

# Proposal: Maria Island Experience

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## Proponent / s

Wild Bush Luxury Pty Ltd (a subsidiary of Experience Co Ltd)

## Location

Maria Island National Park

## Description of proposal

The *Maria Island Experience* is a multiple night supported experience focused on the island's cultural values, wildlife and heritage. The experience, based in proximity to the heritage precinct of Darlington would involve building a sensitive roofed accommodation on a site removed from the Australian Convict Sites World Heritage Area at Darlington and within the existing visitor management zone.

The all-inclusive Maria Island Experience (MIE) would cater for small groups and be designed to appeal to both domestic and international visitors. It would also showcase Tasmania's wonderful food and wine offerings.

Guests would enjoy a variety of activities exploring the fascinating heritage of the World Heritage Precinct of Darlington; observing at close quarters the island's wildlife of wombats, kangaroos, geese and Tasmanian Devils; walking up to view the spectacular twin peaks of Bishop and Clerk or the more relaxed walking circuits of the Fossil Cliffs and Painted Cliffs. Activities would be limited to small group sizes.

## Estimated jobs created

Estimated 5 FTE during construction and 3 FTE, plus 16 casual employees once operating.

## Social, cultural and environmental impact

Experience Co (EXP) is one of Australia and New Zealand's leading Adventure Tourism experience companies. Wild Bush Luxury Pty Ltd is a division of Experience Co established for the purpose of operating the group's premium adventure business. The Maria Island Experience will have at its emphasis the natural, cultural and geological values of Maria Island. The value of the project will be judged by the contribution it makes to the conservation of the environment, the cultural parameters that it works within and the local community that it engages with and who benefit from its success.

EXP and Wild Bush Luxury recognise that Maria Island is Aboriginal land. They acknowledge the living culture and unique role of Aboriginal Community in the greater Spring Bay area and look forward to further developing relationships with Aboriginal communities in Tasmania to find pathways of working together to both celebrate and benefit local Aboriginal culture and people.

In addition to a Reserve Activity Assessment through the Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service, the proposal is required to obtain any necessary statutory approvals through the Australian and State Government planning approval processes.