

Tasalong 2008

An environmental experience specialising in the birds of Tasmania
 Led by Jon Hosford
 Echuca & District Branch
 Bird Observation and Conservation Australia

Summary of Costs: These will vary according to individual circumstances.

Bookings have been made by the tour leader for all venues and tours as indicated by contact with participants.

Participants need to secure their own travel arrangements to and from Tasmania.

Travel (Spirit of Tas & intra island Ferries) \$662 – based on 2 way inside twin cabin & vehicle 7.1- 8.0m

Single vehicle - \$ 189 (Twin cabin) + vehicle to 7 m \$79 = \$ 582

Travel to Tasmania Friday February 15th 7pm. You need to make a booking

Return to Melbourne Saturday March 1st departure 7pm. You need to make a booking

Tours: (optional, although alternative itinerary is at individual's choosing) \$311

Caravan Park Fees: \$120 (approx)

National Parks Pass (2 weeks) \$56 per vehicle. Vehicle drivers should purchase a Holiday Pass on the Spirit of Tasmania. This fee covers entry to parks for any passengers also.

Administration: \$10

BOAC Insurance: \$10

Total per person (approximately): \$1200 (will vary depending on Spirit of Tas charges and optional tours chosen)

Prices have been worked on current prices as at January 25th 2008, but changes could still occur.

Amended Itinerary as at January 25th, 2008.

Please note : Due to availability of a larger boat for our group, the Pelagic Cruise from Orford needs to be taken on February 20th. I have therefore swapped 20-21 schedules from the proposed itinerary.

Date	Programme	Schedule	Time	Cost to Participants	Notes
February 2008 Friday 15	Spirit of Tasmania to Devonport Boarding time	Depart 7:00pm Arrive Devonport 7:00am Saturday 16th Feb	6:30 pm	See above National Parks Holiday Pass \$ 56	Average Allowing Vehicle + Caravan + twin share cabin Vehicle owners will need to purchase a 2 week Holiday National Parks Pass On the boat. Available from the Tourist Info Office on The Spirit.
Saturday 16 Day 1	Meet with Tour Leader		7:00-7:30 am		Depends on Ferry schedule. Shopping time available 1 hour approx. 7:45.-8:45. I shall research options for Supermarket access etc.and advise considering best parking options.
Saturday 16	Travel to Wesley Vale. Birding at Moreland Beach. Travel via Frankford Highway to Narawntapu National Park	Birding & lunch in coastal national park	9:00am- 3:00pm		Map available for download from http://www.winderdoon.com/birds/tasalong_2008.htm Springlawn area. Ranger John Bowden
Saturday 16	Overnight stay at Windermere Bird Call	Home of leader	4:00pm 7:30pm		Cramped but adequate sites for up to 10 vans. Party atmosphere in evening.
Sunday 17 Day 2	Early morning birding along Windermere Road		7:00am		Grey butcherbird; NH honeyeater, Yellow-throated honeyeater, Yellow wattlebird; Little wattlebird;

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Sunday 17 Day 2	Depart for Cataract Gorge 1hr walk around Cataract Gorge		9:00am		Uphill walk through dry sclerophyll forest
	Depart Cataract Gorge		11:00am		
	Travel to Lake Leake via Campbelltown		11:00- 12:30		
	Lunch at Kalangadoo and walk along Lake Leake foreshore		1:00- 3:00		Yellow-throated honeyeater; woodswallows; Dusky robin; ducks
	Depart Lake Leake Travel to River & Rocks campground		3:00- 4:00		
	Happy Hour		5:00pm		
	Overnight stay at River & Rocks Campground				
	Bird Call		7:30pm		

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Monday 18 Day 3	Morning excursion to Douglas-Apsley National Park		9:00am	Parks Pass required for vehicles entering the Park.	Minimum number of vehicles due to limited parking.
	Walk at Douglas-Apsley National Park		10:00- 12:00		Features wide range of Tas endemic trees and birds. Tas scrub wren; Tas thornbill
	Travel to Friendly Beaches Freycinet National Park.		12:00- 12:30pm	Parks Pass required for vehicles entering the Park.	
	Lunch at Friendly Beaches National Park		12:30- 1:30pm		
	Walk the beach at Friendly Beaches		1:30-3:00pm		Stunning views of beaches and seascape. Hooded Plover.
	Travel to River & Rocks Camp Area		4:00-4:30		
	Happy Hour		5:00		
	Bird Call		7:30pm		

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Tuesday 19 Day 4	Birding around Camp Or optional 15min drive to Moulting Lagoon for estuarine birds and waders in early morning light.		7:30am- 9:00		Estuarine and bush birds abound in this place.
	Walk to Wine Glass Lookout and Hazards Beach. Return to car park via cliff walk.		10:00am	Parks Pass required for vehicles entering the Park.	This is a popular tourist walk but a must in Tas.
	Travel to Triabunna		3:00pm		
Tuesday 19	Triabunna Caravan Park O/N		4:30pm	\$20	Group camp kitchen

					facilities are available here during our stay.
	Happy Hour		5:00pm		
	Bird Call		7:30pm		

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Wednesday 20 Day 5	Travel to Orford- minimum vehicles Board Striker 2 for Pelagic Cruise	Optional cruise for up to 16 passengers. (Fully booked)		\$55	
	Return to Triabunna Happy Hour Bird Call	Camping O/Night	5:00pm 7:30pm	\$20	

