

ITINERARY 4 Days, 3 Nights

DEVONPORT

Welcome to Devonport, the big little city where ample space meets fewer crowds, allowing travellers to move freely. Nestled along the captivating North-West Coast of Tasmania, where Mountains meet the sea and the picturesque Mersey River flows.

Its allure lies in its waterfront precinct, sandy and rocky coastlines, and bushland reserves. The myriad of pedestrian and cycling pathways meandering through the region, await exploration taking in peaceful bushland, stunning beaches. Along the way, you'll find plenty of spots to pause and enjoy refreshments. Devonport's reserves boast abundant wildlife including platypus, pademelons, penguins, and a range of endemic Tasmanian birds.

Target Market

This itinerary is designed for Conscious Explorers – experience-driven travellers who seek natural escapes and meaningful connections. They are curious by nature, drawn to the stories behind each destination and favouring places with fewer crowds and more space to connect with the landscape. Conscious Explorers value a strong sense of place, engaging with local communities and supporting businesses that reflect regional identity. Their activities often include exploring scenic pathways, participating in wellness experiences, and discovering local produce through agritourism trails. They travel at their own pace, immersing themselves in the wilderness and embracing authentic, low-impact experiences.

Arriving in Devonport

Arriving in Devonport is a breeze with the convenience of the Spirit of Tasmania Ferry terminal. Simply bring your car aboard and drive straight off the ship. The ferry route from Geelong to Devonport connects mainland Australia with Tasmania, operating seven times a week with both day and night sailings, each lasting approximately 9 hours and 30 minutes.

For those opting to fly, Devonport Airport is conveniently located just 9 kilometres from the city centre and is serviced by two airlines, Qantas and Rex. Flights from Melbourne take just one hour and car hire is available at the terminal.



Devonport Visitor Information Centre

Pay a visit to the friendly staff at Devonport Visitor Information Centre where you can collect information on activities and attractions, book accommodation or tours and gain valuable tips from a local. Located at Market Square, 145 Rooke Street Devonport.

Where to Stay

The Cove is a serene and picturesque escape blessed with arguably the best coastal views on the North-West Coast of Tasmania. This award-winning luxury boutique accommodation is available to adults only.

Novotel Devonport is a premium 4-star hotel boasting an unrivalled location in the heart of the city. It is perfectly positioned within easy reach of shops, restaurants, Spirit of Tasmania terminal with walking / cycling trails on its doorstep.

Waterfront Apartments – Just a 4-minute drive to the Devonport city centre or a relaxed walk along the riverfront, Waterfront Apartments are the perfect “home away from home”. With everything you need in one space: fully equipped kitchens, espresso coffee machines, spacious parking, laundry, and a private patio area.

The Grand on Macfie – take a step back in time and enjoy Bed and Breakfast accommodation in this stunning heritage home. Situated in the heart of Devonport's historic district.

Stony Rise Cottage - Homely property 6-minute drive from CBD on 2.5 acres of land in a semi-rural setting.

Plan Ahead – Weekly & Seasonal Activities

Farmers' Market: Devonport Show Grounds, Every 2nd Saturday

Devonport Twilight Market: Market Square Pavilion, 1st Friday of the month

Devonport parkrun Saturdays at 8am departing from Mersey Bluff

Julie Burgess Tall Ship Sailings: Wednesdays & Sundays at 1pm

Little Penguin Colony at Lillico Beach Guiding Season: October to March, just after sunset

Waterfront Concerts, Free: check Devonport City Council's [Facebook](#) for upcoming events

Don Market: Every Sunday
Devonport Jazz Festival: July

Distances

Devonport is a vibrant regional city, spanning around 19 square kilometres. Below is a self-drive itinerary, with all recommended stops conveniently located within a 15-minute drive from the city centre.

DAY 1

Savour and Slow Down

Wake in Devonport and roll straight off the Spirit of Tasmania, ready to ease into your adventure. Pick up some locally made treats to enjoy on your journey and wander the peaceful trails of the Tasmanian Arboretum.

