



SSPA Tasmania 2013 - National Convention

Sunday the 29th of September – Saturday the 5th of October 2013

This year the National SSPA convention will be held at the **Woodfield Centre in Dysart**, Tasmania. The **Woodfield Centre** is a Family Recreation and Adventure Park located approximately 30 minutes north of Hobart. Nestled within a sweeping valley of Tasmanian bushlands, this idyllic natural sanctuary provides its visitors with a unique camping experience. You will feel like you are a world away in this safe haven full of wildlife including possums, quolls, wallabies, rabbits, echidnas, bandicoots, birds and frogs. Enjoy the panoramic views of the Tasmanian landscape, take a walk along our bubbling creek or venture further out to the nearby Barren Rock Waterfall. <http://www.woodfield.net.au/index.htm>

Medical Day – 30th of September 2013



Also planned for the week we have a **Medical Day** where you get to hear from, and talk with, the genetic Doctors and support team about dwarfism matters. Whilst the medical day is taking place we will have qualified baby sitters available to take care of your children while they create their own unique head dress or equipment for the Cowboys & Indians Disco to take place later that week.

Disco – Monday the 30th of October 2013 - **Cowboys & Indians** – Let the children dress up as their favourite cowboy or Indian. Will we see a Woody from the much loved Disney movie, Toy Story? Or, maybe we will have a couple of Indian's from Pocahontas?

Day Trips

Port Arthur – Tuesday the 1st of October 2013. Along with the activities at the Woodfield centre we have organised day trips to the Historic site of Port Arthur, where we will be taken on a 40min tour of the grounds and a cruise out to The Isle of the Dead (people with limited mobility will be catered for). Also included are stop offs at the Tessellated pavement and Devils Kitchen natural wonders, and lunch on the grounds of Port Arthur.



Richmond – Thursday the 3rd of October 2013. The children can search for the mystery at the middle of the **Richmond Mazes**, sample the lollies at the famous Richmond lolly shop “**Sweets & Treats**” and walk around and explore the buildings the convicts built, and were held in capture, at the **Richmond Gaol** and see the oldest bridge in Australia, the Iconic **Richmond Bridge**. A project sheet for the children will keep them busy while the adults can relax and unwind sampling the local cheeses and wine at **The Puddle Duck Vinyard**



A.G.M. – Annual General Meeting - Wednesday the 2nd of October 2013

It is compulsory for all National Council members and state council members attending the convention, to attend the AGM. All other SSPA members attending the convention are strongly encouraged to attend.

Dine in Style...- Thursday the 3rd of October 2013



Then *dress to impress* as you dance the night away at also the oldest Casino in Australia in its 40th Anniversary year, **The Wrest Point Casino**. There you will dine at the Dinner Dance whilst being entertained by local entertainers playing music from yesterdays and today. **Children** (under the age of 14) will be again looked after back at the camp by our qualified baby sitters taking care of their every needs, entertaining them with a slumber party in the chapel whilst watching a latest release G-rated movie.

Getting there....

Flying - There are direct flights from all major cities from the mainland to Hobart flying **Jetstar, Virgin or Tiger Airways**.

We will be arranging for transport to and from the airport upon arrival and departing the state. There will be a place to put all your arrival and departing details in the registration forms found in the June SSPA Journal and SSPA website. There also may be a short waiting period for some to allow for others to arrive so you can all be transferred to the camp site.



Sailing - Bring your car! The **Spirit of Tasmania** is a great way to extend your Tasmanian adventure. There are night sailings leaving Port Melbourne and arriving on the beautiful North West Coast of Tasmania in Devonport. From there you will have a leisurely 4 hour drive down through the midlands, bypassing Launceston. On your drive down you will pass Anvers chocolate factory just outside of Devonport at Latrobe, Christmas Hill Raspberry Farm and café, at Elizabeth Town, and Heidi Farmhouse Cheese, Exton. All of which you will find all located along the highway. You may want to leave a couple of days earlier and take in a few of the Northern sites also.



Touring Tasmania

<http://www.discovertasmania.com/destinations>

Hobart Area

Salamanca Market – Hobart Water front Salamanca

Enjoy the sights, sounds, flavours, action and colour of Australia's best outdoor market - proudly operated by Hobart City Council - every Saturday from 8:30am to 3:00pm at Hobart's Salamanca Place. Set between graceful plane trees and the mellow sandstone facades of historic warehouses, Hobart's famous market at Salamanca Place attracts thousands of locals and visitors, every Saturday of the year. They come to visit more than 300 stalls for the food and music, fresh fruit, crisp organic vegetables, hot baked spuds, the warm aroma of a coffee and croissant, buskers singing the blues, stroking a harp or strumming a lively folk song.

