



WALK THE ANCIENT TARKINE WILDERNESS (TASMANIA)

PRE-DEPARTURE INFORMATION

This trip is a fully accommodated vehicle-supported tour designed for people wanting to experience the remoteness and seclusion of the Tarkine with a high level of support and creature comforts. The trip circumnavigates the Tarkine capturing the best of rainforest, coast, mountains and rivers.

The itinerary features light weight packs, warm showers, spectacular day walks and a historic Pieman River cruise. The accommodation includes three nights of resort/hotel accommodation and two nights beneath a rainforest canopy at Tiger Ridge, our remote forest camp.

TRACK GRADING

Many people who join our walks have no previous experience in bush walking and no concept of the standard track classification system.

The Tasmanian track classification system classifies walks into four categories according to the difficulty level of the track. This grading is fine if you are a regular walker and understand it. For first time or infrequent walkers the system fails to define the specific tracks challenges and weigh them up against people's confidence and fitness levels.

Our own grading system refers to the challenges of each walk and explains these challenges according to an individual's confidence and fitness levels. We recommend that you contact us with any concerns regarding your chosen walk prior to booking.



The tour is designed to give people with a broad range of fitness levels access to stunning wilderness. All the day walks can be completed with light weight day packs including a water bottle, snacks, rain jacket and a jumper.

On day one we walk for 30 minutes into Tiger Ridge base camp. You are required to carry a pack with your clothes and sleeping bag into base camp. The pack should weigh between 8-9kg. If you cannot manage this, your guide will be able to assist you. If you have any concerns about this, please call the office and we can discuss these with you.

The day walk descriptions detailed below, are designed to give you a clear picture of the specific challenges encountered on each walk. The entire trips grading is specified further below.

SUMMARY OF THE MAIN WALKS

Tiger Ridge (Day One)

The thirty minute walk to Tiger Ridge camp is a steep ascent. The walk commences at the rainforest flanked John Lynch Creek which is home to the threatened Giant Freshwater Crayfish. The beginning of the walk is very steep and gradually flattens out as we get closer to camp. The initial uphill section can be a bit slippery in wet conditions, however it is quite short and we can take our time.

Huskisson River (Day Two)

The walk is a four and half hour round trip. The track is developed to a basic standard. We negotiate around fallen trees on several occasions as well as descending one main steep slope. If you have balance issues then getting down on your bum may be needed on this section.

The guides are very supportive in these conditions. The walk is reasonably short in time, but challenging in terrain. Having said this, this trail has been negotiated with people of all fitness levels and as there is no need to rush, people enjoy the walk immensely. For more detail regarding the grading of the walk, please see track grading further below.



Mount Donaldson (Day Three)

The Mount Donaldson track is a 4 hour round trip that follows an old 4WD trail. The ascent is constant and the trail is very clear until near the top. At this point the track enters button grass and we need to negotiate this for several hundred metres. This obstacle is reasonably easy to manoeuvre through and we take it very slowly up the mountain stopping to enjoy the views as often as we wish to. The height of Mt Donaldson is 437 meters. For more detail regarding the grading of the walk, please see track grading further below.

Coast Walk (Day Four)

Today's walk is a leisurely stroll north along the picturesque Tarkine coast. There is plenty of time to explore. Day packs only are required. The walk is mainly flat with very small hills that are easy to negotiate. The coastline consists of striking rock formations and expansive views. There is plenty of fresh water running off the Norfolk Range to the east. We will have lunch sheltered behind coastal vegetation. The length of the days walk is determined by the group on the day. After lunch we have the option of going further north toward the Interview River or turning back toward the ferry.

GRADING

We grade this tour according to the individual's experience and fitness level. We grade the entire trip not the individual day walks. The categories below are set to the most challenging day walks on the trip (Huskisson River and Mt Donaldson walk). They are both approximately 4 hour return walks. Please read the above descriptions of the main day walks and then pick the category below that most suits your experience and fitness level.

