



LARAPUNA / BAY OF FIRES HIGHLIGHTS

3 DAYS | 26KMs | Track grading: 2 – 3 Easy to Moderate

Explore the Bay of Fires and surrounding areas in a shortened itinerary during the most spectacular times to visit this iconic area. Over three fantastic days of beach walking, rainforest exploring, tasting local specialties and sightseeing you will encounter a range of hidden gems.

WHAT TO EXPECT ON THIS WALKING TOUR

Enjoy spectacular beaches interspersed with boulders covered in bright orange lichen, and if you dare, take the opportunity to swim in the crystal-clear waters of Tasmania's East Coast.

This itinerary incorporates some of the state's most stunning coastal scenery, iconic pockets of temperate rainforest, 360 degree mountain views, and one of Tasmania's tallest waterfalls.

Along the way we tempt our tastebuds with a visit to a local winery and sample cheese that has been aging for up to two years.

We walk among some of Tasmania's oldest rainforest and coastal vegetation, over the occasional granite headland, featuring shapely rock formations – whilst zig-zagging our way through native heath country on the lookout for local fauna.

This itinerary has something for everyone and any weather event that may occur.

We have hand picked the highlights of the Northeast region and developed an itinerary that our local guides can adapt to best suit the weather on any given day.

Departing from Launceston – we visit Mt William National Park, the historic Eddystone Point lighthouse, Anson's Bay, North East Dairy country, and the sweeping Bay of Fires Conservation Area. This is an active, yet relaxing escape to a very peaceful part of the world.

OUR ACCOMMODATION

Situated in the wildlife heartland of Tasmania's northeast tip, Icena Farm is at the doorstep of Mt William National Park and the Bay of Fires. Each of the newly renovated Shearer's Quarters has its own ensuite, outside access to a lovely deck and access to communal kitchen and living area.

Each room has towels, blankets, sheets and other basic essentials. The rooms are warm and cosy, the perfect place to relax at the end of the day.

From your room enjoy views over the lush green pastures of Icena – a functioning sheep and cattle farm with plenty of animals and a forever changing sky.



Acknowledgement to Traditional Owners

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country and recognize their continuing connection to land, water, skies and culture. We are privileged to learn from them, and we pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. We support the Uluru Statement from the Heart.

DAY ONE

From Mt William Summit & Cape Naturaliste to Boulder Point

Distance: 12 kms | 3-4 hrs | Grade: 3 Moderate

Our journey begins at the Hotel Grand Chancellor in Launceston. We head to the North-East coast, passing through the Lilydale and Pipers River wine regions, stopping at the beach side village of Bridport for a short break and to pick up our freshly made lunches from a local café. Heading east, we traverse an isolated and breathtaking windswept coast, meander through pastoral landscapes and pass by granite outcrops, until we reach one of the two scheduled walks for the day.

Within the Mt William National Park we tackle a 1.5 hour return walk to the summit of Wukalina - Mt William. At 216 meters above sea level, locally known as Bills Hill, this is the highest point in the Mt William National Park, and the perfect place for lunch - providing walkers with far-reaching panoramic views of the area encompassed on some of our days of walking and beyond. In clear weather, the Furneaux Island Group stands proud as remnants of an ancient land bridge that once connected Tasmania with mainland Australia.

We then head out to the coast and the white sands of Cape Naturaliste – the most northern point of our three-day wander. These few hours are spent entirely on the beach, pleasantly easing one into their own natural walking pace and rhythm. Along the way, there are often resident sea birds to observe – including Oystercatchers and Hooded Plovers. Your guides will help decipher any bizarre looking ocean life that has been washed ashore with the changing tides. We may discover cuttlebones, urchins, and even shark eggs.

Our van meets us at the other end where we then return to our cozy farm stay to unpack, unwind and settle. Our evening consists of conversation over nibbles and a two-course meal carefully prepared by your guides.



DAY TWO

We have 3 options to choose from. Our guides will work with the group to select the best one.

Option 1:

Eddystone Point to Ansons Bay

Distance: 10 kms | 4-5 hrs | Grade: 3, Moderate

This walk is packed full of highlights. We start our day at *larapuna* - Eddystone Point - adorned with its beautiful grand lighthouse, built in 1889 from locally quarried granite. This natural promontory is a fascinating site of historic importance to both Aboriginal and European Tasmanians, we will spend plenty of time exploring some of the wonderful natural and man-made attractions in the area.

Leaving the lighthouse, we break out onto an expansive dune swept beach, often teeming with birdlife. Here we may observe gulls, terns, albatross and gannets – or occasionally some rarer migratory species such as short-tailed shearwaters and ruddy turnstones.

