



THE ISLAND IS KING



Cape Wickham Links

LONG famed for its cheese, free-range beef and laid-back atmosphere, King Island in Bass Strait is also quickly becoming known on a global scale for its amazing, world-class golf. With two magnificent courses now gracing its shores, Ocean Dunes and Cape Wickham, golfers from far and wide are buzzing with excitement about this once sleepy island. Indeed, the tiny island is on the verge of a major boom in golf tourism, as the courses, services, accommodation and food are all becoming renowned across the globe.

Inside Golf has travelled to King Island on a variety of occasions, and we have developed a bit of a “golf crush” on the island. Though windswept and still a bit “raw” it offers golfers a pure, endearing and exciting golf adventure that must be experienced to be appreciated. Both layouts are true “golfer’s courses”. They are perfect for the player who prefers a challenging, raw, bump-and-run type of golf (the way golf was meant to be played), yet also enjoyable for the higher marker, as their rugged charm is equalled only by their sheer beauty.

THE GOLF

NESTLED on the west coast of the island, just 4km outside of the central town of Currie, **Ocean Dunes** has everything that the passionate golfer could want, from spectacular ocean views to challenging world-class golf. Covering 285 acres, incorporating rolling dunes and unsurpassed views along 2km of majestic coastline, the course features subtle, rolling greens set in picture-perfect, natural locations.

Meandering along the rocky coast, the opening holes are simply jaw-dropping. From the opening teeshot on the 500m par-5 first hole—which requires a well-placed drive over the dunes to a dog-leg fairway, to the blind approach on the 280m par-4 second hole (again, over a dune), you’ll need to learn quickly to focus on your game (and not the awe-inspiring views). The following holes are no picnic, especially on a windy day. Both the 425m par-4 third and the amazing 130m par-3 fourth require water carries, but if you keep your wits about you, you can safely navigate the course, and keep the ball dry!

You continue your journey along the front nine by continuing inward, winding through and around the dunes, (but the ocean views will stay with you throughout). With each hole you become more and more mesmerised by just how special this course really is.

The back-nine features even more of the raw beauty, and pure, rugged golf, starting with the par-3 tenth, a 210m brute which plays across 3 Rivers Bay. Among our favourite holes are the 13th and 14th, both at the highest points on the course. The 13th is a drivable par-four for the bigger hitters (310m) while the 14th is a short par-three (110m) from an elevated tee. But don’t let the distance fool you – with some wind in your face, the hole could require a LOT more club than you think.

In truth, there are no weak holes at Ocean Dunes. All throughout the course, you are presented with a variety of risk/reward options, daunting tee shots, troublesome rough and well-protected greens. Firm and fast conditions are the name of the game

here. The greens are large, undulating and receptive; just make sure you hit the fairway and give yourself a chance.

In only its third year, Ocean Dunes has shot up the rankings, now sitting firmly among Australia’s Top-10, making it a true must-play course.

Multiple tee blocks are available for players of all standards to choose from, with between four and seven tee options on each hole. So whether you opt to take on the “teeth” of the course from the back tees, or simply choose the more “friendly” forward tees, there is something for golfers of every level/skillset, offering everyone a chance to not only try and tame the course, but to also have one heck of a fun time.

There are also new two-, three- and four-day Play & Stay packages available, including off-peak specials, playing both Ocean Dunes and Cape Wickham. Visit the website for details.

MORE INFORMATION:

Ocean Dunes
Phone: (03) 6462 1633
enquiry@oceandunes.com.au
www.oceandunes.com.au

Up the coast from Ocean Dunes, the magnificent **Cape Wickham Links** has been ranked the 24th best golf course in the world by Golf Digest Magazine (USA). Situated near the northwestern tip of King Island and designed by American Mike DeVries and Melbourne’s Darius Oliver, the course was recently described as one of the “hottest new layouts on the globe”.

Known for its challenging and wonderful layout—not to mention its views of the

famous lighthouse (the tallest in the Southern Hemisphere)—The Cape Wickham routing has been described as “heart-pounding, starting along rocks and crashing surf, moving inland but not out of the wind, returning to ocean edge at the downhill 10th, pitch-shot 11th and drivable par-4 12th, then wandering into dunes before a crescendo closing hole curving along Victoria Cove beach, which is in play at low tides.”

