

VOL 1

NOVEMBER 2016

4X4 DESTINATIONS

Bringing Australia to you!

20

Travel Tips
For
Tasmania

***Iconic Travel
Destinations***

We're taking you on a journey to see the most iconic places in the Australia to chase your dreams.

1

Pack For all weather

WE ARRIVED IN THE MIDDLE OF WINTER AND WE KNEW IT WOULD BE COLD, VERY COLD. SO BEFORE WE GOT THERE, WE WENT AND BOUGHT GOOD CLOTHING, WATERPROOF CLOTHING, WATERPROOF SHOES, A GOOD WARM DOONA AND SLEEPING BAGS FOR THE KIDS. AT TIMES WE USED BOTH SLEEPING BAGS AND DOONAS, MAINLY FOR THE KIDS BUT AT LEAST WE WERE PREPARED. ONE THING THAT WE LEARNT IN TASMANIA, IS THAT THE WEATHER IS SO UNPREDICTABLE. IT COULD BE RAINING ONE MINUTE, THEN THE RAIN WILL GO, SUNSHINE, BLUE SKIES AND BEAUTIFUL WEATHER. WITHIN 15 MINUTES, IT COULD BE FREEZING COLD AND GALE WIND WARNINGS.

BE PREPARED FOR ALL CONDITIONS, EVEN IF THAT MEANS KEEPING AT MINIMUM, A FEW FOLD UP PONCHOS IN THE BACKPACK OR THE CAR.

CARRY A PHONE WITH YOU SO YOU CAN CHECK THE WEATHER, AND SEE IF THERE ARE ANY POTENTIAL WARNINGS THAT COULD AFFECT YOU IF YOU ARE OUT AND ABOUT.

"If you don't like Tassie weather, come back in 15 minutes"

2

THESE BOOTS WERE MADE FOR WALKING

TASMANIA HAS OVER 2800KM OF MANAGED WALKING TRACKS AND OVER 880 SEPARATE WALKS IN NATIONAL PARKS, RESERVES AND CONSERVATION AREAS. WE FOUND THAT IF YOU WEREN'T PREPARED TO WALK, THEN YOU WOULD MISS SO MUCH OF THE BEAUTY AND HISTORY OF TASMANIA. SOME OF THE WALKS ARE OVER VERY STEEP SLIPPERY TERRAIN, SUCH AS THE WALK TO WINEGLASS BAY LOOKOUT. FOR THE KEEN ADVENTURIST THERE ARE OVERNIGHT WALKS AND SOME LIKE THE OVERLAND TRACK WHICH CAN BE OVER 7 DAYS LONG. MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE GOOD WALKING SHOES, PREFERABLY HIKING BOOTS WITH GOOD ANKLE SUPPORT, AND ONE OTHER TIP, MAKE SURE YOU WEAR THEM IN BEFORE YOU START GOING ON HIKES. OTHERWISE YOU WILL END UP WITH A BOOT FULL OF BLISTERS LIKE I DID.

