

Hollybank Wilderness Adventures

A forest reawakened

Where in Tasmania can you climb, swing, crawl, ride and walk through rich, exotic, and enchanted forests?

Where amongst the blue gum forest canopy can you soar like an eagle down a zipline with extraordinary views at an exhilarating pace?

Hollybank forest reserve located 20 minutes north of Launceston has a unique place in Tasmania's history, and has been reawakened as a multi-use recreational playground for people of all ages.

The rich history of Hollybank Wilderness Adventures and the surrounding forest reserve dates back to 1855 and since this time, the landscape has undergone transformation to become the special place it is today.

Collaboration, communication, partnership and care between private business and Sustainable Timber Tasmania has been an important part of the transformation.

Hollybank is a place where forestry and recreational activities effortlessly co-exist for the benefit of all Tasmanians.

Where else can you jump on an off-road Segway and effortlessly tour the forest floor?

Where can you take your mountain bike to Tasmanian built trails nicknamed 'Tall Timbers', 'Juggernaut' and 'No Sweat' for either a leisurely or action-packed ride through public production forests?

Where is the only place in Tasmania you can scale, climb, crawl, wobble and shimmy your way through high-wire obstacles perched in a pine tree canopy for two and a half hours of excitement and freedom?

In the mid to late 1800s, timber was sourced from Hollybank forests for production and the area was replanted with trees descending from the European region. This took place prior to a transition to farming the land in the early 1900s.

In 1933, Hollybank was purchased by forestry plantation company Ash Plantations Ltd, who planted 109,200 Ash trees to produce timber for the manufacturing of tennis racquets and cricket bats.

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During this time, a variety of other tree species from the Northern Hemisphere were planted – including Corsica Pine, Douglas Fir and Californian Redwood. Unfortunately, due to the acidity of the soil, this venture did not eventuate, and by 1955, the Forestry Commission took over the management of Hollybank.

Since then, radiata pine was planted underneath the ash plantation and Hollybank Forest Reserve has been active as a multi-use forest.

In the early nineties, Forestry Tasmania became the manager of Hollybank Forest Reserve and transitioned the area into a demonstration forest and a forest playground for the public.

Areas of the Hollybank forest were transformed into walking tracks, picnic areas, an arboretum, and an information centre.

In 2008, under a Tasmanian Government and tourism initiative, Forestry Tasmania supported the launch of Hollybank Treetops Adventure.

Hollybank Treetops Adventure was Australia's first high-wire adventure tour.

Hollybank's history, built environment and multiple usage reflect an outstanding visitor experience for everyone to enjoy.

Do yourself a favour and visit Hollybank this weekend – bring all your friends and all your family – you're guaranteed to find something in this forest reserve for everyone to enjoy.