Thursday 21 Day 6	Walk to Maria Island Ferry for 9:30am departure		9:00am	\$25	No food sales or drink on this day so need to take lunch Water is available on the island
	Arrive Maria Island		10:15am	Parks Pass required for those entering the Park..	
	Walk Painted Cliffs , Oast House walk	11/2 hr walk plus birding allow 2 1/4 hrs	10:15am - 12:30		Crested tern; Cape Barron Goose; Golden Whistler; Forty-spotted pardalote
	Walk Fossil Cliffs	11/2 hr walk plus birding	1:30- 3:30pm		
	Return to Triabunna via ferry 4:00 departure		4:00-4:45		
	Happy Hour		5:30		
	Bird Call		7:30pm		
	Triabunna Caravan Park O/Night			\$20	
Date	Programme	Schedule	Time	Cost to Participants	Notes
Friday 22 Day 7	Travel to Orford Weilangta Forest Drive				
	Weilangata Forest Walk		10:00- 11:30		

	Drive to Hobart		1:30-1:00		
	Shopping-		1:00-2:30		
	Drive to Peter Murrels Reserve		3:00- 4:30		Alan Fletcher (leader) Map available: http://www.winderdoon.com/birds/tasalong_2008.htm
	Drive to Bruny Island Ferry at Kettering		4:30- 5:15pm		
	Ferry to Bruny Island		6:30pm	\$40-return –caravan \$28 car-6.0metres	
	Travel to The Neck Campground		6:30pm- 7:00pm		
	Penguin & Shearwater rookery visit		8:30- 9:30pm		

Saturday 23 Day 8	Birding Bruny Island				
	The Neck Campground birding		9:00- 10:30am		
	Cape Queen Elizabeth walk	Minimum vehicles - 5km drive	10:30- 2:00pm		40 spotted-pardalote
	Happy Hour		5:00pm		
	Bird Call		7:30pm		
	Penguin rookery- for those who wish to go again or those who did not go last night.		8:30pm		

Sunday 24 Day 9	Inala	9:00- 3:00pm		\$40	This property is owned by Dr Tonia Cochrane and has been preserved as a land for wildlife area. A Walk around this property will potentially provide a view of all endemic Tasmanian species. Lunch and guiding provided by Inala
	Depart Inala Drive to Adventure Bay	3:00pm- 4.15pm			

Date	Programme	Schedule	Time	Cost to Participants	Notes
	Adventure Bay campground			\$25	A 10 km journey of ups and downs along a logging road across the island.. 4WD is advisable for traction although conventional vehicles will survive although stretched.
	Happy Hour		5:00 pm		
Monday 25 Day 10	Birding Bruny Island- options Eco tour of coast Walk to fluted cape Birding at Adventure Bay Happy Hour Bird Call		5:00 pm 7:30pm	Optional \$100	This would rate as one of the best eco tourist tours internationally. Plan to afford if you can.
	Overnight Stay Adventure Bay				
Tuesday 26 Day 11	Depart Adventure Bay travel to Roberts Point for ferry. Departure	8:30am- 9:30am 10:00am			
Tuesday 26	Ferry Travel to Hobart Shopping Lunch meet at Bridgewater Arrive Lake St Clair 3:00 Loop Walk Happy Hour	10:30-11:30 11.30-12.30 1:00pm- 1:45pm 5:00pm			Bassian Thrush
	Bird Call	7:30pm			
	Overnight Lake St Clair			Camping Fee \$ 15pp Powered site \$25.50pp	I have booked 6 caravan sites + 5 tent sites. This allows for individual extra tents if necessary. It will be charged on a person basis. The dearest park by far in Tas and probably one of the more expensive in Australia. They know there is no alternative.
Wednesday 27 Day 12	Drive to Strachan Stopping for short walks & birding	Depart 9:00am 5 hours			
	Macquarie Heads Campground Happy Hour	5:00pm		\$5 per vehicle	15 km from Strachan.
	Ground Parrot night excursion				Chris Arthur TasNPS

Date	Programme	Schedule	Time	Cost to Participants	Notes
Thursday 28 Day 13	Gordon River			Cruise Fee \$86 Gold Pass Cruise	Visit Sarah Island Heritage Landing Includes morning tea, buffet lunch, glass of wine, Sarah Island Booklet. An excellent history and natural values tour.
	Macquarie Heads Campground			\$5 per vehicle	
	Happy Hour		5:00pm		
	Bird Call		7:30pm		
Friday 29 Day 14	Drive to Cradle Mountain Catch Shuttle Bus to Lake Dove Walk Lake Dove Circuit or via Wombat Pool Travel to Lake Gairdner Happy Hour Final Bird Call		9:00- 11:00 11:00 11:30-2:00pm 3:00-4:30pm 5:00pm 7:30pm	Parks Pass required for vehicles entering Park.Pass covers shuttle bus fee to Dove Lake.	Group decision on walk route. We can take 2 groups on different routes if you wish.
Saturday 1 Day 15	Travel to Devonport to connect with Spirit of Tasmania. Boarding 6:00pm The Tasmanian Aboretum is well worth a visit if you have time before boarding the Boat. Maps will be issued if you wish to do this.			See Spirit of Tasmania current rates.	

Vehicles should be suitable to travel on gravel roads.

If towing a caravan a 4wd vehicle is recommended for stability.

The standard of caravan parks in Tasmania is basic, as are facilities for off road stopovers. Nevertheless I am confident this will be an experience you will enjoy and remember always as special.

All optional tours have now been booked. Most participants have opted to include all optional tours.

I am confident that this trip will show you Tasmania and its diversity of wildlife and their habitats with a group of people who share common values in the conservation of this special part of our Earth.

Jon Hosford

January 7 2008

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