

WALKING TOURS TASMANIA

www.walkingtourstasmania.com

Click the above link to be taken to our new web site.

Our **Walking Holidays** range from one day to eight days and are tailored to suit individuals who are looking for a walking holiday that does not require the carrying of heavy packs, provides knowledgeable & experienced guides and on multi-day walks provides comfortable overnight accommodation & first class dining. All our groups are small, maximum eight clients & our walks range from personally selected **Day Walks** within National Parks & other places of special interest or outstanding natural beauty, to our themed **Multi-Day Walking Holiday** that takes place mainly on private property exploring many areas of Tasmania that the average traveller does not normally see.

Tasmania is a place of dramatic contrasts; There are the craggy mountain peaks of the highlands with a myriad of sparkling lakes & tarns, the lush rainforests of the west coast, the wild wilderness of the south west, the rolling hills & grassy sun drenched plains of the midlands to the pristine white sand beaches, lofty cliffs and pink granite seascape of the east coast. Tasmania has it all and these many environments are often experienced within just a few hours of travel from cities such as Hobart & Launceston.

The concept behind our walking tours:

As a bushwalker and in my roll as an outdoor education teacher I have walked & conducted guided walks in many of Tasmania's wilderness areas which although very beautiful, due to their natural remoteness and often off of formed tracks require one to carry all ones clothing, food & camping equipment. These places have there place and there are very successful and well run companies that can take you to these places. However, for the most part one needs to be very fit, reasonably strong and have both the desire and ability to carry what can be a fairly heavy pack. If this is what you want we can certainly recommend some other companies.

For the most part, in my experience, there are very many people both young and older who still want to experience remote and beautiful places but do not want to carry a heavy load or cope with unpredictable and sometimes severe weather of highland wilderness areas and it is to you that our walks are designed for.

For some years I have marvelled at the lofty hills & plains stretching seemingly into infinity in the midlands & have often poured over maps of some of Tasmania's coastal regions where, be it not for the fact that nearly all these areas are on private land, I would so much like to explore. Upon further investigation and in meeting and talking with many land owners I soon discovered that provided one asks permission and are prepared to take great care & respect their property they are generally more than willing to share these hidden gems be it remote sandy beaches, rolling hills, historic houses and more with other people. Far from selfishly locking them up, these hard working farming families highly value what they are custodians of and spend there own hard earned money on establishing conservation areas and protecting these areas from the

unscrupulous who would only wish to despoil these place with rubbish, and thoughtlessly sited camp sites. In some respects being private has given them a better level of protection and preservation than a National Park.

For the many parts of our walks that we undertake on private land we do so not to exploit the owners but as much as possible to work in partnership with them utilising their knowledge of the land, local history, flora & fauna as occasional “Guest Guides” for part of a walk and even in some cases utilising bed & breakfast facilities that some properties are able to offer.

To visit these hidden places is indeed a privilege and due to this generosity this then is where many of our walking tours will go.

The Walks

As you can imagine it takes hours of work tracing land owners, writing letters and eventually having a meeting to discuss the possibility of gaining access across a property. As such, our program of walks is still being developed and at present offers the following for 2011/12

Name of Tour	Location	Duration	Departure Dates	Closing Date	Cost
Abel Tasman's Discovery	Tasmania's South East & Central East Coast. Holiday departs from Hobart.	Eight Days, including one day exploring Port Arthur & surrounding area.	AT1. Sunday 12th to Saturday 19th June.	20 th May 2011	\$2850.00
			AT2. Sunday 9th to Sunday 16th October.	10 th August 2011.	\$2850.00
			AT3. Sunday 6th to Sunday 13th November.	7 th September 2011	\$2850.00
			2012 Dates AT4. Sunday 24th March to Sunday 1st April.	25 th January 2012	\$2900.00
Convicts, Craftsman &	Tasmania's northern	Five Days	To be advised		

Wool.	midlands. Holiday departs from Launceston.				
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IMPORTANT NOTE: AT1 is our inaugural walk and first preference for places on this walk is to past clients of **Outdoor Recreational Transport**. Please feel free to apply for this program, but we will only offer places on this tour after the closing date for our past clients, being Sunday 15th May.

