

Pedaltours

vacations for cyclists since 1985

AUSTRALIA
TASMANIA, the Island State.
8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS
HOBART to LAUNCESTON
EAST COAST TOUR

ITINERARY

Please bring this information with you to the tour start.

Distances are given in kilometres. 1 km = 0.62 miles

Cycling distances are entirely optional, the support vehicle will be available at all times.

Suggested cycling distances are given for each day as follows:

cas.= Casual cyclists int.= intermediate cyclists adv.= advanced cyclists



The tour starts in the city of Hobart (pop. 195,000) Australia's second oldest state capital; it is also the smallest and the most southerly. Straddling the mouth of the Derwent River and backed by mountains, notably Mt Wellington, Hobart successfully combines the benefits of a modern city with the rich heritage of its colonial past. The imposing Georgian buildings, (Hobart was founded as a European settlement in 1804) the attractive harbour and the relaxed atmosphere make Hobart a very enjoyable city.

MEETING DAY / DAY ONE

We meet at 3.00 pm at Lenna of Hobart Hotel.

Your guide will tell you a little about Tasmania and what you can expect to see and do in the days ahead. He will also assist you to unpack your bike or fit you to the Pedaltours rental bike should you not bring your own.

Should you need to contact Pedaltours please call our Auckland office, Richard, Helen or Lisa: 64 9 585-1338

Dinner will be at 7.00 pm

Lodging: D

Hotel Lenna. Ph: 6232 3900

20 Runnymede Street, Battery Point, Hobart.

Facilities: Restaurant, bar, laundry.

Features: Heritage listed building in Battery Point, the heart of old Hobart. An attractive and safe area that is a few minutes walk from Salamanca Market .

Day 2: Hobart to Orford: c. 104 km / 65 mi

Hobart to Sorell (lunch): a/b 45 km / 28 mi

Our route follows the original stagecoach line towards Port Arthur. We leave the city on a cycle path, cross Grass Tree Hill and descend to Richmond, one of the most historic and attractive towns in Tasmania. It has both the oldest bridge (convict built) and the oldest Roman Catholic Church in Australia and an excellent bakery for a mid-morning break.

The Coal River Valley, which encompasses Richmond and Sorell, supplied the area with produce in colonial times.

The scenery this afternoon consists of pastoral farms with forest sections, then thick bush with mountains and river views.

Orford is the southern "Gateway" to the East Coast and lies on the mouth of the Prosser River. The Thumbs (a mountain range to the south), and the majestic Maria Island dominate the topography. Maria Island is 20km offshore and is high enough to create its own weather, supporting many alpine and rainforest plants found otherwise only in the distant west and southwest.

Lodging and meals B, D (Lunch at own expense at Sorrell or Buckland)
Riverside Cottages, Orford. ph 03 6257-1655

Cycling distances given are entirely optional; the van will be available at any time

Day 3: Orford to Freycinet: c. 119.5km / 75 mi
via Boreen Point ferry: b. 87km / 54 mil
Orford to Swansea: a. 58 km / 36 mi

If numbers permit an option exists to visit the historic Maria Island in the morning where many kangaroo roam among the convict ruins.

Freycinet Peninsula rises spectacularly from the sea, forming Great Oyster Bay. This massive granite outcrop, with its red and white peaks, rises to a height of 700m. Freycinet National Park teems with wildlife: wallaby, birdlife, reptiles and aquatic animals.

The area boasts many activities including fishing, water skiing sailing, bush-walking, swimming, cycling and rock climbing. It also provides a haven for boats of all sizes.

The terrain is undulating with several small climbs. We cycle by pastoral farms and wineries with spectacular coastal views and forested hills.

Lodging and meals: B, D
Freycinet Lodge. Ph: 6257 0101
Coles Bay, Freycinet National Park.
Facilities: Comfortable cabins set in 14 acres.
Spacious lounge, bar & dining area. Laundry
Features: Overlooking bay and Hazard Range.
Excellent walks in the area, short & long.

Day 4:- Freycinet Peninsula Rest day.

This day is free to explore or simply relax on the beach. There are excellent walks in the Park, short and long: Wineglass Bay (2hrs.), Hazards Beach (1.5hrs.), Mt. Amos (4hrs.) or the recommended Wineglass/Hazards Circuit (5 hrs).

