

TASMANIA EXTENSION

OCTOBER 3 – 7

5 Days / 4 Nights

Day 00 – 0, October 1 - 2: Travel

You will leave the US on October 1, losing a day as you travel across the international date line, arriving in Hobart on October 3. You might want to consider arriving a day early (depart on Sept. 30 to arrive on Oct. 2) to allow for some rest and to begin to acclimate to the time change before we start birding. We will arrange for lodging for you if you opt to arrive on October 2 and include the cost on your final invoice.

Day 1, October 3: Arrive in Hobart

You will arrive in Hobart today, either from the US or from the Melbourne extension. Upon arrival, you will transfer to your hotel.

Overnight Bay Hotel Apartments (Dinner only for new arrivals, BLD for those coming from Melbourne)



Tasmanian Thornbill

Day 2, October 4: Mount Field, Gould's Lagoon, transfer to Bruny Island

Today we will travel to Mt. Field National Park, which offers spectacular scenery and pristine forests, looking for birds and other wildlife along the way. After returning to Hobart to check out of the hotel, we will take a ferry to Bruny Island for a 3-night stay at Bruny Hotel Lodge. All twelve of Tasmania's endemic species are found on Bruny: Tasmanian Native-hen, Green Rosella, Dusky Robin, Tasmanian Thornbill, Forty-spotted Pardalote, Tasmanian Scrubwren, Scrub-Tit, Yellow Wattlebird, Black Currawong, Strong-billed Honeyeater, Black-headed Honeyeater, and Yellow-throated Honeyeater. What was considered to be the Tasmania sub-species of the Boobook Owl is now classified as the Morepork, *Ninox novaeseelandiae*, the species found in New Zealand. In Australia, they are endemic to Tasmania and are found on Bruny Island.

Overnight Bruny Hotel Lodge (BLD)

Days 3 - 4, October 5 - 6: Bruny Island

We'll spend two full days birding on the island targeting the endemics and the non-endemics that are more abundant on Tasmania than on the mainland, including Hooded Plover, Brush and Common Bronzewing, Swift Parrot, Flame and Pink Robins, Crescent Honeyeater, and the Forest Raven, Tasmania's only Corvid. Along the coast we should see Fairy (Little) Penguins, Black-faced Cormorants, Short-tailed Shearwaters, and other seabirds. At night we will spotlight for marsupials including Common Brush-tailed Possum, Bennett's Wallaby, Tasmanian Pademelon, Long-nosed Potoroo, and Eastern Quoll.

Overnight Bruny Hotel Lodge (BLD)

Day 5, October 7:

We will transfer back to Hobart to catch flights to Brisbane to begin the main tour. (BLD)

Price Includes:

- ~ Lodging in comfortable hotel/lodges
- ~ Meals as indicated
- ~ All ground transportation, entrance fees
- ~ Services of an expert birding guide and two *Cheepers!* Tour Leaders (Jim & Cindy Beckman)
- ~ Pre-trip gift package, including customized checklist
- ~ Post-trip digital photo collection
- ~ Post-trip electronic copy of final checklist

Price does not Include:

- ~ International airfare to Brisbane
- ~ Domestic airfare: Brisbane/Cairns (10/14)
- ~ Airport transfers
- ~ Alcoholic drinks, extra snacks, etc.
- ~ Travel insurance (highly recommended)
- ~ Gratuities
- ~ Expenses of a personal nature (laundry, phone calls, extra drinks and snacks, etc.)

Cancellation policy:

Cancellation must be made in writing (email or snail mail)

More than 6 months prior to departure – full refund of deposit

Between 4 and 6 months prior to departure – 50% refund of deposit

Less than 4 months prior to departure – No refund of deposit

If cancellation occurs after full payment is made, a refund will be given only if the vacant spot is filled.

Trip insurance is *highly* recommended.

You can compare prices offered by various trip insurance companies at these websites:

http://www.quotewright.com/?sub_id=6056

www.insuremytrip.com

Cheepers! Birding on a Budget LLC reserves the right to make changes in the itinerary if the need should arise due to unforeseeable circumstances such as weather, landslides, and other natural phenomena, as well as suggestions by local guides in order to take advantage of an unusual birding opportunity. Lodging is subject to change based on availability.

In the event restrictions associated with the Covid 19 pandemic require that the tour be cancelled or rescheduled, registrants will receive a full refund of deposit and payments. If desired, payments may be applied to a future tour.