

retreat | recreate
TASMANIA HANDCRAFTS TOUR
7-14 APRIL 2026

retreat|recreate is delighted to offer this 8 day tour exploring beautiful lutruwita (Tasmania) through the lens of its contemporary and heritage handcrafts

Join us as we embark on this exciting handcraft adventure featuring **SIX fabulous hands-on workshops**. Each workshop honours elements of lutruwita's pristine environments and will be led by respected, talented artists, each mindful of treading lightly on this precious land. The result: six very special experiences and your very own hand-made souvenirs of Tasmania!

Further highlights include visits to: a cultural museum exhibition, stunning Cataract Gorge, on-Country guided riverside and coastal walks, where we'll learn about the ancient culture of lutruwita's First People and how they view and relate to the landscape; sheep and alpaca farms where we'll meet amazing women farmers and learn about sustainable wool growing and fibre production; a wool museum showcasing Tasmania's wool growing history; craft shops and artisan studios where we'll see the work of a variety of artists.

Enjoy Tassie's superb scenery, sample delicious local produce and stitch, create and craft along the way. Plus much, much more!

This exciting handcrafts adventure is not to be missed!
We'd love you to join us!

www.retreatrecreate.com

ITINERARY

as at FEBRUARY 2026



Day 1

Tuesday 7 April

LAUNCESTON Grand Chancellor

Welcome to lutruwita!

To kick off our exciting adventure we'll gather for a **welcome meeting at 1pm** (after lunch) in the hotel lobby. You'll be introduced to your fellow travellers and retreat|recreate host.

We're privileged to take a tour of the superb **'First Tasmanians: Our Story' exhibition** at the **Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery** with a proud Trawlwoolway guide. The ancient culture of lutruwita's First People dates back more than 35,000 years. Our guide is passionate about sustaining culture and engaging both indigenous and non-indigenous communities in respectful conversations. We'll also visit stunning **Cataract Gorge** to learn more about this well-known natural landmark and its significance for the region's First People for thousands of years.

This evening we'll enjoy our first **group dinner** at one of Launceston's fabulous restaurants!

Meals: Dinner



Day 2

Wednesday 8 April

HAWLEY BEACH Hawley House

Today we are privileged to spend time on Country (about 1h, 15m from Launceston) with two Aboriginal Cultural educators.

After a Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony, we'll take a guided walk as an introduction to the significance of the elements of this beautiful location. We'll also learn about the grasses, fibres and materials which were traditionally collected and each **try our hand at weaving and creating string/cordage**.

The age-old methods of collecting, preparing and weaving native grasses are unique to Tasmania and differ from methods used elsewhere in Indigenous Australia. These matrilineal traditions have only recently been revived by the Aboriginal women of Tasmania.

In the late afternoon we'll take a short drive to our accommodation for the next three nights - a coastal historic home set within beautiful landscaped gardens and surrounded by native coastal bushland, stunning beaches and vineyards.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Day 3 **Thursday 9 April**

HAWLEY BEACH **Hawley Beach**

Today's workshop leader is Aukje Boonstra, a textile artist and tutor who specialises in creative embroidery, eco-dyeing and transforming discarded clothing into unique wearables. Her aim is to share her skills and enable others to find creative ways to reuse, recycle, remake and reduce waste.

During our **slow stitching workshop**, we'll each make and embellish a journal cover using a variety of fabrics that have been dyed with seaweed and plants from the local area. Embroidery stitches will be demonstrated and there'll be samples of the artist's finished work on display for inspiration. You may choose to continue to work on your journal cover in the days to come, incorporating inspiration, memories and found objects from our travels.

There'll be **free time** in the late afternoon to relax, have a swim or explore on foot. There are several nearby walks and beaches to choose from and you may be lucky enough to meet some of the local wildlife such as echidna, pademelon, penguins and mutton birds.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Afternoon tea



Day 4 **Friday 10 April**

HAWLEY BEACH **Hawley Beach**

As Tasmania has a history of paper making, today is all about paper!

We're fortunate to meet with Joanna Gair, an artisan paper maker. Jo's museum quality, biodegradable papers are made with a blend of Australian plant fibres combined with post-consumer, recycled textiles, using first century techniques and traditional equipment. We'll learn about the history of paper making, see some of the artist's superb papers and enjoy a hands-on **paper making workshop**. You'll be able to choose from a range of prepared botanicals, thread and fabric. You're invited to bring a small piece of lace for embossing onto your paper if you wish.

After lunch, we'll visit the studio of Stephanie Reynolds, an artist whose passion for paper knows no bounds! Wearable paper art is just one of her areas of expertise and her incredible work has received international recognition.