Optional activities include full or half day sea-kayaking tours and 4-wheel bike trips. Cycling options are: Friendly Beaches, Cape Tourville, Coles Bay

Lodging: B, D
Freycinet Lodge, Coles Bay.

Cycling distances given are entirely optional; the van will be available at any time

Day 5: Freycinet to St Helens: c. 118 km / 73 mi
 Coles Bay Turnoff to Scamander: b. 70 km / 44 km
 Coles Bay Turnoff to 4m Creek a. 56 km / 35 mi

Today we ride a very scenic coastal road with no major hills. Ride up the peninsula to the highway and turn right up the East Coast to Bicheno (Bish-en-oh), a fishing and tourism town set among rolling hills and white beaches. North of Bicheno is an undulating section of road that winds around the coast to the Chain of Lagoons. After Chain of Lagoons the road rejoins the A4 highway, which predates the coastal road.

Those who want a challenging ride, turn left on A4 up Elephant Pass. It is steep and narrow but scenic, with an 8 km descent back to the coast road.

Lodging and meals: B, L, D
Tidal Waters Resort St Helens ph 03 6376 1999
1 Quail Street, St Helens

Features: Modern waterfront resort set in landscaped gardens on the edge of a natural lagoon.

Facilities: Restaurants and bar, outdoor swimming pool, tennis, hairdryers.

Day 6: St Helens to Scottsdale: c. 102 km / 62 mi
 St Helens to Derby: b. 68 km / 42 mi
 St Helens to Derby a. 56 km / 35 mi
 (sag Weldborough Pass):

We leave the coast and head into the mountains of the North-Eastern Highlands. This is a diverse and interesting part of Tasmania with dry bushland at first, then lush dairy country of Goshen and Pyengarna. After Pyengarna, climb Weldborough Pass. There will be spectacular views - Mt Victoria to the left, Blue Tier and Goulds Country to the right. From Weldborough to Derby the road continues to wind its way up and down through impressive forests of towering eucalyptus (Gum trees), Myrtle and giant ferns.

Derby was home to a thriving tin mining industry, which although it continues today, is only a shadow of its former glory days. The road continues to wind through scenic hills, passing through Branxholm. The area supports agriculture, mining, forestry and tourism. To the right glimpses of Bass Strait can be seen. There will be a dramatic change in scenery today with more lush vegetation after Weldsborough and hop fields near Scottsdale.

Lodging and Dinner: B, L, D (Picnic lunch at Weldborough)
Anabel's Ph: 6352 3277
46 King Street
Comfortable B & B built c.1878

Cycling distances given are entirely optional; the van will be available at any time

Day 7: Scottsdale to Launceston: b/c. 64 km / 39 mi
 Top of Sideling Range to Launceston: a. 48 km / 30 mi

There will be spectacular views of Bass Strait and Scottsdale district followed by a wonderful descent through forest of myrtle and eucalyptus to Myrtle Park.

Farmland changes to bush country as we climb, featuring Myrtle Forest in the hills and striking eucalyptus forest on the plains. Another wonderful day's biking.

Lodging. B, D
City Park Grand Ph: 6331 7633
22 Tamar Street, Launceston
Features: Built 1855, beautifully restored, close to town centre.
 Best 3½ star hotel in Australasia award.
 500 m from city centre and many restaurants

Day 8: Launceston. Depart for Home

If leaving in the morning we will be pleased to supply transport to Launceston airport.

We trust you have had a wonderful holiday, wish you 'bon voyage', happy biking and hope to see you again one day.

You may like to leave the following accommodation list with family or friends

TASMANIA - 8 DAY TOUR

Day	Date	Location	Accommodation	Phone
1		Hobart	Lenna of Hobart	6232 3900
2		Orford	Riverside Cottages	6257-1655
3		Freycinet	Freycinet Lodge	6257 0101
4		Freycinet	Freycinet Lodge	6257 0101
5		St Helens	Tidal Waters Resort	6376 1999
6		Scottsdale	Anabels	6352 3723
7		Launceston	City Park Grand	6331 7633
8		Depart for home		