Mona museum - 655 Main Road Berriedale, Tasmania

It's been years in the making, but the Museum of Old and New Art (Mona) is now open to the public. The museum's owner, David Walsh, has described Mona as a subversive adult Disneyland and the multi-million dollar, mostly underground, building is full of beautiful, shocking, disturbing and thought-provoking art from around the world. Warning: some of the images might offend.

The museum is free to enter for local Tasmanians although there is a charge of \$20 for people who live outside the state. Open to the public from 22 January 11am to 7pm daily.

Entry fee: \$20 (for people living outside of Tasmania)

Mount Wellington

Welcome to Wellington Park, featuring Mount Wellington, locally known as 'the Mountain' or *kunanyi*. The Park stretches over 20km west of the Mountain's pinnacle, and encompasses 18,250ha. Easily accessible from Hobart, Glenorchy and other regional areas, this reserve connects the city to the bush, and the mountains to the waterways.

Park entrance fees do not apply, and there are no opening or closing hours. The Pinnacle Shelter at the summit of Mount Wellington however, is open to the public during the summer months (daylight savings) from 8am-8pm, and during the winter months from 8am-4.30pm. Who knows it may be snowing!

Cadbury Factory – 100 Cadbury Road, Claremont, Tasmania

Regular opening hours:

Open Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 3.30pm. Closed weekends and public holidays. Please call to confirm opening times before you visit: Call Toll free **1800 627 367**

- Understand the process of how Cadbury chocolates are made, see chocolates being moulded and enjoy tasting raw materials.
- Visitors can sample chocolates and visit the retail shop - special chocolate prices and high quality Cadbury merchandise.
- No access to manufacturing areas of factory.
- Delays may occur during peak season.

Admission:

Adult: \$7.50

Children: \$4.00

Family: Two adults and up to three children: \$17.50

Suitable for all ages. Wheelchair friendly. Ample free parking

Cascade Brewery – 140 Cascade Road, South Hobart

The Cascade Brewery is Australia's oldest continuously operating brewery, in South Hobart, Tasmania. The brewery is located in the foothills of Mount Wellington, five minutes' drive from Hobart's central business district. It's been called a must-do Hobart experience. Here you'll learn about Australia's oldest brewery, its finest beers, the brewing process and a little something the brewers call "The Feel".

Intertwine it with some of the brewers' stories and the beautiful "Woodstock" gardens, before topping it off with a real taste of history – a fresh one directly from the taps.

All visitors on the Brewery tour must be over 18 years of age and the cost for an adult is \$25, seniors and students \$20. Ph: 03) 62 241 117

Tahune Airwalk – Tahune Forest Reserve, Geeveston, Tasmania

Walk among the giants of the forest. Experience the power of nature at southern Tasmania's must-see attraction, the Tahune AirWalk. With breathtaking views of the forest canopy, spine-tingling swinging bridges across the Huon and Picton Rivers, and Tasmanian food and wine in the licensed café, there's a full day of fun for the whole family.

Adult \$25.00 **Family** \$50.00 **Child** \$12.50 From 5 to 16 years old. **Concession** \$22.50 Students and Seniors Card holders. Toll Free: 1300 720 507

Launceston Area

Cataract Gorge – Basin Rd, West Launceston, Tasmania

Launceston's own piece of wilderness, just 15 minutes walk from the city centre.

Here you'll find walking and hiking trails, the world's longest single span chairlift, swimming pool, restaurant, kiosk, cafe peacocks and wildlife, beautiful gardens, suspension bridge, inclinor for easy access, Interpretation Centre and panoramic lookouts with spectacular views.

FIRST BASIN CHAIRLIFT RATES

Fares: Adults \$12.00-\$15.00, Concession: \$10.00-\$12.00, Children: \$8.00-\$10.00

*otherwise entry to the gorge is free.

OPEN EVERY DAY

from 9am (365 days a year)

Closing:

Winter at 4.30 pm

Spring and Autumn 5.00 pm

Summer 5.30 pm to 6.00 pm

Tamar Valley Resort – 7 Waldhorn Dr Grindelwald, Tasmania

ASPECT TAMAR VALLEY RESORT is one of Tasmania's finest properties, offering World Class resort facilities, set on over 150 magnificent acres amid numerous spectacular Lakes & breathtaking Mountain views. The resort boasts an exotic, timeless ambience rarely found.