The closing date for applications for all other holidays is 60 days prior to departure. In the unlikely event that we do not receive sufficient numbers to run a particular holiday, we will advise you. In these cases we will make a full refund of any monies paid or if you prefer offer you another departure date

For a full description of each walking holiday including cost please see the relevant page or [click](#) on the Tour Name.

Bookings & Enquiries

If you wish to make further enquiries or make a booking please complete the “Adventure Activities” Preliminary booking/enquiry form on our web site: www.outdoortasmania.com and we will send you the relevant booking form & further information.

Future Walking Tours

At present we are still actively working on a number walking tours & endeavouring as much as possible to cover as many natural Tasmanian environmental & climatic zones as possible. In the autumn of 2012 we hope to launch our next multi-day walking tour set in the historic Midlands of Tasmania.

For the future we hope to cover areas such as the Derwent Valley, the West Coast & the Highland Lake Country.

GUIDED WALKING TOURS

(Day Based)

We have a range of one day walking tours that are ex-Launceston (we pick you up from your guest house/hotel accommodation & return at the conclusion of the tour). As most of these tours involve return travel times of up to two hours departures are usually early morning & not returning until early evening. Each tour below gives our departure time & return. In addition we can customise a walk to suit your groups experience & the prevailing/likely weather forecast.

Short Tours (Travel time usually no more than one two hours return)

Ben Lomond National Park.

Grade: Medium.

Depart Launceston 0830. Return 1700 hours.

A relatively easy walk on a good track. Some climbing is involved to gain the plateau & there is an option of some off track sections for those that would like to. Depending on prevailing weather conditions there is the opportunity to climb Legges Tor (1572m) the second highest point in Tasmania. In order to undertake this as a circuit walk it is well worth returning to the start point via Jacobs Ladder, the route that the road takes to the ski village. There are some spectacular views and quite an experience to follow this route down the mountain via numerous hairpin bends, with emotive names such as hanging corner.

The walking distance is approximately 12 km & including stops for snacks and lunch takes approximately six hours.

Price : This is based on the number of participants. Min: 4 persons **\$90.00** 5 persons **\$85.00** 6 & over **\$70.00 each**. The price includes morning tea & a light packed lunch.

Liffy Falls

Grade: Easy

Depart Launceston 0830. Return 1530 hours.

An easy walk of moderate gradient through Mrytle Beech Forest, Sasafra & hundreds of Ferns. In early summer there are fox gloves. The falls comprise of several cascades with interesting rock features. This is an extremely pretty walk & is usually completed by retracing the route back to the start.

The walking distance is approximately 8 km. With a break for lunch at the falls the walk takes approximately 4 hours.

Price : Min 4 persons **\$80.00** each; 5 persons **\$70.00.00** each; 6 & over **\$65.00** each.
The price includes morning tea & a light lunch.

Lady Lake via the Higgs Track

Grade: Medium.

Depart Launceston 0830. Return 1730 hours.

A walk of moderate gradient, with some short steep sections through forest comprising myrtles, sassafras & ferns. In good weather there are fantastic views of the Western Creek area & beyond. After reaching the top of the plateau one is greeted with a grassy alpine area near Lady Lake. There is a fine sturdy hut and is a delightful place for lunch. The route is retraced back to our vehicle.

The walking distance is approximately 8 km. With a generous break for lunch & to enjoy the views the walk takes approximately 6 hours. This walk is weather dependant.

Price : This is based on the number of participants. Min: 4 persons **\$90.00** 5 persons **\$75.00** 6 & over **\$70.00 each**. The price includes morning tea & a light packed lunch.

