



## OVERVIEW

Nestled at the base of The Nut and overlooking the panorama of the windswept bay beyond, the Ship Inn Stanley commands attention. Reinventing itself as a unique storytelling guest house, this luxe offering beckons travellers seeking a boutique experience on Tasmania's far North West coast.

Guests unearth the many triumphs and tribulations hidden within the century old walls of this extraordinary property. Her history is largely intertwined with tales of merchant sailors, local shipwrecks, colonial English gentry, and hard-fought agricultural battles.

Our guests are wrapped in a gentle embrace from a bygone era.

## OUR GUESTS

Ship Inn Stanley guests are drawn by adventure and intrigue, and delighted by connection and history. We attract those seeking immersion in true Tasmanian character. Those that value time and space, history and place. Those that appreciate quality and difference. Those that seek balance between the unknown and the extraordinary.

Our guests tend to linger for days in this gentle place of deep breaths, slow mornings and long walks. Surrounded by heritage and spoilt with sumptuous touches, we are touched to see them unwind and lose themselves in this special experience at the edge of the world.

## OUR LOCATION

The Ship Inn Stanley is centrally located in the historic coastal town of Stanley on Tasmania's North West coast. Stanley is four and a half hours drive from Hobart, two and a half hours from Launceston, and one and a half hours from Devonport. All roads are accessible year-round and popular with self-drive tourers who enjoy the many intriguing stops along each route. Think art galleries, antique stores, vineyards, eateries, scenic lookouts, and numerous coastal settlements and historic colonial townships.



Wild coastline and rugged surrounds draw intrepid guests to Tasmania's North West. Cool temperate rainforests, desolate surf breaks and stunning walking trails just scratch the surface of the many hidden

secrets. The Ship Inn Stanley rests gently in the foothills of The Nut, the striking remains of an ancient volcanic plug. Rising steeply from the tumultuous seas of Bass Strait, this geological master encapsulates wild beauty from every angle and remains forever our silent sentinel.

Stanley itself is a charming collection of colonial buildings and quaint cottages. Well preserved architecture dates back to the township's early days when Stanley played home to the headquarters of the Van Diemen's Land Company at nearby Highfield House. Many local properties have today been restored as shops, boutique accommodation and cafes.

Surrounded by natural beauty, Stanley attracts bushwalkers, beachcombers, historians, and explorers keen to spot fur seals and penguins. Wedge-tailed Eagles and Peregrine Falcons are often spotted hovering over the countryside or soaring majestically on lofty currents high above The Nut.

## OUR EXPERIENCES

When guests finally drag themselves outdoors, they'll find a myriad of unique experiences on offer. Our favorites include:

- Climb to the top of The Nut - *A steep walking track weaves its way to the summit, or a chairlift is available for those seeking a milder alternative. Spectacular views sweep across surrounding farmland, beaches, the township below and out across the wild seas of Bass Strait.*
- Stanley Heritage Walk - *A self-guided one hour walk in the footsteps of local writer and artist Meg Eldridge. Take your mobile and use QR technology to unearth the secrets along the way.*
- Wander the township – *Spend a day exploring the township and port. Colonial building and quaint cottages abound. There is plenty to fill your day for those that appreciate local museums, monuments, cafes, boutique shops, galleries, and a local wine or two or a tippie of Tasmanian spirits at the cellar door.*
- Visit Highfield House – *Built in the 1830s for the chief agent of the Van Diemen's Company. Explore the restored homestead and beautiful gardens.*
- Discover after dark – *Little penguins come ashore at dusk. Quiet and patience are well rewarded at the Godfrey's Beach penguin viewing platform.*

- Unearth the Tarkine – *Take a day trip to the pristine Tarkine wilderness and soak in exquisite rainforest, button grass plains, rivers and waterfalls. Options include eco-cruises, helicopter tours, adventure tours, or simply grab a hamper and drive yourself.*
- Heli Tours – *Enjoy a sea eagles view over our striking rugged coast. Ask about options to land on remote Three Hummock Island.*
- Visit Woolnorth – *Overlooking the Southern Ocean is Australia's biggest dairy operation. Guided tours are available. You can then visit the interpretive centre on the site of Tasmania's first wind farm to uncover insights into renewable energy production, Aboriginal heritage and clean air monitoring.*

## OUR RENOVATION

The melting pot of humanity that congregated within the walls of the inn has instilled upon it a richly poignant history. Many a weary sailor would have welcomed the revelry that awaited at the end of the right of way which led from the beach to the inn and still exists today.

As the inn has weathered the passing of time it has taken on many personas. Licensees came and went throughout its 170-year history, adding their own depth of character. The game of skittles prevailed, and a large roller-skating rink was well patronized in the late 1800s. At the turn of the century billiard rooms were erected next door alongside cold storage rooms... a convenience said to be taken up by the towns doctor to house the dearly departed prior to burial.

After trading as a pub for 150 years, the inn closed its doors in 1972 and gradually fell into disrepair until a local family saved it from demolition and made it their private home. With a long list of trading names behind it, the 'Ship Inn' was then resurrected as a guesthouse with its name reestablished as fitting homage to its origins.