3

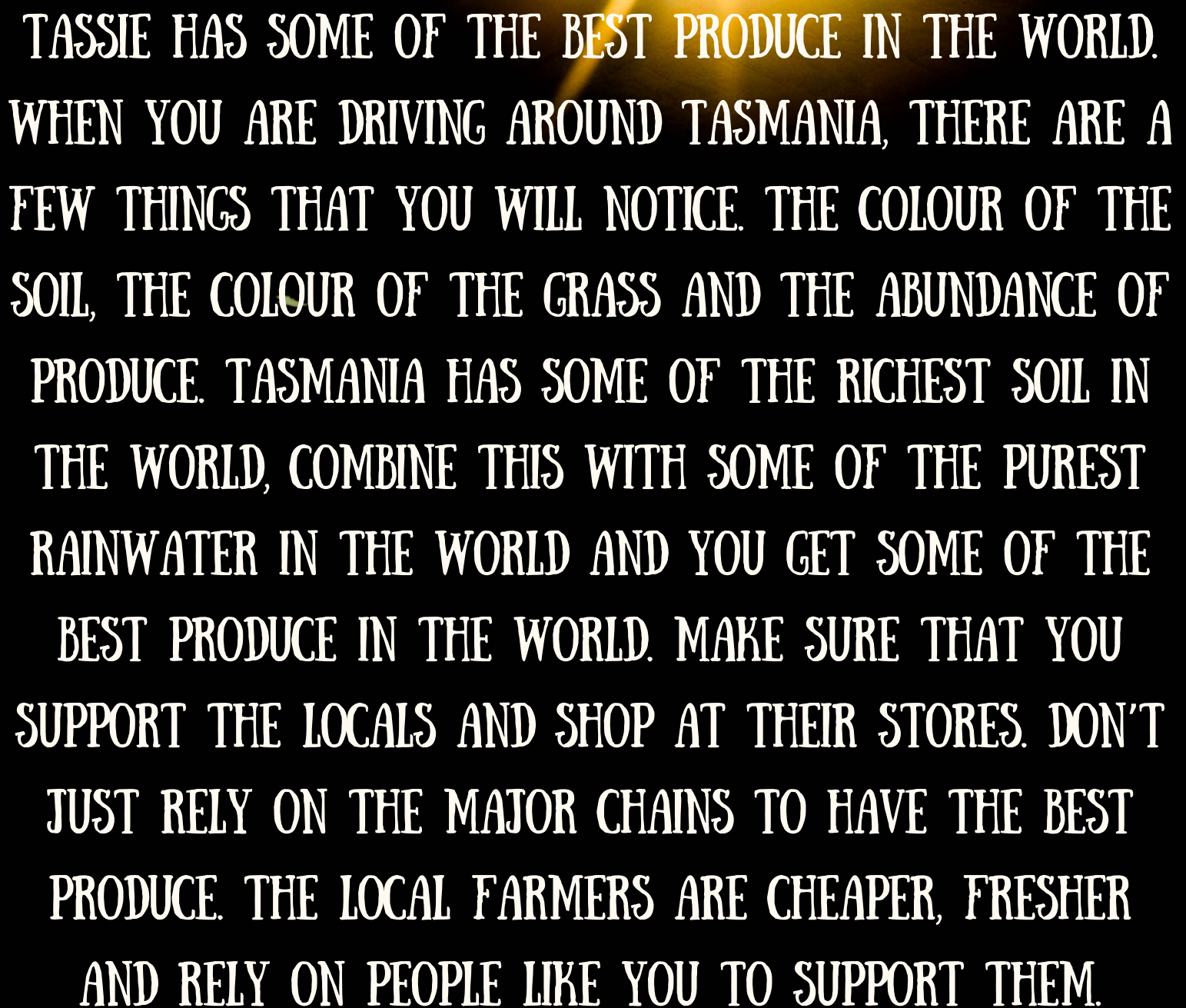
Take the road less travelled...

ONE THING YOU WILL FIND IS THAT THERE IS SO MUCH TO SEE AND DO AND IT CAN BE OVERWHELMING. WHEN WE TRAVEL, WE ALSO LIKE TO GO TO PLACES THAT AREN'T ON THE TOURIST MAP. WE ENJOYED PLACES LIKE MOLE CREEK, BRIDPORT, COCKLE CREEK AND FOUND THAT THESE PLACES FORMED SOME OF OUR FONDEST MEMORIES.

YOU WILL MOST PROBABLY FIND THAT IF YOU DO VENTURE INTO THE ROAD LESS TRAVELLED, YOU WILL HAVE A MUCH MORE ENJOYABLE EXPERIENCE AS NOT ONLY WILL THE LOCALS EMBRACE YOU WITH A WARM WELCOME, BUT YOU WON'T HAVE TO PUT UP WITH THE TOURISTS.

BEFORE YOU GET TO TASSIE, THERE 2-3 GUIDES/RESOURCES THAT YOU SHOULD ARM YOURSELF WITH!