Aspect Tamar Valley Resort is perfectly located about 10 minutes drive north of the Launceston CBD and is a true Jewel in the crown of this breathtaking region. Aspect Tamar Valley Resort is ideally positioned to use as a base whilst exploring all that Northern Tasmania has to offer.

Check In is available 24 hours per day via our Express Check In Desk. Full Room Service is also available to 8pm each evening, should you choose to enjoy private in room dining. The Resort's **World Class Par 54 Mini Golf course** Putt It is peppered with many water features, bridges, extensive landscaping and building architecture that depicts an authentic European Turn of the Century Lakeside Village.

The World Famous Grindelwald **Swiss Shopping Village** is located on the grounds at Aspect Tamar Valley Resort and is open to the public every day of the week from 9am. Here you will find local arts, craft shops, souvenir shops, chocolate shop, ice creamery, village bakery, news agency, general store, electronic games arcade, golf shop & much more. Ph: 1 8000 TAMAR

Boags Brewery - 39 William Street, Launceston, Tasmania

Discover the ultimate beer lover's experience; take a tour James Boag's Historic Brewery in Launceston, Tasmania. Tours start and finish at the Boag's Centre for Beer Lovers; situated in the historic Tamar Hotel, open Monday to Saturday. The Centre features three floors of Boag's Museum and brewing memorabilia and houses the official Boag's merchandise store.

Choose from two brewery tours

The Boag's Discovery Tour, a 60-minute tour through Boag's brewery, offering an exclusive insight into the key elements of Boag's traditional brewing process and concluding with a tasting of four award-winning Boag's beers.

The Boag's Beer Lovers Tour, a 90-minute tour, provides a more comprehensive insight into all stages of the brewing and packaging process, followed again by a tasting of Boag's award winning beers, this time accompanied by some of Tasmania's finest cheeses.

Or jump into the tasting with James Boag's Amber Ticket, tasting the entire range of James Boag's beers over 40 minutes. From James Boag's award-winning premium lagers to finest quality ales, the Boag's experts will guide you through the individual taste, appearance, aroma and character of our seven best-loved beers.

All Bookings are essential. Ph: 03 6332 6300

PER ADULT: \$30.00

PER SENIORS: \$25.00

PER CHILD: \$10.00

Westbury Maze - 10 Meander Valley Road, Westbury, Tasmania

The Westbury Maze is a traditional hedge maze in the historic town of Westbury, northern Tasmania. Westbury is an easy 20-minute drive from Launceston (35 kilometres/22 miles).

Three thousand neatly-clipped bushes at a height of two metres (6.4 feet) make up the maze, which has a network of pathways more than a kilometre (0.6 miles) long. Entering the maze is easy – finding the way through to the other side is more of a challenge. After succeeding, you can pause for refreshments or a light meal in the Tea Room, with its formal garden courtyard. Choose to dine alfresco in the courtyard or inside, with a warm log fire.

The town of Westbury has beautifully-preserved heritage buildings, antique shops, craft galleries and attractions including the White House, Culzean Gardens, the Village Green and Pearn's Steamworld.

Adult \$7.00.

Child \$5.00 From 3 to 15 years old

Family \$22.00 2 Adults, 4 Children

EAST COAST OF TASMANIA

Bay Of Fires

The internationally recognised Bay of Fires is situated between Eddystone Point and **Binalong Bay** and is one of Tasmania's most popular tourist destinations. With its stunning blue water, red rocks, white beaches and fishing lagoons, the Bay of Fires has something for everybody.

The entrance to the Bay of Fires - Binalong Bay (10 minutes from St. Helens) - is one of Tasmania's most beautiful beaches and provides some great views and walks along the coastline. With an array of

accommodation, fishing and diving facilities, and a general store and cafe, Binalong Bay is an idyllic location for those seeking a 'holiday in heaven'.

Northeast Tasmania Garden Lovers Trail

The North East Garden Lovers Trail is a group of private gardens situated in the scenic Dorset municipality of Tasmania. The trail does not have grand and professionally designed creations but, instead a selection of gardens created from the heart by the owners. Each garden is distinctly different and offers the viewer something unique in style, atmosphere and the type of plants grown and as well the chance to enter into the world of the gardener and maybe a glimpse into the soul of the garden.

