

Thank you for choosing to stay with us.

To make your time here on Tasmania's stunning west coast, the best it can be, we have put together some information that may be of some use, especially if this is your first visit to Tasmania.

DRIVING TIPS

Tasmania is very mountainous; therefore the roads can be very windy/bendy. So if you suffer from carsickness as I do, come prepared. My favourite remedy is Blackmores Travel Calm Ginger, available at most chemists. Other remedies are available but this works best for me.

Travel times can be much longer than you may think so here is a link to a map, which shows approximate travel times around Tasmania. It is quite accurate and a very useful planning tool.

https://www.tasmap.tas.gov.au/upload/static/content/Travel_Times.pdf

Most animals in Tasmania are nocturnal so are very often on our roads at night. So if at all possible please try to arrive at your destination before dark to avoid hitting any of our precious native animals.

Petrol stations, cafe and toilet stops can also be few and far between in some areas so I have included a list, at the end, of places I sometimes stop at on my travels around Tasmania. They follow the main routes around the state. Keep in mind a lot of places close by 5pm especially in the more remote areas. I have done my best to make this list accurate but things may have changed in some areas since my last visit.

CHECK-IN

Check-in times are 2-6pm daily. If checking in outside of these hours, please call or text ahead to allow me to plan my day or evening and make other arrangements if necessary. When you arrive I can be contacted easily by pressing the doorbell at my cottage at 15 Cutten St, next door to Anchorage. (Follow the signs to reception.) The doorbell will call my mobile phone and I can talk to you through the doorbell if I am not on the premises. If I happen to be out of town on business my assistant Allison will come and check you in or we can make other arrangements ahead of time.

FOOD IN QUEENSTOWN

Queenstown has two IGA supermarkets, which carry a good variety of fresh produce and groceries. Most eateries in Queenstown stop taking orders by around 8pm and the supermarkets close at 6pm - 7pm depending on the time of year. Pizza is usually available after 8pm.

MOBILE PHONE COVERAGE AND WIFI

Mobile phone coverage can be patchy around Tasmania. Telstra has the best coverage; Optus can be patchy as is Vodaphone. We have recently upgraded our Wi-Fi so good coverage should be available in all rooms, free. (Don't forget you can always reach me by pressing the doorbell.)

WEATHER CONDITIONS

The weather in Tasmania is quite unpredictable especially on the West Coast. It can snow or hail in December. Even in summer it is a good idea to bring at least one set of warm clothes. Nights are often chilly which is great for sleeping. Days rarely exceed 28 deg. C. Be prepared for wet weather on the West Coast, after all it is temperate rainforest. I do provide umbrellas for guests to use when staying at Anchorage. Check this site for current local weather conditions.

<http://www.bom.gov.au/tas/forecasts/map7day.shtml>

If there is or has been snow or bad weather, get the real story from the locals on Facebook. Look for "West coast road conditions". We are all pretty vigilant on this page about what it is really like out there.

Our recommendations for activities in the area.

RoamWild Tasmania.... tours with a local

I am a little biased on this one as I am co-owner with my partner Anthony Coulson but his (and our other guides) knowledge and passion for this place, its history and environment is second to none. Queenstown and surrounds

have a fascinating mining, hydropower and environmental history and we have exclusive access to some of the key areas, including Lake Margaret Hydropower station and village. These tours are a must do and I strongly advise booking before you arrive. But don't just take my word for it; check out the comments on Tripadvisor.

<https://www.roamwild.com.au>

*Tours are very small numbers; some with a maximum of 4 guests so book ahead to avoid disappointment. *

Please note; RoamWild has recently been contracted by West Coast Council to provide the MTB Shuttle Service for the new Mt Owen MTB trails. "The most epic shuttle ride in Australia"

The Paragon Theatre

Anthony and I purchased this beautiful Art Deco theatre in July 2017 and are planning a big future for it. The Paragon originally opened on October 28, 1933 and we re-opened it on October 28, 2017, as a cinema/restaurant featuring pre-1960's cinema classics. Since then we have done extensive work to create an event venue for live music, festivals, movies, private functions and community events. Check here for all upcoming events.

