



Visitors to Selected Parks and Reserves, Tasmania – 2018-19 to 2023-24

Reference Site Numbers

The Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) manages over 800 reserves within Tasmania, including 19 National Parks. 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”.

Reference Site	Fiscal Year ¹ (Rounded to thousands)						% Change (Calculated on unrounded numbers)		Notes
	2018-2019 '000	2019-2020 '000	2020-2021 '000	2021-2022 '000	2022-2023 '000	2023-2024 '000	2018-19 (pre-COVID) to 2023-24	2022-23 to 2023-24	
Freycinet*	317	265	265	251	287	281	-11%	-2%	
Cradle Mountain (Dove Lake) *	284	219	170	186	264	272	-4%	+3%	
Mount Field*	208	177	159	182	200	232	+11%	+16%	New record (previous 2018)
Tasman Arch (Tasman National Park) *	204	169	97	104	140	139	-32%	< -1%	
Gordon River (interstate and overseas visitors to Tas only) ^	78	69	44	72	111	104	+33%	-6%	2
Lake St Clair (Cynthia Bay) *	92	77	72	78	90	82	-11%	-9%	
Narawntapu (Western entrance) #	54	48	61	58	62	63	+16%	+3%	
Hastings Caves and Thermal Springs*	40	36	25	31	53	58	+44%	+10%	New record (Previous 2023)
Maria Island*	38	38	33	35	46	53	+37%	+13%	3 New record (Previous 2023)
Tamar Island Wetlands #	49	44	42	41	44	51	+3%	+16%	
Mole Creek Karst (caves) *	58	43	25	31	35	47	-19%	+35%	
Highfield House (Stanley) *	12	11	12	13	17	15	+20%	-14%	
Three Capes Track *	11	9	9	10	15	14	+23%	-7%	4
Overland Track *	9	7	8	10	11	11	+22%	< -1%	
Total number of visits/entries to all 14 Reference Sites	1,457	1,213	1,024	1,103	1,373	1,423	-2%	+4%	

* Visit #Entry ^Survey

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

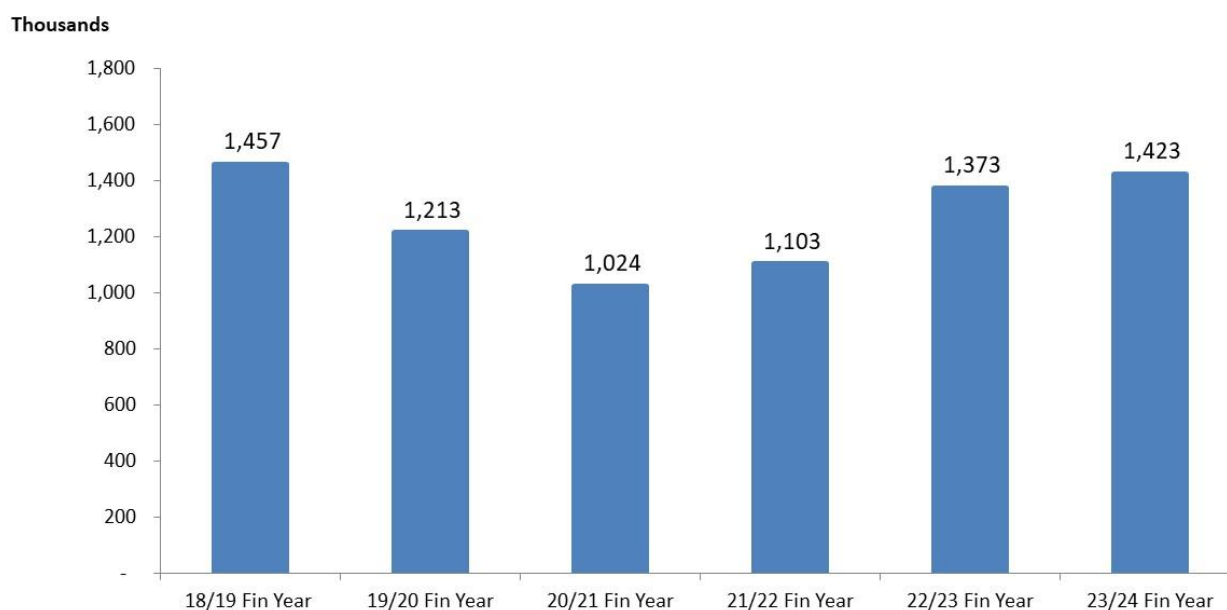
Notes:

- Rounding to thousands.** Visitor numbers are rounded to thousands. The percentage changes are calculated on unrounded numbers. The total for all 14 Reference Sites is the sum of unrounded numbers, and as such may not equal the sum of the rounded numbers for each site.



2. **Gordon River** – data source is the Tasmanian Visitor Survey (Tourism Tasmania). Includes visitors to Tasmania from interstate and overseas. Excludes Tasmanians. The visitor estimate of 104,000 is for the 12 months ending March 2024 – data for the 12 months ending June 2024 was not available at the time this report was prepared.
3. **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.
4. **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.

Visitors to selected parks and reserves. ("Reference Sites"). Visitors shown in thousands. Source: PWS and Tourism Tasmania.



- During 2023-24, there were approximately 1.423 million visitors to the 14 PWS Reference Sites, an increase of four per cent compared to 2022-23.
- Visitor numbers for the 14 Reference Sites for the 2023-24 fiscal year were only two per cent below 2018-19 pre-COVID-19 levels.
- There were increases in visitation at several sites in 2023-24. Visitation was up three per cent at Cradle Mountain, up three per cent at Narawntapu, up 35 per cent at Mole Creek, and up 16 per cent at Tamar Island Wetlands.
- In addition, three sites increased further to reach new record numbers in 2023-24. There were 232 000 visitors at Mount Field (up 16 per cent), 58 000 at Hastings Caves and Thermal Springs (up 10 per cent), and 53 000 at Maria Island (up 13 per cent).
- The Three Capes Track and Overland Track continue to be popular visitor drawcards. Approximately 14 000 walkers experienced the Three Capes Track and over 11 000 went on the Overland Track, confirming that Tasmania continues to be a world class walking destination.
- Visitation dipped in 2023-24 at Freycinet, Tasman Arch, the Gordon River, Lake St Clair, and Highfield House. Despite the declines in 2023-24, visitation at the Gordon River and Highfield House remain near the historic record highs set in 2022-23.



- The continued recovery from the impacts on travel of the COVID-19 pandemic has differed for each site. Visitation to some of our larger sites was still below pre-COVID-19 levels – these being Freycinet, Cradle Mountain, Tasman Arch, and Lake St Clair.
- At Mole Creek, visitation has been affected by flood damage and closures. However, in 2023-24, visitation increased quickly once repairs were complete, and the site reopened to the public.
- The Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service will continue to monitor the ongoing changes of visitation across the state.

Sources

- Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS)
- 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 revision 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](#)

Appendix A – 14 Reference Sites – Infographic

TASMANIA PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Visitors to Selected Parks and Reserves, Tasmania 2023-24 Fiscal Year



Data for 2023-24 is for the 12 months ending Mar 2024, and is compared to 12 months ending June 2023.

TOTAL NUMBER TO ALL 14 REFERENCE SITES	Visitor estimates 2023-24	% change - 2022-23 to 2023-24	% change - 2018-19 (pre COVID) to 2023-24
	1,423,000	UP 4%	DOWN 2%