

Our Mountain's Future

KUNANYI / MOUNT WELLINGTON AND WELLINGTON PARK

CONSULTATION SUMMARY

www.mountainreview.tas.gov.au

Credit: Tourism Tasmania & Glenn Gibson

Tasmanian Government

Introduction

Purpose

Our Mountain's Future is the Tasmanian Government's strategic review of Kunanyi / Mount Wellington and the broader Wellington Park. The purpose of the three phase review is to develop a Vision for Wellington Park then identify actions to deliver on that Vision.

This Consultation Summary complements the *Vision* which is the culmination of the second phase of the review. It provides an overview of the consultation results, including a detailed summary of the quantitative and free text responses to the survey, insights from written submissions, and key findings from the focus groups.

Myriad Research

Myriad Research is an independent Tasmanian research consultancy, providing specialist market and social research services. Myriad Research have wide experience of quantitative and qualitative research and hold accreditation under the industry quality assurance program.

The Department of State Growth engaged Myriad Research to:

- contribute to the design and development of the online survey
- organise community pop-up events in Greater Hobart to promote *Our Mountain's Future*
- lead industry and community focus group discussions
- analyse and weight quantitative and qualitative data collected during the consultation period.

How we consulted

The *Our Mountain's Future* consultation period was open from 23 October 2024 to 4 December 2024. The aim of consultation was to achieve broad-reaching engagement which was representative of the Tasmanian population.

The consultation was promoted widely, particularly in southern Tasmania and the Greater Hobart area, through print and radio advertisements, social media, community pop-ups, and a letterbox drop to households in the Greater Hobart area.

The Consultation Summary provides an overview of the feedback received, specifically through the:

1. **Survey**
2. **Written submissions**
3. **Focus Groups**


Credit: Tourism Tasmania & Glenn Gibson

Methodology

1

Survey

An online survey was conducted through the *Our Mountain's Future* website using Social Pinpoint, a community engagement platform. It featured a combination of structured questions and open-ended, free-text responses.

The survey was open to all Tasmanian residents and permitted each participant to submit one response. The substantial completion rate of 8560 responses gives a high level of confidence that results are reliable and representative of the views of the Tasmanian community.

Myriad Research was engaged to weight and analyse the survey data. The total responses received were largely representative of the Tasmanian population; however, some categories were over or under-represented. Applying weighting ensured the results could be interpreted as a reasonable representation of the whole community and did not disproportionately favour the views of a certain section of the population.

The 2023 Estimated Resident Population (Australian Bureau of Statistics) data was used to develop an accurate and appropriate weighting model for gender and age.

Questions 20 and 21 asked respondents to provide open-ended responses resulting in over 140,000 words each. Artificial Intelligence (AI) was used to scan the text for common themes. This approach was validated by sampling multiple times. Once identified, responses were manually categorised according to the themes.

Several questions prompted respondents to provide further information in optional open-text questions. These responses can not be seen as a complete representation of the views of all participants as they were optional, however, they do provide further explanation of respondents' views.

The full weighted survey results are contained in this document. In addition, data was cross-tabulated to provide greater depth of insight and understand how certain segments of the community shared the same or differing views.

The cross-tabulation data contained in this report was provided by Myriad Research, with some additional analysis provided at the Department of State Growth's request. It was not feasible for every question to be cross-tabulated or segmented, so Myriad Research and the department prioritised areas which were considered likely to be most insightful.

This data has been provided at the end of each section of this Consultation Summary.

2

Written Submissions

The review process drew a total of 566 written submissions. Of these, 528 were from individuals in the community and 38 were from organisations and peak bodies.

The written submissions from individuals and organisations totalled nearly 300,000 words. Myriad Research used AI technology to analyse this text, identifying key themes and assessing sentiment related to those themes and issues. The resulting themes were tested for consistency by submitting and refining a range of prompts. These were also compared with the themes emerging from the survey and the focus groups as a means of validation.

This research was supplemented by the Department of State Growth manually reviewing written submissions using thematic analysis to identify key themes and perspectives.

A summary of written submissions is included at page 43 and throughout this document.

3

Focus Groups

The following eight focus groups were facilitated by Myriad Research to gain deeper insights from a variety of perspectives across the Greater Hobart community:

Focus Group 1	Recreational users
Focus Group 2	Tasmanian Community - General population
Focus Group 3	Peak bodies
Focus Group 4	Tourism representatives
Focus Group 5	Tasmanian Community - Youth (18-25 years)
Focus Group 6	Tasmanian Community - those who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Focus Group 7	Tasmanian Community - Youth (12-17 years)
Focus Group 8	Tasmanian Community - those who identify as living with disability

Myriad Research conducted the focus groups, including analysis and reporting, which has been summarised in this document.

4

Tasmanian Visitor Survey

Tourists make up a large proportion of the visitors to Kunanyi / Mount Wellington, so it is important to understand their views, experiences and expectations.

The Tasmanian Visitor Survey (TVS) is conducted by Tourism Tasmania and is the most reliable source of statistical data on visitors to Tasmania. It provides a profile of the travel patterns and expenditure of international and domestic visitors to Tasmania. The TVS is an exit survey, asked of approximately 25,000 departing passengers annually.

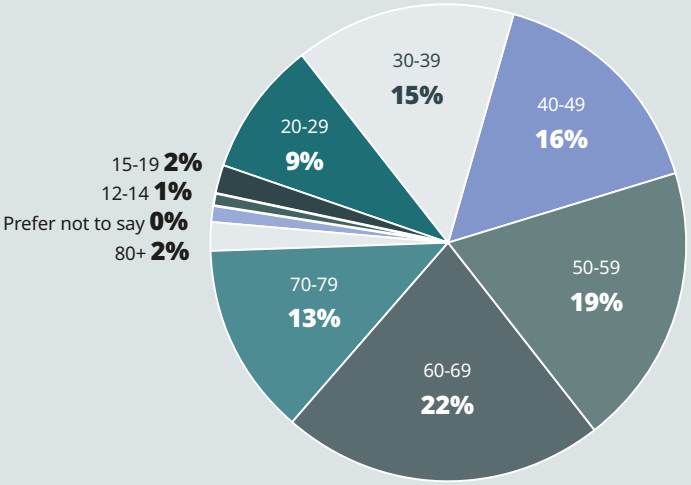
Five questions about visitation to Kunanyi / Mount Wellington have been added in the TVS over the peak tourism season from December 2024 to March 2025. The TVS asked these questions of all passengers who reported having visited Kunanyi / Mount Wellington.

The data is weighted on behalf of Tourism Tasmania by Roy Morgan against the total number of passengers who departed Tasmania each month, based on passenger data provided by all the carriers for this purpose.

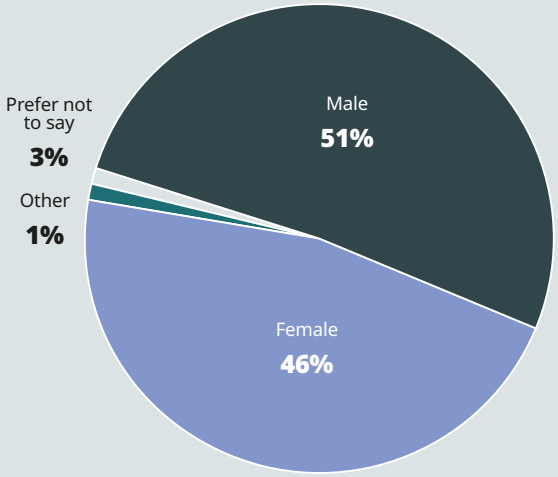
This data has not been included in this report, and has been published separately on the *Our Mountain's Future* website.

Demographics

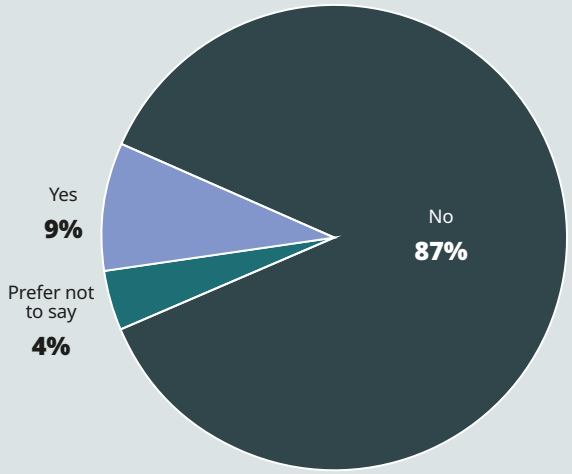
Age



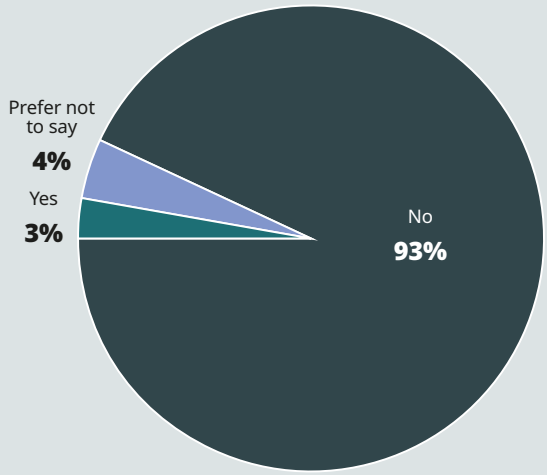
Gender



People with disability



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders



Household Type

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN
Kids under 18

Respondents
26%

SINKS & DINKS
Single income or double income with no kids

Respondents
22%

EMPTY NESTERS
Kids over 18, or never had children and aged 40 or over

Respondents
52%

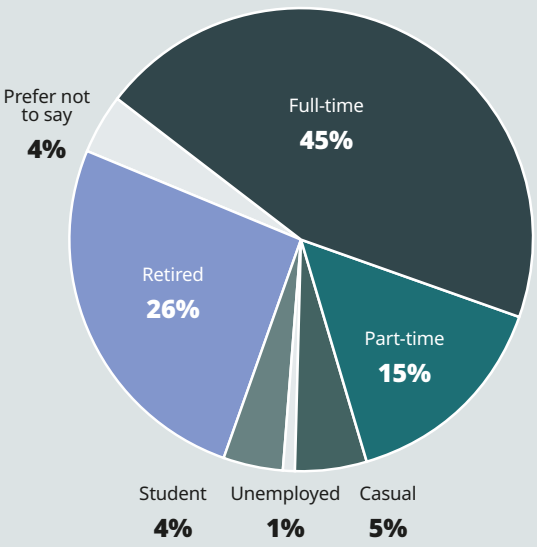
Demographics

Local Government Areas

Local Government Areas	Responses
Break O'Day	0%
Brighton	2%
Burnie	0%
Central Coast	0%
Central Highlands	0%
Circular Head	0%
Clarence	19%
Derwent Valley	2%
Devonport	0%
Dorset	0%
Flinders	0%
George Town	0%
Glamorgan-Spring Bay	0%
Glenorchy	10%
Hobart	37%

Local Government Areas	Responses
Huon Valley	5%
Kentish	0%
King Island	0%
Kingborough	17%
Latrobe	0%
Launceston	1%
Meander Valley	0%
Northern Midlands	0%
Sorell	3%
Southern Midlands	1%
Tasman	0%
Waratah-Wynyard	0%
West Coast	0%
West Tamar	0%
Other	0%

Working status



Visitor types



ACTIVE VISITORS
83%



CHILDREN / YOUNG PEOPLE
3%



FREQUENT VISITORS
38%



PASSIVE VISITORS
17%



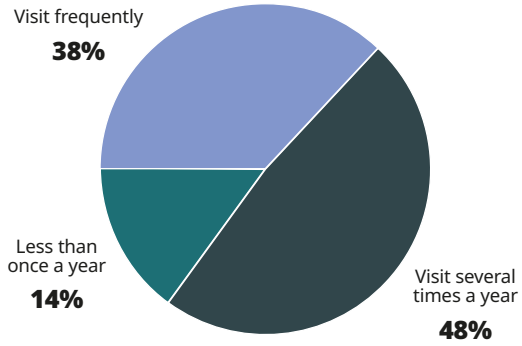
PINNACLE ONLY
7%



OCCASIONAL VISITORS
62%

Question 1

On average, how many times per year do you visit Wellington Park?



38% visit the Park frequently (monthly / weekly / daily), while 48% visit several times a year.

ACTIVE VISITORS	PASSIVE VISITORS	FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN Aged Under 18	SINKS & DINKS	EMPTY NESTERS
Respondents **83%**	Respondents **17%**	Respondents **26%**	Respondents **22%**	Respondents **52%**
Frequently visit **44%**	Frequently visit **6%**	Frequently visit **42%**	Frequently visit **46%**	Frequently visit **32%**

83% of respondents are classified as active visitors, while 17% are defined as passive visitors. Among active visitors, nearly half visit the Park several times a year, and 44% visit frequently (monthly, weekly, or daily), engaging in regular physical activity.

In contrast, 51% of passive visitors visit several times a year, while 43% go less than once a year, typically engaging in more moderate activities on an infrequent basis.

RESPONDENTS



The overwhelming majority of respondents come from the South (96%), with approximately 4% from both the North and North West.

People living closer to the mountain, are also more likely to be frequent visitors, including people residing in Hobart (52%), Kingborough (16%), Clarence (15%) and Glenorchy (8%). Those living further away visit more occasionally such as those from Sorell (80%), Brighton (78%) or Derwent Valley (80%).

Focus Groups

'FREQUENT / ACTIVE' USERS

Many mountain and Park activities are physically active ones. Participants that identified as active visitors were more likely to visit the Park more frequently than passive visitors. Active visitors reported being drawn to visit the Park more frequently because of the number of opportunities to engage in active pursuits.

