

# Australia: Tasmania, Sydney, & the Blue Mountains

April 26 - May 8, 2025 • 13 Days • \$7690

WAI has shared the down under land of Australia many times since the mid-1990s. A country roughly the size of the continental USA has much to offer. Our 2025 edition of Australia minimizes flights that would normally be necessary on a down under by narrowing our focus to Tasmania and the Sydney/Blue Mountains area.

Seven Days on Tasmania immerses us in its Tasmanian Devil-like reality of weird and wonderful creatures and phenomenal geological features, along with a layered history as the site of penal colonies, pioneering whalers, and of course, a fascinating and often-tragic aboriginal past.

The Blue Mountains are another special corner of down under with spectacular scenery and walking opportunities. Sydney is one of the world's spectacularly-sited cities, spread along a harbor stunning for its size and diverse geography, flora, and fauna. Harbour Bridge is the perfect viewing platform with the famous Sydney Opera House and harbor-front stretching to infinity. The Spit to Manly walk is one of our favorite down under experiences, involving a ferry trip back to our hotel across the harbor.

[Book Now Contact Us](#)

[Tour Type: Classic Curated](#)

## trip Details

- [What's included](#)
- [Reviews](#)

## Including:

- Hotel to airport transfer on the last day in Sydney
- All land travel by motorcoach as outlined
- Flight from Launceston to Sydney
- Bruny Island ferry
- Maria Island ferry
- Sydney Harbour ferry from Manly
- Superior tourist class or better hotel accommodations
- 18 meals: all breakfast, 4 lunches, and 2 dinners as listed (BLD)
- 18 walking trails as listed
- Fees for walking credit for 9 walks (if IVV approved)
- WAI guide service throughout (2 guides)
- Local guides throughout
- All tipping for local guides, coach drivers, and group meals
- Pricing is based on double occupancy rooms; a limited number of single rooms are available for an additional supplement of \$1850. We also provide a roommate

matching service.

## Activities/Visits to:

- Port Arthur Historic Site
- Coal Mines Historic Site
- Waterfall Bay
- Mount Field National Park
- South Bruny National Park
- Maria Island
- Freycinet National Park
- Wineglass Bay
- Cape Tourville
- Cataract Gorge Reserve
- Josef Chromy Wines vineyard tour & lunch
- Blue Mountains National Park
- Bygone Beauties Tea Pot Museum with cream tea
- Manly Scenic Walkway
- Half day Sydney walking tour featuring Royal Botanic Garden Sydney, Hyde Park, The Domain, and Darling Harbour.

## Optional Excursions:

- Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary Night Feeding Tour - Day 3
- Sydney Opera House Tour - Day 12
- Sydney Harbour Bridge Climb - Day 12
- Sydney Harbour Cruise - Day 12

*"I had extremely high expectations, which were met or exceeded on a daily basis. I don't remember when I have enjoyed an adventure more... This was my ninth adventure with WAI. Every single one has been an exceptionally enriching experience, with wonderful variety of traveling companions with similar interests."*

- John F.; Anchorage, AK

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*"I am so happy WAI plans these trips. I would not be brave enough to venture out myself. I like the knowledge that the guide tells us on the trails ahead. It is our decision whether to take the easy walk or the challenging walk."*

- Jackie L.; San Antonio, TX

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*"Really appreciated the on-time travel as well as occasional options to do a more*

*challenging walk. A lot was packed into each day but we also had free time to do our own exploration. Great group of walkers to share this adventure with.”*

- Gale W.; Silver Springs, MD

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*“Entire trip was another great experience and adventure. I really appreciate all the effort and thought you put into the tours.”*

- Margie M.

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*“This has been one of the best trips we’ve taken, and we travel a lot. We were gone almost a month, and every day brought a new surprise & delight. This is a special part of the world, and you gave us the best of it, in detail. Great job, WAI!”*

- Janet & Clark C.; Sequim, WA

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*“I enjoyed it so much, I wish I could start it all over again tomorrow instead of heading back to the states. Thanks WAI for the great time you showed us all - great memories are now mine!”*

- Betty H.; San Antonio, TX

- [Book Now](#)
- [360.260.9393](tel:360.260.9393)
- [Email Us](#)

## Itinerary

***Click on each day to reveal more details. (BLD) refers to meals included - Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.***

[Day 1~ April 26: Arrive Hobart, Tasmania \(D\)](#)

As Australia’s only island state (and its southernmost), Tasmania is chock full of natural wonders as well as fascinating Aboriginal and European settlement history. Hobart, the island’s state capital and largest city, is home to nearly 40% of Tasmania’s population, located on the Derwent River Estuary. Nestled along a picturesque deep natural port, with the imposing Mount Wellington looming large to the north, this charming city serves as the starting point of our Land Down Under adventure as we share a Welcome Dinner together!

