



## *7 Day Twin City Tour*

### **Day 1: Spirit of Tasmania Melbourne to Devonport**

Travel across Bass Strait onboard the Spirit of Tasmania. Departing Melbourne at 6:30pm arriving into Devonport the next morning at 6:00am.

### **Day 2: Arrive Devonport (BD)**

Your tour commences by meeting your Tasmanian Coach Captain after disembarking the Spirit of Tasmania at approximately 6:30am. After introductions are made, board the coach and travel to the nearby Anvers Chocolates for breakfast. Then travel to one of Tasmania's best known icons, Cradle Mountain National Park. This afternoon make your way back down the mountain to Launceston for your stay over the next 2 nights.

- The House of Anvers at Latrobe in Tasmania's north is a chocolate lovers' heaven. Hand-made chocolate truffles, chocolate oranges, fudge and praline, using fresh Tasmanian cream and butter, producing the world's finest chocolate and liqueurs. The House of Anvers is a real chocolate taste sensation and is located in the property known as Wyndarra Lodge, a stylish house (c.1931) set in 1.12 hectares of mature tree gardens. Anvers has viewing windows so you can see the factory in action; confectionery staff tempering, moulding and enrobing fine chocolates, truffles, pralines, fudge and more. There is a small museum on the history of chocolate, and the coffee shop (open fire place, stained glass windows) specialises in chocolates, hot cocoa in many flavours, chocolate desserts and more chocolate. Enjoy breakfast here.
- Sheffield. The town of murals. See how talented local artists have used the proud old buildings as their canvases to tell the history of the Kentish District. Arts and crafts are also among the important activities in the area and galleries and studios display high quality hand weaving, leatherwork and pottery.
- Cradle Mountain National Park. The northern entrance to the Cradle Mountain - Lake St. Clair National Park, the Department of Parks and Wildlife has an interpretation centre which depicts the flora, fauna and history of the region. Then it is on smaller coaches with an informative guide to transfer to Dove Lake from where on a clear day you can see Cradle Mountain. A short walk around the shores finds you at the little hut known as 'the boat house', and then on your way back down from the lake call into to see Waldheim Hut, the original home for Austrian explorer Gustav Weindorfer who began the movement that eventually led to the region being included in the World Heritage Listing.

**Stay: Launceston 2 Nights**

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ABN: 22 650 348 837 1 Sturdee Street, Coburg, Vic 3058 Ph: 93545025 Fax: 93548955 E-mail: [info@harlantours.com](mailto:info@harlantours.com)

Accreditation Number: AO-0004855 "Our Motto is *Serving you with Care*"

Our Public Liability Certificate of Currency value at 30 Million Dollar POLICY NO: CPG019786 Join us on Face Book

### Day 3: Tamar Valley (BD)

Visit the Tamar Valley region to visit the Swiss style Village of Grindelwald and browse through the many novelty shops there. From Brady's Lookout you can see all the way down the valley so have the cameras ready as this is your next stop before making your way to the Gold & Heritage Museum at Beaconsfield, the site of 'The Great Escape'. Crossing over the Batman Bridge, one of the world's first cable-stayed truss bridges, you make your way back to Launceston via the eastern side of the Tamar River. Your last stop today is a chance to walk around the popular Cataract Gorge.