'OCCASIONAL / PASSIVE' USERS

Participants that identified as passive visitors reported visiting the Park for a particular experience, including to show visiting friends the view from the Pinnacle, and to experience snow or an aurora.

Question 2

Thinking about the last 3 years, which areas have you visited?

Respondents could select as many as applied.



The Pinnacle (top of Kunanyi / Mount Wellington) was the most visited area in the past three years, attracting 90% of respondents.

The Springs, located halfway up the mountain, was also popular, visited by 87% of respondents in the same period.

Other parts of the Park were visited by 59% of respondents.

Only 7% of respondents only visited the Pinnacle in the last 3 years, indicating that most Tasmanian visitors are exploring and enjoying more of the Park beyond the peak.



ACTIVE VISITORS	PASSIVE VISITORS	VISITORS WITH DISABILITY
The Pinnacle **92%**	The Pinnacle **90%**	The Pinnacle **87%**
The Springs **93%**	The Springs **63%**	The Springs **80%**
Other parts **70%**	Other parts **8%**	Other parts **45%**

Consistent with its overall popularity, 92% of active visitors and 90% of passive visitors frequented the Pinnacle in the last 3 years. In contrast, 70% of active visitors frequented other parts of Kunanyi / Mount Wellington and the Park compared with only 8% of passive visitors over the same period – reinforcing that active visitors are utilising more of the Park than just the Pinnacle, and do so more routinely for fitness and physical activity.

For visitors with disability, the Pinnacle (87%) and The Springs (80%) were the most frequented areas. In contrast, visitation drops to 45% in less developed areas of the Park.

Written Submissions

Topic: Active Recreation

"Hobart is unique among state capitals, having a world class mountain biking opportunity a handful of kilometres from the city centre."

– Hobart Wheelers Dirt Devils Cycling Club

Focus Groups

'FREQUENT / ACTIVE' USERS

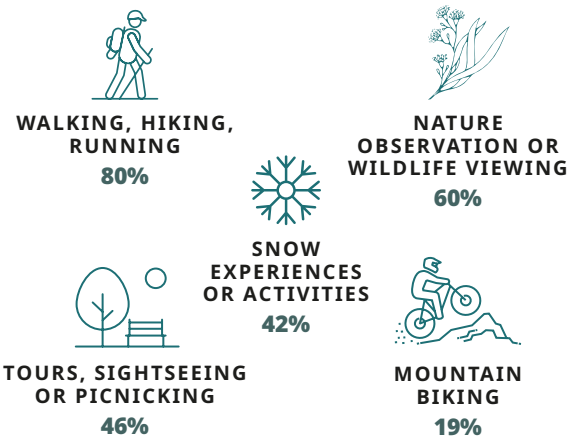
Participants who identified as frequent / active visitors were the most likely visitor group to visit other parts of the Park. The participants in this category tended to also live locally and have a good knowledge of the broader Park and access to different areas.

'OCCASIONAL / PASSIVE' USERS

Tourism industry stakeholders reported that the majority of interstate and overseas visitors only visit the Pinnacle of the Park. Industry stakeholders suggested that tourists are drawn to the Pinnacle because of its spectacular views and the expectation that a visit can be achieved in a few hours.

Question 3

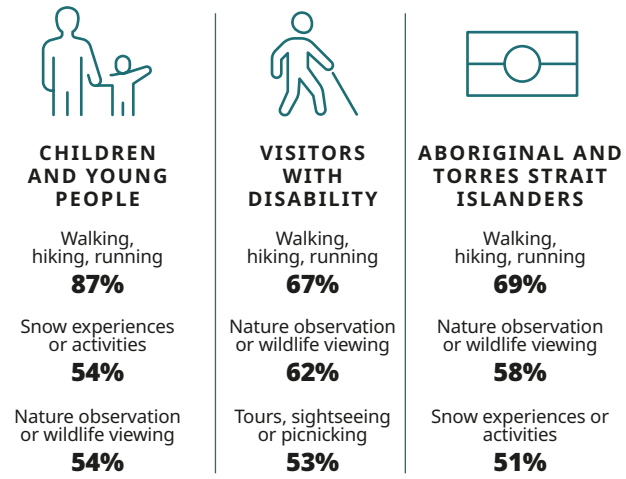
Which of these activities have you done in Wellington Park in the past 12 months? Respondents could select as many as applied.



Walking, hiking, and running are the most popular activities, engaged in by 80% of visitors in the past 12 months. These activities remain popular across all visitor types and demographics.

The next most popular activities were nature observation or wildlife viewing (60%), tours, sightseeing or picnicking (46%) and snow experience or activities (42%).

Mountain biking attracted significant interest, with 19% of respondents participating.



Among children and young people – walking, hiking, running was most popular with 87% engaged in this activity, followed by snow experiences or activities (54%) and nature observation or wildlife viewing (54%).

For visitors with disability – walking, hiking, running was the most popular activity with 67% engaged in this activity, followed by nature observation or wildlife viewing (62%) and tours, sightseeing, or picnicking (53%).

Families with children engaged in walking, hiking, running the most with 84% engaged in this activity, followed by nature observation or wildlife viewing (58%) and snow experiences or activities (57%).

Written Submissions

Topic: Active Recreation

"It is a place to exercise, relax, appreciate nature and our beautiful city, and develop a sense of community and belonging."

– Isabella Comfort

"Wellington Park is a popular location for birdwatching by locals, interstate and international visitors, particularly because of the presence of 11 of the 12 Tasmanian endemic species in the Park."

– BirdLife Tasmania

Focus Groups

'FREQUENT / ACTIVE' USERS

Frequent visitors expressed being drawn to the mountain for its accessibility, natural beauty, and physical and social benefits. Frequent visitors valued low cost and ease of access, specialised activities, volunteering and participating with others.

'OCCASIONAL / PASSIVE' USERS

Occasional visitors expressed being attracted to the mountain for its views, accessibility, and social outings, often enjoying short walks and Lost Freight café. The spontaneous nature of the visits was facilitated by the mountain and Park's proximity to Hobart and relatively easy access.

Question 4

Which of these activities are you interested in doing in Wellington Park in the future?

Respondents could select as many as applied.

WALKING, HIKING, RUNNING
82%

SNOW EXPERIENCES OR ACTIVITIES
56%

NATURE OBSERVATION OR WILDLIFE VIEWING
69%

Walking, hiking, running rated highest with 82% of respondents stating that they would like to do these activities in the future, followed by nature observation or wildlife viewing (69%) and snow experience or activities (56%).

When comparing to the activities people are currently doing (question 3), the highest growth in interest was in cultural or spiritual activities, snow experiences or activities, rock climbing, mountain biking, and road cycling.

SNOW EXPERIENCES OR ACTIVITIES
Current **42%**
Future **56%**

CULTURAL OR SPIRITUAL ACTIVITIES
Current **11%**
Future **25%**

MOUNTAIN BIKING
Current **19%**
Future **29%**

ROCK CLIMBING
Current **7%**
Future **17%**

ROAD CYCLING
Current **8%**
Future **13%**

NATURE OBSERVATION OR WILDLIFE VIEWING
Current **60%**
Future **69%**

TOURS, SIGHTSEEING OR PICNICKING
Current **46%**
Future **49%**

WALKING, HIKING, RUNNING
Current **80%**
Future **82%**

Written Submissions

Topic: Satisfaction with activities

"Given the number of vehicle tracks that are available within Wellington Park, and the growing use of 4WD / AWD vehicles, we ask that future visions for the Park include the consideration of making additional tracks within Wellington Park available for recreational 4WD use..."

– 4WD Tasmania

"Provision of diverse recreational activities is one of the most widely understood and acknowledged values associated with the mountain."

– Michael Lockwood

Focus Groups

SNOW VISITATION LIMITATION

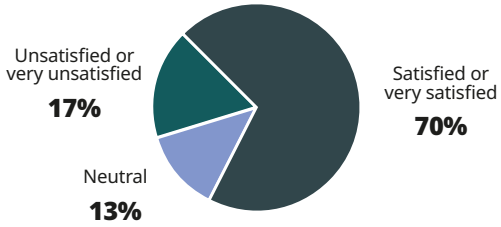
Experiencing snow firsthand is a major draw for locals, offering a rare, shared, and memorable experience. However, snow and ice also lead to road closures, creating a key barrier to access. Many participants wished for easier access during snowfall.

INCREASING ENGAGEMENT WITH ABORIGINAL CULTURE

Most participants expressed a strong respect for and pride in Aboriginal culture, would like to learn more about it, and see it more obviously represented and engaged with on the mountain and Park.

Question 5

Overall, how satisfied are you with your experience for the activities you currently do in Wellington Park?



A majority (70%) of respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with their experience of activities they currently undertake in Wellington Park, while 13% were neutral and 17% unsatisfied or very unsatisfied.

VISITORS WITH DISABILITY
63% 23%

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
73% 7%

ABORGINAL OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDERS
49% 31%

ACTIVE VISITORS
77% 12%

PASSIVE VISITORS
37% 37%

PINNACLE-ONLY VISITORS
38% 40%

People with disability were generally satisfied with their Park activities, with 63% expressing satisfaction and 23% unsatisfied. For children and young people, 73% were satisfied compared with 7% unsatisfied. Among respondents who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, about half were satisfied, while nearly a third were unsatisfied.

Active visitors were mostly satisfied with their Park activities, with 77% expressing satisfaction and 12% unsatisfied. In contrast, passive visitors were equally split, with 37% satisfied and 37% unsatisfied. This aligns with findings from the focus groups that active visitors frequent the Park for health, well-being, and physical activity, and are less supportive of additional development, while passive visitors visit less often and desire more activities and infrastructure.

Among Pinnacle-only visitors, 38% were satisfied while 40% were unsatisfied, suggesting their expectations are not being met.

Written Submissions

Topic: Satisfaction with activities

"In terms of mileage of routes, skinned knuckles, expenditure of effort and annual traffic, the Organ Pipes is the major focus of climbing activity in Tasmania."

– Climbers Club of Tasmania

"Maintain a gentle footprint on the mountain. Maintain tracks for recreation that keep people off sensitive and culturally significant areas."

– Melanie Marchant

Focus Groups

HIGHER ACTIVITY SATISFACTION AMONGST FREQUENT VISITORS

Frequent / active visitors indicated they were mostly satisfied with their experience for the activities they currently do. They reported that their experience was mostly focused on the Park's natural environment and less dependent on the facilities in the Park. In addition, they expressed resistance to development that could compromise the Park's natural environment.

LOWER ACTIVITY SATISFACTION AMONGST OCCASIONAL VISITORS

Occasional / passive visitors expressed lower levels of satisfaction with activities than frequent / active visitors in the discussion groups. Limited facilities at the Pinnacle and road closures during snow events were cited as reasons for lower levels of satisfaction.

Data for Questions 1-5

Question 1

Frequency of visits by segment as a percentage.

		Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Several times a year	Less than once a year	Never
	Overall	**2**	**14**	**21**	**48**	**14**	**0**
Visitor type	Frequent visitors	7	38	55	0	0	0
	Occasional visitors	0	0	0	77	23	1
	Active visitors	3	17	25	48	7	0
	Passive visitors	0	2	4	51	43	0
	Pinnacle only visitors	0	3	3	43	50	0
Region	South	3	15	22	48	13	0
	North	0	5	5	54	36	0
	North West	2	3	6	57	32	0
Household	Families with children	3	16	24	46	11	0
	SINKs & DINKs	3	20	24	46	8	0
	Empty nesters	2	11	19	51	17	1
	People with disability	2	11	18	47	21	0
	Children & young people	3	14	18	44	20	1
	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	3	10	16	49	22	0

Question 2

Areas visited by segment as a percentage.

		The Pinnacle (the top of Kunanyi / Mount Wellington)	**The Springs** (about halfway up Kunanyi / Mount Wellington)	**Other parts of Kunanyi / Mount Wellington and Wellington Park**
	Overall	**90**	**87**	**59**
Visitor type	Frequent visitors	92	95	84
	Occasional visitors	89	82	43
	Active visitors	92	93	70
	Passive visitors	90	63	8
Region	South	90	88	60
	North	88	66	30
	North West	91	67	21
Household	Families with children	93	90	63
	SINKs & DINKs	94	92	68
	Empty nesters	88	83	55
	People with disability	87	80	45
	Children & young people	88	88	45
	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	89	82	36

Data for Questions 1-5

Question 3

Activities done by segments and satisfaction (question 5) as a percentage.

		Walking, hiking, running	Mountain biking	Road cycling	Rock climbing	Nature Observation or wildlife viewing	Tours, sightseeing, or picnicking	Cultural or spiritual activities	Snow experiences or activities
	Overall	**80**	**19**	**8**	**7**	**60**	**46**	**11**	**42**
Region	South	81	19	8	7	60	46	11	42
	North	59	14	6	5	58	54	8	29
	North West	61	15	5	7	62	53	13	29
Household	Families with children	84	30	11	7	58	43	11	57
	SINKs & DINKs	92	21	8	14	69	42	15	49
	Empty nesters	72	11	5	3	57	51	9	28
	People with disability	67	8	4	5	62	53	18	38
	Children & young people	87	27	12	14	54	41	9	54
	Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islanders	69	20	5	9	58	46	26	51
Local Government Areas	Brighton	61	11	4	4	46	58	2	42
	Clarence	75	18	7	4	53	50	8	41
	Derwent Valley	68	15	4	4	56	59	4	45
	Glenorchy	76	15	4	7	59	48	13	46
	Hobart	88	24	11	10	64	42	14	41
	Huon Valley	76	13	3	5	63	55	11	43
	Kingborough	84	19	8	5	61	44	9	44
	Sorell	65	15	3	7	53	54	11	40
Satisfaction	Unsatisfied or very unsatisfied	12	13	11	7	12	20	8	18
	Neutral	11	11	9	7	9	15	7	14
	Satisfied or very satisfied	78	77	80	85	79	65	85	69



Credit: Tourism Tasmania & Glenn Gibson

Data for Questions 1-5

Question 4

Interest in doing activities in the future by segments as a percentage.

