

# *The Maria Island Walk is one of Australia's great experiences.*



*There are few places on the planet that offer the tranquillity and unspoiled natural beauty of Tasmania's Maria Island. So not surprisingly, the multi award winning Maria Island Walk is considered to be one of Australia's foremost experiences.*

*A gentle 4 day walk through this island National Park offers groups of 10, accompanied by 2 guides, a unique, enchanting and unforgettable blend of rare wildlife, history, breathtaking scenery, candlelight gourmet dinners and elegant accommodation.*

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**MARIA**  
ISLAND WALK  
*Four days that will last a lifetime.*

# Four days in four minutes.

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**MARIA**  
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*Four days that will last a lifetime.*

- Where:** Maria Island is a National Park located a short boat ride from Triabunna on Tasmania's East Coast.
- When:** The four day/three night walk departs Hobart daily (subject to demand) from the 1<sup>st</sup> October until the 1<sup>st</sup> May.
- How Many:** Our walks cater to a maximum of ten guests and two guides.
- Costs:** 1<sup>st</sup> October – 25<sup>th</sup> December 2012: \$2,150 per person. 26<sup>th</sup> December 2012 – 1<sup>st</sup> May 2014: \$2,250 per person. Covers all transport, park- entry fees, twin share accommodation, food & wine and provided walking gear.

## **Day 1: The First Steps**

We collect you from wherever you are staying in Hobart city. Back at our city base, you'll meet the rest of your fellow walkers, collect your backpacks and be given a briefing. Then you'll make a short drive to the historic coastal town of Triabunna for boarding, as you look forward to just 3 km of walking or 12 km if you take one of the optional walks. Our boat will take you through the sparkling waters of Mercury Passage to the isthmus of Maria Island. You will set foot on a pristine, untouched beach, exactly as explorers did years earlier. Here you enjoy lunch overlooking the crystal azure waters of Shoal Bay before taking a walk to the tranquil Casuarina Beach camp. That afternoon explore the trail through the tall eucalypt forest down to the spectacular Haunted Bay. That evening, after a fine gourmet dinner, stroll along the beach at sunset with a glass of wine, delighting in the day you've had and excited by what lies ahead.

## **Day 2: Five Fabulous Beaches**

Our morning starts are leisurely and after a relaxed breakfast there is plenty of time to enjoy your surrounds before we walk from Riedle Bay across the rare land formation of the isthmus to Shoal Bay to stroll five fabulous beaches. Explore the convict cells at Point Lesueur and visit an ochre pit at Bloodstone Point – one of the original ochre sources for the Tasmanian Aborigines. Put your feet up at White Gums Camp, where native birds will entertain you while you sip wine on the deck and anticipate dinner before heading to your cabin. Today's walking is 14 kilometres over flat ground and firm sandy beaches.

## **Day 3: Into The Heart, Up To The Heights**

After another relaxing start, we head inland to green forests that are a prime habitat for the endangered 40-Spotted Pardalote. Take the gentle inland track to Hop grounds Beach and the Painted Cliffs and on to Bernacchi House or continue to the 711-metre summit of Mt. Maria for breathtaking 360° views.

Those who head straight to the Bernacchi House can enjoy an afternoon hike up Bishop and Clerk, with its fantastic sea and coastline vistas – both peak walks are optional and the majority undertaken with a light day pack. Finish the day with a hot shower and beautiful dinner and accommodation in the historic colonial home once occupied by Italian entrepreneur, Diego Bernacchi. Today's walking is just 6 kilometres and around 17 kilometres if you choose to undertake one of the peak walks.

## **Day 4: Walk Back In Time**

Today you have some time to enjoy on your own - relax and enjoy the serenity of the convict settlement and industrial ruins of Darlington and walk through the tall Blue Gum forest to the convict brickworks and heritage reservoir and around to the world class Fossil Cliffs.

Enjoy a champagne lunch overlooking Darlington then return to Hobart for a last farewell followed by a drop-off at your accommodation. Today's walking is up to the individual and can be done with a light day pack.

A transfer to Hobart airport is available, connecting with flights departing from 6pm. For those on late flights we can bring you back to our office to freshen up before dropping you into the city. You can then have dinner before taking a taxi to the airport (at your own expense).