



Waterlilies in full bloom in the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens

# A Botanical Tour of Tasmania with the Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens (AAFBG)

24 – 30 October 2021

3 nights Launceston – 3 nights Hobart



Jon Baines  
tours



A misty, early spring morning in the garden at Old Wesley Dale

**Run in association with the Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens, this boutique tour to Tasmania explores the many and varied botanical, historical, culinary and scenic offerings of this small but richly endowed island state.**

The diversity of Tasmania's vegetation is remarkable and includes some of the most ancient plant species on Earth, the tallest flowering trees, the oldest plant clones and a

high proportion of endemic species. Its pristine natural beauty and outstanding local food and wine form an ever-present backdrop to its rich culture and history, and of course its many beautiful and historic gardens.

This bespoke tour with the AAFBG examines the diverse botany of Tasmania, with a wide range of specialist visits and fascinating talks by botanical experts.

## Tour Leader

Now semi-retired, **Kate Heffernan**'s career in horticulture spans more than 40 years. The last two decades have been spent in professional and volunteer roles with Gold Coast Regional Botanic Gardens (GCRBG) and as a consultant to other botanic gardens in Queensland and Victoria. Kate is a former Chair of BGANZ Queensland, later National Representative, and also a member of BGCI and AAFBG. She has made presentations at Australian and international conferences.

Kate was also a vocational horticulture and landscape teacher, undertaking the development of many community landscape projects on the Gold Coast and Brisbane as a practical component of student training. A feature writer from 2003, Kate wrote for journals including Horticulture Australia, weekly articles for Gold Coast papers and was Saturday Morning Garden presenter for ABC Gold Coast. Kate recently published a book 'Celebrating Regional Biodiversity', which tells the story of the unique South East Queensland flora through the lens of GCRBG.



A keen traveller, with an emphasis on garden-based travel, Kate has led tours to the gardens of France, United Kingdom, Ireland and a wildflower tour to Western Australia. She has travelled widely in Australia and overseas. Kate has been awarded the Gold Coast Australia Day Environmental Achievement Award for her role in the establishment of GCRBG; Queensland Australia Day Award for Vocational Training and was Gold Coast Teacher of the Year. With husband Alan Donaldson, Kate is an Honorary Life Member of Friends of GCRBG.

Emu Valley (from page 8)



## 3 nights Launceston – 3 nights Hobart

### Day 1: Launceston (Sun, 24 Oct)

**B L**

**Am:** Visit City Park in Launceston, including the historic John Hart Conservatory, for a private tour with the head gardener, Wally Medwin. Onto Cataract Gorge Native Reserve for a guided walk with a native plant specialist, Roy Scabo.

**Pm:** Welcome lunch at Josef Chromy Wines with wine tastings. Visit Franklin House, a rare, convict-built colonial estate that includes a Victorian kitchen garden. Return to the **Grand Chancellor Hotel** and overnight.

### Day 2: Launceston (Mon, 25 Oct)

**B L**

**Am:** Visit Old WesleyDale at Mole Creek, an English Arts and Crafts garden. Hear an introduction talk and visit the gardens. Continue to Wychwood Garden and rare plant nursery and hear an introduction talk and visit the garden and nursery.

**Pm:** Drive to Mayberry for a lunch at the Marakoopa Garden Café. Hear a talk and visit the garden at Mayberry. Visit Culzean, an historic garden at Westbury with significant trees, sweeping lawns, perennials, a dam and a lake.

### Day 3: Launceston (Tues, 26 Oct)

**B D**

**Am:** Drive to Emu Valley Rhododendron Garden, known for its design with over 24,000 rhododendron and companion plants. Emu Valley has a lovely café for lunch (at client's own expense).

**Pm:** Travel to Tasmanian Arboretum at Devonport for a guided tour with the president to see its collection of trees set in 66 hectares.