		Walking, hiking, running	Mountain biking	Road cycling	Rock climbing	Nature observation or wildlife viewing	Tours, sightseeing, or picnicking	Cultural or spiritual activities	Snow experiences or activities
	Overall	**82**	**29**	**13**	**17**	**69**	**49**	**25**	**56**
Household	Families with children	87	43	18	19	69	48	26	72
	SINKs & DINKs	91	37	17	32	76	43	34	62
	Empty nesters	77	15	8	5	68	55	21	42
	Children & young people	77	44	20	36	55	40	17	67
Local Government Areas	Brighton	71	28	10	18	60	61	19	69
	Clarence	79	26	10	12	65	56	20	57
	Derwent Valley	65	20	6	18	65	63	14	59
	Glenorchy	77	25	9	16	68	51	24	59
	Hobart	88	33	18	20	72	43	29	53
	Huon Valley	78	22	6	14	70	54	27	57
	Kingborough	85	30	14	16	69	46	22	58
	Sorell	71	23	8	15	62	59	24	60

Question 5

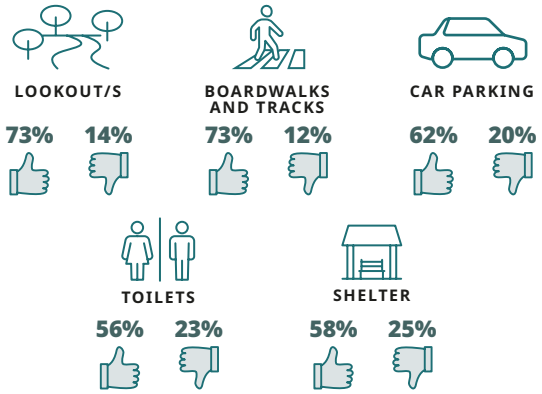
Satisfaction with activities by segments as a percentage.

		Unsatisfied or very unsatisfied	Neutral	Satisfied or very satisfied
	Overall	**17**	**13**	**70**
Region	South	16	13	70
	North	21	18	60
	North West	29	22	49
Visitor type	Frequent visitors	10	7	83
	Occasional visitors	21	18	62
	Active visitors	12	11	77
	Passive visitors	37	25	37
	Pinnacle only visitors	40	22	38
Household	Families with children	21	14	66
	SINKs & DINKs	9	9	81
	Empty nesters	21	14	66
	People with disability	23	15	63
	Children & young people	7	21	73
	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	31	20	49

Question 6

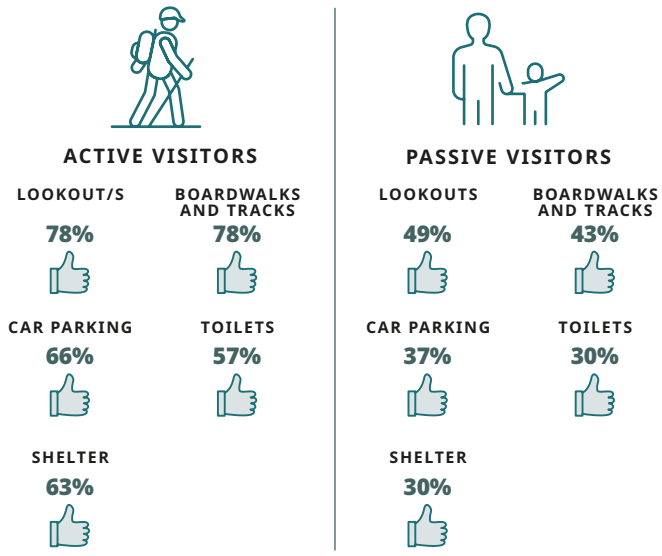
How satisfied are you with the existing facilities and infrastructure at the Pinnacle?

Myriad Research has aggregated the answers to unsatisfied, neutral and satisfied.



Overall, a majority of respondents reported moderate to strong levels of satisfaction with the Pinnacle facilities. 73% of respondents were satisfied with both the boardwalks and tracks and lookout/s, followed by 62% for car parking.

1 in 4 people were unsatisfied with the shelter and toilets, whilst 1 in 5 were unsatisfied with the car parking, indicating there is some room for improvements to existing infrastructure.



Active visitors reported higher satisfaction across all categories than passive visitors for facilities and infrastructure at the Pinnacle. Satisfaction with lookout/s and boardwalks and tracks was 78% for each among active visitors, compared to 49% and 43% for passive visitors. Similarly, 63% of active visitors were satisfied with shelter and 57% with toilets, while passive visitor satisfaction these facilities was just 30% for each.

Written Submissions

Topic: Pinnacle Existing

"Kunanyi, and particularly the Organ Pipes, are an iconic landscape visible from most of Hobart. Few cities in the world have a beautiful wild mountain like this on their doorstep."

– Friends of the Earth

"The only amenities required by visitors who wish to experience the top of the mountain and its trails are toilets and protection from the winds, as are currently available."

– Dorothy Darden

"Certainly, keep and enhance interpretation of the views from inside the summit shelter. The present interpretation boards are rather low. Add to and maintain the boardwalks"

– Rosanna Cameron

Focus Groups

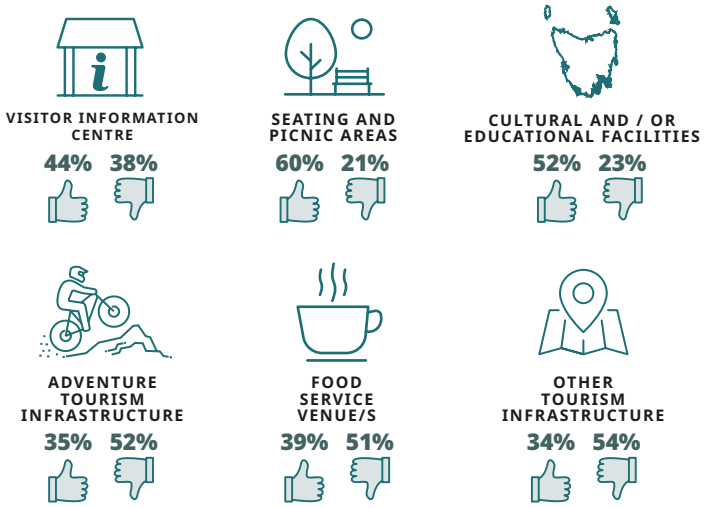
BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS

Most participants recognised the need for improvement or provision of the most essential facilities, acknowledging that improved accessibility and capacity of toilets and shelters both protects the environment and is more inclusive. However, many participants were reluctant to seek improvements to the existing facilities, even if they reported low levels of satisfaction, citing concerns over environmental impacts and protecting Tasmania's 'wild' identity, and opening the door to unwelcome development.

Question 7

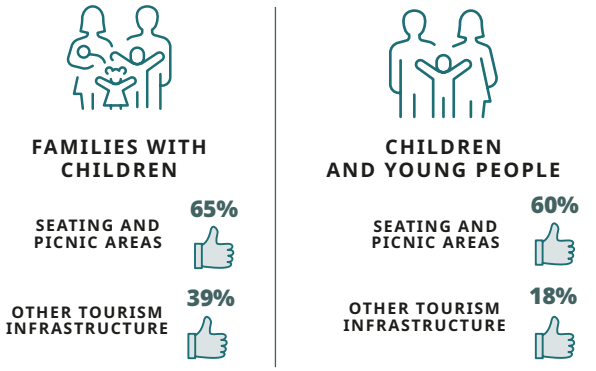
How would you feel about the following possible facilities and infrastructure at the Pinnacle?

Myriad Research has aggregated the answers to against, neutral and support.



3 in 5 respondents support more seating and picnic areas at the Pinnacle, while just over half favour cultural and / or educational facilities.

Adventure tourism infrastructure faced 52% opposition versus 35% support, and for food service venues, 51% are opposed compared to 39% in support. For other tourism infrastructure, 54% are opposed, 34% in support and 12% neutral.



For families with children, 65% supported seating and picnic areas at the Pinnacle, while 60% of children and young people shared this as their highest preference. In contrast, other tourism infrastructure received the least support, with only 39% of families with children and 18% of children and young people in favour.

Written Submissions

Topic: Pinnacle Possible

"We don't want our mountain to be loved to death."

– Residents Opposed to the Cable Car

"It would be great to have a restaurant/café at the top of the mountain. This would be a valued amenity by those who may choose to walk/cycle to the top, and then take a break before their return journey. Careful design would ensure there is limited impact on the silhouette of the mountain""

– Rob Armstrong

"I do want to emphasise that any development must be undertaken with the utmost respect for the natural environment."

– Simon Robustelli

Focus Groups

POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENT

Discussion groups viewed 'development' through two key lenses: a perceived lack of maintenance and improvement over many years, and the issue of a cable car. While large-scale development was largely unsupported, participants welcomed small improvements and better maintenance. Many felt any development in the Park would be significant, potentially controversial, and could have negative impacts. Support for facilities and infrastructure depended on their ability to improve accessibility, protect local access, encourage responsible Park use, and provide fair benefits to enhance the visitor experience.

Question 7B

Please specify what other tourism infrastructure you mean.
(Optional free-text answer)

Question 7B received the highest engagement among all open-text responses, with around 7 in 10 respondents providing feedback. This open-text response was triggered for those who made a selection against other tourism infrastructure (please specify).

The Cable Car Debate

Many people expressed views on a possible cable car. Given that people chose to give their views on this topic in different parts of the survey, to give a full picture, the sentiments have been summarised in the 'Possible infrastructure summary' section on page 42.

Commercial Development

A small number of respondents advocate for a restaurant, café, or other dining facilities at the Pinnacle. Some propose a high-end dining experience, while others favour a more affordable, family-friendly option. In contrast, a large proportion oppose commercial development at the Pinnacle, arguing that it will detract from the Park's natural appeal.

Preservation of Natural Beauty and Minimal Intervention

Many responses highlight the importance of keeping the mountain as natural and unspoiled as possible. Some respondents support removing existing infrastructure, such as car parks and large buildings, to restore the natural environment. Others suggest that any new developments should be subtle, environmentally friendly, and located away from the Pinnacle.

Alternative Transport Solutions

There was support for alternative transport solutions, including a cable car, shuttle buses, improved road infrastructure and mountain bike and walking tracks. Some suggest that personal vehicle access should be restricted to reduce congestion and environmental impact, with shuttle services operating from designated parking areas.

Improved Amenities and Facilities

Respondents frequently mention the need for improved toilet facilities, sheltered viewing areas, picnic shelters, and emergency refuges for those caught in bad weather. Some advocate for additional signage and educational resources about Aboriginal heritage, wildlife, and the mountain's history.

Adventure and Recreational Activities

A subset of responses support additional recreational infrastructure, such as mountain biking trails, rock climbing areas, zip lines, and paragliding launch points. However, some express concerns about potential environmental degradation and increased visitor numbers impacting the natural setting.

The Pinnacle

Question 8

OPTIONAL – If there are any other facilities or types of infrastructure you would like to see at the Pinnacle, tell us here. (Optional free-text answer)

Natural Values of the Mountain

Many in the community value the mountain's wild character and seeks to protect its natural beauty for future generations. Others advocate for keeping infrastructure to a minimum, with only essential amenities provided. Some also suggest removing or consolidating existing infrastructure, such as communication towers, to further reduce human impact on the landscape.

Cable Car and Commercial Development

Many people mentioned the cable car. As with Question 7B, because this has been addressed in many questions, respondents' views are summarised in the 'Possible infrastructure summary' section.

Cultural and Educational Interpretation

There is support for enhancing cultural and historical education on the mountain, particularly through interpretative signage. Many believe that Aboriginal people should lead this storytelling process to ensure authenticity and respect. While educational resources are encouraged, people prefer non-intrusive formats, such as mobile apps or discreet plaques, rather than large, obtrusive signage.

Visitor Experience and Infrastructure

While the community values a natural experience, they recognise some improvements to visitor facilities are needed. Better toilets and sheltered seating that blend into the landscape were commonly requested. Improved signage for walking tracks, weather hazards, and safety information were also a priority. Suggestions for additional viewing platforms designed with minimal environmental impact were common. Accessibility improvements, such as ramps and designated seating, were also key concerns.

Managing Public Transport and Access

Many support introducing a shuttle bus system from lower access points, such as The Springs, to reduce congestion on the mountain. Many believe that private vehicle access should be restricted beyond certain points to preserve the environment and improve safety. However, opinions are divided on road improvements—some want safer road conditions, while others feel that reducing traffic should be the priority over expanding road infrastructure.

Locating Visitor Infrastructure

While many responses advocated for better visitor facilities at the Pinnacle, others showed a preference for facilities to be located lower on the mountain, such as at The Springs, and the access points. Many draw comparisons to other Tasmanian national parks, where infrastructure is positioned at entry points rather than peak areas to maintain the natural experience. People argued that new facilities should be designed thoughtfully to blend into the environment, ensuring they do not detract from the mountain's wild character.

Waste and Environmental Management

Managing waste effectively is a key concern, with calls for more rubbish bins to reduce littering. There is also interest in improved recycling options and the introduction of biodegradable toilets to minimise environmental impact. However, some worry that expanding infrastructure could inadvertently lead to more pollution and environmental degradation, reinforcing the need for a careful, sustainable approach.

