

## Native Animals

There is an abundance of native wildlife in the area, so watch for roaming Kangaroos, Wombats, Wallabies, Tasmanian Devils and Eastern Quolls. Even Eagles sometimes land on the roads, so it is safer to reduce your speed. Many of the animals of the Tarkine are moving about during the day and night. Please drive slowly and help us to protect our precious wildlife. Please do NOT feed the wildlife.



## Important Information

Please make sure your car is reliable and that you carry extra supplies. If you break down you should stay with your car and wait for the next motorist. Consider accompanying maps, mobile phone coverage is unreliable, and please take your rubbish with you.

Car hirers please check the suitability of your route with your hire car company.

Due to the remote and rugged terrain of this region, some roads are narrow and winding.

During wet weather, roads can become slippery. Unsealed roads can become extremely dusty during dry periods. For your safety and comfort it is wise to check road and weather conditions before starting your journey.

Much of this unique area is environmentally sensitive. Help us to protect this remote and beautiful area. Please stay on roads and dispose of litter only where bins are provided or on reaching your destination. **DO NOT FEED THE WILDLIFE.**



Although the roads in the area are well signposted, it is important to drive cautiously, check your fuel and allow ample time to reach your destination.



## Travelling Times and Distances are Based on Safe Speed and Good Road Conditions

### STANLEY TO SMITHTON:

20 MINUTES / 22KM / 100 KMH / SEALED

### SMITHTON - MARRAWAH:

45 MINUTES / 49 KM / 100 KMH / SEALED

### MARAWAH - ARTHUR RIVER:

10 MINUTES / 12 KM / 80 KMH / SEALED

### ARTHUR RIVER - COUTA ROCKS:

20 MINUTES / 18 KM / 80 KMH / SEALED

### COUTA ROCKS - WESTERN EXPLORER C249:

10 MINUTES / 16 KM / 80 KMH / SEALED

### WESTERN EXPLORER - CORINNA:

2 HRS / 78 KM / UNSEALED

### CORINNA - ZEEHAN:

1 HRS / 48 KM / UNSEALED FIRST 12 KM, SEALED FOR 36 KM

### ZEEHAN - STRAHAN:

30 MINUTES / 43 KM / SEALED

## Experience Tasmania's unique Western Explorer

The Western Explorer route links Stanley in the North West to Strahan on the West Coast and takes you through some of the State's most beautiful and isolated areas.

Road travellers can expect a unique experience, exploring a region steeped in early mining history, surrounded by wilderness and remarkable scenery. The landscape is wild and rugged with a climate that can vary from snow to brilliant sunshine in one day.

This guide will provide you with valuable information about the road conditions between Stanley and Strahan, however be prepared: If you break down, the roads are isolated and you may experience a long delay before another traveller or assistance comes.

