Tasmania: birds & mammals
5 ½ -day tour

Nov 2020

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 5 ½ 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. Add wonderful scenery, true wilderness, good food and excellent accommodation, often located within the various wilderness areas we’ll be visiting, and you’ll realise this is one 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 2020 for an unforgettable experience!

Tour starts: Hobart, Tasmania
Tour finishes: Hobart, Tasmania
Scheduled departure & return dates: • 15-20 November 2020

Leader: Andrew Hingston
Trip reports and photos of previous tours: http://www.bellbirdtours.com/reports

Questions? Contact BELLBIRD BIRDING TOURS :
• Freecall 1800-BIRDING
• email birds@bellbirdtours.com

READ ON FOR:
• Further tour details
• Daily itinerary
• Booking information
Tour details:

Tour starts & finishes: Starts and finishes in Hobart, Tasmania.

Scheduled departure and return dates: Tour commences with dinner on 15 November 2020. Please arrive on or before 15 November. Tour finishes with breakfast on 20 November 2020. Please depart on or after 20 November. Itinerary contains further details.

Leader: Andrew Hingston, one of Tasmania’s top bird and wildlife experts.

Difficulty: Low/Medium/High/Excellent 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.

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.

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.

Group size: Minimum 4, maximum 8 participants.

Cost: AU$3,799 per person including accommodation and all meals, based on double or twin-share occupancy. Single occupancy surcharge of $750. Not included: drinks, tips, personal expenses. Earlybird discount of $99 for bookings received up to 6 months before departure date. Return-client discount may apply.

Bookings: Online at http://www.bellbirdtours.com/bookings or please complete the booking form in the back of this brochure.
ITINERARY

Day 1 (15 Nov): **Arrive 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. Accommodation: **Hobart** (en-suite hotel rooms; Meals Included: D).

Day 2 (16 Nov): **Hobart to Bruny Island.**
After breakfast, we will bird local reserves around Hobart, which is situated on a steep rainfall gradient, ranging from averages of 500 mm to 1350 mm within a distance of 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. After lunch we take a ferry to Bruny Island for our stay on the island. 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. Overnight on Bruny Island. Accommodation: **Bruny Island** (cottage style, en-suite room; Meals included: B, L, D).

Day 3 (17 Nov): **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 the mainland, including Hooded Plover, Brush Bronzewing, Swift Parrot, Flame and Pink Robins, Crescent Honeyeater, and the Forest Raven, Tasmania’s only Corvid. Along the coast we should see Fairy Penguins, Black-faced Cormorants Short-tailed Shearwaters, and other seabirds. We will attempt to schedule a visit to the a great little reserve where we have a good chance of seeing Forty-spotted Pardalote. At night we will spotlight for marsupials including Bennett’s Wallaby, Tasmanian Pademelon, Long-nosed Potoroo, and Eastern Quoll. Overnight on Bruny Island. Accommodation: **Bruny Island** (cottage style, en-suite room; Meals included: B, L, D).
Day 4 (18 Nov): **Bruny Island – Mount Field.**

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 then travel to Mount Field National Park which is part of the UNESCO World Heritage Area and the vast Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area. The park offers spectacular scenery and pristine forests and we will pass through vegetation communities ranging from rainforest to alpine, looking for birds and other wildlife along the way. We will enjoy several short walks in the park and keep an eye out for platypus. Overnight near Mount Field.

Accommodation near **Mount Field**, (cottage-style, en-suite rooms; Meals Included: B, L, D).

Day 5 (19 Nov): **Mount Field – Mount Wellington.**

After breakfast we will continue to explore Mount Field and after lunch we will travel 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. Final dinner and checklist.

Accommodation: **Hobart** (en suite motel room; Meals: B.L.D).

Day 6 (20 Nov): **Depart Hobart.**

After breakfast continue with your own arrangements to go the airport for onward flights. Accommodation: None (Meals: B).

OR **add-on option:**

Today you can extend your visit and take an optional flight to the wild southwest corner of Tasmania in search of Orange-belled Parrots. Take a spectacularly scenic flight to the remote South-West World Heritage area, the area famed not only for its unspoilt wilderness and clean air but also for its 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 25 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. The flight costs around AU$ 750 p/p and will be refunded if
Please note:
• We can arrange hotel bookings and guided extensions to other parts of Tasmania or Australia for you.
• 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 at the following website - http://www.airportehobart.com.au/. 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 http://hobartairport.com.au/to-from/taxis-buses/.
• Meals and drinks: Breakfast generally consists of a continental style breakfast with cereal, fruit and yoghurt and tea/coffee. Full cooked breakfast is not generally offered at most locations. Lunch will generally consist of a packed lunch style meal eaten in the field, with sandwich/filled roll, fruit, and a drink. Dinner usually consists of several options for main with the choice of either an appetiser or dessert. Drinks (soft and alcoholic) are generally not included but at lunches and breakfasts juice may be made available.
• The itinerary: Whilst we aim to follow the itinerary as planned, please note that the itinerary provided should only be used as a guideline. Depending on the particular trip circumstances, weather, and local information, the exact itinerary may not be strictly adhered to. The guides reserve the right to make changes to the itinerary.
• For the pelagic and the South West flight add-on: Both of these activities are weather dependant and there is no guarantee that we will be able to do either. While we will do what we can to reschedule if the weather is not suitable no guarantees can be made in this regard.

