

One of the most mineralised places on the planet

Tasmania has a long history of prosperous mining industries that have yielded rich mineral wealth. Currently the combined mining and mineral-processing sectors represent more than 60 per cent of the state's mercantile export earnings.

As one of the most mineralised places on the planet, Tasmania has remarkable geological diversity and an abundance of rich and high-grade mineral deposits that are easily accessible and close to transport and infrastructure.

Major commodities extracted in Tasmania include nickel, tungsten, copper, gold, lead, iron, silver, tin, zinc, coal, and ultra-high purity silica flour. Add to this Tasmania's status of being 100 per cent self-sufficient in renewable energy generation and it is clear to see how businesses may reach their sustainability targets through operations in Tasmania.

Many untapped opportunities remain for exploration, extraction and downstream processing of Tasmania's mineral resources, and supportive legislation is in place for both exploration and development.

The Tasmanian Government recognises the need to grow Tasmania's core industries and leverage off the state's competitive strengths.

The government is interested in securing value-adding investment for our mining industry. Through Mineral Resources Tasmania (MRT), the government provides current geo-scientific data in state-of-the-art digital formats to assist explorers in identifying potential mineral targets.



Currently there are around 500 mining leases held in Tasmania. The majority of these are for construction materials (road base and surfacing materials, gravel, sand and clay). There are a number of firms that conduct major mining operations in Tasmania.

These include Grange Resources, Minerals and Metals Group, Diversified Minerals, Copper Mines of Tasmania, Bluestone Mines, Tasmania Mines, Hellyer Gold Mines, Cornwall Coal, Sibelco Lime, Cement Australia, and Circular Head Dolomite.

Current Tasmanian Government priorities for this sector include:

- » attracting and facilitating new investment in both mining and mineral processing
- » providing adequate infrastructure for mining operations
- » maintaining a world-class regulatory system for exploration and mining
- » assisting industry in the acquisition of data and critical skills.

Through the Office of the Coordinator-General and MRT, the government is proactively seeking investment from companies who recognise the importance of sustainable, wealth-generating opportunities in exploration, mining, and mineral processing.

The government will tailor assistance to suit the specific requirements of potential investors.



Tasmanian mining industry today

■ Mining operations

1. **Copper Mines of Tasmania***
Copper, gold, silver
2. **Diversified Minerals**
Gold
3. **Minerals and Metals Group**
Zinc, lead, gold, silver, copper
4. **Bluestone Mines**
Tin, copper
5. **Tasmanian Advanced Minerals**
Silica flour
6. **Grange Resources**
Iron ore
7. **Shree Minerals***
Iron ore
8. **Circular Head Dolomite**
9. **Naracoopa Mineral Sands**
Heavy mineral sands
10. **Tasmania Mines**
Magnetite, tungsten
11. **Graymont Tasmania**
Limestone
12. **Cornwall Coal**
13. **Hellyer Gold Mines**
Hellyer polymetallic tailings
14. **Mallee Resources**
Nickel
15. **King Island Scheelite**
Tungsten

● Mineral processing

16. **Grange Resources**
Iron ore pellets
17. **Tasmanian Advanced Minerals**
Silica flour
18. **Cement Australia**
19. **Tasmania Gold***
20. **Pacific Aluminium**
Primary aluminium alloys, paste, powder
20. **GFG Alliance**
Ferromanganese silicomanganese, sinter
21. **Nyrstar Smelter**
Zinc metals, alloys, cadmium, sulphuric acid

▲ Mines under development

22. **Venture Minerals**
Tin, tungsten, iron ore



* Currently on care and maintenance

Key reasons for investing in the Tasmanian mining and mineral-processing industry

- » For its size, Tasmania is one of the most highly and diversely mineralised areas in the world.
- » Currently there are strong prices for metals with which Tasmania is well endowed and for which there is tightening supply, notably tin and zinc.
- » MRT has a comprehensive geoscientific program, providing exploration companies with the information needed to let investors assess the mineral potential of the state.
- » New projects are regularly being developed, with total mine production in Tasmania expected to increase during 2022–24 as a series of nickel, silica, tin, tungsten, iron ore and coal operations are brought online.
- » Tasmania offers investors coordination between the government, MRT, Environment Protection Authority, local government and the Australian Government.
- » There is a supportive, regularly updated, and world-class regulatory regime in Tasmania, through the *Mineral Resources Development Act 1995*.

