

# MOUNTAIN BIKING IN TASMANIA

Mt Owen - West Coast Tas MTB  
© Flow Mountain Bike

Tasmania has earned its reputation as Australia's mountain biking capital. Since 2015, more than 400km of purpose-built trails have opened through diverse terrain – from rainforest to beach, granite ridges to 'hero dirt'. Entire towns now cater specifically to riders, with dedicated shuttles, bike-friendly accommodation and trail-side dining.

High-profile international events including the Enduro World Series (EWS), UCI Enduro World Cup and Red Bull Hardline have put Tasmania on the global mountain biking map. The sport is booming, with new trails, businesses and infrastructure constantly expanding to meet demand.

From flowy single tracks and gravity parks with 820m vertical drops to family-friendly loops and coastal rides ending on white-sand beaches, Tasmania delivers for all abilities.

## What makes mountain biking in Tasmania special

### WORLD-CLASS TRAIL DESIGN

Tasmania's major trail networks have been custom-built by two leading trail builders, World Trail and Dirt Art, and

are maintained by full-time teams. Blue Derby trails Detonate (2017) and Kumma-Gutza (2019) have both won EWS Trail of the Year awards.

### TRAIL DIVERSITY

Purpose-built single tracks, gravity descents, gentle loops, pump tracks and wilderness trails cater to all abilities – from first-timers to elite riders. Trails suit enduro, gravity and climbing riding styles.

### WILDERNESS SETTING

Trails are built within Tasmania's natural environment, incorporating elevation, topography and terrain to enhance the riding experience through scenic forests, alpine regions and coastal landscapes.

### EASY ACCESS

Many of Tasmania's best-known bike parks are located near the island's major gateways (Hobart, Launceston and Devonport) within a few hours' drive.

### MOUNTAIN BIKING TOWNS

Many trails connect to quintessential Tasmanian country towns offering rider-focused services such as shuttles, bike-friendly accommodation, dining and entertainment.





Blue Derby Mountain Bike Trails  
© Revolution MTB

## Where to ride

### BLUE DERBY

Located in north-east Tasmania, Blue Derby features 125km of purpose-built trails through forests of giant ferns and myrtle. Built by World Trail, the granite-rich “hero dirt” drains quickly, creating ideal year-round riding conditions. The enduro-style network caters to all skill levels with uphill and downhill sections.

Blue Derby hosted the Enduro World Cup in 2017, 2019 and 2023.

A 2025 economic impact study by the Blue Derby Foundation reveals that the network attracts over 45,000 mountain-bike-specific visitors annually, representing more than 50% of all MTB trips in Tasmania.

#### Need to know:

- Trails free to access (no national parks pass required)
- Bike hire available from multiple operators
- Shuttles and uplifts available from multiple operators, pre-booking required
- Purpose-built accommodation with bike storage/repair/washing facilities available.

### ST HELENS MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS

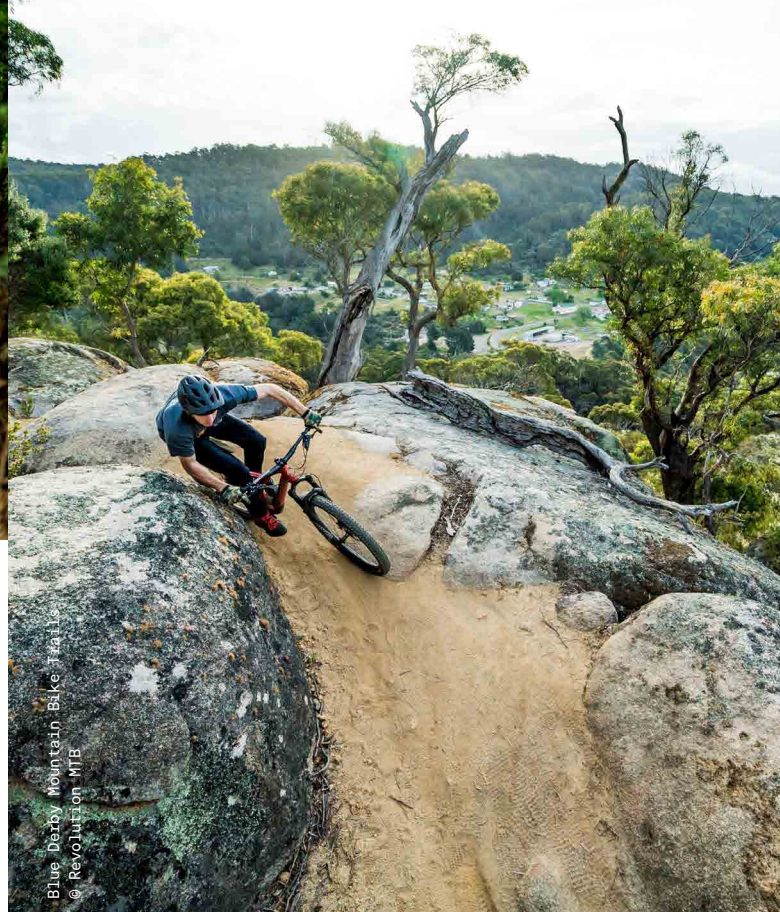
Located on Tasmania’s east coast, an hour’s drive from Blue Derby, St Helens Mountain Bike Trails features 110km of trails across two networks. Built by World Trail, the trails traverse coastal landscapes and rainforest.

