



retreat | recreate

Tasmania Handcrafts Tour: 3-10 April 2027

Trip Notes (as at 19 AUG 2026)

Welcome to our April 2027 Handcrafts Tour of lutruwita/Tasmania! We look forward to having you join us as we explore this very special part of Australia through the lens of its traditional and contemporary handcrafts.

This exciting handcrafts adventure is offered by retreat|recreate as a private group tour. The retreat|recreate host for this trip will be Susan Keeble.

These Trip Notes function as your FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) companion. Please read them in conjunction with the tour itinerary.

Please carefully and thoroughly read the **ENTIRE** Trip Notes.

Click on the links below to easily locate specific information.

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Itinerary disclaimer: Some changes to the itinerary may occur due to inclement weather, events, cultural reasons (eg. sorry business <https://www.commonground.org.au/learn/death-and-sorry-business>) or circumstances beyond our control. While we do our best to prevent this happening, it may be unavoidable. It can also happen with little notice so please bear with us if we have to make modifications to the itinerary. There may also be occasions when we will need to make slight amendments to the itinerary depending on the planned exhibitions, venues, activities and their open/closing times and dates. We'll always let you know of any proposed changes to the itinerary.

Is this trip suitable for you?

You should be a fit, active traveller (see requirements below) who understands the importance of being a generous and tolerant group member and who values socially and culturally responsible travel.

Health, Fitness and Mobility

Please carefully and realistically consider your health, fitness and mobility when determining if this trip is right for you.

All travellers need to be in good physical health to participate fully in this itinerary and must be able to:

- navigate arrival and departure airports without personal assistance
- carry their luggage for short distances
- embark and disembark mini-buses, coaches and taxis without assistance
- manage flights of stairs at a moderate pace without assistance. Not all of our hotels have elevators and ground floor guest rooms are not always available and cannot be guaranteed. Some sightseeing locations also have flights of stairs
- participate in walking tours, including walking on uneven terrain
- walk at a moderate speed to keep up with the rest of the group
- cope with warm to hot and sometimes humid weather
- stand for extended periods of time in galleries and museums
- cope with some travel days. Most of our road travel is in a private air-conditioned coach. Regular stops will be made for bathrooms, meals, sightseeing and photographic opportunities.
- use shower over bath facilities, as walk-in showers cannot be guaranteed
- be able to satisfactorily participate in the full tour program as described

This trip is not for you if your fitness is compromised or you use mobility aids. Please carefully consider your physical abilities and contact us if you have any queries before applying for a place.

- We reserve the right to decline an application if we deem your fitness or mobility levels to be a detriment to your own and others' satisfactory participation in the tour
- The minimum age is 18 at the time of travel
- retreat|recreate is able to provide details on mandatory health requirements; however, we are not medical experts. It is your responsibility to ensure that you obtain medical advice at least two months prior to travel for the latest vaccinations, health requirements and recommendations for this destination
- You must carry your own face masks and personal first aid kit at all times, containing paracetamol, bandaids/plasters, motion sickness pills etc, in addition to any personal medications or other requirements (eg. spare glasses, contact lenses, asthma puffers etc). For legal reasons we are prohibited from dispensing any type of drugs including antibiotics and headache tablets. Please ensure that you are personally and adequately prepared as flights, bus trips, lots of walking, weather and unfamiliar food can take their toll.
- There is no longer a requirement for travellers to be vaccinated against Covid-19, however we strongly recommend all travellers are up to date with the recommended Covid-19 vaccination schedule. We also strongly recommend you are up to date with regular vaccinations including flu, tetanus, etc. You should carry your International vaccination certificate with you during your travels – it could provide essential information for doctors in the event that you fall ill while travelling.
- If you exhibit flu, cold or Covid-like symptoms while on tour, you will be required to take precautionary measures to reduce the risk of transmission, including wearing a mask around others. Please bring several masks and rapid antigen tests with you.
- You should consult your travel health expert or doctor for advice and up to date medical travel information.
- If you are prone to motion sickness, you should consider how you might manage this. Sitting by a window and/or using motion sickness pressure wristbands, ginger tablets, Kwell tablets and TravaCalm tablets are measures that have assisted our previous tour participants greatly

Included activities are those specifically listed in the itinerary; any marked as optional are at additional cost. Any activities not outlined in the itinerary are at your own expense. None of the included activities are compulsory however if you take time out from the scheduled itinerary and choose not to participate in some or any of the included activities on this itinerary, the cost of those activities will not be refunded. Of course, we hope and expect that you'll enjoy and participate in the whole itinerary.