Inside Golf has played the course on a number of occasions and we always walk away impressed and in awe. From the mesmerising views to the spectacular layout and the true challenge of the course, it is definitely a must-play course that not only demands respect, but commands adoration. And with the recent announcement that the facility will be managed by Troon International, Cape Wickham is set to impress well into the future.

Though the entire course features some of the most beautiful and challenging holes you’ll ever play, the back-nine is the real treat here, with the par-4 16th and par-3 17th the real standouts. Both holes feature teeboxes along the rocky coastline, requiring nerves of steel and a quality teeshot to find success.

Cape Wickham Links has 16 ocean view rooms on course (see Accommodation section), and there are plans for a new clubhouse and additional rooms, making the course an enticing stay-and-play option.

MORE INFORMATION:

Cape Wickham Links
www.capewickham.com.au



King Island Golf and Bowls Club



Ocean Dunes

Somewhat overshadowed by the two new courses (but no less spectacular), the long-established **King Island Golf and Bowls club**, in Currie, is one of the world's greatest 9-hole courses. When the wind is blowing, it is one of the most challenging courses you'll ever play, demanding creativity and strategy to plot your way to the hole. It's also a lot of fun.

The course hugs a spectacular coastline, offering endless ocean vistas, a clever routing and greens in great condition. The course is a composite 18 holes, with alternate tees (17) and greens (12) on ten fairways. There are three Par-3s, 12 Par-4s and three Par-5s with a total length of 5476m.

MORE INFORMATION:
www.golfkingisland.com

GETTING THERE

GETTING to King Island to experience these incredible, world-ranking courses has never been easier. **Air Adventure**, who have been flying guests to remote Outback Australia since 1977, also specialise in King Island Golf Tours. Not only are you in safe and experienced hands when you fly in their immaculate, private aircraft but you will save countless hours in travel time. Their Cessna Conquest II is the highest performing private aircraft operating in the golf industry and is flown by an experienced, qualified captain. With state-of-the-art Garmin avionics, twin turbine engines and the ability to reach speeds over 550kph you are flying in a sophisticated, high-performance aircraft. This also means it only takes 35 minutes to fly to King Island from Melbourne...which translates to less time wasted in transit and more time on the golf course.

Air Adventure have a range of two- to four-day packages to suit every golfer. Their

two-day King Island golf tour includes 18 holes at Ocean Dunes and 18 holes at Cape Wickham and prices start from \$995 per person, twin share including return private charter flights, accommodation, golf and transfers. For golf tragics looking to add even more excitement to their trip, Air Adventure also have a four-day Barnbougles + King Island tour, which allows you to play four of world's most remote, exciting and highest ranking courses in one easy trip. This trip includes flying directly from the fairways at Barnbougles Lost Farm to King Island. Pricing starts at \$2075 per person and includes your private charter flight, three nights' accommodation, four rounds of golf (18 holes at Barnbougles, 18 holes at Ocean Dunes, 18 holes at Cape Wickham and 20 holes at Lost Farm) and transfers.

Air Adventure have now flown over 3500 golfers to King Island to play these must-play courses and it's no wonder when they have an experienced golf manager to do all

the leg work for you – including arranging accommodation, dinner reservations, golf and all on ground transfers – they'll even do transfers to the bottle shop if groups need extra supplies. Air Adventure also have their own bus based on King Island with a host to meet and greet you upon arrival and transfer you between golf, dinner, your accommodation and even the famous King Island Dairy. All you need to do is relax and focus on your game.

If you are looking for a luxury, easy bucket-list trip, contact Air Adventure and book yourself on one of their tours and arrive like a champion.

