

# Tasmania

25 March - 1 April 2027

Australia's mysterious island state is home to 13 endemic birds as well as some unique mammal species. Our Tasmania: Birds & Mammals tour showcases these wonderful birding and mammal highlights in 5½ fabulous days. Bird species include Forty-spotted Pardalote, Dusky Robin, 3 Honeyeaters, Yellow Wattlebird, Tasmanian Native-Hen, Black Currawong, Green Rosella, Tasmanian Scrubwren, Tasmanian Thornbill and Scrubtit, as well as the beautiful Swift Parrot. Iconic mammals include Tasmanian Devil, Platypus

and Echidna. We'll be visiting enchanting fern glades, pristine and spectacular coasts, dense eucalypt forests, islands, streams and wetlands, and unique button-grass moors. Wonderful scenery, true wilderness, good food and excellent accommodation, often located within the various wilderness areas we'll be visiting, make this is a tour not to be missed! The tour commences and ends in Hobart, and visits Bruny Island, Mt Wellington and Mt Field NP. Join us in 2027 for an unforgettable experience!



# **Itinerary**

Day 0: 25 March 2027 Arrival in Hobart

Today has been set aside as an arrival day so you are free to arrive at any time that suits your travel plans. You are to make your own way to the hotel in the city (please see notes at the end of this itinerary) and we will meet at the hotel in the evening for a brief orientation and welcome dinner.

Overnight: Hobart, en-suite hotel rooms

Meals included: D

## Day 1: 26 March 2027

## **Hobart reserves & Mount Wellington**

After breakfast we bird local reserves around Hobart, which is situated on a steep rainfall gradient, ranging from averages of 500 mm to 1350 mm within only 25 km. This provides a wide variety of forest types, from grassy woodland to wet forests rich in ferns and mosses, and an opportunity to find a diverse array of birds including Tasmania's endemic species and see the differing habitat requirements of some of these localized, endemic bird species. We'll also head up to Mount Wellington. This mountain, at a height of 1270m (around 4,150 feet), affords spectacular views of the city and surrounding landscape on a clear day. Here we will also take a walk through a fern glade with towering tree ferns where we have another chance to see the rather shy Scrubtit as well as Tasmanian Scrubwren and the stunning Pink Robin. Further endemic highlights we find here include Green Rosella, Tasmanian Native Hen, Black Currawong and Yellow Wattlebird. At the end of the day, we drive north towards Mt Field National Park.

Overnight: Mount Field Retreat, en-suite cabins

Meals included: B, L, D

# Day 2: 27 March 2027 Hobart to Mount Field

We depart early to explore Mt Field with its natural wonders. At its base stand giant, 250-year-old gum trees, towering to 100 m tall, with a ground cover of mosses, ferns, lichens and fungi. As we ascend the winding road to the higher slopes, through an ever-changing succession of plant communities, the scenery changes from the soft greens of the rainforest to the harsh, glaciated landscape of the mountains, producing some spectacular scenic highlights. Among this myriad and density of vegetation we'll look for Pink Robin, Black Currawong and Yellow Wattlebird. We take several short walks and keep an eye out for











Green Rosella, Tasmanian Native Hen, Flame Robin, and Striated Fieldwren. All photos by Peter Waanders.



platypus, completing our day in the high alpine meadows searching for Striated Fieldwren and Flame Robin.

Overnight: Mt Field Retreat or similar, en-suite cabins

Meals included: B, L, D

# Day 3: 28 March 2027 Mt Field to Bruny Island

After breakfast we drive back south and take a ferry to Bruny Island for our stay on the island. All twelve of Tasmania's endemic species are found on this scenic island: Tasmanian Native-hen, Green Rosella, Dusky Robin, Tasmanian Thornbill, Forty-spotted Pardalote, Tasmanian Scrubwren, Scrub-Tit, Yellow Wattlebird, Black Currawong, Strongbilled Honeyeater, Black-headed Honeyeater, and Yellow-throated Honeyeater.