Accommodation: The accommodation on this trip is rated at 4 stars according to Trip Advisor with the exception of one night (day 5) at our renovated, heritage accommodation in Oatlands. The accommodation is definitely more than comfortable but not luxury. Please don't expect 5 stars. On rare occasions, we may need to use alternative accommodation due to circumstances beyond our control. Alternative accommodation will be arranged at a similar standard.

Accommodation on this trip is on a twin share basis with a single supplement available at the time of booking if you prefer your own room. The single supplement applies to all 7 nights of the trip. The number of single room places is limited disappointment. Book

early to avoid disappointment.

Twin rooms at some accommodations may have one double/queen bed and a single bed rather than two single beds. At our accommodation on day 5, it may be necessary for some rooms (from within our group only) to share a bathroom.

Solo travellers and room sharing

Solo travellers can elect to share a twin room for the duration of the tour and we will do our best to pair you up with another solo traveller. Note however that if an uneven number of solo guests book this trip, the last to book will need to pay the single supplement. Please be prepared for this eventuality. If you are considering requesting to share a twin room with another solo guest, please consider whether you will be able to cope with another person's potential snoring or different understanding of personal space and quiet. Please be honest with yourself about your capacity to share with a stranger. Please also consider your own suitability as a room buddy – if you use a CPAP machine, regularly get up during the night etc, you may be better suited to a single room (the single supplement applies). Be sure to refer to our tips and suggestions for successful room sharing at <https://retreatrecreate.com/room-sharing-tips-and-suggestions/>

Unless twin share travellers book together, we'll rotate our twin share solo guests each time we move hotels so that they each have the opportunity to share with each other.

Joining point: Our starting point hotel is located in central Launceston. Our tour commences at 1pm on 3 April. Check in is generally available from 2pm. If you arrive before 2pm and your room isn't ready, hotel reception staff can assist with storing your luggage in the meantime.

Finishing point: Our finishing point hotel is centrally located in Hobart. Our tour ends in Hobart on 10 April. Check out time is 10am. If your flight doesn't leave until later in the day, reception staff can assist with storing your luggage until you leave for the airport.

Pre-tour and post-tour accommodation: You may wish to consider booking additional pre-tour accommodation at our [starting point hotel in Launceston](#) and/or post-tour accommodation at our [finishing point hotel in Hobart](#). We can assist you with this, subject to availability. Details and prices will be provided to participants once the tour is confirmed to proceed.

Pre-tour night rates at our Launceston hotel include a buffet breakfast. Post-tour rates at our Hobart hotel are '[room only](#)' and do not include breakfast. Our Hobart hotel has an onsite a la carte restaurant and is also located in close proximity to many cafes, bakeries and restaurants where you'll be able to find a range of breakfast options.

Alternatively, you are welcome to arrange your own pre/post-tour accommodation at our starting and/or finishing point hotels or elsewhere. Options include using your preferred travel agent, Airbnb or online sites like www.booking.com. Please note, if you book pre-tour accommodation other than the starting point hotel you will need to make your own way (at your own expense) from your chosen accommodation to the starting point tour hotel.

Flights to and from Tasmania are not included in the trip price.

- Please don't book flights until you've received confirmation that you have a place on the tour, have paid your deposit, received confirmation that we have our minimum tour group size and the trip is confirmed to proceed.
- The itinerary commences in Launceston. Your arrival flight should be booked to arrive at Launceston Airport (LST). Please ensure you arrange to arrive at our Launceston hotel in plenty of time for the welcome meeting at 1.00pm on Day 1 of our tour. Please have lunch before the welcome meeting.
- Our tour finishes in Hobart, after breakfast at our finishing point hotel on day 8. Your departure flight should leave from Hobart Airport (HBA).
- If you are not comfortable booking your own flights or buying travel insurance online, you may wish to consult a travel agent for assistance.

