

IN HOBART SATURDAY 28 AND SUNDAY 29 OCTOBER



SATURDAY

Breakfast at the hotel or out and about, as you prefer. We have the whole day, having spent Friday night at the RACT Apartment Hotel.

You have a difficult choice to make between a good stretch of time at The Museum of Old and Modern Art (**MONA**) OR a day visit to **Bruny Island**. We are committed to displaying our cars on Saturday morning. With some tight organisation, you can catch the 1.15 ferry to MONA but that limits you to three and a half hours in the gallery, winery and brewery. However, you will have a clear Sunday for Bruny or other Hobartian pleasures as outlined in the comprehensive and alluring notes for Tassy One. Alternatively you can forgo Bruny Island and spend longer in the car display and central Hobart on Saturday, devoting as much as you want to MONA on Sunday. (The entry ticket is valid for a full day, so you can come and go for more than one visit during that day.) Block reservations have been made to cover both contingencies and you will be asked to indicate which you want in the next Bulletin.

If you don't wish to go to MONA, the list of other ideas may interest you or you can happily spend the afternoon in and around Salamanca.

Lunch is not arranged – up to you. The many informal cafes on the waterfront provide mainly seafood – to eat in or take-away at very reasonable prices. There is a small Japanese café called SUSH cnr Franklin Wharf and Elizabeth St. More upmarket, on Elizabeth Pier there is FISH FRENZY or (with less fish emphasis) T42. But these are just some of many options.

Dinner is arranged at The Astor Grill for 7.00 pm. (Pay as you go.) Anticipated cost A\$60 for adults, A\$25 for children. Please let John know well ahead if you are not coming.

SUNDAY

Breakfast at the hotel, or out and about as you prefer.

Lunch is not arranged – up to you. We shall offer some suggestions the day before.

Dinner is booked for us as a group at The Drunken Admiral. Pay as you go. Anticipated cost A\$60 for adults, A\$25 for children. Please let John know well ahead if you are not coming.

POSSIBLE POINTS OF INTEREST IN HOBART

What follows are just a few ideas. First of all, re-read the last page in the notes from Tassy One. The booklet and map about Hobart will help you find your way around and you can pick up further information from Reception at the hotel.

- (1) Mt Wellington, 1269 m high, stands behind Hobart and is readily visible from the city. From



the summit, the view of Hobart, the Derwent River and Harbour is magnificent, if it is not misty. In any case, it is a very beautiful drive with many wildflowers and even if it is misty the change in vegetation as you ascend is fascinating. Free.

- (2) The Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens are a worthwhile visit. They are about a 2 km walk from the hotel, but also accessible using the Red Decker Hop-on Hop-off Bus which leaves from The Travel Centre on the hour. The Gardens close at 6.30 pm. Free.
- (3) The Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery is in Davey Street, a few hundred metres away from the hotel. Open from 9.00 to 4.00, it has, amongst other things, the sole existing stuffed remains of the extinct Tasmanian Tiger. Free.
- (4) The Tasmanian Maritime Museum in Argyle Street, opposite Constitution Dock tells the rich and varied history of seafaring in and around Tasmania. Entry A\$10 for adults, A\$5 for children.
- (5) St David's Anglican Cathedral (eucharist at 8.00 and 10.00, evensong at 5.30); St Mary's Catholic Cathedral (mass at 10.30); Hobart North Uniting Church (worship at 9.30) or Scots-Memorial (worship at 10.00)..
- (6) Hobart's Dark Past Walking Tour starts at 8.00 pm and tells of sordid deeds, vile punishments, brothels and drinking dens. Adults A\$38. Not for children.
- (7) Cascade Brewery and Gardens. This visit to one of our oldest breweries offers an insight into beers but also the heritage gardens. 100 minutes, A\$30 adult, \$15 for 16 – 18 year olds. Alternatively, a tour of the gardens and exposition of the history of the precinct is A\$15 for adults, A\$5 for children. Booking is recommended. .
- (8) Boeing 737 Flight Simulator. Want something a bit more adrenaline-packed than the Lancia? Become an airline pilot for half an hour. Pricey but special. A\$145.
- (9) **Bruny Island.** This is best as an all-day excursion, though you can squeeze it into a half-day.