A feature of the trail is the setting of each garden in the magnificent rural scenery of the area.

TO USE THE TRAIL: Because the gardens are only open by appointment those wishing to see all or just some of the gardens on the trail need to contact the following number **0363532148** or **0438532146** or email **rm_wardlaw@bigpond.com** for arrangements to be made. The cost to see each garden is \$5.00 -a discount will be offered if 4 or more gardens are visited. The trail operates from early October through to early May.

Bicheno

Bicheno is one of Tasmania's most beautiful towns and one of the most popular holiday destinations. It began life as a sealing and whaling town and then transitioned to a coal mining port (shipping coal mined inland at Fingal), but today crayfishing is the largest industry.

Bicheno is blessed with many natural attractions, including a mild climate, beaches and superb fishing of almost every type, but has not relied solely upon these. The town offers many activities for tourists, including a scuba diving school, and two vineyards (Freycinet Vineyard and Coombend Estate, south of town). The grave of Tasmanian Aboriginal heroine Waubedobar is in Bicheno.

For those not willing to don scuba gear and venture into the sea themselves, the **Sea Life Centre** can view marine life up-close at one of several aquariums; several of the species are only found in Tasmanian waters. Out-of-water animals can be found at the **Bird Life & Animal Park**, which has many different types of waterfowl plus Tasmanian animals such as the [Tasmanian devil](#).

Fairy penguins can be observed on Diamond Island. A guided "penguin tour" is available which provides safe transport to the island and educational information.

A footway, constructed for Australia's bicentennial in 1988, extends from Redbill Point north of Bicheno, to the blowhole at the south. Whalers Lookout provides good views, and in October and November, gorgeous rock orchids native to the east coast.

Immediately north of Bicheno is the **Douglas-Apsley National Park**, designated to protect a dry eucalypt forest, this 16,080 ha. The park has numerous scenic features, from Heritage Falls to calm water holes. To the south of Bicheno is the [Freycinet Peninsula](#).

Bicheno has one 4-star and seven 3½-star accommodation facilities (RACT rated) plus a youth hostel. Bicheno is approximately two hours' drive from both [Hobart](#) and Launceston.

Freycinet National Park

To reach Freycinet, turn off the A3 (East Coast Escape trail) 11 kilometre south of Bicheno and take a good sealed road 27 kilometres south to Coles Bay. Freycinet National Park with its pink granite mountains is a long peninsula jutting out into the Tasman Sea on Tasmania's east coast.

The park is famous for Wineglass Bay, just one of its white sandy beaches and the pure clear turquoise waters that are perfect for sea kayaking, swimming, and scuba diving.

The Hazard Range offer climbing abseiling and mountain walking, and the coastal heath lands have wonderful day walks.

Take the short walk to the Wineglass Bay lookout. The American magazine "Outside" rates Wineglass Bay as one of the world's ten best beaches. For spectacular coastal views visit Cape Tourville lighthouse and take the cliff top walk. Coles Bay offers a range of accommodation and camping sites are available just inside the park boundary.

The Park offers a variety of basic powered and unpowered campsites, some with cold showers. Outside the main summer/Easter period no bookings are taken, but visitors must check at the Visitor/Interpretation Centre. Current park passes must be purchased for entry to Tasmania's national parks. For full details please visit the Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife website.

North West & West Coasts of Tasmania

The north west and west coast have large tracts of wilderness which support rare and endangered wildlife, unusual geological formations and rich volcanic soils. The areas have some of Tasmania's most prosperous farming lands, where basalt soils produce an amazing variety of fruit and vegetables, dairy and prime beef cattle, wilderness honey and valuable timber. The mineral-rich west coast provides a dynamic mining industry and the famous huon pine timber. The patchwork countryside to the north, is reminiscent of England and has earned itself a clean, green image due to a reliable rainfall, lack of pollution and the geographical isolation from the rest of Australia. The region is a scenic coastline of progressive towns and cities, where residents have access to affordable housing, breathe the cleanest air in the world, consume the freshest food on the planet and enjoy a healthy, relaxed lifestyle.

Cradle Mountain (possibility of snow)

Ranger-led Activities - At certain times throughout the year, rangers offer a variety of activities such as walks, talks and slide shows for both adults and children. Besides being lots of fun these are a great way to learn about our national parks, wildlife and cultural heritage.

