

Bicycle Tours in Australia: Tasmania: 16 Day Tour (TourzPlus™)

OVERVIEW

The island of Tasmania is wonderful biking country, with fabulous beaches and magnificent mountains. This tour visits four National Parks where you'll enjoy close encounters with unique Australian wildlife. Learn about Australia's colonial history and bicycle to the very best lodges in the State.

Learn more about our **TourzPlus™ partner tours** and how they differ from regular **ExperiencePlus! bicycle tours**.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Freycinet Lodge
- vineyards
- Maria Island
- coastal roads

TOUR FACTS

Tour Style	■ Classic: Learn more about our Classic tours at https://www.experienceplus.com/choosing-the-best-tour/styles/classic
Includes	16 days, 15 nights accommodation, 14 dinners(excluding drinks), 6 lunches, & 15 breakfasts. Hybrid or road bike rental available for an additional fee
Countries	Australia
Begin/End	Hobart/Hobart
Arrive/Depart	Hobart Int'l Airport (HBA) / Hobart Int'l Airport
Total Distance	394-704 miles (653-1158 km)
Avg. Daily Distance	19-86 miles (31-140 km) per riding day
Tour Level	▶▶▶▶▶
Keep in Mind	We work hard to maintain consistency across all of our tours, but some trips have unique differences. Here are some things to keep in mind about this tour. Some long days, with shuttles for those who want shorter mileage.

Please Note: We may have small itinerary changes to this trip after you download this PDF document. If you have booked this trip and there are major changes, including changes to towns or activities, we'll email you directly. However, you should always be sure to refer to the ■ **online itinerary** for the most up-to-date trip information including arrival and departure tips before you depart for your trip:

<https://www.experienceplus.com/bike-tours/australia/tasmania-bike-tour>

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DATES & PRICES

DAILY RIDE SUMMARY

Day	Distance/Gain	Terrain	Day Level	Notes
1	0km / 0m (0mi / 0ft)			
2	0km / 0m (0mi / 0ft)			
3	0km / 0m (0mi / 0ft)			
4	0km / 0m (0mi / 0ft)			
5	0km / 0m (0mi / 0ft)			
6	0km / 0m (0mi / 0ft)			
7	0km / 0m (0mi / 0ft)			
8	0km / 0m (0mi / 0ft)			
9	0km / 0m (0mi / 0ft)			
10	0km / 0m (0mi / 0ft)			
11	0km / 0m (0mi / 0ft)			
12	0km / 0m (0mi / 0ft)			
13	0km / 0m (0mi / 0ft)			
14	0km / 0m (0mi / 0ft)			
15	0km / 0m (0mi / 0ft)			
16	0km / 0m (0mi / 0ft)			

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Tour begins in Hobart

DAY 1

Highlights Introductions, colonial Hobart

Meals Dinner

The tour starts in the city of Hobart (pop. 195,000) Australia's second oldest state capital. Straddling the mouth of the Derwent River and backed by Mt. Wellington, Hobart combines the benefits of a modern city with the rich heritage of its colonial past. Hobart was founded as a European settlement in 1804. The imposing Georgian buildings, the attractive harbour and the relaxed atmosphere make Hobart a very enjoyable city. You will meet your guide who will tell you about Tasmania and what you can expect to see and do in the days ahead.

Hobart to Orford

DAY 2

Highlights Richmond, views of The Thumbs and Maria Island

Meals Breakfast, Dinner

We start cycling along the original stagecoach line to Port Arthur. We descend into Richmond, one of the most historic and attractive towns in Tasmania. We pass through the Coal River Valley, which supplied the area with produce in colonial times. Orford is the southern Gateway to the East Coast and is situated at the mouth of the Prosser River. The Thumbs (a mountain range to the south), and the majestic Maria Island dominate the topography. Maria Island is 20 km offshore and rises high enough to create its own weather and supports many alpine and rainforest plants found otherwise only in the distant west and southwest. Bicycling Options: Hobart to Sorell (lunch): 45 km / 28 mi Hobart to Orford: 104 km / 65 mi

Orford to Freycinet

DAY 3

Highlights Freycinet National Park

Meals Breakfast, Dinner

Freycinet Peninsula rises spectacularly from the sea. This massive granite outcrop, with its red and white peaks, soars to a height of 700m. The Great Oyster Bay area boasts many activities including fishing, water skiing, sailing, bush-walking, swimming, cycling and rock climbing. It also provides a haven for boats of all sizes. We cycle through farmland to arrive at Freycinet National Park, teeming with mammals, birdlife, reptiles and aquatic animals. This will be our home for two days. Bicycling Options: Orford to Swansea: 58 km / 36 mi Via Boreen Point ferry: 87 km / 54 mi Orford to Freycinet: 119.5 km / 75 mi

Bicycle Tours in Australia: Tasmania: 16 Day Tour (TourzPlus™)**Freycinet Peninsula****DAY 4**

Highlights Rest day in Freycinet National Park, sea kayaking option

Meals Breakfast, Dinner

The day is free to explore the National Park or simply relax on the beach. Optional activities today include hikes, both short and long, sea-kayaking tours and cycling day trips.

