The Tarkine has many faces, and its richness extends even further beyond its globally significant rainforests. It is a natural and cultural treasure trove of almost 370,000 hectares.

The Tarkine is a priceless gem. A combination of dramatic and breathtaking wilderness, abundant wildlife and a deeply layered history has created a wild and sacred place.

The rugged west coast forms the Tarkine’s most distant extremity, where gigantic waves from the Southern Ocean pound jagged rocks and endless stretches of pristine beaches, framed by undulating dunes.

These coastal heath lands conceal Aboriginal middens accumulated over thirty-five thousand years by the tarkiner people, the first inhabitants.

From exposed mountains to intricate caves, the Tarkine is vast and diverse, but the most enduring memories are forged in the rainforests.

The Tarkine is ageless, powerful and awe-inspiring. Whether you explore the Tarkine by foot, bike, car, air, boat, or guided tour, you will behold scenery that will leave you breathless and eager to see what’s around the next corner.

This Guide contains information on trip planning, activities and suggested itineraries. Find more information at discoverthetarkine.com.au
**Location**

The exact demarcation of this area has yet to be finalised but is bounded roughly by the Southern Ocean to the West, the Arthur River to the north, the Pieman River to the south, and the Murchison Highway to the east. The Tarkine covers approximately 370,000 hectares. The area can be accessed from several points. To get to the Arthur River, take the A2 west from Stanley for 55 kilometres to the dramatic and wild surfing beaches of Marrawah, then continue 18 kilometres south along the C214. To get to Corinna travel 50 kilometres north from Zeehan on the gravel C249 and for Waratah travel 64 kilometres south from Somerset on the A10 via Hellyer Gorge State Reserve.

**Climate**

The Tarkine region has a moderate climate with an average maximum summer temperature of 22°C, while average winter maximum is 14°C. Here you can experience the distinct difference of the seasons from long summer days, to wind swept fire-lit nights. Wet weather usually takes place in winter, which makes the Tarkine a great winter destination with all the amazing waterfalls available to see.

**Tarkine Name**

For 35,000 years the Tarkine has been the home to the Tasmanian Aboriginal tarkiner people who inhabited the Sandy Cape region of this island’s wild west coast. The name Tarkine means belonging to, or of the tarkiner. The Aboriginal community know it as (‘tar-keen-nee’) and continue a strong cultural connection to this special place today.

**Transport**

If you are coming from interstate you can fly Regional Express into Burnie or QantasLink into Devonport airports direct from Melbourne Airport. Both flights are just under an hour. Alternatively you can board the Spirit of Tasmania in Port Melbourne and arrive in Devonport eleven hours later. Hire cars are readily available in Burnie and Devonport.
On the border of the Tarkine is the town of Arthur River, which is the starting point for beach and forest explorations, wildlife viewing, bird-watching and cruises aboard the MV Reflections or the MV George Robinson. There are facilities for camping, picnics and barbecues.

South of Arthur River is the Western Explorer, an unsealed road that takes you to the tiny settlement of Corinna, on the Pieman River, just over 100 kilometres (62 miles) south. Here the Fat Man punt will carry your car across the water so you can continue your journey. Beforehand, you can take a river cruise to a wild beach strewn with huge logs washed up by a furious Southern Ocean.

The Tarkine and its unique beauty spans a significant region of north-west Tasmania, encapsulating three gateway townships; Arthur River, Corinna, and Waratah.

We have divided the Tarkine into regions (the NW, the E, and the SW) for your convenience so as to give you an idea of where you can find an activity that suits you.
The rugged west coast is the Tarkine’s most distant extremity. At Arthur River gigantic waves from the Southern Ocean pound jagged rocks and endless stretches of beaches.
1. **Edge of the World**

Experience the wild Roaring 40s winds that have created the rugged coastline of the Tarkine. The ‘Edge of the World’ viewing platform is at the Arthur River township, just south of the bridge over Arthur River.

