

FIRSTLIGHTTRAVEL



Your South Pacific Travel Specialists

AUSTRALIA

2024-2025 GUIDED HOLIDAYS



FIRST CHOICE 5-21 day Fully Curated Experiences **From page 26**

BEST BUYS 3-15 day Flexible Guided Holidays **From page 58**

Tassie's Wilderness Icons

Highlights

✂ Flexible Holidays

Do as much (spot wombats and Tassie devils; hike around Dove Lake) or as little (wander around the art gallery) as you like. This is your holiday, after all.

📍 Iconic Sites

From Cataract Gorge to the Gordon River, Cradle Mountain to Devils Kitchen, Tasmania is not short on natural attractions.

🌿 Sustainable Travel

MAKE TRAVEL MATTER EXPERIENCE Your entry fees into the state's national parks assist with the conservation of these pristine natural environments.

🌲 Natural Wonders

World Heritage listed wilderness is your playground in Mount Field National Park, a soul-stirring union of soaring eucalypts and thundering waterfalls.



Gordon River Cruise

6 DAYS

10 Included Experiences

Departure Dates

2023	2024	2025
Oct 18, 25	Jan 10, 24	Jan 01, 08 , 11, 22 , 29
Nov 04, 15, 25	Feb 03, 14, 28	Feb 01, 12 , 19, 26
Dec 06, 23	Mar 09, 20	Mar 08 , 12, 19
	Apr 03	
	May 01 , 11	
	Sep 04, 25	
	Oct 05 , 16 , 23 , 30	
	Nov 02 , 13 , 23 , 27	
	Dec 04 , 14, 21	

Definite Departures highlighted in red.

For prices, latest deals and year-round offers including past guest offers, group booking discounts for 9+ guests, multi-trip savings and additional definite departure dates visit aatkings.com/fhhl or contact your local travel agent.

A limited number of single rooms are also available.

Dining

5 Full breakfasts B
2 Lunches L

4 Dinners D

Flight Information

Day 1 – flights to arrive prior to 12.30pm into Hobart Airport

Day 6 – flights to depart after 2.00pm from Launceston Airport

Flights are not included in the holiday price.

Upgrade

Start & end your tour in Hobart. See Tasmanian Wonders page 72.

1 Welcome to Hobart

At the mouth of the River Derwent, Australia's southernmost city embraces its history, but has one eye firmly planted on the future. Put your destination into perspective from the summit of Mt. Nelson, offering a dreamy outlook over the Tassie capital. Step back in time once again at Battery Point, settled as a defensive outpost in the 19th century. You only need to visit Salamanca Place, the backdrop of epic Saturday markets, to see how forward-thinking purveyors and curators have transformed heritage spaces into restaurants, cafés and galleries. Gaze over boats at Constitution Dock – this is where yachts finish when competing in the annual Sydney to Hobart race, and take a stroll in the second oldest Botanical Gardens in Australia with its amazing collection of plants from around the world. Tonight, join your Travel Director for a Welcome Dinner. **Hotel: Best Western. D**

2 Hobart – Strahan

Not many people live in the West of Tasmania – even less visit. This is not for want of appeal. Mount Field National Park dials up the drama from the moment you arrive, delivering World Heritage listed wilderness in the form of soaring eucalypts (some of the tallest on Earth) and thundering waterfalls. Russell Falls will take your breath away in more ways than one. And just when you think nature couldn't get any more humbling, you arrive at Lake St. Clair, the deepest freshwater lake in Australia. It's one of numerous waterways breaking your path to Strahan, gateway to World Heritage listed Franklin-Gordon Wild Rivers National Park. **Hotel: Strahan Village, 2 nights. B D**

3 Strahan – Gordon River Cruise

The inky waters of the Gordon River – given its colour by amber button-grass tannins – are as eerie as they are beautiful, the mirror-like surface only broken by your Gordon River chariot as you cruise through Hells Gates, the treacherous entrance to the harbour before returning to Sarah Island. It's hard to reconcile the beauty of this part of the state with its grim history as a penal colony; a place where convicts would fell Huon pines for boat building. Disembark at Heritage Landing to view one of

these 500-year-old majestic trees. Safely back on dry land, it's soon time to discover 'The Ship That Never Was', the dramatic and hilarious true story of the Great Escape from Sarah Island! You'll see it performed live by a group of theatre professionals. **B L D**