The island is accessed via a 20-min crossing on vehicular ferry (hourly service) from Kettering, around a 35-min drive south of Hobart.

Bruny Island has some of Tasmania's most beautifully preserved natural environments with abundant wildlife and stunning clifftop views. The island is about 50 km long but appears to be two islands joined by a narrow strip of land called The Neck. A highlight is South Bruny National Park, with towering cliffs overlooking long sandy beaches, coastal heathland, and underwater gardens of kelp seaweed with some amazing bushwalks to take it all in. Also available is a spectacular 3-hour boat cruise around the island. This is the way to see extraordinary bird life, seals, dolphin and coastline. Departures from Adventure Bay at 11.00 and 2.00 (book and get there half an hour early).

Leave time to enjoy the famous local produce; Bruny is home to producers specialising in oysters, cheese and chocolate.

Costs: The Ferry is A\$33 per vehicle return, passengers free.

The Cruise is A\$135 per adult, A\$85 per child including tea/coffee.

(10)**MONA – some background:** This is the largest privately funded museum/gallery in Australia. Having opened in January 2011, it has rapidly become widely recognised for its architecture, its collection and its special programs. It is built on the Moorilla Wine Estate, one of

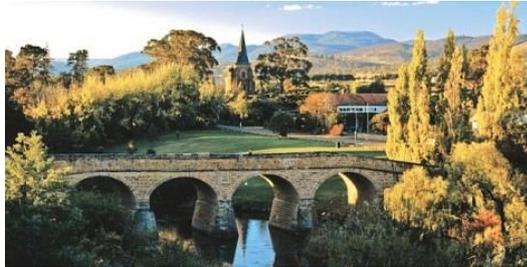


Tasmania's early wineries, by a native of Hobart: David Walsh. David is a professional gambler who made a fortune and decided he would give something back to Hobart. The museum cost him A\$75m to build. The annual operating costs of some A\$8m are underpinned by the winery, brewery, restaurant and hotel on the site.

TO PORT ARTHUR, MONDAY 30TH OCTOBER

Breakfast is available at our hotel, or as on Sunday, you may prefer to try somewhere outside. **We leave from about 9.30 am.**

Your route notes will propose that you loop up north a little from Hobart to **Richmond** (about 26 km). There you can enjoy a



picture-perfect town that tells the story of an early Australian colonial village. Richmond has more than 50 Georgian buildings, many beautifully restored and now operating as cafes, restaurants, galleries and accommodation. The town's most photographed landmark is the Richmond Bridge. Built by convicts in the 1820s, it's the oldest bridge in Australia and offers a nice picnic spot on the grassy banks of the Coal

River. Richmond Gaol recalls the hardships and brutality of convict life. Not so confronting is the Hobart Town Historical Model Village. There are plenty of places for a good morning tea. Then from Richmond to Port Arthur is 90 km – under two hours, even allowing for dawdling.

If you want to stretch out your driving still more (but miss the oyster lunch), you could continue north to visit some or all of the villages of Jericho (an old staging post founded 1816), Oatlands (150 early 19C sandstone buildings and Callington Mill) and Ross (arguably the finest untouched 19C village in Australia).

Port Arthur is a large complex of historic convict jails, workshops, barracks etc. One can spend several hours or make it shorter, as one wishes. And of course, some of you may have visited in the past with family – maybe even more than once. Therefore we offer alternatives. Our accommodation is in a fairly standard Australian motel. It is close to the convict complex and we suggest parking and checking in, then walking.

Lunch : We have a booking for Bangor Wine and Oyster Shed on the way to Port Arthur. This is a pay-as-you-go arrangement, so if you don't favour seafood there are various café-style offerings at Port Arthur and doubtless other places on the way. I shall have asked you to tell me what you are doing so that Bangor have an idea of numbers. Please don't change your mind!

Dinner is pre-paid and is arranged at the motel for 7.00 pm.



AT PORT ARTHUR

The brochure in your pack give you an idea of the range of things you can do and how much they cost. The web site is even more informative. We have booked a guided tour for which the price is A\$39 adult, A\$17 child – pay as you go. Your pass includes a short harbour cruise and access to all parts of the complex.