2. **Wild Coast Beaches**

The road from Arthur River township to the outpost fishing hamlet of Temma gives ready access to the coastline in many places. From Arthur River, walk up the rocky coast to Bluff Hill Point (one to two hours). Or spend the day walking amid massive sand dunes from the ‘Edge of the World’ south toward Sundown Point. Couta Rocks to Sarah Anne Rocks is a short half-hour walk that gives a taste of the rugged coastline. Detailed information on Bluff Hill Pt walk at discoverthetarkine.com.au

   > Walks: half hour– full day

3. **Dip Falls**

A short but steep walk leads to the base of the magnificent Dip Falls. Or across the bridge, a level walk and viewing platform provides unsurpassed views of the top of the falls. The water flows over hexagonal basalt columns, formed from the cooling of this volcanic rock. Opposite the car park, a gravel path will take you to the remains of an old boiler which powered a mill for sawing blackwood in the 1920s.

   > Short walk

4. **Big Tree**

A further kilometre along the road, the Big Tree grows amongst spectacular wet eucalypt forest. The boardwalk around the base of this tree lets you get up close to one of the many forest giants of the Tarkine.

   > Short walk
**Tarkine Forest Adventures @ Dismal Swamp** (Attraction & Café)
Take a gentle buggy ride or slide 110m down into the world’s only Blackwood sinkhole forest. The café’s lunch menu specialises in local produce and Tasmanian wine. Open daily 9am - 5pm (November - March). Daily 10am - 4pm (April - October). Closed Christmas Day.
26059 Bass Highway, Togari
Tel: (03) 6456 7199
www.adventureforests.com.au

**AR Reflections River Cruises** (Guided Tours)
Day cruises up the Arthur River past the Frankland River junction. A fly bridge deck provides 360 degree viewing of myrtle, sassafras, celery-top pine, laurel, blackwood, and giant tree ferns. Cruise departs daily at 10.15am returning at 4.15pm (September - mid June).
4 Gardiner Street, Arthur River
Tel: (03) 6457 1288
www.arthurriver.com.au

**Arthur River Cruises** (Guided Tours)
The MV “George Robinson” departs from the mouth of the Arthur River and cruises 14 km up to the junction of the Arthur and Frankland Rivers.
Cruise departs daily at 10am returning at 3pm (September - end May)
Arthur River Road Jetty, Arthur River
Tel: (03) 6457 1158
www.arthurrivercruises.com
Tall Timbers “Edge of the World” & Tarkine Wilderness Helicopter Experience (Guided Tours)
Take a scenic helicopter flight over spectacular coastlines, the original Van Dieman’s Land Company property at Woolnorth and the rainforest canopy of the Tarkine Wilderness. Contact Tall Timbers Tasmania for tour departures, itineraries and prices. All flight operations are subject to weather conditions.
Scotchtown Road, Smithton
Toll Free: 1800 628 476
(within Australia)
Tel: (03) 6452 9000
www.talltimbershotel.com.au

Did you know?
The Tarkine has some of the cleanest air on earth and home to the largest uninterrupted expanse of ocean on the planet.

Tall Timbers 4WD Tours (Guided Tours)
Venture out on a full-day tour aboard the Tall Timbers Tasmania 4WD for a truly memorable and unique experience exploring the “Edge of the World” region of Tasmania. Tours operate on demand and depart at 9:00am returning at 6:00pm from Tall Timbers Hotel at Smithton.
Scotchtown Road, Smithton
Toll Free: 1800 628 476
(within Australia)
Tel: (03) 6452 9000
www.talltimbershotel.com.au
Balfour Track

Follow an old packhorse track along Stephens Rivulet. The track was cut around the turn of last century for prospectors and packhorses to reach the remote mining town of Balfour. Cross the river at Kanunnah Bridge and head down the Blackwater Road (C21a) for 4.7km. If you have two cars, one can be left at the other end of the track, a further 4km down Blackwater Road.

> Short walk: 3hrs return

Kanunnah Bridge

View the rapids of the Arthur River as it travels through tall blackwood forest. These blackwoods are reputed to be the largest, tallest and straightest in the world. The word ‘Kanunnah’ is an Aboriginal word for the Tasmanian Tiger.

Sumac Lookout

For views of the Arthur River and its rainforested banks, take the left turn after the Kanunnah Bridge and then turn left onto the Sumac Road. Drive up the hill for 1.7km to reach the lookout.