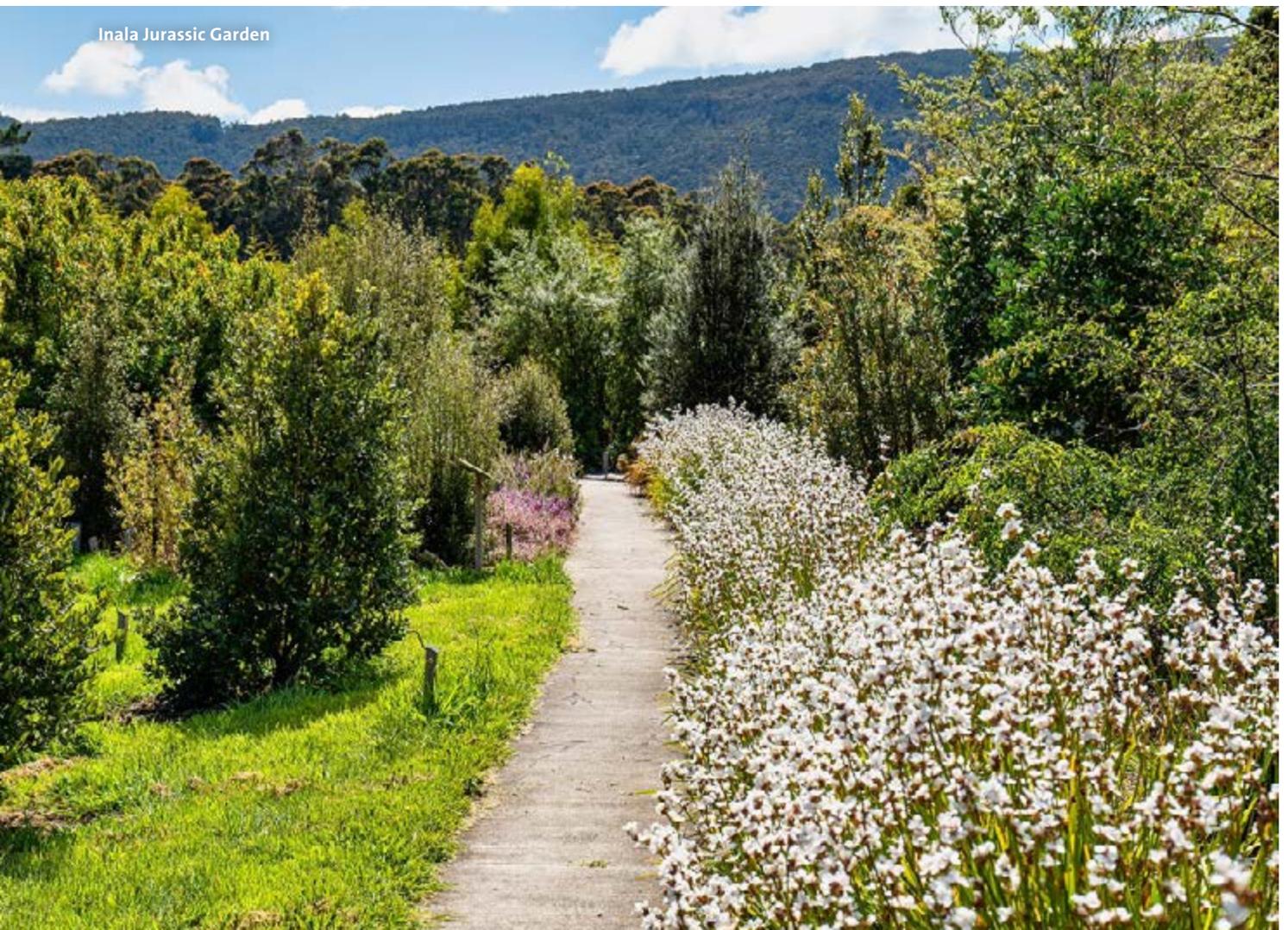
**Eve:** Dinner at the Grand Chancellor Hotel.

### Day 4: Launceston /Hobart (Wed, 27 Oct)

**B D**

**Am:** Visit historic Strathmore Garden at

Inala Jurassic Garden





Joseph Chromy vineyard and lake

Evandale, known for its heated, walled garden, for a talk and tour. Onto Patterdale, the homestead of the artist, John Glover. Hear a short talk in the studio followed by self-guided tours of the house and garden.

**Pm:** Visit Ross with time at leisure for lunch. Tour the Shene Estate with its whisky and gin distillery, including tastings and snacks. Arrive and check into **Hadley's Orient Hotel**.

**Eve:** Dinner at the hotel.

### **Day 5: Hobart (Thur, 28 Oct)**

**B L**

**Am:** Visit the Edible Precinct with the coordinator. Onto the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens in Hobart for a hosted tour by the Friends of the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens in Hobart.

**Pm:** Lunch at the RTBG café. Visit the garden of the accomplished garden designer, Susan McKinnon.

### **Day 6: Hobart (Fri, 29 Oct)**

**B L D**

**Am:** Drive to Kettering and take the ferry to

North Bruny Island and drive across the neck to South Bruny Island and Adventure Bay. This sheltered bay was visited and used as a re-watering site by Captains Cook, Bligh, Furneaux and D'Entrecasteaux, amongst others. Visit the Inala Jurassic Garden and see examples of the flora of Gondwana and learn of the relationships, similarities and differences between the plants of the southern continents that made up Gondwana. Time at leisure with opportunity to see the plant fossils in the museum.

**Pm:** Visit Sprockelwood Art Garden for a light lunch and visit the garden designed and created by artists in 1998. Return to Hobart.

**Eve:** Farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

### **Day 7: Hobart (Sat, 30 Oct)**

**Am:** Depart Hobart, with option to visit the famous Salamanca Market.

**NB:** All itineraries are subject to change according to local conditions.



A pink form of *Eucryphia lucida* (leatherwood) selected by Ken and Leslie Gillanders who ran Woodbank Nursery



Gatekeeper's Cottage, Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens



Inala Jurassic Garden



From Susan McKinnon's garden



Susan McKinnon's garden



*Banksia menziesii* (top); *Isopogon cuneatus* (above)

**The cost of the tour is \$2,880 per person sharing**

**The cost includes:**

- The services of tour leader, Kate Heffernan
- 6 nights' accommodation in twin-bedded rooms with private facilities in medium grade hotels

**The single room supplement is: \$580**

- Breakfast and lunch or dinner daily (lunch at Josef Chromy with wine and farewell dinner with wine)
- Gin and whisky tastings on 27 October
- All specialist talks and visits and admission fees
- Online PDF brochure
- GST
- All transport services

**The cost excludes:**

- Meals not mentioned and drinks with meals
- All optional excursions, tours and visits
- Arrival and departure transfers.

Ross Bridge



# About Us

To travel with us is to dig below the surface, revealing the deeper destination. Of course, you will visit the great historical sites; marvel at the wonders of architecture and engineering; be moved by the riches of culture and art; and experience the most spectacular landscapes in the world. What we also do is make sure that you see the country as it is today, giving you privileged access that independent travel and other tour companies rarely get close to. We give you a variety of experiences, from the sublime to the humble, in the company of intelligent, curious, like-minded people. And while we can be worthy, we also make sure that you have a lot of fun.

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Cataract Gorge (top); Launceston;  
*Liriodendron* flower (Arboretum); Shene Distillery (above)



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