Day Walks - The park contains an extensive network of walking tracks to suit everyone's tastes. A day walk map should be purchased from the visitor centre if you want to go on any day walks. Staff at the visitor centre will also provide tailor-made advice to match your walking needs with the tracks available.

SHORT WALKS (Under 2 hours return) Boots and preferably gaiters are needed. A good map is essential.

Dove Lake Loop Track - A great introductory walk to the park, this walk leaves from the Dove Lake car park. Take the track on the eastern (left hand) side of Dove Lake and follow it clockwise around the lake. The newly-completed track takes you under the shadow of Cradle Mountain, through the tranquil Ballroom Forest and back along the western shore of the lake to your starting point. Allow 2 hours.

Visitor Centre Rainforest Walk - Leaving from just behind the visitor centre is a short boardwalk that is a must for all visitors to Cradle. Take the time to meander through a patch of cool temperate rainforest and you'll be rewarded with views of the beautiful Pencil Pine Falls. The easy track, suitable for wheelchairs, then circles back to the carpark. Allow 8-10 minutes.

The Weindorfers Forest Walk - Leaves from Waldheim chalet and takes an easy grade through a forest of King Billy pines, celery-top pines and myrtles. The walk takes about 20 minutes at a gentle pace. Take a little extra time and view the displays in the chalet to catch a brief look at the life of the Weindorfers.

Enchanted Walk - This leaves from the bridge at the park entrance and passes by scenic waterfalls, pools, moorland and rainforest before returning to the Cradle Mountain Lodge. This walk takes about half an hour and is mostly dry underfoot.

The Overland Track - Cradle Mountain is the starting point of the world-famous Overland Track which runs for 65 kilometres to Lake St Clair at the southern end of the park. The walk demands a fair degree of preparation and physical fitness and takes 6 days to walk or longer depending on weather delays and the side trips you take.

Table Cape Tulip Farm - 363 Lighthouse Road, Wynyard, Tasmania

The Tulip Fields in Spring (Highly recommended)

During **late September** through to **mid October** the farm explodes with colour. People come from far and wide to see this spectacle and delight at walking amongst the tulips. We understand that they are the largest tulip fields in the Southern Hemisphere that you can actually wander in. It is a lure for photographers who have the opportunity to take fantastic shots utilising backdrops of Bass Strait, the lighthouse and the surrounding rich farmlands to showcase the vista of colourful blooming fields.

Blooming Tulip Festival

For 21 years the **Bloomin' Tulip Festival** has made the local town of Wynyard buzz with activities, food, music, artists and festivities. For one Saturday each October the festival committee tempts visitors and locals alike to shake off the doldrums of winter and welcome in spring with joy and colour. The farm is a central part of the festivities, with thousands of people travelling up the Cape to see the showpiece of the festival... the tulip flower itself.

The annual tulip tossing competition is a local tradition, with everyone trying to beat the current distance record, and the festivities culminate with another burst of colour - a fireworks display.

In 2013 the Tulip Farm Open Days will run from 28th September until 18th October with the Tulip Festival being held on Saturday 12th October.



Strahan

Strahan is the major harbour town on Tasmania's wild west coast with a unique pioneering heritage.

Set on a quiet bay of Macquarie Harbour, Strahan is a picturesque Tasmanian waterfront town with an abundance of character and a variety of stories to tell of the West Coast's pioneering days.

What's special about Strahan?

- A picturesque fishing village offering comfort and convenience on the wild west coast.
- Start of the famous Gordon River cruises through Tasmania's World Heritage Area.
- 1980's base for one of the most significant environmental campaigns in history – the successful battle to [save the Franklin River](#).

Cruises on the Gordon River take you deep into the [World Heritage Area](#) wilderness. You travel through one of the last pristine examples of temperate rainforest in the world. Make sure your cruise stops off at Sarah Island where you can hear the stories of the convicts who logged the Huon pine for shipbuilding.

Take the [steam railway journey](#) of a lifetime from Queenstown to Strahan. The journey takes you through dense rainforest, beside rushing rivers to experience life as the early miners did. However, today, your journey includes fine Tasmanian wine and food.

Select elegant artefacts of Huon pine – an aromatic timber prized for boatbuilding. Or you can even take a seaplane to search out 1,000-year-old tree specimens.

If you're still thirsting for adventure, kayak the waterways, [jetboat the King River](#), or slide down mighty sand dunes in an all-terrain vehicle on Ocean Beach.



Woodfield Centre Camp Map