## [Day 2~April 27: Activities from Hobart \(B\)](#)

*Walk #1: Port Arthur Walk - 2 km, rated 2B*

*Walk #2: Coal Mines Historic Walk - 2 km rated 2B*

*Walk #3: Waterfall Bay Walk - 2.3 km, rated 2B*

This morning, we focus on the splendid southeast corner of Tasmania, beginning with an historic and moving visit to Port Arthur, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and one of Britain's early penal colonies in Australia. Despite its beautiful location, Port Arthur served as a place of punishment and hardship for countless decades. We discover fascinating stories and gain a deeper appreciation of Tasmania's early settlement history on a guided walk among Port Arthur's many historic buildings, including prison ruins, gardens, restored houses, and an impressive skeleton of a church.

Following lunch at Port Arthur, our history lesson continues with a brief visit and walk at Coal Mines Historic Site, a tranquil and beautiful site along the shallow waters of Ironstone Bay, where unfortunate convicts were forced into unrelenting and confining work in the peninsula's coal mines. By mid-afternoon, we escape from the prison-theme and gaze in wonder at stunning cliffs and dazzling sea arches on an exciting walk from Waterfall Bay to Devils Kitchen. Prepare to be wowed! Finishing off our first full day of activity, we savor a brief stop at a geological oddity known as the Tessellated Pavements, a strange collection of naturally occurring rectangular blocks in a gorgeous seaside setting.

## [Day 3~April 28: Activities from Hobart \(B\)](#)

*Walk #4: Pandani Grove Walk - 2 km, rated 2B*

*Walk #5: Three Falls Hike - 3 km, rated 2B*

Mount Field is one of Tasmania's oldest national parks and is also one of its most diverse, dubbed "the park for all seasons" due to its topographical variety. This magical place has just about everything but a coastline, including glaciated alpine landscapes, gorgeous waterfalls, and some of the world's tallest eucalyptus trees.

Our morning begins with a drive to the higher elevations of the park and a short but striking walk around Lake Dobson and through the splendid Pandani Grove. The pandani is the tallest heath in the world and can only be found in Tasmania. Its tough, drooping foliage sheds snow and ice, which helps protect it at high altitude.

Descending back to the visitor center, the second walk of the day takes us on a lovely loop trail which features Russell Falls, one of Tasmania's favorite and most recognizable natural wonders. This two-tiered beauty is the first highlight along a trail that also takes us to Horseshoe Falls, along with an stimulating, short stroll among the Tall Trees.

You'll feel quite small among these massive swamp gums (a species of eucalyptus), the tallest flowering plants in the world, some of which can reach well over 300 feet in height. In fact, the largest trees in this grove were growing when Abel Tasman first sighted

Tasmania in 1642. After departing Mt. Field, an hour-long drive returns us to capital city of Hobart.

OPTIONAL BONORONG WILDLIFE SANCTUARY NIGHT FEEDING TOUR: Our schedule is full today, but this is our best opportunity to connect with some wonderfully unique down under critters, including the fabled Tasmanian Devil.

We spend over two hours with a guide, hand-feeding weird and wonderful creatures like Eastern quolls, tawny frogmouths and sugar gliders. We may even engage in a 'tug of war' with the Tassie devils for their dinner. First, it's dinner time for daylight dwellers and then nocturnal animals get their breakfast. A special highlight is meeting a mob of friendly Forester kangaroos.

Working with injured and orphaned critters is also part of the sanctuary mission. Estimated price: \$195 including roundtrip bus transfer and a 2½ hour tour.