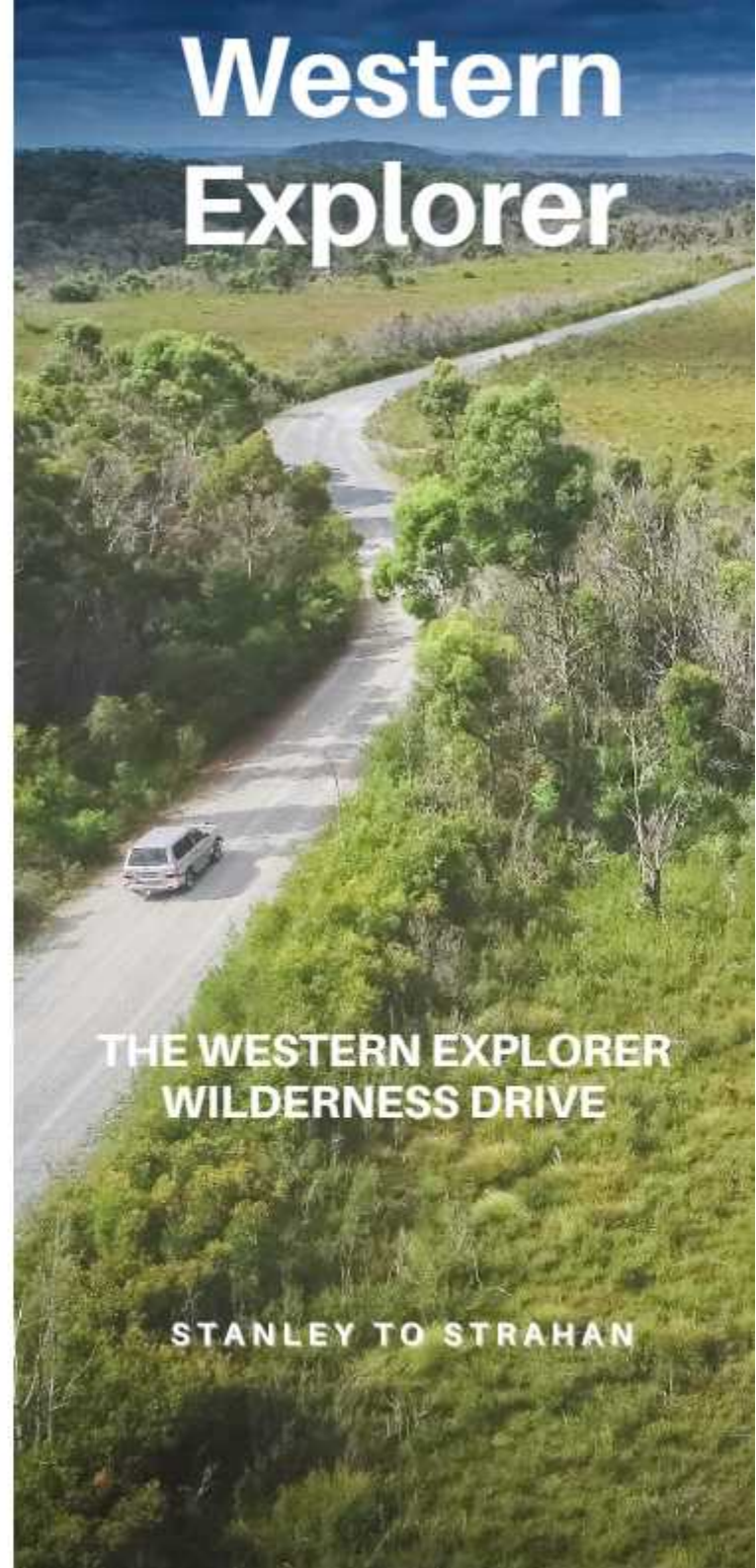
### Contact us

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# Western Explorer



## THE WESTERN EXPLORER WILDERNESS DRIVE

## STANLEY TO STRAHAN





#### STANLEY B21

Stanley, a small historic town rich in heritage and situated by the sea is a must see experience. A major drawcard is the Nut, the remnants of an ancient volcanic lava plug rising to 152 meters with incredible 360 degree views. The Nut Chairlift offers a stunning ride to the top, however it is closed in the winter months. A walking track is also available. Stanley has an abundance of historic sites, including Highfield House, a self-guided heritage walk, Joe Lyons Cottage and Discovery Museum. You will find welcoming accommodation, quaint specialty shops, delectable cafes & restaurants, pristine beaches, and a Penguin viewing platform with red sensor lighting for safe viewing. The penguins can be observed around dusk from Sept to March.

#### SMITHTON A2

Situated on the Duck River, Smithton is a major centre for dairy (Duck River Meadows Robotic Dairy & La Cantara Cheese factory), beef (Cape Grim Beef), fishing, vegetable farming (McCain's) and sawmilling industries (Britton Bros). It has a range of accommodation, caravan park, restaurants & cafes, supermarkets, with many shopping and retail options.

#### SMITHTON TO KANUNMAH BRIDGE VIA EDITH CREEK B22 C218

This sealed section of the road passes through lush dairy country (Dutch Mill Dairy) where paperbarks and blackwoods line the road.

