



**Tambourine Bay Sea Scouts**  
**2020 Tasmania Trip – Cradle Mountain and Maria Island**



The Tambourine Bay Scouts have had an annual “big trip” each January for the past few years. To kick off the new decade we decided to head down to Tasmania’s Cradle Mountain and Maria Island. Ten scouts and four leaders departed Sydney Airport and arrived in Launceston, before making our way to Cradle Mountain, ready to start our adventure.

We arrived at Cradle Mountain National Park and set off on a hike up to the Baden Powell Memorial Scout Lodge where we would be staying for the next few days. The start our adventure was, of course, to climb the heritage listed Cradle Mountain. As we made our way up the rocky summit, we learnt how important the skill of teamwork is, helping pull each other up the huge rocks. When we finally finished climbing and reached the summit, we were definitely ready to eat our lunch which consisted of a carefully rationed four vita-wheats and chunk of salami. The next day we went on a day hike around Cradle Mountain. We hiked in the Ballroom Forest, near Lake Wilks, and plenty more beautiful areas around the Mountain. Nearing the time for us to leave, we had organised to go canyoning in Dove River. After putting on our full-body wetsuit we soon discovered how hot we





side of Tasmania.

After a lengthy drive to Triabunna on Tasmania's east coast, we loaded our packs and other supplies onto a ferry which took us across to Maria Island. We arrived at the island and got our campsite set up and we were very excited to start

the next part of our adventure. Of course, since we are scouts we had to do an activity that would stress the leaders out. We decided to climb Bishop and Clerk, a mountain that, in the leader's words, we would die if we fell off but that obviously did not phase any of the scouts. We enjoyed our lunch on the top of Bishop and Clerk and made our way back to the campsite ready for dinner. The next day we hired bikes so we could ride to other parts of the island. Half of us went the first half of the day and almost made it to the desired destination

but a few falls and scratches caused them to turn back. The rest of us went for the second half of the day and made it to the convict ruins at Maria Island. During our trip, we saw many animals including wombats, kangaroos, wallabies, pademelons, echidnas and more which made the trip even better. Sadly the time had come for us to head home back to Sydney. We caught the ferry back to Triabunna and started to make our way back to Launceston.

would be when hiking to the start of the canyon. Arriving at the canyon, we all rushed to jump into the water to cool off but almost instantly we realised that we were not prepared for how cold the water was. It was so cold that it felt like it was burning us. After a lot of screaming we finally were jumping off rock ledges into the water, some of us even doing flips. We got back to the scout lodge and packed, interrupted only by the occasional card game. Even though we were sad to leave Cradle Mountain we knew we would have so much fun at Maria Island on the other





We stopped at Bicheno for a lunch consisting of fish and chips. At Bicheno, there is a blowhole, so being the smart scouts we are we decided to stand right in the splash zone resulting in many of us getting drenched in water. We finally got to Launceston Airport ready to board our flight. We arrived back in Sydney around 10 pm and after a week-long trip, we finally saw our parents who were surprised that we were still alive or at least not majorly injured. In conclusion, this trip to Tasmania was a wonderful experience which we will never forget and we hope that future

scouts do this trip and have as much fun as we did.

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