#### [Day 4~April 29: Activities from Hobart \(BL\)](#)

*Walk #6: South Bruny National Park Walk - 4 km, rated 2B*

This morning, we embark on a full day adventure to Bruny Island. The fun begins after we traverse the southern shores of Hobart to the seaside town of Kettering. From there, we depart by vehicular ferry on an award-winning Bruny Island Cruise, giving us the opportunity to spot a variety of Southern Ocean marine wildlife and impressive coastal geology.

Along the way, we sample a smattering of local produce and take in the lovely scenery. After an included lunch, we enjoy a 4 km stroll at Grass Point, located within South Bruny National Park, savoring spectacular coastal views and a peek at the ruins of an old whaling station.

Following this memorable day, we return to the comfortable confines of our Hobart hotel for one last night before tomorrow's exciting day at Maria Island.

#### [Day 5~April 30: Hobart - Freycinet National Park, Tasmania \(BL\)](#)

*Walk #7: Fossil Cliffs Walk - 4.7 km, rated 2C*

*Walk #8: Painted Cliffs Walk - 4.8 km, rated 2C*

An early morning drive north from Hobart brings us to the quaint little hamlet of Triabunna. Here, we board a ferry bound for a truly delightful experience on Maria Island, which boasts historic ruins, dramatic cliffs, beautiful bays, and a treasure trove of wildlife encounters.

Following a short stroll to Darlington, site of a former prison colony, the first of two featured walks takes us through blue gum forests and likely includes a few marsupial sightings, bringing us ultimately to the grand ocean views and geological riches of Fossil Cliffs. Take a

moment and see how many primeval clam and scallop fossils you can identify at this extraordinary site!

Following an included lunch back at Darlington, our second walk of the day takes us on a different hiking loop that features sweeping views of Darlington Bay and the pretty little Hopground Beach.

Arriving at the namesake attraction, Painted Cliffs, marvel at the rich palette of colors mother nature has revealed in these strangely eroded sandstones. Wave action and sea spray have worked their sculpting magic over millennia and created honeycomb patterns, potholes, and notches that are mesmerizing to the eye.

Full of Maria Island memories, we take a mid-afternoon ferry back to Triabunna and drive north to another of Tasmania's treasures, Freycinet National Park, for the first of a two-night stay.

#### [Day 6~ May 1: Activities from Freycinet National Park \(BL\)](#)

*Walk #9: Wineglass Bay Hike - 3 km, rated 3D*

*Walk #10: Cape Tourville Walk - 1 km, rated 1B*

*Bonus Walk: Friendly Beaches - 1-5 km, rated 1C*

Freycinet National Park is an absolute gem along Tasmania's east coast! Today, we bask in several splendid vistas that are among Australia's prettiest postcard scenes. This park is probably best known for the breathtaking and stunning exquisiteness of Wineglass Bay, which we witness on our morning walk. Ascending a short and steep track through coastal woodland and gigantic granite boulders, the reward is well worth the effort when we arrive at a saddle in the mountain and gaze down at the crystal-clear waters and curvaceous white sand beach below.

Following this wow moment, only a short drive away, a much easier but equally scenic stroll awaits us on a dramatic boardwalk at Cape Tourville Lighthouse, majestically set high above the crashing surf.

A relaxing and tasty lunch awaits us on the pink granite shores of Honeymoon Bay, which looks out upon the larger Great Oyster Bay. After this rejuvenating break, you can either choose to enjoy free time on your own near our beachside lodge or take a short drive with your guide down to Friendly Beaches for a couple hours of late afternoon enjoyment at one of the prettiest, long, white sand beaches you'll likely come across. One thing is certain...this day will leave you wishing you had more time to explore Freycinet!

#### [Day 7~May 2: Freycinet National Park - Launceston, Tasmania \(BL\)](#)

*Walk #11: Cataract Gorge Walk - 3 km, rated 3C*

*Walk #12: Tamar Island Walk - 4 km, rated 1A*

We bid farewell this morning to lovely Freycinet National Park and drive north for a mid-morning arrival at Launceston, Tasmania's second most populous city. Near the heart of Launceston is a surprisingly pristine walk in beautiful Cataract Gorge that bears witness to the power of water.

Starting from Kings Bridge, near the First Basin, experience the South Esk River rushing below you as you continue up the east side of the river to historic Duck Reach Power Station, one of the earliest hydro-electric power stations in the world, operated from 1895 to 1955.

