

TRAVEL TIPS & SAFETY INFORMATION

Thank you for booking with Encounter Maria Island. We look forward to welcoming you on board for the trip across to Maria Island.

Please take a moment to read our travel tips and boarding procedures to help ensure passenger safety and an on-time departure.

GETTING TO TRIABUNNA, CHECKING IN & DEPARTING ON TIME.

The ferry leaves from Triabunna - 86km from Hobart and about one hour and fifteen minutes drive. The drive from Launceston (186km) takes about two and a half hours. Please drive safely.



All passengers (with or without tickets, with or without luggage) must report to the Maria Island Gateway building - adjacent to the Triabunna wharf - at least 45 minutes prior to the departure time.

You will be informed of boarding procedures, relevant safety information and any schedule changes. You will also be required to show or purchase a national parks pass.

We require all passengers to be on board and freight safely stowed prior to the advertised departure time. A 10:00am departure, means the ferry is scheduled to pull out from the dock at 10:00am.

SAFETY WHEN BOARDING & DISEMBARKING.

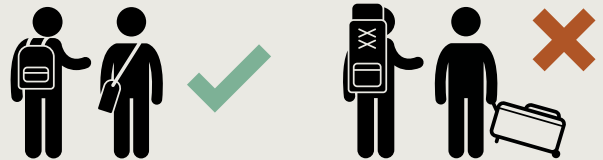


Have at least one hand free to hold onto the gangway when boarding and disembarking the ferry. Even small waves can cause the boat to surge resulting in the gangway moving around. Some passengers may find it difficult to cross. Please ask for assistance from the crew if required.

In the wind and rain people naturally tend to rush to avoid getting wet. This in combination with slippery surfaces can be hazardous. Please slow down and take extra care.

CARRY-ON LUGGAGE.

All passengers are allowed one carry-on item each - one small bag up to approximately 7kg, and no larger than 600 x 400 x 300mm.



Carry-on luggage must be able to be kept safely on your lap (prams excluded!) and not interfere with other passengers.

CHECKED LUGGAGE.

Checked luggage is loaded into crates on the wharf and moved carefully onto the ferry by crew members. Please take care when packing your luggage and freight as we cannot accept liability for any damage to items that occurs during transit.

For overnight visitors, two pieces of luggage - up to 17kg and no larger than 800 x 500 x 400mm - are included in the ticket price.

Extra bags are subject to additional freight charges. Bikes, kayaks, gas bottles, scuba gear and kitchen sinks are also subject to additional freight charges - listed online.

PACK SMART. PACK SAFE.

Consider what you bring and how you pack it. Make sure that each item is contained, weatherproof, and weighs no more than 25kg.

Please refrain from 'piggy-backing' - tying loose items together (cooking equipment to a backpack, or a sleeping bag to an esky). Items can become loose, get snagged on rigging or boat hardware, and may become a safety hazard.

Please also consider the environment when packing, to reduce the risk of polluting waterways - e.g. no loose plastics or polystyrene boxes.



E-BIKES.

Maria Island is the perfect place to explore on a bike - be it battery or pedal powered.

There are a few rules and regulations that apply to the carriage of e-bikes on the ferry, and the use of e-bikes (enforced by the Tasmanian Parks & Wildlife Service) on Maria Island:

- E-bike freight is \$20.00 - make sure you have selected the correct freight charge when booking.
- Batteries must be removed before boarding the ferry.
- E-bikes must be fitted with a bell, rear reflector, front facing white light and rear facing red light.
- E-bikes must have a maximum 200-watt, or pedal assist 250-watt output.
- Manufacturer plates with wattage output and cut-off speed specifications must be clearly visible.

Please note: There are no charging facilities on island.

BIKE HIRE.

Pedal-powered hire bikes are provided on Maria Island by our partners – Bike It Tasmania.

It's a ten minute walk from the jetty to the bike collection point at Darlington Township.

When you collect your bike, staff will assist with helmets, bike set up and operation. This process takes about five minutes for each group. Your patience during busy times is very much appreciated.

It's important that you feel comfortable and safe on a bike. There is a relatively flat area adjacent to the collection point, and we encourage all riders to get familiar with their bike here, before heading out on the trails. If you are not comfortable riding, please see one of the staff who will offer assistance. Full refunds are available to those who do not feel confident riding and wish to cancel their booking.

Maria Island is a remote location - riders must share the trails with other visitors (riders and walkers) and wildlife. Riding surfaces vary greatly, from grass and firmly packed gravel, to loose gravel, sand, rocks and mud. Riding safely, within your comfort zone, will help ensure you enjoy the experience.



NATIONAL PARK PASSES



Maria Island is a National Park, managed by the Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service. All who visit this island paradise must have a valid National Parks Pass. There are various types available for purchase - from our website or www.passes.parks.tas.gov.au.

Make sure you choose the right pass for you. If you chose to buy a multiday or eight week pass from our website, it will be valid from the date that you travel to Maria.

CAFES, SUPPLIES & SHOPPING ON MARIA ISLAND.

There isn't any!

That's partly what makes this place so special.

Don't forget to bring adequate clothing and supplies as **there are no shops on the island** and weather conditions can change quickly.

Food and drink, coffee, Tasmanian beer and wine (takeaway available), and other tasty treats are available to purchase from on board the ferry.

HEALTH & HYGIENE.

Whilst regulation regarding the COVID-19 pandemic has eased, we encourage all passengers and crew to maintain good health and hygiene standards. We regularly clean and sanitise surfaces on the ferry.



Please sanitise or wash your hands prior to boarding, and socially distance wherever possible. Wear a mask if you like. We strongly advise you not to travel if you are feeling unwell.

WEATHER PERMITTING.

The safety of our passengers and crew is our number one priority. All sailings are subject to safe sailing conditions. If the weather forecast is not looking good, we may need to cancel or reschedule sailings.



Encounter Maria Island staff will contact all affected passengers in these instances – please provide the correct contact details when booking, and keep your phone handy in the days leading up to your trip.

For more information about the ferry service and Maria Island National Park, visit our website; www.encountermaria.com.au

If you have any further questions, call the Maria Island Gateway (Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service) on 03 6123 4040.