GEOGRAPHIC TRAVEL

Maria Island. Tasmania

Maria Island Walk, Tasmania.

MARIA ISLAND WALK

RECOGNISED AS ONE OF Australia's truly outstanding experiences, the four-day Maria Island Walk is a delightful blend of rare wildlife, fascinating history, island tranquillity and gourmet delights.

Set on a beautiful island national park off Tasmania's east coast, small groups of just 10 guests and two friendly guides explore the pristine beaches, tall ancient forests and world heritage sites by day before, each night, relaxing at a mouthwatering candlelit dinner.

Maria Island is a Noah's Ark for rare animals and birds, some of which are found nowhere else. It is known as one of, if not the best, places in Australia to see wombats in the wild.

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Arrival in Hobart (domestic airfare not included)

Make your own way to your hotel (Ibis Styles Hobart)

Day 2 Hobart – Maria Island

Breakfast at the hotel.

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Starting with a 7.30am hotel pickup, gear issue and briefing we drive to the coast for a marine adventure in our private catamaran, which will take us to the remote southern end of Maria Island. The afternoon is yours to enjoy – choose from an optional afternoon walk through beautiful forests to Haunted Bay, relax at the delightful Casuarina Beach Camp or take a swim in the sheltered bay. In the evening, enjoy Tasmanian wine and fresh food by candlelight.

Walking distance: 4–8km depending on optional walks

○ Lunch and dinner provided



Walk from Riedle Bay across the rare land formation of the isthmus to Shoal Bay for a stroll across five fabulous beaches. As you walk, your knowledgeable guides will share fascinating stories of human occupation on the island. Explore the convict cells at Point Lesueur and visit an ochre pit at Bloodstone Point – one of the original ochre sources for Tasmanian Aboriginals. In the evening watch the sunset over stunning Four Mile Beach, then put your feet up at White Gums Camp, where you sip wine on the deck and anticipate dinner.

Walking distance: 13km O Breakfast, lunch and dinner provided

Day 4 Maria Island Walk

Take the gentle inland track to Hopground Beach and the Painted Cliffs or continue to the 711m summit of Mt Maria for breathtaking 360 degree views. Or save the climb for Bishop and Clerk, with its fantastic sea and coastline vistas (these are optional). Finish the day with a sumptuous banquet in the historic colonial home once occupied by Italian entrepreneur Diego Bernacchi. This is also your accommodation for the night. Walking distance: 9–17km depending on optional walks

O Breakfast, lunch and dinner provided



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Day 5 Maria Island - Hobart

A chance to relax and explore the convict settlement and industrial ruins of Darlington, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Continue onto the dramatic sea cliffs of Fossil Bay and then head down to the remarkable fossils at Fossil Cliffs. Enjoy a champagne lunch overlooking the stunning Freycinet Peninsula. Return to Hobart with an optional Hobart airport drop-off connecting with flights departing from 6pm.

🐇 Walking distance: 4km

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O Breakfast and lunch provided

Special add on option Tasmanian Devil Spotting Experience

In 2013 a group of 28 healthy devils were released onto the island as an "island insurance" breeding program safeguard from the facial tumour disease currently affecting 90 per cent of the population. It has been such a success that devils are now being removed for reintroduction to disease-free areas in Tasmania. Your guides will take you on an evening devil-spotting walk to try and catch a glimpse of one of these elusive, nocturnal creatures in the wild.

 \triangle Accommodation: On Maria Island: two nights in Wilderness Camps, one night at Bernacchi House

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Enjoy shoes-off walking along fabulous beaches fringed by bush on one side and sea on the other.

COVID-19

ALL RESPONSES WILL BE MADE IN **ACCORDANCE WITH BEST PRACTICE** MEDICAL AND OFFICIAL **GOVERNMENT ADVICE.**

Tour Guides

Two professional guides from days 2–5.

Our guides are considered to be the best in the industry. They are such an important part of your Maria Island experience and are not only chosen for their warm, caring and likeable personalities but also for their love of Maria Island.

There's very little our guides don't know about the history, flora and wildlife on Maria Island.







Beach walking on day 2

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Packing list and other information

We will supply you with a detailed packing list and other information before your trip.

Minors

Clients to be 12 years or older unless by prior approval. No child discount can be provided.

Dietary requirements

Vegetarians and special diets are catered for. Please inform us of any special requirements at the time of booking.

Health

Trips cater for clients who can walk 10–15km a day carrying light packs of 6–8 kg. Participants over 70 require a medical certificate.

Group size

Minimum 4 guests / maximum 10 guests with two friendly and knowledgeable guides.



Accommodation

The first night we spend at the Ibis Styles Hotel in Hobart. The first two nights during the walk are spent in comfortable, permanent wilderness camps behind remote, private beaches. Guests enjoy twin-share cabins with polished wooden floors and beds with mattresses, pillows and sleeping bags. The sleeping huts are connected via boardwalks to the large main dining cabin.

The camps are environmentally sensitive. The solar-powered, composting toilets are well maintained, pleasant and hygienic. Rainwater is collected on site for camp use. There are bush showers with warm water in the camps and there is a private washroom. Please note there is no power at the wilderness camps.

The last night is spent in the historic, colonial Bernacchi House. Here guests enjoy hot showers.

Gear

It is important that guests are aware that they carry a light backpack (between 6–8 kg) with their own personal items (however guests maybe able to arrange a "special baggage transfer walk" option. (This option is only available on select departures and must be taken up by the entire group). Packs, waterproof jackets, sleeping sheets, head torches and sleeping bags are supplied (we do not

carry the sleeping bags as they are stored at each camp).

Guests should have their own walking boots, well worn in with good ankle support and tread. Light day packs are also available for use on side trips from Camp 1 and Bernacchi House.



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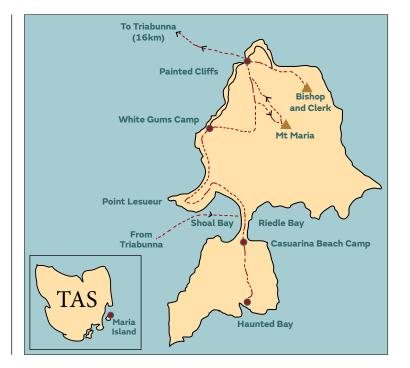


Costs include the following services as per itinerary

- Four nights twin-share accommodation as per itinerary
- Two local experienced guides throughout days 2–5
- Transfers between Hobart and Maria Island by private charter vehicle, boat cruise
- All meals and wine during the Maria Island walk
- National park entry fees
- Backpacks, sleeping bag liners, pillowcases, head torches and waterproof jackets can be provided for use on the trip at no additional charge

Costs do not include

- Domestic or international airfares
- Pre-registration, late check-out or day use at hotels other than specified above
- Guide services other than specified
- Meals/beverages other than specified, alcohol
- Tips and gratuities
- Optional tours/services



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