Freycinet to St. Helens**DAY 5**

Highlights Bicheno, Chain of Lagoons, Elephant Pass option

Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we ride the scenic coastal road up the peninsula. We travel to Bicheno (Bish-en-oh), a fishing town set among rolling hills and white beaches, and then continue along the coast along past the Chain of Lagoons. Those who want a challenging ride can head up Elephant Pass, a steep and narrow but scenic route with an 8 km descent back to the coast road. Bicycling Options: Coles Bay Turnoff to 4m Creek: 56 km / 35 mi Coles Bay Turnoff to Scamander: 70 km / 44 km Freycinet to St Helens: 118 km / 73 mi

St. Helens to Scottsdale**DAY 6**

Highlights Weldborough Pass, views of Mt. Victoria, eucalyptus forests

Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

We leave the coast and head into the mountains of the North-Eastern Highlands. We pass through dry bushland at first, then into the lush dairy country of Goshen and Pyengarna. After Pyengarna, we climb Weldborough Pass where there are spectacular views - Mt. Victoria to the left, Blue Tier and Goulds Country to the right. The road winds through forests of towering eucalyptus (Gum trees) and giant ferns. We cycle through fields of hops as we approach Scottsdale. Bicycling Options: St Helens to Derby: 56 km / 35 mi St Helens to Derby: 68 km / 42 mi St Helens to Scottsdale: 102 km / 62 mi

Bicycle Tours in Australia: Tasmania: 16 Day Tour (TourzPlus™)**Scottsdale to Launceston****DAY 7**

Highlights Bass Straight

Meals Breakfast, Dinner

Our routes affords us spectacular views of Bass Straight and then a long descent through forests of myrtle and eucalyptus. The landscape changes from farmland to eucalyptus forest. Bicycling Options: Top of Sideling Range to Launceston: 48 km / 30 mi Scottsdale to Launceston: 64 km / 39 mi

Rest day in Launceston**DAY 8**

Highlights Launceston, The Gorge

Meals Breakfast

A rest day brings an opportunity to walk to "The Gorge" or visit the village of Evandale, site of the annual Penny Farthing bicycle race.

Launceston to Sheffield**DAY 9**

Highlights Murals of Sheffield

Meals Breakfast, Dinner

Leaving Launceston, we cycle on quiet roads to Sheffield, a small town known for its murals. We pass through farmland and forest. Bicycling Options: Prospect to Kimberley: 74 km / 45 mi Launceston to Kimberley: 80 km / 50 mi Launceston to Sheffield: 106 km / 64 mi

Bicycle Tours in Australia: Tasmania: 16 Day Tour (TourzPlus™)**Sheffield to Cradle Mountain National Park****DAY 10**

Highlights Cradle Mountain National Park

Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today's ride is short but includes a tough climb. The reward is magnificent mountain scenery. There is time in the afternoon to enjoy the beautiful surroundings and take a short walk in Cradle Mountain National Park. Bicycling Options: Sheffield to Cradle (sag hill): 52.5 km / 33 mi Sheffield to Cradle Mountain Lodge: 58 km / 36 mi

Cradle Mountain to Tullah**DAY 11**

Highlights Cradle Mountain National Park, downhill to Tullah

Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Early risers have a chance to climb Cradle Mountain while the rest head off on day hikes in the National Park. This afternoon, we continue cycling through the rugged and isolated mountains of the West Coast. Much of the day is downhill! Bicycling Options: Cradle Mountain to Tullah: 58.5 km / 36 mi (downhill)

Rest day in Strahan**DAY 12**

Highlights Coastal village, Gordon River cruise

Meals Breakfast

Spend a day in Strahan enjoying its delights; try a ride on the West Coast Wilderness Railway, get out on a river cruise on the Gordon River, or walk along the beach.