The remainder of the day is spent enjoying seemingly endless coves – each being worthy of their own picture-perfect postcard. There are numerous shelly beaches to inspect, and lovely small bays for swimming if you want to brave the cold. This area also boasts some of the more interesting rock formations of the trip, awaiting decipherment from a creative types' imagination.

After passing across another dune swept beach, we finish our day at Ansons Bay – wading a narrowing in the lagoon to reach our designated afternoon tea spot,

DAY TWO

Option 2:

Humbug Point Loop

Distance: 10 kms | 4 hrs | Grade: 2-3 Easy-Mod

Humbug Point is an interesting mix of changing landscapes within the Bay of Fires Conservation & Recreation Area – this walk is a hidden gem, a locals secret. Consisting of historic Xanthorrhoea grass trees, sclerophyll forest and an array of wildlife, you will encounter ocean views from a higher vantage point and walk through a dynamic coastal environment set on higher ground above the beach.

Beginning at Moulting Bay, we walk a small stretch of beach around the point towards the Georges Bay inlet, here you will have views of St Helens Oyster farm, Lease 65 and across the bay towards the township of St Helens and St Helens Point Conservation Area.

As we traverse a little higher we encounter a woodland environment, home to many bird species and providing glimpses of the ocean and coastline through the tall trees. Somewhere along the trail, we will select a suitable lunch spot, taking the opportunity to listen to sounds of nature.



DAY TWO

Option 3:

St Columba Falls, Weldborough Rainforest, Halls Falls, Pynegana Dairy, Giant Tree Walk

Distance: 9 kms | 4 hrs | Grade: 2-3, Easy-Mod

A series of short walks make up today's exploration. After an hours drive through some of the East Coast's less frequented roads, our first walk begins in a pocket of Tasmania's temperate rainforest - dominated by the endemic Nothofagus, sassafras, leatherwoods and giant tree ferns. We have time to immerse in this wonderland.

We continue along the Weldborough Pass to the Giant Tree walk, winding along a hand built track to the giant ash - Eucalyptus regnans. With a girth of 19.4 meters and a height of around 60 meters, this is one of Tasmania's tallest living giants. With hollows that started to form at 150 years old, this tree houses an array of rare birds, mammals and invertebrates.

Further along the pass, we enter some of Tasmania's most fertile dairy country. After a coffee and cheese stop to sample some local produce, we continue onto Tasmania's second tallest waterfall. St Columba Falls. At 90 meters tall it is an easy walk through rainforest and over crystal-clear streams, you can hear the water pounding down the falls before you even exit the van.

If time permits, we have the opportunity to visit the famous Pub in the Paddock, Halls Falls and the Shop in the Bush - all local hidden gems

DAY THREE

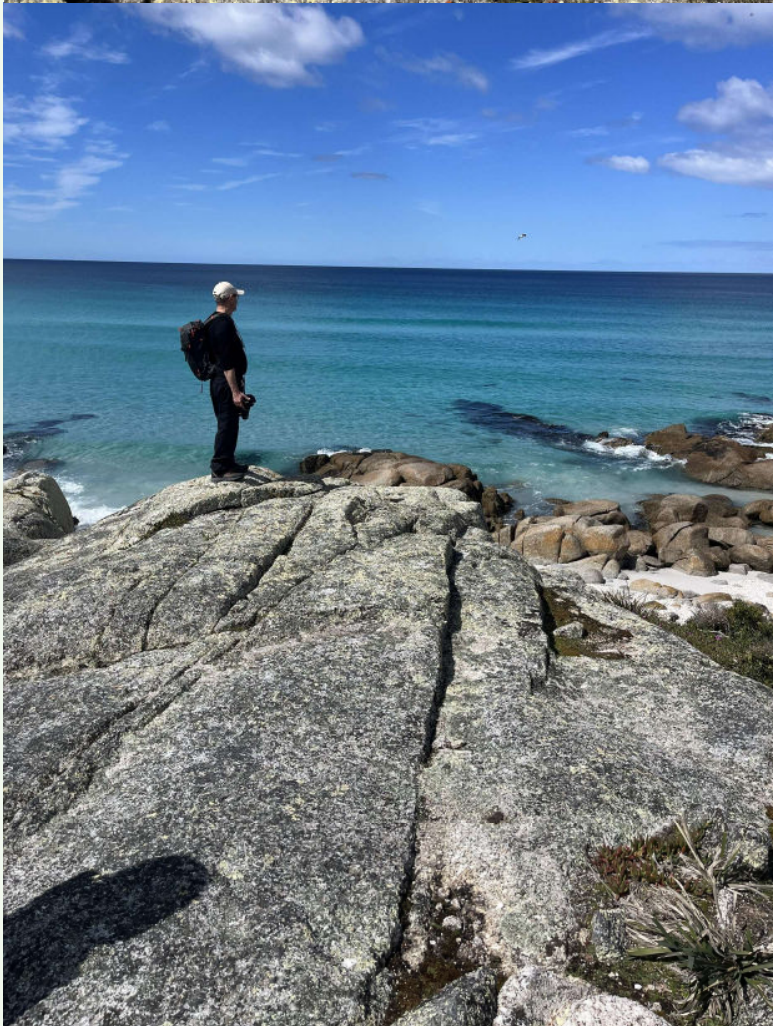
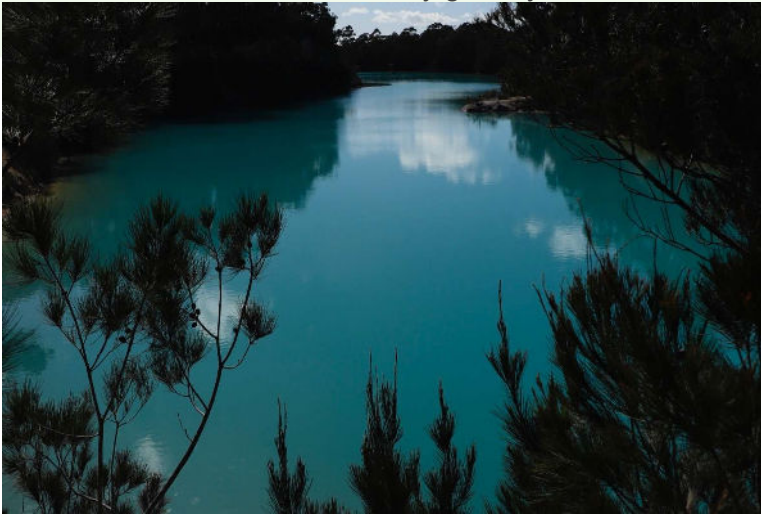
Mt Cameron Regional Reserve – Little Blue Lake – Cube Rock

