

GREAT EASTERN DRIVE



Friendly Beaches,
Freycinet National Park
© Stu Gibson



Wombat, Maria Island © Stu Gibson

Josef Chromy Wines © Scott Spörleeder, Matador

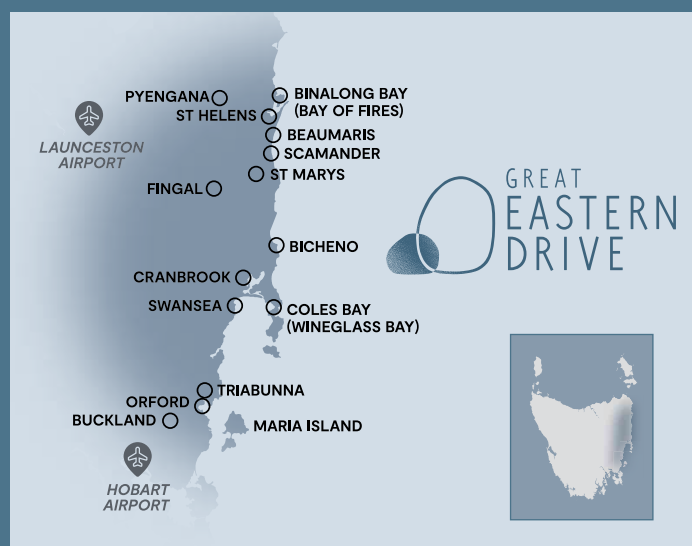
THIS IS A ROAD TRIP OF COASTAL BEAUTY AND LIFE'S SIMPLE PLEASURES

— The Great Eastern Drive is one of five drive journeys that span a network of roads and potential itineraries across Tasmania. Each drive journey is designed to showcase a diversity of travel experiences within that region, as a way to help travellers plan their road trips according to their interests and available time.

The Great Eastern Drive meanders through laidback seaside towns along a stunning stretch of coastline and uncrowded, white-sand beaches, and into the hinterland. Take in the perfect arc of Wineglass Bay and national parks threaded with walking tracks.

Enjoy the rare pleasure of meeting the people who harvest and shuck the oysters you're eating. Make time for cellar-door chatting and tastings at boutique wineries near Cranbrook.

Take a break at Triabunna and catch the ferry to Maria Island, a national park criss-crossed by walking trails, and full of geological wonders and fascinating human history. This is a car-free haven for abundant wildlife, especially wombats. This is a special place to observe – but not touch – wildlife in its natural habitat.



HIGHLIGHTS

COASTLINE Wineglass Bay, Friendly Beaches, Irapuna/Bay of Fires.

WILDLIFE AND ADVENTURE Maria Island, Douglas-Apsley Gorge, Mount William National Park, penguin tours, East Coast Natureworld, St Helens Mountain Bike Trails.

WINE AND SEAFOOD Wineries along the Cranbrook to Bicheno stretch, Freycinet Marine Farm, Oyster Bay Tours, fresh seafood dockside at Bicheno and Triabunna.

See these [itineraries](#) for inspiration.

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TASMANIA

COME DOWN FOR AIR





Geographe Restaurant
and Espresso Bar
© Stu Gibson

WHERE TO EAT

— Here are some refuelling options while road-tripping in Tasmania. These eateries are uniquely Tasmanian, with a focus on fresh, seasonal and regional ingredients and warm hospitality. Bookings are recommended; check venue websites for opening hours and other details.

Eastcoaster Tasmania, Orford

The Terrace is open for breakfast and morning and afternoon tea, while Spring Bay restaurant is open for lunch and dinner. Dine in or take away.

The Fish Van, Triabunna

This wharfside van serves just-caught seafood from Triabunna's fleet – cooked on the spot or ready to take away for DIY cooking.

Saltshaker Café and Restaurant, Swansea

Seafood and pizza with views of Great Oyster Bay.

Bark Mill Tavern and Bakery, Swansea

Dine in or take away from the bakery, the grill or the bar.

The Geographe Restaurant & Espresso Bar, Coles Bay

Casual dining with remarkable views; the menu focuses on wood-fired pizza and local seafood.

Freycinet Marine Farm, Coles Bay

An ocean-to-plate experience, serving just-shucked oysters, as well as mussels, salmon, abalone, rock lobster (known locally as crayfish) and scallops.

Freycinet Lodge, Coles Bay

The lodge has three eateries: upmarket The Bay Restaurant, casual Richardson's Bistro, and Hazards Bar and Lounge.

The Lobster Shack, Bicheno

Relaxed all-day dining showcasing local seafood, with an oceanfront deck.

Furneaux Restaurant & Comptoir, St Helens

Fine dining with French and modern Australian influences.

The Wharf Bar & Kitchen, St Helens

Bistro fare in a relaxed waterfront location. Dine in or take away.

Meresta Eatery, Binalong Bay

Casual dining with ocean views; expect seafood and wood-fired pizza and grills. Dine in or take away.



The Fish Van, Triabunna © Rob Burnett

Freycinet Lodge © Courtesy of RACT Destinations