



## **Islands of Tasmania**

**Wednesday 2nd to Monday 7th March, 2011**

This is a 6 day tour by chartered aircraft visiting 4 of the Tasmanian islands: Flinders, King, Bruny and Sarah. We spend 2 nights on each of the Bass Strait islands of King and Flinders and we have comprehensive guided sightseeing throughout the tour. You'll see the contrasts between the islands: seaweed harvesting, a 7000 year old calcified forest, penguins, a former Tasmanian aboriginal mission, the renown King Island Dairy, the Latitude 40 wool production facility, a former penal colony and a resupply port for French and English sailors as well as several of the sites of Australia's worst maritime accidents.

We fly in a turbine powered Cessna Caravan aircraft which is certified as one the safest single engine aeroplanes. Its equipped with 9 passenger seats though we will have maximum 6 guests, so everyone has a window seat and we fly at altitudes which afford the best views commensurate with safety and operational requirements.

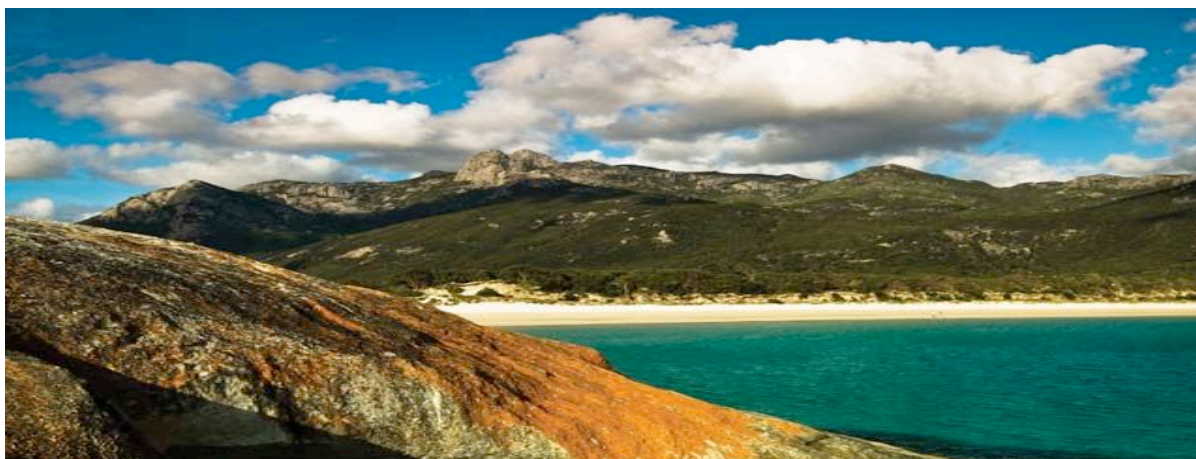
## ITINERARY

### **Day 1                      Wednesday 2nd March                      Wollongong to Flinders Island**

This morning we depart Wollongong Regional Airport for our 3 hour flight to Flinders Island in Bass Strait. Flinders Island was named after the English sea-captain Matthew Flinders and is the largest of the Furneaux Group of islands which stretch across the eastern end of Bass Strait. These islands were part of the land bridge which once joined Tasmania to the mainland before Bass Strait was formed at the end of the last ice age leaving the mountain tops to form the present day chain of islands. We will see several of these islands as we fly to Flinders Island.

We are met at the airport by our guide and we start our touring by transferring to Trousers Point for lunch at Vistas" café. After lunch we visit Walkers Hill Lookout with 360 degree views of Flinders and the surrounding islands then via Summer Camp – site of the Soldier Settlement encampment and Vinegar Hill Lookout for views of the islands in the Franklin Sound with their backdrop of the hills of Cape Barren Island. We check in for 2 nights at the Interstate Hotel situated in the centre of Whitemark, the 'capital' of Flinders Island.

Late afternoon we embark on our sunset cruise of Franklin Sound to see the flocks of shearwaters returning to their nests.