South Arthur Forest Drive

This drive allows easy access to the northern fringe of the Tarkine, covering the State’s North-West corner. Travelling through forest reserves and working forests. Picnic facilities and forest walks are provided at both the Julius River and Milkshakes Forest Reserves, while other interesting places include the Sumac Lookout and the picturesque walk through Lake Chisholm Forest Reserve to a beautiful sinkhole lake. This well-signed drive offers a variety of opportunities from river fishing, canoeing, and camping to walking and barbeques.
**Did you know?**

The Tarkine has 24 published walks and hikes, and another 30 discreet unfrequented treks where you will be lucky to see another person.

---

**9 Julius River**

There are two easy walks here for you to experience the mossy myrtle forests of the Tarkine. In summer enjoy the sweet aroma of the flowering leatherwoods. In winter view the colourful abundance of fungi. Or just sit back and indulge in a picnic or barbeque.

> Short walk: half to 1hr

---

**9 Lake Chisholm**

Lake Chisholm is a permanently flooded sinkhole. No creeks or rivers flow out of this deep pool of water. Nestled amid towering eucalypt giants and rainforest species, the lake reveals crystal clear reflections on its mirror-like surface.

> Short walk: half hour

---

**10 Dempster Plains**

Gaze across the open buttongrass moor lands to the Norfolk Range in the Tarkine wilderness. These plains have a long history of burning by Aborigines, and many plant species rely on fire to regenerate. There are numerous threatened plants here, such as the beautiful white-flowered heath Epacris curtisae.

---

**11 Milkshake Hills**

A short walk leads through manferns and rainforest. A longer walk takes you through a succession of rainforest and wet eucalypt forest onto buttongrass plains with views.

> Short walk

---

**12 Tayatea Bridge**

Easy access to the Arthur River from the northern bank.

---

There are several great touring loops and roads in and around the Tarkine that provide great access points to different parts of the Tarkine. We recommend you purchase a 1:250,000 scale map of North-West Tasmania which allow you to orientate yourself to the main roads and access points to the region.
The historic mining village of Waratah has many features of interest, including the Waratah falls, the ‘Town of Tin’ mining heritage trail, Athenaeum Hall and the ‘Stamper Mill’.
13 **Hellyer Gorge**

Marvel at the majestic Hellyer River travelling through an immense system of gorges before it joins the wild Arthur River. A ten minute walk from the picnic area takes you through the rainforest to the tranquil waters of Hellyer Gorge. Or enjoy a longer 30-minute walk along the river from the bridge on the opposite (western) side of the road. Watch out for rare sightings of the giant freshwater crayfish.

> Short walk: 10-20 min

15 **Philosopher Falls**

This walk has it all – explore the Arthur River following an historic mining race and find the waterfalls that was discovered by ‘Philosopher’ Smith while in search of tin and silver. From Waratah, drive for 10km in the direction of Corinna along the B23 and look out for the turnoff just before Arthur River bridge. It’s a short distance down this gravel road to the walking track car park. The track winds through eucalypt and myrtle rainforest to the headwaters of the Arthur River. From here follow the historic water race as it cuts through the steep rocky banks of the river. Workers built the race by hand early last century to take water to power the tin mines near Waratah. The track follows this water race with vistas looking down over the river, before a steep descent to a viewing platform beside Philosopher Falls. Detailed information inc map visit discoverthetarkine.com.au

> Short walk: 1.5 hrs

14 **Waratah Falls**

Located right in the centre of town, walking distance from the Tarkine Interpretation Centre and Gallery. A new track has been made to the base of the falls for you to enjoy the spectacular gush of the Waratah River over the craggy falls.

> Short walk

16 **Whyte Hill**

Drive 10km south of Waratah towards Corinna and view the amazing expanse of the Tarkine from Whyte Hill. From here you can see Australia’s largest rainforest unfold before your very eyes.
**Tullah & Rosebery**

Tullah sits next to the picturesque Lake Rosebery, at the foot of 712m high Mount Farrell.

**Mt Farrell**

Enjoy views across the Tarkine and to Cradle Mountain and beyond. The walk begins near Tullah petrol station and is well signposted. The walk is steep and rough underfoot, suitable only for experienced walkers. Wear good walking shoes, and carry warm clothes and a raincoat – the weather can quickly change here.