Local owners Kerry and Alastair Houston have worked tirelessly to uncover the historic secrets of this remarkable two storey, property. Sharing a passion for authenticity, they have embraced its intriguing past and gently breathed new life between the century old walls. The glorious restoration of the inn is further complemented by the triumph to be found in the grounds. A celebrated landscaper and stone-mason, Alastair has woven his magic with local materials to create an outdoor haven. The Ship Inn Stanley boasts an immaculate terraced garden carved from stone salvaged from the base of The Nut itself, the perfect place to indulge in a late afternoon Tasmanian wine.

## OUR STYLING & STORIES

The Houstons' engaged an incredible design team to take their year-long project forward and bring their vision for the Ship Inn Stanley to fruition.

This is a story-telling guesthouse and Tiffany Jade of Creative Concierge Consulting researched the local history and submerged herself in the past to create the evocative stories for the luxurious suites.

Website ([www.creativeconciergeconsulting.com](http://www.creativeconciergeconsulting.com))

Instagram (@creative\_concierge)

The styling and rebranding was **co-ordinated** by the talented Georgie Rayner of Georgeous Occasions.

Website ([www.georgeous.com.au](http://www.georgeous.com.au))

Instagram (@georgeousoccasions). In truly Tasmanian fashion it was discovered part way through the project that Georgie's relations were licensees of the Ship Inn Stanley in the 1800s.

**Rebranding**, with logos, colour palette, overall brand and graphic direction was done by Claire Gilbert. Her incredible attention to detail can be seen in every aspect of the rebranding.

Website ([www.clairegilbert.com.au](http://www.clairegilbert.com.au))

Instagram (@claireegilbert)

The uber creative **interior designers and stylists** Lynda Gardener and Belle Hemming, understood the Houstons' vision and wove their magic to create the most beautiful and luxuriously styled suites. They included the Houstons extensive vintage and family art collection to create a bespoke mix of vintage and modern luxury which culminates in a stunning and unique interior style.

Website (<https://www.insidestorystudio.com.au>)

Instagram (@inside\_story\_). Local artist Jeff Power created the evocative image on the Tasmanian timber shelves outside each suite. (@jeff.power.art)

## OUR SUITES

Each of the seven luxurious suites within the walls of the Ship Inn Stanley have a compelling tale to tell. Guests are immersed in local narrative and enjoy characters that reflect the history of the township. From the story of the Wild Wave, the tall ship steered to destruction in the seething waters of the bay below, to the tale of Joseph Lyons, Australia's first Tasmanian born Prime Minister – history comes alive here.

### Suites and their namesakes include:

**Moo-Nut-Re-Ker:** *Celebrating the wild beauty of The Nut.*

**Highfield:** *A dreamy coastal escape honouring Highfield House.*

**Bayview:** *Harking back to the cabarets of yesteryear.*

**Wild Wave:** *Dedicated to the memory of the tall ship Wild Wave.*

**Lyons Retreat:** *Celebrating the birthplace of Joseph Lyons.*

**Cape Grim Cottage:** *Acknowledging the dark struggles of the past and the astounding powers of redemptions.*

**Green Hills:** *Forging cultivated landscapes from unrelenting wilderness.*

### Roaring Tom's Apartment

'Roaring Tom's' is a two bedroom, two bathroom boutique apartment perfect for couples or extended family travelling together. Guests are surrounded by the tale of local mariner Thomas Holyman – a salty old seadog whose reputation lingers within the apartment's historic stone walls and timber floors.

### Van Diemen's Apartment

A one bedroom hideaway on the second story, perfect for two. Lose yourself in the hidden secrets of the Van Diemen's Company bond store whose walls are swathed in the tribulations of gentry, pioneers and prisoners. This apartment is all on one level, fully accessible and is pet friendly.

All suites, including both apartments, are bathed in timeless elegance with impeccable attention to detail. Historical artefacts, original artwork, bespoke joinery and custom fittings abound. Every suite boasts rich linens, sumptuous feather and down pillows and mattress toppers, hand stitched cushions, stylish kitchen facilities, a contemporary ensuite with walk in shower (Roaring Tom's offers two), and indulgent Salus toiletries.

The Ship Inn Stanley evokes intrigue and beauty. Guests may indulge in the suite of their choice and bask in the story of a bygone era.

## OUR FACILITIES

Welcomed into a spacious foyer, the Captain's portrait from yesteryear seemingly follows guests into a darkened den. Checking in at the Ship Inn's aged timber desk set with maritime antiquities sets the scene for what lies ahead. Guests enjoy the assortment of reading materials provided for them to sit a while longer.

Beyond each suite, the Ship Inn Stanley offers a guest laundry, boutique yoga studio and gym, and numerous corners in which to while away lazy afternoons.

Hidden within the three peaked mustard building just next door you'll uncover Stanley's original billiards hall - now transformed into a boutique guest lounge. Dating to 1903, the hall hides tales of local intrigue - from the temperamental gardener who used to tend the site through to its intermittent use as a cool store and mortuary. Today, its restored timbers and celestial windows beckon guests to sink into the leather armchairs and ponder a bygone era.

The fully landscaped gardens have been hand carved by Alastair Houston himself from stone found on site. A series of delightful terraces create multiple, private seating areas and opportunity for quiet reflection. One can easily lose an summer afternoon with a good book and glass of wine in the gentle shadow of The Nut.

## OUR IMAGES

You are welcome to access our digital media library, in which you will find a selection of images of the Ship Inn Stanley and local surrounds. The library will continue to evolve, so please check back regularly for new imagery.

All images should be credited as follows:

Ship Inn Stanley (@shipinnstanley)

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Monika Kulon (@bykulonmonika).