OTHER POSSIBILITIES

- (1) **Nubeena** is a sleepy, scenic village near the Port Arthur Historic Site on the Tasman Peninsula. Surrounded by a network of inlets around Parsons Bay, the village was originally an outstation of Port Arthur and for many years was an important convict farming community. Coal was once mined in the north-west of the peninsula and the ruins of the soldiers' barracks and convict quarters can be found at the World Heritage listed Coal Mines Historic Site nearby Saltwater River.
- (2) **Fortescue Bay** is a sheltered bay with a beautiful white sandy beach, set against heavily forested hills, situated 18 kilometres from Port Arthur. Access is via 12 kilometres of gravel road. The Bay is a great destination for a walk.

TO FREYCINET PENINSULA, TUESDAY 31 OCTOBER AND WEDNESDAY 1 NOVEMBER



Breakfast on Tuesday is included in the tariff at our motel. **We leave for Freycinet from about 9.30 am.**

We have about 230 km to drive and four hours should do it comfortably.

Freycinet is one of Tasmania's most celebrated national parks with dramatic pink granite peaks, secluded bays, white sandy beaches and abundant birdlife. The park occupies most of the Freycinet Peninsula and looks out to the Tasman Sea from the eastern side and back towards the Tasmanian coastline from the west. There are many more short walks across the park that are suitable for all abilities and that lead to secluded bays, clean beaches and bird-filled lagoons. Your route notes will give you a mixture of inland and coastal driving on good surfaces.

Our accommodation for the two nights is Freycinet Lodge, a RACT establishment in Coles Bay.

Lunch is not arranged. Make your own choice of somewhere agreeable en route or just a simple picnic if the weather is nice. The route notes will give you some possibilities.

Dinner on both nights is included in our tariff and is arranged at the lodge for 7.00 pm.

Breakfast on Wednesday is included in our tariff.



AT FREYCINET

- (1) There are numerous short walks, from 10 minutes to forty minutes. See the information sheet provided when we get there.
- (2) There is a very enjoyable walk to the top of the peninsula - about one and a half hours return. Another two hours return will take you down to idyllic Wineglass Bay. One needs sensible shoes for this walk and a reasonable level of fitness. Take a snack, some drinking

water and a camera at least, or an entire picnic in a backpack to enjoy on the other side. One can come back the same way or....

- (3) Another way of getting to Wineglass Bay (or coming back again) is to take the coastal path. This is longer of course, but without the climbing!
- (4) For an excellent half-day trek, one can continue from the Wineglass Bay lookout down to the beautiful, perfectly curved beach and back to the park entrance via the Hazards Range for amazing views of Great Oyster Bay and the coastline surrounding the sleepy seaside village of Swansea. The Hazards look their best at sunrise and sunset when the pink granite glows bright and brilliant.
- (5) **On Wednesday** We have a block booking for the option of Wineglass Bay **boat trip**. This costs A\$119 for adults, less for children and includes a ploughman's lunch. This is quite expensive, but the ocean-side circumnavigation of the peninsula is truly special. (You will have been asked earlier whether you want to take it.) For those who are going, the boat leaves from Coles Bay Jetty at 10.00.. The whole trip takes about four hours.
- (6) On either Tuesday or Wednesday evening there is an option of driving 45 km north (45 minutes driving) **to Bicheno Penguin Tours**. To do this you will need to miss dinner at the Lodge because the tour starts at dusk and lasts about 90 minutes. So if you intend to admire penguins, be sure to tell John B and the Lodge Reception so that you are not charged. The tour really does offer a rare change to visit a private rookery, watching the fairy penguins emerge from the ocean. Cost is A\$35 adults, A\$15 children. Booking required: Tel 63 75 1333



- (7) A short drive away, the Moulting Lagoon is a RAMSAR wetland sanctuary for black swans, water fowl and other migratory birds. If you're lucky, you might spot a white-bellied sea-eagle gliding overhead.

TO LAUNCESTON, THURSDAY 2 NOVEMBER

Breakfast on Wednesday is included in the tariff at Freycinet Lodge.

We leave for Launceston from about 9.30 am. The total distance for the day is 210 km which amounts to perhaps four hours' driving. Our road takes us up the coast through Bicheno and then inland through St Mary's and the Upper Esk to Longford, and thence to Launceston.