Overnight: Bruny Hotel, en-suite hotel room

Meals included: B, L, D

# Day 4: 29 March 2027 Bruny Island

We will spend a full day birding on the island targeting the endemics and the non-endemics that are more abundant on Tasmania than on mainland Australia, including Hooded Plover, Brush Bronzewing, Swift Parrot, robins, Crescent Honeyeater and Forest Raven. Along the coast we should see Fairy Penguin, Black-faced Cormorant, Short-tailed Shearwater and other seabirds. We will visit a great little reserve with a very good chance of Forty-spotted Pardalote. At night we'll spotlight for marsupials such as Bennett's Wallaby, Tasmanian Pademelon, Longnosed Potoroo & Eastern Quoll.

Overnight: Bruny Hotel, en-suite hotel room

Meals included: B, L, D

# Day 5: 30 March 2027 Bruny Island to Hobart

The morning will be an opportunity to pick up anything we have missed on Bruny Island. Partway through the day we will take the ferry back to the mainland and for some final birding around Hobart. We will enjoy several short walks in reserves we haven't visited previously.

Overnight: Hobart, en-suite hotel rooms

Meals included: B, L, D











Tasmanian Thornbill, Forty-spotted Pardalote, Yellow-throated Honeyeater, Swift Parrot, and Dusky Robin. Swift Parrot by Chris Tzaros, all other photos by Peter Waanders.



#### Day 6: 31 March 2027 Melaleuca

Today we take a spectacularly scenic flight to the remote South-West World Heritage area, the area named Melaleuca famed for its unspoilt wilderness, clean air and rare birdlife. We will have a chance to see one of the world's rarest birds, the critically endangered Orange-bellied Parrot. With no more than 100 left in the wild, this vivid parrot is teetering on the brink of extinction. Other specialties we hope to see are the elusive Ground Parrot, Striated Fieldwren, Black Currawong, the delightful Southern Emuwren and the Beautiful Firetail. Please note, the flight is weather dependent, and we will have limited opportunity to reschedule. Should the flight be cancelled, we'll explore the southern forests of the Tasman peninsula and visit the Tasmanian Devil rescue project at the "Unzoo". The cost of the flight will be refunded if cancelled.

Overnight: Hobart, en-suite motel room

Meals included: B.L.D

# Day 7: 1 April 2027 Departure

Departure from Hobart, Tasmania, after breakfast.

Meals included: B











Orange-bellied Parrot, Beautiful Firetail, Bluewinged Parrot, and White-bellied Sea-Eagle. All photos by Peter Waanders.



# **QUICK OVERVIEW**

#### **SCHEDULED DATES**

Tasmania: 25 March - 1 April 2027

Preceding connecting tour: South-West Western Australia #1: 16 - 23 March 2027.

#### STARTING IN

Hobart, Tasmania

#### **FINISHING IN**

Hobart, Tasmania

#### **GROUP SIZE**

Minimum 4, maximum 9 participants.

#### **BRIEF ITINERARY**

Day 0: 25 March 2027: Arrival in Hobart

Day 1: 26 March 2027: Hobart reserves & Mount Wellington

Day 2: 27 March 2027: Hobart to Mount Field

Day 3: 28 March 2027: Mt Field to Bruny Island

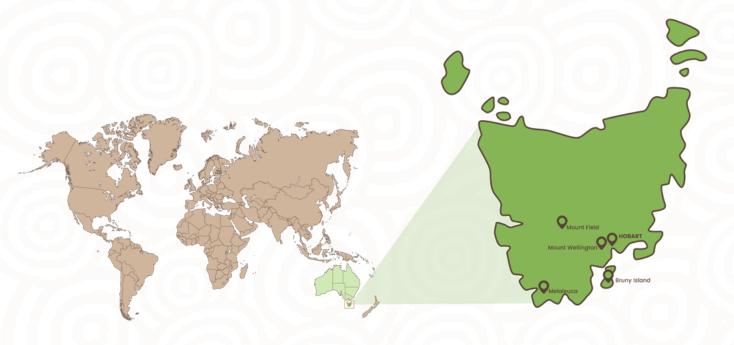
Day 4: 29 March 2027: Bruny Island

Day 5: 30 March 2027: Bruny Island to Hobart

Day 6: 31 March 2027: Melaleuca Day 7: 1 April 2027: Departure

#### BOOKING

Please book at: https://www.bellbirdtours.com/bookings/.





