

4 Day | Devonport Itinerary



A Long Weekend

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 a new 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. Devonport offers the perfect balance of being "little" enough to experience secluded moments on expansive beaches, yet "big" enough to indulge in the luxuries of city life, including stunning accommodation, exceptional coffee, delectable dining options, vibrant bars, and a thriving arts and culture scene.



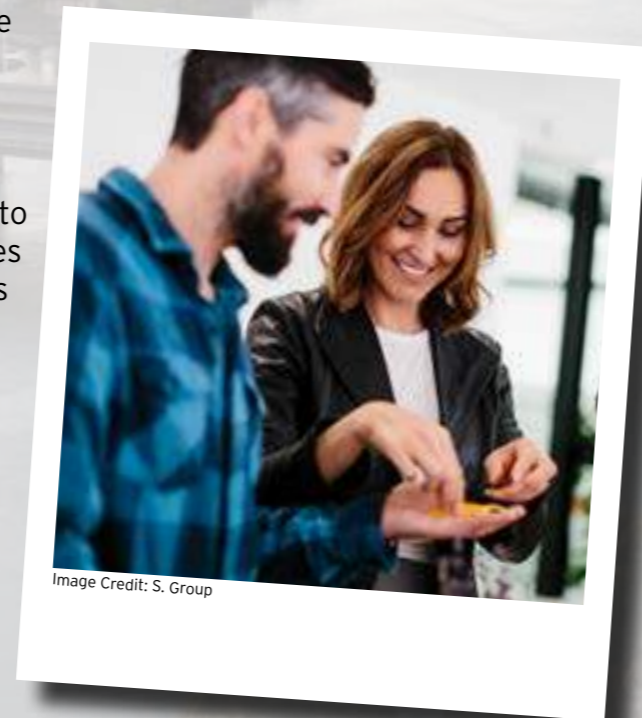
Arriving in Devonport is a breeze with the convenience of the Spirit of Tasmania terminal, offering seamless travel experiences. Simply bring your car aboard and drive straight off the ship, allowing you to begin your getaway without any delays. The ferry route from Geelong to Devonport connects mainland 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 served by two major airlines, Qantas and Rex. Flights from Melbourne take just one hour with car hire is available at the terminal.

Arriving Here

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

Target Market

This itinerary has been prepared for the "Active Urban Discoverer". Encouraging travellers arriving by sea to stay and explore Devonport. Active Urban Discoverers enjoy uncovering "hidden gems" and seek natural escapes with ample space and fewer crowds, valuing access to quality food, wine, and art. Their travel activities span from exploring local markets and galleries to engaging in outdoor adventures such as bushwalking, biking, and wildlife watching. These consumers typically prioritise quality experiences over cost, and they are inclined to invest in comfortable holidays, particularly those involving wilderness and authentic local activities that support local businesses. Typically, travelling in own car loaded with recreational equipment and space to take home purchases. Accommodation is higher end - unique, boutique or self-contained.



You are spoilt for accommodation choices in Devonport: Bed and breakfasts, hotels, motels, self-catering options and stunning unique retreats. Here is a sample:

[The Cove](#) is a serene and picturesque escape blessed with arguably the best coastal views on the North West Coast of Tasmania. Perched high on the bluff overlooking Lillico Beach, 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. With city, park and water views, 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 that opens to the magnificent water and mountain views.

[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, The Grand on Macfie offers quality accommodation, delicious high teas served in the grand dining room and beautiful gardens.

Where to Stay

Stock up on Tasty treats and visit to Tasmanian Arboretum

DAY 1

Rise and shine in Devonport, eager to kick off the next four days of adventure and exploration! Drive straight off the Spirit of Tasmania ferry, beginning your getaway without delay.

Morning

Start your long weekend right with a visit to 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 captivating live acoustic performances. With your picnic basket brimming with tasty treats, hit the road and get ready for your next adventure. Be sure to keep an eye out for Leaping Goat Coffee, nestled in the industrial district of town. Since 2014, they've been expertly roasting premium blends of coffee that have garnered acclaim far and wide. Step inside their inviting roastery, where the aromatic scent of freshly roasted beans fills the air and take advantage of the opportunity to sample their exquisite blends before making your selection. Stock up on your favourite beans to enjoy at home, and perhaps treat yourself to a delicious coffee to go as you continue your exploration of Devonport.



Midday

Next, venture into the scenic wonders of the [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 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 [in Australia] to see a platypus"



The 12-kilometre drive back into the city centre offers many tempting 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. Prickly Mo boasts an exceptional selection of cool climate wines to try, notably the Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, and sparkling varieties. 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. Purchase your favourites to take home with you.

With your boot already loaded with Tasmanian treats, it is time to head to your accommodation, check in, put your feet up and get ready for your next adventure.

Afternoon

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.

After a delightful first day in Tassie, retire to your accommodation for a peaceful rest in your plush bed and quiet surrounds.

Close

Immerse Yourself in Devonport's Natural Beauty

DAY 2

Inhale. NorthWest Tasmania has the cleanest air in the world for you to enjoy over the long weekend and today you'll get an extra dose 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. It is possible to bring your own bike on Spirit of Tasmania Ferry, rent one from your accommodation or hire an E-bike from Adventure Tasmania.