MORE INFORMATION:
Air Adventure Golf Tours
Phone: 1800 033 160
golf@airadventure.com.au
golftoursaustralia.com.au

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Porky Beach Retreat



Boomerang by the Sea

ACCOMMODATION, TRAVEL PACKAGES AND SERVICES

Porky Beach Retreat

Porky Beach Retreat is a stunning two-level beach house built with the environment and location in mind. Its unique setting is nestled within the dunes and direct private access to its mainly private beach with breathtaking views of the Southern Ocean. Operating for the past six years but rebranding under a new name, King Island Escapes, it is unrivalled in the luxury it offers. Containing four bedrooms, (all with deluxe King sized beds that can be converted to twins) 3.5 bathrooms and a large open plan living, dining and kitchen area. The style is elegant but laid back with offerings of a gorgeous rotating fireplace, fully equipped kitchen, outdoor BBQ, Curved smart TV with Foxtel, free WiFi, all positioned with a large

deck facing the ocean. Porky Beach Retreat caters for every whim for golfers who want that special touch. An outdoor red cedar hot tub and barrel sauna with a complete glass front has recently been installed overlooking this majestic ocean which gives the finishing touches to King Island's most luxurious accommodation option.

MORE INFORMATION:

Porky Beach Retreat
Phone: Alex 0417 580 550
www.kingislandescapes.com.au
stay@kingislandescapes.com.au
Instagram: @kingislandescapes
Facebook: King Island Escapes

Boomerang By The Sea

Nestled amongst the tranquil, unique rugged coastlines, spectacular King Island makes nature's ideal backdrop for Boomerang by the Sea.

Centrally located in the township of Currie, overlooking the Links golf course, enjoy the convenience of short coastal walks and sporting facilities close at hand.

The Boomerang by the Sea's restaurant is regarded as the finest on King Island, offering the freshest local and Tasmanian seafood, cheese, beef and wine with 270-degree ocean views not to be missed. The exquisite, fully-licensed restaurant is open Monday to Saturday for dinner offering friendly service found only on King Island. Lunches and private functions by arrangement.

Accommodation is positioned overlooking the Links Golf Course and Great Southern Ocean. They are just an easy five-minute stroll from the Currie town centre, golf course, tennis courts and licensed restaurants.

Their sixteen units are complete with conventional facilities including large sliding doors opening to a verandah and ocean

views. For the family group, they have self-contained holiday units with all facilities to make your stay comfortable and relaxed. Only a short walk from the Motel and Restaurant.

MORE INFORMATION:

Boomerang By The Sea
Phone: (03) 6462 1288
sales@boomerangbythesea.com.au
www.boomerangbythesea.com.au

Cape Wickham Accommodation

Cape Wickham has also opened 16 new luxury bedrooms perched above the 1st hole. All face north and have spectacular views down the 18th hole, across the beach and Victoria Cove to the famous lighthouse. The lighthouse is the tallest in Australia and is less than 2km away. From their balcony, guests see five putting greens.



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Cape Wickham Accommodation



King Island Hotel



Taraki Lodge

Each bedroom is very large (12m long by 4.2m wide) and has an ensuite bathroom and a superb north-facing balcony.

The bedrooms are less than 40m from the first tee and practice green but you would never guess they are so close. A small sand dune creates total privacy from this busy area of the golf course. They are also less than 5 minutes' walk from the clubhouse.

A great new service for guests, the first in Australia, is that golfers staying at Wickham can have the convenience of charging the battery of their Club Car golf cart overnight at a charging station adjacent to their room. In other words, golfers staying overnight, and using a cart, get to keep the same cart for the duration of their stay.

MORE INFORMATION:

Cape Wickham Accommodation
www.capewickham.com.au

Taraki Lodge

Taraki Lodge was an idea that four families had discussed not too seriously over dinner one night a few years ago. All families have a particular interest in golf and are members of a fine assortment of Melbourne Sandbelt golf clubs including Kingston Heath, Victoria, The National and Peninsula. So Taraki Lodge was born out of not only the love of golf but as a result the love of King Island and its wonderful residents. The island is wild and enchanting with spectacular land and seascapes, rich oceans, lush farmlands, hidden forests and pristine unspoiled beaches.

The house sits high atop sand dunes and faces due west. In fact, if you set out in a boat heading in that direction the first landfall would be Argentina in South America because you would sail well south of South Africa. You will notice that the bedrooms are

named after their geographic location in the house or the direction they face, in case you lose your way.

Please make yourselves at home and have a lovely short or long vacation. The house has all the comforts of home and all the tools needed to relax with spectacular views to distract you out to Bass Strait and the Roaring Forties. For more information, contact tarakilodge@gmail.com or phone Ayra: 0401 341 988.

