

42°S



FRANKLIN RIVER RAFTING

UNTAMED. UNRIVALLED. UNFORGETTABLE.

2026/2027

8DAYS

\$4,690



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**Share
the wonder**
Accredited Licensed Operator

\$4,690 inc. gst



8 DAYS OF ADVENTURE

TASMANIA'S FRANKLIN RIVER IS ONE OF THE MOST REMOTE RIVERS IN THE WORLD. LET US SHARE OUR PASSION FOR THIS AMAZING PLACE WITH YOU.

- Expert guides ensure your safety
- Small group sizes
- Fresh locally sourced produce
- Equipment of the highest quality
- Family owned and operated

**DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION
ABOUT THE FRANKLIN RIVER ?
WE ARE MORE THAN HAPPY TO HAVE
A CHAT. CALL - 0422 642 190**



INCLUSIONS



- Professional guiding
- 8 Day wilderness expedition
- Delicious & fresh cooked meals
- All rafting equipment, including wetsuits
- Safety equipment, including helmet & pfd
- Dry bag for your personal gear
- Shared pelican waterproof box for cameras
- Communal expedition First Aid Kit
- Comfortable self-inflating air-mattress
- Bivvy bag (rain jacket) for your sleeping bags
- Tasmanian Parks & Wildlife services fees
- Transfer from Hobart to the river & transfer from Strahan to Hobart
- Yacht cruise on board 'the Stormbreaker'



My trip with Franklin River Rafting has to be just about the best thing I've ever done. It really is the trip of a lifetime.

Cynthia Wardle

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EXCLUSIONS



- Airfares to and from Hobart
- Accommodation whilst in Hobart
- Travel insurance
- Breakfast on day 1, lunch & dinner on day 8
- Alcoholic beverages
- Sleeping bag (available for hire if needed)
- Personal medications
- Personal items in packing list



One of the best travel experiences I've ever had.

Martin O'Shea

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WHERE & WHEN



Situated in the remote south-west of Tasmania the Franklin River requires some preparation and planning. Our season runs from spring (October) until the fall (April).

Cold and ferocious weather can occur at anytime, even during the summer months. Check the packing list to ensure you will enjoy even the coldest conditions.

All trips leave from Hobart and return to Hobart at the end of the expedition.



This was an amazing trip. A gift for my 30th birthday, which has left me eternally in debt of giving a better present.

Michael Putrino

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8-10 DAY RAFTING ADVENTURE, FRANKLIN RIVER, TASMANIA

PEOPLE, EQUIPMENT, ENVIRONMENT



To minimise our impact on this beautiful environment all our trips are limited to small group sizes.

We use only the best equipment available and carry out all waste, including human. The toilet system is quite ingenious... But let's not ruin all the surprises.



A true wilderness adventure with expert guides that shared their absolute passion for a very special place.

Shelley McDowell

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YOUR GUIDES



Since its inception Franklin River Rafting has always been about running the best trips possible with a good group of friends. We are proud to have the most amazing guides working with us, sharing their knowledge, experience and passion with you.



The guides from FRR were fantastic. You got the feeling that you were there to have the best time, but the same time they were incredibly safety conscious in their decisions of when to run rapids.

Squeezing Trip Advisor

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Owner/operators - Franzi & Elias



CUISINE



Just because you are camping doesn't mean you have to rough it.

The Tasmanian climate is great for keeping food and you will be surprised what we can fit on our rafts. Plenty of fresh vegetables and enough meat to keep even the biggest carnivore happy.

We have catered for all sorts over the years so just let us know what you require.



How these guys could knock up pizza, steak and a Mexican feast (among other mouth-watering offerings) - in the middle of nowhere - is beyond me!

Richard T

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ACCOMMODATION



The preferred method of camping on the river is using tarpaulins, nothing is quite as roomy and social. We have plenty, of all different sizes and encourage you to discover the tarpologist within.

We also provide you with a divvy bag, this is like a gore-tex jacket for your sleeping bag.



The campsites are in beautiful locations and sleeping under a tarp can become addictive (fresh air, stars).

Karen Creighton

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8-10 DAY RAFTING ADVENTURE, FRANKLIN RIVER, TASMANIA

PRE-TRIP BRIEFING



The day before your trip departs we meet for 2pm at Mountain Creek Outdoors, 75 Bathurst street Hobart. This allows you to try out the gear we provide, ask any last minute questions and browse the store.

