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From

Prices valid until
30th December 2024

days
Duration

Tasmania
Destination

Level 2 - Moderate
Activity

Tasmanian Wilderness | Summer School in Hobart, Tasmania

Tasmanian Wilderness Summer School

Tasmania Wilderness Summer School is a small group tour for seniors held each year in Hobart in early January. Designed for those who don't want hard hiking or an uncomfortable campsite, this summer school allows you to experience the great wilderness of Tasmania with an educational focus, while staying at a comfortable 'base camp' in a

Hobart hotel.

The great advantage of this approach is that you will leave with a deep understanding of the Tasmanian environment while also witnessing some amazing natural wonders: we'll visit beautiful places such as the Huon Valley and Mt Nelson, not forgetting some of the wild areas on the very doorstep of Hobart. We travel each day to see a different aspect of the rich Tasmanian landscape. Days will be moderately long to cover the distances, but there will be opportunities for walking – easy or harder – at each destination. Regardless of whether you're an active walker or not, there will be something suited to your fitness level.

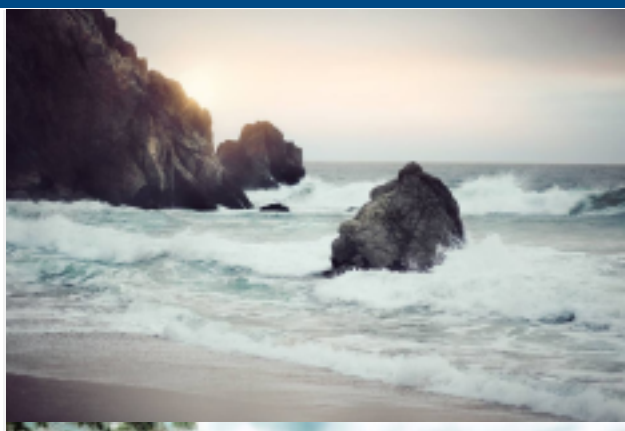
This summer school program is designed to deepen participants' understanding of Tasmania's wilderness, with a series of talks, guided walks, and nature expeditions.

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 12 people.

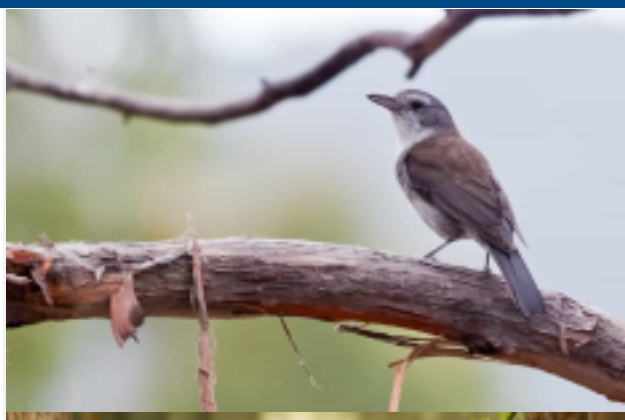
Over the last twenty-five years, Odyssey's small group Summer School Program has given countless travellers an unforgettable educational and travel experience. Each summer, we prepare and offer fun and challenging special interest courses and programs designed to give travellers the options and opportunity 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.

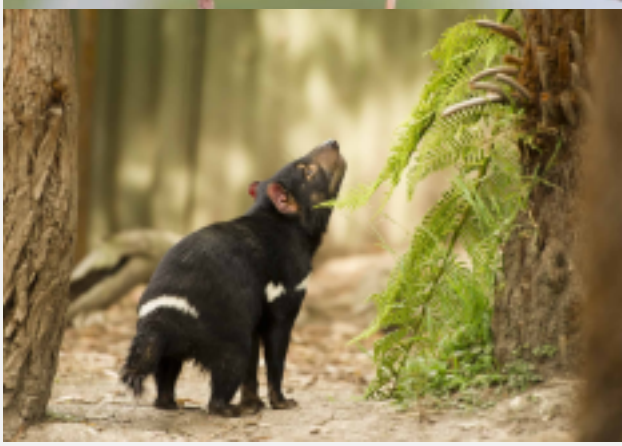
We don't quite live on campus, but we will be staying in a comfortable hotel in central Hobart! For this summer school, we will enjoy welcome



and farewell dinners and daily excursions.

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. Read more about our philosophy of the Odyssey Summer Schools.





Highlights

1. Visits to different places of extraordinary natural beauty and learn something about the flora of this unique island.
2. Visit the Tasman Peninsular, the home of Australia's most significant convict era penal settlement.
3. Experience a window to the South-West Wilderness in the Hartz National Park, with a leisurely walk to the glacial Lake Dobson, and marvel at some 200 plant species in this sub-alpine region of Tasmania.
4. Opportunities each day, for those who want to, to do some bush walking.
5. Meet some Tasmanian wildlife, including the Tasmanian Devil.