- Grindelwald. Nestled atop a hill 15 minutes north of Launceston, this village captures the architecture and way of life of Switzerland. Visit the speciality shops, with the Chocolate Shop a favourite.
- Brady's Lookout. Matthew Brady was an infamous bushranger and from this vantage point, would spy on unsuspecting victims on the river below. A scenic spot for the photographers.
- The Beaconsfield Mine and Heritage Centre, Beaconsfield. The Museum is located within two restored heritage buildings on the site of the 19th century Tasmanian Gold Mine. The rich Tasman reef was discovered here in 1877, and until its closure in 1914, the mine produced gold worth AUD450 million in today's value. The Museum features an extensive collection of mining memorabilia, artefacts and machinery. Explore the Grubb Shaft Mine; see the iron smelter, water wheel and working model of the mine's dewatering pump, one of the largest of its kind in the southern hemisphere. You can also visit the miner's cottage, local store and the old Flowery Gully School. The Grubb Shaft Gold and Heritage Museum is adjacent to the Beaconsfield Gold Mine, which you can see from a viewing platform. This is the site where, in April 2006, a rock fall trapped three miners one kilometre underground. Miner Larry Knight was tragically killed, and the subsequent rescue of Brant Webb and Todd Russell, who remained trapped for 14 days, became known worldwide as the 'Great Escape'.
- Cataract Gorge, Launceston. An expansive reserve minutes from the city centre, your coach will drop you off at Kings Bridge so you can stroll the walk way along the Cataract Gorge to the First Basin. Here the gardens filled with tree rhododendrons, spacious lawns and fern glades. Peacocks add to the colour. Cross the waters of the First Basin on the chairlift (own expense) that has the longest single span in the Southern Hemisphere or walk around the First Basin via the Alexandra Suspension Bridge. Your coach will meet you at the First Basin entrance.

## Day 4: Launceston to Hobart (BD)

Before leaving Launceston this morning take a stroll through the city park and spend some free time in the city before boarding the coach and making your way to Hobart. Travel via Campbell Town then over Lake Leake to Swansea, a great spot to stop for lunch and enjoy superb views over Great Oyster Bay to the Freycinet Peninsula. This afternoon continue your journey down the east coast as you make your way to Hobart via Richmond which will have you feeling like you are in a time capsule as you explore the streets of this quaint historic village.

- Launceston City Park. A peaceful parkland in the heart of the city, visit the Conservatory, see the monkeys or just feed the ducks. It is only a short walk into the CBD so a chance to look around the magnificent architecture of Launceston's buildings and grab a souvenir.
- Campbell Town is a major pastoral and tourist centre in the Northern Midlands, originally established in 1821 by Governor Macquarie as one of the four garrison town and probation stations between Hobart and Launceston. The town, which is situated in an important wool growing district surrounding the Heritage Highway, is 134 kms from Hobart, and 68 kms from Launceston. The Original 1822 Bridge was once part of a causeway which crossed the original course of the Elizabeth River. It was built in 1823 and marked the establishment of the town itself. Still in use as part of a footpath, it is one of Australia's oldest. At one end stands the former Campbell Town Inn which was the town's first brick building, at the other end, Bridge Street, which was originally the main street. The Red Bridge completed in 1838, is the oldest bridge on the National Highway. The bricks (more than one and a half million) were made in the town itself. Convict-built to a European design it has needed very little repair work over the years and now carries well over a two million vehicles a year. Campbell Town Convict Brick Trail is a commemoration and celebration of our convict history. Each brick engraved with the names and a few personal details of convicts transported to Australia & Norfolk Island. Follow the trail of bricks around Campbell Town.
- Swansea. The historic township of Swansea overlooks Great Oyster Bay and the beautiful Freycinet National Park. Look out for the quirky profile of Spiky Bridge, just outside town on the northern side.
- Richmond. Richmond was proclaimed a town by Lieutenant Governor Sorell in 1824. It played an important role as a convict station and military outpost in the early days of the colony. For much of its history it was the main gateway to the east coast and the Tasman Peninsula. You'll get the most out of Richmond by wandering its streets. Artists and craftspeople have been drawn to the town for generations, and you'll find examples of their work in galleries and cafes. See Australia's oldest freestone bridge, Australia's oldest Catholic Church as well as many specialty shops that line the narrow streets of this historic village (the lolly shop is a favourite).

## Stay: Hobart 2 nights

## Day 5: Port Arthur (BD)

This morning make your way down to the Tasman Peninsula to visit the Port Arthur Historic Site where you will learn of the atrocities that took place here over 200 years ago. Richly embedded into Australia's history the Port Arthur Historic Site is guaranteed to have an effect on all whom visit. Visit the coastal features that surround Port Arthur that have been formed by thousands of years of pounding by the waves of the Southern Ocean.