Recreation and Safety Enhancements

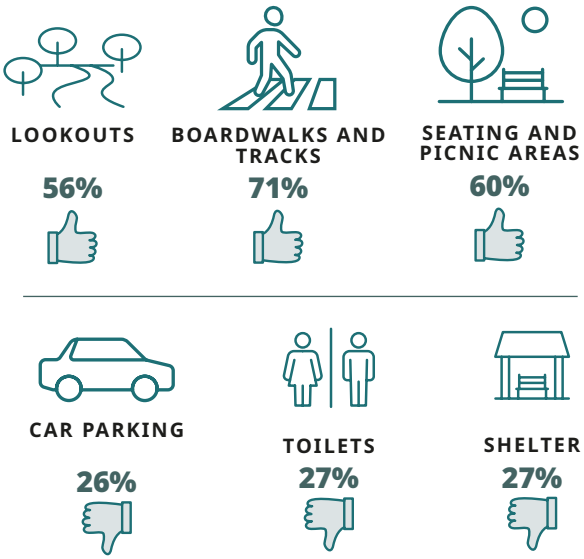
Ensuring safe and enjoyable recreation opportunities was another priority. The community supports the development of safer walking and cycling paths, including a lane for runners and cyclists. Some suggest adding small-scale walking tracks to provide alternative viewpoints without overwhelming the landscape. Some also want better emergency shelter and infrastructure to protect visitors from extreme weather conditions, as well as designated snow play areas and grit barrels to improve safety on icy paths.

The Springs

Question 9

How satisfied are you with the existing facilities and infrastructure at The Springs?

Myriad Research has aggregated the answers to unsatisfied, neutral and satisfied.



Satisfaction was highest for boardwalks and tracks (71%) and seating and picnic areas (60%). Around half of respondents were satisfied with lookouts, food service venues, car parking, shelters, and toilets.

However, about 25% of respondents were unsatisfied with toilets, shelters, parking, and food services, while only 10% were unsatisfied with the boardwalks and tracks.

Nearly 25% of respondents were neutral across all categories.



For families with children and children and young people, the highest satisfaction was with boardwalks and tracks (68% and 75% respectively), followed by seating and picnic areas (55% and 66%).

Written Submissions

Topic: Access Points Current

"I find the access options currently available to all parts of the mountain to be easy and completely sufficient, with a large diversity of experiences available."

–Patrick Eberhard

"The current transport options on the mountain are unsustainable and potentially dangerous. It is imperative that a sustainable and attractive transport solution to the summit reduces the number of vehicles (and potential accidents) on the mountain."

– Destination Southern Tasmania

Focus Groups

ESSENTIAL FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Discussion groups suggest that familiarity and expectations play a key role in the acceptance of facilities and infrastructure.

Most participants acknowledged the need to improve or provide essential facilities, recognising that enhancing the accessibility and capacity of toilets and shelters not only protects the environment but also promotes inclusivity.

The Springs

Question 10

How would you feel about the following possible facilities and infrastructure at The Springs?

Myriad Research has aggregated the answers to against, neutral and support.



CULTURAL AND / OR EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

59% 17%



VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

53% 24%



ADVENTURE TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE

39% 43%



OTHER TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE

33% 45%

Like the Pinnacle, responses on possible facilities and infrastructure at The Springs were mixed.

Support was highest for cultural and / or educational facilities and a visitor information centre with 59% and 53% respectively.

Opposition was strongest to other tourism infrastructure with 45% against compared with 33% in support while Adventure tourism infrastructure faced 43% opposition versus 39% support.

Overall, opposition to possible facilities and infrastructure softened at The Springs as compared with the Pinnacle, and support increased.



FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

CULTURAL AND / OR EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES	VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE	ADVENTURE TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE
62%	54%	48%	39%



CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

CULTURAL AND / OR EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES	VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE	ADVENTURE TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE	OTHER TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE
50%	39%	31%	20%

For families with children (62%) and children and young people (50%), the highest support was for cultural and / or educational facilities, followed by visitor information centre (54% and 39%) at The Springs. In contrast, other tourism infrastructure recorded the lowest support with these groups at 39% and 20% respectively.

Written Submissions

Topic: The Springs Possible

"Most other places in the state with tourists of this volume would have a dedicated information centre."

– Lost Freight Café

"A base at The Springs makes much more sense than the pinnacle because it is attractive on vastly more days of the year that the pinnacle and most current tracks are centred or easily accessible from there."

– David Reid

Focus Groups

ACCESSIBLE FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Participants believe improving accessibility highlights inclusivity, particularly for people with disability and those facing mobility challenges, as a key value of equality and community sharing. This includes ensuring responsible engagement from visitors across the Park.

LOCAL ACCESS

Participants want local access to be safeguarded, with openness to new road access models that can both protect the environment by limiting visitor numbers and controlling distribution, while generating shared income. Industry stakeholders generally agreed that any new access models should benefit all users.

Question 11

If there are any other facilities or types of infrastructure you would like to see at The Springs, tell us here.

(Optional free-text answer)

Accessibility and Transportation

Access to the mountain is a significant concern for many, with a strong preference for alternative transport options. There is some support for a cable car, particularly for those wary of hazardous driving conditions in winter. There was also significant support for implementing a shuttle bus system as a more practical sensitive alternative to managing road congestion at The Springs.

Road conditions are a recurring frustration, with calls for improved surfaces, better signage, and safer cycling infrastructure. Accessibility for all is also a key consideration, with requests for wheelchair-friendly paths to ensure inclusivity for people of all abilities.

Hospitality and Commercial Services

Food and hospitality is a priority for many when reflecting on what they would like to see at The Springs. Possible dining options ranged from casual cafés to high-quality restaurants. The idea of reviving the historic Springs Hotel was mentioned regularly, with many seeing it as a way to offer both accommodation and a social gathering place. There was some support for small-scale offerings such as food vans or kiosks to maintain a light footprint while providing variety. More barbeque and seating areas received broad support also.

While many favour increased tourism services, others advocate for a balance that respects the mountain's natural character. There is balanced opposition and support for commercial development.

Outdoor Recreation and Adventure Activities

The mountain is a hub for outdoor enthusiasts, drawing people for hiking, trail running, mountain biking, and nature photography. Adventure tourism also sparks interest, with activities such as abseiling, and rock climbing seen as exciting opportunities to enhance the mountain's appeal. Enthusiasts envision well-planned mountain biking infrastructure, including trailheads, rental services, and bike transport options.

Star-gazing and aurora photography have an enthusiastic following, with some suggesting the mountain could develop a dark-sky tourism offering. The responses highlighted the diverse ways people wish to engage with the mountain's landscape.

Nature and Conservation

For many, the mountain's natural beauty is its greatest asset, and preserving this environment is paramount. A number of visitors actively participate in bush care, weeding, and land regeneration efforts, demonstrating a strong commitment to conservation. There is also interest in Aboriginal cultural experiences, such as bush food tours and interpretive centres, to provide deeper connections to the land's history and significance.

While some visitors welcome thoughtful development, others call for minimal intervention, emphasising the mountain's role as a peaceful natural retreat.

Social and Community Activities

Beyond tourism, the mountain serves as a gathering place for families, friends, and special occasions such as weddings. Many see it as an ideal setting for educational initiatives, spanning ecology, geology, and astronomy. The potential for a well-resourced visitor information centre is frequently mentioned, with suggestions that The Springs as a location was better for accessibility in adverse weather conditions.

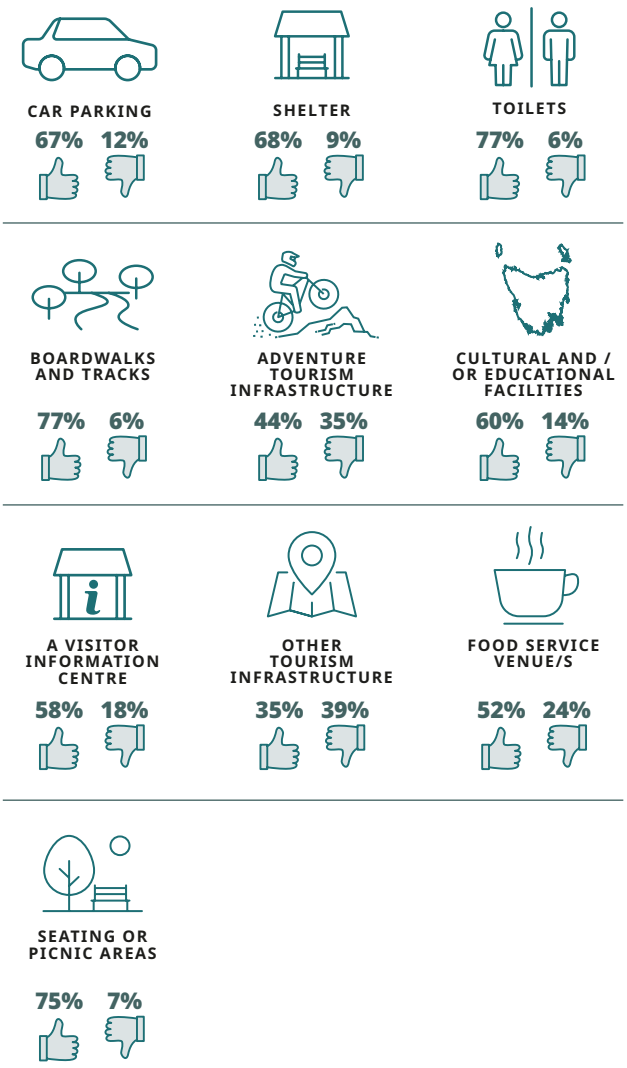
Multi-day hiking and remote camping opportunities also attract interest, with calls for managed, low-impact camping to support extended stays.

Access Points

Question 12

How would you feel about the following possible facilities and infrastructure at one or more of the Access Points?

Myriad Research has aggregated the answers to against, neutral and support.



Overall shelter, toilets, boardwalks and tracks, and seating or picnic areas received between 68% to 77% support each. Cultural and/or educational facilities received 60% support while a visitor information centre received 58%.

As compared to the Pinnacle and The Springs, support for possible facilities and infrastructure across all categories were stronger than opposition, except for other tourism infrastructure (39% against to 35% support).

For families with children and children and young people, the highest support is for boardwalks and tracks, toilets and seating or picnic areas at Access Points.

Occasional visitors are more supportive of all possible facilities and infrastructure at Access Points than against, with support ranging from 40% - 80% across all categories.

Frequent visitors generally support most facilities and infrastructure at access points, except for adventure tourism infrastructure and other tourism infrastructure. Unlike at The Springs and the Pinnacle, they show a greater willingness for development at Access Points.

Written Submissions

Topic: Pinnacle Possible

"Dispersal of visitors across the Park to reduce peak loads at high-pressure sites including the Pinnacle and The Springs is essential."

– Respect the Mountain

"A proposed visitor centre at Halls Saddle would create a purposeful Hub that connects along the way to the summit. Parking and amenities with a regular electric bus service would manage the growing number of visitors to the Park."

– David Rowe

Focus Groups

DEVELOPMENT

Many participants supported alternative Access Points to the Park more broadly, citing challenges with the current access road to the Pinnacle. Basic facilities and infrastructure at these points were supported, with some support for food service venues. There was limited support for other recreational facilities owing to the view that Access Points were a transit point, rather than a destination.



Question 13

If there are any other facilities or types of infrastructure you would like to see at the access points, tell us here.

(Optional free-text answer)

Alternative Transport and Accessibility Solutions

There was support for improving public transport options, including a cable car or shuttle bus service to reduce car traffic. Around 1 in 5 support enhanced bus services to access key points on the mountain, such as The Springs or Halls Saddle. These suggestions were often framed as necessary to maintain safety and reduce congestion on narrow, hazardous mountain roads.

Concerns About Environmental and Cultural Impact

Many responses expressed concern over the environmental and cultural impacts of additional infrastructure on the mountain. A recurring sentiment was the desire to preserve the natural environment and cultural significance of Kunanyi / Mount Wellington. Respondents emphasised the importance of maintaining the "wild" nature of Wellington Park, with several calling for minimal development that does not disrupt the landscape or cultural heritage.

Support for Low-Impact and Eco-Friendly Infrastructure

A segment of respondents expressed support for infrastructure that aligns with eco-tourism principles, such as information centres, restrooms, and picnic areas at access points. There was also support for facilities that promote sustainable and low-impact tourism, including bike hire stations, nature trails, and educational signage. These facilities were generally supported if they remained respectful of the mountain's natural values.

Local Communities and Accessibility

Responses highlighted the need for infrastructure that supports both locals and tourists. A number of respondents expressed concern about the impact of new infrastructure on local communities, particularly the small village of Fern Tree, which they wished to keep free from significant commercial development. On the other hand, some suggested that the mountain's entry points, such as Tolosa Park and Fern Tree, could serve as hubs for parking, public transport, and recreational facilities, which would benefit both locals and visitors.