Lunch today will be in the highly touted Tamar River Valley, one of the top wine routes in the world. Countless vineyards adorn the banks of this unusual, northerly-flowing river, and we aim to sample the delights of an award-winning winery before continuing to our afternoon walk.

In the middle of the Tamar River lies Tamar Island, a busy wetland hosting bountiful bird life, including pelicans, black swans, egrets, herons, spoonbills, and a wide variety of ducks. A user-friendly boardwalk allows for a comfortable stroll as you spy on the numerous species of birds along with remains of dredging machinery once used to improve navigation for ships.

We wrap up this full day in the heart of downtown Launceston, where numerous dining opportunities await near our hotel.

#### [Day 8~May 3: Launceston - Leura, New South Wales \(B\)](#)

We catch a morning flight to Sydney, Australia's largest city, where we are met by a guide, motorcoach, and driver.

The Great Western Highway takes us west across a plateau of sandstone bedrock, winding along a ridgeline that separates a series of deep and dramatic gorges. We soon find ourselves in a UNESCO Site—the Greater Blue Mountains Area World Heritage Site, comprised of seven national parks and a conservation reserve.

Anticipating tomorrow's exploratory hikes, we arrive at our hotel on the outskirts of the charming hamlet of Leura in time for a no-host dinner.

#### [Day 9~May 4: Activities in the Blue Mountains \(B\)](#)

*Walk #13: Three Sisters Viewpoint Walk - 1 km, rated 1A*

*Walk #14: Govett's Leap Lookout Walk - 2 km, rated 1A*

*Walk #15: Pulpit Rock Walk - 1 km, rated 2C*

*Walk #16: Charles Darwin Trail Walk - 4 km, rated 2C*

Rather than mountains in the traditional geological sense, the Blue Mountains are really a series of deep canyons lined with verdant eucalyptus forests and dense subtropical

vegetation, punctuated at intervals with silver threads of water falling in cataracts down craggy sandstone cliffs. A series of four trails at widely divergent spots along the rim of two different canyons offers a delightful connection with this fascinating ecosystem.

We take a break between trails to experience a very British influence on down under culture—a traditional cream tea in a tea house that doubles as a serious tea pot museum. If you've never experienced cream tea, be careful! Scones smothered with clotted cream and jam, washed down with good British black tea, can become addicting.

Later this afternoon, the last hike of the day also offers a “challenge” alternative route for those yearning for a bit more exercise.

### [Day 10~May 5 : Leura - Sydney, New South Wales \(B\)](#)

*Walk #17: Spit to Manly Sydney Harbour Hike - 10 km, rated 3C*

We say farewell to the Blue Mountains this morning, returning to Sydney for a three-night stay. Our hotel is strategically located in “The Rocks”, the oldest section of Sydney, overlooking the waterfront with access to a host of activities and dining options.

After dropping our luggage at the hotel, we continue by bus to the trailhead of today's classic hike along the north side of Sydney Harbour. A local guide leads us on a route that weaves through a wonderful variety of lush bush land and scenic harbor side trails, passing several of North Sydney's picturesque beaches.

The trail finishes in the town of Manly from where we return to Sydney by ferry, crossing legendary Sydney Harbour with stellar views of the famous opera house and Sydney Harbour Bridge.

### [Day 11~May 6: Activities in Sydney \(B\)](#)

*Walk #18: Sydney Harbour & Gardens Walk - 10 km*

All day is devoted to exploring fascinating Sydney on a sightseeing walk that starts from our hotel. Some of the many Sydney highlights connected by this route include: The Rocks, Australia's first British settlement; Sydney Opera House; the Botanic Gardens; Hyde Park; The Domain; and Darling Harbour.

Later, those eager for a bonus walk are invited to join us for a train ride across the harbor and a walk back to our hotel across the Sydney Harbour Bridge offering classic views down into the harbour and over the Sydney Opera House.

### [Day 12~May 7: Activities in Sydney \(BD\)](#)

Today is free to explore Sydney on your own. A wide array of Sydney attractions awaits your consideration. Simply strolling the waterfront is a worthwhile and entertaining way to enjoy Sydney, but we have a number of ideas for you to consider, including those listed below that



you can pre-book through WAI.

Later this evening, we rendezvous to reminisce about our Australian Adventures at a Farewell Dinner in a popular local restaurant.

