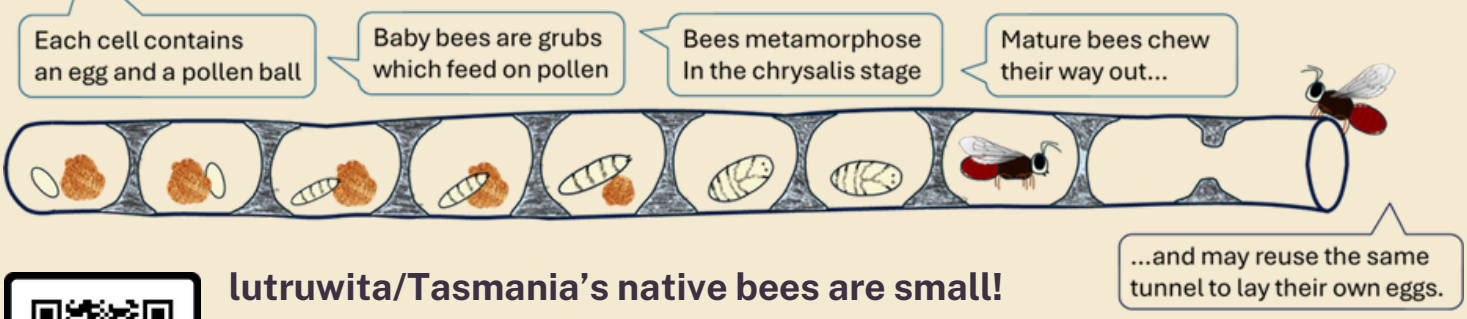
TASMANIAN NATIVE BEE HOMES & GARDENS

lutruwita/Tasmania's native bees have unique habitat needs - they may not be suited to a bee hotel designed for mainland Australia or the USA.

Plasterer bee
(Callomelitta)

Most native bees, worldwide, are solitary. Rather than living in a large community hive, like honeybees, solitary bees make their own 'hive for one' by tunnelling into soft plant stems (reed nesters), into wood (cavity nesters) or into soil (burrowing bees). Here they lay their eggs in individual cells.



SCAN ME

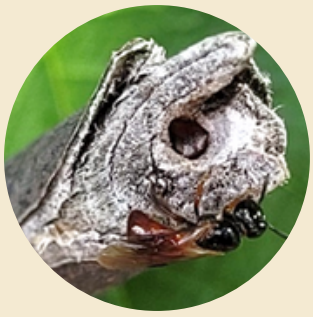
lutruwita/Tasmania's native bees are small!

In a 4 mm tube, 12 cm long, a native bee can make 9 cells, laying one egg in each

- tunnels and holes should only be 3-12 mm round (5-7 mm average)
- tunnels should be 5 - 20 cm deep

For more information on **how to build your own native bee hotel**, visit the Tasmanian Bee Hotels website via this QR code.

GOOD BEE HOTELS PROVIDE THE KIND OF PLANT STEMS OR HOLES IN WOOD THAT LUTRUWITA/TASMANIA'S NATIVE BEES USE NATURALLY



Reed bees (*Exoneura*)
Sycamore twig

Reed Bees make tunnels in soft plant stems

PROVIDE:
Bamboo, blackberry canes, tree fern stems
OR twigs from elder, sycamore, musk daisy bush, blanket bush
Cut to expose the 'pithy' centre.

Boring Bees use tunnels made in wood

PROVIDE:
Untreated weather resistant wood like Jarrah or Wattle.
Drill holes in the endgrain.
OR keep old wood around.
Bees will use screw holes in old fenceposts, or beetle holes in stumps.

Banksia bees
(Hylaeus)

Benefits of native pollinators

There are many different species of pollinators including native bees, butterflies and beetles. Each have different pollinating behaviours and favour different plants. For example, butterflies mostly visit flowers on the outside of a clump and bees will fly in deeper. Having different insects visiting your flowers can increase movement of bees - spreading pollen further. Working together, a mix of insects will be able to pollinate more of your flowers. This is how pollinator diversity benefits your plants.

ALL BEE HOTELS BENEFIT FROM

- Some rain protection
- Being securely mounted
- A warm location
- Protection from pesticides

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Inspiring Australia Tasmania

Landcare Tasmania