# COST

#### COST

AU\$5,999 per person including accommodation and all meals, based on double or twin-share occupancy. Single occupancy surcharge of AU\$990.

Early bird discount of AU\$99 for bookings received up to 12 months before departure date. Return client discount may apply.

#### INCLUDED

7 nights en suite accommodation (but see note on Bruny cottage), specialist guiding and transport for day and night tours as outlined above, all meals as outlined in the itinerary, activities outlined in the itinerary, National Park entry fees, Bruny Island ferry fares, return flight to Melaleuca, tax.

#### **EXCLUDED**

Travel to & from departure and finish points, pre- & post trip accommodation, any meals before dinner on Day 1 and after breakfast on Day 7, any activities not described, drinks except where provided, personal expenses, tips, insurance.

#### **GETTING THERE & AWAY**

Tour commences with dinner on 25 March 2027. Please arrive on or before 25 March. Tour finishes with breakfast on 1 April 2027. Please depart on or after 1 April.

#### **PRE & POST TOUR OPTIONS**

If you wish to spend extra time before the tour starts or after the tour finishes and you'd like us to book you into a hotel, please indicate this on the booking form.

This tour links seamlessly with our preceding South-West Western Australia tour (16-23 March 2027). Receive an instant discount if you book both tours. More details: <a href="https://bellbirdtours.com/south-west-australia/">https://bellbirdtours.com/south-west-australia/</a>

#### **DISCLAIMERS**

(1) itinerary may be modified slightly due to factors such as availability of accommodation, updated information on the state of accommodation, roads, or birding sites, the discretion of the guides and other factors; (2) until we've received your final payment, tour price may be subject to adjustment in the event of significant cost increases in ground arrangements. See our Terms and Conditions: <a href="https://bellbirdtours.com/terms-and-conditions/">https://bellbirdtours.com/terms-and-conditions/</a>.

#### **BOOKING**

Please book at: <a href="https://www.bellbirdtours.com/bookings/">https://www.bellbirdtours.com/bookings/</a>.



# PRACTICAL DETAILS

#### **IMPORTANT NOTES**

- Arrival in Hobart: There is a regular shuttle bus service (The Hobart Airporter) between Hobart airport and the main hotels in the city. Details on the costs and timing of the shuttle can be found here: <a href="http://www.airporterhobart.com.au/">http://www.airporterhobart.com.au/</a>. Alternatively, you may wish to take a taxi to the city. There is no need to pre-book these, they are readily available outside the terminal building. More information on taxis (and additional airport information) can be found here: <a href="https://hobartairport.com.au/travellers/transport-and-parking/">https://hobartairport.com.au/travellers/transport-and-parking/</a>.
- Meals: Breakfast: continental style (cereal, fruit, yoghurt and tea/coffee). Full cooked breakfast not
  usually available. Lunch: sandwiches/rolls/wraps, fruit, and a drink, often in the field; at times we
  may visit a bakery for lunch. Dinner: 2 courses (mains with the choice of either an appetiser or dessert). Drinks (soft and alcoholic) are not included but at lunches and breakfasts juice may be made
  available.

#### **LEADERS**

Bellbird leader.

#### DIFFICULTY

Low to medium level of fitness required. The tour has a relaxed pace, and walks are on varying surfaces, from paved roads to sandy or rocky walking trails with some short climbs. We generally walk slowly, with lots of stops. You can opt out of any challenging walks.

#### **ACCOMMODATION**

Private en-suite rooms in most hotels or lodges. Standards of the lodgings are generally very comfortable. Expect slow, if any, wi-fi access. On Bruny Island, we stay cottage style accommodations: individual rooms some with en-suite bathroom and some with bathrooms shared between 2-3 people

#### **CLOTHING**

Lightweight long pants, t-shirt and long-sleeved shirt, over the top of which you can wear layers that can be taken off as necessary, including a jumper / sweater and a wind- and rain-proof jacket.

#### WHAT TO BRING

Please travel light. Binoculars, camera, mobile phone, chargers, power adaptors if you're an international guest, insect repellent, sunscreen, personal medications, sun hat, water bottle, hand sanitizer. Sturdy footwear recommended. Scopes, super-telephoto lenses with tripods, and heavy suitcases are discouraged.