Morning –

Visit our vibrant [Farmers' Market](#), connecting with local producers and indulging in the freshest delights. Devonport, with the finest agricultural land on its doorstep offers world-class produce to sample. Wander the stalls and collect goodies from Wattle Hill Olives, Frogmouth Ponds Honey, Lonah Family Farm and many more. Fuel up on coffee from Tasmanian Organic Coffee Co and soak up the lively ambiance complete with cozy firepits and live acoustic performances. Held every second Saturday at the Devonport Showgrounds, this bustling market offers an authentic taste of Tasmania's North-West. Bring your own basket, reusable bags, and containers to help reduce waste while you shop. Many stallholders also welcome your clean takeaway cups or jars for honey, olives, and preserves.

If you arrive on a different day, [The General Store by Tasmanian Food and Wine Conservatory](#) is an excellent alternative. Located in Devonport, this beautifully curated store showcases the very best of Tasmania's food and wine, offering a hand-picked selection of food, books, giftware and ready-made hampers.

With your picnic basket brimming with the best of Tasmania's North-West, you're all set for a delicious day of exploring!

Midday –

Venture into the scenic [Tasmanian Arboretum](#), a sprawling wonderland of temperate-zone trees spread across 66 hectares, located 12 kms from Devonport. No matter what season you visit, the Arboretum is sure to impress, from flowers in spring through the shade of summer to autumn colours and the patterns of winter. Grab a trail map and take one of the suggested walks. Lay out your picnic rug by the Founders Lake and as you enjoy your Tasmanian feast, keep your eyes peeled for a glimpse of the elusive platypus. Generally, it is a rare treat to catch a glimpse of this iconic Australian creature in its natural habitat but The Australian Platypus Monitoring Network reports that Founders Lake "currently holds the honour of being the most productive single site to see a platypus"



Devonport Farmers Market



Tasmanian Arboretum

Afternoon –

The 12-kilometre drive back into the city centre offers some delicious stopovers. Just 2 minutes down the road is [Prickly Mo](#), a charming rustic cellar door. Housed within a converted barn and shearing shed dating back to circa 1890, it offers picturesque views of the vines and surrounding rolling hills. Stop by for a tasting at the cellar door anytime or arrive in the afternoon on weekends to linger longer and enjoy a glass of wine and a live music performance by a talented local.

Continue your journey back stopping for a visit at [Spreyton Cider](#), a working apple orchard. Sample a variety of handcrafted ciders or freshly pressed juices, each bursting with the authentic flavours of Tasmania's finest apples.

Choose Your Own Adventure –

1. Stop by the tasting room at [Truffledore](#) in nearby Lower Barrington, just 10-min drive past the Arboretum. During the winter truffle season join a truffle hunt. In summer, explore the farm on a guided tour, watch truffle dog training, and sample a variety of truffle-infused products.
2. Enjoy a 10-min drive along the charming country roads to [House of Hargrave](#). Enjoy a wine tasting with stunning views over the winery and towards Bass Strait. House of Hargraves offers popular "Sip and Stretch" yoga sessions, check their social pages for upcoming dates.

Evening –

Back in Devonport, as evening descends, elevate your culinary journey at [Taste by Bold Cuisine](#). Prepare your taste buds for a tantalising adventure as you dive into bold and innovative dishes inspired by flavours from around the globe by Chef Simon Bold. The set degustation tasting menu changes monthly ensuring the freshest in season produce.

DAY 2

Immerse Yourself in Devonport's Natural Beauty

Inhale. North-West Tasmania has the cleanest air in the world for you to enjoy as you explore the foreshore and reserve trails of Devonport. The network of cycling / walking trails in Devonport is vast so it is likely they run right past your door. Bring your own bike on the Spirit of Tasmania Ferry, rent one from your accommodation or hire an E-bike from [Adventure Tasmania](#). By exploring on two wheels you'll reduce emissions, connect more deeply with the environment, and support Devonport's commitment to sustainable travel.

