

Things to do on East Coast Tasmania

Tasmania's East Coast is a breathtaking place for exploring white sand beaches, amazing wildlife, natural surroundings, national parks plus so much more. It is the perfect destination for a great Aussie road trip, taking you to so many beautiful national attractions and coastal towns along the way. The East Coast is made up of a number of areas including Freycinet National Park (home to Wineglass Bay), Bay of Fires, Bicheno, Coles Bay and more towns. There are so many amazing things to do in Freycinet and the East Coast from outdoor adventures to water-based activities plus so much more.

St Columba Falls

Reachable via a sealed road from Pyengana, the St Columba Falls are said to be the highest in all of Tasmania. Standing approx 90 metres tall, they are definitely quite a sight! And time your visit right, after a heavy downpour, to see the Falls at their most active.

Regardless of when you visit, there's a terrific roar from the falls which increases the nearer you get, making your way on foot 10-15 minutes from the car park. Pass through cool and shady rainforest, with some of the tallest tree ferns you'll see anywhere. At the lookout, at the base of the falls, crane your neck up and watch the South George River tumbling down in sweeping, steep cascades.

Pub In The Paddock

Well here's a cute traditional pub to spend a few hours at, while you sip your beer and share it with the resident pig. ...yes, that's correct! Introducing Priscilla II, the Pyengana Pub In The Paddock's pet pig that's famous for drinking a special pig-beer. Oh, and there's a second pig too, Peppa, who you can also meet!

Strange as it may be, the pub is a popular stop-over for tourists discovering the beautiful valleys of the region. Thus sometimes crowded, this traditional pub – that refers to itself as a Tassie Icon – is still well worth a visit.

One of the oldest pubs in Tasmania, licensed since 1880, the Paddock offers cosy accommodation, delicious lunch and dinners, plus morning and afternoon tea servings. Drink with the locals, share a bevvie with a pig and breathe in the refreshing countryside air.

Address: Pub In The Paddock Pyengana Tasmania is at 250 St Columba Falls Road. It's on the way to the Falls.

Pyengana Dairy

The village of Pyengana, just 25 minutes from St Helens, is a cheese-lover's paradise! Surrounded by lush and fertile valleys, the rural village of Pyengana features some of Tasmania's most beautiful dairy country.

A trip to the Pyengana Dairy Company to taste award-winning Pyengana cheese that's been crafted here for over 130 years is very rewarding. Relax on their scenic deck with a gourmet platter, watch the cows come and go, or join a tour to learn how the cheese is crafted and watch the experts at work (usually available 9am-2pm weekdays, Sept-May).

And don't forget to pick up some gifts, in the form of gourmet Tasmanian food that comes handily packed in cooler bags, helping to retain freshness as you continue on with your travels. *Address: St Columba Falls Rd, Pyengana TAS 7216*

Bay of Fires

One of Tasmania's most popular conservation reserves, the Bay of Fires conservation area stretches from Binalong Bay in the south to Eddystone Point in the north.

Containing splendid landscape that includes rocky gullies and many secluded small beaches and inlets (all ripe for exploring!), the piece de resistance is perhaps Binalong Bay's famed stretch of white-sand and clear water that's ideal for swimming, snorkelling or even surfing.

One of the most photogenic regions of Tasmania, the uniqueness of the area is enhanced by the brilliant orange lichens that grow across the granite boulders that line the bays and disappear into the azure sea. Rich in colour, but rich in wildlife too, the region is home to many sea birds that are waiting to be discovered on self-guided or guided walks. And, under the waves, the marine life is abundant too with divers and deep-sea fisherman equally enthralled.

Campsites can be found at the southern and middle sections, with toilet facilities in the southern beach sites.

An utterly spectacular stretch of coastline, Bay of Fires is a must-visit when staying near to St Helens.

St Helens

A charming coastal town in the eastern part of the state, St Helens is ideal for a weekend escape or as part of a bigger exploration of beautiful Tasmania.

Just a few kilometres away from Binalong Bay and the southern end of the beautiful beaches of the Bay of Fires (one of Lonely Planet's Top 10 regions in the world), St Helens is a thriving fishing port. Second largest in Tasmania, it's famed for fishing charters hoping for marlin, yellow fin tuna and more, plus diving tours to underwater caves and impressive kelp forests.

Start your exploration with a 1 hour round trip walk to St Helens Point, taking you past the spectacular Peron Dunes (ideal for sand boarding or four-wheel drive fun) and wild, surfer-beaches.

