

Hike the Overland Track: A Journey Through Tasmania's Wilderness Wonderland



Hiking the Overland Track: Tasmania: Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park (Cicerone Hiking Guides)

by Mark Rice

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 22195 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 353 pages



An Unforgettable Adventure in the Heart of Tasmania

The Overland Track, a legendary hiking trail in Tasmania's Cradle Mountain-Lake St Clair National Park, beckons adventurers with its unparalleled beauty and pristine wilderness. This world-renowned trek spans 65 kilometers (40 miles) through a breathtaking landscape of towering mountains, crystal-clear lakes, and ancient rainforests. Whether you're an experienced hiker or seeking a once-in-a-lifetime adventure, the Overland Track promises an unforgettable journey that will leave a lasting impression.

Trail Highlights

- **Iconic Landmarks:** Hike past iconic Tasmanian landmarks such as Cradle Mountain, Marions Lookout, Lake Will, and Lake St Clair, the deepest lake in Australia.
- **Diverse Ecosystems:** Traverse a captivating mosaic of ecosystems, including temperate rainforests, alpine meadows, and button grass plains.
- **Wildlife Encounters:** Be on the lookout for native wildlife such as wombats, pademelons, wallabies, and platypus.
- **Breathtaking Views:** Marvel at stunning panoramic views of Tasmania's rugged wilderness, with opportunities for dramatic sunrise and sunset photography.
- **World-Class Huts:** Stay in well-equipped and comfortable backcountry huts along the trail, providing refuge and amenities for hikers.

Planning Your Trek

To fully appreciate the beauty of the Overland Track, it is recommended to embark on a guided or self-guided hiking trip. Guided tours provide the convenience of expert leadership, organized logistics, and personalized experiences, while self-guided adventures offer the freedom to set your own pace and immerse yourself in the wilderness. Both options allow you to connect with the stunning scenery and rich natural history of the region.

When planning your Overland Track adventure, consider the following:

- **Time of Year:** The ideal time to hike the Overland Track is during the warmer months of October to April, although the track is open all year round.

- **Fitness Level:** The trail requires a moderate level of fitness, with daily hiking distances ranging from 8 to 16 kilometers (5 to 10 miles).
- **Bookings:** Hut bookings are essential, especially during peak season. Reservations can be made through the Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service website.
- **Camping:** While huts are the primary accommodation along the trail, camping is permitted at designated sites with an appropriate permit.
- **Gear:** Pack essential hiking gear, including sturdy footwear, comfortable clothing, a backpack, and a tent if camping.

Along the Trail

Your Overland Track journey will unfold through a series of unforgettable encounters with the Tasmanian wilderness. Prepare to be captivated by the following highlights:

- **Day 1-2:** Begin your adventure at Ronny Creek, hiking through lush rainforest to Waterfall Valley and, finally, to your first night's accommodation at Kia Ora Hut.
- **Day 3:** Ascend to Marions Lookout for breathtaking views of Cradle Mountain and Lake Will. Continue to Windy Ridge and camp at Pelion Hut.
- **Day 4:** Cross the Du Cane Gap and descend to the shores of Lake St Clair. Set up camp at Echo Point.
- **Day 5:** Hike along the edge of Lake St Clair, passing the impressive Narcissus Hut. Camp at Cynthia Bay.
- **Day 6:** Embark on the final leg of your journey, hiking to the southern end of Lake St Clair and completing the Overland Track amidst the

grandeur of the Tasmanian wilderness.

Additional Activities and Extensions

To enhance your Overland Track experience, consider the following additional activities and extensions:

- **Cradle Mountain Summit:** For an unforgettable challenge, add on a side trip to the summit of Cradle Mountain.
- **Lake St Clair Shuttle:** Take a scenic boat ride on Lake St Clair to explore the southern end of the park.
- **Frenchmans Cap:** Extend your adventure with a hike to Frenchmans Cap, Tasmania's highest mountain.

Book Your Unforgettable Adventure Today

The Overland Track is an unparalleled opportunity to connect with the breathtaking beauty and pristine wilderness of Tasmania. Whether you choose a guided or self-guided experience, this once-in-a-lifetime adventure will create memories that will last a lifetime. Book your Overland Track journey today and embark on an unforgettable odyssey through the heart of Tasmania's wilderness wonderland.

Book Now

Stunning Images of the Overland Track





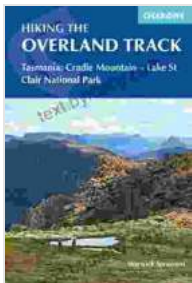
Hike through temperate rainforests and cross picturesque streams along the Overland Track.





Camp beneath the starry night sky along the Overland Track.

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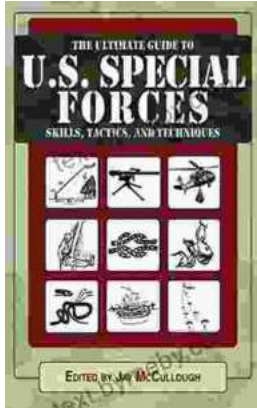
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