**Bay of Fires Trail:** 42km wilderness ride from Blue Tier trailhead to Swimcart Beach. Allow 4.5 hours. E-bikes recommended.

**St Helens Stacked Loop Network:** 68km of trails and 10 ‘stacked loops’ for all experience levels. Trailhead at Flagstaff, 5km from St Helens.

#### Need to know:

- Trails free to access (no national parks pass required)
- Shuttles available from St Helens to trailheads (pre-booking required)
- Bike hire available from multiple operators
- Purpose-built accommodation with bike storage/repair/washing facilities available.



Blue Derby Mountain Bike Trails  
© Revolution MTB

### MAYDENA BIKE PARK

Located in the Derwent Valley, an hour’s drive north-west of Hobart, Maydena is the Southern Hemisphere’s largest gravity park. Built by Dirt Art, the park features 85+ trails (over 100km) with 820m vertical elevation – making it Australia’s biggest vertical drop. The park has options suitable for beginners through to advanced riders.

Maydena Bike Park hosts both Red Bull Hardline (2025 and 2026) and Enduro Jam.

#### Need to know:

- Bike shop, hire, shuttles and workshop available on-site
- All-day passes available for shuttles
- Bike School lessons available daily
- Season: Late September–April (closed winter)
- Bike storage/repair/washing facilities available at some accommodation.

### WILD MERSEY MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS

Located in Tasmania’s north west, Wild Mersey features 70km of trails connecting three country towns (Latrobe, Railton, Sheffield) and Tasmania’s largest pump track. Built by Dirt Art, trails traverse old mining sites, rock quarries and fern-lined forests descending to the Mersey River flats. Trails have a variety of grades, suitable for all abilities.

Other nearby options include Kelcey Tier, Penguin Mountain Bike Park and the Dial Range.

#### Need to know:

- Trails free to access (no national parks pass required)
- Three separate trailheads
- BYO bike, no hire available
- Private shuttle services are available on request from Into the Wild.



Blue Derby Pods Ride  
© Andrew Quaila



Blue Derby Mountain Bike Trails  
© Stu Gibson



Maydena Bike Park,  
The Summit © Stu Gibson

## WEST COAST MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS

Located in Tasmania's remote west, the Mount Owen network features 35km of trails on rocky slopes above Queenstown (1,146m above sea level). The region's climate, geology and elevation require fitness and self-sufficiency from riders.

Other trails accessible from nearby towns of Zeehan and Rosebery include Oonah Hill Trail and Sterling Valley Trail.

As new trails are developed, this region is set to become Tasmania's next major mountain biking destination.

### Need to know:

- Trails free to access (no national parks pass required)
- Remote location requires self-sufficiency
- BYO bike, limited services
- Best suited to experienced riders.



Mt Owen - West Coast Tas MTB  
© Flow Mountain Bike

Last updated January 2026 with information from Discover Tasmania, World Trail, Flow Mountain Bike, Blue Derby Foundation and industry sources.

## Essential information

### SEASON

There's year-round mountain biking in Tasmania, although some trails close during the wetter winter months (particularly at higher elevation parks like Maydena).

### GETTING TO TASMANIA

Many riders prefer to travel with their own bikes rather than hire. Most airlines allow 30kg for bikes (excess luggage fees may apply). Bikes can be transported aboard the Spirit of Tasmania ferry.

### GETTING AROUND TASMANIA

#### Car hire

AutoRent and [Evry Drive](#) offers vehicles with bike racks.

#### Transfers

Airport-to-trail transfers available with operators such as [Up Down and Around MTB](#), [Premium MTB Tours Tasmania](#) and [Tasmanian Mountain Bike Adventures](#).

