

# Proposal: Walls of Jerusalem Lodge Walk

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## Proponent / s

Mr Neil Lynch  
Tasmanian Walking Company

## Location

Walls of Jerusalem region, Lake Rowallan

## Description of proposal

Tasmanian Walking Company proposes a new four-day guided hut and lodge-based bushwalk within the Walls of Jerusalem National Park.

## Estimated jobs created

Projected direct operational employment 19 casual and 3 fulltime employees (12.5 FTE).

## Social, cultural and environmental impact

Site preservation and best practice minimal-impact design and operation principles will be at the core of this development philosophy for both huts and lodge.

Walls of Jerusalem Lodge Walk aims to:

- Expand the market for guided walking experiences
- Complement and leverage market share to other Great Walks of Tasmania.
- Enhance the visitor experience through the sharing of knowledge and skills, whilst fostering a sense of custodianship of the unique ecology and features of the Walls of Jerusalem National Park.
- Provide a high-quality, immersive guided wilderness experience that allows guests to escape into nature, by providing a space for emotional recharge/ relaxation in a wilderness environment.
- Introduce and promote minimal impact bush-walking and best practice ecologically sensitive design principles.
- Promote care and enjoyment of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area.
- Provide the opportunity for guests to extend their bushwalking knowledge and experience in a safe, inspiring and fun environment.
- Promote Tasmanian produce and Tasmania's unique tourism features in general.

The Tasmanian Walking Company firmly believes that engagement with local community and fostering regional relationships are crucial components to the success of regionally located business ventures such as the Walls of Jerusalem Lodge Walk. The Company has had discussions with potential sponsors and other advocates, for the establishment of an indigenous persons guiding cadetship, including a member of the local indigenous community on staff to guide and interpret such locations will become an asset for the visitor and the Company.

Over recent years, the landowners of the Pine Hut Plains property (including the General Manager of TWC) have formed strong relationships with other landowners whose nearby properties are also enveloped within the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area. In the spirit of maintaining these firm relationships, consultation and input will be sought from both parties. The company currently works closely with the Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service, and proposes that a communication protocol be established between both parties to ensure no stone is left unturned in the initial development and subsequent operation of the commercial lodge and walk. It would be expected that this would extend to the Walls of Jerusalem Lodge Walk.

## Expressions of Interest Project Briefing

The company is also keen to work with the Meander Valley Council and Parks and Wildlife to ensure the broader community have full and frank understanding of what might be developed as a consequence of this EOI submission and to gain awareness of what benefits that can bring to the local community through new business activity and jobs.

The lodge and hut design will minimise site disturbance whilst maximising foreground connectedness. Duck-boarding, decks and elevated building platforms will minimise site impact and allow natural drainage patterns to continue unimpeded. Most of the construction will be prefabricated in a factory and reassembled on site. The buildings will be designed to be easily assembled and disassembled with minimal site disturbance. The structures will be built in accordance with BCA requirements. Solar power will be used for lighting and power with gas hot water and heating providing clean and efficient operation. Rainwater will be captured and stored for use on site. A large amount of water storage will be located on each site with reserves for fire-fighting if required. We propose to engage the services of a fire engineer to design ecologically-sensitive yet comprehensive fire safety and evacuation management plans. Approved fire safety zones will be established as required.

The company will implement innovative greywater treatment systems, developed in conjunction with Parks and Wildlife Service and leading environmental consultants, thus minimising site impact where possible. All sewerage will be contained then totally removed from site via our uniquely designed toilet pods. Similarly all rubbish and recycling will be removed from the site. No public amenity or utility by way of road or boat access, power, sewerage nor other waste removal is required. Helicopter landing site and access requirements for provisioning and other operational matters will be negotiated and established external to the Park.