

South East Tasmania

Bruny Island Paddle Four day trip



South East Tasmania-Bruny Island Paddle



Four day trip-four days kayaking

Bruny Island is located off the south-eastern coast of Tasmania, separated from the mainland by the D'Entrecasteaux Channel. The island is home to swathes of eucalyptus forests, towering cliffs and remote, long sandy beaches. Paddlers will be rewarded with secluded coves, sea caves, lagoons, sea kelp forests and if lucky, encounters with fur seals, fairy penguins and soaring albatross. Evenings are spent in our cozy lodge sampling delicious Bruny Island delicacies including the freshest of oysters, handmade cheeses, local honey and chocolate. Join us on a mini escape to beautiful Bruny!

A Quick Itinerary

B = Breakfast • L = Lunch • D = Dinner

Day 1: Pick up from Hobart. Paddle across D'entrecasteaux Channel to Bruny Island. Lodge accommodation. L • D

Days 2-3: Paddling southern Bruny Island. Lodge accommodation. B • L • D

Day 4: Kayak Adventure Bay. Transfer to Hobart. End of trip arrangements. B • L

Meeting Place and Time

We pick you up from your Hobart accommodation on the morning of Day 1 (time will be confirmed closer to your trip departure). It will be a short drive to our put in point (this will vary according to the weather) for the paddle across D'entrecasteaux Channel to Bruny Island.

Sea Kayaking

Sea kayaking is an activity that any reasonably fit person can participate in and could be compared to brisk walking or cycling. Previous kayaking experience is not necessary for the four day itinerary, but it is important to have a sound level of fitness and, most of all, a sense of adventure. The degree of difficulty of the trip **will depend on the weather** we encounter. We ask that all participants feel confident in swimming.

The kayaks used are single and double sit-in expedition sea kayaks with rudder. The kayaks are stable, easy to paddle and control. They are very forgiving and are suited for beginners to experts. On day one you will be given a thorough briefing on all aspects of sea kayaking techniques with ample time to practice and familiarise yourself with the kayaks. We generally limit our group size to a maximum of 12 clients plus two guides.

Paddles used are Werner Skagit paddles at 220cm length. All paddles are split paddles for easy adjustment to suit your style.

Other equipment supplied include your pfd (life jacket), one 20 litre dry bag, a set of pogies (paddling mittens), cagoule (an over-the-head style jacket that has seals on the waist, wrist and neck offering protection from wind and rain).

In general, the fitter you are, the more you will enjoy the paddling. It's a good idea to begin some regular exercise like walking, jogging, cycling or swimming well before the trip. If you have not paddled before, consider organising some tuition before your trip.

Proposed Itinerary

Due to the unique nature of this area and the variability of weather, there is no fixed route or schedule. The following itinerary is a sample only. Please note that the weather, logistical conditions and group preference will determine the day to day activities. Paddling distances should be seen as an approximate guide only.

Day 1: A morning pick up from your Hobart hotel for the short drive to our paddle launch location. All paddlers will be allocated a small dry bag to carry essentials such as a camera, spare clothing layer and water bottle. The rest of your luggage will be transported by vehicle to Bruny Island. After a safety briefing and gear allocation, we launch the kayaks and begin our adventure by paddling across the sheltered waters of D'Entrecasteaux Channel to Bruny Island. The group will enjoy a picnic lunch on one of the many secluded coves, taking in the beauty of our first island stop. Depending on conditions, we'll transfer further south by vehicle and then paddle the last few kilometres to our base, Bruny Island Lodge. Our accommodation is situated on 860 acres of prime coastal bushland and is our exclusive home for the remainder of the trip. After an orientation and perhaps a short hike, we'll enjoy a celebratory beverage in our private coastal retreat. Approximately 8-10 kms paddling.

L • D / LODGE ACCOMMODATION

Day 2: We begin the day with a hearty breakfast prepared by the guides and then transport the kayaks a short distance to begin the day's paddling. We paddle the edge of the Labillardiere peninsula, exploring the pristine coastline, until we arrive on the sandy beaches on the edge of the Southern Ocean. Here we can stretch our legs and enjoy a short stroll to look south to the ocean stretching to Antarctica or, if the weather is warm, perhaps enjoy a refreshing dip before our paddle home. Paddling distance approximately 16-18 kms.