Diverse Opinions on Access Points

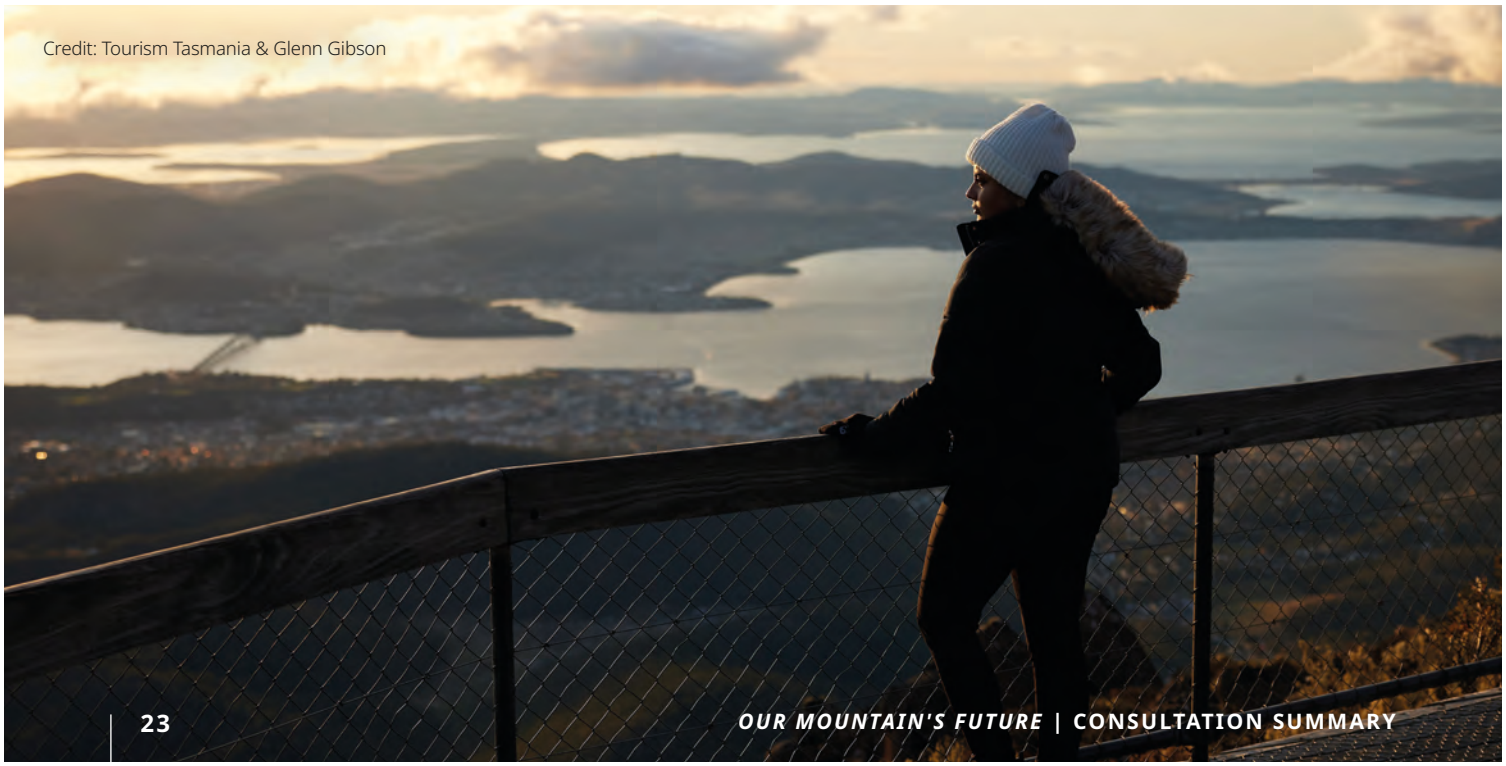
The survey responses also revealed a diversity of opinions about where infrastructure should be located. Some respondents suggested that Halls Saddle could serve as a good location for parking and shuttle bus services, while others believed that this site was unsuitable for large-scale infrastructure. There was also debate over the best location for a visitor centre, with some suggesting lower altitudes or access points outside the Park to protect the mountain's character.

Data for Questions 6-13

Question 6

Indicated satisfaction with existing facilities and infrastructure at the Pinnacle by segment as a percentage.

		Car Parking	Shelter	Lookout/s	Toilets	Boardwalks and tracks
	Overall	**62**	**58**	**73**	**56**	**73**
Visitor type	Active visitors	66	63	78	57	78
	Passive visitors	37	30	49	30	43
	Frequent visitors	72	71	82	66	82
	Occasional visitors	54	48	67	44	65
Local Government Areas	Brighton	56	37	64	42	56
	Clarence	56	49	67	45	67
	Derwent Valley	55	43	65	48	60
	Glenorchy	60	56	71	51	67
	Hobart	66	64	77	58	77
	Huon Valley	62	59	72	54	70
	Kingborough	61	57	74	51	75
	Sorell	56	46	66	49	64
Household	Families with children	60	53	70	50	68
	SINKs & DINKs	77	72	84	66	83
	Empty nesters	55	52	67	48	66
	Children & young people	51	56	79	44	77



Credit: Tourism Tasmania & Glenn Gibson

Data for Questions

Question 7

Indicated support for possible facilities and infrastructure at the Pinnacle by segment as a percentage.

		A visitor information centre	Cultural and / or educational facilities	Food service venue/s	Seating or picnic areas	Adventure tourism infrastructure	Other tourism infrastructure
Frequent	Against	53	30	69	30	69	72
	Neutral	19	25	10	25	10	10
	Support	28	45	21	45	21	18
Occasional	Against	29	19	40	15	42	43
	Neutral	17	24	10	16	14	13
	Support	54	57	49	69	44	44
	NETT SUPPORT						
	Overall	**44**	**52**	**39**	**60**	**35**	**34**
Local Government Areas	Brighton	62	64	65	72	62	50
	Clarence	52	55	49	67	45	41
	Derwent Valley	72	64	64	77	58	55
	Glenorchy	49	56	43	66	40	36
	Hobart	35	47	28	51	23	21
	Huon Valley	43	53	40	64	36	36
	Kingborough	40	49	36	58	31	28
	Sorell	53	55	51	72	49	42
Household	Families with children	46	57	42	65	43	39
	SINKs & DINKs	29	53	22	49	24	16
	Empty nesters	51	50	45	63	36	37
	Children & young people	42	48	37	60	28	18

Question 9

Indicated satisfaction with existing facilities and infrastructure at The Springs by segment as a percentage.

		Car Parking	Shelter	Lookout/s	Toilets	Boardwalks and tracks	Seating or picnic areas	Food service venue/s
	Overall	**50**	**49**	**56**	**48**	**71**	**60**	**55**
Local Government Areas	Brighton	36	37	41	39	56	48	32
	Clarence	40	40	45	39	64	51	46
	Derwent Valley	36	37	47	43	65	53	38
	Glenorchy	46	46	51	43	64	53	47
	Hobart	58	55	60	52	74	65	61
	Huon Valley	42	44	51	44	62	53	44
	Kingborough	50	49	57	45	72	61	55
	Sorell	38	39	46	39	63	43	37
Household	Families with children	45	44	50	44	68	55	52
	SINKs & DINKs	60	62	64	59	79	73	67
	Empty nesters	44	40	47	40	62	50	44
	Children & young people	53	55	62	48	75	66	54

Data for Questions 6-13

Question 10

Indicated support for possible facilities and infrastructure at The Springs by segment as a percentage.

		A visitor information centre	Cultural and / or educational facilities	Adventure tourism infrastructure	Other tourism infrastructure
Frequent	Against	33	20	55	59
	Neutral	24	23	17	20
	Support	43	57	28	22
Occasional	Against	19	15	35	36
	Neutral	23	25	19	24
	Support	59	60	46	40
	NETT SUPPORT				
	Overall	**53**	**59**	**39**	**33**
Household	Families with children	54	62	48	39
	SINKs & DINKs	44	63	31	21
	Empty nesters	58	57	39	33
	Children & young people	39	50	31	20
Local Government Areas	Brighton	58	63	60	46
	Clarence	61	61	48	37
	Derwent Valley	59	59	60	52
	Glenorchy	56	61	44	36
	Hobart	47	56	28	21
	Huon Valley	55	63	41	33
	Kingborough	48	56	36	29
	Sorell	60	65	52	42



Data for Questions 6-13

Question 12

Indicated support for possible infrastructure and facilities at Access Points (examples given included Fern Tree and Tolosa Park) by segment as a percentage.

		Car Parking	Shelter	Toilets	Boardwalks and tracks	Seating or picnic areas	Food service venue/s	A visitor information centre	Cultural and / or educational facilities	Adventure tourism infrastructure	Other tourism infrastructure
Frequent	Against	14	11	8	8	8	29	22	15	43	48
	Neutral	23	26	18	18	21	26	26	25	20	25
	Support	63	62	74	74	71	45	53	60	37	26
Occasional	Against	11	8	6	5	6	20	15	14	30	32
	Neutral	20	21	15	16	17	23	24	27	22	28
	Support	70	71	80	78	77	56	61	59	48	40
	NETT SUPPORT										
	Overall	**67**	**68**	**77**	**77**	**75**	**52**	**58**	**60**	**44**	**35**
Household	Families with children	70	70	79	79	78	58	60	63	54	42
	SINKs & DINKs	59	58	69	68	67	38	47	60	35	22
	Empty nesters	70	71	81	77	77	55	61	57	42	32
	Children & young people	48	51	60	63	55	42	43	45	31	18
Local Government Areas	Brighton	81	84	85	85	79	61	62	64	62	48
	Clarence	71	71	79	77	77	57	59	58	49	37
	Derwent Valley	71	77	87	83	82	58	72	62	57	47
	Glenorchy	68	70	76	76	76	52	58	58	48	35
	Hobart	60	60	72	71	69	45	53	58	34	23
	Huon Valley	67	66	79	78	75	49	59	58	42	33
	Kingborough	64	63	76	74	71	50	53	55	39	28
	Sorell	78	78	84	79	79	64	65	65	59	46



Question 14

How do you currently access any areas of Wellington Park?

Respondents could select as many as applies.



CAR
95%



MOTORBIKE
3%



BY FOOT
55%



BIKE OR E-BIKE
20%



BUS
7%

The overwhelming majority of visitors (95%) use cars to access Wellington Park. Access by foot is the second most popular mode of access, with 55% of respondents indicating they access the Park by foot.

Bikes or e-bikes are used by 20% of visitors, showing a significant interest in bike access. Bus usage is relatively low amongst locals, with only 7% of respondents using this mode of transport.



SINKS AND DINKS



BY FOOT
69%





BIKE OR E-BIKE
25%





CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE



BY BUS
12%



SINKs and DINKs are the most likely group to access the Park by foot (69%). People from Hobart are also significantly more likely to access the Park by foot (69%) or by bike or e-bike (25%) compared with people from any other area. For instance, only 8% of people from Brighton and 9% from the Derwent Valley access the Park by bicycle.

Children and young people are more likely to access the Park by bus (12%) than others.

Written Submissions

Topic: Current Access

"As a contemporary and iconic attraction, it is simply unacceptable that users are denied safe access to the Mountain's summit at times they most wish to visit such as snow events."

– Tourism Industry Council Tasmania

Focus Groups

TOURIST ACCESS

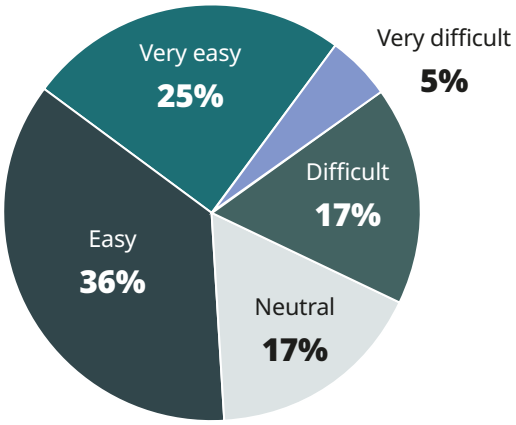
Uber is a popular, cost-effective option for tourists without cars, especially in groups, as it is cheaper than the tourist bus.

LOCAL ACCESS

Locals living near cycling and walking access points frequently reported visitors blocking their driveways or restricting access by parking improperly.

Question 15

In general, how easy do you find it to access Wellington Park?



A majority of respondents (61%) found accessing the Park easy or very easy, while 17% found it difficult and 5% found it very difficult.



CAR

61% 22%



MOTORBIKE

54% 28%



BUS

77% 9%



BY FOOT

77% 11%



BIKE OR E-BIKE

78% 10%

For those using a car to access the park, when asked about ease of access, 61% were positive, 22% were negative and 17% were neutral. The least positive views on ease of access were for motorbikes with only 54% positive, 28% negative and 18% neutral.

By foot, 77% were positive, 11% negative and 12% neutral and by bike or e bike, 78% positive, 10% negative and 12% neutral.

The results indicate moderate positive sentiment on ease of access to the park when using the traditional road compared with results by foot and by bike or e-bike.

Written Submissions

Topic: Future Transport Options

"It is excellent that there is now a regular bus service up the mountain, as that reduces the need for people to drive there. This bus service should be made more frequent and substantially cheaper so that it can really take some load off the road."

– David Wanless

"Better maintenance of roads leading to and within the Park."

– Gemma Woodward

Focus Groups

'FREQUENT / ACTIVE' USERS

Most frequent visitors, including small business and bus operators, felt access was not particularly challenging, citing road familiarity and awareness of closures as key factors.

'OCCASIONAL / PASSIVE' USERS

Some occasional / passive visitors found the road unsafe, discouraging Park visits, particularly during snow events.

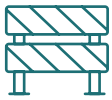
Question 16

If there has ever been a time when you were planning to visit Wellington Park, but were unable to do so, what was the reason?

Respondents could select as many as applies.



WEATHER CONDITIONS
65%



ROAD OR TRAIL CLOSURE
51%



TOO MANY PEOPLE
24%



NO PARKING AVAILABLE
23%



SAFETY CONCERNS
16%



NO ACCESS PROBLEM
13%



NO SUITABLE TRANSPORT AVAILABLE
10%

The most common reason for not visiting, cited by 65% of respondents was weather conditions. Road or trail closure is the second most frequent barrier, affecting 51% of respondents. These were followed by too many people (24%) and no parking available (23%).

4% of total respondents were unable to visit due to facilities not designed for their accessibility needs. However, of those with disability, this jumped to 16%.

Only 13% of respondents reported that they had never had an access problem.