Arrival and departure transfers are not included in your tour cost.

Launceston airport is 15km and approximately a 15 minute drive from Launceston CBD. You are welcome to catch a taxi or Uber from the airport. At the time of writing, a one-way taxi fare costs approximately A\$40-45 per vehicle, depending on traffic conditions.

Hobart International airport is 19 km and approximately a 20 minute drive to Hobart CBD, depending on the traffic conditions. At the time of writing, a one-way taxi fare from our hotel to the airport costs approximately A\$55. Hobart also has an airport shuttle bus. Tickets cost A\$24 per adult, one way. Full details are at: <https://www.skybus.com.au/hobart-express/> Alternatively, the reception staff at our Hobart hotel will be able to assist you with arranging your transport to the airport.

Transport: mini-bus (on day 1 only), private coach

Meals: 7 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 4 dinners are included in the tour price. Drinks with included meals are at your own expense. One morning tea and two afternoon teas (tea/coffee included) are also included in the tour price. Meals other than those indicated above are not included in the tour price, giving guests some flexibility to set their own budget.

Travellers with special dietary requirements or food allergies are required to advise us at the time of booking. We will endeavour to cater for specific dietary requirements where possible, however we recommend that you carry extra snacks in case suitable options are limited. Please note that if you suffer from a particular food allergy, it is your personal responsibility to ensure that you do not ingest any foods to which you are allergic.

Water: It's safe to drink tap water in Tasmania. We encourage all retreat|recreate travellers to carry their own refillable drink bottle each day and to re-fill these as we travel. Please refrain from buying bottled water to avoid contributing to waste and landfill. NB It takes at least 2 litres of water (in addition to the drinking water in the bottle) and 200ml of oil (fossil fuel) to manufacture a 1 litre plastic bottle. Over 90% of the cost of bottled water can be traced back to the bottle, lid and label!

Safety:

- retreat|recreate has the authority to amend or cancel any part

of the itinerary if it is deemed necessary due to safety concerns.

- Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommended that you check your government's travel advisory site for the latest travel information prior to your departure.
- A neck wallet or money belt for the safekeeping of your money, passport and airline tickets is recommended. Please leave valuable jewellery at home. Some hotels do not have safety deposit boxes for storage of valuables. A lock for your suitcase is recommended.
- Exercise caution when walking at night and take simple measures like carrying your pack on your front, and not hanging your bag over the back of your chair. Maintain the same vigilance you would at home and take sensible precautions.
- Depending on where you come from, traffic may be on the 'wrong' side of the road for you. Remain vigilant and alert, particularly when crossing roads.
- Water safety and swimming pools: Please take care when taking part in any activities in the ocean, river or open water, where waves and currents can be unpredictable. All swimmers should seek local advice before entering the water. You may stay at hotels with unfenced pools and no lifeguard on duty.

Travel insurance is compulsory for all participants on all retreat|recreate tours and is not included in the trip price. We recommend that all travellers take out travel insurance for the expected duration of your trip as soon as you pay your deposit. Insurers will generally allow you to adjust the dates for which you are covered, however if you extend the period of cover, additional charges will apply. Some insurers may charge an amendment fee. Please be sure to carefully note the circumstances under which your chosen insurer will cover you for cancellation.

All participants must provide a copy of their travel insurance policy certificate and their insurance company's 24 hour emergency telephone number. If you have credit card insurance, we need details of the policy number and a 24 hour emergency contact number rather than just the bank's name and credit card details.

Australian travellers are not required to be covered for hospital care due to being covered by Medicare, however it is mandatory for all Australian travellers to have a domestic travel insurance policy which covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment, Covid-19 related scenarios, loss of luggage and personal effects. Australian travellers are also required to have **current ambulance cover/subscription** in case of emergency evacuation or incidents requiring ambulance transportation.

International traveller's travel insurance policies must cover medical expenses including emergency repatriation, personal accident and death. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers cancellation, Covid-19 related scenarios as far as possible, curtailment, personal liability, and loss of luggage and personal effects.

