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### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Forestry Tasmania's website is  
[www.forestrytas.com.au](http://www.forestrytas.com.au)

Contact the Forestry Tasmania  
 Burnie Office  
 or  
 phone (03) 6434 6345  
 Open business hours Monday - Friday  
 or  
 Smithton Office  
 phone (03) 6452 4900



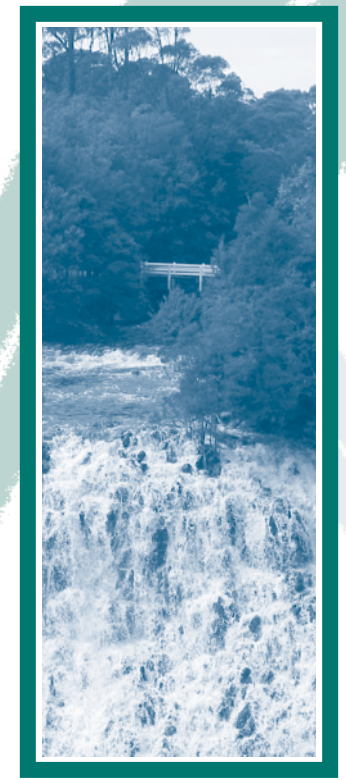
*Disclaimer: Visitors to this area should be aware that natural hazards occur within Tasmania's forest environments. Forestry Tasmania does not accept liability for any injury or damage resulting from such hazards.*



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# North West Forests

ACCESS • ACTIVITY • ADVENTURE



GROWING OUR FUTURE

## INTRODUCTION

Tasmania's North West forests contain a wide range of easily accessible environments. Within a few hours drive there are towering eucalypt forests, open plains of buttongrass and heathland, magnificent rainforests and mysterious blackwood swamps.

A large part of the north-west is State Forest, managed by Forestry Tasmania, primarily for timber and multiple use. Most of the timber that comes from the north-west is hardwood from the eucalypt forests, but the area is also renowned for its 'special species timbers'. Timber from trees such as blackwood, myrtle, celery top pine and sassafras is valued for furniture making, craftwood, panelling and veneer wood.

These forests are also managed for a wide range of values besides timber production including water quality, landscape, wildlife, recreation and honey production. Each year, the North West Forests beehive sites produce about 140 tonnes of the unique leatherwood honey, about a quarter of Tasmania's total production. If you visit in summer, look for the white flowers of the leatherwood tree.

The recreation opportunities in this corner of the state are many. If you feel like getting active in State Forest, why not ride a horse, trail bike, canoe, raft or even walk your dog? Should you feel like relaxing, there are sites where you can have a picnic or barbecue, take a short walk or even try your luck at catching a fish.

Most of the roads in the area are unsealed but easily manageable by cars at all times of the year. Please watch out for the wildlife and be aware of logging traffic.



## EAST OF SMITHTON

### Dip River Forest Reserve



Dip River is a popular visitor site for tourists. A short but steep walk leads to the base of the magnificent Dip Falls, or across the bridge, a level walk and viewing platform provides unsurpassed views of the top of the falls.

Opposite the car park, a gravel path will take you to the relics of an old boiler from bygone sawmilling days. Enjoy the interpretation before hopping back into the car and driving a further kilometre to the Big Tree, growing amongst spectacular wet eucalypt forest.

### Black River Picnic Area



This secluded picnic area is situated on the banks of the peaceful Black River. Relax among the magnificent ferns or try your luck fishing, for trout or blackfish.

## SOUTH OF SMITHTON

The drive along Sumac and Rapid River Roads takes you through the South Arthur Forests. There are many visitor sites along the way so allow for a half to full day to enjoy yourself.

### Kanunnah Bridge Picnic Area



Perched above the Arthur River, this is a great place to stop if you want to launch a raft or kayak to the Arthur River on medium rapids. Otherwise, throw in a line and cook your catch on the barbecue!

### Sumac Lookout



This lookout provides a dramatic view out over Arthur River and surrounding rainforest and tall eucalypts.

### Julius River Forest Reserve



This site has recently been upgraded and has excellent picnic facilities. A half hour return walk winds through the cool temperate rainforest. Interpretive signs provide an insight into the nature of this forest.



### Lake Chisholm Forest Reserve



Lake Chisholm is a hidden gem. This flooded limestone sinkhole is one of the many sinkholes in the area, but one of only two filled with water. A gentle half hour return walk meanders through a majestic old myrtle forest to the tranquil waters of the lake. This can be a fantastic photo opportunity, especially in the early morning, so remember to bring your camera.

### Milkshakes Hills Forest Reserve



Milkshakes is a magical picnic spot. Picnic facilities are nestled among the eucalypt and rainforest trees. A ten minute loop walk through the rainforest provides an easy and relaxing opportunity to explore this environment. For the more energetic, there is an hour return climb to the top of one of the "Milkshakes". From the top there are great views of the undulating countryside.

### Tayatea Bridge Picnic Area



Easy access to the Arthur River provides a great opportunity to fish, picnic or even launch a raft or kayak and paddle down medium rapids to Kanunnah bridge.

### Balfour Track Forest Reserve



This three hour return walk is relatively flat and fairly easy. This track was cut at the start of the century for packhorses and prospectors wanting to reach the remote (and since largely abandoned) mining township of Balfour. The walk starts and ends on Blackwater Road. If you are short of time, park a car at each end to halve the time of your walk.

For those who photograph or have an interest in Fungii, this walk is a delight of colours and shapes in the wet autumn months.

## WEST OF SMITHTON

### Dismal Swamp



The Circular Head region boasts Tasmania's finest Blackwood swamp forests. Viewing these forests from above and below the canopy of the trees will be possible through the construction of a Visitor Centre and Maze at Dismal Swamp, located 20 km west of Smithton on the Bass Highway.

Enjoy a coffee or light snack at the Visitor Centre where tickets may be purchased for entry to the maze. Either slide or stroll to the maze entrance and "lose" yourself in the blackwood forest. Try and spot the homes of the small burrowing crayfish. Free picnic and barbecue amenities will be available at the entrance to the Visitor Centre. Opening Autumn 2003, please call 6434 6345 to confirm operating hours.

### Arthur River Township



Commercial boat cruises commencing from the Arthur River settlement are a relaxing way to enjoy the magnificent forests along the edge of this mighty river. Otherwise launch your raft or canoe and paddle up to the Arthur and Frankland River junction.

## OTHER PLACES OF INTEREST

### Oldina Picnic Area



Only minutes south of Wynyard, the reserve is set within a tranquil valley and is a perfect place to take the family. Enjoy a walk along the river, or have a barbecue in the park while children entertain themselves in the playground. With a variety of tree species mainly from the Northern Hemisphere it is the perfect spot for a stroll.

### Dial Range



South of Penguin rises the prominent cliffs and peaks of the Dial Range. This multiple-use forest area has an emphasis on action and provides for a wide variety of recreational pursuits, including individual trails for walking, mountain bikes, trail bikes and horse riding. You can fish for trout or blackfish in the Leven River or simply admire the views from the tracks that traverse a variety of forest types.

The Penguin Cradle Trail also passes through the eastern side of the Dial Range. Amble through tall eucalypt forests and lush fern understorey on an old tramway.