B • L • D / LODGE ACCOMMODATION

Day 3: We load our kayaks and head a short distance to the edge of the tranquil Cloudy Bay Lagoon. We paddle out of the lagoon and into the open waters of Cloudy Bay, where we spend the day exploring the rugged sea cliffs and caves. A gourmet picnic lunch will be enjoyed on a secluded beach. Once again, for the adventurous, a refreshing dip awaits or perhaps a short stroll taking in this remote piece of Tasmania. After lunch we paddle a little further to explore the

towering dolerite cliffs before returning to the shelter of the lagoon and our accommodation. Paddling distance approximately 16kms.

B • L • D / LODGE ACCOMMODATION

Day 4: Today is spent exploring stunning Adventure Bay, a large eastern facing bay on South Bruny and our final paddling destination for the trip. Launching from a sheltered beach we paddle beneath the towering cliffs of the Fluted Cape and keep an eye out for sea life and sea birds such as the Australian Fur seal, terns, gannets and even the elusive albatross. After lunch we take a short hike to the top of Fluted Cape to peer out across the Tasman Sea. We finish paddling by mid afternoon and drive north to the ferry terminal for the transfer back to the mainland. While driving we'll keep an eye out for the very unusual Bruny Island white wallaby. The trip ends with a transfer to your Hobart accommodation, arriving at approximately 5:30pm. Paddling distance today is around 8 kms.

B • L / END OF TRIP ARRANGEMENTS

Climate

Bruny Island has a cool, temperate climate dominated by the westerly flow of winds that blow across the southern ocean. The months November to April are the warmest months with air temperatures ranging from as low as 8°C to a comfortable 23°C, although fluctuations above and below these averages are common, often all in the space of a day! The ocean temperatures remain relatively stable over the course of the year with the temperature averaging between a refreshing 13-17°C from November to April. While rain can occur at any time of year, the summer months are typically dominated by a warm northerly stream of air.

Accommodation

We stay three nights at the Bruny Island Lodge. Set among 860 acres of pristine bushland in remote South Bruny, the lodge is a rustic timber chalet on a hill above Oyster Cove on Mickey's Bay. The lodge has five bedrooms, four bathrooms, a games room and a wrap around verandah, making a very comfortable stay. Accommodation is based on double or twin share rooms with shared bathrooms (linen and bath towels are provided). Twin share rooms are made up of king single bunk beds. Single travellers may be asked to twin share. Rooms will be allocated according to group makeup and time of booking.

A bit about Bruny

Bruny Island is 362 square kilometres in area and 50km in length. The island is made up of two land masses (North Bruny and South Bruny), joined by a long, narrow sandy isthmus, often referred to as 'The Neck'. Bruny's traditional Aboriginal name is lunawanna-allonah, which survives as the name of two island settlements, Alonnah and Lunawanna. The island is home to a myriad of wildlife including the endangered Swift Parrot and the Forty-Spotted Pardalote, one of Australia's smallest bird species. One of the most spectacular Bruny island residences is the White Wallaby, a type of Bennetts Wallabies which have a rare and distinct colouration. While out on the water we may be surprised by an Australian Fur Seal popping their head up by the kayaks while overhead we'll keep any eye out for the magnificent albatross.

Trip Organisation

Bruny Island has a broad range of paddling options from tranquil, sheltered bays to towering cliffs exposed to the Southern Ocean. The trip is designed to take advantage of the best paddling opportunity on any given day. As such there is no predetermined itinerary and the exact amount of time paddling or distance covered on any trip or outing will vary. The guides are experts at choosing the best itineraries to suit the group and local weather conditions. Generally we will plan to paddle between 4-6 hours with breaks over the course of the day, although we may paddle slightly more or less if weather demands. We will typically include some short walks in the trip and may substitute walking for paddling in the case of high winds. It is important to remember that the group will kayak at the pace of the slowest paddlers.

Expedition Staff

The guides' role is to co-ordinate the expedition and ensure the safety of the group. They will design the itinerary to maximise your experience and keep you informed of the objectives and progress of the trip. Guides will decide on safety matters and administer the medical kit if required, they carry VHF marine radios, mobiles and an EPIRB (radio beacon) or similar emergency device. The guides have a rich knowledge of Tasmania's natural and cultural history which they are always excited to share. Should you have any enquiries during the trip, feel free to ask your guides.

Travel Arrangements

Should you voluntarily decide to alter your travel arrangements after commencement of your trip, Southern Sea Ventures are not responsible for any additional charges involved. Our staff will assist you if possible but you are responsible for organising these arrangements yourself. Delays may occur due to weather or transport difficulties.

Travel Insurance

It is necessary to take out a personal comprehensive travel insurance policy. Please make sure your insurance policy covers lost monies in the event that you need to cancel your trip or the trip has to be cancelled/curtailed due to inclement weather. Southern Sea Ventures are not responsible for any expenses incurred due to flight delays.