Bicycle Tours in Australia: Tasmania: 16 Day Tour (TourzPlus™)**Strahan to St. Clair****DAY 13**

Highlights Lake Burbury, Franklin River, King William Saddle

Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today's ride is through superb mountain scenery. We stop at Lake Burbury for lunch. We cycle along the Franklin River, famous for its white water rafting. We climb the King William Saddle and head across the central plateau and cross Derwent Bridge. Feel free to stop for a drink at the pub before the last 5 km of gentle climbing. Bicycling Options: Strahan to Lake St Clair: 78 km / 49 mi (taking the van over hills) Strahan to Lake St Clair: 140 km / 88 mi

St. Clair to Hamilton**DAY 14**

Highlights Lake and mountain views

Meals Breakfast, Dinner

We cycle past several lakes and mountain ranges to the heart of Tasmania's hydro-electric generating area. We will enjoy a picnic together. The ride continues through thick highland bush followed by open farming country. Bicycling Options: St Clair to Hamilton: 88 km / 54 mi (taking the van over hills) St Clair to Hamilton: 109 km / 68 mi

Hamilton to Hobart**DAY 15**

Highlights Return to Hobart, Molesworth Hill

Meals Breakfast, Dinner

We continue to Hobart, along attractive, quiet roads. We can either head directly into town or take the tough climb over Molesworth Hill. Bicycling Options: Hamilton to New Norfolk: 39 km / 24 mi (via A10) Hamilton to New Norfolk: 60.5 km / 38 mi Hamilton to Hobart: 98 km / 61 mi

Bicycle Tours in Australia: Tasmania: 16 Day Tour (TourzPlus™)**Tour ends in Hobart****DAY 16**

Our tour ends in Hobart after breakfast. We wish you "bon voyage" and happy biking.

Meals Breakfast

INCLUDED

WHAT'S INCLUDED

When you book a tour with ExperiencePlus! our goal is to ensure your only focus each day is to hop on your bike and explore scenic cycling routes in new destinations. Inclusions may differ depending on which tour style you pick but all ExperiencePlus! tours include what we believe are the most important aspects of a bike tour.

- On all our guided tours, you can expect superb tour leaders who are fun and multilingual, bi-cultural experts, and cycling enthusiasts. They will support you and help you navigate confidently on and off the road.
- High quality bikes selected for the terrain you are cycling on and correct bike fitting to ensure comfortable cycling.
- Thoughtfully designed itineraries and routes that take advantage of stunning cycling destinations and the freedom of bicycle travel. Plus, all the logistics are taken care of.

PRE-TRIP SUPPORT

- Bicycle training programs designed specifically for your tour and fitness level.
- Planning tips on what to pack, hotel recommendations and other helpful details from our Travel Planning Pages: <https://www.experienceplus.com/travel-planning/>
- A gift of your choice (cycling jerseys, socks, or a t-shirt) as our way of saying thanks for choosing EP!
- *Traveler services including assistance booking extra nights at the tour starting and ending hotels. (*Explorer and Self-guided tour styles excluded)
- See "What's Included" for tour-specific inclusions and be sure to check the "Keep in mind" section under "Tour Summary" online.

BICYCLES

For a full list of what's included with your bike see: <https://www.experienceplus.com/what-to-expect/our-bikes/>. If you would like to bring your own pedals and shoes we recommend doing so. On Explorer and Self-guided tours we include a GPS device on all bikes.

NAVIGATING, DAYSHEETS AND VAN SUPPORT:

On a guided tour, each day you'll receive a daily briefing with a highlighted route map. On a self-guided tour you'll receive a comprehensive orientation and bike fit on the first or second morning of your trip. About 14 days prior to your tour, we will provide you with access to

RideWithGPS Experiences, our platform to distribute information on each tour day's activities, meals and ride, as well as GPS-routes.

Daily information on the RWGPS Experience includes important phone numbers, hotel information and interesting historical and cultural information. On Classic, Bike and Boat and Expedition tours we also navigate using our signature chalk dust arrows. Our arrows make navigating very easy—you may never need to look at the map. On Explorer tours the terrain and destinations are not always conducive to using chalk arrows so we'll ride as a group or you can navigate on your own with the GPS tracks.

On a guided tour you will have a support van providing water and snack resupply, mechanical assistance, a lift for tired cyclists, and luggage transfers. On some itineraries the van will not be able to follow sections of the route that stray from the road for example onto cycling paths. On a self-guided tour you will have luggage transfers that will transport your bags from one hotel to the other.