Never done a 4hr return bush walk / I don't feel fit or confident

For someone who has never gone on a 4 hr return bush walk, and you don't feel fit or confident then "probably" this walk will be challenging for you. We suggest that you call our office and talk with us if you have any concerns. This way we can assess in detail your specific circumstance, thoughts and feelings toward the walk.

Never done a 4hr return bush walk / I feel fit and confident.

For someone who has never gone on a 4hr return bush walk and feels fit and confident to give it a try then "probably" this walk will be moderate for you.



Have done a 4hr return bush walk with pack/ I don't feel fit or confident.
For someone who has gone on a 4hr return bush walk yet doesn't feel fit and confident then "probably" this walk will be moderate to challenging for you.

Have done a 4hr return bush walk with pack / I feel fit and confident.
For someone who has gone a 4hr return bush walk, and feels fit and confident to give it try then "probably" this walk will be fairly easy for you.

GEAR LIST

Please read the list carefully. The items in bold green text are available for hire from us at \$25/item/trip, except gaiters and walking poles at \$10/item/trip. You need to book these items on your booking form to ensure that we have your correct size. You can provide your own gear, please advise if this is the case. You need to bring all the personal equipment listed below in black text. Pack weight should be no more than 8-9 kg for the 30 minute walk into Tiger Ridge camp. This is the only time that you will need the large pack.

Gear requirement

PackAt least 65 litres, internal frame, worn and in good repair

Sleeping Bag At least 3 seasons (-5 C) and lightweight

Sleeping matSelf inflating or foam - lightweight

TorchHead torches are recommended

Waterproof coat with hood ...Must be goretex or japara, and of high quality

Waterproof pantsPlastic or goretex is acceptable

Walking PolesOptional but highly recommended to improve balance and prevent injury

GaitersLeg protectors (for protection from mud and unlikely event of snake bite)

Pack linerStrong/ water proof (to keep clothes dry in heavy rain/river crossings)

BootsWorn in bushwalking boots preferably with ankle support, waterproof, properly sealed

Day PackOptional for carrying a jumper or water bottle on the day walks



Warm jacket or jumper	x 2	Must be either polar fleece or woolen, cotton jumpers are not acceptable
Thermal top	x 2	Polypropylene, chlorofibre or woolen
Thermal Long Johns	x 2	Polypropylene, chlorofibre or woolen
T shirts/ short sleeved shirts ...	x 2	For walking in and evening wear
Shorts	x 1	Loose fitting for walking
Long sleeved shirt	x 1	For walking
Long pants	x 1	Wool/synthetic (no denim jeans), optional for those who feel the cold
Socks	x 3	pairs, wool or synthetic
Underwear	x 3	minimum
Spare plastic bags	x 4	Shopping bags are fine- very handy when it's wet
Sun hat		Wide brimmed / lightweight and sunglasses
Beanie		Woolen hat
Gloves		Woolen / synthetic
Sandals / sandshoes		Texas or sandshoes, lightweight for wearing at camp and river crossings
Bathers		Optional
Small towel		Lightweight eg. chamois (optional)
Water bottle		1 litre (strong plastic/aluminium)
Personal hygiene items		Do not bring soap or shampoo, we provide hand washing detergent
Sunscreen		Small bottle

WE SUPPLY

- Stoves, fuel and all cooking equipment
- All toileting equipment including toilet paper
- hand wash gel
- Cutlery, bowls and cups
- Comprehensive first aid kit and all safety equipment including Epirb device, (emergency satellite device)
- All meals from lunch on day 1 to lunch on day 6, including including trail mix, lollies, chocolate, muesli bars etc. If you are being picked up or dropped off in Hobart please bring money for breakfast on the first day and dinner on the last day.
- All accommodation.
- Specialist camping equipment - refer to the gear list
- All group camping equipment including all first aid and safety gear.
- Experienced, professional guides with a passion for Tasmania's wild places.
- Transport from and back to your accommodation (if located in the CBD).
- Entry fees to National Parks/reserves/tours/ferries.

