

## OVERNIGHT VISITOR INFO

# Maria Island National Park



## WELCOME

An overnight stay is a great way to experience all that Maria Island has to offer as you will have more time to explore the island's walks, beaches and historic buildings and ruins.

Book a night or two in the Penitentiary (basic bunkroom accommodation) or camp at Darlington, Frenchs Farm or Encampment Cove.

## Things to do

**RELAX:** let time slip by from the veranda of the Penitentiary.

**SWIM:** watch the setting sun from one of the island's stunning beaches.

**PHOTOGRAPHY:** the early morning and evening provide the best light to capture the beauty of the island.

**HISTORY:** take a step back in time and learn about Maria Island's history in the Coffee Palace (no coffee available!).

**EVENING WALK:** provides the best opportunity to view Maria Island's abundant wildlife including the Tasmanian Devil – prepare to be amazed.

**STAR GAZING:** don't forget to look up – on a clear night the night sky will simply leave you in awe.

## What to take

Please note that you will need to be self-sufficient. Bring your cooking / eating utensils and sleeping gear as none is provided on island.

Take all food with you – it cannot be purchased on the island. All packaging / waste you bring must be taken with you off island on departure. There are no rubbish bins on island.

There are gas barbeques in the campground shelter and gas stoves in the Mess Hall in Darlington.



WATER



FOOD



COOKING GEAR



INSECT REPELLENT



SUNSCREEN



FIRST AID KIT



STURDY SHOES



WATERPROOF JACKET



HAT & SUNGLASSES



WARM HAT & GLOVES



SLEEPING GEAR



NO HAMMOCKS

## Accommodation

### PENITENTIARY ACCOMMODATION

Please call in to the Maria Island Gateway in Triabunna to check in. Check in time is 2pm and check out is 10am. Before check out, please ensure that your room is swept clean, benches wiped down and all rubbish is taken with you. Guests can leave their luggage in the Laundry Room, which is located next to room 1.

Note that linen, blankets or pillows are not provided and that the rooms have no electricity and cannot be locked. Please use the firewood that is provided sparingly and do not stack it or place clothes, bedding or other flammable materials within two metres of a wood heater. Please use the clothes lines inside the Laundry Room to hang wet clothes or other items.

### CAMPGROUND ACCOMMODATION

No bookings are required. Frenchs Farm is a fuel stove only area. Campfires are only allowed in the fireplaces provided at Darlington and Encampment Cove. The use of campfires is subject to seasonal fire restrictions.

All campers must register and pay fees at the Maria Island Gateway in Triabunna for emergency management purposes. Camping fees apply in Darlington. No fees are payable for camping at Frenchs Farm and Encampment Cove. For details of these campsites please refer to [www.parks.tas.gov.au](http://www.parks.tas.gov.au).

Camping is not permitted at any other location in the park. Please follow reserve signage instructions in relation to the use of campfires within the park.



## LUGGAGE

Hand trolleys are located at the end of the Darlington Jetty to transfer your luggage to the Penitentiary or campground – please return the trolleys to the jetty after use so they can be used by others.

Please contact the Maria Island Gateway prior to your visit if you have accessibility concerns.

## SCHOOL AND ORGANISED GROUPS

All school and other organised groups need to contact us to make a campground or Penitentiary booking. If there are 20 or more people in your group, you will need to appoint a Chief Warden and register group details at the information centre.

## Leave no trace

**RESPECT WILDLIFE: Do not touch, feed, chase or pick-up any wildlife.** It can make them very sick and they can bite!

**USE OF HERITAGE BUILDINGS:** Darlington is the most representative and intact example of a probation station in Australia which is the reason for the site's World Heritage Area listing. Its 14 convict buildings and ruins are preserved in a layout that reflects the key features of the probation system in Van Diemen's Land. The site has remained relatively unchanged since the convict era.

Please remember that all the buildings in the park are significant and fragile. To protect them:

- Do not sit on or climb any buildings and walls.
- Leave what you find – don't remove artefacts or parts of historic structures.
- Use bike racks provided – do not lean bikes, firewood or luggage against buildings.
- Do not use hammocks on any buildings.
- Cook and eat inside the Mess Hall, not inside your room in the Penitentiary.

**FOOD AND WILDLIFE:** please help keep our wildlife wild. Do not feed animals. Keep all food in an airtight container with a secure lid or in one of the lockers provided in the campground shelter – locks are not provided, bring your own if you wish. Devils and possums will follow the scent of food. Do not store food in your tent, hang it on trees or use it to attract wildlife. Secure your food and rubbish containers with heavy-duty straps. If you are camping at Frenchs Farm or Encampment Cove, securely store your food in your pack and leave it in the vestibule of your tent.



## Walking

### LONGER WALKS

Please note that Robeys Farm and Haunted Bay are best accessed by camping overnight at Frenchs Farm or Encampment Cove. For shorter walks please refer to *Day visit information* brochure.

### WALK SAFELY

**PLAN:** know your route, take a map, walk within your capabilities.

**BE PREPARED:** wear clothing and footwear suitable for the weather, activity and track conditions. Tasmanian weather is often unpredictable – take extra clothes and equipment to protect you if the conditions change.

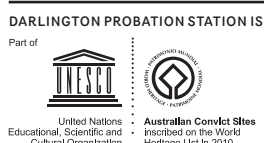
**AVOID WALKING ALONE:** walk with friends and stay together.

**REGISTER YOUR WALK / RIDE:** register your trip in the walker's log book at the Commissariat Store or Rangers Station in Darlington using the name and phone number used on your ferry booking.

### TIMES & DISTANCES RETURN FROM DARLINGTON

	RATING	WALKING	CYCLING	KM
Mount Maria	DIFFICULT	8 hrs	3-5 hrs	16
Frenchs Farm	EASY	6 hrs	3 hrs	22
Encampment Cove	EASY	8 hrs	4 hrs	24
Point Lesueur Convict Cells	EASY	8 hrs	5 hrs	28
McRaes Isthmus (northern end)	EASY	8 hrs	8 hrs*	28
Robeys Farm	MODERATE	12 hrs	8 hrs*	38
Haunted Bay	MODERATE	14 hrs	8-10 hrs*	40

\*Note: cycling to these destinations is not recommended. Tracks from McRaes Isthmus are very sandy and difficult to ride.



### MORE INFORMATION:

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