We have a historic estate visit about 30 km before we arrive at Launceston.

Once you have checked in to the hotel, there will be some of the afternoon and evening to explore the city of Launceston. Some possibilities are mentioned below. Depending on how you want to plan the next day (when you have about 220 km to cover but lots to consider en route), there will be some time to do more in Launceston in the morning. All very flexible.

Lunch is not arranged. Make your own choice of somewhere agreeable en route – or just enjoy a simple picnic if the weather is nice - or wait until we get to Woolmers Estate where there is good choice.

Accommodation is at the Launceston Colonial Hotel.

Dinner is included in our tariff and is arranged at the hotel for 7.00 pm.

Breakfast on Thursday is included in our tariff.

Launceston is Tasmania's second largest city, founded as a garrison in 1804 and for much of its history owed its prosperity to wool. It is a well-preserved cityscape with attractive Colonial and Victorian architecture and old parks. Its hinterland has premium vineyards, forest, farmland, lavender fields or orchards. Cataract Gorge is a slice of wilderness right in the heart of town and Launceston's star natural attraction. There's also plenty of culture on offer at art galleries, museums and design studios, not to mention the National Automobile Museum which has a notable collection from early veteran to classic. (A\$14 and A\$7.50.)



Woolmers Estate where we visit for a guided tour on the way from Freycinet was established in 1817 by one Thomas Archer 1st and remained in the family to the last descendant, Thomas Archer 6th, in 1994. The Estate includes family houses, workers' cottages, former chapel, blacksmith's shop, stables, bakehouse, pump house, gardener's cottage, etc., providing an insight into the



social structure of a colonial pastoral estate. At an estate of this size, a virtual small village was formed where up to 100 people might be living and working at one time. Not often is there a chance to see a great pastoral homestead still full of the personal collections and possessions of six generations! The pay-as-you-go cost is A\$20 for adults, A\$7 for children. A cheaper self-guided tour of the grounds only is also available.

To all with a fondness for the fruit of the hop, Launceston is synonymous with **James Boag & Son Beer**. If you wish, a 90-minute fully guided experience provides a comprehensive insight into all stages of the brewing and packaging process, followed by a tasting of James Boag's award-winning beers accompanied by some of Tasmania's finest cheeses. Bookings essential. Cost A\$33 adult, A\$15 child.



AMENDED VERSION – replaces earlier text



TO BURNIE, FRIDAY 3 NOVEMBER

Breakfast on Thursday is included in the tariff at our hotel. This is not a particularly arduous day of driving – perhaps 260 km all up. **We leave at 9.15 am.**

Our first visit for the day is to **Clarendon House**, a National Trust property less than 40 km from Launceston. We shall have morning tea there. (If you have had enough of heritage, of course you can opt out, though I should mention that Clarendon is a completely different sort of place from Woolmers.) Set in 7 hectares of parklands on the banks of the South Esk River, this magnificent three-storey Georgian house has servants' quarters, a heritage walled garden, several farm buildings and a rare avenue of elms. It was built in 1838 as an extraordinary statement of achievement for wealthy wool grower and merchant, James Cox, who was born in Wiltshire, England. Although Clarendon was built with convict labour, Mr Cox was known to treat his convicts well and he later played a major role in the abolition of transportation and convict labour.



Entry to Clarendon Estate includes the gardens; Australian Fly Fishing Museum with kids' fish feeding pool and riverside access for anglers and picnickers; Clarendon Fashion Collection with precious gowns from the 1830's to 1960's; and the Norfolk Plains Heritage Centre, offering photo collections together with family history records and advice. Our guided tour (pay-as-you-go) costs A\$15 adults, children free.

After that we drive to **Burnie**. The total distance to Burnie is 197 km but the roads are not fast and the landscape is worth looking at. Allow three and a quarter hours' or more actual driving from Clarendon. We drive through pastoral country, over the Mount Roland Range, then down the Forth and Esk valleys to the coast. There are several places worth visiting, so the suggestion is that you review the notes below and also for Saturday. Make a choice of a couple of places to stop today, reserving a couple of others for the next day.



Lunch is not arranged. Make your own choice of somewhere agreeable en route or just a simple picnic if the weather is nice.

