



Australian Government

TASMANIAN FOREST TOURISM INITIATIVE

The Australian Government's Tasmanian Forest Tourism Initiative is now open for grant applications.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE 9 MARCH 2007

Tourism is Tasmania's primary growth industry. Visitor numbers have almost doubled in the last ten years and the industry contributes more than \$1 billion each year to the State's economy, directly employing more than 22,900 people.

The Australian Government is keen to foster this valuable and growing industry.

Tasmania's ancient forests and other natural features are a core attraction for tourists. Carefully managed development of forest-based tourism will ensure the economic and commercial benefits of Tasmania's unique forest environment are realised, while conservation values are protected.

THE TASMANIAN FOREST TOURISM INITIATIVE

Through the 2005 Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement, the Australian Government is funding a \$3 million Tasmanian Forest Tourism Initiative to help develop environmentally sensitive tourism infrastructure in Tasmania.

The Tasmanian Forest Tourism Initiative aims to enhance visitor access and experience of Tasmania's unique forests by

- ◆ protecting and promoting conservation values,
- ◆ developing environmentally sensitive tourism infrastructure,
- ◆ providing experiences that appeal to a broad range of visitors, and
- ◆ promoting long-term economic benefits from tourism.

The Initiative incorporates two related programmes: the Tasmanian Forest Tourism Development Programme and the Tarkine Bushwalk Programme.



The Tasmanian Forest Tourism Development Programme

Under the Tasmanian Forest Tourism Development Programme \$2 million will be provided to assist the development of forest-based tourism infrastructure in Tasmania focussing on the new reserves created through the Tasmanian Community Forest Agreement. Infrastructure could include but is not limited to such works as access points, visitor rest stop amenities and walking tracks.

The Tarkine Bushwalk Programme

Under the Tarkine Bushwalk Programme, a minimum of \$1 million will be provided to assist the development of bushwalking and related infrastructure in the Tarkine region.

THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Proposals will be ranked on merit against all other proposals by an assessment panel, and recommendations made to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage for approval. Grants will ideally be between \$100,000 and \$500,000 per project (GST inclusive) but higher or lower grants will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Up to \$3 million is available under the Initiative.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be legal entities who are GST registered and incorporated, if required.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For an application and further information visit
www.deh.gov.au/land/forestpolicy/tfti

or contact the Community Information Unit via email
ciu@deh.gov.au

or Freecall 1800 803 772