**OPTIONAL SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE TOUR:** Using state-of-the-art audio-visual technology, this 60-minute tour puts architect Jorn Utzon on center stage and is a tribute to his creative genius. You'll experience the magic behind one of the world's most extraordinary opera, ballet, and symphony venues as you explore the interior of the youngest building ever designated as a UNESCO World Heritage site. ~ Estimated price: \$45.

**OPTIONAL SYDNEY HARBOUR BRIDGE CLIMB:** This unique adventure on the bridge takes climbers to the top of the bridge's structure for a 3½-hour overview (quite literally) of Sydney and its magnificent harbor. Standing on top of the Bridge in the center of Sydney Harbour offers breathtaking panoramas of the Sydney foreshore, World Heritage-listed Sydney Opera House, and the skyline of the modern city of Sydney and beyond, depending upon weather clarity at the time of the climb. Climb Leaders will point out key landmarks that can be seen from the top of this great architectural icon. ~ Estimated price: \$299.

**OPTIONAL SYDNEY HARBOUR CRUISE:** Discover stories of Sydney Harbour under the spell of the Harbour Bridge and Opera House. This sightseeing cruise features a fun and personalized commentary of the sights, people, land, history, and development of one of the world's most beautiful harbour cities, along with refreshments that include unlimited self-serve coffee and tea, as well as a glass of sparkling wine. ~ Estimated price: \$49

### [Day 13~May 8: Depart Australia \(B\)](#)

Departing Sydney, we gain a day as we fly east, courtesy of the magic of the International Date Line. We arrive home several hours earlier than our Sydney departure, returning to the other side of the globe overflowing with indelible memories of our walking adventure Down Under!

Those participating in *Fiji ~ Pearl of the Pacific* can anticipate 8 more days of exploring Fiji's Mamanuca Islands, Yasawa Islands, and Sacred Islands on our 68-passenger ship. That Adventure begins with a flight this morning from Sydney to Nadi, Fiji.

## **Before You Register**

***Click on each heading to reveal more details.***

### [How Do I Lock in My Place on This Adventure?](#)

*Australia: Tasmania, Sydney, & the Blue Mountains* is currently in the final planning phase. Travelers who wish to hold their spot on this tour are encouraged to submit a refundable \$100 pre-registration deposit by clicking the green PRE-REGISTER button below. NOTE:

More travelers are currently registered than we have space available (24 spots) on this Adventure. However, due to changing circumstances and cancellations, saving your spot on the list still gives you a good chance of joining the Adventure.

Travelers who are pre-registered will receive a one-week-long priority booking invitation to convert their pre-registration to a full registration during the week of June 17. Full registration requires an additional \$200 (\$300 total registration). Registration deposits are non-refundable.

### [Modified Payment Terms](#)

A full registration for Australia requires the normal non-refundable deposit of \$300.

A second deposit of \$500 is then required by June 30, 2024 to cover the flight between Tasmania and Sydney.

Final payment is due 90 days before departure on January 26, 2025.

All payments are non-refundable after the due date.

### [What is a Classic Curated Tour?](#)

With help from local experts and walking guides, these itineraries are crafted with extensive on-site planning by WAI tour planners.

When designing Classic Curated Tours, our objective is to capture the essence of a destination—the history, culture, and natural wonders unique to that part of the world. We then build activities and walks that take us *inside* these characteristics.

Yes, these tours are educational, but they are also interactive and immersive; walking gets us off the bus and penetrates local cultures to not only see, but also touch, smell, and feel these special spaces.

Along the way, interactions with locals amplify the experience by sharing insights into the magic of that particular location.

In the case of Australia, our first tour in 1996 combined Australia and New Zealand, which has been our model for down under travel until 2025. Over the years, we have made regular and continuous improvements to both the itinerary and the walks. Repeated visits to Tasmania convinced us that this jewel of Australasia is worthy of more time, hence the redirected focus of the 2025 edition of Australia.

### [What Ratings](#)

We generally walk at a pace of 2 to 3 miles per hour. Walks that are oriented more towards education may take longer due to stops for guide commentary. Nature walks, on the other hand, generally continue at a steadier pace because we're stopping less to talk. In most

cases, we are not “strolling.” We are walking at a relaxed but steady pace. Your experience will be significantly affected by your level of physical fitness. If not walking regularly at home, we strongly recommend that you make a priority of “training” beforehand to both enjoy the trip and avoid medical issues due to overexertion.