4 Strahan – Cradle Mountain – Burnie

Today your journey reaches new heights – quite literally with a visit to the 1,545-metre Cradle Mountain, your backdrop as you explore Dove Lake on your Cradle Mountain tour, the wild alpine moorlands here a natural magnet for lovers of the wilderness. The spectacular and pristine wilderness of Cradle Mountain is home to the mysterious and secretive Tasmanian Devil. You'll love the next adventure today with a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience. A Day Keeper at Devils @ Cradle will lead you through the sanctuary and provide you with a thorough insight into its operation. When joining this tour you will be directly supporting these animals and threatened species conservation. Leave the Central Highlands this afternoon, and head towards the scenic north-west coast for your overnight stay. **Hotel: Beachfront Voyager Motor Inn. B L D**

5 Burnie – Launceston

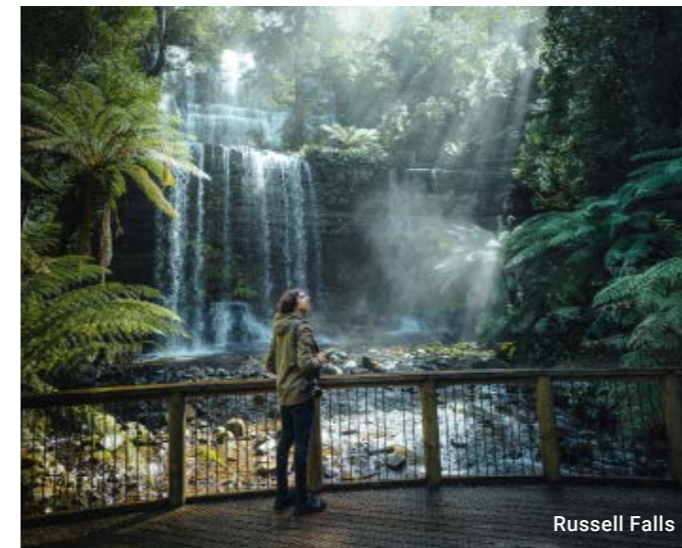
Table Cape is by far Wynyard's most remarkable natural wonder, at 180 metres high, 'The Cape' - as locals refer to it - offers spectacular views of Tasmania's coastline. As you drive to the top of the remains of a 12-million-year-old volcano you'll reach Table Cape lookout where, on a clear day, you can see mountain ranges over 175 kilometres away. If there's a town with a cuter name than Penguin, we're yet to find it. Locals embrace its appeal – there are penguin sculptures at every turn, including one measuring over 3 metres tall. Your journey along the northwest coast also passes through Ulverstone and Sheffield, The Town of Murals, boasting over 100 large paintings depicting the area's rich history and local characters. All this exploring builds an appetite. Refuel at Ashgrove Tasmanian Farm, where happy cows contribute to award-winning cheeses – everything from cheddar and red Leicester to creamy Tasmanian blue. **Hotel: Best Western Plus. B**

6 Farewell from Launceston

There are few places in the world where you can leave the city behind and within minutes be amid an immense wilderness area. Launceston is one. Blink and you're at Cataract Gorge, a yawning chasm carved by ancient rivers. This rare natural phenomenon unites bushland with neat Victorian gardens, replete with ferns and exotic plants. Get a different perspective of the green cavern on the optional scenic chairlift, zipping you over the water to a lofty lookout. You won't want your time here to come to an end; it's a good thing you have afternoon options. Perhaps linger in Launceston's pretty streets, or get a taste for the region on a Tamar Valley wine tour. How you end your Tasmanian tour is completely up to you. **B**



- **START**
- **END**
- ① Number of night stays
- Sightseeing stops



Russell Falls