



SEARCH FOR THE SOUTHERN LIGHTS

7 day Escorted Small Group • 08 - 14 August 2021

Enjoy Tasmania while searching for the famous Southern Lights - the spectacular Aurora Australis. Enroute enjoy the beautiful city of Hobart & its many attractions, visits Hobart's oldest vineyard at Moorilla, indulge in the fine tastes of the Huon Valley including treats from local providores, get in touch with nature at Bruny Island and discover the infamous Port Arthur historic site.

Day 1: Arrive Hobart

Start with a short transfer to Hobart where you will be introduced into the city's history, Salamanca Market, the Waterfront & Battery Point districts. Head up to Mt Wellington for fantastic photo opportunities of the River Derwent, the city and Southern Tasmania.

Crowne Plaza Hobart

Day 2: Mona, Moorilla & Wine (BL)

Today we explore the Museum of Old & New Art (MONA), the largest private art collection in Australia. With its fascinatingly eclectic blend of ancient & modern exhibits, it is one of the world's most controversial museums. Enjoy lunch at the Source, MONA's flagship restaurant. In the afternoon, take a private tour on MONA's own vineyard 'Moorilla' including a wine tasting. Discover the charming village of Richmond with its well well-preserved colonial architecture then return to your hotel. *Crowne Plaza Hobart*.

Day 3: Huon Valley Indulgence (BL)

Journey into the picturesque and fertile lands of the Huon Valley. Visit Australia's first alembic copper still, purpose-built for making apple brandy. Follow the coastal road into the township of Cygnet which lies between the beautiful D'Entrecasteaux Channel on one side and the majestic Huon river on the other. Enjoy cider tastings and visit other fine providores to sample award-winning cheeses. Enjoy lunch then check in to our lodging in the heart of the Huon Valley. After dark, enjoy the chance to see the Southern Lights in this area. (not guided). *Driftwood Cottages*

Days 4: Bruny Island & Search for the Southern Lights continued (BL)

Bruny Island, a short ferry ride from the coastal town of Kettering, is a peaceful oasis where time seems to stand still. Enjoy a day of stunning scenery and indulge in local produce, such as freshly shucked oysters and delicious berries. Relax at an award-winning winery for a gourmet lunch. Afterwards go on the famous Fluted Cape walk, located in the South Bruny National Park. It offers spectacular views of the coastal swell and beautiful bays. The area abounds with local wildlife, including curious White Wallabies. After dark, travel to South Bruny in search of the magical Southern lights (Aurora Australis). This evening is led by our guide explaining and showcasing all the tips and tricks how to capture the stunning southern night skies. *Hotel Bruny*

Day 5: Tasman Peninsula & continue in Search for the Southern Lights (BL)

After breakfast, discover more sights on this little island paradise before taking the ferry to Kettering. Lunch is at Mt Nelson signal station. Continue to the Tasman Peninsula to Eagle Hawk Neck. After dinner, head out to a place with no light pollution to capture the night sky & hopefully the Aurora Australis. *Lufra Hotel*

Day 6: Port Arthur & Tasman Peninsula (BL)

The famous convict settlement, Port Arthur, is set in tranquil gardens yet harbours a dark history which our guide will bring to life. Stroll among the now peaceful buildings & envisage the harsh life endured by the convicts. View the geological features of the Tasman peninsula as you explore the rugged coastline. Visit the

7 days from \$ 3,950[^]

INCLUSIONS

- Private touring with a local guide
- Transport in a well-appointed vehicle
- 6 nights' accommodation • 6 breakfast, 6 lunch • Entry to MONA, Port Arthur & UnZoo Devil Sanctuary • Bruny Island Ferry • A range of tastings • 2-evenings guided night time photography and National Parks Pass

** Minimum 6 Guests*

UnZoo where you meet Tasmania's enigmatic character, the Tasmanian Devil. See the local wild fauna and take the opportunity to hand feed the delightful kangaroos. Enjoy another chance to head out in search for the lights (unguided). *Lufra Hotel*

Day 7: Coal River Valley & Departure (BL)

On your way to Hobart, enjoy a farewell lunch including wine tasting at the table at Frogmore Creek Restaurant & winery. Later your guide will drop you at Hobart airport.

* OPTIONAL CRADLE MOUNTAIN EXTENSION

4 days from \$995

Day 7: Overnight Hobart (BL)

Your guide will take you to your Hobart city hotel for day at leisure. *Crowne Plaza Hobart*

Days 8-9: Cradle Mountain N.P. (BL)

Journey via the Great Lakes Plateau and the Tasmanian highlands. Stop for lunch then arrive at the UNESCO World heritage-listed Cradle Mountain National Park. Get up close and learn about the iconic Tasmanian Devil at a local sanctuary. During your stay, enjoy the beautiful alpine landscapes of Cradle Mountain. *Cradle Mountain Lodge (2 nts)*

Day 10: Marakoopa Caves-Launceston (BL)

Morning at leisure then continue to Launceston. Enroute, visit Marakoopa Caves on an underground rivers & glow-worm tour before arriving in Launceston for lunch in a local restaurant with views over the famous Cataract Gorge. Transfer to the airport.