#### STANLEY TO MARRAWAH B21 A2

The Bass Highway is sealed from Stanley to Marrawah. Marrawah has accommodation, meals (Tavern), store and a picnic ground. At Green's Point you will find wild surf beaches and rocky headlands. There are barbeque, toilet facilities, cold showers and camping area. Marrawah is the last petrol station stop before Zeehan.

#### MARRAWAH TO ARTHUR RIVER & COUTA ROCKS C214

The road is sealed to Arthur River and Couta Rocks. This is part of the Tarkine Drive. Arthur River is an important Aboriginal cultural area with many campsite middens along the coastline. Visit the edge of the World and breathe in some of the worlds freshest air.

Arthur River Cruises operate relaxing tours on the river, through 12 km of forest to the Frankland River junction from Sept to May. Canoes are available for hire.

South of Arthur River the forests give way to open button grass plains, in the spring and summer, spectacular wild flowers colour the area.

From Couta Rocks to the start of the Western Explorer the road is sealed.

#### WESTERN EXPLORER TO CORINNA C249

The Western Explorer Road offers a wonderful wilderness experience. While unsealed, it is suitable for two wheel drive vehicles. It travels through the world's largest remaining stretch of temperate rainforest. Allow extra time, slow down and drive with care.

Just north of Corinna at the base of Mt Donaldson, you will find the road has many steep climbs and bridged river crossings.



#### CORINNA & THE PIEMAN

Nestled on the northern bank of the Pieman River, Corinna was a historic mining town and a bustling port in the late 1800's gold rush. It now offers you Eco one and two bedroom cottages with a restaurant, wilderness walks and a cruise along the Pieman River on the historic Huon pine vessel Arcadia II. Bookings are essential.

The 'Fatman' Barge operates between 9am and 7pm in the summer and 9am and 5pm outside daylight saving hours. (Charges apply). The crossing takes approximately ten minutes and the carrying capacity is 6.5 tonnes, with maximum vehicle measurements of 2.46 m wheel base and 2.50 m body width. The maximum combination wheel base is 9.0 m and the minimum caravan under body clearance 0.2 m.

#### CORINNA TO ZEEHAN C249

The first 12 km of the road to Zeehan has unsealed sections, narrow and winding. You will need to be alert and take extra care. From the Reece dam junction, the road is sealed. It passes the Granville Harbour wind farm on the right with the wind turbines dominating the landscape. You pass by the entrances to the Coastal communities of Granville Harbour, and Trial Harbour which was once a bustling port. The Trial Harbour road leads to the first purpose-built MTB Trail on the West Coast, with expansive 360 degrees views not found elsewhere in Tasmania. Rated Green, the trail can be enjoyed by all riders.

Just outside the township of Zeehan take a short detour down Fowler Street to the historic Spray Tunnel. This abandoned railway tunnel is 100m long and leads to the former Spray Silver Mine. The tunnel is unusually shaped like a keyhole, approximately 3 metres high, 2.2 M wide and 100m long. In the main Street of Zeehan is the West Coast Heritage Centre, encompassing seven hectares and housing over 30 themed displays and exhibits.

#### ZEEHAN TO STRAHAN B27

Most of this 46km sealed road follows the line of the former railway between Zeehan and Strahan, with gentle curves and inclines. Midway is the Lookout providing expansive views to Ocean Beach, Henty Sand Dunes and Cape Sorell Lighthouse in the distance.

After crossing the Henty River travel approximately 5km and turnoff to the Henty Dunes Picnic area. The giant dunes reach heights of around 30m and extend 15km along the coast.

Nestled on the shores of Macquarie Harbour, Strahan is the gateway to Tasmania's World Heritage area.

Boat cruises provide an unforgettable journey through World heritage Wilderness into the pristine temperate rainforests of the Gordon River. Visitors experience a tour of the historic convict settlement Sarah Island and travel through Macquarie Harbour's entrance "Hells Gates."

Strahan is also one of the departure points for the historic train journey - West Coast Wilderness Railway, as well as the well-known performance "The Ship That never was" running from September to May.