Distance: 5 kms | 3 hrs | Grade: 3 Moderate

On our final morning, we pack up and depart Icena. After a short drive via Gladstone to Little Blue Lake, we take on our last walk up south side of Mt Cameron to the granite outcrops of Cube Rock. A monolith perched atop Windy Ridge, dating back 380 million years.

Legend has it that Thylacines were commonly seen along this track, but today you may sight a Bennet's wallaby amongst the curious granite formations. With a rich Indigenous heritage and expansive 360 degree views, you can imagine the significance of this place.

After lunch and an easy amble back to the bus, we depart for Launceston with some final stops along the way. We pass through Derby - the mountain biking mecca of Tasmania, Scottsdale - the home of the Tasmanian Pink Eye potato and fields of hops, and through the Lilydale wine region where we will have the opportunity to stop off and do a tasting of some of Tasmania's finest before we say goodbye.



BAY OF FIRES HIGHLIGHTS, 3-DAY WALKING TOUR

WALK OVERVIEW & MAP

Location: Bay of Fires & Mt William National Park, Northeast Tasmania, Australia

Duration: 3 Days and 2 Nights

Total distance: 26-30 kms

Typical grade: 2 – 3 Easy to Moderate

Group size: Maximum of 10 guests and 2 guides (Private groups may be smaller)

Accommodation: Ikena Farm, Twin share configuration with self contained bathroom. Limited singles..

Nature of activity: Guide supported walking with a light day-pack, carrying bare essentials and lunch.



OUR COMMITMENTS & OTHER MATTERS

Our commitment to sustainable tourism

We are committed to sustainable travel and 'leave no trace principles', in line with our Ecotourism Australia accreditation among other things. As such we encourage guests recommend that you bring along your own food containers (medium size for lunch, and small for trail mix), beeswax lunch wrap, keep cup etc. if you have them. However, please do not buy any of these items if you don't have them as we can supply containers for lunches.

Our commitment to reconciliation

Park Trek acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country and recognizes their continuing connection to land, water, skies and culture. We are privileged and proud to walk this beautiful country that has been cared for by Traditional Owners for over 60,000 years. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging. We support the Uluru Statement from the Heart, and through our Reconciliation Action Plan we are committed to action for reconciliation.

Travel insurance and other matters

Park Trek strongly recommends travel insurance, please check with your individual provider for more information regarding coverage for unforeseen circumstances, e.g. flight delays, illness or Covid-19. Please see our T&C's on our website for more information.

The unpredictable forces of nature

All our tours are subject to the occasionally unpredictable forces of nature. Indeed this is the spirit and attraction of adventure. As such our guides may alter our proposed tour itinerary where necessary having regard to Governmental changes, environmental and safety considerations. They will always strive to provide the most scenic and enjoyable walks possible in the environmental circumstances.

Please refer to the [Australian Walking Track Grading System](#) for grading of all walks on this tour.