Drys Bluff

Grade: Hard

Departs Launceston at 0800. Return 1800.

Although this is a hard day walk with many steep sections it is one of my favourite walks in the area. The route to the summit traverses dry forest, myrtles & sassafras, includes 2 small waterfalls, a creek, a short boulder field & an interesting steep section close to the top (where a guide is almost essential for safety). The route also passes through a spectacular section of Sandstone Cliffs, which are known for providing a nesting area for Peregrine Falcons. A head for heights is essential due to the final section giving the feeling of exposure. Your guide will carry a hand line to ensure safety. This section is very short, but makes for a very stimulating and exciting finish. The views from the top of Drys Bluff are stunning and well worth the effort.

The walking distance is approximately 6 km. Fitness & some walking experience is essential for this walk. We climb a total of 1000 metres. As we proceed at a pace that is sustainable over this uphill climb with breaks on the way up & a generous lunch period at the top, this walk takes approximately 7 to 8 hours. This walk is weather dependant.

Price: Min 4 persons **\$95.00** each; 5 persons **\$80.00** each; 6 & over **\$70.00** each.
The price includes morning tea, snacks & a light lunch.

Walking Times: All times are approximate & are subject to individual fitness levels, weather, road & track conditions.

All these walks are on an “on demand basis” & subject to minimum numbers

All walks are ex-Launceston

OUTDOOR TASMANIA

Pen Picture of who we are

Outdoor Tasmania is the name of our website & represents collectively what we are about. **Outdoor Recreational Transport** was started about five years ago and is descriptive of our private charter service for bush walkers wanting access to many of the main walking tracks in the Tasmania Highlands & other National Parks. **Outdoor Educational Services** has been in existence for about fifteen years & its primary function is to offer an outdoor educational facilitation service for schools & youth organisations, **Walking Tours Tasmania** is descriptive of what this part of our business is about. Many of our unique walking holidays are still under development.

Our walking program is fairly new and has come about partly due to requests from some interstate & overseas visitors to be taken on guided day walks and my own desire to indulge my passion for walking, particularly when walks include flora, fauna, history & human activity, be it long forgotten mining sites to our convict past with its legacy of some fine buildings and other structures that are still prominent in the Tasmanian landscape today.

Originally from the UK, both Bridget my wife & I have now lived and worked in Tasmania for over 40 years. My wife has worked in the State Library Service in Launceston for many years. As well as being mother to our two (now adult children) Bridget has always been in the background supporting me & keeping me on the straight & narrow. I have always been involved in some way with Outdoor Education, from running my first commercial outdoor programs for the general public in the early 80's, Adult Education classes in Bush Walking & Navigation, involvement in the Emergency Services with the SES to my present business providing transport for bush walkers as well as running school programs. I have spent a number of years teaching outdoor education in schools, initially with Launceston Church Grammar in the early 90's and currently on a contract basis for Scotch Oakburn College.

The concept behind these walking holidays is to guide small groups of interested individuals through scenically attractive rural & coastal areas of lowland Tasmania, visiting & sometimes stopping at places & properties of both historic and cultural interest. Outdoor Tasmania will try and engage as many local people as possible to act as interpretive guides who can provide dialogue on local history, wildlife, flora, farming and other rural industries.

These holidays will, we feel, be attractive to the more mature age groups 40 + who want an active, interesting holiday that stimulates the mind as well as the body, without the need to carry heavy back packs & at the end of each day to be accommodated in a variety of specially selected hotels, rural inns and guesthouses that they have, preferably, walked to under their own steam. Traversing many rural properties, most of which will be on private land the cooperation of the land owners have been paramount to the success of each walk. It is hoped that these walks will not only benefit Outdoor Tasmania, but also the land & property owners themselves whereby they too have a stake, by providing the services that we need such as accommodation, guided tours, interpretation or be it just a payment per head for passing through their property.