Opportunities for exploration

Rocks from every period of the Earth's history since the Middle Proterozoic are present in Tasmania and there have been at least four major episodes of economic mineralisation.

Significant mineral deposits include:

- » Proterozoic iron ore, silica, dolomite and magnesite
- » Cambrian VHMS base metal-gold and ultramafic-related platinum group minerals (PGM) and chromite
- » Devonian granite-related tin, tungsten, fluorite, magnetite and silver-lead-zinc deposits
- » Devonian slate-belt gold deposits
- » Cainozoic alluvial gold, tin and PGMs, residual nickel, iron oxide, bauxite, silica, Rare Earth Elements and clay.

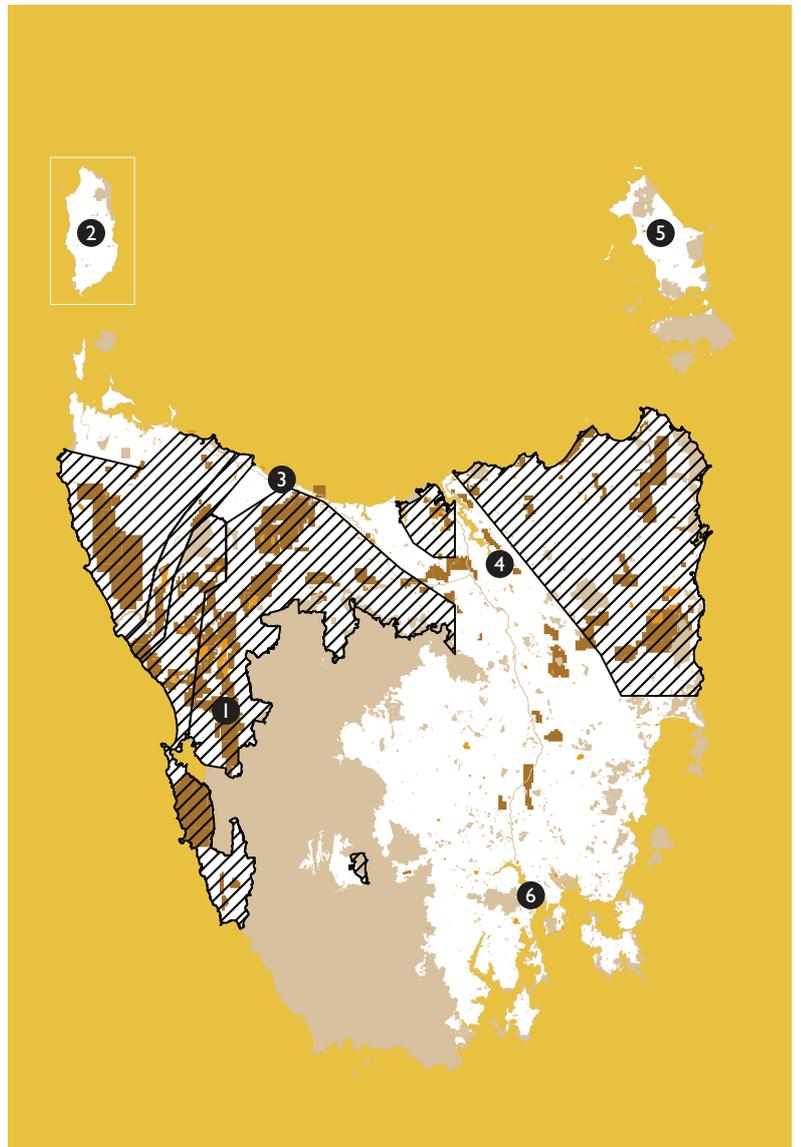
Stable, flexible and innovative workforce

Tasmania offers a stable workforce, with one of Australia's highest labour retention rates and an excellent workforce relations record. The total cost of employing workers in Tasmania is less than in any other Australian state or territory.

