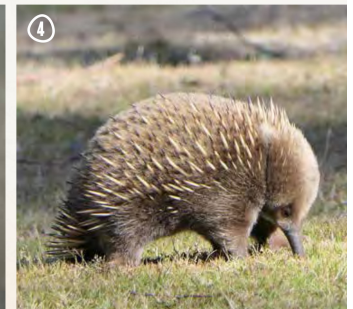


COASTAL WILDS OF TASMANIA



Expedition Highlights

- › Spend two full days exploring Port Davey and Bathurst Harbour, with kayaking, bird-watching, and hiking revealing the secrets of this stunning wilderness
- › Explore the beautiful Freycinet National Park: stroll the sweeping white sand of Wineglass Bay and hike to the lookout for a spectacular view
- › Visit the Noah's Ark of Tasmania, Maria Island, and spot wombat, wallabies, endemic birds, and other wildlife
- › Enjoy a behind-the-scenes tour at World Heritage-listed Port Arthur to gain insight into its convict history
- › From the sea, have a breath-taking view of the 300 metre high dolerite columns of the Tasman Peninsula, the highest sea cliffs in the southern hemisphere
- › Hike the FLuted Cape Track at Bruny Island
- › Kayak from the back of the ship at Fortescue Bay
- › Taste Tasmania's remarkable fresh produce, cool-climate wines, and artisanal spirits throughout your expedition and at special wine-tastings and events



See Page 11 for Departures & Fares

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ITINERARY: 10 NIGHTS > HOBART TO HOBART

DAY 1: DEPART HOBART

Complete SailSAFE check in at 2:00 pm.

Board *Coral Discoverer* at 4:00pm for a 5:00pm departure.

DAYS 2-10:

No two Tasmania cruises with Coral Expeditions are the same. Each expedition is crafted by our experienced Masters and Expedition Leaders to quickly respond to favourable weather conditions, so you experience the best of Tasmania's wild coastline.

Below are the key destinations we visit.

PORT DAVEY & BATHURST HARBOUR

Here on the edge of the world in southwest Tasmania, the landscape is about as wild as it gets. This region has no road access, surrounded by raw, craggy-peaked mountains and drowned river valleys, where tannin-rich freshwater sits atop saltwater, tinting the ocean the colour of tea.

Spend two whole days (weather permitting) enjoying the rare opportunity to hike, kayak and take in the pristine natural environment of Port Davey, part of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area. Explore the nooks and crannies of Bathurst Harbour and learn about intrepid explorers and Indigenous Australians who once walked this land. Enjoy the unforgettable experience of kayaking in Bramble Cove, hiking the button-grass hills, and looking for the rare Orange-bellied parrot at Melaleuca.

BRUNY ISLAND & ADVENTURE BAY

At Adventure Bay on the east coast of Bruny Island, hike along the dramatic coastal cliffs of Fluted Cape and spot the endemic Bennett's Wallaby. Cruising the base of the near-vertical dolerite cliffs in Xplorer, take a closer look at Penguin Island, which is connected to Fluted Cape at low tide. Learn about how southern right whales were almost hunted to extinction and Adventure Bay housed four whaling stations before the industry's decline in the mid-1840s. The ruins can be seen on a walk to Grassy Point.

MARIA ISLAND NATIONAL PARK

Maria Island can be referred to as a Noah's Ark for native Tasmanian species. The Maria Island National Park provides an ideal sanctuary, and is one of the best places in Australia to observe endemic birdlife as well as wombats, Cape Barren geese, Forester Kangaroos, Bennett's Wallabies, and pademelons.

Stroll amongst the ruins and restored buildings of the Darlington convict settlement and take a walk to the striking formations of the Painted Cliffs, where rich iron deposits have stained the sandstone cliffs with coloured streaks of red, purple and orange. With ample time at Maria Island, we also have the opportunity to do the Fossil Cliffs walk and the Reservoir circuit.

FREYCINET NATIONAL PARK & SCHOUTEN ISLAND

The Freycinet Peninsula is a dramatic headland dominated by a pink-hued granite mountain range called the Hazards. Blessed with picturesque sweeping bays and white sand beaches like Wineglass Bay, much of the peninsula is part of the Freycinet National Park.

Join a guided hike along the Isthmus Track and be rewarded with magnificent views from the lookout, or swim and kayak the azure waters of Wineglass Bay. Cruising close to Ile des Phoques and Schouten Island, keep an eye out for large colonies of fur seals sunning themselves on the rocks.

TASMAN NATIONAL PARK & FORTESCUE BAY

The Tasman Peninsula is known for its geological formations like the Tessellated Pavement, Tasman Arch, and the soaring 300 metre high dolerite sea cliffs of Cape Raoul, Cape Pillar and Cape Hauy - the tallest in the southern hemisphere. Watch fur seals hauling out on the rocks, as well as playful dolphins and soaring albatross. Visit Fortescue Bay and hike sections of the coastal Tasman Trail, or take a scenic Xplorer cruise of the rugged coastline and kayak in Canoe Bay.

PORT ARTHUR HISTORIC SITE

One of Australia's most significant historic places, the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Port Arthur ruins stand sentinel on the Tasman Peninsula south of the narrow isthmus of Eaglehawk Neck. For more than 40 years, the Port Arthur penal colony housed convicts sentenced to hard labour before its heavy iron doors clanked shut for the last time in 1877.

Port Arthur has over 30 ruins and restored homes set in 100 acres of landscaped grounds. Join an exclusive 'behind the scenes tour' with knowledgeable guides, including access to private collections and historic buildings not otherwise accessible to the public.

D'ENTRECASTEAUX CHANNEL & HUON RIVER

The mouth of the Huon River meets D'Entrecasteaux Channel, surrounded by a fertile valley with the Hartz Mountains as a backdrop. The sheltered waters of the river allow us to visit the Wooden Boat Centre at Franklin where Tasmania's maritime heritage is kept alive through the production of hand-crafted timber boats. We may also visit the historic Quarantine Station at Barnes Bay.

We may visit Grandveve Cheeses, an organic sheep farm, with time to learn about the cheese-making process and taste the 'ewenique' sheep's whey vodka at the Cellar Door.

DAY 11: ARRIVE HOBART

Disembark in Hobart at 8:00am

A post cruise transfer to the city or airport is included.

TRIP LOG

"Following an early breakfast, we went ashore on Hazards Beach. Ian showed us the Aboriginal shell middens before we climbed the wooden 'ladder' over the dunes to begin the forest walk along the isthmus track to Wineglass Bay. After the winter rains there was a lot of water in the lagoons behind the beach - Ian informed us that Tasmanian Aboriginal people visited the lagoons every August to collect swan eggs. We didn't see any swans but were treated to the calls of numerous frogs and spotted banksia flowers and hyacinth orchids. From Wineglass Bay, we climbed the steep track to the saddle between Mt Mayson and Mt Amos, where the lookout provided superb views of the pink granite Hazard Mountains and white sands of Wineglass Bay."

MICHAEL HERMES > FREYCINET PENINSULA, 6 MARCH 2021



Jamie Anderson
Expedition Leader

Jamie has been with Coral Expeditions since 2003. With a long career as a naturalist, guide, and teacher in environmental science, Jamie has travelled and worked all over the world. He has extensive experience in diving and photography, and has a tireless energy and love for our destinations. He is delighted to share his extensive experience in Tasmania.