



ROADS LESS TRAVELED



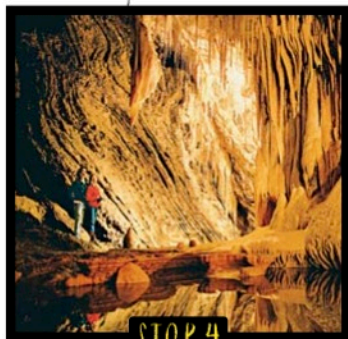
STOP 1

ON THE FIRST DAY, YOU REST

After arriving at Launceston Airport, pick up a rental car and head to Hadspen's **Red Feather Inn** (from \$225, redfeatherinn.com.au), a former carriage house where the rooms have fireplaces and soaking tubs. Book a candlelit dinner in the dining room or make your meal with the house chef by reserving a spot in one of the pickling or smoking classes in the cozy kitchen.

Traffic School

A crash-course in left-side driving: Slower traffic stays to the left. Faster traffic passes on the right. And don't forget the blinker is to the right of the steering wheel.



STOP 4

Just 42 miles until craft cider



WAY DOWN UNDER

When I moved to Sydney last year, I had no clue that, after a two-hour flight south to **Tasmania**, I could ramble through river valleys and meet a zoo's worth of animals in the wild. Then I paid a visit to the island's northwest corner. Drive the same remote backcountry now and you'll catch the Southern Hemisphere in its prime.

by SERENA RENNER

111 miles
(or INXS' album *Kick*,
5 times on repeat)

IT'S SPELUNKING TIME

Mole Creek Karst National Park and the surrounding area offer subterranean streams and pools, plus some 300 caves. At **Marakoopa Cave**, you'll feel as though you're in Mother Nature's planetarium, because the walls are lit up by Australia's largest colony of glow worms. **Honeycomb Cave** is best explored with Deb from Wild Cave Tours (wildcavetours.com). Unlike most guides, she holds a PhD in speleology.

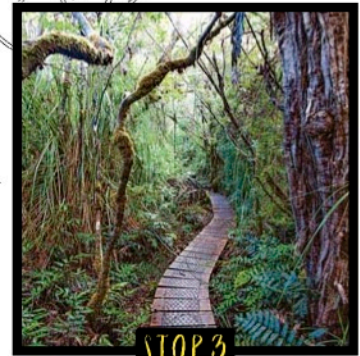


STOP 2

BREWS BEYOND BEER

At **Seven Sheds Brewery** (sevenscheds.com) in Railton, you can enjoy the Paradise Pale ale or the mead, which is fermented with renowned honey from nearby Sheffield. Fifteen minutes north, at **Spreyton Cider Co.** (spreytoncider.co.com.au), pick up the dry vintage cider and ample supplies of beef jerky, local cheese, and "bikkies" (crackers). Then settle under the apple and cherry trees for a picnic.

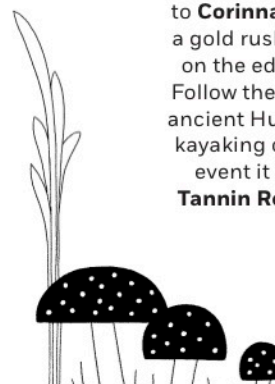
104 miles.
Brake for devils!



STOP 3

GET LOST IN THE RAIN FOREST

Blow through Burnie to allow for more time in the woods. When the long stretch of highway turns bright white—it was built from silica rock—you're almost to **Corinna** (from \$180, corinna.com.au), a gold rush settlement turned ecolodge on the edge of the Tarkine wilderness. Follow the trail from your cottage to see ancient Huon pines or spot platypi while kayaking on **Pieman River**. In the likely event it rains, escape to the lodge's **Tannin Restaurant** for a rib-eye steak.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: COURTESY OF THE RED FEATHER INN, ADRIAN LANDER, SERENA RENNER, COURTESY OF TOURISM TASMANIA & GEORGE APOSTOLIDIS