Trousers Point with Strzelecki Peaks in the background

### **Day 2                      Thursday 3rd March                      Flinders Island**

Today we have a comprehensive tour of Flinders Island. Our itinerary includes visiting the former Aboriginal mission of Wybalena where many aborigines were forcibly removed to from mainland Tasmania. At Emita, a coastal village halfway between Whitemark and Killiecrankie, we visit the Furneaux Museum for stories of shipwrecks, sealers and early settlers then we go to Emita Beach for morning tea.

During our tour of the northern part of the island we visit Killiecrankie and have lunch at "JJ's on The Bay" Art Café in Killiecrankie. At Whitemark we'll see Bowman's History Room and a gallery and gem shop featuring the local Killiecrankie "diamonds".

We travel via the Coast Road to Palana, the site of coastal surveillance at the start of World War 2 and then to North East River, Castle Rock and Sawyers Bay. We'll also visit "Latitude 40" – a wool products enterprise started as a farm based business. Besides being wool producers, Latitude 40 promotes the benefits and use of wool. In 1993, they commenced manufacturing woollen bedding and now employ several local people in the manufacturing of a range of wool filled pillows, quilts and underlays.

**Day 3                      Friday 4th March                      Flinders Island to Strahan via Bruny Island**

Flying from Flinders Island we shall overfly the east coast of Tasmania including the Bay of Fires National Park and the spectacular Wineglass Bay before landing on Bruny Island for our half day tour and lunch. Our tour of Bruny takes in its history including the French, English and Dutch sailors who regularly called here to resupply their vessels and undertake scientific work. Bruny Island also features a very narrow isthmus connecting what are almost north and south Bruny Islands and we also see the dramatic cliff top views and the natural rugged environment during our guided tour of the island. After a picnic lunch we fly via South Cape and Bathurst Harbour seeing most of the remote and pristine wilderness World Heritage South West Tasmania. We land at Strahan in the late afternoon. Overnight at Strahan

**Day 4                      Saturday 5th March                      Strahan to King Island**

This morning will feature a cruise on Macquarie Harbour and the Gordon River with a special landing at Sarah Island, the former penal colony. Sea conditions permitting, we'll cruise through Hell's Gates. Lunch will be served on board and this afternoon we fly via Wynyard to King Island and have an introductory guided tour of the island's main town – Currie as we travel to our motel. Dinner tonight features local King Island produce such as King Island brie and King Island beef. Following dinner we venture off to meet the Fairy Penguins as they parade from the sea to their nests. We stay 2 nights at The Gem Motel, Currie.

**Day 5                      Sunday 6th March                      King Island**

Full day tour of the island with a picnic lunch, we visit the well known King Island Dairy, the calcified forest and Penny's Lagoon - one of only three suspended lakes in the world. We also visit the township of Grassy and its open cut mine site Currie Harbour. Included in our touring is a visit to the very northern tip of King Island, Cape Wickham. There we'll see one of the tallest lighthouses in the southern hemisphere and learn of the history of the lighthouse and the wreck of the Lochleven in 1871.

Without doubt the King Island Cheese Factory is the most recognisable industry of King Island and we visit there for cheese tasting and purchasing. Along the way we stop to see the harvesting of kelp from King Island's beaches which has become an important part of King Island's economy.



**Day 6**

**Monday 7th March**

**King Island to Wollongong**



As we travel to the airport we'll see the wreck site of the Netherby, where 500 people were stranded on the beach for nearly a fortnight. We take off from King Island for the crossing of Bass Strait to Cape Otway where we then fly over the Great Ocean Road area and the 12 Apostles. We then fly to the Gippsland region of Victoria and land at Mallacoota in time for our chartered lunch cruise on Mallacoota Inlet. Mid afternoon we fly along the spectacular coastline of the NSW south coast to arrive at Wollongong airport about 5pm.

## **General Information**

**Cost** The cost of this tour is **\$4625**

The cost includes:

1. all transportation as shown in the itinerary
2. all sightseeing excursions
3. all entrance fees
4. accommodation on a twin share basis
5. guided touring as specified in itinerary
6. all meals
7. all taxes
8. complimentary bottled water
9. services of Insights Tours escort throughout the tour

The additional costs are: drinks, insurance and items of a personal nature.

