

# *Things to do in Tasmania*

## THE WESTERN WILDERNESS



Just for a moment it's as though the sky has fallen in. Yet there is no suggestion of catastrophe. In the early morning the village of Strahan is as quiet as a fisherman on an alpine lake trying to outwit a trout.

Strahan is built on the banks of Macquarie Harbour and its waters can be an uncanny blue. That's sky blue not water blue. Wispy clouds daubed through the still water add to the great weird splash of out of place colour.

The village makes barely an imposition on this giant of a waterway as Macquarie spreads its arms and reaches for the Southern Ocean. Its Sydney sister is far smaller. Some say at least half the size.

Looking west toward Ocean Beach from Risby Cove the water can seem to meet the sky. It is not at first apparent where one ends and the other begins. At water level I follow the 'sky.' A yacht at its mooring is perfectly mirrored in the water. The reflection punctuates the cloud.

**For more information on Tasmania please call 1300 TASSIE or visit [discovertasmania.com](http://discovertasmania.com)**

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### Wilderness and wildlife

- Walk in a dramatic glacier-carved world at Cradle Mountain and Dove Lake, where you can dance in the Ballroom Forest, discover hidden tarns and meet fascinating creatures
- Travel through rainforest and river country to Corinna. On the edge of one of the largest tracts of remaining temperate rainforest in the world are forest walks, the Tarkine Hotel, the Tannin Restaurant, and the Pieman River where you can cruise on a Huon pine boat
- Near Derwent Bridge, at the end of the Overland Track, cruise Lake St Clair, Australia's deepest freshwater lake
- Relax in a clifftop hot tub with sweeping rainforest views at five star Tarraleah Lodge, where wild times come with white linen and fine dining



### Exhilarating experiences

- Raft gorges, rapids and the Great Ravine on the legendary Franklin River, known the world over for its untamed beauty
- Hike the six-day Overland Track through Tasmania's World Heritage heart with creature comforts and gourmet fare provided
- Near Rosebery, mountain bike or walk to Tasmania's highest waterfall – magnificent Montezuma Falls – on an historic tramway track. Take the swinging bridge if you dare
- Glide on an ancient waterway through uninhabited wilderness on the Gordon River Paddle



### Living heritage

- Ride the restored steam-powered West Coast Wilderness Railway through the imposing King River Rainforest Gorge
- The Piners and Miners tour from Strahan mixes pioneering stories, a rainforest walk, and a gourmet waterfront lunch in the evocative ghost town of Pillinger
- Sarah Island's convict history takes an interesting twist with the play *The Ship That Never Was*, Australia's popular longest running live performance
- Discover frontier challenges at Zeehan's Pioneer Museum and the Gaiety Theatre, brought back to life by a strong community spirit



### Wilderness touring

- Join guided tours or drive yourself to set your own pace – either way, immerse yourself in the best of the rugged west
- Take your time on a series of stunning short walks along the Lyell Highway that take you to a wilderness lookout, the Franklin River and Nelson Falls
- Escape on a 4WD tour to roaring surf, mountain peaks and remote lakes
- Take to the water on a kayaking expedition with Roaring 40s into the sublime southwest and far-flung Bathurst Harbour. Granite-jawed mountains help keep this gigantic harbour and all that surrounds it a gloriously uncorrupted part of the world

For a calendar of Tasmanian events please visit [discovertasmania.com/events](http://discovertasmania.com/events)