



ACADEMY  
TRAVEL

TAILORED  
SMALL GROUP  
JOURNEYS

# TASMANIA

History, Art & Landscape

## Overview

Tasmania has a distinctive history, culture and landscape which makes it quite different from Australia's other states and territories. This tour offers a unique itinerary which combines the island's well-known attractions with sites of particular interest to travellers with a strong interest in history and the arts. Staying in Launceston, Freycinet and Hobart, with day trips to surrounding areas, we visit historic homes and gardens and travel through stunning landscapes. Art lovers are well catered for, with an in-depth look at colonial artist John Glover and a visit to the renowned Museum of Old and New Art (Mona) on the Derwent River near Hobart.

Tasmania has enjoyed a boom in tourism in recent years, and today enjoys an international reputation for its pristine environment, vibrant arts scene and fine food and wine.

## Tour leader

**Dr Anna Lebovic** is an historian and educator, with a doctorate on the history of America's pre-eminent fashion magazine, *Vogue*. Anna has a strong personal interest in literature, the arts and food (the good things in life!), and a particular expertise in the history of fashion.

## Essential information

### Tour dates:

February 25 – March 4, 2022

Price per person: \$4,995

Supplement for sole use of  
double room: \$1,090

Maximum number in group: 16

Start: 2.00pm, February 25, Hotel  
lobby

Finish: c2.15pm March 4, Hobart  
Airport

### Fitness level

★ Good overall fitness required

## Itinerary

Launceston (3 nights), Freycinet (1  
night), Hobart (3 nights)

## Further information and bookings

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## Highlights

### Historic Properties

Tasmania has some fine Georgian and 19th-century properties. We visit the National Trust listed Clarendon, Australia's grandest rural colonial estate at Evandale, historic Pilot's Row and the lighthouse at Low Head and artist John Glover's estate at Patterdale.

### Colonial & Contemporary Art

Explore the life and work of Australia's finest colonial artist, John Glover, at the Queen Victoria Art Museum and Gallery and at Patterdale Farm in and around Launceston. In Hobart, see the various collections at the Tasmania Museum and Gallery, dating from its establishment in 1848.

### The Freycinet Peninsula

The stunning granite cliffs of the Peninsula, pristine beaches and abundant fauna make this a sightseeing highlight.

### Port Arthur

Port Arthur, a World Heritage site that functioned as a 'panopticon' style convict prison from 1833 until 1853. It is a remarkably well preserved site, and the beauty of the setting belies the tragic events that took place there.

## Detailed itinerary

### Friday 25 February – Arrive into Launceston

Group members should arrange to arrive into Launceston by midday, making their own way to the hotel. We meet in the hotel lounge in the early afternoon to make our introductions. We then travel to *Clarendon*, the National Trust listed three-storey Georgian colonial estate of James Cox, built in 1838 using convict labour. After a guided tour of the estate, we return to Launceston, where we have time to settle in to the hotel before our welcome dinner at *Stillwater*, an excellent restaurant in a historic former mill overlooking the junction of the Tamar and South Esk Rivers. Overnight Launceston. [D]

### Saturday 26 February – John Glover

Our tour today focuses on the art and life of John Glover. We begin with a guided visit to the Queen Victoria Art Gallery with its unique collections of colonial fine and decorative arts from Tasmania. We then visit the historic town of Evandale. In the afternoon, we call in at Nile Farm, once the estate of artist John Glover. Current owner Carol Westmore shows us the restoration work they have been undertaking. Returning to Launceston, the evening is at leisure. Overnight Launceston. [B]

### Sunday 27 February – The Tamar Valley

We spend the day enjoying northern Tasmania's history and scenery. This morning we travel up the eastern shore of the Tamar River to George Town, where we visit the Bass and Flinders Museum, which documents these explorers' 1798 circumnavigation of Tasmania. We continue north to the mouth of the Tamar River and visit Low Head Pilot Station Maritime Museum and lighthouse. Dating from 1805, the Pilot and Signal Station has run continuously since 1833 and is the oldest in Australia. Before returning to Launceston this afternoon we stop for a wine tasting at a local winery. Overnight Launceston. [B]

### Monday 28 February – The Midlands and Freycinet

Departing Launceston, we head south to explore Ross, one of the best preserved colonial towns in Australia, with buildings mainly from the 1830s and 40s including a 'female factory' for female convicts. We also visit Campbell Town where there is free time to explore the Convict Brick Trail down the high street. We then head to the east coast, where some of Tasmania's finest coastal scenery is to be enjoyed. We spend the night at Coles Bay, with fine views across Great Oyster Bay. Overnight Freycinet. [B, D]

### Tuesday 1 March – Wineglass Bay Cruise

Today we enjoy a four-hour cruise from Coles Bay to Wineglass Bay, admiring the dramatic scenery of the Freycinet Peninsula and learning about local history, flora

## Hotels

### **The Sebel Launceston**

(3 nights)

An elegant boutique-style apartment hotel located in the city centre and central to most of Launceston's main attractions.

### **Freycinet Lodge, Coles Bay**

(1 night)

This four-star lodge has well-appointed cabins and fine views across Great Oyster Bay.

### **The Lenna Hotel, Hobart**

(3 nights)

Built in 1874, this sandstone mansion is classified by the National Trust. It is close to Hobart's CBD, Salamanca Place and historic Battery Point.

## Weather

Late February in Tasmania sees long days and mild temperatures of 10-20's, with below average rainfall. Tasmania's weather is always highly variable and we have a day on the water, so you should pack a waterproof jacket.

and fauna from our on-board guide. The cruise includes fresh oysters, lunch prepared by Freycinet Lodge and a sampling of east coast wines. We continue to Hobart, arriving in the early evening. Overnight Hobart. (B, L)

### **Wednesday 2 March – Port Arthur**

This morning we travel to the Tasman Peninsula, about two hours south east of Hobart. We spend much of the time at Port Arthur, a World Heritage site that functioned as a 'panopticon' style convict prison from 1833 until 1853. It is a remarkably well preserved site, and the beauty of the setting belies the tragic events that took place there. We have an introductory guided walking tour including the museum and a cruise on the harbour. There is time after lunch to explore some of the 30 buildings, ruins and restored homes set on the 40 hectares of landscaped grounds. Overnight Hobart. (B, L)

### **Thursday 3 March - Huon Valley and TMAG**

We depart early this morning and head south of Hobart to the fine scenery of the Huon Valley. Agricultural land gives way to the rainforest of Tasmania's southwest wilderness region. We walk the Tahune Airwalk for breathtaking views over heritage-listed forests and the Huon and Picton Rivers. We enjoy lunch at Home Hill Winery, which produces some of Australia's finest pinot noir. Returning to Hobart we visit the Tasmanian Museum and Gallery, to view the excellent collection of colonial art. The pieces exhibited in the museum have their origins in the Royal Society of Tasmania, established in 1843 and Australia's oldest scientific society. Overnight Hobart. (B, L)

### **Friday 4 March – Mona - Departure**

This morning, we travel up the Derwent to visit Mona, David Walsh's idiosyncratic museum, which has quickly gained international recognition for its approach to the display of art. After lunch at *The Source*, the restaurant above Mona led by the acclaimed chef Philippe Leban, we explore the galleries, some of which are cut deep into the rock. We head to the airport in the mid-afternoon for return flights to east coast cities. (B, L)