If bird watching is your thing, consider camping at Humbug Point Nature Recreation Area – tents and caravans welcome. Here you'll find great walks and fishing opportunities too. Alternatively, if you're travelling with children, spend a morning at the Serpentarium Wildlife Park. Kids adore the reptiles on display here, including a Green Anaconda and Reticulated Python. There are also impressive indigenous artefacts to check out too.

With an eye to the tin-mining history of the region and the ongoing maritime adventures, St Helens History Room makes for an interesting stop. Located inside the Services Tasmania Building in the middle of town, here you'll delve into stories of old St Helens.

Need to work off unspent energy? Grab a mountain bike and hit St Helens' trails. Ride from the mountains to the sea, ending at the Bay of Fires, or spend a slower day biking with family. Whatever the desire, within this world-class mountain bike region there's something for everyone.

And don't forget that Pyengana is on your doorstep, with waterfalls and some of the best cheese in the country. You'll also find beaches that surround St George Bay have surfing swells, so grab a board and try to catch a wave. ...or take meandering, scenic walks immersed in nature...

We say it often, but St Helens really does have something for everyone! One of our favourite places to visit, this charming coastal village leaves you feeling in awe of nature, healthy, and alive!

North East Coast Tasmania Itinerary

There are two ways to travel to our destination from Launceston. The direct route through the Esk Valley takes about 1.45 hours. Or you can travel through Scottsdale along a very scenic, albeit quite windy road. Scottsdale is the largest town between Launceston and the east coast and a great place to break the journey. There are heritage buildings and lovely surrounds, which give the town a great, feel.

- If its summer time, head straight to Bridestowe Estate to enjoy the glorious lavender fields. Otherwise, spend the first part of the morning enjoying the tree rope courses at Hollybank Wilderness Adventures
- Drive on to the Weldborough Hotel for lunch
- Head to St Columba Falls and take the short walk to view these falls up close
- Stop at Pyengana Dairy for a cheese break
- Divert for another hour and visit Bay of Fires
- Stop over at Lease 65 for some amazing oysters (cash only)
- Lunch at Raida Restaurant St. Helens
- Or a coffee at Lifebouy café
- Fish and chips on the river front Wharf
- Or a famous burger at Surfside hotel in Beaumaris
- Coffee at Container in Scamander
- Or lunch and wine, beer and whiskey at White Sands.

Arrived at Little Beach.

We are so fortunate, to have our own micro coastal climate on the east coast. It is generally warmer in winter and cooler in the summer. We have the best weather in all of Tasmania.

East Coast Tasmanian Itinerary

Bicheno

Bicheno is a locality and town on the east coast of Tasmania, Australia, 185 km north-east of Hobart on the Tasman Highway, with a population of around 950. The town is primarily a fishing port and a beach resort with its beautiful and bold red rocks, fabulous cafes, restaurants and pub. The Little Bay Patisserie is a must visit; although you need to be early for the croissants.

There is nothing like fish and chips at the Gulch, or a lobster at The Lobster Shack. While there, you must visit the Bicheno Blowhole and the Whalers Lookout. The East Coast Natureworld is a fun and educational stop over and Denison's beach is a fabulous picnic or walking beach. Visit Douglas-Apsley National Park.

Seymour

Seymour is a small Tasmanian Rural with a recorded population of 25 residents and is the perfect stop over for a picnic on the beach through the conservation areas. Great spot for fishing.

If you are planning a visit to Seymour we've put together some of the things nearby that you can see or do while you are here. Walk the beautiful beaches and explore.

Freycinet National Park

Freycinet National Park is on the east coast of Tasmania, Australia. It comprises a peninsula defined by a Schouten Island and a granite mountain range known as the Hazards. Trails lead up to a lookout for panoramic views over Wineglass Bay. White stretches of sand include the Friendly Beaches. Honeymoon and Sleepy bays form secluded coves. Views from Cape Tourville Lighthouse stretch over the Tasman Sea.

Wineries in the area;

Iron House Estate
Devils Winery
Boomer Creek Winery
Darlington Vineyard
Freycinet Vineyard
Craigie Knowe Vineyard
Milton Estate
Gala Estate
Springvale Vineyard
Priory Ridge Estate

Guests have full access to BBQ facilities and can order a platter for two for an evening meal. Breakfast is available daily (bookings essential) and pastries are available for lunch throughout the day. There are four IGA's within a 20-40 minute trip from the Glamping Village.