<https://www.theparagon.com.au/special-events>

The Eric Thomas Galley Museum features memorabilia and other artefacts with extensive photographic displays of West Coast history and a range of interesting literature about a bygone era. An excellent museum, run by West Coast Council and local volunteers.

Iron Blow

Where mining in Queenstown began in 1883, the Iron Blow was worked as a gold mine for 10 years before the discovery of vast deposits of copper. The Iron Blow Lookout offers wonderful views of the open cut mine, surrounding mountains and down the Linda Valley.

Lake Burbury

A 20 minute drive out of Queenstown; take in the sights or fish for trout.

Queenstown Golf Course

Nine-hole course best played in summer as wet conditions can make ground heavy in winter. Play a round and then relax with a drink in the bar. Mixed competitions are held every weekend. Lynchford Road, Queenstown. Tel: (03) 6471 1164.

Spion Kop

Named by soldiers returning from the Boer War. Enjoy fantastic views of Queenstown when you complete the steep short walk passing mining heritage exhibits along the way. Overlooks the famous Queenstown gravel football oval and a 360deg view of the town.

Miners Siding

In the bronze sculptures, depicting 21 facets of the evolution of the Mt Lyell Mines and surrounding areas, sculptor Stephen Walker has depicted significant and traditional events in the 100-year history of the Lyell District.

Queenstown Football Oval

Queenstown's gravel oval, has been described by some, as "the most infamous" football field in Australia. Now heritage listed, it certainly is one that has struck fear into visiting football sides for over 100 years.

West Coast Heritage Centre

Located in the township of Zeehan, approximately 30mins drive from Queenstown. You could easily spend all day in this world-class museum. Check out their massive mineral display, which is reported to be the largest collection in the southern hemisphere.

www.wchczeehan.com.au

Cruising the Gordon River in Strahan

Strahan is located approximately 40mins drive from Queenstown and is home to the famous Gordon River and Macquarie Harbour. Even with 2 excellent companies running cruises, it is still advisable to book before coming, especially in the summer months, as they are very often fully booked.

www.worldheritagecruises.com.au

www.gordonrivercruises.com.au

The other best thing to do in Strahan

For a really fun time you cannot beat the longest running play in Australia. Performed for over 26 years and still going strong. "The Ship that Never Was" is a must do on your trip to Tasmania's West. The kids will love it too. Performance daily; 5.30pm at the Richard Davey amphitheatre.

<http://www.roundearth.com.au/ship.htm>

Feel free to contact me if you require any more information about Western Tasmania.

Best regards and safe travels.

Joy Chappell

TOWN	PETROL	PUBLIC TOILETS	CAFE
Hobart	Yes	Yes	Yes
New Norfolk	Yes	Yes	Yes
Hamilton	No	Yes	Yes
Ouse	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tarraleah	No	Yes	Yes Closed Winter
Derwent Bridge	Yes	Yes	Yes
Queenstown	Yes (card only some days)	Yes	Yes
Strahan	Yes	Yes	Yes
Zeehan	Yes. Card only	Yes	Yes
Rosebery	Yes	Yes	Yes
Tullah	No	Yes	Yes
Burnie	Yes	Yes	Yes
Wynyard	Yes	Yes	Yes
Stanley	Yes	Yes	Yes
Smithton	Yes	Yes	Yes
Devonport	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sheffield	Yes	Yes	Yes
Moina	No	Yes	Yes
Wilmot	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mole Creek	Yes	Yes	Yes
Deloraine	Yes	Yes	Yes
Launceston	Yes	Yes	Yes
Scottsdale	Yes	Yes	Yes
St Helens	Yes	Yes	Yes
Scamander	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bicheno	Yes	Yes	Yes
Campbelltown	Yes	Yes	Yes
Ross	Yes	Yes	Yes
Oatlands	Yes	Yes	Yes
Swansea	Yes	Yes	Yes
Richmond	Yes	Yes	Yes
Port Arthur	Yes	Yes	Yes
Huonville	Yes	Yes	Yes
Geeveston	Yes	Yes	Yes
Dover	Yes	Yes	Yes