#### RECOMMENDED READING

The comprehensive (but large and heavy) Australian Bird Guide by Danny Rogers, Peter Menkhorst, and Rohan Clarke, or the (smaller and lighter) Compact Australian Bird Guide (2022) by the same authors.



# **HOW TO BOOK THIS TOUR?**

## Step 1: Essential reading

- Download, save and read the itinerary (this document);
- Read our terms and conditions and the release of liability waiver (both can be found on <a href="https://www.bell-birdtours.com/terms-and-conditions">https://www.bell-birdtours.com/terms-and-conditions</a>);
- Read our health & safety information page (<a href="https://bellbirdtours.com/health-and-safety/">https://bellbirdtours.com/health-and-safety/</a>).

## Step 2: Online booking

Head over to our secure online booking page: <a href="https://www.bellbirdtours.com/bookings">https://www.bellbirdtours.com/bookings</a> (should you prefer a paper booking form, this can be downloaded from there).

## Step 3: Pay the deposit

To secure your seat, a deposit of 20% of the tour price is required at the time of booking. Full payment is due 60 days prior to the departure date. Until full payment has been received, Bellbird Tours reserves the right to change the tour price (e.g. due to changing fuel prices).

#### Payment options:

Domestic electronic funds transfer: please send funds to the following bank account:

- bank: Australia & New Zealand Bank (ANZ), 112 Rundle Mall, Adelaide SA 5000
- account name: Bellbird Tours Pty Ltd
- branch no. (BSB) 015-140 and account no. 206136528
  - Please use your surname as the booking reference.

Visa, Mastercard & Google Pay: through Pin Payments (an easy, secure online payment system). They charge us a processing fee of ~3%. Please contact us to use this option, and we'll email you a secure payment link.

International electronic funds transfer: please send funds in Australian Dollars (+ bank charges) to the following bank account:

- international swift code: anzbau3m (no IBAN codes are used in Australia)
- bank: Australia & New Zealand Bank (ANZ), 112 Rundle Mall, Adelaide SA 5000
- account name: Bellbird Tours Pty Ltd
- branch no. (BSB) 015-140 and account no. 206136528
  - If possible, please use your surname as the booking reference.
  - If you are asked to provide our physical address, this is: 101 Chilton Road, Berri, SA 5343, Australia.
  - Please specify AU\$ as the recipient's currency, and the correct amount. Select the option for you to incur any charges at both ends.

Any discrepancy between the amount payable and amount received will be added to the final balance, or payable in cash at the start of the tour. Prices and fees are not negotiable.

#### Step 4: You're done!

Sit back and wait for your booking confirmation to arrive (24-48 hrs). Meanwhile, should you have any questions, please contact us via: <a href="https://www.bellbirdtours.com/about-us/">https://www.bellbirdtours.com/about-us/</a>.