Morning -

Begin your day with a delightful breakfast at the [Harbour Master Café](#), where the aroma of freshly brewed coffee mingles with the gentle breeze off the Mersey River.

Take a moment to pause at [Haines Park](#), a newly opened waterfront precinct that celebrates the region's unique flora and geology. A water mist feature offers a refreshing sensory experience reminiscent of the basalt rock formations that dot the Devonport coastline. Wander along the immense elevated river walkway, a striking structure that offers panoramic views of the city, surrounding suburbs, and distant mountains.

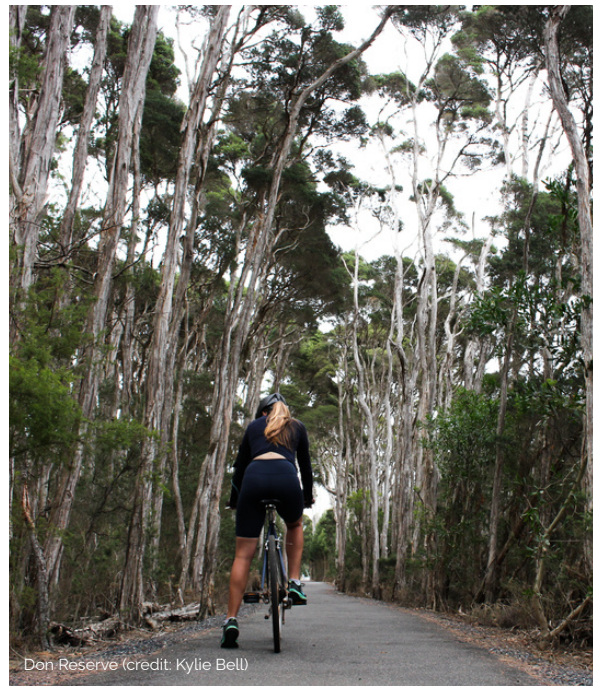
It is time to get pedalling. The mostly flat trail takes you along the wide Mersey River under shady trees and past federation-era gardens.

Midday -

Make your way along the cycle track for 2kms to [The Bluff](#), where Devonport's patrolled beach awaits. Slip into the calm waters of the bay for a refreshing swim. The nearby surf club offers convenient hot showers to rinse off the salt and sand, ensuring you feel rejuvenated and ready for the next adventure.

For lunch, indulge in a quintessential seaside treat at [Drift Café](#)'s takeaway window, where fresh and crunchy fish and chips await. Find a cozy spot on the grass and savour each mouthful as you soak in the laid-back atmosphere of this coastal gem.

Continue your journey with a scenic walk to the candy-striped [lighthouse](#), pausing along the way to admire the breathtaking vistas from the viewing platforms.



Afternoon -

Hop back on your bike and follow the trail through coastal flora for 1.8kms to Coles Beach, a hidden gem beloved by locals for its pristine beauty. Cross the newly constructed pedestrian bridge to [Don Heads](#) and marvel at the rugged beauty of Devonport's rocky coastland. Take a leisurely stroll around the headland, exploring wave-cut platforms and the olivine-containing rocks that bear witness to the region's volcanic past. From there, venture into the peaceful embrace of [Don Reserve](#), where walking tracks wind their way beside the tranquil Don River. Keep an ear out for the nostalgic whistle of heritage steam trains as they chug past, transporting passengers on a journey through time.

Choose Your Own Adventure -

1. For those eager to hop aboard the train, make a stop at [Don River Railway](#), a heritage railway lovingly run by volunteers. Prepare to journey back in time as you ride a steam or diesel train and explore their fascinating museum and working workshop. The 30-minute return ride through Don Reserve to Coles Beach runs Thursdays to Sundays, with tickets from \$13.
2. If you have energy to burn, the trail extends beyond Don Heads, transforming into the North-West [coastal pathway](#), that beckons cyclists to pedal their way towards neighbouring towns.
3. If the leisurely paths of Devonport fail to ignite your passion, fear not. Just a short 15-minute drive away lie the exhilarating mountain bike trails of Kelsey Tier and the internationally acclaimed [Wild Mersey](#).