If you have questions about your ability to participate, please contact our office at [fun@walkingadventures.com](mailto:fun@walkingadventures.com).

We have adopted a walk difficulty rating system which contains a numeric indicator for trail incline and an alpha indicator for trail terrain. The explanation for this system is presented on the table below:

### **INCLINE**

1. Minimal hills or stair climbing. Cumulative elevation gain: <200 feet.
2. Some moderate hills and stair climbing. Cumulative elevation gain: 200-1000 feet.
3. Some significant hill or stair climbing. Cumulative elevation gain: 1000-2000 feet.

### **TERRAIN**

- A. Almost entirely on pavement.
- B. A significant part of the route is on well-groomed trails with very few obstacles.
- C. A significant part of the route is on somewhat difficult terrain (rocky / rooted paths or soft sand).

### [How is Airfare Arranged?](#)

The tour begins with a flight into Hobart International Airport (airport code HBA) and travelers will rendezvous at our well-situated hotel in Hobart, Tasmania, about a 15-minute taxi ride from the airport.

Because we cross the International Date Line on the other side of the Pacific Ocean, it is necessary to depart 2 days before your planned arrival date in Hobart. Flights from the West Coast of North America generally involve a stopover in Auckland, Sydney, or Melbourne, which means the duration of the journey can be between 17 and 25 hours, including layover times.

Flight departures from North America are typically late in the day, but because of time differences and the magical dateline, arrival into Tasmania usually takes place on the morning of the 2nd day. For example, if you plan to arrive on Day 1, April 26, you would likely need to depart North America on April 24. If you plan to arrive a day early (recommended) on April 25, you need to depart on April 23.

The return flight is out of Sydney, Australia from Sydney International Airport (airport code SYD). Since we are flying eastward, we cross the dateline again in reverse and regain a day, actually arriving in North America before we departure Sydney (according to the calendar

and clock).

Because our Hobart hotel is not far from the airport and taxis or ride-sharing are easy to navigate, it is much more cost-effective for travelers to take a taxi rather than to include the arrival transfer in the tour price. One departure transfer will be provided to Sydney International Airport on May 8.

The internal flight between Launceston, Tasmania and Sydney on Day 8 is included in the tour price.

Travelers who combine *Australia with Fiji ~ Pearl of the Pacific* will fly from Sydney, Australia to Nadi, Fiji, on May 8 (flight not included). A pre-night package will be offered in Fiji for the airport transfer and hotel on May 8. The Fiji cruise begins on May 9.

We recommend that you contact Laura Pfahler, the travel agent with whom we work, to help book your international flight arrangements. In this age of airfare complications and airport uncertainty, using a travel agent is a good investment! More details about flight arrangements and travel agent contact information will be provided in an Adventure Advice PDF by email after you register for the Adventure. Please do not book your airfare prior to receiving these flight details from us!

Laura Pfahler: 503.434.6401 or [llp@wtpdx.com](mailto:llp@wtpdx.com)

### [Travel Insurance](#)

WAI recommends travel insurance for financial and medical protection from any number of unforeseen circumstances that can arise before departure or during your Adventure. Many travel insurance providers are available for you to consider. Laura Pfahler and Sharon Mitchell of World Travel Inc. can provide travel insurance options for your WAI tour, as well as for your airfare. For those who purchase airfare through Laura, purchasing your travel insurance from her colleague, Sharon Mitchell, may be the simplest option.

Be aware that some travel insurance policies contain time-sensitive provisions (i.e. some benefits, such as coverage of pre-existing conditions, are available only if the policy is purchased within a certain number of days of the purchase of the travel package). In addition, remember that airfare is not covered by any travel insurance policy you may have purchased for the tour.

Check out [Insurance Tips](#) from World Travel for a short introduction to travel insurance.

Sharon Mitchell: 971-261-2091 or [smitchell@wtpdx.com](mailto:smitchell@wtpdx.com)

Other options include:

- Allianz
- Betins

- Travel Guard
- Travel Insured International

Using the [SquareMouth.com](https://www.squaremouth.com) website can be a good way to compare pricing.

