

FREYCINET HIGHLIGHTS

Explore a peninsula of pink granite mountains, pure white beaches and turquoise sea in Freycinet National Park.

Capture the perfect contours of Wineglass Bay on your camera. Then swim, boat, fish, snorkel and scuba dive from the dreamy white beach. Go abseiling in the Hazards and four wheel drive to Cape Tourville Lighthouse, where the view will make you dizzy. Surf from Friendly Beaches and sea kayak next to dolphins in Honeymoon Bay. Meet wetland birds in Moulting Lagoon and spot migrating humpback whales on a boat cruise. Bushwalk past Aboriginal middens and learn about the French explorers who first discovered this paradise. At the end of the day, relax in a lodge overlooking Great Oyster Bay with a meal of fresh seafood and glass of wine made from local vines.

NATURAL BEAUTY

Trek across the jagged peaks of the Hazards for a spectacular view over Wineglass Bay, where dusky pink mountains, blue-green sea and white sand meet. You'll see sea birds, Tasmanian wildflowers and detailed rock pools on the hour-and-a-half walk there. Then descend through forest to the remote, sandy beach. You can also jump on a scenic flight from Friendly Beach and see the magical Freycinet Coast from the air. To really commune with Freycinet's natural wonder, take a boat from Coles Bay and go castaway in a wilderness camp at Bryan's Beach.

ADVENTURE

Abseil down a granite sea cliff in the Hazards and climb the steep grey crags of Whitewater Wall and Lassies Wall. Four wheel drive to the cobblestone shore of Bluestone Bay and Cape Tourville Lighthouse, a spot with unforgettable

views. Fish, swim and surf at the Friendly Beaches, then camp overnight on the white sand. For a challenge on foot, trek and camp the 27-kilometre trail across the Hazard Ranges. Or walk to Wineglass Bay Lookout for a view you will always treasure. Sail into Wineglass Bay on a catamaran. Or sea kayak at twilight to Honeymoon Bay and other sheltered coves and beaches. If you'd like an expert guide at your side, join a boat tour to spot whales and dolphins or learn about the constellations of the southern sky.

WILDLIFE

Swim with dolphins in Wineglass Bay. Cruise around Great Oyster Bay and see white-bellied sea eagles gliding overhead and large Australasian gannets diving for food. If a little penguin isn't fishing right near the Coles Bay jetty you may spot one further out. Jump on a boat to Schouten Island and see dolphins leap and whales follow ancestral migration routes between June and September. Snorkel or dive round Coles Bay and Great Oyster Bay and see hundreds of colourful fish swimming amongst the seaweed, sponges and rock. Keep an eye out for the rare New Holland mouse around the Friendly Beaches. Get up close to wallabies, possums, echidnas and potoroos on one of the many bushwalks. In the wetlands of Moulting Lagoon, just outside Freycinet, you can watch black swans, pelicans, and pied oyster catchers wake to a new day.

HISTORY

See burnt shells from the large Aboriginal middens on Richardsons Beach and learn about the Great Oyster Bay and Big River



Aboriginal tribes who foraged here for seafood and swan eggs on a guided tour. Hear the tales of shipwrecked whalers, early settlers and French explorers on a sea kayaking tour around Freycinet's pristine beaches and secluded coves. The rich history of Tasmania's East Coast is written in its place names. Freycinet Peninsula was named after French voyages while Schouten Island was christened by earlier Dutch navigators.

FOOD AND WINE

Sample freshly shucked oysters at the Freycinet Marine Farm or watch from the deck of a boat as they are harvested. Try pinot noir, chardonnay, sauvignon blanc and riesling at the seven cool-climate wineries within an hour's drive of Freycinet. Do a food and wine tour with a knowledgeable Freycinet local. Or enjoy a mouthwatering meal with a log fire at a lodge looking over Great Oyster Bay. This mild and sunny peninsula is famous for succulent grass-fed beef and lamb, full-flavoured game meats and fresh-off-the-boat seafood, including crayfish, scallops and those salt-sweet oysters.