### **To make a booking**

Please complete the booking form and return it to Insights Tours with your deposit of \$500 per person.

### **Cancellations policy**

If you need to cancel your booking prior to or on Friday 24th December 2010, the cancellation fee will be \$250.

If you need to cancel your booking after Friday 24th December, 2010, the cancellation fee is 100% of the total tariff.

That is, there is no refund of the total tariff.

In the event that the economic minimum number of guests is not reached, the tour will be cancelled by Insights Tours no later than Wednesday 29th December 2010 and we will refund in full any money paid.

### **Travel Insurance**

Insights Tours strongly recommends that you consider travel insurance in case you need to cancel.

**Aircraft**

The aircraft that we will be travelling in is a 10 seat Cessna Caravan turbo prop plane. Guest numbers will be limited to a maximum of 6 to ensure your safety and comfort. The aircraft has been chartered by Insights Tours from "Sydney by Air" and the aircraft is pictured on the front of this brochure. The Cessna Caravan offers a spacious interior, combined with first class safety and performance. It is powered by a Pratt and Whitney PT-6 Turboprop engine, one of the most widely used and reliable engines in the world. Each passenger has a window seat and because the aircraft has a high wing, each passenger is afforded uninterrupted viewing. There are airstairs which provide easy access to the cabin.

**Road transfers and tours**

All transfers and touring will utilise chartered vehicles such as minibuses, vans or 4WD vehicles.

**Accommodation**

All accommodation is in best available motels. The cost of the tour is based on twin share ensuite accommodation.

Single accommodation is available for an additional cost of \$310

**Luggage**

Please limit your luggage to soft bag per person with a weight limit of 10kgs.

**Water and refreshments**

Insights Tours provides complimentary bottled water on the aeroplane.

**Insights Tours**

Is a tour company operated by Paul and John Tuckerman. We arrange tours which utilise chartered trains, coaches and aeroplanes and provide passengers with spacious and ample accommodation. Our philosophy is to provide a tour with a spectrum of interesting visits, inspections and conveyances. Each tour is uniquely arranged to encompass the most interesting sights of the regions visited. Insights Tours engages our own guides to ensure that our passengers have the best insight into the location being visited. Passenger numbers are limited to ensure a commodious travelling experience and to ensure that visits and guided tours are of maximum benefit. This tour is for a maximum of 6 passengers.

Each of our tours is personally escorted ensuring you can relax in the confidence that all of the pesky administrative details and arrangements are being taken care of. This tour will be escorted by John Tuckerman.

There is always the chance that our itinerary could be delayed or curtailed in some way beyond our control. Except for prolonged or unexpected events, the tour will be conducted as closely as possible to the itinerary stated above. Every reasonable endeavour will be made to conduct the advertised itinerary however we reserve the right to alter the itinerary in the event of unforeseen circumstances.

If you would like details or assistance with your booking, please contact Paul

**Insights Tours** Telephone: 02 42 672535 or 02 42 675530

Facsimile: 02 42 675530

Email: [paul@insightstours.com.au](mailto:paul@insightstours.com.au)

Postal: PO Box 180 Thirroul NSW 2515

In person: 14 Allenby Parade, Bulli (please make an appointment to ensure our office is attended when you visit)

**BOOKING FORM**  
**“Islands of Tasmania”**  
**2nd to 7th March, 2011**

**Insights Tours**      Travel agents licence no. 2TA5859

Telephone: 02 42 672535  
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Office: 14 Allenby Parade Bulli NSW 2516

Name/s:.....

Address: .....

.....

Telephone:.....Email.....

Any special requirements or requests:.....

.....

Room type: please circle your choice:      Twin      Double      Single

Payment of deposit

Cheque enclosed.      (please make cheques payable to Insights Tours)

OR

Electronic / bank transfer.      Our account details are:

- Name of account: Insights Tours client travel account
- BSB: 062 607
- Account number: 1013 1313

I / we acknowledge the general information and conditions of booking

Signature/s: .....