Need More Miles? On many days it is possible to add miles to the day, just talk to your tour leader about your options or ask when you are planning your self-guided trip.

Need Fewer Miles? On a guided tour, the support van is available to offer snacks, encouragement, a lift over the next hill, or to the next hotel. On a self-guided tour we recommend you review the tour level to make sure you can ride the full distance.

ON A GUIDED TOUR: TIPPING YOUR TOUR LEADERS

If you feel your tour leader team has demonstrated great expertise and service, common practice within the travel industry is to tip. Tipping is voluntary and greatly appreciated, and gratuity amounts vary widely. Should you decide to leave a tip, as a guideline, we suggest 5-8% of the tour cost per traveler — this is for the entire tour leader team, not each tour leader. You can give the tip to any member of the tour leader team, as they share it evenly. In order to avoid social tensions, we encourage you to tip as individuals and not as a group. If you feel your tour leaders did not quite meet your expectations, please let us know.

*Tips are included in Expedition pricing and not expected on self-guided tours.

PHOTOS:

By reserving space on tour, you agree that ExperiencePlus! may use, re-use and reproduce any images, photos or videos sent to us, or that are taken by our guides or other travelers, in any medium, including but not limited to print, electronic media, or Internet, free of charge and without your right to inspection. If you do not want us to use any images of you, you must inform us or your tour leader in writing at the start of the tour.

STYLES

OUR TOUR STYLES

We realize that one size does not fit all and there are as many ways to travel by bike as there are different types of cyclists and travelers.

Classic Tours: Dream of traveling through a region by bike? Our unique chalk arrows lead the way as you explore small villages and world-class cities while traveling at your own pace.

- Tour Length: 7-15 days
- Hotels: 3-4 stars.
- Road Type: Pavement, bike paths.
- Multi-night Stays: Occasionally
- Navigation and support: 2-3 tour leaders, van support and chalk arrows
- Price: \$\$\$
- Tour Levels: 1-4.5

Explorer Tours: Travel further off the beaten path - we let the destination dictate where we ride, not the road surface.

- Tour Length: 7-8 days
- Hotels: 2-3 stars
- Road Type: 30-50% gravel or hard-packed dirt, the rest pavement.
- Multi-night Stays: Occasionally
- Navigation and support: 2 tour leaders, GPS and van support
- Price: \$\$
- Tour Levels: 1-4

Bike and Boat Tours: Spend days cycling and your evenings relaxing on a private boat as you cruise to your next port.

- Tour Length: 7-8 days, some itineraries have land-based extensions available.
- Barge/Boat: 3-4 star, same cabin for the entire boat trip except for land extension.
- Road Type: Pavement
- Navigation and support: 2 tour leaders, van Support and chalk arrows
- Price: \$\$\$
- Tour Levels: 1-4

Expedition Tours: Multi-week tours where you spend long days on the bike with the added satisfaction of pedaling across multiple countries.

- Tour Length: 15-40 days
- Hotels: 2-4 stars
- Road Type: Pavement with occasional hard-packed dirt or gravel.
- Multi-night Stays: On rest days
- Navigation and support: 2-3 tour leaders, van Support and chalk arrows
- Price: \$\$\$
- Tour Levels: 4-5

Self-guided Tours: perfect for those who have an independent spirit, want the flexibility to choose their own dates, and don't need van support or tour leaders during their trip. Every departure is a private tour!

- Tour Length: 6-8-days
- Hotels: 3-4 stars
- Road Type: Pavement with occasional hard-packed dirt or gravel on bike paths.
- Multi-night Stays: Occasionally
- Navigation and support: GPS routes and luggage transfers
- Price: \$
- Tour Levels: 1-4

**LEVELS**

We know that travelers have different cycling abilities and preferences for the number of miles, elevation gain, and type of terrain they want on a bicycle tour. We have rated each day of our tours on a scale of 1-5. Our Tour Level's are an average of the day rating on tour. We recommend looking at the daily summary on the PDF and Website Itinerary to see details about each day's ride.

LEVEL 1 - 1.5

Level 1 - 1.5 days will be mostly flat and the distance will rarely exceed 50 km. Level 1 - 1.5 tours are suitable for beginner cyclists, those traveling by bicycle for the first time, or multi-generational groups with a desire for a nice and easy bike tour with plenty of opportunities to stop and enjoy the scenery.

- **Average daily mileage:** 20 - 50 km. (12-30 miles) Be sure to check the day by day itinerary description for the tour you are considering for specific mileages.
- **Gain:** 0-400 M (0-1200 ft)
- **Terrain:** Mostly flat with occasional gentle climbs at a grade of less than 3%, that are sustained for a maximum of 3km. There might be a steeper but short climb.