1. WIKICAMPS - WE FOUND THIS TO BE SUCH A GREAT RESOURCE. WHEN PLANNING YOUR ROUTE, YOU COULD JUMP ON AND SEE IF THERE WERE ANY FREE CAMPS OR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SOME OF THE CARAVAN PARKS ETC BEFORE YOU GOT THERE. YOU CAN READ THE COMMENTS FROM THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE RECENTLY BEEN THERE AND MAKE UP YOUR OWN MIND.
2. CAMPS 8 (OR THE MOST RECENT) - THIS WAS ALSO A GOOD RESOURCE AS YOU CAN PLAN YOUR TRIP FROM THE MAPS AND THEN REFERENCE BACK TO THE AUTHORS COMMENTS ABOUT THE AREA. THE ONLY DOWNSIDE OF THIS IS THAT SOME OF THE INFORMATION MAY BE OUT OF DATE BY THE TIME YOU GET THERE AS TO WHEN THE BOOK WAS WRITTEN. ALSO, IT IS FROM THE AUTHORS WORDS, NOT USER BASED.
3. 4X4 DESTINATIONS - OF COURSE IF YOU ARE READING THIS THEN YOU HAVE ALREADY FOUND US, BUT MAKE SURE THAT YOU CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE, [FACEBOOK.COM/4X4DESTINATIONS](https://www.facebook.com/4x4destinations) - OUR INSTAGRAM PAGE - 4X4 DESTINATIONS - AND ALSO OUR WEBSITE WWW.4X4DESTINATIONS.COM.AU AS WE SPENT 3.5 MONTHS IN TASSIE AND HAVE ALMOST SEEN EVERY SQUARE INCH OF THE PLACE.



TASSIE HAS SOME OF THE BEST PRODUCE IN THE WORLD. WHEN YOU ARE DRIVING AROUND TASMANIA, THERE ARE A FEW THINGS THAT YOU WILL NOTICE. THE COLOUR OF THE SOIL, THE COLOUR OF THE GRASS AND THE ABUNDANCE OF PRODUCE. TASMANIA HAS SOME OF THE RICHEST SOIL IN THE WORLD, COMBINE THIS WITH SOME OF THE PUREST RAINWATER IN THE WORLD AND YOU GET SOME OF THE BEST PRODUCE IN THE WORLD. MAKE SURE THAT YOU SUPPORT THE LOCALS AND SHOP AT THEIR STORES. DON'T JUST RELY ON THE MAJOR CHAINS TO HAVE THE BEST PRODUCE. THE LOCAL FARMERS ARE CHEAPER, FRESHER AND RELY ON PEOPLE LIKE YOU TO SUPPORT THEM.

YOU WILL FIND THAT YOU NEED TO BE SELF-SUFFICIENT TO SUSTAIN YOURSELF WHEN YOU TRAVEL OUT OF THE MAJOR TOWNS. SO MAKE SURE THAT YOU STOCK UP ON CERTAIN ITEMS BEFORE YOU VENTURE TOO FAR OUT OF THE BIG SMOKE. AS PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED, SUPPORT THE FARMERS. BUT, IN THE SAME TOKEN DON'T RELY ON THE SMALL TOWNS TO HAVE EVERYTHING EITHER. IF YOU ARE ON A BUDGET, AS MOST OF US ARE. YOU REALLY SHOULD STOCK UP ON THE BIG TICKET ITEMS WHEN YOU ARE IN A MAJOR TOWN, AS YOU COULD BE PAYING DOUBLE OR TRIPLE THE PRICE IN A SMALL TOWN.

Happy Snaps



7

TASMANIA IS ONE OF THE MOST PHOTOGRAPHED PLACES IN THE WORLD, THERE IS JUST SO MUCH HISTORY AND THINGS TO SEE AND DO AND YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THE OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE A FEW SNAPS. HAVING A PHONE WITH A CAMERA IS GREAT BUT IT NOTHING LIKE ZOOMING INTO THE ACTION OR TO THE SHOT THAT YOU REALLY WANT. ALSO FOR THE AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHERS LIKE MYSELF, YOU WILL FIND THAT MOST OF THE TOURIST ATTRACTIONS (NATIONAL PARKS) DO NOT ALLOW DRONE PHOTOGRAPHY, SO LEAVE YOUR DRONE AT HOME.

