

# Things to do in Tasmania

## THE NORTH WEST COAST



Never, ever sleep on the flight from Melbourne to Burnie. Yes you will be cruising mostly above water. Yes the flight will for the most part be uneventful. But no nanna-nap, no matter how reinvigorating, is worth the risk of missing the views above Table Cape.

The Cape or thereabouts is often the first point the plane sweeps low over 'mainland' Tasmania. I looked down on fields with chunky symmetrical lines of carefully ploughed red dirt. In neighbouring rows, lines of squat luscious green plantings, lettuces or something, scooted towards the Cape's dramatic edges.

Sheer cliffs make up Table Cape's north boundary. Bass Strait punches into the base of them. The greens, the reddish-brown hues and the various shades of blues tinting the sky and the water are so acute that just for a moment they may not seem real. The flash of bucolic perfection is a little like being propositioned by Helena Christensen in that it can seem preposterously improbable.

Now, for those not familiar with the Cape I may be ruining the surprise of the flyover. But it's best you know. Under a blue sky this landscape is utterly beautiful and neat and perfect.

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

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### Meet the makers

- Sip a single malt whisky at Hellyers Road Distillery in Burnie
- Indulge in cherries fresh from the orchard at a Spreyton farm that grows more than 15 varieties of this luscious fruit
- Buy direct from growers and makers at Sunday's big under-cover market in the coastal town of Penguin
- At House of Anvers in Latrobe taste fine couverture chocolate and truffles that are the choice of celebrity chefs
- Shape your own handmade paper from exotic fibres at Creative Paper Tasmania in Burnie



### Adventure

- Trek along the coastline of the Rocky Cape National Park, where sea caves abound, gnarled banksias grow in groves and information on Aboriginal life is displayed
- Ride Tarkine Forest Adventures twisting 110-metre slide into Dismal Swamp, a natural sinkhole that's a world of mystery
- Take a Tall Timbers Tarkine adventure tour to a rugged, remote coast
- Cruise the rugged coastline with Stanley Seal Cruises
- Head off the beaten track in the far North West on a personalised 4WD tour to a coastal bush camp



### Wilderness and wildlife

- Get close to wombats on the marsupial lawn at coastal Narawntapu National Park, where a short walk takes you to a lagoon that's a paradise for endemic birds
- Explore the secret life of the platypus at Latrobe's Bells Parade
- Hear the call of Leven Canyon from a lookout almost 300 metres above a twisting river
- See Burnie's remarkable penguin colony, thriving near the city centre thanks to local care
- On a coastal night tour with Kings Run Wildlife, watch and listen to wild Tasmanian devils feeding



### Community experiences

- Share a passion for history and nature at Sheffield, where almost every large wall in this town of murals is an impressive work of art
- Stroll the shore in easygoing seaside villages like Ulverstone, Penguin or Wynyard, enjoying beach walks, bike rides and mixing with locals in parks and cafés
- Shop at farmers' markets at Don Village near Devonport, Ulverstone and Burnie for produce and local crafts, or join locals in food, wine and music events
- Explore a Burnie rhododendron garden where locals nurture 20,000 plant species, many of them rare. You can stroll along fern walks and around tranquil lakes at Fern Glade and maybe even sight a platypus at dusk

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