

Exploring Iutruwita

Mark Tirris

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The First Peoples of Tasmania are called palawa. Their language is palawa kani. Tasmania is called lutruwita in palawa kani.

My friend James moved to Hobart for work. The First Nations word for Hobart is nipaluna. Dylan and I decided to visit James. We planned a surfing adventure!







I'm Mark - a Wiradjuri and European man from Northern NSW. It takes about three hours to fly to Hobart from my home. You can see the photo of the purinina/Tasmanian Devil, at the airport. These mammals come out at night and are hard to spot. They are meat-eaters. They eat the dead meat of other small animals. They are endangered and protected.





James, Dylan and I planned to explore Iutruwita for a week in a camper van. We packed our food, water, clothes, wetsuits, and surfboards. We said goodbye to James' family and drove to Roaring Beach at Tūkana/Tasman Peninsula on Day 1. The wind is strong here and roars across the beach. We surfed some great waves!



Day 2 was my birthday! We grabbed our boards and followed a track to Remarkable Cave. We paddled through the dark cave to a beach on the other side. We were the only ones there. After a big surf, we headed back to our campsite for a yummy dinner. A family of wallabies and possums came to say hello.



Exploring lutruwita

Come on a journey of discovery to lutruwita/Tasmania as author, Mark Tirris, takes a surfing trip with his friends. Learn some words from the palawa kani language which is so important to the First Nations people and discover some of the amazing history of this special island.



Author's Bio:

Mark Tirris is a proud Wiradjuri (Central NSW) and European man. He is an active member of the Aboriginal Community around the Northern Rivers of NSW and is passionate about sharing his culture, art and stories. Mark is an experienced social worker, manages an Indigenous consultancy business and has master's degrees in both Indigenous Studies and Business Administration.

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The First Australians