



# Inala's King Island Bass Strait small group Tour

**Mon 29 November to Thursday 2 December 2021**

Itinerary prepared by Dr Catherine Young, Inala Nature Tours, 2 December 2020.

Situated in the Bass Strait, midway between Victoria and Tasmania, King Island is surrounded by shipwrecks and long sandy beaches, with some of the freshest air and friendliest locals anywhere. The island is home to 10 of the 12 Tasmanian endemic bird species, 5 of which are considered endemic subspecies of King Island. We will also seek out the critically endangered King Island Brown Thornbill, with its enormous bill and beautiful voice. Flocks of wild American Turkeys, Indian Peafowl, Common Pheasant, California Quail and migratory shorebirds complete the set for this eclectic island.

A trip to King Island is not just about the wildlife, we will also visit the islands most famous sites such as Sea Elephant River, the calcified forest and of course indulge in a King Island Cheese tasting.

King Island subspecies – Brown Thornbill, Scrubtit, Green Rosella, Black Currawong, Dusky Robin, Yellow Wattlebird and superb Fairy-wren.

[This tour has been designed to adjoin the Tasmanian Endemic birds and mammals tour Sat 20 to Mon 29 November 2021](#)



Black Currawong. P. Vaughan

## **ITINERARY OUTLINE:**

**Day 1. Mon 29 Nov 2021.** Arrive King Island pm. Accom: King Island.

**Day 2. Tue 30 Nov 2021.** West coast, fromagerie & bird specialities. Accom: King Island.

**Day 3. Wed 1 Dec 2021.** King Is: Pegasus State Forest & Sea Elephant Conservation Area. Accom: King Island.

**Day 4. Thu 2 Dec 2021.** King Is: Lavinia State Res, Cape Wickham shore/seabirds. Depart pm. Accom: none.

Inala Nature Tours

E: [inala@inalanaturetours.com.au](mailto:inala@inalanaturetours.com.au)

W: [www.inalanaturetours.com.au](http://www.inalanaturetours.com.au)

T: +61 3 62931217

## **DETAILED ITINERARY:**

**B-breakfast, L-lunch, D-dinner**

**Day 1. Monday 29 November 2021. For those who are also joining the Inala Tasmanian endemics tour:** This morning we travel to Launceston after breakfast. If time permits, we will visit some wetlands en route where there is a chance to view several wetland species including Purple Swamphen, Spotless Crake, Australian Shelduck, Black-fronted Dotterel and Little Grassbird. The main tour will conclude around midday. Those participants who are continuing from the Tas endemics tour to King Island will stay at Launceston airport and connect with Sharp Airlines flight SH894 to King Island (15:05- 16:40). Sharp Airlines also offers a flight from Essendon Airport, Melbourne this afternoon for participants wishing to join the tour from here (SH926 16:00-16:45. [flight costs from Launceston or Melbourne are not included in tour package](#)). We will meet this evening at 18:30 for a welcome dinner. **Accommodation:** Currie (en suite rooms). **Meals included:** D.

**Day 2. Tuesday 30 December 2021.** Today we will start exploring the island. Our first stop will be the main town of Currie where you can start to get a feel for island life. We will spend most of the day exploring the west coast, primarily looking for shorebirds and searching out the first of the King Island specialties. Echidnas can also be found here. A tasting at the fromagerie, King Island Dairy is a must before checking into our accommodation in the late afternoon.