Accommodation is at the Waterfront Voyager Motor Inn in Burnie.

Dinner can be taken in the Motor Inn and I have made a block reservation for 7.00 pm.

VISITS:

Burnie is a port city with an industrial past that has reinvented itself as a centre for artisans and craftsmen after the closure of its paper mill.

The best place to see local craft and artisans at work is at the Makers Workshop. You'll find paper making, cheese tasting, ceramics, textiles, glass, print makers, painters, sculptors.

Burnie Regional Museum shows the town's industrial past.

Burnie also produces good whisky at Hellyers Rd Distillery, where you can sample at the cellar door.



AMENDED VERSION – replaces earlier text

BACK TO DEVONPORT, SATURDAY 4 NOVEMBER



Breakfast on Saturday is included in the tariff at our hotel.

This can be an easy, relaxed final day when you take your time over visits, coffee breaks and our final farewell lunch at Stanley. (Yes, we will have dinner on the ferry, but the ambiance is, shall we say, not entirely conducive to group celebrations.). The total distance is about 210 km – depending obviously on how many little side detours you make – but almost all the driving is on a major highway and fast.

Lunch is booked at Hursey's Seafood in Stanley at 1.00 pm.

The Route Notes will take you to Wynyard, Table Cape, Highfield Historic Site and Stanley. After lunch it will be up to you whether to linger along the coast road returning to Devonport or not.

You must arrive at Devonport ferry terminal not later than 6.30 pm.

(Check-in starts from about 5.00 pm if you arrive earlier, but it is unlikely that you will actually be able to drive on until more like 6.00 pm.) The terminal is well sign-posted in Devonport and you should have no difficulty finding it.

Dinner will be as you choose on the ferry.

Breakfast on Sunday can be something notional on the ferry. However, I at least will prefer to eat ashore in Port Melbourne which has a wide choice of good cafes and restaurants. Suggestions will be made the night before.

We are scheduled to dock in Melbourne at 6.00 am. It takes a while to get your car off the ferry – up to an hour. For those who are flying out from Melbourne, there are various ways of getting to the airport – depending on how much time you have in Melbourne itself before the flight. Talk to John Brenan or one of the other Melbournites.

PLACES OF NOTE:

Wynyard and Table Cape: another coastal town with numerous places to eat and interesting streets to stroll. It is also home to Wonders of Wynyard, an astonishing collection of early veteran cars



which you will really want to visit for at least half an hour or so. Wynyard is probably the place to take morning tea.

The Cape should really be an essential visit. Sitting at 180 metres high, it dominates the coastline and offers spectacular views of Tasmania's coast and agricultural farmlands. From a viewing platform, on a clear day, you can see George Town's Low Head and mountain ranges over 175 kilometres away. The lighthouse, which can be

visited, is nearby. Table Cape is also home to the Table Cape Tulip Farm where acres of patchwork fields explode with colour each spring.

Port Latta, shortly before Stanley, is the site of the administrative offices, pelletising plant and off-shore loading facilities of Savage River mines. The port is at the northern end of an 85 km pipeline from Savage River through which crushed ore is pumped as a slurry. At Port Latta the ore is pelletised and moved by conveyor along the enormous jetty. The largest vessels to visit Tasmanian waters - huge bulk ore carriers from Japan - use these loading facilities.

Stanley is a small maritime town of colonial buildings, cafes and B&B cottages, all sheltering in the imposing shadow of the Nut, an immense flat-topped, volcanic plug rising 150 metres straight up from the water's edge. It is renowned for seafood, from fish-and-chips up, at Hurseys Seafood Restaurant. We will take our farewell lunch there. Nearby Highfield Historic Site shows another colonial homestead – different again from Woolmers and Clarendon. An unusual example of Regency domestic architecture, it was the base for very early settlement by the Van Diemens Land Company. Cost A\$12 adult, A\$6 child.



Latrobe is one side visit worth considering if you have some time in hand approaching Devonport. It is a river town that has more than 70 heritage-listed buildings. There are lots of eateries serving fresh produce, plus scenic farm gates and vineyards where you can sample food from the source. Chocolate lovers can revisit Anvers Chocolate Factory. There is a pleasant picnic spot on Bells Parade. The Route Notes will give directions.

