



Takayna / TARKINE WALKING TOUR

5 DAYS | 42 KMs | Track grading: 2 - 4 Easy to Difficult

Enjoy sweeping mountain views, the ambience of ancient Gondwanan rainforests, and visit a number of picturesque waterfalls – all while carrying your day pack only. Cruise to the mouth of the mighty Pieman River, and the take a stroll along the wild Tarkine Coast.

WHAT TO EXPECT ON THIS WALKING TOUR

The Tarkine unfolds as an extensive wilderness, brimming with both natural wonders and cultural significance. Hosting Australia's largest expanse of cool temperate rainforest and showcasing one of the world's most awe-inspiring coastlines, this region also shelters over 60 rare or endangered species, including the impressive Giant Freshwater Lobster and the iconic Tasmanian Devil.

Embark on a five-day, fully guided walking tour covering approximately 40-45km, with only your day pack in tow. This immersive journey offers a captivating exploration of the area, featuring diverse landscapes that include panoramic mountain vistas, the enchanting ambiance of ancient Gondwanan rainforests, and visits to picturesque waterfalls. Cruise to the mouth of the formidable Pieman River and take a stroll along the untamed Tarkine Coast.

OUR ACCOMMODATION





Corinna Wilderness Experience (3 nights): Corinna is your home in the wilderness – an oasis in the heart of the Tarkine. Our rustic, miner-style cottages provide a level of homely comfort with modern, clean facilities and amenities. All accommodation options are fully self-contained and boast unrivalled views of the Tarkine wilderness. From your doorstep, it's just a short walk to immerse yourself in the timeless beauty of an ancient and scenic rainforest. Our accommodation includes two-bedroom cottages which have a twin room and double room, shared bathroom plus lounge and kitchen area.

Tullah Lakeside Lodge (1 night): Located on the banks of Lake Rosebery, Tullah Lakeside Lodge features private lakefront access, a restaurant and a bar. Our accommodation is in spacious premium rooms, either twin or double bedding configurations. Each room has its own bathroom facilities with toilet and shower.

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.

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DAY ONE
Philosopher Falls and Hellyer Gorge
Distance: 5kms. Grade: 2 - easy

Our trip departs from Launceston, with a 1½ hour drive to the small seaside town of Penguin. Here we stop for a short break, before leaving the busy world as we know it behind. Continuing west, we turn onto a minor highway – pausing for a short riverside walk at Hellyer Gorge. This circuit features many of the rainforest species that we will soon come to be familiar with. It's then onto the historic tin mining township of Waratah, where we break for lunch above the local waterfall.

From here, our main hike for the day takes in the silent surrounds of Philosopher Falls, a lovely 1½ hour return walk through primeval rainforest close to the headwaters of the Arthur River – the generally accepted northern boundary of the Tarkine region.

On returning from our hike, it's only another hour or so before we arrive at the rainforest retreat of Corinna. This old mining town has been lovingly converted into visitor accommodation, and is a gorgeously peaceful spot to spend the next three nights. Located on the banks of the mighty Pieman River – the site features a pub and restaurant, kayak hire, and a variety of shorts walks which you can explore at your own leisure.

Tonight we will enjoy a beautiful two course meal at the Tannin Restaurant, followed by an evening briefing with your guides who will share with you a map of the area and point out the days to come adventure locations.





DAY TWO
Savage River and Whyte River walks
Distance: 9kms. Grade: 3 - moderate

Today we undertake two separate walks through impressive temperate rainforest, travelling along the banks of two major tributaries of the Pieman River. After breakfast and lunch making, we walk straight from our cabin doors and immediately onto the trail.

Our first destination is the Savage River, located north of Corinna on the far side of Ahrberg Hill. As our ascent is made, tangled vegetation gives way to a more open understory – revealing large old trees with a gnarled solitary appearance.

A long descent brings us to the river bank, where we take a well-earned break and soak up the ambience of this peaceful location. Throughout autumn, this trail in particular is a hotspot for fungi hunting – and anyone into macro photography could easily find themselves lost in their pursuit for many hours. From here we can either retrace our route back to Corinna, or take an adventurous journey up river to explore a little further.

Once back at Corinna we have lunch, followed by another 1½ hour walk to the mouth of the Whyte River. This trail takes us past many close-up examples of Huon Pine – a Tasmanian endemic and one of the longest living trees in the world, some reaching in excess of 2000 years old!

Finishing our loop, the trail brings us directly back to our cabins. There should be ample time this afternoon for a bit of relaxation before dinner, consisting of nibbles and a fabulous two-course meal prepared by your guides.

DAY THREE
Pieman River Cruise and Tarkine Coast track
Distance: 8 - 10kms. Grade: 2 - easy

This morning we rise a little earlier and take a sunrise boat cruise down the Pieman River, to reach the magnificent Tarkine Coast. Smashed by huge surf, and punctuated by rocky headlands – this is a wild stretch of coastline, and a photographer's paradise.

After being dropped at the Pieman Heads, we walk either north or south, depending on what suits the weather. Heading north we follow overgrown vehicle tracks to the pounding ocean. Along the trails, numerous small creeks are crossed, and occasionally it can be a little muddy – but for the most part it is an easy, well graded and exciting walk.

Approaching the promontory of Rupert Point, many striking rock features provide clues to a tumultuous geological history. Outcrops allow for grandstand views, where one can make out in the distance the wide expanse of dune country north of the Interview River.

At our turnaround point, we stop for morning tea – and enjoy the sounds and sights of the waves rolling endlessly across the ocean. Beach combing on our return, there may even be an opportunity for a very refreshing swim!