Itinerary

Day 1

Locations: Hobart

Overview:

After checking in to our hotel, we come together for a welcome dinner at a nearby restaurant (TBC). This is a chance to meet the group leader, other members of the Tasmanian Wilderness program, along with other

Summer Schools participants.

Accommodation:

Mövenpick Hotel Hobart or similar

Day 2

Locations: Mount Wellington

Overview:

Today we'll cross the Tasman bridge for a quick visit to Rosny Point, at the eastern shores, with Panoramic views of Hobart. We then drive to the top of Mount Wellington. On clear days you can see far and wide, across the Tasman Sea and into the wild South West National Park, World Heritage Area. We will enjoy lunch at the remodeled 'Ferntree Park'.

After lunch the group gets the chance to walk the 1.7km Silver Falls walking track and the more energetic to continue along the 1.4km Fern Glade walking track back to the bus at Ferntree Park.

On the return drive to the hotel you may choose to walk the 2.4km Cascade Rivulet Track from the Female Factory in South Hobart to the CBD.

Accommodation:

Mövenpick Hotel Hobart or similar

Day 3

Locations: South-West Tasmania

Overview:

After an early 8.30am departure we stop for morning coffee (for those needing their daily coffee fix) at the 'Possum Shed' cafe on the banks of the Tyenna River in the small hamlet of Westerway.

We then drive South-West to Lake Pedder which is famous for its spectacular scenery.

After lunch we drive a very short distance to the Gordon Dam, a spectacular engineering feature and if you are brave enough you may

walk across the top of dam wall.

This is a long day so please bring a few extra snacks to keep your energy up.

Accommodation:

Mövenpick Hotel Hobart or similar

Day 4

Locations: Tasman Peninsula

Overview:

Today we drive to the Tasman Peninsula, one of Australia's most significant heritage areas. It has a fascinating Marine Sea life and Seabirds and some of Australia's highest Sea Cliffs. Keep a close lookout for sea eagles soaring above the cliffs, pods of dolphins surfing the bow wave, albatross wheeling on the wind and shearwaters skimming the swells.

The program leader will accompany you to the Tasmanian Devil Conservation Park. Come face to face with endangered devils, meet little endemic quolls and pademelons, hand feed friendly kangaroos and join some crazy parrots in Tasmanian's only free-flight bird show. The all-weather nature trail will take you through a delightful native botanic garden filled with wild honeyeaters and wrens, past majestic eucalypts and streamside ferneries.

After departing the Conservation Park, if time and weather permits, we will visit 3 geological sites along the coastline before returning to the hotel.

Today you would only be walking a few hundred meters on formed tracks.

Accommodation:

Mövenpick Hotel Hobart or similar

Day 5

Locations: Huon Valley, Geeveston

Overview:

Today we travel south of Hobart to the Huon Valley, which offers some gorgeous sightseeing.

We will start the day with our fist stop at in the town of Geeveston for morning coffee under the ornamental cherry trees at 'The Old Bank' cafe. This town has undergone a significant transformation over the past 12 years. We'll then continue to take a walk on the Tahune Air Walk, located about 30km from Geeveston, which was impacted by the bushfires in 2019 and recently re-opened to the public after enduring extensive repairs and restoration.

We enjoy lunch on the Hartz Mountains and thereafter we will walk 1km to the Arve Falls, followed by an optional 2km walk to Lake Osborne (time permitting). On the return trip to Hobart we stop at the Willie Smith Apple Shed (apple museum,distillery and large café).

Accommodation:

Mövenpick Hotel Hobart or similar

Day 6

Locations: Richmond

Overview:

Today we will visit Mount Field National Park.

Mount Field National Park is one of Tasmania's oldest national parks and is also one of its most diverse. Spectacular glaciated landscapes compete for attention with cascading waterfalls, including the breathtaking Russel falls, which is arguably one of the most impressive waterfalls in Tasmania

There is a walk less than 1 km to and from Russel Falls, a flat walk on formed track.

In the evening, we enjoy a farewell dinner at a nearby restaurant.

Accommodation:

Mövenpick Hotel Hobart or similar

Day 7

Locations: Hobart

Overview:

After breakfast at the hotel, we say our farewells and the program draws to a close.

Inclusions / Exclusions

What's included in our Tour

- Six nights of accommodation in central Hobart.
- Excursions and entrance fees as indicated.
- Services of a study leader and lecturers.
- Six breakfasts and two dinners.
- 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 2 - Moderate

Participants must be able to carry their own luggage, climb and descend stairs, be in good health, mobile and able to participate in 3-5 hours of physical activity per day, the equivalent of walking/hiking up to 8 kilometres on uneven ground.

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