

CLIENT	Hobart Historic Cruises	PROJECT MGR	Cameron Heit
PROJECT	DERWENT RIVER CRUISES	WRITER	PF/Alison
SUBJECT	25. Queen's Domain – Beaumaris Zoo		
KEY No.			

## Stop 25 - Queens Domain – Beaumaris Zoo

Under the trees, you'll see a white house with a red roof. This was once the site of Hobart Zoo, also known as Beaumaris Zoo.

The zoo closed in 1937 when visitor numbers declined due to the Depression.

The last Tasmanian tiger, or thylacine, in captivity died of pneumonia at the zoo after a door in its enclosure closed, leaving it to spend the night out in the cold.

You can still watch the famous footage of the zoo's Tasmanian tigers pacing their enclosure.

Thylacines were important to Charles Darwin in developing his theory of evolution.

In his 1872 edition of Origin of the Species, Darwin described the similarity between the jaws of dogs and thylacines, which are marsupials. He saw this as evidence that evolution had similar effects on otherwise quite different animals, a concept called convergent evolution.

European farmers hunted the thylacine to extinction, blaming it for taking their sheep, but evidence shows that feral dogs and mismanagement were responsible for most sheep deaths.

In 1888, the Tasmanian government introduced a bounty of one pound per adult thyacline and 10 shillings for a juvenile, contributing greatly to the decline of the species.