We hand out the personal dry bags so you can take them back to the hotel and pack for the trip. Mountain Creek is the best gear shop in Hobart, if you are after any last minute items look no further.



I've done a fair bit of adventuring around the world and I rate this trip as one of the best outdoor adventures I've ever done.

Nic Mo

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8 DAY TRIP NOTES



Whilst we attempt to be as accurate as possible the following trip notes are representative of an average trip at low to medium water levels.

What makes the Franklin River a true wilderness experience is that anything can happen. No trip down the Franklin River is ever exactly the same as the last.

Weather, water levels and/or other unforeseen occurrences usually have the final say on what will be the plan for each day.

Our aim is to ensure a safe and enjoyable trip is had by all.
Please contact us if you have any questions.

Cheers, Elias and Franz



DAY 1



We travel by bus from Hobart to the starting point of the trip the Collingwood River.

It is a good idea to bring a little bit of pocket money for the journey to the river and back to Hobart, should you require any last minute items, drinks or souvenirs from Strahan.

On Arrival we will have lunch and prepare the rafts for take off. Before leaving you will receive a comprehensive safety briefing and all the necessary rafting instruction.

We raft the Collingwood River to it's confluence with the Franklin River and continue downstream.

Negotiating obstacles such as; Boulder Brace, Log Jam, Nasty Notch and Descension Gorge on or way to the spectacular Irenabyss, our resting place for the evening.



DAY 2



Wake up after the first night sleeping in the wilderness, your lungs full of fresh air. Another day of adventure lies in wait. What will be around the next corner? Another fun and exciting rapid? Tranquil pools with driftwood lying on an untouched beach or perhaps a wedge-tail eagle soaring high in the sky?

After breakfast we pack up break camp and begin the section known as the middle Franklin. A winding stretch of the river that twists and its way through beautiful cold temperate rainforest.

Ancient Huon Pines, thousands of years old stand proud, sometimes precariously perched above the river. Tonight we make camp either on a delightful beach or at one of the established rainforest campsites along the river.

DAY 3



Our second and final day on the Middle Franklin. Today we enter The Great Ravine, the cliffs get higher and a sense of foreboding befalls us. In the distance a thundering roar, The Churn rapid a compulsory portage announces it's presence.

Getting past the dangerous rapids on the Franklin River is an art form in itself and different water levels dictate how we must tackle the task as a team. Once the rafts, all our food, camping and personal gear are safely at the bottom our next obstacle comes into view. The Corkscrew can be one of the finest rapids on the river or not, either way once we have negotiated the challenge we paddle down 'Serenity Sound' feeling tired, satisfied and ready to make camp.



DAY 4 - THE RAVINE



Today we tackle the crux of the trip, The Great Ravine. Although only several kilometres in length, this section of the Franklin River is home to most of the big rapids which must be safely negotiated.

The Dean and Hawkins party, who in the 1959, after several attempts were the first to successfully descend the Franklin took six days to complete this stretch of river. They called it 'Deception Gorge' and they were not at all pleased with the effort it required, feeling that they may not survive.

Johnson Dean recounts in his book 'Shooting the Franklin' as they were destined for another miserable night in a rough campsite "I wished I had never encountered this hideous defile"

Luckily thanks to the advancement in equipment, knowledge and tricks developed over the years, these days 'The Ravine' is generally surmounted in one long day.

A combination of rafting, portaging and lining make for a very exciting and memorable day.

Beware those that are blasé, The Franklin River is still the scene of many epic adventures. Tales of rafts lost, long arduous portages or cold wet nights waiting for a boat swamped due to a hasty attempted shortcut.

Once the last obstacle is behind us we drift lazily down river until the gorge opens up to reveal our home for the evening. The beautiful Rafter's Basin. Tonight we feel that sense of satisfaction that one only feels after a hard days effort. The morning seems like a lifetime ago, amazing how much you can fit in just one day.



DAY 5



Today we journey through the stunning Propsting Gorge, one of the best stretches of raft-able whitewater on the Franklin River.

A slightly shorter day generally welcomed by all after the effort of the previous days.

Shortly before camp we arrive at 'Rock Island Bend' often associated with the Franklin River and the campaign to save it due to the photograph taken by Peter Dombrovskis 'Morning mist at Rock Island Bend'.

Tonight we camp at Newlands Cascades a naturally sheltered campsite, one of the best places to be if its raining and the river is rising.

