

# TASMANIA

Katarina: Today we are going to talk about Tasmania. Separated from mainland Australia, Tasmania is a land apart – a place of wild and beautiful landscapes; friendly, welcoming people; a pleasant, temperate climate; wonderful wine and food; a rich history; and a relaxed island lifestyle.

Anja: Tasmania is an island, located 240 km off the south-east corner of mainland Australia. Next stop south is Antarctica, 2000 km away. Some say Tasmania has the world's cleanest air, their food and wine is known all around the world. Tasmania is also a natural island. The European heritage dates back to 1803, while Tasmanian Aboriginals first reached here 40,000 years ago.

K: Tasmania is quite unlike any other Australian state. Tasmania is living, breathing history. The older houses never have that cold, stale, unused feel about them. The farmland is a perfect setting for the buildings. And because Tasmania is so small, the settlers spread around the country quite quickly, building towns, farms, just like they did in England.

A: Want to move in Tasmania? Houses are among the most affordable in Australia. Tasmania's comprehensive road system links all of its major cities and towns. Tasmania's education system offers academic, personal development and social instruction for all ages. School is obligatory from ages 6 to 16. Tasmania's health services are both accessible and high quality. Jobs are easy to get.

K: Climate : Tasmania has 4 different seasons: Summer, Autumn, Winter and Spring. Even in winter they have clear blue sky and sparkling sunshine. The average summer temperature is a comfortable 21°C and winter's average is 12°C.

A: There are lots of things and places to see in Tasmania, like Cradle mountain, Flinders and Kings Island, Franklin and Gordon Rivers, Hastings Caves State Reserve, Vineyards & Wine Routes, Russell Falls...  
~ Cradle mountain covers nearly 125k hectares that were shaped during the last ice age. It has more than 25 mountain peaks, waterfalls, lakes...  
~ Russell Falls is one of the best known in Australia. It is so beautiful and pretty much everyone's idea of how a waterfall should look.

K: Wildlife: Tasmania's isolation from mainland Australia has ensured the survival of many plants and animals that are rare, or even extinct elsewhere in the country. In many areas on even a short bushwalk you can come across a wombat or wallaby. Many of the animals are nocturnal, so your best chance of spotting one is in the evening.

Tasmania is home to living dinosaurs – plants that date back to the Gondwana super-continent 95 million years ago – and trees so tall they appear to touch the sky.

A: Food, wine and farming: Tasmania is well known for its wine and food. In Tasmania you are never far from farms. Meats, cheese, most fish and seafoods, exotic mushrooms are produced all year long, and there are many different

seasonal fruits, vegetables, fish, herbs... In Tasmania, farmers have always been particularly exposed to rural recession. The whole island is known for its clean, green, gourmet food.

K: Did you know? The population is around 480.000. Tasmania has more than 2000 km of walking tracks and 18 national parks. Tasmania welcomes gay and lesbian visitors. The State is well known for its friendliness, and you'll find a warm welcome extended wherever you choose to stay, eat or visit.

A: Tasmania is a land of things to do and see. Anything from walking, diving, boating, caving, playing golf, horseriding... So if you'll ever had the opportunity, go there and have some fun ☺





<=Tasmanian beach



<=Wallaby



<=Cradle mountain



Huge eucalyptus tree, Derwent Forest

<=Big trees



<=Russell falls