VISITORS WITH DISABLITY

WEATHER CONDITIONS
68%

ROAD OR TRAIL CLOSURE
54%



CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

WEATHER CONDITIONS
61%

ROAD OR TRAIL CLOSURE
49%



FREQUENT VISITORS

WEATHER CONDITIONS
62%

ROAD OR TRAIL CLOSURE
47%



OCCASIONAL VISITORS

WEATHER CONDITIONS
67%

ROAD OR TRAIL CLOSURE
54%

Weather conditions and road or trail closures were the top two reasons that people were unable to access the Park across all groups. Visitors with disability and occasional visitors were somewhat more likely to report these issues than other groups.

Written Submissions

Topic: Barriers to access

"The club is concerned with the level of private vehicle access at peak times. There is often a traffic jam at the pinnacle on good summer days."

– The Hobart Walking Club

"It should be expected and accepted that weather conditions will at times be such that parts or the whole of access to the mountain will be denied."

– Don Armstrong

Focus Groups

THE WEATHER CAN BE UNPREDICTABLE!

Participants expressed the view that weather conditions can both deter and promote visits to the mountain and broader Park. Poor weather can prevent access or impede views from the Pinnacle. Alternatively, good weather can motivate people to visit the Park. The Park's proximity to the city allows visitors to make short-term decisions about visitation.

BARRIERS TO MORE FREQUENT VISITATION

Occasional / passive and disability respondents expressed a desire to visit more often but faced barriers, such as lack of private transport, vehicle accessibility needs, transport affordability and safety concerns.

Question 17

What is most important to you when considering transport options for Wellington Park in the future?

Respondents were asked to rank from most important to least important.

RANKED AS PRIORITY 1 OR 2



ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT
55%



SAFETY
50%



ALL WEATHER ACCESS
35%



COST
18%



ACCESSIBILITY FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY OR LIMITED MOBILITY
20%



TIME
14%

Environmental benefit ranked highest, with 55% of respondents placing it first or second, and 35% ranking it third to sixth. Safety followed, with 50% ranking it first or second, and 39% placing it third to sixth. A significant proportion of respondents value all-weather access (35%).

Cost appears to be a less critical factor, with only 18% ranking it as a top priority, while the majority (66%) consider it moderately important. Accessibility is also relatively low in immediate importance (20%), but a notable 64% rank it in the middle range. Time is the least prioritised, with only 14% rating it as a top concern.

The 'don't know' responses remain fairly consistent across factors, ranging from 10% to 17%.



FREQUENT VISITORS

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT	ALL WEATHER ACCESS
70%	**24%**



OCCASIONAL VISITORS

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFIT	ALL WEATHER ACCESS
46%	**42%**

Among frequent visitors, environmental benefit ranked highest, with 70% placing it first or second, compared to 46% of occasional visitors. For all weather access, 24% of frequent users ranked it first or second, compared to 42% of occasional visitors.

Written Submissions

Topic: Future Transport Options

"It is imperative that a sustainable and attractive transport solution to the summit reduces the number of vehicles (and potential accidents) on the mountain. This will require careful planning and creative solutions that may be more nuanced than simply leaving the summit road open or closed, or substituting one transport option for another."

– Destination Southern Tasmania

"Future transport solutions should consider... visitor amenity and appropriate infrastructure to cater for existing and future Park demand... [and] addressing existing weather-related disruptions to improve accessibility."

– Mount Wellington Cableway Company

Focus Groups

LOCAL ACCESS TO BE PROTECTED

Alongside openness to new road access models that could both protect the environment by limiting visitor numbers and controlling distribution and generate (shared) income. Industry stakeholders considered wider possibilities for types of access but still agreed that this should benefit all user groups

Data for Questions 14-17

Question 14

Mode of access by segments and satisfaction (question 15) as a percentage.

		Car	Bike or E-Bike	Motorbike	Bus	By foot	Do not currently access
	Overall	**95**	**20**	**3**	**7**	**55**	**1**
Household	Families with children	96	28	3	5	57	1
	SINKs & DINKs	95	25	3	9	69	1
	Empty nesters	94	13	2	6	47	1
	Children & young people	95	25	0	12	56	1
Local Government Areas	Brighton	95	8	4	7	32	2
	Clarence	96	17	2	5	45	1
	Derwent Valley	94	9	6	6	38	2
	Glenorchy	95	14	4	7	47	1
	Hobart	93	28	2	9	69	1
	Huon Valley	96	12	4	6	45	1
	Kingborough	96	20	2	8	54	1
	Sorell	95	10	7	3	40	1
Satisfaction	Negative	22	10	28	9	11	68
	Neutral	17	12	18	13	12	9
	Positive	61	78	54	77	77	24

Question 15

Ease of access by segment as a percentage.

		Negative	Neutral	Positive
	Overall	**22**	**17**	**61**
Visitor type	Frequent visitors	10	11	79
	Occasional visitors	28	20	51
	Active visitors	16	16	68
	Passive visitors	47	22	31
	Pinnacle only visitors	48	20	32
Region	South	21	16	62
	North	29	27	44
	North West	26	24	50
Household	Families with children	94	92	68
	SINKs & DINKs	13	15	72
	Empty nesters	25	17	58
	Children & young people	12	21	67

		Negative	Neutral	Positive
	Overall	**22**	**17**	**61**
	People with disability	28	17	55
	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	39	20	41
Local Government Areas	Brighton	36	23	41
	Clarence	30	18	52
	Derwent Valley	34	25	41
	Glenorchy	24	17	59
	Hobart	14	14	72
	Huon Valley	25	17	58
	Kingborough	20	17	63
	Sorell	33	20	47

Data for Questions 14-17

Question 16

Barriers to access by segment as a percentage.

		Safety concerns	Event (e.g. running event)	No suitable transport available	Road or trail closure	Environmental hazards such as bushfires	No Parking available	Too many people	Weather conditions	Facilities not designed for my accessibility needs	Never had an access problem
	Overall	**16**	**9**	**10**	**51**	**14**	**23**	**24**	**65**	**4**	**13**
Visitor Type	Frequent visitors	10	12	7	47	20	19	23	62	2	15
	Occasional visitors	19	8	12	54	11	25	24	67	5	12
	Active visitors	14	10	9	50	16	22	24	65	3	14
	Passive visitors	25	8	16	59	6	28	23	68	8	7
	Pinnacle only visitors	25	6	15	60	5	27	22	66	8	7
Region	South	16	9	10	52	15	23	24	65	4	13
	North	18	4	14	49	6	23	18	57	5	17
	North West	19	13	9	43	8	23	25	63	3	16
Household	Families with children	15	9	12	58	11	29	28	64	4	11
	SINKs & DINKs	14	9	7	47	16	18	22	64	1	16
	Empty nesters	17	10	10	51	14	22	23	67	5	13
	People with disability	23	10	16	54	15	27	24	68	16	11
	Children & young people	17	6	12	49	18	23	22	61	1	13
	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	23	7	18	55	10	33	25	56	8	13



Question 18

Thinking about the future of the mountain and Wellington Park, do you think less, the same or more of the following should be done?

	LESS	THE SAME	MORE	UNSURE
Encouraging people to be more active by using Wellington Park	3%	41%	54%	3%
Protecting the flora and fauna of Wellington Park	2%	26%	70%	1%
Encouraging visitation to Wellington Park	9%	54%	35%	2%
Protecting the views of the mountain from Hobart and its surrounds	12%	26%	58%	3%
Recognising Wellington Park's broader heritage and cultural importance	11%	28%	59%	2%
Supporting sustainable tourism within Wellington Park	11%	35%	49%	4%
Providing for recreational activities	11%	47%	40%	3%

70% of respondents support increased efforts to protect the Park's flora and fauna, with only 2% suggesting less emphasis. Similarly, 58% favour enhanced protection of the mountain's views, while 26% prefer maintaining current efforts.

Encouraging physical activity within the Park is also popular, with 54% advocating for more initiatives and 41% satisfied with existing measures. Encouraging visitation has a mixed response: 35% want more promotion, 54% are content with current levels, and 9% suggest reducing efforts.

Support for recognising the Park's broader heritage and cultural importance is notable, with 59% favour of increased focus. Sustainable tourism sees backing as well, with 49% endorsing more efforts and 35% supporting the status quo.

Opinions on recreational activities are relatively balanced: 40% want more provisions, 47% prefer no change, and 11% advocate for less.

Uncertainty across all categories is minimal, ranging from 1% to 4%.



FREQUENT VISITORS

ENCOURAGING VISITATION **23%**

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM **41%**



OCCASIONAL VISITORS

ENCOURAGING VISITATION **42%**

SUSTAINABLE TOURISM **54%**

As seen throughout, survey responses revealed clear differences between frequent and occasional visitors. When it comes to encouraging visitation to Wellington Park, only 23% of frequent visitors supported more, compared to 42% of occasional visitors. Likewise, 41% of frequent visitors support sustainable tourism in Wellington Park, compared to 54% of occasional visitors.

Written Submissions

Topic: Values Statements

"The protection of the mountain's natural and cultural values is essential. Further development needs to be away from the Pinnacle using already disturbed sites."

– Adam Beeson

"For Aboriginal people, Kunanyi's Aboriginal heritage significance is as one deeply sacred and spiritual Aboriginal Cultural landscape since time immemorial. It remains both a physical and spiritual sanctuary, where Aboriginal people can go to connect with Country, culture and the concepts of creation handed down by our ancestors."

– Aboriginal Land Council Tasmania

Focus Groups

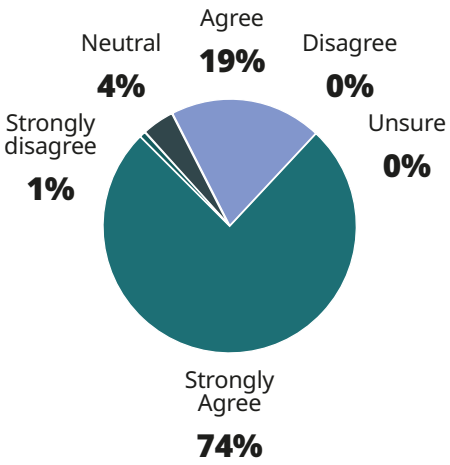
FINDING THE RIGHT BALANCE

Most participants reported that preserving the unique and important natural environment of the Park should take precedence over their experience and enjoyment of it. Many participants reported that the current use of the Park strikes the right balance with environmental protection, although there are concerns that more visitors and development could result in its over-use.

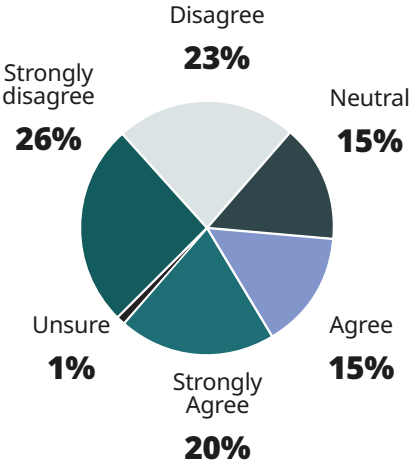
Question 19

How do you feel about the following statements?

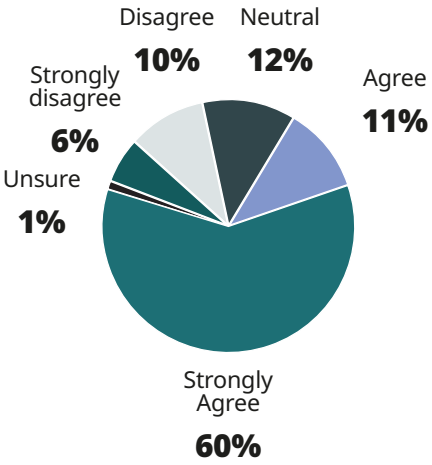
(A) Having a natural asset like Wellington Park and the mountain so close is important to Hobart's appeal.



(B) It would be better if there were more things to do in Wellington Park.



(C) Conserving the Park's natural values should always take priority over commercial uses.



Statement A had 93% aggregate agreement. In contrast, there was only 1% of aggregate disagreement.

1 in 3 respondents agreed with statement B, while a little under half disagreed.

Those who believe there should be more to do were more likely to prioritise all weather access than others, with 54% of frequent visitors and 74% occasional visitors putting this as either their first or second preference.

This group also had a higher level of dissatisfaction with existing facilities at the Pinnacle, with approximately 3 in 4 people saying that they are unsatisfied with car parking, shelter, lookouts and toilets, compared with around 1 in 4 of all people. This group was also far more likely to support adventure (82%) and other tourism infrastructure (83%) at the Pinnacle, and across the Park.

Conversely, of those who do not support statement B, there is very low support for both adventure (7%) and other tourism infrastructure (6%) at the Pinnacle although support is greater at lower down points on the mountain (23% and 18% respectively).

Cultural and educational facilities were more widely supported by all participants, with nearly half of those who do not believe there should be more things to do supporting such facilities at The Springs and Access Points.

Statement C drew strong agreement from 71% of respondents. Frequent and active visitors were most likely to support the statement (85% and 78% respectively) whilst just 43% of passive visitors and 41% of Pinnacle only visitors agreed. 56% of Aboriginal people also agreed with statement C, whilst 31% disagreed.

Written Submissions

Topic: Values Statements

"The natural and cultural values of the Park are the reason tourists come there. In short, all visitors should adapt to the place, not the other way around. We are visitors, not dwellers."

– Bernard Lloyd

"The true value of Wellington Park is the opportunity to physically and emotionally connect with the natural world."

– David Gell

Topic: Park Meaning

"This place is more than just a mountain. It is an axis of our island, a place where nature, history, and possibility converge."

– Rob Armstrong

Focus Groups

PROTECTION OF OUR MOUNTAIN

The focus groups revealed that respect and appreciation for the Park, and a desire to ensure its protection, were the most strongly held values among participants. Participants expressed a strong belief that they live in a great state and are proud and protective of Tasmania's 'wild' and 'nature' credentials.