> Day walk: 4 hrs

**Montezuma Falls**

Follow the route of the historic North East Dundas Tramway as it winds through rainforest to the base of Montezuma Falls. At 104m, these are the highest waterfalls in Tasmania. The track is well suited for mountain bikes as well as those on foot. From the Murchison Highway (A10), look for the signposted turn off 2km south of Rosebery.
Kenworthy’s Stamper Mill
(Attraction)
This building houses working machinery used by a local, Dudley Kenworthy, who continued prospecting near Mount Bischoff mine after it closed in the 1940s. Visitors can view the stamper mill in operation as it has been restored to full working capacity. Open daily 7.30am - 4.30pm Monday to Friday. 8am - 5pm Saturday and Sunday.
Main Street, Waratah.

Tarkine Interpretation Centre and Gallery
(Attraction)
Tarkine information, local touring brochures, maps and books are available. Exhibitions of local significance are displayed in the Gallery.
Opening hours are from 10am - 2pm, Wednesdays to Sundays. The centre is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays.
Access outside these opening hours may be arranged for groups or coach tours by contacting Waratah Council Office.
Smith Street, Waratah, in the historic Athenaeum Hall
Tel: (03) 6439 7100

Waratah Museum and Gift Shop
(Attraction)
Waratah’s historic former courthouse and council chambers now houses a collection of memorabilia and photographs of the town’s tin mining history. Open daily 10am to 3pm Monday to Saturday.
Tel: (03) 6439 1252
**Corinna** is a restored historic settlement nestled on the northern bank of the Pieman River. The Pieman River was a source of awe and wonder to early explorers and prospectors. Access to Corinna from the south is via a vehicular barge across the Pieman River. A fee applies.
19 **Pieman River and Pieman Heads**

Travel the Pieman River by boat to Pieman Heads (note: bookings essential) ph 03 6446 1170. Enjoy a picnic and beach stroll at Pieman Heads. Or spend the full day exploring the coast walking south.
> Day walk: allow a full day

20 **Savage River walk**

This longer walk follows the banks of the Pieman River as far as the mouth of the Savage River. Follow the Huon Pine Trail and continue along the river bank to Wilson Point, at the Savage River junction. You could also be dropped off here by ferry, and walk back. Wilson Point was once a busy jetty used by miners working upstream at the Middleton Creek diggings for unloading supplies.
> Day walk: 4.5hrs return

21 **Whyte River**

Follow the majestic Pieman River east from Corinna to its junction with the Whyte River. A great place to feel a sense of isolation as you stroll amid Myrtle trees and enjoy views of the Pieman and Whyte Rivers. You may catch a glimpse of a platypus or trout.
> Short walk: 1 to 2 hrs

22 **Huon Pine walk**

This short walk is a chance to see ancient Huon pines drooping into the waters of the Pieman River. These magnificent trees were highly prized by piners who floated the logs down the river for transportation by boat. Miners on the Pieman River also used Huon pine to build canoes for travel down the river for supplies.
> Short walk: 20 min

23 **Mt Donaldson**

For a spectacular wilderness panorama, the hike up Mt Donaldson is well worth the effort. From Corinna, drive for 10 minutes along the Western Explorer (C249) as far as the Savage River bridge. The walking track and carpark are just after the bridge. Ascend through forest onto the open buttongrass ridge to the summit. It’s a grandstand view here of the Pieman River, the rainforested valleys of the Donaldson River, the Tarkine's deep interior, and the Southern Ocean to the west.
> Day walk: 4 hrs return

24 **Longback**

Experience sublime views of the Tarkine the easy way. From Corinna, head for the Western Explorer (C249) and follow it for 11.4km to find this short signposted walk.
> Short walk: half hour
Pieman River Cruises - Arcadia II (Guided Tours)
Journey on the Famous Arcadia II down through the Tarkine to the wild west coast at Pieman heads, take a short walk, beach comb or immerse yourself in nature. On the return trip to Corinna listen to stories of past glory days and aboriginal history. (approximately 4.5 hrs) Morning/afternoon tea provided, a fabulous picnic lunch can be supplied on request.