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. As you sip your morning brew, feast your eyes on the picturesque scenery stretching out before you. The breakfast menu offers a tempting array of options, from timeless classics like fluffy pancakes to more adventurous dishes featuring local flavours.

Take a moment to pause at [Haines Park](#), a newly opened public waterfront precinct designed to celebrate the region's unique flora and geology. Here, a mesmerising water mist feature beckons, offering a refreshing sensory experience reminiscent of the basalt rock formations that dot the Devonport coastline. Gaze out towards the river and you'll be captivated by the sight of 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 plane trees and past federation-era gardens. There is no need to rush, take your time making plenty of stops along the way.

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 or perch yourself on the storm wall 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 views from the viewing platforms. Keep an eye out for the playful resident seal as you traverse the Bluff reserve, where indigenous rock carvings, a Pioneer Cemetery, and charming wallaby population await discovery.



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 marvelling at 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.

Options

1. For those eager to hop aboard the train, make a stop at [Don River Railway](#) and prepare to journey back in time as you ride the steam or diesel train and explore their fascinating museum with workshop. The 30-min return train ride through Don Reserve to Coles Beach is available Thursdays-Sundays, tickets from \$12.
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](#), ready to satisfy your thirst for adrenaline-fueled adventure.

As your day of energetic exploration draws to a close, you deserve a treat - a romantic dinner at [Mrs. Jones Restaurant](#), perched above the Devonport Surf Lifesaving Club. Savour modern Australian cuisine crafted from the finest local ingredients, all while enjoying panoramic views overlooking Bass Strait. Let the warm glow of the setting sun cast a golden hue over your evening, creating memories that will last a lifetime.



Finally, end your perfect day in Devonport with an after-dark visit to the [Little Penguin Colony at Lillico Beach](#). Just a short, 10 minute 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.

Afternoon

Evening

Shopping in the CBD and visit Bass Strait Maritime Centre

DAY 3

Immerse yourself in Devonport's thriving arts and culture scene with a day exploring Devonport's city centre.

Morning

Start your day with a leisurely breakfast at [Laneway Café](#), where you can sip on freshly brewed coffee and savour mouthwatering pastries that'll kickstart your morning with a burst of flavour. Wander the streets and laneways of Devonport and 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.

Enjoy a spot of shopping on the main street where an array of standout independent stores awaits your discovery:

Step into [The Antique Emporium](#), a haven for vintage enthusiasts where hidden treasures abound, waiting to be unearthed amidst a world of nostalgic wonders.

For book lovers, a visit to [Devonport's independent bookshop](#) is a must. Here, the passionate owners are on hand to offer personalised recommendations.

Ladies, pamper yourself with a visit to [The White Wardrobe](#), where the latest fashion trends await.

Explore an exquisite selection of clothing and accessories curated with impeccable taste. And for those seeking a touch of glamour, look no further than [Facebar](#), where indulgence meets beauty. Treat yourself or a loved one back home to a captivating array of skincare and beauty products.

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

[The Bass Strait Maritime Centre](#) celebrates Devonport's maritime and social history with fixed and temporary displays. Discover stories of shipwrecks, great lighthouses, and seafarers who braved the waves. 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 bass strait maritime museum. Take a short wander across the road to visit the "Spirit of the Sea" sculpture perched on the rocks at the end of the pier. The bronze representation of a Neptunesque figure reflects the special relationship that Tasmania, being Australia's largest island, has with the sea.

Options

1. Hop on board the historic [Julie Burgess](#) Tall Ship, departing 1pm for 2.5 hour sailings each 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.
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!
3. With so much foreshore, why not bring your gear for a spot of fishing? Some top places for fishing are: The deepwater at The Bluff's rocky headland, Don Heads or Mersey River Mouth. Salmon, Mullet and flat head can be caught all year round, with seasonal fish such as couta and trevally and the odd snapper. Ask any local with their line in for suggestions.

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. Additionally, it stands as one of the premier spots in town to observe the bustling activity of the river, as ships gracefully arrive and depart. For an after dark night cap, venture to [Island State Brewing](#) where a selection of taps offer beers brewed on site.

Afternoon

Midday



Image Credit: Kelly Slater



Image Credit: S. Group

Evening

Artisan Chocolate and Premium Wine

DAY 4

Treat yourself to indulgent Tasmanian treats before heading home.

Morning

Kickstart your day with breakfast at [Anvers Chocolate Factory](#) located 7-minute drive out of town. While you are there, watch the chocolates being made from viewing area using traditional European recipes by skilled artisan chocolatiers. Then pay a visit to their tasting room and select your favourite chocolates to take away with you. Nearby, visit [Simon Martin Whips](#) 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.



Image Credit: Tourism Tasmania



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.

Option

- As an alternative to wineries, 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.

Afternoon

Midday

Enjoy a 10-min drive along the charming country roads to [House of Hargrave](#). Enjoy a wine tasting and lunch featuring beautiful cool climate wines along with exceptional Tasmanian produce and 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.

As your journey draws to a close, prepare to bid farewell to Devonport. With the Spirit of Tasmania conveniently located in the heart of the city, you've savoured every precious moment of your long weekend adventure.

Congratulations on discovering the hidden gem of Devonport. As you embark on your homeward journey, carry with you the memories of scenic vistas, culinary delights, and the welcoming spirit of Devonport.

Evening

**Safe travels, Devonport looks forward to
welcoming you again soon.**