Data for Questions 18-19

Question 18

Future values sentiments (less / same / more statements) with "more" response by most important factor for transport options (Question 17) as a percentage.

	Overall	Cost		Environmental benefit		All weather access		Time		Safety		Accessibility for people with disability or limited mobility	
		Ranking 1 or 2	Ranking 3, 4, 5 or 6	Ranking 1 or 2	Ranking 3, 4, 5 or 6	Ranking 1 or 2	Ranking 3, 4, 5 or 6	Ranking 1 or 2	Ranking 3, 4, 5 or 6	Ranking 1 or 2	Ranking 3, 4, 5 or 6	Ranking 1 or 2	Ranking 3, 4, 5 or 6
Encouraging people to be more active by using Wellington Park	54	20	80	53	47	48	52	18	82	55	45	25	75
Protecting the flora and fauna of Wellington Park	70	20	80	75	25	26	74	14	86	58	42	22	78
Encouraging visitation to Wellington Park	35	18	82	32	68	65	35	19	81	53	47	31	69
Protecting the views of the mountain from Hobart and its surrounds	58	22	78	78	22	21	79	14	86	58	42	21	79
Recognising Wellington Park's broader heritage and cultural importance	59	20	80	77	23	21	79	13	87	59	41	23	77
Supporting sustainable tourism within Wellington Park	49	18	82	52	48	50	50	17	83	56	44	27	73
Providing for recreational activities	40	21	79	34	66	63	37	22	78	52	48	28	72



Credit: Tourism Tasmania & Glenn Gibson

Data for Questions 18-19

Question 18

Future values sentiments (less / same / more statements) with "more" response by segment as a percentage.

		Encouraging people to be more active by using Wellington Park	Protecting the flora and fauna of Wellington Park	Encouraging visitation to Wellington Park	Protecting the views of the mountain from Hobart and its surrounds	Recognising Wellington Park's broader heritage and cultural importance	Supporting sustainable tourism within Wellington Park	Providing for recreational activities
	Overall	**54**	**70**	**35**	**58**	**59**	**49**	**40**
Local Government Areas	Brighton	67	48	58	37	41	59	61
	Clarence	56	63	43	50	52	56	49
	Derwent Valley	56	52	50	36	36	59	55
	Glenorchy	58	67	40	56	55	54	45
	Hobart	50	77	25	66	68	44	31
	Huon Valley	54	72	39	59	56	52	43
	Kingborough	52	70	31	60	59	46	36
	Sorell	56	62	44	47	51	52	49
Household	Families with children	62	61	41	52	52	53	52
	SINKs & DINKs	51	82	22	70	75	49	30
	Empty nesters	53	67	40	54	53	49	40
	Children & young people	52	76	23	66	66	48	35



Data for Questions 18-19

Question 19

Future transport options (Question 17) by user frequency (Question 1) and sentiment (Question 19) as a percentage.

In question 19, respondents were asked how they feel about three statements –
19a. "Having a natural asset like Wellington Park and the mountain so close is important to Hobart's appeal."
19b. "It would be better if there were more things to do in Wellington Park."
19c. "Conserving the Park's natural values should always take priority over commercial uses."
Balance of percentage in 'overall' rows was a "don't know" response.

		Cost		Environmental benefit		All weather access		Time		Safety		Accessibility for people with disability or limited mobility'	
		Ranking 1 or 2	Ranking 3, 4, 5 or 6	Ranking 1 or 2	Ranking 3, 4, 5 or 6	Ranking 1 or 2	Ranking 3, 4, 5 or 6	Ranking 1 or 2	Ranking 3, 4, 5 or 6	Ranking 1 or 2	Ranking 3, 4, 5 or 6	Ranking 1 or 2	Ranking 3, 4, 5 or 6
Overall		**18**	**66**	**55**	**35**	**35**	**53**	**14**	**69**	**50**	**39**	**20**	**64**
FREQUENT VISITORS													
Overall (frequent)		**20**	**65**	**70**	**23**	**24**	**62**	**15**	**69**	**47**	**41**	**16**	**68**
Q. 19a	**Negative**	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
	Neutral	3	2	1	3	2	2	4	1	2	2	3	2
	Positive	97	97	98	95	96	97	95	97	97	97	96	97
Q. 19b	**Negative**	67	65	79	34	29	76	51	68	69	62	58	67
	Neutral	14	15	13	17	18	13	16	14	14	15	14	15
	Positive	19	20	8	48	54	10	34	18	17	24	28	18
Q. 19c	**Negative**	7	8	2	21	26	3	14	7	7	10	13	7
	Neutral	6	6	2	17	17	3	11	5	5	7	9	6
	Positive	87	86	96	62	57	94	74	88	88	83	78	87
OCCASIONAL VISITORS													
Overall (occasional)		**16**	**67**	**46**	**42**	**42**	**48**	**14**	**69**	**52**	**38**	**23**	**62**
Q. 19a	**Negative**	2	2	1	2	2	2	3	2	2	2	2	2
	Neutral	6	5	4	6	7	4	6	5	5	6	7	5
	Positive	92	93	95	91	91	94	91	93	93	93	91	93
Q. 19b	**Negative**	43	40	66	17	13	58	31	42	42	37	32	43
	Neutral	14	16	18	14	12	19	15	16	17	14	17	16
	Positive	42	44	15	69	74	23	54	42	41	49	51	41
Q. 19c	**Negative**	16	21	4	35	40	7	28	19	17	24	26	19
	Neutral	15	16	6	24	25	9	18	15	16	17	18	15
	Positive	69	64	90	41	35	84	54	66	67	60	56	67

Data for Questions 18-19

Question 19

Response to the statement "having a natural asset like Wellington Park and the mountain so close is important to Hobart's appeal" (Question 19a) by segment as a percentage.

		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Unsure
	Overall	**1**	**0**	**4**	**19**	**74**	**0**
Visitor Type	Frequent Visitors	1	0	2	14	83	0
	Occasional Visitors	1	1	6	23	69	1
	Active Visitors	1	0	4	18	77	0
	Passive Visitors	2	1	6	27	64	0
	Pinnacle only visitors	2	1	8	27	62	0
	Children & young people	0	0	16	33	48	3
	People with disability	1	0	6	20	72	0
	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	2	1	13	20	62	2

Response to the statement "it would be better if there were more things to do in Wellington Park" (Question 19b) by segment as a percentage.

		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Unsure
	Overall	**26**	**23**	**15**	**15**	**20**	**1**
Visitor Type	Frequent Visitors	38	27	14	9	11	0
	Occasional Visitors	19	21	16	18	26	1
	Active Visitors	30	25	16	12	16	1
	Passive Visitors	10	11	14	26	38	1
	Pinnacle only visitors	7	10	16	28	37	1
	Children & young people	16	19	29	23	11	2
	People with disability	27	20	13	18	21	0
	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	15	16	15	14	40	0

Data for Questions 18-19

Response to the statement "Conserving the Park's natural values should always take priority over commercialisation" (Question 19c) by segment as a percentage.

		Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree	Unsure
	Overall	**6**	**10**	**12**	**11**	**60**	**1**
Visitor Type	Frequent Visitors	4	5	6	8	77	0
	Occasional Visitors	7	13	16	13	50	1
	Active Visitors	4	8	10	10	68	0
	Passive Visitors	13	21	23	15	28	1
	Pinnacle only visitors	14	19	24	15	26	3
	Children & young people	1	5	13	17	60	3
	Disability	7	12	13	10	56	1
	Aboriginal	17	14	13	10	46	1

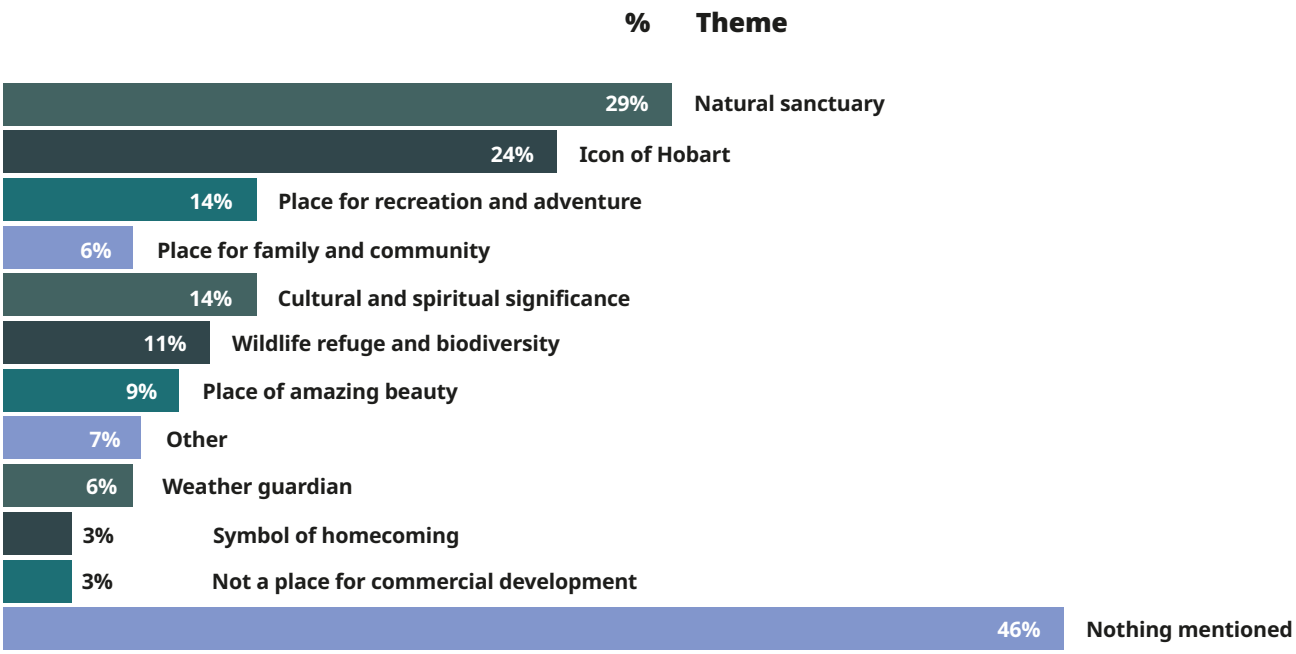
Response to "it would be better if there were more things to do in Wellington Park" (Question 19b) and level of satisfaction with existing facilities and infrastructure at each location (Questions 6 and 8) by percentage.

		Pinnacle			Springs		
		Negative	Neutral	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Positive
	Overall	**49**	**16**	**35**	**49**	**16**	**35**
Car parking	Unsatisfied	16	11	73	29	13	59
	Neutral	36	20	44	37	21	42
	Satisfied	65	16	20	67	14	19
Shelter	Unsatisfied	14	10	75	25	12	63
	Neutral	35	21	44	39	21	40
	Satisfied	69	16	15	69	14	16
Lookouts	Unsatisfied	15	8	78	20	9	72
	Neutral	23	18	59	37	19	45
	Satisfied	61	17	23	66	15	19
Toilets	Unsatisfied	18	12	71	35	12	53
	Neutral	38	19	43	36	20	45
	Satisfied	67	15	18	66	15	19
Boardwalks / tracks	Unsatisfied	17	8	75	21	7	72
	Neutral	21	17	62	24	18	58
	Satisfied	61	16	22	61	16	23
Seating / picnic	Unsatisfied	N/A	N/A	N/A	24	9	67
	Neutral	N/A	N/A	N/A	31	20	49
	Satisfied	N/A	N/A	N/A	65	16	19
Food venues	Unsatisfied	N/A	N/A	N/A	18	10	72
	Neutral	N/A	N/A	N/A	37	21	42
	Satisfied	N/A	N/A	N/A	69	15	16

Question 20

What does Kunanyi / Mount Wellington and the broader Wellington Park mean to you?

(Optional free-text answer)



Written Submissions

Topic: Park Meaning

"Kunanyi / Mount Wellington is an iconic location, with important cultural history, visited by both visitors and Tasmanians alike for its tranquility, stunning vistas and recreational pursuits."

– Tourism Industry Council Tasmania

"My long term vision for the management of Kunanyi / Wellington Park is that it first and foremost occurs in consultation with the Palawa community of Lutruwita Tas."

– Amelia Cromb

"The priority in managing Wellington Park should always be maintaining the integrity of the Park's natural values and ecosystems."