Price inclusions and exclusions:
Included: 5 nights en suite accommodation, 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, 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 6, any activities not described, drinks except where provided, personal expenses, tips, insurance.

Bookings: Please book online: http://www.bellbirdtours.com/bookings or complete the booking form in the back of this brochure.
Possible species list

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
Grey-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 Egret
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

Bailon's Crake
Australian Crane
Spotless Crane
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
Grey-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
Tour Booking Form

This form contains 3 pages. Please print out and complete each page, and sign where indicated. Scan and email, or send by postal mail, with payment (see last page) to the address above. You can also complete an on-line version of this form at https://www.bellbirdtours.com/booking

Tour details:

Name of tour  
Tasmania birds & mammals 5 ½ day tour 2020

Starting and Ending dates  
15-20 Nov 2020

Your details:

Name and address of the registrant(s) (only 1 form is needed for people residing at the same address)

Name(s)__________________________________________

Date of birth________________________________________

Address__________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

Identification document and number (passport for international visitors)_____________________

__________________________________________________________________________

Telephone (Home)________________________________________

(Work)________________________________________(Mobile)________________________________

Email________________________________________

☐ tick if you do not want to receive future updates, news and special offers from Bellbird Tours by email

Emergency Contact Name, relationship and telephone number (required field)

__________________________________________________________________________

(continued on next page)
Accommodation requirements (please tick):

- Single Room (surcharge applies)
- Double Room (2 people, 1 bed, usually queen-size, but this cannot always be guaranteed)
- Twin Share (2 people, 2 beds) (If you are a solo traveller and want to share a room: we will try to team you up with another solo traveller, however this cannot be guaranteed. Single surcharge applies for single occupancy)

Medical conditions and dietary requirements:

Do you have any medical conditions (eg. disabilities, illnesses or allergies) that might restrict your full involvement in any aspect of the tour?

No / Yes If Yes, please provide details: __________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

If you have other special requirements (eg dietary requirements), please advise. While we cannot guarantee to accommodate them, we will make every attempt to do so.

________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

Optional extras:

Please indicate if you would like us to arrange any of the following (we’ll contact you to discuss):

- Domestic flights
- International flights
- Pre and/or post tour hotel bookings

Travel insurance:

I understand that unforeseen circumstances may arise that could force me to cancel my booking. I understand Bellbird’s cancellation policy and have made the following arrangements:

- I will arrange, or have arranged, my own travel insurance
- I do not intend to take out travel insurance and accept the associated financial risk
- I would like you to arrange travel insurance for me
- Other, please specify:________________________________________________________

(continued on next page)
Terms and Conditions:
Please read the terms and conditions and the release of liability waiver (both can be found on http://www.bellbirdtours.com/terms-and-conditions), then sign below.

I/we agree to book this tour. I/we have read and understood, and accept the terms and conditions. I/we accept the release and waiver from liability.

Signature 1: ________________________________ Signature 2: ________________________________

Print Name 1: ______________________________ Name 2: ________________________________

Date:______________________________________ Date: ________________________________

To secure a seat, a deposit of 20% of the tour price is required at the time of booking. Full payment is due 75 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).

Please tick which of the following payment options you will be using to pay the deposit:

☐ 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 Account No. 206136528
    - Please use your surname as the booking reference.

☐ Visa, Mastercard & Amex: through Pin Payments (an easy, secure online payment system). They charge us a fee of 2.95%, which unfortunately we have to pass on to you. Please contact us if you want to use this option, and we’ll email you a link to a secure payment page.

☐ PayPal & other credit cards through PayPal: They charge us a fee of between 2.6-3.6% to receive your money, which unfortunately we have to pass on to you. Please contact us if you want to use this option, and we’ll email you a secure PayPal invoice.

☐ International electronic funds transfer: please send funds in Australian Dollars (+ bank charges or AU$20 bank transaction fee, see notes below) to the following bank account:
  • international swift code: anzbau3m (no IBAN codes are used in Australia)
  • bank: Australia & New Zealand Bank (ANZ), 112 Rundle Mall, Adelaide SA 5000
  • account name: Bellbird Tours Pty Ltd
  • Branch No. (BSB) 015-140 Account No. 206136528
    - If possible, please use your surname as the booking reference.
    - If you are asked to provide our physical address, this is: 101 Chilton Road, Berri, SA 5343, Australia.
    - Please specify AU$ as the recipient’s currency, and the correct amount. Select the option for you to incur any charges at both ends; if no such option exists, please add AU$20 to cover the bank fee at the recipient’s end.

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.