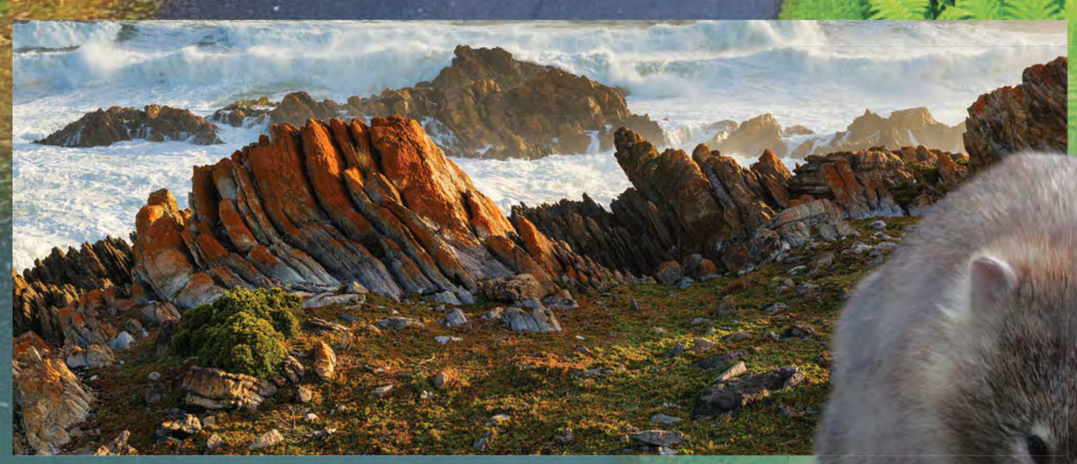
The Tarkine Drive

breathtaking wilderness



The Tarkine Drive will guide you through the dramatic and breathtaking wilderness of Tasmania's Tarkine region.

The greatest expanse of cool temperate rainforest in Australia and the second largest in the world.

You will experience unique fauna and flora, globally significant rainforests, wild river landscapes and dramatic coastlines.

This scenic drive is full of walks, lookouts, sites and picnic spots for you to explore. You may wish to complete the rainforest and the coastal sections separately as day trips, or take two full days to experience the complete drive. Take your time to view the accompanying map and read about the attractions and drive times when planning your trip.

TASMANIA'S North West

Where will the stories take you?

TARKiNE TASMANIA

1. Arthur-Pieman Conservation Area

Information and Tarkine Drive entry point

More than 80 kilometres of breathtaking coastal scenery and untamed back country.

2. West Point State Reserve *(nungu)*

Walk (No dogs permitted. Shared track, watch for vehicles)

West Point State Reserve is a significant Aboriginal Heritage site and a popular surfing spot that is renowned for its massive waves.

3. Bluff Hill Point Lighthouse

Walk, lookout

A top vantage point to survey the coast or to walk the short distance to the beaches below.

4. Arthur River Coastal Walk

Walk (Shared track, watch for vehicles)

Start walk from the north side of Arthur River mouth, continue north along the coast to Church Rock. Conditions can change-not always accessible. Moderate walk, 2.5 hours return (4km).

5. Edge of the World

Lookout, BBQ, toilet

This lookout features an exhilarating view of the Tarkine coast. Easy, 1 minute walk from the carpark.

6. Sundown Point State Reserve *(laraturunawn)*

Walk (No dogs permitted. Shared track, watch for vehicles)

Access is via the Nelson Bay turnoff heading north from the shack community park your vehicle just pass the 4wd track junction on the clear grassy area to the coastal side of the gravel road. Walk the inland 4wd track through to Sundown Creek to view the ancient aboriginal rock carvings at the mouth of the Creek. 1.5 hour walk return (2km).

7. Nelson Bay

Walk (Shared track, watch for vehicles)

Walk south past the shack community to access the beach. Easy walk 30 minutes return.

8. Couta Rocks

Walk (Shared track, watch for vehicles)

Walk north or south from the shack community to view dramatic coastal rock formations.

9. Rebecca Lagoon

Walk

A short walk through coast paperbark and teatree to a viewing platform overlooking Rebecca Lagoon. A scenic spot for birdwatching and spring flowers. Easy 20 minute return walk.

10. Western Explorer

Information and Tarkine Drive entry point

Well formed gravel road to Corinna.

11. Balfour Packhorse track

Walk

Follow an old packhorse track through stunning cool temperate rainforest. Moderate, 3 hours return.

12. Kanunnah Bridge

Information, picnic area

A lovely spot for a picnic and to view the rapids and reflections of the Arthur River.