– Luke Cooper

Topic: Vision

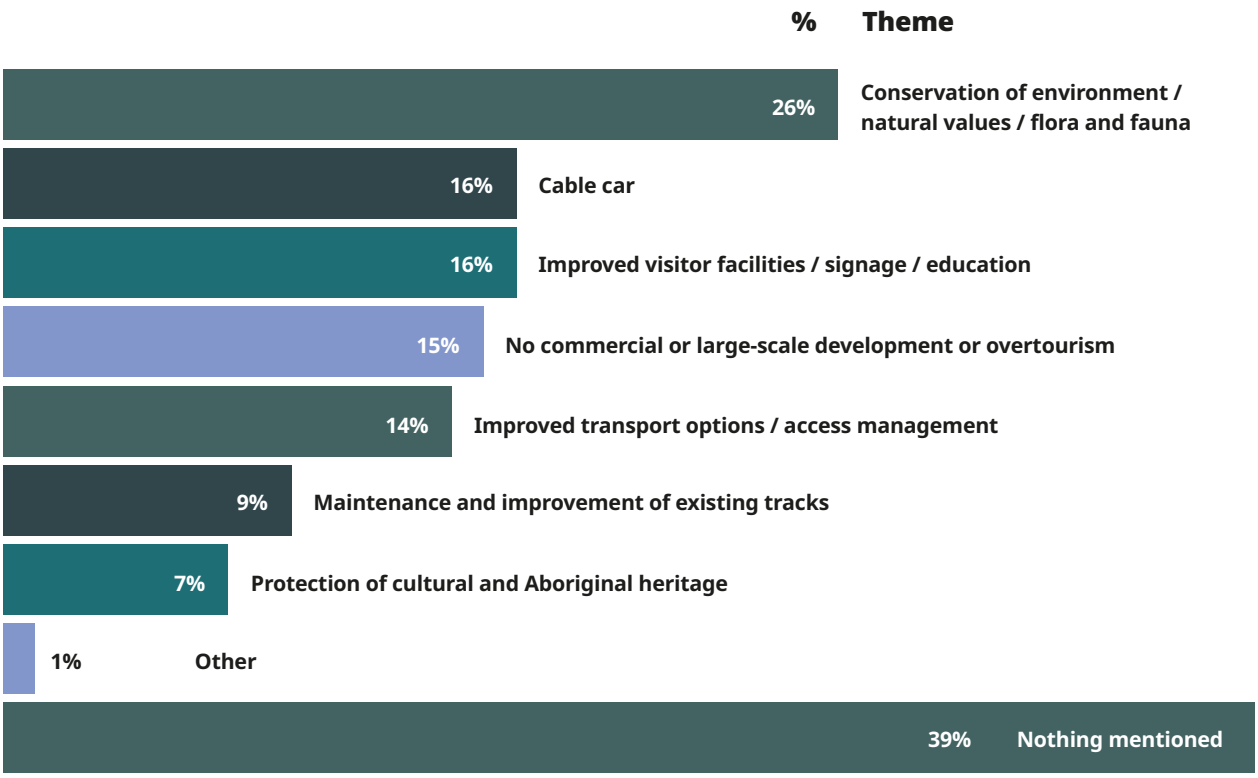
"My vision for Mt Wellington is a place which symbolises in a very practical way the essential qualities of Tasmanian. That is, a place where people can be close to nature and can recreate in a self-reliant way on their own terms."

– Rolan Eberhard

Question 21

Tell us about what you would like to see for the future of Wellington Park?

(Optional free-text answer)





Possible infrastructure summary

The survey contained several free-text fields in which respondents were invited to provide further comments. While the survey did not explicitly seek comments on a cable car or other additional development, many people offered their views in at least one, if not more of the free-text fields. This section has been included due to the large volume of respondents who have contributed views on this topic.

The department manually assessed the free-text responses to determine an overall sentiment on a cable car and other additional development for each respondent to the survey.

Overall, 28% specifically mentioned their opposition to a cable car, and a further 15% were against additional development generally. Conversely, 30% mentioned support specifically for a cable car, and a further 27% were supportive of other additional development, but did not mention a cable car.

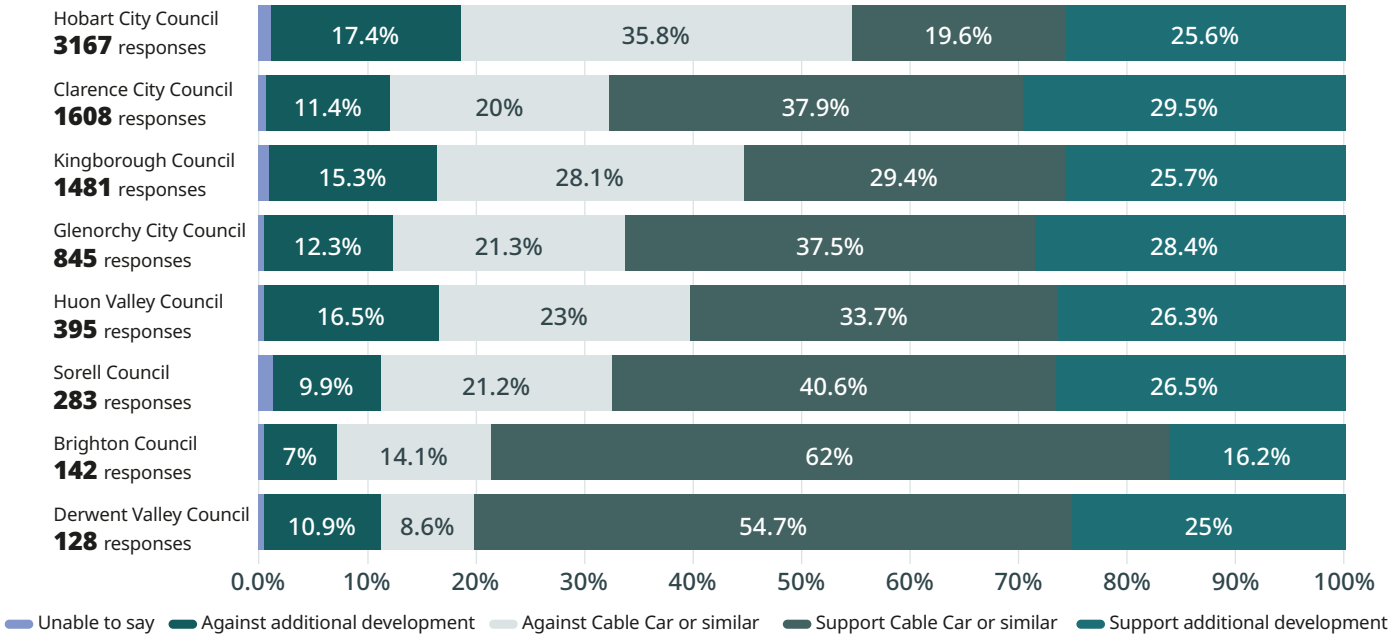
Similar to the level of comfort for possible facilities and infrastructure across the Park, the level of support for development differs significantly between Greater Hobart municipalities. The Hobart local government area was, by a large margin, the most conservative about the development of a cable car, with 19.6% support. Clarence, Kingborough, Glenorchy, Huon Valley, and Sorell all had stronger support, ranging from 29.4% to 40.6%. Brighton and Derwent Valley each had strong majority support for a cable car.

Supporters view it as an opportunity to improve accessibility and boost tourism, while opponents argue it would compromise the mountain's cultural and environmental values. Some propose a smaller-scale cable car with lower environmental impact as a potential compromise.

Many people who support a cable car, believe that it could reduce road traffic and enhance the visitor experience. A number of responses suggest that the design should minimise visual impact, with some referencing international examples as models for inspiration. Respondents cite convenience and accessibility as the main benefits, which could operate year-round, even in winter conditions. Some also referenced successful models in other locations like Queenstown and Europe, suggesting that a cable car could be a valuable addition to the region's tourism infrastructure.

Support for additional development generally (where the respondent did not mention a cable car), was pretty consistent across all local government areas with all councils apart from Brighton ranging between 25% and 29.5%.

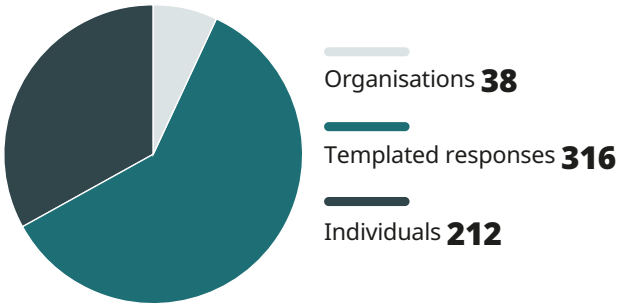
Views on the scale of commercial development vary – while some support a café or restaurant, they often said it must be small-scale and well-integrated into the landscape. Those who were against additional development were concerned about the impact of additional commercial ventures such as restaurants, hotels and additional facilities on its natural values.



Written submissions

In addition to the survey, people and organisations were invited to make written submissions. 528 individuals and 38 organisations provided responses representing a wide range of views from community organisations, recreational clubs, smaller tourism operators, tourism industry representatives, and peak bodies. We will continue to refer to the written submissions alongside the survey data as we make recommendations for the Action Plan. All submissions have been published at www.mountainreview.tas.gov.au

316 of the 528 individual submissions were provided through a third-party campaign, which provided a template response. Respondents to this campaign were encouraged to personalise submissions and many had differentiated the template to some extent; however, the bulk of the content contained identical information.



Preservation of natural and cultural values

A key theme that arose from a majority of written submissions was a belief that the natural and cultural values of the Park should be considered a key priority in future decision making. Wellington Park is valued by many people for its natural scenery and rich cultural heritage and believe that it is important to conserve and protect these values. The City of Hobart shared the view of many, recognising the Park as having cultural and spiritual significance that commands a profound sense of place.

Facilities and infrastructure

There was a mixed view on what facilities and infrastructure are needed with many people concerned about the impact that improvements may have on the natural and cultural values of the Park.

The level of concern varied, with many people believing these values would be undermined by any level of development and commercialisation of the Park and that visual amenity of the Pinnacle should be preserved. Some of the respondents who were satisfied with the existing infrastructure and facilities at the Pinnacle stated that the existing level of development was appropriate for their experience.

Generally, people were satisfied with the existing facilities and infrastructure at The Springs. Many of these people were not supportive of new development but were more open to low impact infrastructure that supports active recreation, and improved connectivity of trails. The Tourism Industry Council of Tasmania suggested the development of modern toilets and increased track maintenance could improve the visitor experience. Others felt there was an opportunity to provide more visitor information at The Springs, noting that it is the hub for most of the bushwalking and biking trails on the eastern face of the mountain.

Common feedback, however, was that there is an opportunity for existing facilities to be better maintained and that the toilets and basic amenities at The Springs and the Pinnacle could be improved to be more modern and accessible.

While large-scale developments are widely opposed, a small number of people expressed support for substantial infrastructure such as a restaurant and visitor facilities. Generally, people were supportive of limited, low-impact improvements, to improve visitor experience such as interpretation centres, parking and shelters, particularly in lower down areas of the mountain such as the Springs and the access points. It is a common view that facilities and infrastructure should blend into and prioritise the environment.

Most submissions did not provide feedback on the current facilities and infrastructure at access points specifically, but those that did were generally supportive of development. A small number of people expressed that the current access points are underutilised. Most of these submissions supported a visitor hub and parking infrastructure to improve the visitor experience. Development at access points is seen as having a lower impact on the natural environment and visual amenity of the mountain than development in other areas of the Park.

Halls Saddle was named as a site for potential development including visitor information services, car parking, buses, and a café. Friends of the Earth mentioned their support for the Halls Saddle proposal,

along with the Hobart Walking Club, South Hobart Sustainable Community and the Residents Opposed to the Cable Car. A minority of people opposed development at access points, preferring no further development in or around the Park.

Access and transport

While many people found the Park easy to access, a few did not. Those who found it difficult highlighted traffic congestion on Pinnacle Road and poor weather conditions as their main barriers. There were some suggestions that the Park would benefit from improved parking and addressing access issues during busier periods.

Many proposals were suggested for sustainable transport alternatives to improve accessibility while protecting the Park's natural and cultural values and reducing congestion. Ideas included shuttle bus services, electric transport, and enhanced walking and cycling paths. The City of Hobart suggested reliable all weather bus services that are regular and dependable. Other submissions, such as ENSHRINE, also suggested shuttle services as a lower impact solution. A few people suggested a cable car to improve access, however, many people stated that they were opposed to this proposal. The Halls Saddle transport hub and buses were frequently mentioned as a preferable solution over a cable car.

However, some people believed access should remain the same or limited, such as by restricting private vehicles on the road. A few people also believed that all-weather access is unrealistic for the Pinnacle and that other parts of the Park can be accessed during poor weather.

Recreation and usage

Many people were satisfied with the current activities in the Park, noting that it is a beloved space for outdoor recreation, including walking, cycling, and enjoying nature. The Hobart Wheelers and Dirt Devils cycling club told us the mountain has a special place in road riding history. Others have said the Park was a refuge for mental health, religious practice, and / or spirituality.

There was broad support for continuing current activities, having more access to snow experiences, and fostering better co-existence among current users. Some also wanted more events and four-wheel driving opportunities in the Park. The Tasmanian National Parks Association noted the importance of managing the mountain for a full range of users without the experience of different user groups negatively impacting on one another. Some individuals wanted to see fewer activities, such as mountain bike riding.

Many respondents also noted that existing tracks and facilities could be improved, through better trail maintenance, better signage, additional seating areas, and upgraded safety measures, rather than introducing new commercial attractions, such as adventure tourism. The Friends of Wellington Park suggested a new walking track between the Chalet and Big Bend, which could significantly improve the options for walkers and runners.

While some acknowledged the importance of tourism and enjoy taking guests up the mountain, many mentioned that they were worried that increasing visitor numbers will lead to environmental damage, congestion, and waste issues. Concerns about littering, erosion, and excessive human interference highlighted the need for sustainable visitor management.

Management

While administration was not a key focus of the community consultation, there were many individuals and organisations, including the Wellington Park Management Trust (the Trust) and the City of Hobart, who provided their thoughts on this.

- Several of the submissions from organisations expressed the view that the Trust is not sufficiently resourced to perform its statutory role and function as the strategic management authority for Wellington Park.
- Both the Trust's and the City of Hobart's submissions discussed the difficulties caused by unclear roles and responsibilities of agencies involved in the management of the Park, leading to inefficiency and confusion in management and planning.
- The Aboriginal Land Council Tasmania (ALCT) recommended appointing an ALCT member to the Wellington Park Management Trust to advocate for the Aboriginal community. Many of the individual submissions also suggested the Trust could have representation from a member of the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community.
- Many respondents were opposed to the transfer of management of the Park to the Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service, believing the current administrative arrangements were more suitable.

These submissions will be used to further inform the next phase of *Our Mountain's Future*, which will consider in greater depth the management and maintenance of the Park.

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Version 2 Published 4 June 2025

The number of individual written submissions has been corrected to '212' on the pie chart on page 43.

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