



RAILWAY ADVENTURES IN 2022

Tasmania

by Rail, Road and River



With Eamonn Seddon
20 - 31 October

• LAUNCESTON • CRADLE MOUNTAIN • STRAHAN • HOBART •

INTRODUCTION

There is something magical about Tasmania. Its wild, unspoiled natural beauty, quirky and stimulating art scene, living history and eclectic collection of railway journeys form the inspiration for this tour. In Autumn, it's even more spectacular. With the changing colours, wine harvests, long days and mild temperatures, it's the perfect backdrop for many interesting excursions. Our tour circumnavigates Australia's 'holiday state' and brings together a wonderful collection of iconic sights, scenery, and interesting encounters. Imagine yourself riding in the balcony coach of a hard-working steam train up the wild West Coast mountains or revelling in the sublime beauty of Cradle Mountain Lake. Along the way, you'll enjoy the hospitality of warm and welcoming locals, gourmet foods and wines, quality accommodation and unique side trips on rail, road and river. All of this in the company of your experienced and knowledgeable host, who'll share with you the unique flavours and bring to life the stories of this fascinating island.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Savour a special gala welcome dinner at Grain of the Silos, Peppers Silo in Launceston
- Visit distilleries, wineries, museums, markets, nature and walking tours
- Visit Cradle Mountain and explore its beautiful surrounds
- Heritage train ride at Tasmania's oldest heritage railway, the Don River Railway
- Sail in comfort around Macquarie Harbour and up the pristine Gordon River.
- Ride the West Coast Wilderness Railway from Strahan to Queenstown, enjoying a feast, including champagne and local wines, in the train's charming restaurant balcony car.

MONA on the Derwent River



MEET YOUR TOUR LEADER

Eamonn Seddon

Eamonn joined Launceston City Council in 2013 as Tourism Manager until a wish to 'semi retire' gave him the opportunity to start a small day tour company, Prestige Tours Tasmania, which, over the last few years has seen him leading and hosting tours on various themes all over the island. Prior to this Eamonn's career has had a distinct heritage rail focus.

In 2007 he became CEO of Puffing Billy Railway heading up 70 staff and over 1000 volunteers. Prior to this he was invited to project manage the rebuilding and reopening of the ABT Railway in Tasmania. With a formal opening in 2003 and the railway renamed the West Coast Wilderness Railway, Eamonn led the team and became its first Chief Executive Officer. He has had a great interest in railways since early childhood. Initially in heritage railways when he was asked to join a volunteer working party at the Ffestiniog Railway in Wales. His professional training as a stage manager and events coordinator led to him taking on full time employment at the railway to develop a marketing department. It was whilst he was marketing manager, he became involved in the very early days of the Welsh Highland Railway Project. Eamonn has led a number of tours for Railway Adventures and is pleased to lead this tour once again and is looking forward to sharing his time with you all in Tasmania.

TOUR MAP

SOME WAYS YOU'LL TRAVEL

The best train trips possible, private luxury coach for off-train travel and many other appealing modes of transport.



