



## *Preparing for Tasmania*

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### *Weather*

Tasmania has four distinct seasons. The warmest months are December, January, February and March. Autumn has still sunny days and riotous colours as 200 year-old oaks, elms, birches and our own native beech, turn from gold to red in preparation for winter. Winter runs from May through August. However, because we sit in the Southern Ocean, the world's weather engine, and our climate can vary greatly - on any given day.

The average maximum daily summer temperatures sit between 17 and 23 degrees Celsius (62 and 73 degrees Fahrenheit) and winter daily between 3 and 11 degrees Celsius (37 and 51 degrees Fahrenheit). Our location below the 40th parallel means our summer evenings have long languid twilights.

Rainfall varies dramatically across the Island. Hobart, with an average of 626 millimetres (24 inches) is Australia's second-driest capital city (after Adelaide). While on the west coast an annual average of 2,400 mm (95 inches) ensures the rainforest thrives.

**Summer** is the season of fun and festivities at the Launceston Festival, the Hobart Summer Festival, where the Taste of Tasmania is a must, and the North-West's athletic carnivals.

**Autumn** is a mellow season with calm, sunny days. It's the time when the native deciduous beech blazes with colour. Not to be outdone, the European trees are also a riot of red, orange and gold.

**Winter** is a dusting of snow on highland peaks and toasting your toes by an open fire. Winter days are often crisp, clear and bracing.

**Spring** is cool and fresh. Gardens around the State come to life and Tasmania celebrates with the Blooming Tasmania festival.

### *What to bring*

In general Tasmanian's are casual dressers. Weather conditions can change rapidly, and UV radiation in Tasmania can be extremely high so it's advisable to carry a jacket or jumper as well as a hat, sun-block and sunglasses. If you are intending to bushwalk, you should bring sturdy, comfortable boots as well as a rain jacket.