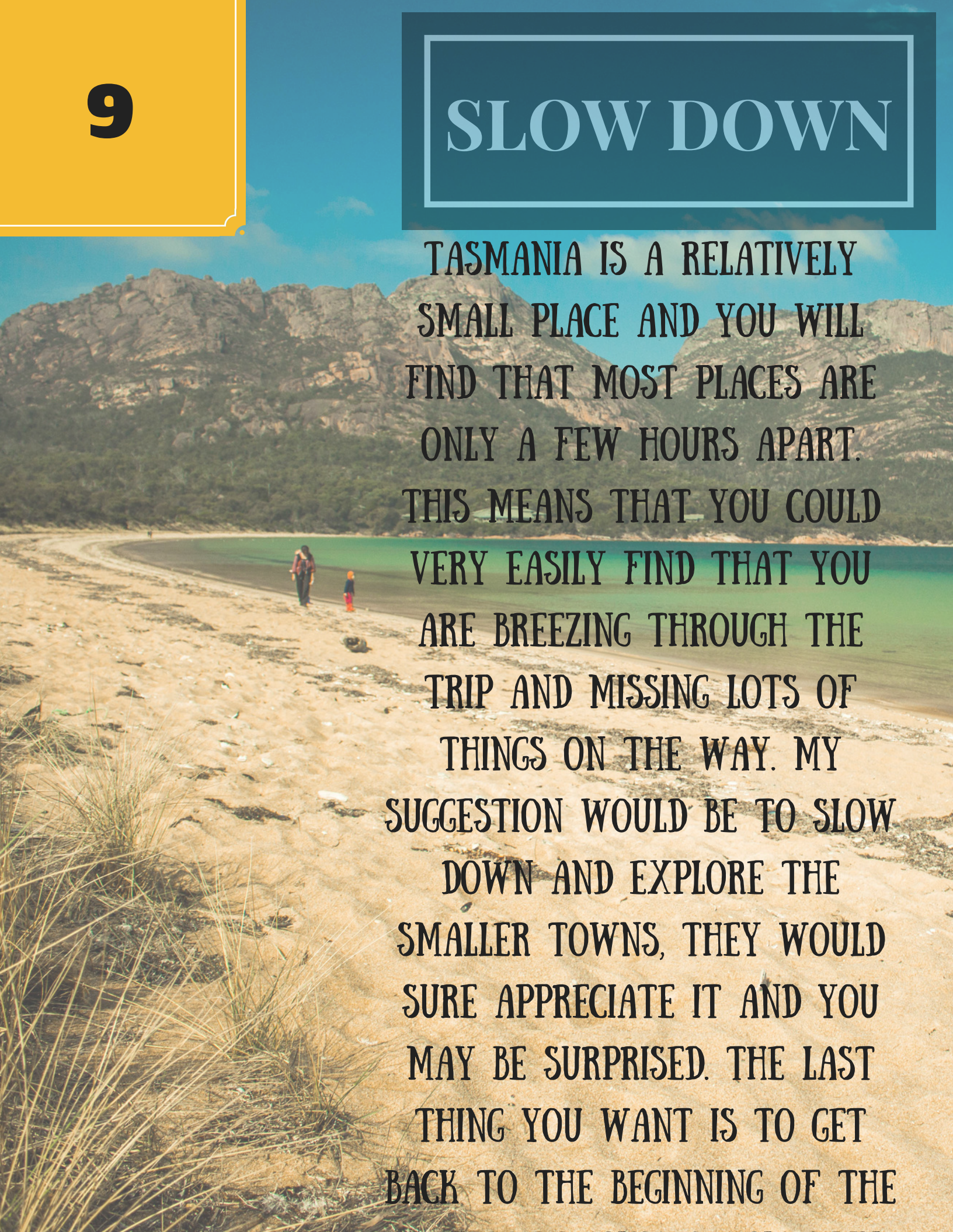


8

Are you a seasoned Traveller?

WE FOUND THAT WHEN WE ARRIVED IN TASMANIA IN AUGUST, A LOT OF PLACES CLOSED FOR THE WINTER. LUCKILY FOR US WE WERE HERE FOR 3.5 MONTHS SO COULD COME BACK TO MOST OF THE PLACES. HOWEVER IF YOU ARE PLANNING ON BEATING THE CROWD, IT MAY PAY TO DO YOUR RESEARCH ON THE INTENDED AREAS OF TRAVEL TO MAKE SURE THAT THEY WILL BE OPEN.

SLOW DOWN



TASMANIA IS A RELATIVELY SMALL PLACE AND YOU WILL FIND THAT MOST PLACES ARE ONLY A FEW HOURS APART. THIS MEANS THAT YOU COULD VERY EASILY FIND THAT YOU ARE BREEZING THROUGH THE TRIP AND MISSING LOTS OF THINGS ON THE WAY. MY SUGGESTION WOULD BE TO SLOW DOWN AND EXPLORE THE SMALLER TOWNS, THEY WOULD SURE APPRECIATE IT AND YOU MAY BE SURPRISED. THE LAST THING YOU WANT IS TO GET BACK TO THE BEGINNING OF THE

10

Slip, Slop, Slap thenSlurp!