DAY 6



After a quick goodbye from the whitewater we have come accustomed to the Franklin changes dramatically. As we enter the lower reaches of the river it widens, the wild water becoming tranquil and the rock formations predominantly limestone.

Sometimes a Sea Eagle will keep watch from above until it is satisfied with our presence.

As it flies away we are once more left to experience the silent isolation of this immense wilderness.

This evening we arrive at Big Fall Beach, a magnificent campsite gladly received after the days paddling.



DAY 7



Our last day of rafting today we continue down the Lower Franklin and onto the lower reaches of the Gordon River.

Along the way we pass another majestic set of caves and a little known canyon called 'The Lost World'. Perfectly named this unlikely looking nook opens up to reveal a world of dark green mosses and delicate spider webs.

Not long afterwards the Franklin River flows into the Gordon River and with it the end of our adventure draws nearer. The past week seemingly gone in the blink of an eye. We pass the proposed site for the Dam, reminding us that this place was nearly lost forever.

Another six kilometres downstream we reach the jetty at Sir John Falls the end of our journey by raft.

DAY 8



We begin the day bright and early to the sound of music coming from onboard the 'Stormbreaker'. Sean the skipper warms up the engine as we break camp for the last time and head on board the yacht.

We cruise down the Gordon River in the early morning mist past the iconic 'Butlers Island' where 34 years ago blockaders attempted to stop the barges carrying the bulldozers for the dam.

We continue to cruise down the river to its mouth and into Macquarie Harbour, on a clear day you will be treated to 360° views including the dramatic Frenchmans Cap in the distance. The Stormbreaker takes us all the way into the small west coast town of Strahan.

On arrival our bus will be waiting, the last part of our journey back to Hobart.

PACKING CHECKLIST

On a Franklin River trip all items required for the duration of the journey are packed onto the rafts you will be travelling on. This makes the rafts very heavy, particularly at the beginning of the journey when the raft is full with food for the expedition.

CLOTHING - ESSENTIAL

Thermal Top - icebreaker or similar - no cotton	3 sets	
Thermal Pants - icebreaker or similar - no cotton	3 sets	
Camp pants - fleece or quick dry	1	
Fleece or wool jumper	1	
Warm socks - no cotton	3-4 pairs	
T- shirts	2	
Board Shorts	1	
Shoes for on the river - Dunlop Volleys highly recommended	1 pair	
Shoes for camp	1 pair	
Rain Jacket - gore-tex or similar	1	
Beanie - warm wool hat or similar	1	
Sunhat - baseball caps are best, can be worn under helmet	1	

OTHER - ESSENTIAL

Warm sleeping bag, at least minus 5 degrees celcius	1	
Sunglasses and retainer to avoid losing them	1 pair	
Torch - handsfree head torches are best	1	
Sunscreen (small tube)	1	
Drink bottle for camp	1	
Personal medication and toiletries	1	
Money for trip to and from the river - first and last day	1	

EVERYTHING WE TAKE SHOULD BE NECESSARY FOR THE JOURNEY, PLEASE READ THE PACKING LIST CAREFULLY AND AVOID UNNECESSARY ITEMS.

HIGH VALUE OR IRREPLACEABLE ITEMS, AEROSOL CANS, GLASS CONTAINERS OF ANY KIND AND SOAP SHOULD BE AVOIDED.

ITEM - RECOMMENDED AMOUNT IN NUMBERS, WHERE (?) INDICATED AMOUNT IS PERSONAL PREFERENCE.

CLOTHING - OPTIONAL

Neoprene socks - highly recommended	1 pair	
Gloves - fingerless ideal, to avoid blisters	1 pair	
Down Jacket - nothing better for comfort in camp	1	

OTHER OPTIONAL ITEMS

A packet of wet wipes	1	
Camera - waterproof is best (phone in a case with lanyard)	1	
Small camping towel and swimmers	1	
Small musical instrument - preferably one you are good at	1	
Alcoholic beverages	?	

ITEMS WE WILL SUPPLY YOU WITH

80 litre - Watershed dry bag for your personal belongings	1	
Personal Flotation Device - PFD (lifejacket)	1	
Helmet	1	
Wetsuit and Spray Jacket - worn over the wetsuit	1	
Bivvy Bag - rain jacket for your sleeping bag	1	
Personal groundsheet	1	
Very thick and comfortable Therm-a-rest sleeping mat	1	