



Visitors to Selected Parks and Reserves, Tasmania – 2021 to 2022 (Fiscal Year)

Release date – 14 October 2022

Reference Site Numbers

The Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) manages 19 national parks and over 800 reserves within Tasmania. The PWS does not count visitors to every national park or reserve, but produces regular estimates at 14 selected sites in Tasmania – called “Reference Sites”.

Fiscal year ¹ (Rounded to thousands)					% Change		Notes
	2018 - 2019	2019 - 2020	2020 - 2021	2021- 2022	2018-19 (pre- COVID) to 2021-22 (Three years)	2020-21 to 2021-22 (One year)	
Freycinet*	317	265	265	251	-21%	-5%	
Cradle Mountain (Dove Lake)*	284	219	170	186	-34%	+10%	
Mount Field*	208	177	159	182	-13%	+14%	2
Tasman Arch (Tasman National Park)*	204	169	97	104	-49%	+6%	
Lake St Clair (Cynthia Bay)*	92	77	72	78	-15%	+8%	3
Gordon River (interstate and overseas visitors to Tas only)^	78	69	44	72	-8%	+63%	4, 5, 6, 7
Narawntapu (Western entrance)#	54	48	61	58	+7%	-5%	
Tamar Island Wetlands#	49	44	42	41	-17%	-3%	
Maria Island*	38	38	33	35	-9%	+6%	8, 9
Mole Creek Karst (caves)*	58	43	25	31	-47%	+26%	11
Hastings Caves and Thermal Springs*	40	36	25	31	-23%	+24%	12
Highfield House (Stanley)*	12	11	12	13	+10%	+10%	
Three Capes Track*	11	9	9	10	-14%	+13%	10, 13
Overland Track*	9	7	8	10	+4%	+15%	14
Total number of visits/entries to all 14 Reference Sites	1,457	1,213	1,024	1,103	-24%	+8%	15 16, 17, 18

* Visit #Entry ^Survey n.y.a. – not yet available

These results are estimations and can be subject to revisions if some data is not available at the time of this report.

Notes:

- Rounding to thousands.** Visitor numbers are rounded to thousands. The percentage changes are calculated on unrounded numbers. The total numbers are calculated based on unrounded numbers, and as such may not equal the sum of the rounded numbers for each site.
- Mt Field (2019-20 and 2020-21)** – the estimate for 2018-19 has been revised to 208,000. The estimate for 2019-20 has been revised from 167,000 to 177,000. The estimate for 2020-21 has been revised from 170,000 to 159,000.
- Lake St Clair (2019-20)** - the estimate of 76,000 for 2019-20 has been revised to 77,000.
- Gordon River** – includes visitors to Tasmania from interstate and overseas. Excludes Tasmanians. Data source is the *Tasmanian Visitor Survey* (Tourism Tasmania).
- Gordon River – COVID-19.** The *Tasmanian Visitor Survey* was paused in March 2020 because of COVID-19, and recommenced in November 2020. Data for April through to October 2020 is assumed to be zero.
- Gordon River (2018-19)** – the previous reported estimate of 80,000, should have been 78,000.
- Gordon River (2020-21)** - at the time of reporting, data from the *Tasmanian Visitor Survey* was only available up to the 12 months ending March 2021 (23,000 visitors). Data up to the 12 months ending June 2021 has subsequently been published (44,000 visitors).