WE FOUND THAT BECAUSE THE AIR IS SO PURE,
LESS POLLUTION. YOU TEND TO GET SUNBURNT A
LOT EASIER. THIS MAY SOUND LIKE SOMETHING
THAT NEEDS TO BE TESTED ON MYTH BUSTERS,
BUT BELIEVE ME. EVEN IN WINTER AND THE
BEGINNING OF SPRING, WE FOUND THAT WE
WERE STARTING TO GET A BIT OF A TASSIE TAN
GOING. ESPECIALLY FOR THE KIDS, IF YOU HAVE
KIDS, REALISE THAT THEY HAVE GENERALLY
FAIRER AND MORE DELICATE SKIN THAN US OLD
PEOPLE.

BUM NUTS

DON'T BUY YOUR EGGS FROM THE SUPERMARKETS. IN TASSIE YOU WILL FIND THAT THERE ARE MORE THAN ENOUGH FARMERS SELLING 'BUM-NUTS' STRAIGHT FROM THE CHOOKS TO YOU, WITHOUT ALL OF THE COLD STORAGE ETC. YOU WILL ALSO PAY A MUCH MORE REASONABLE PRICE FOR THE 'FREE-RANGE' THEN YOU WILL FROM THE BIG GUYS.

I WAS VERY SURPRISED BY THE AMOUNT OF TOURISTS THAT WERE HERE IN WINTER. I WAS TOLD BY ONE OF THE LOCALS, "ASIAN PEOPLE LOVE IT HERE IN WINTER." YOU WILL FIND THAT THERE ARE A LOT OF ASIAN TOURISTS HERE, WHICH IS GREAT TO SEE.

YOU WILL ALSO SEE A LOT OF TOURISTS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY THAT BIG CONTINENT NORTH OF TASMANIA. WITH A POPULATION OF AROUND 500,000, BUT AN ANNUAL INFLUX OF APPROX. 1,000,000 OF TOURISTS EVERY YEAR, TASMANIA IS DEFINITELY ON A LOT OF PEOPLE'S TOP TRAVEL DESTINATIONS. BE PATIENT AND UNDERSTANDING OF THIS, AS IT IS A SMALL CONTINENT AND IT COULD GET A LITTLE CROWDED HERE IN THE PEAK SEASON.

13

Highways? Freeways? Where are they?

WHEN YOU START TO GET OUT OF THE MAIN CITIES AND TOWNS, YOU WILL BE SURPRISED BY HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE ON THE ROAD AND HOW SMALL THE ROADS ARE. WHEN WE FIRST ARRIVED IT TOOK ME A FEW WEEKS OF ADJUSTING TO THIS AND OFTEN HAD TO REMIND MYSELF THAT THERE ARE ONLY 500,000 PEOPLE LIVING IN THE WHOLE OF TASMANIA. THERE IS THIS MANY PEOPLE LIVING IN MY HOMETOWN OF NEWCASTLE. WHEN I ASKED A LOCAL IF IT WAS ALWAYS LIKE THIS HE SIMPLY REPLIED, "YEP". YOU WILL FIND THAT EVEN THE ROADS ALONG THE EAST COAST OR WEST COAST (THE MAIN ARTERIAL ROADS) ARE GENERALLY TWO-WAY SINGLE LANE ROADS. SO DON'T EXPECT OVERHEAD BYPASS, 6 LANE SUPER HIGHWAYS IN TASSIE.

Arora Australis

14

MAKE SURE THAT YOU TRY TO AT LEAST SEE THE SOUTHERN LIGHTS, TASMANIA IS ONE OF THE ONLY PLACES IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE THAT YOU WILL EXPERIENCE THE ARORA AUSTRALIS WHICH OCCUR WHEN THE SUN RAYS GIVE OFF BURST OF RADIATION WHICH CAN BE SEEN BY THE NAKED EYE AND IF YOU'RE LUCKY ENOUGH, TO BE PHOTOGRAPHED. SEE TOLD YOU THAT YOU NEEDED A GOOD LENS...

15

NATIONAL PARKS PASS

IT'S A GOOD IDEA TO GET A NATIONAL PARKS PASS FOR THE TIME THAT YOU WILL BE VISITING TASMANIA. IF YOU PLAN ON SEEING A FEW DIFFERENT PARKS, DON'T JUST BUY THE DAILY PASS. GET YOURSELF AN 8 WEEK PASS WHICH WILL ALLOW YOU ENTRY INTO ALL OF THE NATIONAL PARKS INCLUDING, WINEGLASS BAY (FREYCINET), CRADLE MOUNTAIN, FRANKLIN-GORDON WILD RIVERS AND SOUTH BRUNY NATIONAL PARKS, THESE ARE THE MAJOR ONES. IT WILL ALSO ALLOW YOU INTO THE SMALLER ONES.

