tarkinetrails

TARKINE AND THE WEST
6 DAYS | 60 KM HIKE, 10+ KM PADDLE

THE TARKINE WILDERNESS REGION ENCOMPASSES 447,000 HECTARES OF WILDERNESS INCLUDING THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERES LARGEST SINGLE TRACT OF TEMPERATE RAIN FOREST, A WILD COASTLINE WITH AN EXTRAORDINARY WEALTH OF ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE SITES AND HABITAT FOR OVER 50 THREATENED SPECIES.

Join Trek Tasmania on this fully accommodated day pack hiking adventure, exploring one of the most remote and beautiful parts of the world - the Tarkine wilderness in the north-west of Tasmania.

The Tarkine (takayna) contains a wildly diverse landscape - including Australia's largest patch of temperate rainforest - and a world of natural treasures including mountain ranges, wild river and cave systems, buttongrass moorlands, and a rugged coastline with long sandy beaches, grassy woodland and coastal heath. The plant and animal life here is as rich and varied as the many habitats that support them - it is alive with frogs, birds, 28 different mammals, endangered wedge-tailed eagles and the now rare Astacopsis gouldi – the world's biggest freshwater lobster. It is home to one of the greatest concentrations of Aboriginal sites in Australia and reflects the history of more recent times telling the stories of miners, farmers and fishers.

We explore the spectacular highlights and trails of the Tarkine region with stays in a variety of accommodations. Three nights at Corinna in eco-cabins, set deep in the pristine Tarkine rainforest along the banks of the majestic Pieman River is an experience not to be missed.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 2 professional wilderness guides.
- 5 nights cabin/motel style accommodation (twin share).
- 5 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 5 dinners.
- All delicious snacks on the trail.
- Return transport from Launceston.
- Pieman River boat transfers.
- Kayak hire.
- All national park fees.
- Emergency communications & group first aid kit.
- Alcohol is **not** included.

TREK GRADING : MODERATE TREK

See: www.trektoursaustralia.com.au/trek-grading for more information about gradings

IMPORTANT NOTES

Your 6 day Tarkine Explorer is graded a moderate tour, we advise you to do as much training as you can before your tour. The more you train for the walk the easier you will handle the terrain and the more you will enjoy this wonderful part of the world. It's also important to come along with an open mind ready for an awesome experience whatever the weather. It is very important that you bring the right gear for the conditions. The Tasmanian weather can be unpredictable, storms can arise very quickly and heavy rain and even snow can fall at any time of the year.

Please note that the Tarkine is a remote wilderness and therefore access via remote roads is required and driving times might differ depending on local conditions.

Note: This itinerary is subject to change with any change in community regulations as well as governmental changes and natural circumstances beyond our control.

DAY 1: DEPART LAUNCESTON, ROCKY CAPE NATIONAL PARK AND STANLEY

We collect you from your hotel in Launceston at 7:30am for a 90 minute drive to the small coastal town of Penguin on the northwest coast for a morning tea stop. Continuing for another hour we transfer to the trail head of our first walk in the Rocky Cape National Park. Our days walk takes us along stunning coastline, past rocky headlands and through towering coastal banksia forests. We have multiple options to tailor the days walking as we explore one of Tasmania's main ancient geological and cultural epicentres. We then transfer to your accommodation in beautiful Stanley.

After settling into your accommodation we may have time for a spectacular sunset hike across Tasmania's Uluru - The Nut at Stanley (1-hour circuit walk / 4 km).

10kms+
Meals: Lunch, Dinner

DAY 2: WESTERN EXPLORER

After breakfast depart Stanley at around 8am for a short transfer to the Trowutta Arch, where a 45 minute hike will explore the magnificent geological arch created by collapsed cave systems. After this leg stretch, we commence the trek down the "Western Explorer". This is a 2 hour drive connecting the old mining settlement of Balfour in the north with our destination, Corinna in the south.

After a nice stop at the Scenic Donaldson river, we transfer to the trail head of Mount Donaldson (408m). Ascending through forest on to an open button grass ridge leading to the summit for spectacular wilderness views of the Pieman River, the rainforest valleys of the Donaldson River, the Tarkine's deep interior, and the Southern Ocean to the west. This is now our playground for the next three days! After returning to the trailhead there is a short drive to your eco-cabins at Corinna, deep in the southern Tarkine wilderness. After checking into your accommodation there may be time for a sunset walk along the Whyte River. Dinner tonight is at the Tannin Restaurant at Corinna.

up to 13kms
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 3: KAYAK PIEMAN AND SAVAGE RIVERS

Enjoy breakfast with your guides to the waking sounds of the Tarkine. Today we explore the Tarkine by kayaks, paddling down the Pieman River. The water here is flat and perfect even for first time paddlers. After 2-3 hours we reach our lunch spot at Lovers Falls. There is a short hike to the lunch spot through a fern forest. After lunch continue our paddle up a tributary river, the Savage River, for about an hour. We return to Corinna with a hike along the shorelines of the rivers paddled today. A delicious dinner will be prepared by your guides tonight at Corinna.

5kms hiking | 10kms+ paddling
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 4: COASTAL HIKE TO RUPERT POINT

After breakfast enjoy a spectacular ferry transfer to the Pieman River Heads. Transfer to the northern side of the Heads and undertake a coastal exploratory hike to Rupert Point. Our walk includes significant indigenous cultural sites, rare coastal flora and amazing coastal rock formations. A late afternoon ferry transfer takes us back to our accommodation at Corinna where your guides will prepare another tasty dinner.

14kms
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 5: FATMAN BARGE, ZEEHAN, MONTEZUMA FALLS

After breakfast we leave Corinna taking a short transfer over the Pieman River with the unique "Fatman" barge. We continue south east past the Heemsskirk Ranges to Zeehan, which was once the thriving hub of Tasmania's west coast, known as the "Silver City". We complete a loop walk before lunch, exploring the mining heritage of the area through a unique discussed Spray Silver Mine located just outside town. After lunch, we transfer to Montezuma Falls. Following a late 1800's abandoned tramline, the trail explores scenic rainforest crowded with many stunning tree types including sassafras, myrtle and leatherwood to one of Tasmania's highest waterfalls (104m).
A short transfer to our accommodation at Tullah Lakeside Lodge Dinner will be at the lodge tonight.

12kms
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 6: MOUNT FARRELL MOUNTAIN HIKE

After breakfast, we will undertake one of the most rewarding mountain treks in Tasmania - Mount Farrell (684m).
The return walk takes us up through forest onto an exposed moorland plateau and along stunning mountain ridges to the summit. In clear weather, under the imposing guise of Mt. Murchison, the central Tasmanian mountains can be viewed, including Cradle Mountain. After a hearty lunch in Tullah we return to Launceston via some scenic and taste bud rewarding stops to conclude your tour in Launceston in the late afternoon.

up to 6kms
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch