A misty, early spring morning in the garden at Old WesleyDale

A Botanical Tour of Tasmania

with the Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens (AAFBG)

29 October – 5 November 2022

4 nights Launceston – 3 nights Hobart

"All garden visits were exceptional with dedicated people keen to show us around and share their vision."

Murray Fletcher and Vicki Glover, participants AAFBG Botanical Tour Tasmania Feb 2022

Australian Association of Friends of Botanic Gardens

Jon Baines tours

Waterlilies in full bloom in the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens

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.

"The visits were excellent. The variety of gardens chosen made for an excellent tour."

Beth and Raoul Dixon, AAFBG Botanical Tour Tasmania Feb 2022

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.

"Tour leader (Kate Heffernan) was excellent; friendly, informative and outgoing."

Merrill and Arthur Shulkes, participants AAFBG Botanical Tour Tasmania Feb 2022

Emu Valley

Itinerary 29 October – 5 November 2022

B = Breakfast L = Lunch D = Dinner

4 nights Launceston – 3 nights Hobart

Day 1: Launceston (Sat, 29 Oct)

Pm: Arrive and check into the hotel

Eve: Welcome drinks

Day 2: Launceston (Sun, 30 Oct) B L

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

Pm: Welcome lunch at Josef Chromy Wines with wine tastings. Visit the famous rose garden at Woolmers.

Day 3: Launceston (Mon, 31 Oct) B

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 to hear hear an introduction talk and visit the garden and nursery.

Pm: Visit Culzean, an historic garden at Westbury with significant trees, sweeping lawns, perennials, a dam and a lake.

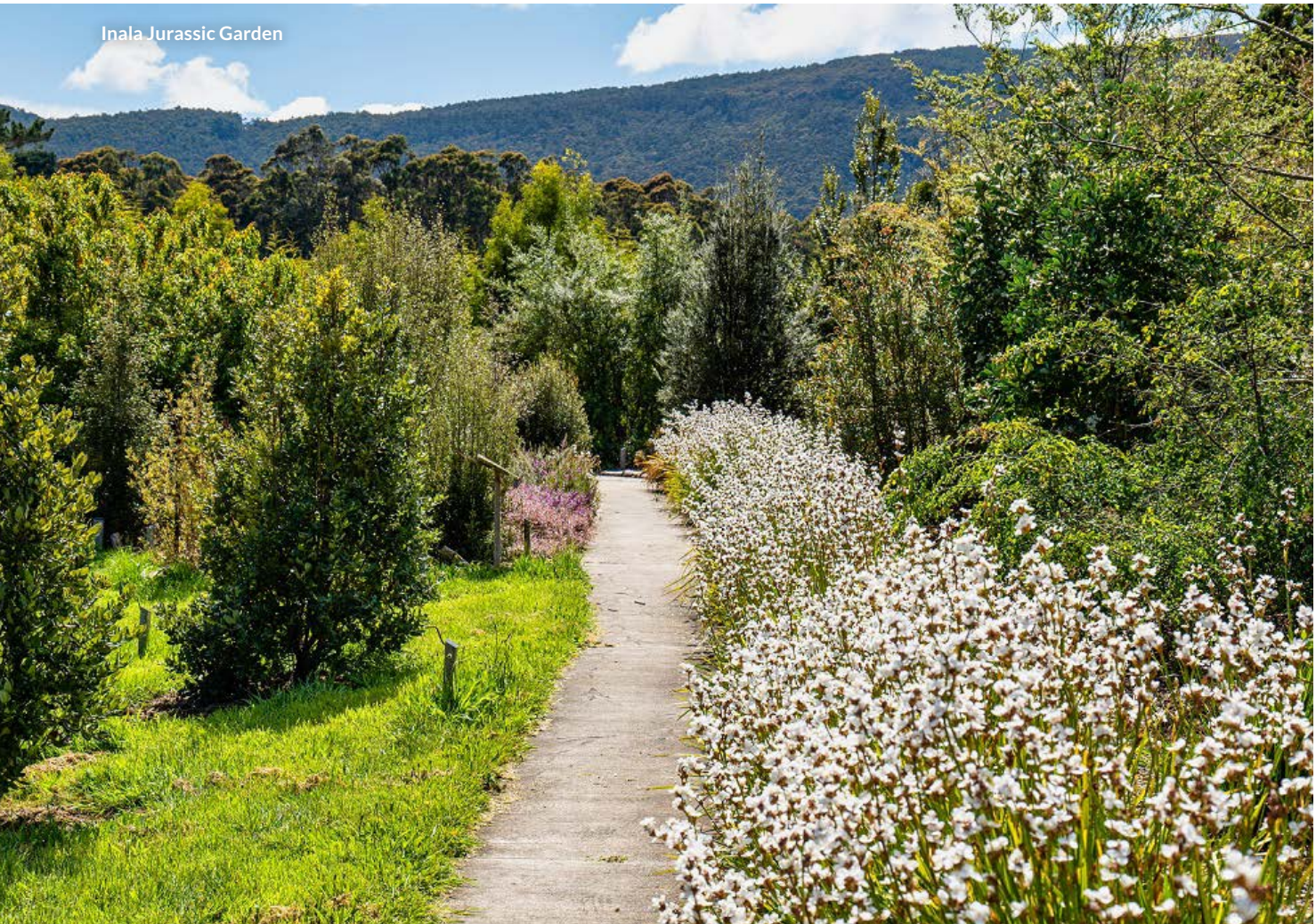
Day 4: Launceston (Tue, 1 Nov) B

Am: Visit Riverside Park and the native plants nursery. Meet with the horticulturalists and members of the Tasmanian Native Plants Society.

Pm: 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).

Day 5: Launceston / Hobart (Wed, 2 Nov) B Gin / Whisky tasting

Am: Visit historic Strathmore Garden at Evandale, known for its heated, walled garden, for a talk and tour. Onto Patterdale, the homestead of the artist, John Glover. Hear a talk in the


Inala Jurassic Garden

Joseph Chromy vineyard and lake

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. Overnight at Grand Chancellor Hobart Hotel.

Day 6: Hobart (Thur, 3 Nov) B D

Am: Visit the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens in Hobart for a hosted tour by the Friends of the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens in Hobart.

Pm: Visit the Edible Precinct with the coordinator.

Eve: Dinner at Mures overlooking the ocean.

Day 7: Hobart (Fri, 4 Nov) 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 Sprokkelwood Art Garden for a light lunch and visit the garden designed and created by artists in 1998. Return to Hobart.

Eve: Farewell dinner.

Day 8: Hobart (Sat, 5 Nov) B

Am: Depart Hobart, with the 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

Crab apple blossom, Sprokkelwood

The Edible Precinct

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

The cost of the tour is $3,480 per person sharing a room

The cost of the tour is $4,160 per person with a room to yourself

The cost includes:

- The services of tour leader, Kate Heffernan
- 7 nights' accommodation in twin-bedded rooms with private facilities in at Grand Chancellor Launceston and Grand Chancellor Hobart*
- Breakfast daily
- Lunch at Josef Chromy with wine, tea and box lunch on Day 7, farewell dinner with wine at Mures
- Gin and whisky tastings on Day 4
- All specialist talks and visits and admission fees
- AAFBG donation
- GST
- All transport services

** Rooms in Hobart are mountain view rooms. We have a number of harbour view rooms for a supplement, see below.*

The cost excludes:

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

Additions:

- Additional night on arrival $238 per room ($218 if one person per room)
- Additional night on departure $330 per room ($304 if one person per room)
- Upgrade to a larger executive room in Launceston for $90 per room for the three nights
- Upgrade to a harbour view room in Hobart for $150 per room for the three nights

"Overall the tour was hugely enjoyable, entertaining and edifying."

Pamela Coghlan, participant AAFBG Botanical Tour Tasmania Feb 2022

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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www.atol.org.uk/ATOLCertificate

Jon Baines Tours (London)
Hyde Park House, 5 Manfred Road, London, SW15 2RS
Tel: +44 (0) 207 223 9485 / 5618
Email: info@jonbainestours.co.uk
www.jonbainestours.co.uk

Jon Baines Tours (Melbourne)
PO Box 68, South Brunswick, Victoria 3055
Tel: +61 (0) 3 9343 6367
Fax: +61 (0) 3 9012 4228
Email: info@jonbainestours.com.au
www.jonbainestours.com

USA and Canada:
(Toll Free) 1-8777-398-764

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

Jon Baines tours

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