Australian residents should note: Under the Federal Government Medicare Act it is prohibited for any domestic travel insurance product to provide any financial reimbursement with regards to ambulance or air ambulance services. We advise clients to take specific cover for ambulance services through the respective State Ambulance Service providers or through your own private health insurance.

Ensure you have read your travel insurance policy thoroughly and are familiar with the claim process in case it becomes necessary to make an emergency claim. We will require proof of your insurance prior to departure.

Time & Communication

Tasmania is on Australian Eastern Daylight Time (AEDT).

Mobile coverage on Bruny may be patchy in some areas, although Telstra has reliable reception at the lodge and in many parts of the Island. Your devices can be charged at the lodge each evening. Your guides carry a VHF marine radio for emergencies.

Meals

Meals are freshly prepared by the guides in the fully equipped kitchen in the Lodge. We'll take advantage of the seasonally available local produce on Bruny Island and surrounds including fresh seafood, local cheeses and berries. Breakfasts are a mix of hot and cold, with items such as muesli, fruit salad, scrambled eggs and pancakes on offer. Lunches are picnic-style, with a selection of wraps, crackers, cheese, cold meat and salad. Dinners are prepared with fresh ingredients and varied daily. Dinners may start with fresh local oysters (with a glass of Tasmanian wine), a main (for example, Tasmanian salmon) and finishing with a dessert such as Tasmanian berries and cream.

We are happy to cater for vegetarians and other special dietary requirements. Please write your dietary requirements on your medical form.

Conservation

It has always been our motto that "we take only photographs and leave only footprints". We are keenly aware of the ecology of the beautiful Tasmanian wilderness and try to limit our impact. We ask that each person takes out everything they bring in including sweet wrappers, batteries, etc.

Money Matters

Your tour cost includes:

- Return transfers between Hobart city and Bruny Island.
- Ferry transfer from Bruny Island back to Hobart.
- Three nights twin share accommodation at Bruny Island Lodge.
- All meals from lunch on Day 1 to lunch on Day 4.
- Double expedition kayaks, paddles, pfd, spray skirts.
- One 20L dry bag.
- A paddling cag (waterproof jacket).
- Pogies (paddling mittens).
- Two professional sea kayak guides.
- Comprehensive first aid kit and emergency safety equipment.

Your tour cost *does not* include:

- Flights, accommodation and meals in Hobart.
- Travel insurance.

Medical Matters

Any passenger undertaking this trip is required to provide us with a medical questionnaire filled out completely and accurately. Be sure to let your guide know of any medications you take (and side-effects) as well as noting this on your medical form. Your guides carry a comprehensive medical kit and are trained in wilderness first aid.

Equipment & Clothing: What You Need to Bring

The list below should be used as a guide when packing. Please contact the office if you have any questions.

Gear List

Essential Items:

- Lightweight thermal long sleeve top for paddling.
- Lightweight thermal long johns for paddling.
- Lightweight fleece for paddling.
- Quick drying shorts for paddling (like board shorts).
- Long sleeved quick drying shirt for sun protection.
- Two to three lightweight quick drying t-shirts.
- Warm polar fleece or down jacket.
- Quality, breathable rain jacket with hood for walking.
- Quality, breathable rain pants for walking or shorts and gaiters.
- Sleepwear.
- Footwear for paddling that can get wet (sandals, wet suit booties, Crocs).
- Trail walking shoes/runners or light weight hiking boots for walking.
- Dry footwear for the lodge.
- Comfortable casual evening wear for the lodge.
- Sun-glasses with a cord to prevent them from falling into the water.
- Sun hat with a stiff brim.
- Pair of lightweight gloves.
- Woollen or fleece beanie.
- One pair of warm socks.
- One pair of walking socks.
- Underwear for the duration.
- Headlamp with spare batteries.
- Water bottle/hydration system (minimum one litre capacity).
- Personal toiletries and medications.
- Beach towel.
- Sunscreen (water resistant and at least SPF30) and lip salve.
- Insect repellent.

Optional items:

- Short or long sleeved rash vest.
- Wetsuit if you'd like to try snorkelling.
- Paddling gloves (we supply pogies).
- Swimwear.



- Camera
- Book.
- Small daypack.
- Swimming goggles or mask and snorkel.
- Plastic bags for wet gear.
- Wine or spirits.

Delays or Problems

In case of last minute delays or problems, contact Southern Sea Ventures. A local number will be noted on your final itinerary.

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