

Overland Track Itinerary

Welcome to Adventure Seekers

Thank you for enquiring into our tours and activities. At Adventure Seekers we specialize in small group trekking. This tour is limited to groups of 9 clients, to reduce our environmental impact and to maximize your adventure experience.

On all our tours our guides will share their skills and experiences with you, so that we can best develop your own bushwalking skills and ensure that your objectives are met.

Our itineraries have been designed and researched by experienced guides. Each day is broken down into manageable legs to give you the best possible experience plus time out to relax and explore the beauty of your surroundings.

Our campfire cuisine, where able is prepared using fresh ingredients and our meals will satisfy the heartiest of appetites. Adventure Seekers utilize the services of local businesses whenever we can thus generating economic benefits for the host communities that we visit.

We invite you to join us on our treks and look forward to guiding you through your wilderness adventure.

Joining Instruction

At the booking stage of the tour we will provide you with the how, when and where of the tour. This will include booking information, personal bushwalking equipment list, our environmental policy for the National Park, travel and accommodation information.

Itinerary

Please enjoy reading the trek itinerary below. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to call us.

Day 1: Ronny Creek to Waterfall Valley – 10km, 3-5 hours

After driving from Launceston your walk starts at Ronny Creek in Cradle Valley, and crosses a small button grass plain before rising up to the expansive views from Marion's Lookout.

From the lookout you'll get commanding views of the iconic Cradle Mountain (1545m) and Dove Lake. Weather permitting you can take a side trip (2 hours) to the summit of Cradle Mountain.

After your side trip the track traverses around the shoulder of Cradle Mountain through magnificent stands of Tasmanian Snow Gums. The rocky ground that you are walking on, over 700 million years ago was shaped by glaciation.

The vegetation that you will see here are alpine communities of herbfields, shrubs, scoparia and Deciduous Beech trees. Now you are walking along what's know as the

Cradle Cirque. Barn Bluff (1559m) is a 7km side trip to your south as we steadily descend into Waterfall Valley and our 1st nights camp.

Day 2: Waterfall Valley to Lake Windermere – 8km, 2 – 3 hours

Waterfall Valley sits below the dominant Barn Bluff. The mountains in this area are of fluted dolerite (columns formed by the rock cooling, hardening and shrinking) over millions of years.

From Waterfall Valley the track today gently undulates across moorlands. You'll see stands of Pencil Pines, Myrtles and Snow Gums. The moorlands are also home to many species of mammals namely wombats (whose cube shaped scats) you will commonly see on the track. You will also sometimes frequently get a glimpse of the wombat, Tasmanian Devil and Echidna.

From the top of the Moorland Lake Windermere can be viewed. The lakes dark colour, is caused by, oils and nutrients leaching from the buttongrass as tannin, and staining the water.

We soon sidle around Lake Windermere to our camp, which is nestled in a light timbered forest of deciduous beech or tangle foot.

Day 3: Lake Windermere to Pelion Hut – 17km, 4 to 6 hours.

In distance, this day is the longest of your walk. Firstly, you'll walk through some lightly timbered forest then across some buttongrass moorlands to the Forth Gorge Lookout. At the lookout you'll get views of mounts Oakleigh, Ossa, Pelion East and West and the Du Cane range in the distance.

Small ascents and descents then lead you into the forest glade of Frog Flats. Frog Flats is a damp section of forest, home to beautifully coloured mosses, fungi and the odd leech or two.

Climbing up through forest to Pelion Plains we will take a short sidetrack to Old Pelion Hut (built in 1895 following the discovery of copper in the area). The quality of the copper was poor and unproductive. Cattle drovers and trappers followed the miners until the area was proclaimed a scenic reserve in 1922.

From old Pelion Hut, New Pelion Hut is soon reached. New Pelion Hut is the largest of the huts and it sits on the junction of the Overland and the Arm River Tracks.

Day 4: Pelion Hut to Kia Ora – 9km, 3 hours.

The day starts with a gradual climb up to Pelion Gap (1126m). To the east of the gap rises Mt Pelion East and to our west rises Tasmania's highest peak, Mt Ossa (1617m).

If the weather is kind you'll have the option of climbing Mt Ossa and stand on the rooftop of Tasmania. Its summit has commanding views of the National Park and beyond and is well worth the effort.

From Pelion Gap the track passes through the glaciated Pinestone Valley then onto Kia Ora Hut (New Zealand Maori word for welcome) nestled below the Du Cane Range and the dominant Cathedral Mountain.

Day 5: Kia Ora to Windy Ridge – 10km, 3-4 hours.

Myrtle – beech rainforest dominates this section as you pass by Du Cane Hut (Windsor Castle). This hut was built by trapper Paddy Hartnett around 1910 as a base for his trapping. The hut is constructed out of King Billy Pine, which you'll see commonly growing in the area.

Not far from Du Cane hut we will take a side trip to D'Alton, Fergusson and Hartnett Falls on the Mersey River. The falls are quite spectacular especially after recent rainfall.

From the falls junction the track climbs steadily to Du Cane Gap (1070m). Mount Geryon and The Acropolis (1471m) on the Du Cane Range are the dominant Peaks that can be viewed from here. The track then descends through Eucalypt forest to Windy Ridge Hut (the newest hut) on the Overland Track.

Day 6: Windy Ridge Hut to Lake St Clair – 11km, 3-4 hours.

The track descends down the valley to the Narcissus River through Eucalypt forest and stands of temperate rainforest. You will pass by the junction to Pine Valley, which leads walkers up to the base of the Du Cane Range and access to the Acropolis and the Labyrinth.

You'll cross the suspension bridge over the Narcissus River and then shortly reach Lake St Claire and the end of you Overland Track walk. Ferry transport takes you across Lake St Claire to Cynthia Bay and our transport back to Launceston.