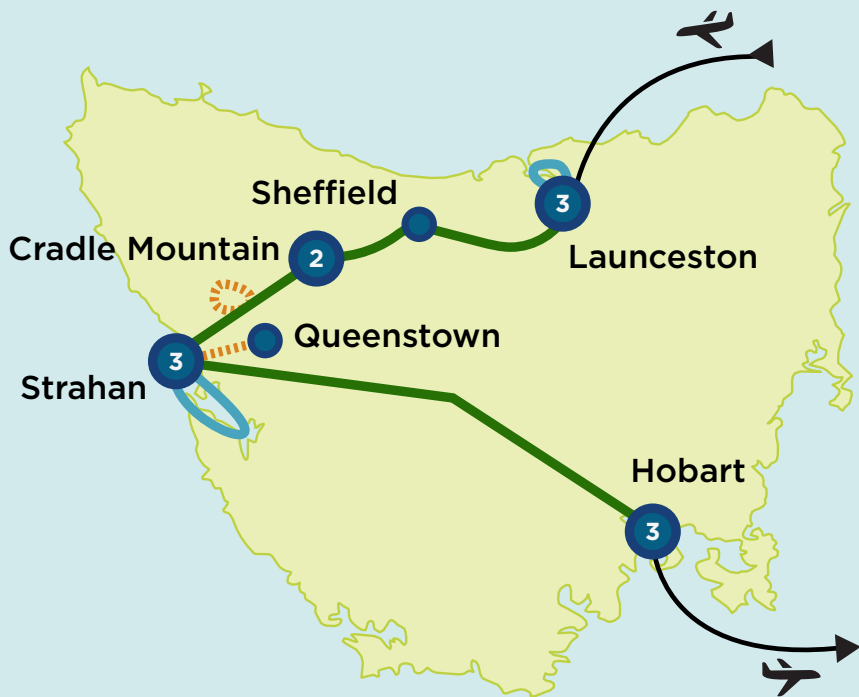
Spirit of the Wild Gordon River



Lady Launceston



West Coast Wilderness Railway



n Nights at Hotel

- Train**
- Coach**
- Boat**

WHY TRAVEL WITH US

The joy of travel is not confined to the destination. How you travel is a large and rich part of the experience. Railway Adventures offers a totally unique perspective on some of the world's most spectacular holiday destinations, with the confidence that the journey will be just as magical and memorable as what you find at the end of the line.

WITH US, YOU CAN CONFIDENTLY EXPECT:

- Unique itineraries** — each itinerary has been meticulously developed by a team of expert travellers with many years' experience, an intimate knowledge of the destination, and with great cultural awareness. You are guaranteed to experience the best that each destination has to offer.
- Authentic local experiences** — whether it's a little-known yet impressive steam railway, a small boutique hotel or an authentic restaurant, you can be sure of experiencing something special on our tours.
- Expert local guides and operators** — we employ local guides to share their passion and knowledge of the place they call home, while our partners on the ground provide the best possible support and backup all the way.
- Small group sizes** — a small number of passengers per trip guarantees an intimate experience with less time spent queuing, more time with your guide, and better access to sightseeing destinations.
- Fully escorted** — our tour leaders are experienced and capable, entertaining and considerate, and together with our local guides have your needs well covered. They help with everything along the way, providing peace of mind, and enabling you to relax and enjoy the journey. And you'll find them jolly good company to boot!
- Customer satisfaction** — our testimonials speak for themselves. Thousands have travelled with us over the years and many come back year after year, often bringing friends along. Our customer satisfaction ratings show that over 97% would recommend us to others and/or travel with us again.

Day 1 • Thursday 20 October: Arrive LAUNCESTON

On arrival in the fair city of Launceston, we check into our hotel before boarding the Lady Launceston in the early evening for a leisurely scenic sunset river cruise. We'll enjoy our private charter as we glide around the docks and historic river precinct, making our way towards the scenic Cataract Gorge. Dinner this evening will be at our hotels acclaimed restaurant, Grain of the Silos.

Overnight: Peppers Silo Hotel, Launceston (D)

Day 2 • Friday 21 October: LAUNCESTON

This morning join Eamonn for a tour of the extensive Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Australia's largest regional gallery. Spread out over several precincts, part of which is housed in the refurbished railway yards and workshops, includes the working tramway museum and blacksmith shop. Enjoy a tram ride at the Launceston Tramway Museum. You have some free time in the town for some lunch before we take a trip out of town to some of the more historic rural estates such as Clarendon, a magnificent three-storey Georgian house set on 7 hectares. Spend some time exploring Ellery House where the story of the inspiring Mary Reiby is revealed, before returning to the city to enjoy an evening at leisure. Perhaps a spot of cider as a palate cleanser at the Red Brick Cider house may be just the ticket.

Overnight: Peppers Silo Hotel, Launceston (B)

Day 3 • Saturday 22 October: LAUNCESTON – DON RIVER – LAUNCESTON

Today provides a gentle day of coach touring and a heritage train ride at Tasmania's oldest heritage railway and museum built on the remains of an old logging, mining, and rural service branch line. Heading out along Highway 1 from Launceston to Devonport you will hear about the district and its development as the northern maritime gateway for Tasmania. A short way further on we turn off to the station of the Don River Railway which has been restoring and operating trains since 1976. You will find lots of interest here with the extensive depot, workshops and rolling stock display area on show in a compact valley beside the river.

You have time to explore the collection and the great work of the volunteers with your guide before boarding the vintage train which will take you on a short journey traversing the east bank of the Don River to the terminus at Coles Beach. We then take lunch at a local favourite not far away before heading back to Launceston for an afternoon and evening at leisure.

Overnight: Peppers Silo Hotel, Launceston (B, L)

Day 4 • Sunday 23 October: LAUNCESTON – CRADLE MOUNTAIN

After breakfast in our hotel, we travel to Cradle Mountain stopping at the heritage town of Sheffield. We take a ride with the local vintage railway association and explore the town that hosts one of Australia's best collections of old advertising street art. The gentle drive in the afternoon across the hills of northern Tasmania culminates in our arrival at the beautiful Cradle Mountain. We check in and later on dinner is hosted at the hotels' restaurant.

Overnight: Cradle Mountain Hotel, Cradle Mountain (B, D)

Day 5 • Monday 24 October: CRADLE MOUNTAIN

Enjoy a free day to explore beautiful Cradle Mountain. You might like to wander the wonderful network of scenic boardwalks around the National Park, visit the famous Dove Lake and the King Billy forests, the Devils @ Cradle Tasmanian Devil sanctuary, enjoy an ATV ride or have a relaxing spa session. Your tour leader will be on hand to help you explore.

Overnight: Cradle Mountain Hotel, Cradle Mountain (B)

Day 6 • Tuesday 25 October: CRADLE MOUNTAIN – STRAHAN

This morning we take a tour to Dove Lake and a brief stop and tour around Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park. In the afternoon we'll make our way across to the West Coast and the old seaport town of Strahan. Along the way we'll stop to experience a living relic of the logging railways, Wee Georgie Wood. Dinner tonight will be at the View 42° Restaurant and Bar renowned for its seafood, the restaurant is up on the hill, overlooking Strahan's village and harbour.

Overnight: Strahan Village, Strahan (B, D)



Day 7 • Wednesday 26 October: STRAHAN

After breakfast this morning, stroll down to the wharf to board the Spirit of the Wild Gordon River for an adventure around the historic Macquarie Harbour and the Gordon River. The five-and-a-half-hour cruise will have you exploring the remains of Sarah Island, adventuring through the notorious Hells Gate and navigating the calm waters of one of the world's last great, untouched wilderness areas. A buffet lunch will be served on board the vessel.

Late this afternoon we'll watch a live performance of Australia's longest-running play, *The Ship That Never Was*, that tells the dramatic and hilarious true story of the great escape from Sarah Island. This evening enjoy another spectacular dinner at one of Strahan's premier restaurants.

Overnight: Strahan Village, Strahan (B, L, D)

Day 8 • Thursday 27 October: STRAHAN – QUEENSTOWN – STRAHAN

Today we'll experience a steam train journey on the famous West Coast Wilderness Railway in their first-class balcony carriage. The journey takes us along the harbour and through the King River Gorge, before the historic rack section of the railway track kicks in for the spectacular climb up the range. Magnificent rainforest vistas, wild rivers and many quaint stations along the way are all part of the character of this journey. Enjoy refreshments and sparkling wine as you travel, served en-route.

The train pulls into Queenstown where you'll have some time to explore the historic mining town and learn about the region's rich history. You'll also have time for lunch before your coach collects you for the trip back to Strahan for a free afternoon and evening.

Overnight: Strahan Village, Strahan (B, L)

Day 9 • Friday 28 October: STRAHAN – HOBART

This morning we depart for the scenic coach trip to Hobart exploring some interesting sites along the way. Our first stop will be at 'The Wall in The Wilderness' a stunning work-in-progress carved in wood depicting the history of the region, finished it will reach 100 metres long. We then travel by coach continuing to arrive in Hobart in the early evening. Check-in and enjoy dinner at the hotel.

Overnight: Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart (B, L, D)

Day 10 • Saturday 29 October: HOBART

Today is free for you to explore this charming and compact capital city. You'll have the option of exploring the iconic waterside Salamanca Markets, with more than 300 stalls showcasing Tasmanian food, handmade jewellery and clothing, timbers, vintage collectables and more. You might also want to take a walk, or perhaps check out Mawson's Hut Museum, the Tasmanian Distillery Museum or the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery. In evening you can enjoy free time to relax and make the most of the hotel's convenient setting in the heart of Hobart's historic Constitution Dock precinct.

Overnight: Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart (B)

Day 11 • Sunday 30 October: HOBART

Our last day in Tasmania presents a feast of contrasts starting with a historic walking tour that will explore the history and character of the city and its pivotal place in Australia's early development. Our coach will then meet us to tour further afield to some of the interesting sites outside the city including some time to view the extensive collection at the fascinating Tasmanian Transport Museum at Glenorchy.

You will then have the option to have the afternoon at the astounding and acclaimed Museum of Old and New Art, (MONA), the largest privately funded museum in Australia. You can then make your way back by fast ferry to the heart of the city and your hotel close by or return directly back with the coach.

Enjoy some free time to relax back at our hotel before our celebratory farewell dinner and drinks at a local favourite.