## Competitive landscape

Tasmania competes for mountain biking visitors in both domestic and international markets. Key domestic competitors include Mount Buller, Falls Creek, Bright and Warburton in Victoria, and Atherton and Cairns in Queensland. International competitors include Rotorua and Queenstown in New Zealand, and Whistler in Canada.

Tasmania's competitive advantages include purpose-built trail networks by leading designers, year-round riding conditions in key locations due to hero dirt drainage, proximity of major trails to gateways, and wilderness settings.



George Town Mountain Bike Trails © Flow Mountain Bike

## Who rides in Tasmania

Understanding who Tasmania’s mountain biking visitors are helps operators target the right audience, tailor their offer and make the most of every booking.

Market size	Mountain biking riders represent approximately 3% of total visitors. The segment is small but of high value, with nine in 10 intending to return to Tasmania soon.
When they visit	Most riders visit in summer (55%), followed by autumn (21%), winter (19%) and spring (5%).
Who they are	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>43% of riders who visit Tasmania are aged between 45 and 54.</li> <li>Families with older children are the most common travel group, followed by couples and families with young children.</li> <li>Based mainly in New South Wales, followed by Victoria.</li> <li>56% have a household income of \$150,000 or more.</li> </ul>
How they travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>They travel regularly, with 44% taking at least one trip per month.</li> <li>They travel with the same group to different destinations, typically in groups of five or more.</li> <li>One person in the group usually takes responsibility for booking and planning.</li> <li>They commonly travel with high-end bikes, though transporting them can be a barrier for some.</li> </ul>
What else they do in Tasmania	Riders complement their trip with activities such as day bushwalks, and visits to national parks, historic sites and attractions.
What drives them	Riders seek freedom, energy and adventure, enhanced by time in nature. They want a sense of achievement and reinvigoration, and to reconnect with what matters. Easy access to trail information, value for money and options to suit different budgets all influence destination choice.



Quad Crown MTB Series The Wild Penguin © Grant Viney Photography

## THE VALUE OF MOUNTAIN BIKING VISITORS

Mountain biking visitors are among Tasmania’s highest value visitors.

	Mountain Biking visitors	Average visitor
Annual visitor volume	34,000 interstate and international	
Average length of stay	16.1 nights	9.4 nights
Average spend per person	\$4,156	\$2,691

Mountain biking visitors stay significantly longer than the average visitor. Off the trails, they are drawn to nature-based experiences, brewery and distillery visits, fresh produce and craft beer at local venues.

## TWO TYPES OF MOUNTAIN BIKING VISITOR

### 1. Professionals

Busy urban professionals seeking a high-adrenaline escape with a connection to nature. Time constrained and typically travelling for short breaks, with set times locked in throughout the year. Domestic travellers tend to book one to three months in advance; groups book three to six months out. Repeat visitors who are loyal to destinations that deliver.

### 2. Retirees

Those at or approaching retirement who travel more freely, often via group packages. They ride with high-end gear, enjoy the finer things and are motivated by maintaining fitness and staying active. More time available means they are open to longer stays and complementary experiences.

**Key insight:** Mountain bikers are dedicated, loyal and highly connected within their community. Word of mouth and peer advocacy are disproportionately powerful with this audience. Females and families have been identified as key opportunity markets for growth.

For up-to-date data, visit the [Tasmanian Visitor Survey Analyser](#).

## Helpful links

**Discover Tasmania:** [discovertasmania.com.au/things-to-do/outdoor-and-adventure/mountain-bike-and-cycling/](https://discovertasmania.com.au/things-to-do/outdoor-and-adventure/mountain-bike-and-cycling/)

**Blue Derby:** [ridebluederby.com.au](https://ridebluederby.com.au)

**St Helens MTB Trails:** [sthelensmtbtrails.com.au](https://sthelensmtbtrails.com.au)

**Maydena Bike Park:** [maydenabikepark.com](https://maydenabikepark.com)

**Ride Wild Mersey:** [ridewildmersey.com.au/](https://ridewildmersey.com.au/)

**Trailforks:** [trailforks.com](https://trailforks.com)

**Facebook:** [fb.com/tasmania](https://fb.com/tasmania)

**Instagram:** [@tasmania](https://@tasmania)

**Weibo:** 塔斯马尼亚旅游局官博

Sources: Kantar research commissioned by Tourism Tasmania, 2020. Tourism Tasmania Mountain Biking Situational Analysis, 2019. Tasmanian Visitor Survey, year ending Sept 2025.