Evening -

As your day of energetic exploration draws to a close, you deserve a treat - dinner and panoramic views of the sun setting over Bass Strait at [Mrs. Jones Restaurant](#), perched above the Devonport Surf Lifesaving Club.

Finally, end your day in Devonport with an after-dark visit to the [Little Penguin Colony at Lillico Beach](#). Just a short, 10min drive from the city centre and with no entry fee, this coastal reserve offers a magical opportunity to witness these fascinating creatures return to their burrows after a day of fishing in the open ocean. With local volunteers and Parks and Wildlife rangers on hand to share their knowledge and passion, you'll leave with a newfound appreciation for the natural wonders of Tasmania's northwest coast.

DAY 3

Sunrise, Stories and Sea Breezes

Begin with a soul-refreshing sauna, uncover ancient Aboriginal culture, and explore Devonport's maritime spirit.

Morning –

Start your day with a rejuvenating sunrise sauna session at [Savu Sauna](#), located at Mersey Bluff. Relax and invigorate by soaking in the warmth then taking a refreshing dash and dive into the ocean. The sauna's minimalist Nordic-inspired design and ocean-dip ritual connect you to the raw elements of Tasmania's coastline - offering a low-impact, soul-nourishing start to your day.

After your sauna, enjoy a well-earned breakfast at [Drift Cafe](#) just steps away. With its relaxed coastal vibe Drift is a favourite among locals for its delicious breakfasts, great coffee, and stunning ocean views.

Next [Tiagarra Cultural Centre | Devonport Tasmania](#), also located at Mersey Bluff, which opens at 10am. One of Australia's oldest Aboriginal-operated cultural centres and keeping places, Tiagarra has been a place of cultural significance since its official opening in 1976. It plays a vital role in preserving and sharing the stories, knowledge, and ongoing cultural practices of the Tasmanian Aboriginal people. The centre's museum offers insights into the deep and continuing connection of the Palawa people to Country, featuring exhibits on local history, traditions, and community life. Visitors can also explore the adjacent bluff bush trail, home to important Aboriginal cultural sites. The on-site café serves excellent coffee and light refreshments.

Midday –

After working up an appetite, head to [Marion Storm](#) located within the Maritime Museum for a delicious lunch. Enjoy Tasmanian seafood or indulge in a High Tea for two on the sunny deck.

Afternoon –

[The Bass Strait Maritime Museum](#) celebrates Devonport's maritime and social history. Discover stories of shipwrecks, great lighthouses, and seafarers who braved the waves. Our First Mariners exhibit displays the enduring relationship between Tasmania's First Nations people and the ocean, where navigation, trade, and storytelling have flourished for generations. The young at heart will love the ship simulator, where you can test your captaining skills by attempting to berth a steamship at the Mersey River wharf. Entry is \$10 per adult.



Choose Your Own Adventure –

1. Prefer to be out on the water? Skip the museum and step aboard the historic [Julie Burgess](#) Tall Ship, departing 1pm for 2.5 hour sailings each Wednesday & Sunday. Feel the boat move to the forces of the sea, listen to the wind in the rigging and be refreshed by the sun and the bracing clean air. Sailings are crewed by passionate volunteers who are eager to share maritime stories.
2. When the conditions are right, join the 'river rats' at the local surf spot on the west bank of the Mersey River. Generations of 'river rats', have surfed the Mersey, a stones' throw from the large ships and yachts leaving and entering the port. The point break on the west side of the Mersey can transport a surfer up to 200 metres up river!

Evening –

For pre-dinner, sample award winning uniquely Tasmanian Gins at [Southern Wild Distillery](#), followed by a delicious dinner at Novotel's fun [Mr Good Guy](#). With a contemporary spin on South-East Asian cuisine, Mr Good Guy provides a unique culinary experience.