Devils in the dark

16

TASMANIA HAS SUCH A DIVERSE RANGE OF WILDLIFE AND IT IS CONSTANTLY THREATENED BY VEHICLES THAT TRAVEL AT NIGHT. THE TASMANIAN DEVIL IS AN ENDANGERED SPECIES LIVING ONLY IN TASMANIA, AND BEING NOCTURNAL IT FEEDS AT NIGHT. THE DEVILS FEED ON CARCASSES OF DEAD ANIMALS AND BEING THAT A LARGE PERCENTAGE OF THESE DEAD ANIMALS WHERE STRUCK BY CARS, THIS PLACES THE DEVILS STRAIGHT INTO THE PATH OF ONCOMING TRAFFIC. SO FOR YOUR OWN SAFETY AND THE SAFETY OF WILDLIFE, TRY TO AVOID TRAVELLING AT NIGHT.

DEVILS EVERYWHERE

17

TASMANIA IS ONE OF THE ONLY PLACES ON EARTH THAT YOU WILL GET TO SEE, WATCH THE FEEDING AND IF YOUR GAME, PAT A TASMANIAN DEVIL. THERE ARE MANY PLACES THAT HAVE DEVILS IN CAPTIVITY NOW, AND DUE TO THEIR SUCCESSFUL BREEDING PROGRAMS, WE ARE LUCKY ENOUGH TO SEE THE DEVILS ALIVE TODAY. HOPEFULLY THE DEVILS DO NOT BECOME EXTINCT LIKE THE TASMANIAN TIGER (THYLACINE). WE WENT TO TROWUNNA WILDLIFE PARK TO VISIT AND WATCH THE FEEDING OF THE DEVILS AND IT WAS ABSOLUTELY JAW DROPPING.

ONE OF THE FIRST PLACES THAT YOU SHOULD VISIT BEFORE THE LOCAL PUB, SHOULD BE THE INFORMATION CENTRE IN THE TOWN THAT YOU ARE IN. THEY CAN TELL YOU ALL OF THE PLACES TO VISIT, WHEN, WHERE AND HOW MUCH. THEY CAN EVEN BOOK YOU IN ON TOURS ETC. FAILING THIS, IF THE TOWN THAT YOU ARRIVE IN DOESN'T HAVE A CENTRE, STOP INTO THE LOCAL PUB OR CARAVAN PARK OR ANYWHERE FOR THAT MATTER. BUT MAKE SURE YOU DO, THE TASSIE PEOPLE ARE VERY FRIENDLY AND WILLING TO HELP YOU!

19

GET THE HELL OUTTA THERE!

IF YOU PLAN TO GO OVER TO TASSIE ON THE SPIRIT OF TASMANIA, MAKE SURE YOU PLAN TO GET OUT OF THERE! WE HAVE HEARD COUNTLESS STORIES OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE ONLY BOOKED ONE-WAY TO FIND THAT WHEN THEY WANT TO COME BACK TO THE MAINLAND, THEY HAVE TO WAIT 2-3 MONTHS TO GET BACK. NOW NOT A BAD EXCUSE FOR THE BOSS IF YOU CAN'T GET BACK, BUT THIS COULD BE A MAJOR HEADACHE IF YOU HAVEN'T BOOKED YOUR RETURN TRIP!

Relax!

20

YOU WILL FIND THAT TASMANIA IS ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL PLACES IN AUSTRALIA, LET ALONE THE WORLD TO VISIT. IT HAS WORLD HERITAGE LISTED SITES, SO MUCH HISTORY, UNBELIEVABLE PRODUCE AND PEOPLE THAT WILL WELCOME YOU WITH OPEN ARMS. YOU WILL SOON FIND THAT IF YOU TRY TO RUSH THE TRIP OR THE PEOPLE, IT JUST WILL NOT WORK. THE PEOPLE AND THE WHOLE OF TASMANIA IS ONE OF THE MOST RELAXED PLACES THAT I HAVE EVER BEEN TOO, SO WHEN YOU ARE THERE, YOU HAVE NO EXCUSE.

JUST RELAX!