King Island Hotel

The newly renovated King Island Hotel is located in Currie, King Island's largest township – five minutes drive from Ocean Dunes and just 10 minutes from the King Island Airport.

The hotel's beautifully modern decorated rooms are available as twin, double or a mixture of both, plus two connecting rooms for larger groups or families. Room facilities include Wireless Wi-Fi, TV, Bar Fridge, Hair Dryer, Tea and Coffee making facilities. Room charging is also available to guests.

The hotel facilities include a large 80+ cover Restaurant/Bistro, Public Sports/Tote Bar and Beer Garden. The Bistro is available for Breakfasts, Lunches and Dinner to both public and guests with a variety of local produce to tempt you.

A golfers' private dining room option for the "Group Dinner" is also available.

MORE INFORMATION:

King Island Hotel
Phone: (03) 6462 1633
enquiries@oceanandunes.com.au

King Island

Golf & Bowling Club Inc

The golf course was established in 1932. Located in Owen Smith Drive, Currie - a five minute walk to King Island's CBD.

Green fees - \$30 for nine holes - \$40 for 18 holes - includes buggy hire. Tee times can be booked via our website.

Golfers with a GA handicap are welcome to join the member's competition held each Saturday - hit off at 11am.

The annual King Island Open Golf Championship (36 holes) is held during the first weekend in November.

Full bar facilities are available during Clubhouse opening hours and our on site Chinese restaurant is open 6 days per week.

Is this Australia's best 9 holes?

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Great Golf Getaways



King Island Dairy

Great Golf Getaways — New “King Island” Packages

Great Golf Getaways provides customised King Island packages that are ideal for weekend golf getaways with rounds at Cape Wickham and Ocean Dunes. For longer trips you can also enjoy Great Golf Getaways' four-night packages which include two nights on King Island and two nights in Tasmania with additional rounds at Barnbougle Dunes and The Lost Farm. This exciting combination of two world-class golf destinations also offers golfers the unique experience of playing four of Australia's top 10 courses.

New “King Island” packages are now available for groups of all sizes and can suit all types of golf travel for club members, social groups and corporate VIP tours. Great Golf Getaways will assist you in arranging all your required travel arrangements to King Island including accommodation, golf bookings, transport (coach, car or minibus rental) and return flights to King Island (via private charters or local regional airlines) to suit your personal tour itinerary. The spring/summer months through to autumn are the perfect time of the year for planning a trip to King Island and Tasmania. During these months

being the peak golfing season, advance tour planning and bookings are highly recommended.

GGG Client Feedback: A group of Melbourne-based golfers (pictured above) enjoyed their first “King Island” trip with Great Golf Getaways, and based on their feedback all enjoyed a memorable golfing experience:

“Dear Lee, The weekend was perfect and the weather couldn't have been better. Then there's the courses, when you think you've played at majestic courses around the country, King Island is another step above anything else, what a mind-blowing adventure! These are the places you'll never forget but want to come back to. Your GGG packages are brilliant and the service provided is second to none,” Thanks again, C Preston (VIC).

Contact Great Golf Getaways for more information on their latest range of golf packages and to assist you in planning your next King Island adventure tour.

MORE INFORMATION:

Great Golf Getaways
National Travel Desk: 1300 124 220
info@greatgolfgetaways.com.au
www.greatgolfgetaways.com.au

The Travelling Golfer

The Travelling Golfer has first-hand knowledge of King Island and can tailor a trip to suit you and your golfing friends. Their packages include flights, golf accommodation, land transfers and even dinner bookings or sightseeing.

There are a number of different options when flying to King Island including commercial and charter flights. The size of your group, point of departure, and timing will all determine which flights work for you. The Travelling Golfer's dedicated flight personnel can assist you to find the right flight for you and your group. (Tip: Make sure the flight times enable you to maximise your time on the island!)

Accommodation choices range from on-course to in-town, budget to luxury, hotel rooms to seaside lodges. There is a range of accommodation to suit your budget and group size. (Tip: A couples' trip should consider one of the luxury lodges.)

The Travelling Golfer can organise the golf at all three courses on King Island, plus arrange carts and buggies. (Tip: a warm-up round at the 9-hole King Island Golf & Bowling Club is a popular option.)