As night falls, immerse yourself in [From Sky to Sea](#), a breathtaking sound and light show that takes you on an unforgettable journey through Devonport and its stunning surroundings. This 14-minute spectacle begins in the depths of night with Dave Gough's powerful Palawa creation story before transitioning to the first light of dawn over the mountains. Drift along the Mersey River, pass through fields of vibrant poppies and rich farmlands, and watch as Devonport's urban landscape awakens. The grand finale? A dramatic night-time storm over Bass Strait. Showing four times each evening (from 7pm AEST and from 8:30am Daylight Savings Time), From Sky to Sea is free to enjoy and best experienced after dark.

DAY 4

Creative Tales & Tasting Trails

From vibrant street art to boutique wines and local makers, soak up Devonport's artistic energy and handcrafted flavours.

Morning –

Start your day with a leisurely breakfast at [Laneway Café](#), before wandering the streets and laneways of Devonport to discover the street art. In particular, Rooke Lane is fast becoming the centre of urban art in Tasmania. Exterior walls, toilet blocks and laneways feature large and small creations by local Devonport artists. Many of these captivating artworks bear the mark of the Devonport Regional Gallery's young artist group, the DROOGS, who have left their creative imprint under the mentorship of experienced artists or during the annual Reclaim The Lane Youth Week celebrations. Others have sprung to life through the initiative of local businesses seeking to infuse their surroundings with character, or from the visionary aspirations of promising artists seeking a public canvas to share their talents. The art is ever evolving so don't be surprised if the mural has changed, expanded or disappeared when you next visit.

With an annual program of exhibitions and vibrant art community, there's always something inspiring to discover at the [Devonport Regional Gallery](#). With three galleries to explore featuring contemporary Tasmanian Art, and a library, creative space and gift shop, the gallery is the perfect place to feel inspired and best of all, there is no entry fee.

Midday –

Just a 7-minute drive from town, [Anvers Chocolate Factory](#), is the perfect spot for a delicious lunch. While you're there, watch skilled artisan chocolatiers craft chocolates using traditional European recipes from the viewing area. Before you leave, visit the tasting room to sample and select your favourite chocolates to take home.

Afternoon –

Continue back to Devonport, stopping on the way at the beautiful [La Villa Winery](#), located in Spreyton. La Villa is a family owned 5-hectare boutique vineyard focusing on producing low yield premium fruit.



Nearby, visit [Simon Martin Whips & Leather Craft](#) workshop for a fascinating demonstration of whip making, a traditional Tasmanian craft. With their dedication to excellence, Simon Martin Whips has earned widespread recognition as a premier whip maker. The company continues to captivate customers worldwide with its exceptional craftsmanship and superior products.

Choose Your Own Adventure -

1. As an alternative, you can instead visit [Devonport Country Club](#), a state-of-the-art sporting and leisure facility located in Spreyton. The Club offers a range of recreational activities, including 8-rink indoor bowling, 3 grass bowls, 2 croquet lawns, an exciting 18-hole golf course, as well as sports shop and excellent dining options.
2. History buffs will enjoy a stop at [Home Hill](#) on the way back to the terminal. This charming 1916 residence was home to Joseph Lyons, Tasmania's only Prime Minister, and his wife Dame Enid Lyons, the first woman elected to Australia's federal parliament. The home remains just as they left it, with original furnishings offering a rare glimpse into the personal and political lives of one of the nation's most influential couples. Guided tours share stories of their life with 12 children and their lasting contributions to Australian politics. The surrounding gardens, lovingly tended by Dame Enid, add to the property's enduring charm. Open Wednesday - Saturday, entry \$15.

Evening –

As your journey winds down, take a quiet moment to reflect on the connections you've made with the land, the locals, and the stories that make Devonport unique. While others may have rushed across the island, you've embraced the richness of staying grounded, uncovering beauty in the slower moments.

Board the Spirit of Tasmania, conveniently docked in the heart of the city. Once on board, enjoy a relaxing dinner featuring Tasmanian produce and wines. As you set sail across Bass Strait, carry more than memories: take with you a renewed sense of balance, inspiration, and connection.

Until next time - Devonport will be here, ready to welcome you back.