

# Boating Down The Derwent River in Tasmania

## By The Whittley Family

Early March 2016, Neville and Marianne Whittley went boating in a Whittley 2600CR in Tasmania with two other local Whittley boat owners. December to mid-March are probably the mildest weather for boating in Tasmania. However, as we all know, a Whittley boat is a pleasure to go boating in, even if it does rain.

The trip started with a launch at the Motor Yacht Club of Tasmania in Lindisfarne, Hobart. This club has a magnificent view from their huge windows overlooking the marina. Then down the Derwent River without any speed restrictions. Just realised in time to not go under the middle of Tasman Bridge (because the sign says not to!!)

Along this section of river are homes overlooking the river, some beach houses etc. Then across to Snug, which is in NW Bay near a couple of fish farms, where we met up with two other Whittley owners. The wind was blowing the wrong way for us there, so we moved on for the night. Kettering Marina was full so we moved onto Peppermint Bay Café for a happy hour with a view. There are many protected bays around North Bruny Island e.g. Barnes Bay and Great Bay.

The next day we travelled along D'Entrecasteaux Channel to Isthmus Bay and Simpsons Bay, anchored the boats, took inflatables into the sandy shore of 'the neck' where there were thousands of very small crabs and many Penguin holes. Then walked the short distance up to the lookout, for the fantastic view over Adventure Bay and Tasman Ocean. You can see Captain Cooks landing place on South Bruny Island on side of the neck and Isthmus Bay on the other side.



If we had more time, we could have then come back to the channel and around Verona Sands, into the Huon River or back up the channel, across Storm Bay into Maingon Bay, past W.Arthur Head and up to Port Arthur. At the end of February – early March 2016, the tuna were good fishing around and across to Port Arthur.



Overall the scenery, views and incredibly fresh produce in Tasmania are reason alone to return, let alone the friendly people.

Another time, we will explore the road from Devonport (where the Spirit of Tasmania arrives/departs from) to Launceston and its Cheese factory, Chocolate museum and Raspberry Farm. Then to Beauty Point Marina for launching, before travelling towards Legana on the Tamar River. Where there is a lavender farm and several wineries to explore. Then we could venture out of the Tamar River, past George Town and take Port Dalrymple River out into Bass Strait and around to Port Sorell.

There are a couple of Whittley owners located in Strahan (West coast) who also say that Macquarie Harbour is a big waterway with great fishing and convict ruins. But there are also fantastic cray fish and fishing on the East coast at St Helens on Georges Bay.

There is so much boating to do in Tasmania, no wonder a few members of the Whittley Club NSW are currently spending 6 weeks in Tasmania with their boats.





Wishing you many happy Whittley boating adventures together.

By Marianne Whittley