# POSSIBLE SPECIES LIST (NOT EXHAUSTIVE)

Emu

Cape Barren Goose

Black Swan

Freckled Duck

Australian Shelduck

Pink-eared Duck

Maned Duck

Mallard

Pacific Black Duck

Australasian Shoveler

Grey Teal

Chestnut Teal

Hardhead

Blue-billed Duck

Musk Duck

Stubble Quail

Brown Quail

Little Penguin

Wilson's Storm Petrel

Grev-backed Storm Petrel

White-faced Storm Petrel

Black-bellied Storm Petrel

Wandering Albatross

Antipodean Albatross

Southern Royal Albatross

Sooty Albatross

Light-mantled Albatross

Black-browed Albatross

Campbell Albatross

Shy Albatross

Salvin's Albatross

Grey-headed Albatross

**Buller's Albatross** 

Southern Giant Petrel

Northern Giant Petrel

Cape Petrel

Blue Petrel

Antarctic Prion

Slender-billed Prion

Fairy Prion

Kerguelen Petrel

Great-winged Petrel

White-headed Petrel

Grey-faced Petrel

Soft-plumaged Petrel

Sooty Shearwater

Short-tailed Shearwater

Flesh-footed Shearwater

Fluttering Shearwater

Common Diving Petrel Australasian Grebe

Hoary-headed Grebe

Great Crested Grebe

Australian White Ibis

Straw-necked Ibis

Royal Spoonbill

Yellow-billed Spoonbill

Nankeen Night Heron

Eastern Cattle Egret

White-necked Heron

**Great Egret** 

Intermediate Egret

White-faced Heron

Little Earet

Australian Pelican

Australasian Gannet

Little Pied Cormorant

Black-faced Cormorant

Little Black Cormorant

Australian Pied Cormorant

Great Cormorant

Australasian Darter

Eastern Osprey

Wedge-tailed Eagle

Grey Goshawk

Brown Goshawk

Collared Sparrowhawk

Swamp Harrier

Whistling Kite

White-bellied Sea Eagle

Lewin's Rail

Baillon's Crake

Australian Crake

Spotless Crake

Australasian Swamphen

Dusky Moorhen

Tasmanian Nativehen

**Eurasian Coot** 

Pied Oystercatcher

Sooty Oystercatcher

White-headed Stilt

Red-necked Avocet

Banded Lapwing

Masked Lapwing

Red-kneed Dotterel Pacific Golden Plover

Grey Plover

Red-capped Plover

Double-banded Plover

Lesser Sand Plover

Greater Sand Plover

Hooded Dotterel

Black-fronted Dotterel

Latham's Snipe

Black-tailed Godwit

Bar-tailed Godwit

Whimbrel

Far Eastern Curlew

Marsh Sandpiper

Common Greenshank

Grev-tailed Tattler

Terek Sandpiper

Common Sandpiper

Ruddy Turnstone

Great Knot

Red Knot

Sanderling

Red-necked Stint

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper

Curlew Sandpiper

Silver Gull

Pacific Gull

Kelp Gull

Caspian Tern

Greater Crested Tern

Little Tern

Fairy Tern

South Polar Skua

Brown Skua

Pomarine Jaeger

Parasitic Jaeger Long-tailed Jaeger

Rock Dove

Spotted Dove

Common Bronzewing



Brush Bronzewing Horsfield's Bronze Cuckoo Shining Bronze Cuckoo Pallid Cuckoo Fan-tailed Cuckoo Australian Masked Owl Eastern Barn Owl Morepork Tawny Frogmouth Australian Owlet-nightjar White-throated Needletail Pacific Swift Laughing Kookaburra Sacred Kingfisher Azure Kingfisher Rainbow Bee-eater Nankeen Kestrel Australian Hobby Brown Falcon Peregrine Falcon Yellow-tailed Black Cockatoo Long-billed Corella Little Corella Sulphur-crested Cockatoo Green Rosella Crimson Rosella Eastern Rosella Swift Parrot Eastern Ground Parrot Blue-winged Parrot Orange-bellied Parrot Little Lorikeet

Rainbow Lorikeet

Musk Lorikeet Superb Lyrebird Superb Fairywren Southern Emu-wren Tawny-crowned Honeyeater Eastern Spinebill Crescent Honeyeater New Holland Honeyeater White-cheeked Honeyeater Strong-billed Honeyeater Black-headed Honeyeater Yellow-throated Honeyeater White-fronted Chat Little Wattlebird Yellow Wattlebird Yellow-faced Honeyeater **Noisy Miner** Yellow-throated Miner Spotted Pardalote Forty-spotted Pardalote Striated Pardalote Scrubtit Striated Fieldwren White-browed Scrubwren Tasmanian Scrubwren **Brown Thornbill** Tasmanian Thornbill Yellow-rumped Thornbill Spotted Quail-thrush **Dusky Woodswallow** Australian Magpie Grey Butcherbird Black Currawong Grey Currawong

Black-faced Cuckooshrike White-bellied Cuckooshrike White-winged Triller Varied Triller Crested Shriketit Olive Whistler Australian Golden Whistler Rufous Whistler Grey Shrikethrush Willie Wagtail Grev Fantail Satin Flycatcher Forest Raven Dusky Robin Pink Robin Flame Robin Scarlet Robin Eurasian Skylark Welcome Swallow Tree Martin Australian Reed Warbler Little Grassbird Silvereye Common Starling Bassian Thrush Common Blackbird Song Thrush House Sparrow Beautiful Firetail Australian Pipit European Greenfinch Common Redpoll European Goldfinch