- Port Arthur Historic Site. A guided tour will take you around the ruined buildings featuring over 30 buildings including the Asylum, Separate or Model Prison, Penitentiary, Church, Guard Tower, Hospital as well as many cottages. Listen to the guides tell of atrocities to convicts in the attempt to break their spirit, which sent many insane. Read of the petty offences committed resulting in transportation from England. Rumours abound of ghosts, so keep the camera handy just in case.
- Port Arthur Harbour Cruise. The 20 minute harbour cruise offers a unique interpretation including an introduction to the ship building at Port Arthur, the boy's prison of Point Puer, the Isle of the Dead and a magnificent coastline which remains unmatched.
- Tasman Peninsula Coastal Features. Joined to Tasmania by a narrow isthmus, this peninsula was selected as the site for a penal settlement due to being able to guard it easily. The sheer cliffs, as seen at the Tasman Arch and Devil's Kitchen, combined with the violent currents shown at the Blow Hole, meant little chance of escape via the sea. Rumours of shark filled waters also discouraged convicts to swim for freedom. Soldiers and fierce mastiff dogs guarded the narrow isthmus. Other attractions to see (time permitting) are the Tessellated Pavement, Doo Town and the Remarkable Cave.

## Day 6: Hobart to Devonport (B)

Your last day of the tour will start with a bird's eye view of Hobart from the summit of Mt Wellington. Then enjoy some time to explore Tasmania's largest weekly market, Salamanca Markets (Saturday Only). Leaving Hobart just after lunch, travel up to Heritage Highway to Ross before making your way back to Devonport. Stop for some afternoon tea prior to boarding the Spirit of Tasmania for your overnight crossing.

- Mt. Wellington. Overlooking Hobart, the Derwent Valley to the north and Huon Valley to the south is Mt. Wellington. On a clear day you can even see the Tasman Peninsula to the southeast and Maria Island on the east coast. Venture to the summit and see the morning sun shining on the city below for a great photographic opportunity.
- Salamanca Market, Hobart. Every Saturday morning the Salamanca district is taken over by throngs of stalls offering assorted goods and crafts. Truly a draw card that is inviting to locals and visitors alike. The Georgian warehouses dating back to the 1830's have been converted into galleries, theatres, cafes, craft shops and restaurants. The market highlights the creative skills of the local crafts people in an atmosphere that is inspiring, innovative and entertaining.
- Ross sits on the banks of the Macquarie River, and is one of Australia's most appealing convict built stone villages. Walk down to the Ross Bridge, designed by John Lee Archer, possibly the most

beautiful of its kind left in the world. The detail of its 186 carvings by convict stonemasons was deemed of such high quality that it won the men a free pardon.

- Ashgrove Cheese Factory, Elizabeth Town. The Ashgrove Cheese Factory is a family owned and run company. Enjoy a tour of the factory and see how award-winning cheeses are made. Sample as you go.
- Christmas Hills Raspberry Farm was established in 1984 when we planted twelve acres of raspberry canes on a north facing hill on our property, just off the Bass Highway between Elizabethtown and Deloraine. In 1995 we built a café featuring stone and timber and large windows overlooking lush green lawns running down to a lake filled with water lilies. The garden features native trees and an herb garden overlooking the raspberry canes in the distance. In summer you can bask in the sun on our deck and picnic tables. In winter sit in front of our open log fire and be tempted by something on the menu or on our daily specials board. Our menu caters to all raspberry cravings as well as offering an extensive menu utilising the very best fresh local produce to create wholesome country style food. Enjoy afternoon tea here.

## Day 7: Arrive Melbourne

Arrive into Melbourne at 6:00am, disembarking at 6:30am.

### Quote

Price per Person: **\$1611.00**

Single Supplement: **\$253.00**

Prices are based on a **minimum of 20 people** travelling

### Included

- ✓ Twin Inside Cabins on board the Spirit of Tasmania return
- ✓ Coach and experienced coach captain for duration of tour
- ✓ Twin share accommodation each night in 3.5 star hotels
- ✓ Hot breakfast each morning
- ✓ Two Course/ Buffet Dinners each night
- ✓ Entry to all attractions noted in itinerary

### NOT included

- Melbourne Transfers
- Travel insurance (strongly recommended)
- Things of a personal nature