Passports, Travel Permits, Visas and Vaccination Certificates are the responsibility of the individual traveller.

- Australian travellers – must carry photo ID such as a driver's licence or passport at all times. Please ensure the name on your booking matches the name on your ID document.
- International travellers: Must carry their passport at all times. Passports must be valid for at least 6 months beyond the

duration of your trip. Your passport details are required to complete your booking. Please ensure the name on your passport matches the name on your booking form and airline tickets. It is important that you check and re-check the websites of the Australian government, your home country's government website and their travel advisories for the most up to date information. Please ensure you allow adequate time for the application and processing of any necessary documents.

- Entry requirements can change at any time. It's vital that you continue to check the latest entry, visa, vaccination requirements and arrival information, specific to your nationality until departure.
- All International travellers should refer to the following website: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/entering-and-leaving-australia/entering-australia>

Money: The official currency of Australia is the Australian Dollar (AUD or A\$). ATMs are widely available in all major towns and cities throughout Tasmania and are the best way to access money throughout the trip (note though that bank charges may apply to each transaction). Credit and debit cards are readily accepted just about everywhere in Australia. Occasionally there may be a minimum purchase requirement in smaller shops. You can usually withdraw money from shops where EFTPOS is available. Credit cards in Australia require a pin number rather than a signature and may have a small surcharge for purchases.

Spending money: Every traveller is different and spending money requirements will vary. Please consider your own spending habits when allowing for drinks, meals not included in the tour, shopping, optional activities, gifts and souvenirs, and tipping.

Tipping is not expected but appreciated in Australia. Tipping is an entrenched feature of the tourism industry and can be an appropriate way to recognise great service.

Tipping is appropriate in restaurants (10-15% as a general rule). In a taxi, cafe or bar, rounding up is acceptable.

If you are happy with our driver's services, a tip would be welcome. Our driver will be with us for 5 days and will leave the group after delivering us at our Hobart hotel on the afternoon of Day 7. You are welcome to tip according to your perception of the quality of service, if you wish.

Emergency funds: Please make sure you have access to an additional A\$1000 for emergencies or in case of unforeseen circumstances (eg. severe weather, natural disaster, civil unrest etc) or other events that necessitate last minute, unavoidable changes to the itinerary (airport closures, transport strikes or cancellations). In such emergency circumstances, the additional cost of any necessary itinerary alterations will be covered by you. Please note we are not responsible for any incidental expenses that may be incurred as a result of the change of itineraries including but not limited to visas, vaccinations or non-refundable flights.

Phone and internet:

Internet access is available at all our hotels, however you must have internet access throughout the tour and during each day (not just at our hotels) to allow phone contact (via WhatsApp) with the retreat|recreate host and fellow guests, for access to online maps and in case you get separated from the group or lost while we're

out and about and we need to call you. This is important! We use a WhatsApp group for this purpose during the tour and to share messages and reminders of meeting times/places etc. We'll start the group WhatsApp chat a week or so prior to departure. Please download the WhatsApp App to your phone, before you leave home and at least two weeks prior to departure.

Australian travellers may wish to consider topping up their mobile phone with extra data before the trip.

International travellers may choose to purchase an eSIM, an Australian SIM card and credit, or a global roaming package from your mobile/cell provider before leaving home so you have access to online maps and can be in phone contact with your host and fellow guests (we'll set up a WhatsApp group for this purpose).

Options for Internet access include:

- Purchase an eSIM such as Airalo or Holafly. This allows you to keep your existing physical SIM and phone number.
 - If you purchase an Airalo eSIM you're welcome to use the code SUSAN1062 for a small discount.
 - If you opt for a Holafly e-SIM, feel free to use [this link](#) to receive a small discount.
- Purchase a global roaming package from your mobile/cell provider before you leave home

Note that if you need to download or update any smartphone Apps for use while you're travelling, you should do so before you leave home as your local App Store doesn't always work in another country.

Weather and climate: Tasmania has four distinct seasons with April generally being warm (but not hot) and mostly dry. Daytime temperatures average 17-20C and can drop to an average of 9-11C overnight. However, daily weather conditions can be somewhat unpredictable and may change very quickly from sunshine to wind and rain. We suggest you come prepared for a range of temperatures with some lighter clothing for the sunshine and some warm, protective layers for the colder and possibly wet days.