NOTE: WAI receives no commission or financial remuneration from World Travel Inc. In addition, WAI bears no responsibility for travel insurance benefits advertised by various credit card companies. If you are relying on this type of benefit for insurance, we advise you to verify coverage types and limits and that your purchase does in fact qualify you for this insurance.

*We suggest purchasing from a reputable, well-established insurance company (avoid buying insurance from an unknown company found only online). Travelers interested in purchasing “cancel for any reason” insurance coverage should be careful to check pricing and terms BEFORE they register for a tour. Recent changes in the international travel landscape has caused changes in the policies of some insurance companies, and made the purchase of this particular type of policy even more time-sensitive.*

### [What if WAI Cancels the Tour?](#)

Walking Adventures International reserves the right to cancel any tour departure with fewer than 15 participants, in which case registered participants will receive a 100% refund of payments received.

This refund policy contains one exclusion related to the COVID-19 outbreak. Many suppliers require non-refundable deposits as a condition of booking services. Unforeseen circumstances linked to the virus can force us to cancel a tour. Due to these supplier’s non-refundable policies, WAI intends to retrieve as much of these deposits as possible, but cannot guarantee a 100% refund.

In cases where full refunds cannot be obtained for a cancelled tour, we will do our best to transfer unrefunded money as traveler credits to be applied to a future tour to that destination.

View our full [General Tour Conditions](#) for more details.

### [What Happens Next?](#)

Once we have a viable number of participants, an “Adventure Advice” email is sent with critical information on flight arrangements as well as important steps to take in the months before your trip. Please do not buy your airline tickets until you review this Adventure Advice email.

You will receive reminders to pay the second deposit and the final payment as detailed above under *Modified Payment Terms*. All payments are non-refundable after the due date.

About 2 weeks before departure, you will receive a final packet with all the details of the program, including hotel name and contact information, a list of fellow travelers, and a more detailed daily schedule.



## Adventure Pace

**Tour Pace:** 1 2 3 4 5

**Walk Challenge:** 1 2 3 4 5

[About Adventure Pace](#)

## Adventure Pace

How much Adventure do you want? Here are a few features to help gauge the following factors on each tour.

**Tour Pace:** On a scale of 1 (slowest pace) to 5 (fastest pace), we've rated the following factors: number of 1-night hotels; driving miles per day; fullness of schedule; mid-tour airline flights; high elevation setting; and average amount of walking per day.

**Walk Challenge:** This number represents an average walk difficulty rating for the tour using a scale of 1 (easiest) to 5 (hardest).

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## Important Info



### Group Size

24 travelers maximum



### Accommodations

Strategically located Tourist Class accommodations or better



### Meals

Breakfasts included plus 4 lunches and 2 dinners. Letters BLD indicate which meals are included.



### Airfare

Not included. Hobart International Airport (airport code HBA) serves our starting hotel in Hobart, Tasmania, and is a 15 minute taxi ride from the hotel. Sydney International Airport (airport code SYD) serves our finishing hotel in Sydney. One morning transfer is provided.



## Transportation

Included. We use motorcoaches with a seating capacity of 40-55 seats.



## Traveler Age

Our travelers usually range from 50-75 years of age. All ages welcome!

## Your WAI Guide



**Scott Isom** has had a passion for the outdoors ever since his childhood days spent exploring the waterfalls and outstanding hiking trails of the Columbia River Gorge with his family. That excitement, combined with a life-long love of history and culture, has only grown since he began guiding tours for Walking Adventures in 2007.

With over a decade and a half of worldwide wandering under his belt, Scott has now led tours on all 7 continents and is one of WAI's busiest guides and on-site Adventure planners. Often asked to share what ranks as his favorite place, he likens the question to being asked



to name the favorite of his three daughters! It simply can't be done! So many destinations, like daughters, are special for their own unique reasons.

Tasmania is certainly one of the places that ranks very highly on Scott's recent list of awesome travel experiences, thanks to its marvelous marsupials, sculpted sandstone shorelines, pink granite mountains, towering eucalyptus trees, and fascinating British penal colony history. It's a real hidden gem that pairs well with the stunning city of Sydney and the primeval feeling of the Blue Mountains.

Scott will be leading our down under Adventure with a lucky, as-yet-unnamed WAI assistant, along with support from an array of excellent local guides.