Our journey back up the Pieman River is aboard the historic Arcadia II. This vessel is built from Huon Pine and other local hardwoods, and makes a slow and relaxing punt back to Corinna. In the afternoon, there is plenty of time for short walks, or maybe a self-guided kayak along the river – before a delicious two-course dinner prepared by your guides.



DAY FOUR
Mt Donaldson
Distance: 7kms. Grade: 3 - 4 moderate to hard

This morning we check out of our rooms, and pack our bigger bags away in the trailer – before departing on the hike to the summit of Mount Donaldson. This is a steady climb that passes through a variety of changing vegetation types, and one that gives an outstanding appreciation for the vastness of the area.

Beginning in the rainforests surrounding the Savage River, we soon break free of the tree-line. Our efforts are rewarded with breathtaking views far across the Tarkine wilderness and beyond. In fine weather, this is a real highlight of the trip.

Retracing our route, we head back to Corinna for lunch before crossing the infamous Fatman Barge to the southern bank of the Pieman River. Rounding the base of the Meredith Range and the Tarkine's southern boundary, we pass over the Reece Dam and the Whaleback Lookout on our way to Tullah – an ex-hydro village encircled by craggy mountains. Here we will spend our final night together on the shores of Lake Rosebery.

Tonight's dinner is at the Tullah Lakeside Lodge Bistro.



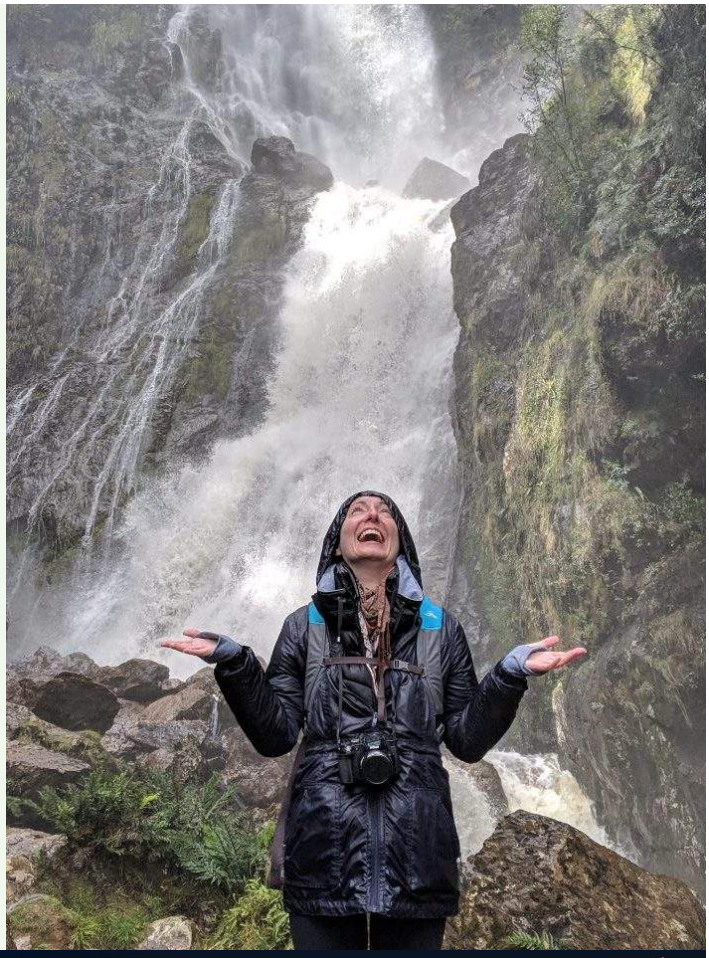
DAY FIVE
Montezuma Falls
Distance: 11kms. Grade: 2 - easy

After breakfast and lunch making, we jump back in the van and head off on our final walk to Montezuma Falls. At 104m, these are the highest single drop waterfall in Tasmania, and consequently have become a popular west-coast icon.

Arriving early morning generally sees few other people on the trail – following a gentle gradient, tracing the old path of the North-East Dundas Tramway through stunning forest. Contouring high above the Ring River (a tributary of the Pieman) for almost the entire walk, this is a relaxing way to unwind from our adventure.

The falls themselves are often heard before they are seen – an impressive sight in all conditions, but especially so after heavy rain.

We then retrace our route back to the bus, and begin our return drive to Launceston. Along the way – we pass close by to Cradle Mountain, and call in to the charming township of Sheffield to break up our journey. Here we can grab a coffee and check out the beautiful town mural art. Returning to Launceston around 4.30pm, we say our goodbyes at the Hotel Grand Chancellor.





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 on the west coast of Tasmania so your waterproof jacket is an essential item while on tour, regardless of the weather forecast.

Your day pack: We recommend a day pack of at least 20 litre capacity, with a load bearing harness and the ability 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 with a hood
- 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 Launceston. We use a comfortable 12-seater minibus with a luggage trailer. We also use the minibus for all drop offs and pick ups throughout the tour.
- 4 night's accommodation on a twin share basis (single supplement available at additional cost, subject to availability).
- Meals and non-alcoholic beverages, including 4 breakfasts, 5 lunches and 4 dinners.
- Snacks throughout, including trail mix, pre-dinner antipasto, fresh fruit, biscuits or cake. On trail thermos tea, coffee or hot chocolate.
- Return cruise to the Pieman heads on the Arcadia
- All National Parks fees and passes.

PRE- AND POST TOUR INFORMATION

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

Drop-off location & time: We return to Launceston at around 5:00 pm on the final day of tour.
If flying out that night, we recommend booking a flight at or after 7pm to be on the safe side. Contact our team for details on a discount offered for return Park Trek Guests.

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