Tasmanian training providers work with local industry to ensure that training needs are met. These accredited training programs ensure that transferable and needed skills are created within the state.

Tasmanian mining – access potential

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|--------------------|---|--|
| 1. Queenstown |  | Land unavailable for mineral exploration or mining |
| 2. King Island |  | Strategic prospectivity zones |
| 3. Burnie |  | Current mining leases |
| 4. Launceston |  | Current metallic and non-metallic exploration licences |
| 5. Flinders Island | | |
| 6. Hobart | | |



Impressive infrastructure

In most instances, mining and mineral-processing operations will be located less than 100 kilometres from plant to port, providing fast access to distribution channels.

There are frequent freight-shipping services from Tasmania's four major ports and efficient services for bulk cargo and seasonal commodities. The Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme provides financial assistance to shippers of eligible freight to Australian markets. Airports in Hobart, Launceston, Devonport and Burnie provide quick and easy access to mainland Australia.

Clean energy generation

Industry in Tasmania benefits from a safe, reliable renewable energy supply. Tasmania is one of the few places in the world to achieve 100 per cent renewable energy generation. The state now has the world leading legislated target to increase generation to 200 per cent by 2040. An undersea power cable linking Tasmania with mainland Australia has provided further security and competition in the Tasmanian energy market.

Tasmania's emission profile is the envy of the world, achieving net negative carbon emissions for the seven years in a row to 2022. This makes Tasmania a compelling location for forward-thinking investors who wish to achieve real sustainability targets through renewable energy use and generation.

Industry support

The Tasmanian Government's mineral resources division, MRT provides a single point of contact for approvals or exploration activities in Tasmania. MRT can also assist exploration companies with geoscientific information on Tasmania including access to over 770 kilometres of archived drill core.

Research and development

The Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence in Ore Deposits (CODES) is based at the University of Tasmania and is widely regarded as a global leader in ore deposit research and teaching.

The CODES research team is highly valued for its wealth of knowledge and experience. Many businesses in the industry have gained great benefit from tapping into its resources and see significant value in CODES' ability to tailor research projects to meet individual requirements.

Telecommunications

Tasmania has a comprehensive telecommunications network with advanced infrastructure, and digital capability at every network site.



Quick facts

- » At present there are 14 significant mining operations in Tasmania, three of which are currently on care and maintenance. In addition the state is home to three major mineral-processing facilities and many smaller operations.
- » As at 14 November 2022, there were 511 mining leases, 158 exploration licences, and 19 retention licences active in Tasmania.
- » Metallic minerals mined in Tasmania include copper, gold, silver, iron, tungsten, tin, lead, nickel and zinc with future opportunities in Rare Earth Elements.
- » Non-metallic industrial minerals mined in Tasmania include ultra-high purity silica flour, limestone, dolomite and coal.
- » Non-metallic construction materials mined in Tasmania include building stone, aggregate, gravel and sand.
- » More than 80 per cent of Australia's economic demonstrated resources of tin are in Tasmania.
- » The mining and mineral-processing sectors combined represent more than 60 per cent of Tasmania's mercantile export earnings.
- » Current mining and exploration operations on Tasmania's west coast have identified in-ground resources worth more than AU\$11 billion at current prices.

Explore the opportunities and your future potential in Tasmania

The Office of the Coordinator-General is Tasmania's principal entity to attract and support investment in the state.

It provides free confidential services and professional advice to investors, including:

- » providing information on Tasmania's industry capabilities and strengths, specific business opportunities, investment regulations and government assistance
- » assisting to identify and select the best Tasmanian site for a business
- » facilitating visits to Tasmania and arranging appropriate meetings and introductions
- » providing introductions to local industry, government departments and potential joint-venture partners
- » introductions to the government's trade team to assist access to export markets

Contacts

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