Pieman River Explorer (Guided Tours)
A tin dish (river punt) takes you to Lovers Falls, Hells Gates and up the Savage River to the resting place of the SS Croydon, the furthest inland ship wreck in Australia. An up close and personal experience with the surrounding rainforest. (approx. 2 hrs)

Pieman Heads/Granville Harbour Adventure tour (Guided Tours)
A fully guided tour in AWD buggies along the windswept, rugged, deserted coast line between Pieman heads and Granville Harbour. Let the roaring 40s bring you back to nature, witness aboriginal heritage, see remote fishing villages and significant landscapes. Trip also includes an epic journey on the Arcadia II to Pieman Heads. (approx. 5 hrs) Lunch included.

Whyte River Kayak Experience (Guided Tours)
Guided/unguided wet, wilderness kayak adventure through the heart of the Tarkine. Paddle down a remote river, see wildlife, waterways and revitalise yourself. (approximately full day) lunch included. Advance bookings essential.

Corinna Wilderness Experience, Main Road, Corinna
Tel: (03) 6446 1170
www.corinna.com.au

Self Guided Kayak/Canoe Adventures
Paddle the Pieman, Savage, Whyte and Donaldson rivers at your own leisure, even make the epic journey down the heads. Untouched backwaters, river bank beaches and hidden waterfalls await you. (1hr to full day) All safety gear and safety briefing is included.
**Tarkine Trails (Guided Tours)**

Ecotourism business offering guided wilderness walks, and specialist holidays that step off the beaten track and into the wildness of the Tarkine, the path less travelled. You can choose from the three main Tarkine walks or embark on specialist trips with guides that are experts in their fields.

148 Davey Street, Hobart
Tel: (03) 6223 5320
www.tarkinetrails.com.au

---

**Tasmanian Expeditions (Guided Tours)**

Offer guided walking experiences in the Tarkine also. Their six day itinerary takes walkers to the heart of the region with remote peaks and a river cruise to the middle of the greatest cool temperate rainforest on earth. Over the past 25 years Tasmanian Expeditions has used its understanding of the land to carefully construct trekking, cycling, rafting, climbing and kayaking adventures around this unique landscape.

www.tas-ex.com
Tel: (03) 6339 3999 or 1300 666 856
Further information

Arthur River & region:
Arthur River Parks & Wildlife Office
Tel: (03) 6457 1225
www.parks.tas.gov.au

Waratah & region:
Tarkine Interpretation Centre & Gallery
Tel: (03) 6439 7100
www.warwyn.tas.gov.au

Corinna & region:
Tarkine Hotel
Tel: (03) 6446 1170
www.corinna.com.au

Accredited Visitor Information Centres

Whether you’re here for a day, a week or a month, on your own or as a group, let us help make your visit to the Tarkine a memorable one. Our friendly experienced staff can help book accommodation, attractions and tours or just help you make the most of your Tarkine experience.

Stanley & Surrounds Visitor Centre
45 Main Road, Stanley
Tel: (03) 6458 1330
Email: info@stanley.com.au
www.stanley.com.au

Wynyard Visitor Centre
8 Exhibition Link, Wynyard
Tel: (03) 6443 8330
Email: wowreception@warwyn.tas.gov.au
www.warwyn.tas.gov.au

West Coast Visitor Information Centre
The Esplanade, Strahan
Tel: (03) 6472 6800
Email: wcvibcs@westcoast.tas.gov.au
www.tasmaniaswestcoast.com.au

Other publications:

Download the latest North West Coast & Western Wilderness Holiday Planner’s at
www.tasmaniasnorthwest.com.au

To plan your perfect Tarkine break, download the definitive guide to Stanley and surrounds at
www.stanley.com.au

Traffic Safety

Roads leading to the Tarkine are two-lane, narrow, and winding. When travelling on roads in the Tarkine you can protect yourself, other visitors, and wildlife by observing the following simple rules: Please obey posted speed limits. Roads are used by both visitors and wildlife. Use pullover bays to pull completely out of traffic lanes, to take photos, consult map, or simply enjoy the Tarkine’s scenery and wildlife.

Tell someone

Walk with friends and be prepared with maps and checking weather forecasts. Let a reliable person know your plans and tell them when you return safely. Always walk within your capabilities and allow for plenty of time to enjoy the Tarkine.