



From

Prices valid until
30th December 2025

days

Duration

Tasmania

Destination

Level 1 - Introductory to
Moderate

Activity

Houses and Gardens of Southern Tasmania | Summer School in Hobart, Tasmania

Southern Tasmania Houses and Gardens for seniors

Houses and gardens of Southern Tasmania small group course runs for five days and takes in different gardens and heritage-listed houses where you will have the opportunity to step back into the past and



experience life as it was two centuries ago.

The gardens for the 2026 are being selected. This itinerary is indicative of the places we aim to visit.

Settlement of Tasmania

Hobart grew slowly from its beginnings as a pioneering encampment until Governor Lachlan Macquarie's visit in 1811, which prompted redevelopment of the area that he had deemed "untidy." Socially, the population changed from soldiers, convicts and criminals, to adventurous colonists and free settlers who formed a nascent "landed gentry" driving wealth and development in the area. During this development, Hobart's gardens which had previously provided sustenance were developed into picturesque masterpieces, culminating in the founding of The Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens in 1818.

The Format for Houses and Gardens

Each day we as a group head out to learn about one of Hobart's leading houses and gardens. The day starts around 9.00am and typically returns mid afternoon each day. The class is limited to 10 participants. This is one of a number of summer school programs offered by Odyssey Traveller Australia.

To learn more about our philosophy behind the Odyssey Summer Schools, [click here!](#)

Summer School classes for mature and senior travellers

Odyssey offers a collection of week-long learning programs offered each January in Hobart, Tasmania. Courses are refreshed for each



year's programs. Classes are limited to 10 people.

Over the last twenty-five years, Odyssey's small group Summer School Program has given countless travellers an unforgettable educational and travel experience. Each summer, we prepare and offer fun and challenging special interest courses and programs designed to give travellers the options and opportunity to learn about history, religion, Australian culture, and the arts, among many other topics. These courses are designed in such a way that enthusiasts can deepen their knowledge of a particular topic or be initiated into new understandings on a subject.

These programs offered are tailor-made for mature-aged and senior travellers who are eager to explore in-depth a particular topic. Summer school learning programs for mature and senior travellers who are and remain curious about the world.

Highlights

1. Visit historic Battery Point, taking in sights such as St David's Park and the Markree House Museum and Garden.
2. Stroll around the gardens with guided talks by the owners, like Corinda in Glebe, Skinner Garden in Lucaston and the Inverawe Native Gardens at Margate.
3. Enjoy a guided tour of the Royal Botanical Gardens and check out 'The Patch' made famous by the ABC's gardening show.

Itinerary



Day 1

Locations: Hobart

Overview:

The tour will begin with a welcome dinner at the hotel, where we have the chance to meet other Summer School participants.

Accommodation:

Ibis Styles Hobart or similar

Day 2

Locations: Hobart

Overview:

Morning We will start the day with a visit to historic Battery Point taking in sights such as St David's Park followed by Corinda in Glebe, where we stroll around the garden with the owner as he talks about the garden and the historical buildings and stables.

Afternoon This afternoon, we visit Runnymede at New Town, where we enjoy a guided tour of this National Trust home and learn fascinating details about its early history.

Accommodation:

Ibis Styles Hobart or similar

Day 3

Locations: Hobart

Overview:

Morning Today we visit 'A Garden Designers Garden' in Moonah. We will enjoy a guided tour of the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens, including Pete's Patch from ABC TV Gardening program. This is the second-oldest botanical gardens in Australia, which started out as a farm and is now a magnificent and beautiful site overlooking the Derwent River.

Afternoon In the afternoon we will visit Markree, a house museum and garden. Built in 1926 the house, collection and garden reflect the Arts



and Crafts Movement. Markree showcases social history and design of the early 20th century.

Accommodation:

Ibis Styles Hobart or similar

Day 4

Locations: Hobart

Overview:

Morning We take a tour of the Inverawe Native Gardens at Margate that is guided by the owner. This garden, with its expansive views over the North West Bay, is an extraordinary example of what can be done with our own native plants. The owner is also an authority on the historical connections of the garden to the days of early colonial exploration, including the work and travels of Joseph Banks.

Afternoon Later on, we experience the stunning gardens of Crawleighwood at Nicholls Rivulet and enjoy the tour with the owner as he talks about some of his rare plants. See their own arboretum and hear of the history of the area.

Accommodation:

Ibis Styles Hobart or similar

Day 5

Locations: Hobart

Overview:

Morning This morning we will visit Tasmania's History House in Richmond. This house started its life as an Inn built in 1826 by an Irish convict. We will explore the house, cellar and garden which once hosted a prime ministerial garden party for Gough and Margaret Whitlam.

Afternoon In the afternoon we will visit Oak Lodge a Georgian Home dating back to 1831. The property has served as a residence, rectory, school and doctor's surgery and offers a fascinating glimpse into

colonial life.

We will end the day by visiting Pooleys Wines which is on the grounds of historic Belmont.

Accommodation:

Ibis Styles Hobart or similar

Day 6

Locations: Hobart

Overview:

Morning This morning we will visit Narryna and hear the story of Captain Andrew Haig who built this Georgian town house in the 1830s.

Afternoon This afternoon we visit Woodbank garden. Spread over 4 acres, this garden features an array of plants collected over 50 years by Ken Gillanders (OAM) an influential horticulturalist who imported many plants to Australia.

Evening Tonight, we enjoy a farewell dinner at a Hobart restaurant.

Accommodation:

Ibis Styles Hobart or similar

Day 7

Locations: Hobart

Overview:

After breakfast, the tour draws to a close.

Inclusions / Exclusions

What's included in our Tour

- Six nights in full en suite accommodation in central Hobart.
- Six breakfasts and two dinners.
- Lectures and handouts as indicated.

- Services of a study leader and lecturers.
- Complimentary wifi.

What's not included in our Tour

- Comprehensive travel insurance.
- Return airfares to and from Hobart.
- Airport transfers to/from your Hobart Hotel
- Costs of a personal nature.

Level 1 - Introductory to Moderate

Participants must be able to carry their own luggage, climb and descend stairs, moderate walking on uneven surfaces for 3 - 5 kilometres per day. Suitable for most fitness levels.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any requests for further information about this tour or any others offered by Odyssey Travel.