We'll view the artist's range of paper garments and see examples of various paper-making techniques and treatments. Our **hands-on paper-based activity** will provide you with the basic understanding and inspiration to transform a sheet of paper into a garment.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner



Day 5 **Saturday 11 April**

OATLANDS Kentish Htl & The Lodgings

Leaving the coast, we'll head southward to Tasmania's Midlands. Our time in this region is all about fleece, fibre and yarn.

We'll stop at a historic village where we'll visit the not-for-profit **Tasmanian Wool Centre and Museum** to learn about the history of wool growing in the region.

We're fortunate to be able to visit White Gum Wool, a **1000 acre property** where we'll meet Nan Bray, the shepherdess of a **Saxon Merino** flock. You're sure to be inspired by the Nan's incredible whole-farm vision, passion and commitment to growing ethical, sustainable wool. There will also be an opportunity to purchase some superb yarn (if you wish).

In the late afternoon, we'll check into our renovated, heritage accommodation in the beautiful, historic village of **Oatlands**.

Meals: Breakfast



Day 6 **Sunday 12 April**

HOBART **Lenna of Hobart**

After breakfast, we'll drop into the **Weaver's Cottages Studio** where the work of many and varied local artists and craftspeople are displayed and available for purchase (if you wish – no pressure). Fortuitously, our visit coincides with an exhibition of impressive work by the **Basketmakers of Tasmania**.

Under the instruction of Jude Walker, a master basket weaver, maker and seamstress we'll enjoy a **rock-wrapping workshop**. Using a needle and waxed linen thread, we'll learn to embellish rocks, a technique transferable to other crafts. From this day onward, you're sure to view rocks in a whole new light!

As we head towards Hobart, we'll visit **Toffeemont Alpaca farm** to learn about the properties of alpaca fibre its sustainable production. We'll meet the flock and their delightful owners (one is a spinner and weaver) and see some beautiful, locally produced alpaca yarn and products.

We'll continue on the island's vibrant capital where we'll check in to our fabulous, waterside, heritage accommodation for the next two nights.

Meals: Breakfast, Afternoon tea



Day 7 **Monday 13 April**

HOBART

Lenna of Hobart

This morning we head to the **Huon valley** for an **eco-dyeing workshop**. At a stunning studio overlooking the Huon River, Linda Chee, a fibre artist, author, visual arts teacher and dye specialist will lead us through the fundamentals of natural dyeing using only three local Eucalyptus species.

The workshop will provide an opportunity to experiment with colour and we will also consider design, placement, mordants and the variables which affect the final results. We'll each be able to eco-dye a pair of wool socks (provided).

At the conclusion of the workshop we'll return to Hobart, stopping en route at a **fabulous shop selling vintage Japanese textiles**. We'll learn a little about the owner's favourite collections and there's the option to pick up a few textile treasures if you wish

Our **final group dinner** at one of Hobart's fantastic restaurants will be an opportunity to reflect on our travels, share favourite memories and say farewell to beautiful lutrawita and each other.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner



Day 8 **Tuesday 14 April**

HOBART

Our tour ends after breakfast. There are no activities planned for today.

Unless you have extended your stay at our finishing point hotel, check-out time is 10am.

Hobart has much to offer in the way of things to see and do and venues at which to shop and eat. A list of suggestions will be provided to participants closer to departure. Refer to the Useful Information document provided on the final group tour page.

retreat|recreate acknowledges the lutruwita Aboriginal community as the traditional owners of this island State and its surrounding islands and recognises their continuing connection to the land, sea and community. We pay our respects to past and present Elders, peoples and ancestors of this land and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island people and their cultures.

Meals: Breakfast

Inclusions:

- 8 days/7 nights accommodation as per the itinerary
- 7 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 afternoon teas, 3 dinners
- Transport: private coach, taxi
- **SIX** hands-on workshops and activities (noted in red)
- Entrance to museums, galleries, studios and excursion venues as per the itinerary
- Services of a retreat|recreate host

Exclusions:

- Airfares
- Travel insurance and ambulance subscription
- Early check in or late check out
- Arrival and departure transfers
- Personal spending (souvenirs, phone, laundry etc)
- Meals and drinks not specified in the itinerary
- Drinks with included meals
- Optional activities and activities during free time
- Tips for our driver

Notes:

- A deposit of AUD \$1500 is required to secure your booking * (see below)
- The balance is due no later than close of business on 10 February 2026
- Bookings made after 10 February 2026 must be paid in full at the time of booking
- Maximum group size is 12 participants and 1 retreat|recreate host
- *Minimum number for the tour to proceed is 8. Should we fail to reach a group of 8, the tour will not proceed and your deposit will be refunded
- Details of accommodation, venues, workshop leaders etc will be provided to successful tour applicants once the full group is confirmed

Please refer to the **Trip Notes** and **Booking Conditions** for more details.