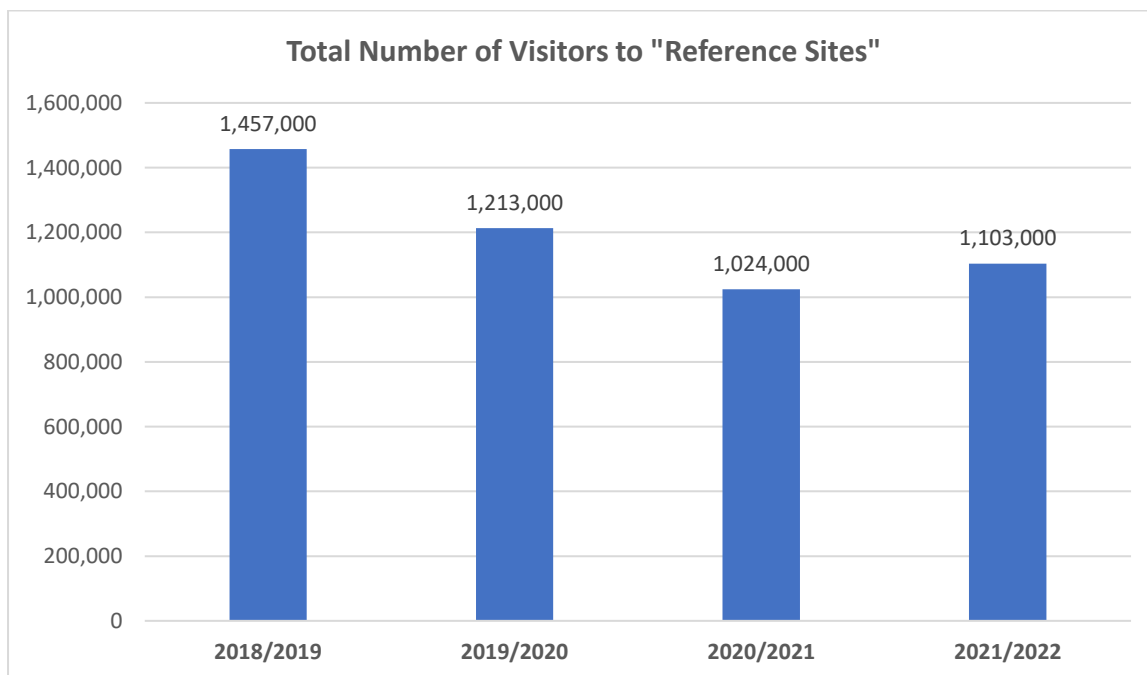
8. **Maria Island** – data includes arrivals at Darlington (including arrivals by ferry, cruise ships, commercial operators, or arrivals by air). Most visitors arrive at Darlington. A much smaller number of private or other vessels land elsewhere on Maria Island but cannot be tracked and are not included in these estimates.
9. **Maria Island** – the Tasman Highway at Paradise Gorge was closed for just under six weeks, and partially closed for a further three weeks, to clear unsafe overhanging rocks. Visitor access to Maria Island was disrupted between 28 May and 30 July 2021.
10. **Three Capes Track** – Break in series starting 2021. From January 2021, walker counts from the commercial tourism operator has been included in the total for Three Capes. Up to December 2020, only data from the PWS walk has been reported.
11. **Mole Creek – COVID-19**. Visitor numbers and group sizes allowed within the caves were reduced in 2020 and 2021 because of social distancing and COVID-19 safety plans.
12. **Hastings Caves and Thermal Springs – COVID-19**. Visitor numbers and group sizes allowed within the caves were reduced in 2020 and 2021 because of social distancing and COVID-19 safety plans.
13. **Three Capes Track – COVID-19**. Because of COVID-19 social distancing requirements, the number of daily walking departures on the Three Capes Track were capped at lower levels in 2020 and 2021.
14. **Overland Track – COVID-19**. Because of COVID-19 social distancing requirements, the number of daily walking departures on the Overland Track were capped at lower levels in 2020 and 2021.
15. **Total 14 Reference Sites** – Break in series starting 2021. Because of the break in series for data for the Three Capes Track (previous note), the total number for all 14 Reference Sites is consequently affected.
16. **Total number of visits/entries to all 14 Reference Sites (2018-19)** – because of updates to the data for Mt Field (see previous notes), the total number of visits/entries to all 14 Reference Sites has also been updated from 1.452 million to 1.457 million.
17. **Total number of visits/entries to all 14 Reference Sites (2019-20)** – because of updates to the data for Mt. Field and Lake St Clair (see previous notes), the total number of visits/entries to all 14 Reference Sites has also been updated – from 1.202 million to 1.213 million.
18. **Total number of visits/entries to all 14 Reference Sites (2020-21)** – because of updates to the data for Mt. Field (see previous notes), the total number of visits/entries to all 14 Reference Sites has also been updated – from 1.034 million to 1.024 million.

Note about the effect of COVID-19 on visitor estimates since 2019-20

- COVID-19 has affected some data gathering routines and affected estimation processes. Visitor estimates for some sites are provisional and may be subject to revision. If data has been published and subsequently revised, the revision is shown in the notes.

Sources

- PWS; and Tourism Tasmania (for Gordon River, via the *Tasmanian Visitor Survey*).





Disclaimer

This information was created by the Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) for its own purposes based on the latest available data and information as of the date of release. The information was created via surveys or other estimating procedures. These results are estimations and can be subject to revisions if some data is not available at the time of this report. While care has been taken to ensure the information is as correct and accurate as possible, it should be used for general information and should not be treated as perfect or exact.

Further information

Parks and Wildlife Service

- Email visitor.research@parks.tas.gov.au
- [Parks visitation and tourism | Parks & Wildlife Service Tasmania](#)
- 1300 TASPARKS (1300 827 727) Monday to Friday (9:00am to 4:30pm)

Tourism Tasmania

- [Visitor Statistics - Tourism Tasmania Corporate](#)
- [Industry Recovery - Tourism Tasmania Corporate](#)



Appendix A – 14 Reference Sites – Infographic

TASMANIA PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Visitors to Selected Parks and Reserves, Tasmania

2021/22 Fiscal Year



The Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) manages 19 national parks and over 800 reserves within Tasmania. The PWS does not count visitors to every national park or reserve but produces regular estimates at 14 selected sites in Tasmania - called "Reference Sites".

The data is for the year ended 30 June 2022 and is compared to prior fiscal years. Visitor estimates are based on PWS activity data and visitor estimates from Tourism Tasmania's Tasmanian Visitor Survey.



TOTAL NUMBER TO ALL 14 REFERENCE SITES	Visit estimates 2021-22	% change - 2020/21 to 2021/22	% change - 2018-19 (pre COVID) to 2021-22
	1,103,000	UP 8%	DOWN 24%