KEY

- Information
- Camping & caravan site
- Picnic area
- Motorhome site
- Accommodation
- Food
- Fuel
- Walking track
- Lookout
- BBQ facilities
- Toilets
- Dump-ezy
- Ferry

Look after yourself and the Tarkine

Plan ahead and prepare

Consider the accompanying maps in relation to fuel, accommodation and food as the Tarkine Drive takes you to isolated areas with limited services.

- Mobile phone coverage is unreliable
- Walkers are advised to have sturdy shoes, take drinking water and have sun/rain protection
- Travel and camp on durable surfaces, camp fees are applicable in some areas
- Please take your rubbish with you or use rubbish bins if provided
- Dispose of waste properly
- Leave what you find
- Snakes are active in the summer months and leeches in the cooler months
- Do not feed the wildlife.

DRIVE TIMES AND DISTANCES – TARKINE DRIVE

FROM	TO	kms	TIME
Arthur River	Couta Rocks	15 km	15 mins
Couta Rocks	Balfour Track	29 km	30 mins
Balfour Track	Sumac Lookout	6 km	10 mins
Sumac Lookout	Julius River	8 km	10 mins
Julius River	Lake Chisholm	8 km	10 mins
Lake Chisholm	Dempster Plains	11 km	15 mins
Lake Chisholm	Wes Beckett Falls	11 km	15 mins
Dempster Plains	Milkshake Hills	32 km	35 mins
Milkshake Hills	Trowutta Arch	26 km	30 mins
Trowutta Arch	Smithton	31 km	30 mins
Kanunnah Bridge	Smithton	36 km	35 mins

DRIVE TIMES AND DISTANCES – TOWNS

FROM	TO	km	TIME
Burnie	Smithton	85 km	1 hour
Devonport	Smithton	134 km	1.5 hours
Launceston	Smithton	231 km	2.5 hours
Stanley	Smithton	21 km	20 mins
Arthur River	Smithton	64 km	1 hour
Arthur River	Corinna	112 km	2.5 hours

Protect our wildlife

Many of the animals of the Tarkine are moving about during the day and night. Please drive slowly and help us to protect our precious wildlife.

The coastal landscape provides important feeding and breeding site for shore birds and migratory species. Please ensure you keep below the high tide line whilst access the beach to avoid impacting the birdlife.

The Tarkine is a fire-sensitive environment

- Do not discard cigarette butts
- Use gas barbecues where available
- Only light fires in properly constructed fireplaces and extinguish after use
- Observe all published fire restrictions
- Avoid lighting fires in hot and windy conditions.

Protecting heritage sites

The Tarkine coast particularly contains an extraordinary richness of Aboriginal cultural heritage that was recognised through being listing on the National Heritage List in 2013 .

If you come across a heritage site, it is important to follow these practices:

- Leave it undisturbed
- Do not under any circumstances remove anything – this is an offence and fines can be imposed.

Midden material evidence of the use of the Tarkine area by Tasmanian Aboriginal people for thousands of years

13. Sumac Lookout

Lookout

A breathtaking view over the majestic Arthur River and the surrounding cool temperate rainforest. Easy, 5 minutes return.

14. Julius River

Walks, BBQ, toilet

Enjoy a barbecue or picnic at this enchanting rainforest and river site where there are two rainforest walks. Moderate, 30 and 40 min walks.

15. Julius River Motorhome site

Caravan / Motorhome parking site

16. Lake Chisholm

Walk

A picturesque short walk through tall trees and mixed forest leads you to one of the finest examples of a flooded limestone sinkhole in Australia. You could spot a platypus here. Moderate, 30 minutes.

17. Dempster Plains

Lookout

Expansive views over buttongrass plains to the interior mountains and hills of the Tarkine. Easy, 10 minutes.

18. Rapid River

Lookout, picnic area

A scenic spot to have a picnic alongside the tannin-stained Rapid River.

19. Sinkhole

Lookout

An intriguing flooded sinkhole with its dark waters and stunning reflections.

20. Milkshake Hills

Walks, BBQ, toilet

Stop for a BBQ in this wet eucalypt forest and walk the eay 15 minute forest walk or continue to the summit lookout (1 hour moderate return) and experience buttongrass morelands and views into the Tarkin Forest. Easy, 15 mins and moderate, 1 hour return.

21. Tayatea Bridge

Information, lookout

A great spot to view the wild Arthur River

22. Trowutta Arch State Reserve

Walk (No dogs permitted)

A short walk through lovely rainforest takes you to an extraordinary and rare geological feature (via Reynolds Road). Easy, 30 minutes return.

Discover the Tarkine

discoverthetarkine.com.au

Stanley Visitor Centre

1300 138 229

stanleyandtarkine.com.au

North West Tasmania

northwesttasmania.com.au

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:
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