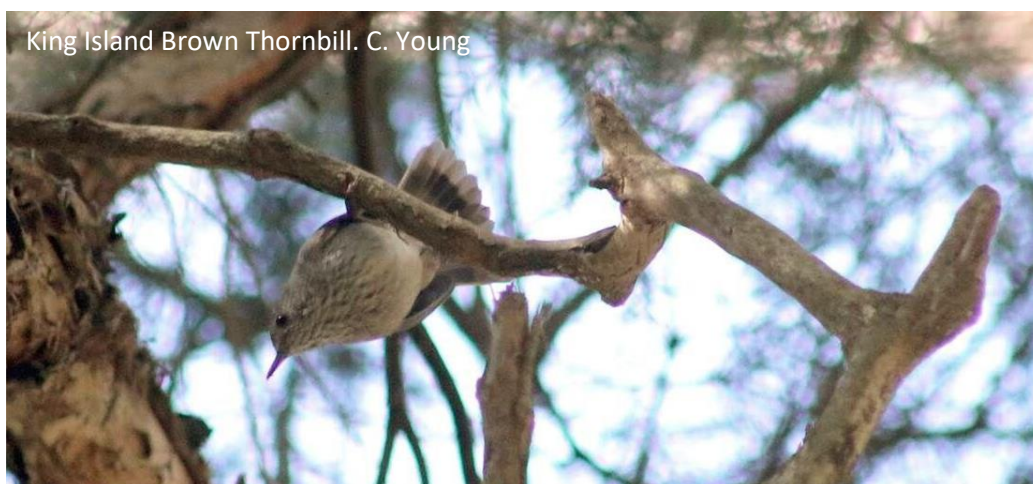
**Accommodation:** Currie (en suite rooms).

**Meals included:** B, L, D.



Little Tern. P. Vaughan

**Day 3. Wednesday 1 December 2021.** Today we will continue to explore the southern half of the island as this is where we will see most of our target bird species. We will spend time walking and driving through Pegasus State Forest and Sea Elephant Conservation Area. Pegasus contains some of the oldest forest on the island and is home to the critically endangered King Island subspecies of the Brown Thornbill and Scrubtit.



King Island Brown Thornbill. C. Young

While the RAMSAR site at Sea Elephant Conservation Reserve is a stunning estuary, rich in birdlife. After dinner tonight, we will take a night excursion to visit the Little Penguin colony at Grassy Point and spotlight for mammals (Bennett's Wallaby, Tasmanian Pademelon,

Long-nosed Potoroos and Brush-tailed Possums). **Accommodation:** Currie (en suite rooms). **Meals included:** B, L, D.



Wild Turkeys. C. Young

**Day 4. Thursday 2 December 2021.** For our final day on the island, we will head north, visit some key birdwatching sites such as Lavinia State reserve, and visiting some of King Islands most famous sights. At the



California Quail. P. Vaughan

impressive Cape Wickham lighthouse, the tallest lighthouse in the southern hemisphere, we will look for Nankeen Kestrel, Richards Pipit and the flocks of Wild Turkeys and California Quail for which King Island is well known. Disappointment Bay and Yellow Rock Beach promise further excellent opportunities for seabirds, shorebirds, bush-birds and stunning views. This afternoon we will head back to the airport for our afternoon flights back to Launceston (SH895 15:40-16:30) or Melbourne (SH927 17:15-18:00).

(airfares not included in tour cost). **Accommodation:** none (we can arrange additional accommodation in King Island, Launceston or Melbourne tonight as required). **Meals included:** B, L.

**Tour Price:** AUD\$2,445 per person twin share and \$270 single supplement (own en suite room throughout).

**Inclusions:** 3 nights en suite accommodation, specialist guiding and land transport on King Island for day and night tours as outlined above including airport transfers, all meals and activities as outlined in the itinerary. Also includes entry fees and GST.



Tasmanian Thornbill on King Island. C. Young



Dusky Robin. P. Vaughan

**Exclusions:** Airfares, activities and meals not mentioned above, alcoholic beverages and expenses of a personal nature (snacks, travel insurance, internet, laundry, tips etc).

**Please note:** Whilst we aim to follow the itinerary as planned, please note that the itinerary provided should only be used as a guideline. Depending on individual trip circumstances, weather, and local information, the exact itinerary may not be strictly adhered to. The guides reserve the right to make changes to the itinerary as they see fit.



Cape Wickham Lighthouse. C. Young



King Island. C. Young