The Travelling Golfer can also arrange hire cars or self-drive vans, or you may prefer shuttle transfers or to be chauffeur driven. (Tip: If you enjoy a drink after your game, consider a shuttle transfer for your group.)

If you would like to experience more than just golf on your visit, The Travelling Golfer can help you with sightseeing ideas, restaurants that feature King Island produce, crayfish picnics, horse rides along the beach, cheese tasting and more. (Tip: Dinner at Wild Harvest is a must!)

Now is the best time to plan your trip to King Island, with the summer and autumn months the best time to visit. And if you are looking for a Christmas gift idea for the 'golf tragic' in your family, one of The Travelling Golfer's King Island packages will be the perfect present. They can customise a voucher just for them.

MORE INFORMATION:

The Travelling Golfer
Phone: Peter 0438 573 271
info@thetravellinggolfer.com.au
www.thetravellinggolfer.com.au



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King Island Dairy

If you ever have the chance to visit King Island, the King Island Dairy cheese store is a must-see destination. The store has many cheeses from an award-winning range of cheddars, blues and white moulds available for tasting and purchase. Enjoy a cheese platter or baked brie with a craft beer or glass of Tasmanian wine. King Island Dairy have been making dairy products on site for over one hundred years. It is one of Australia's most awarded, premium specialty cheese brands. The island's unique microclimate – high annual rainfall, raging winds and mineral rich soils – makes it a wonderful environment to make unique cheese. Located on site at King Island Dairy and only a five-minute drive from the airport, it really is a true cheese lover's paradise.

Visit www.kingislanddairy.com.au for more information or cheese store opening hours.

King Island Coach Tours

King Island Coach Tours offer full and half day tours in an air-conditioned coach, to the Island's well-known landmarks and attractions including the Cape Wickham lighthouse – the tallest lighthouse in the southern hemisphere. Your tour will inevitably take in the King Island Dairy where you can sample some of the world-renowned cheese. Visit some of the art galleries or the Calcified Forest. Or take an evening penguin watching tour.

King Island Coach Tours can also arrange accommodation at the Boomerang Motel, Wave Watcher self contained units and Shannon Coastal Cottages

MORE INFORMATION:
King Island Coach Tours
Phone: (03) 64621288



Barnbougle Lost Farm via The Golf Travel Agency

King Island Coach Company

King Island Coach Company is your premier option for all your golf transfer requirements on King Island.

With the flexibility of their bus fleet, they are able to transfer groups of all sizes to and from King Island Airport to golf courses, accommodation and meal destinations. They offer flexible pick up times so you are able to get the most out of your golfing experience.

King Island tours can also be arranged as an option to add to your total experience and see this beautiful Island.

All drivers are experienced local operators with a vast knowledge of the Island.

MORE INFORMATION:
King Island Coach Company
Phone: Matthew 0499 806 243
kingislandfishingtours@gmail.com

The Golf Travel Agency

The Golf Travel Agency are specialists in organising golf travel to Tasmania's King Island and Barnbougle, and have been working in King Island since Cape Wickham first opened, which means they know all the 'tricks of the trade' to ensure you maximise your golf experience on the Island.

They offer the option of flying Commercial Airlines, or by Private Charter, depending on your preference and group size.

If you are interested in heading down to Tassie for some amazing golf (and food and wine) have a chat with The Golf Travel Agency first to see how they can help. They have arrangements in place with all of the courses on King Island and at Barnbougle, as well as all available accommodation options in the two areas which enables them to charge no more than what it would cost you to organise

the trip yourself, only they are a one-stop shop that can advise on all the options, as well as taking all the hassle out of dealing with different airlines, hotels, golf courses, transfer companies, etc.

Whether you want to visit just King Island or Barnbougle separately for a golfing weekend, or whether you want to combine them all for a four- or five-day golfing trip to heaven, The Golf Travel Agency can look after you to make the booking process as simple and cost effective as possible.

So, if you want to take all the stress out of organising your next golf trip, let someone else do the hard yards for you, save time, money and let your only job be finding the right mates to travel with, call the team at The Golf Travel Agency on (02) 9555 5311 or visit their website www.thegolftravelagency.com.au.



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