LEVEL 2 - 2.5

Level 2 - 2.5 days are ideal for riders newer to bicycle touring looking for a bit of a challenge.

- **Average daily mileage:** 30-60 km (18 - 38 miles). Be sure to check the day by day itinerary description for the tour you are considering for specific mileages.
- **Gain:** 400 - 600 m (1200 - 2000 ft)
- **Terrain:** Mostly rolling terrain around 3%. Presents multiple 3% to 4% climbs. May present an occasional steeper climb.

LEVEL 3 - 3.5

Level 3 - 3.5 days are great for active individuals (who run, bike, swim etc. on a regular basis).

- **Average daily mileage:** 50-70km (30-45 miles). Be sure to check the day by day itinerary description for the tour you are considering for specific mileages.
- **Gain:** 600 - 900m (2000 - 2800 ft)
- **Terrain:** Multiple Climbs with grades of 4 - 6%.

LEVEL 4 - 4.5

Level 4 - 4.5 days are the best riding days for avid cyclists or very active individuals who are excited to challenge themselves on a bike.

- **Average daily mileage:** 70-90km (45-55 miles) Be sure to check the day by day itinerary description for the tour you are considering for specific mileages.
- **Gain:** 900-1000m (2800-3600 ft)
- **Terrain:** Presents multiple steep climbs (6% to 8% grades), 1 to 3km long. Alternatively, 4 — 6% grades for 6 kilometers or more.

LEVEL 5 (EXPEDITION)

Our Expedition tours designed for strong riders looking for the challenge of riding across countries or continents. Long daily mileages mean limited van support so we recommend these tours for riders who feel confident that they can ride every mile.

- **Average daily mileage:** 120 km (75 miles). Be sure to check the day by day itinerary description for the tour you are considering for specific mileages.
- **Gain:** 500-2000 m (1600- 6500 ft)
- **Terrain:** Expect and be prepared for any and everything.

REMEMBER

A tour level is the average of the days so we recommend you look at the day level on each day of the itinerary to help you better understand what to expect from your tour.

CHECKLIST

TO DO ONCE YOU'VE BOOKED!

- Read through your Reservation Confirmation and After you Book Information (link sent to you by e-mail), it has important information to help you plan your trip!
- Check the date on your passport. The expiration date should extend three months past your date of return to your home country.
- Complete the Customer Information Form: <https://www.experienceplus.com/travel-planning/customer-information-form/>
- We recommend you take out travel insurance. Find details at <https://www.experienceplus.com/travel-planning/travel-insurance/>
- Choose a bicycle training program: <https://www.experienceplus.com/travel-planning/bicycle-tour-training/>
- Peruse our country-specific Travel Planning Pages: <https://www.experienceplus.com/travel-planning/>

6 TO 3 MONTHS PRIOR TO TOUR START DATE

- Refer to your Tour Packet/Itinerary to see step-by-step arrival and departure information for your tour, meeting place and time, if a reservation on a complimentary ExperiencePlus! Shuttle (if applicable) is required, along with other important information to help you plan your arrival and departure.
- Reserve your flights after you know you have a confirmed tour departure. Please check with our office if you do not know if your trip is confirmed.
- Book your pre and post-tour hotel nights.
- Begin your chosen training program
- Final payment is due 90 days (120 days for Bike & Barge/Boat tours) prior to the tour start. Please refer to your Invoice and the Final Payment Reminder e-mail which we send 10 days prior to the due date for detailed instructions.

6 TO 2 WEEKS PRIOR TO TOUR START DATE

- Start reading one of the books or watching one of the movies from our Reading and Movie Lists: <https://www.experienceplus.com/travel-planning/>.
- Plan what you are going to pack and start packing! Refer to the Packing Lists for suggestions, and see luggage limits at <https://www.experienceplus.com/travel-planning/packing/>.
- We'll email you your access code to Digital Daysheets, Hotel Itinerary, Participant Roster, names and contact information of your Tour Leaders, emergency phone numbers, and other important departure information about 2 weeks prior to your tour start date. All this will be provided to you via a feature called Experiences via the RideWithGPS App (tracks available but not necessary for navigation on Classic, Expedition and Bike & Boat tours).

DAY OF YOUR FLIGHT

Get as much sleep on the plane as you can. Pack one day of cycling gear in your carry-on just in case. See you soon!