enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before making our way to your accommodation to check in and freshen up before your twilight sail of Freycinet! Sail out into Great Oyster Bay in the late afternoon - the best time to catch the changing colours and shadows on the majestic Hazards. Includes champagne/beer/wine and a premier Tasmanian cheese platter.

Tonight, you will stay Piermont, a small community of sustainably built lodgings and a 180-year-old Homestead which effortlessly coexist with nature, providing a comfortable sense of home in the wild. Framed by wild forest and cradled by a glimmering bay, Piermont is a sanctuary of understated luxury.



Day Three

After breakfast we make our way to Friendly Beaches airport and board your helicopter for a scenic 30-minute flight over Wineglass Bay. Enjoy spectacular views and photo opportunities as you fly over the Freycinet Peninsula.

We reboard the vehicle and make our way further north, passing through the beautiful Tasmanian countryside. Shortly after we arrive at Devils Corner Cellar for a private wine tasting and if the cellar door does not impress you, the view from the look-out certainly will.

We enjoy a short drive to the town of Bicheno for lunch and visit to the Bicheno Blowhole. But once you are close - approach with caution! If the ocean swell is big enough, water can shoot 20 metres in the air.

Afterwards we will check into your accommodation for the evening, The ArtHouse, 50 steps from the secluded northern end of Binalong Bay. Set in a private natural wonderland, Arthouse is a fusion of nature and art resulting in an individual space that inspires and restores the mind, body and spirit.

Just before dusk your guide will collect you from your hotel and transfer you to a secluded location on the beach where you will witness the little fairy (or Little Blue) penguins waddle up the beach to their burrows. Accompanied by your very own local guide you can view these remarkable birds up close and undisturbed in their own environment! An educational and exciting wildlife experience.





AUSTRALIAN LUXURY ESCAPES
Small group & private touring

Day Four

The Bay of Fires is a place of stunning and unique natural beauty, from the orange covered rocks and turquoise waters to the densely forested mountain ranges. This morning we enjoy a three-hour cruise which takes you to the northern most point of the Bay of Fires, travelling past the conservation area to the Mount William National Park and the lighthouse reserve at Eddystone Point. Enjoy a light snack as you drift below the light and hear about its history. From here you can see the southern islands of the Furneaux Group.

Afterwards we enjoy a light lunch before heading inland to Launceston. We pass through quaint towns and drive by gorgeous forests before arriving in Launceston early afternoon.