Our guides hold the experience and knowledge that enables them to adjust our itinerary on any given day in regard to group safety and consideration and hold to right to do so at their discretion.



OUR MEALS ON TOUR

The food served on tour is designed to be healthy, hearty and home style. Our menus seek to showcase regional produce, including local cheeses, yoghurt, fruit, vegetables and meats, and to support local farmers and minimise food miles. Our tours can accommodate most dietary needs, however these should be specified at the time of making your tour booking.

Breakfast is a continental spread of muesli, fruit, yoghurt, toast and spreads. Coffee and tea are always available.

Lunch may vary from day to day, but includes sliced meat, salad, rolls, bread and wraps. Some days might include something different like roasted chicken.

Dinner is a casual two-course meal of main and dessert prepared by your guides. The menu changes to suit available fresh produce but could include a classic roast lamb, curry or similar. Dessert may include things like apple crumble, mini pavlovas or seasonal fruit salad.

Snacks & antipasto are provided throughout and include fresh fruit for the trail, biscuits and/or fruit cake for tea breaks. Each night we offer cheese, dips and crackers as pre-dinner nibbles and self-serve trail mix selection at the start of each day.

Alcohol Our tours do not include alcoholic beverages, however guests are most welcome to bring wine/beer along with them. If you are bringing bottled wine, please pack this well in your main bag to avoid breakages.

...we walk the highlights



REQUIRED GEAR FOR YOUR ADVENTURE

The two most important items to bring with you are a reliable and comfortable pair of walking boots or shoes that are worn in and a good quality rain jacket. *Runners and flat-soled shoes are not recommended except to wear after the day's activities*

The weather can be quite variable in the Bay of Fires, so your waterproof jacket is an essential item while on tour, regardless of the weather forecast.

Your day pack: We recommend a day pack around 20 litre capacity, with a load bearing harness to carry a water bladder and your required gear.

Here is a suggested list of what walkers should wear or have in their day pack:

Essential Items

- Rain jacket. Good quality, seam sealed, hooded
 - Fleece jacket
 - Extra warm wind proof jacket
 - Wide-brimmed hat for sunny days
 - Beanie or woollen hat & gloves for cold days
 - Water bladder and water bottle, 2 litre capacity
 - Electrolytes / hydrolytes
 - High factor sunscreen and lip balm
 - Blister pads and / or tape for rubbing / blisters
 - Antiseptic hand gel
 - Sunglasses
 - Tupperware container to carry your lunch
 - **Optional Extras** (personal preferences)
 - Walking poles
 - Gaiters *for safety / protection measures*
 - Camera and Binoculars
 - Spare batteries for all devices/charger
 - Keep cup for any café stops
- **Main bag:** *Please bring your gear in a soft (rather than hard) bag to help your guides pack the trailer. Your main bag stays at our accommodation as you only carry your light day pack walking.*
- 3 pairs long and/or short pants - preferably loose fitting, lightweight and quick drying
 - 2 long sleeve shirts - light, breathable sun cover
 - 4 x T-shirts
 - Fleece jacket/woollen sweater for warmth
 - Swimmers/bathers, lightweight towel for swims
 - Walking socks & underwear
 - Thermals to keep warm in blustery conditions
 - Waterproof, reusable bag for worn clothing
 - Comfortable shoes / clothes for evenings
 - Toiletries— shampoo/conditioner, deodorant, soap, toothpaste, repellents and personal items
 - PPE - Masks, hand sanitiser, rapid antigen tests



LIST OF WHAT WE PROVIDE

Our tours are all-inclusive

- Two guides who are experienced, accredited and safety gear equipped to guide, drive, cook and facilitate your tour experience. Our guides are story tellers, chefs, and legends in the field!
- Return transfers which includes collection from and return to the Bay of Fires. We use 12-seater minibuses with a luggage trailer. We also use the minibus for all drop offs and pick ups on the tour.
- 2 night's accommodation on a twin share basis (single supplement available at additional cost, subject to availability).
- Meals and non-alcoholic beverages, including 2 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 2 dinners.
- Snacks throughout, including trail mix, pre-dinner antipasto, fresh fruit, biscuits or cake. On trail thermos tea, coffee or hot chocolate.
- All National Parks fees and passes.

PRE- AND POST TOUR INFORMATION

Pick up location & time: We depart from the Grand Chancellor, Launceston, meeting at **7:30am for a 7:45am departure.**

Park Trek guests enjoy special pre- and post- tour rates at The Grand Chancellor Hotel.

Drop-off location & time: We return to The Grand Chancellor, Launceston around 5:00 pm on the final day of tour. If flying out that night, we suggest booking a flight at or after 7pm to be safe.

Park Trek Outdoor Experiences Pty Ltd

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