What to pack: Travellers will receive a suggested packing list for this tour closer to departure. Generally speaking, you should pack as lightly as possible as you will be expected to manage your own luggage and walk with it for short distances. It is also essential that you check the weight and dimensions of luggage allowed by the airline(s) you'll be flying with.

- **One** small to medium sized soft bag, backpack or suitcase and
- **One** small bag or daypack/backpack to carry water, sunscreen, medical kit, camera etc. for day trips.
- Please ensure your luggage is clearly labelled.
- Layers of clothing are a good way to deal with daily temperature variations.
- Our transport provider cannot guarantee to carry overweight or oversize luggage. Any excess luggage will need to be freighted at the passenger's own expense.
- A packing list for this tour will be provided to confirmed travellers closer to departure. In the meantime, please refer to the general suggested packing list on the website: <https://retreatrecreate.com/suggested-packing-list/>

Tour host: This tour will be accompanied by retreat|recreate host, Susan Keeble. The aim of the host is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible.

A list of craft and textile-based activities, venues, shopping locations, galleries, museums, restaurants and experiences additional to those included in the itinerary will be provided to participants closer to departure.

A couple of rules:

- You must at all times comply with local laws, customs, foreign exchange and drug regulations.
- Any illegal activity including the use of illegal drugs will not be tolerated. Possession or use of these substances is not only against the law but puts the rest of the group at risk.
- If you choose to consume alcohol while travelling, we encourage responsible drinking, and expect that you'll abide by the local laws regarding alcohol consumption.
- Everyone has the right to feel safe. We don't tolerate any form of violence (verbal or physical) or sexual harassment.
- By travelling with us you are agreeing to adhere to these rules. The retreat|recreate host has the right to remove any member of the group for breaking any of these rules, with no right of refund. If you feel that someone is behaving inappropriately while travelling with us, please inform your retreat|recreate host immediately.

Emergencies or other issues: While we endeavour to provide the best experience possible, due to the nature of travel, occasionally things can go awry. Should any issue occur during the trip, please discuss this ASAP with your retreat|recreate host so we can do our best to rectify the problem promptly. Refer also to the [Money](#) section regarding Emergency Funds.

Responsible Travel is all about making good, culturally sensitive choices. It's about ensuring you have an incredible trip while also having a low impact, or rather a positive impact on the local environment, community and economy.

How can you be a responsible traveller?

- Try to avoid buying bottled water. Fill a reusable water bottle with drinking water instead.
- Say 'no' to plastic bags. A retreat|recreate cloth shopping tote will be provided in your welcome pack on day 1.
- Always dispose of litter thoughtfully, including cigarette butts.
- Consider offsetting your travel and flight carbon emissions with an organisation such as <https://ecologi.com>.
- Eat at local restaurants (rather than chains) and buy from regional artists so you can contribute directly to their local economy. Supporting local artisans helps keep arts and crafts alive.
- Always ask and receive permission before taking photos of people, including children.
- Always be respectful of local customs, traditions, religion and culture.
- Dress modestly and respectfully, particularly around places of worship.
- Be an animal-friendly traveller. Steer clear of venues that use animals for entertainment or abnormal activities and/or keep animals in poor and unnatural conditions.
- Please also refer to our website page: <https://retreatrecreate.com/responsible-tourism/>

Travelling on a group trip:

As you travel on a group trip you will be exposed to all the pleasures and possibly some of the frustrations of travelling in a group. We ask you to be understanding of the various needs and preferences of your group – patience with your fellow travellers is sometimes required for the benefit of everyone's travel experience. Remember too that you have responsibilities to the group. If you are requested to be at a certain place at a certain time, please be on time and ensure that you don't keep the rest of the group waiting. We have found time and time again that the very best trips we operate are those where the dynamics within the group work well - this takes just a little effort on everyone's part.

Bring a sense of humour and a sense of adventure!
We're going to have a wonderful trip!

Any other questions?

Please email Susan at retreatrecreate@gmail.com