Overnight: Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart (B, D)

Day 12 • Monday 31 October: DEPARTURES

After breakfast we'll say a fond farewell to our fellow travellers before heading to the airport. Alternatively, you might like to take the opportunity to linger a little longer in Hobart and soak up all the great things it has to offer. Feel free to talk to us more about your options. (B)



WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 11 nights' accommodation in a mix of modern and boutique hotels/motels
- Daily breakfast at hotels, four lunches and six dinners
- Drinks included with welcome and farewell dinners
- Chartered private coach, with luggage transport throughout the tour
- Comprehensive sightseeing with expert local guides
- All excursions and entrance fees to attractions, as listed in the itinerary
- Tipping and gratuities

WHAT WE DON'T INCLUDE

- Flights
- Airport transfers on arrival and departure
- Meals and services not mentioned in the itinerary
- All other personal expenses, such as drinks, phone calls, laundry services and camera fees where applicable
- Excursions listed as optional and extra in the itinerary
- Minibar

FITNESS RATING



Two 'Locos' - fitness rating

The most common grading for our tours. Two loco itineraries offer many activities that require a little extra fitness – walking on uneven ground, climbing hills to enter towns or historic sites, walks of 1-3 kilometres as well as getting on and off transport. You need to have good mobility and aerobic fitness and be able to manage your own luggage.

SUGGESTED FLIGHTS

We have suggested flights for this itinerary depending on your departure point from Australia, any preferred stopovers en-route and/or your planned pre- and post-tour activities. We can also investigate your preferred airline and offer you a solution based on connection times and prices. Contact 1300 800 977 to discuss your options.

HOW TO BOOK

Download a booking form from our website and follow the easy steps to getting on board. Alternatively, contact us on 1300 800 977 or info@railwayadventures.com if you'd prefer a form be sent to you. Complete the form and submit it, along with your \$500 pp deposit to secure your place on the tour.

DETAILS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

We endeavour to have all the details of our tours correct at the time of printing. However, sometimes factors beyond our control may affect the final inclusions and prices. These factors may include, but not be limited to; significant fluctuations in currency exchange rates, individual hotel/ restaurant decisions that may affect bookings; weather events forcing a change of itinerary; unexpected trackwork on rail lines, unexpected closure of site attractions and so forth. Therefore, items mentioned in the brochure such as quoted prices, hotels and inclusions are subject to change. If a change is imposed on us, we will endeavour to ensure the substitute is of the same quality that you have paid for.

TOUR PACE / LEVEL OF FITNESS:

Our itineraries are designed to make the most of each destination, so a reasonable amount of activity is built into most days, which is why we call them adventures. Our philosophy is to offer you the best experience possible, while leaving you, our guest, the flexibility to pace yourself and choose how much or how little you want to do. Each Railway Adventures tour incorporates periods of free time for your own exploration and relaxation.

While you don't need to be a 'gym junky', a reasonable level of fitness is required for most of our tours. The ability to manage your own luggage, get on and off all manner of trains and coaches, walk for extended periods, stand comfortably, and climb steps and stairs will ensure you get the maximum enjoyment from your adventure.

ADDITIONAL TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

In addition to assisting with flight suggestions and bookings, we can also give you some ideas of what you could do before and after your Railway Adventure.

We can also organise your all-important Travel Insurance for you. Call our office on 1300 800 977 if you would like to discuss options.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

For more information on factors such as travel insurance requirements, fitness levels, fees and charges, tour cancellations, payment schedules and so on, please refer to our Terms and Conditions, which accompany the booking form. They can also be found on our website.

PRICE GUIDE

Per person twin share.....	\$5,485
Single supplement.....	\$1,295
Deposit (per person).....	\$500 at time of booking
Final payment due by.....	5 Sep 2022

SOME PLACES YOU'LL STAY

Hand-picked hotels and resorts based on location, customer feedback, value and atmosphere. Here's a selection:



Peppers Silos, Launceston



Grand Chancellor, Hobart



Strahan Village, Strahan



Cradle Mountain Hotel, Cradle Mountain

Please Note: Hotels of a similar standard may be substituted.

YOUR TRAVEL AGENT

Cradle Mountain

THE RAILWAY ADVENTURES STORY

Railway Adventures was launched in 2012 by well-known Australian TV personality and self-confessed rail fan, Scott McGregor. A lifelong passion for travel has taken Scott to scores of countries and his preference for rail has seen him exploring many of the world's great train journeys, confirming his belief that the most relaxing, romantic and engaging way to see a country is by rail. He even has his own life-sized, fully-restored opulent train accommodation atop the Great Dividing Range near Mudgee, offering guests a rare and special bush retreat experience.

Since 2012 Railway Adventures has thrilled and delighted more than 1200 travellers on over 100 tours from Sweden to Sri Lanka, Tasmania to Transylvania, Britain to Burma, Venice to Vietnam and all manner of shorter adventures in our own wonderful country. Scott's numerous rail-themed TV documentaries, his ongoing involvement in rail heritage and his extensive connections with private train owners around the world, guarantee that every Railway Adventures tour is exclusive, entertaining and authentic. 05 April 2022.

TRAVEL ACCREDITED LIC #A14416



1300 800 977 railwayadventures.com

