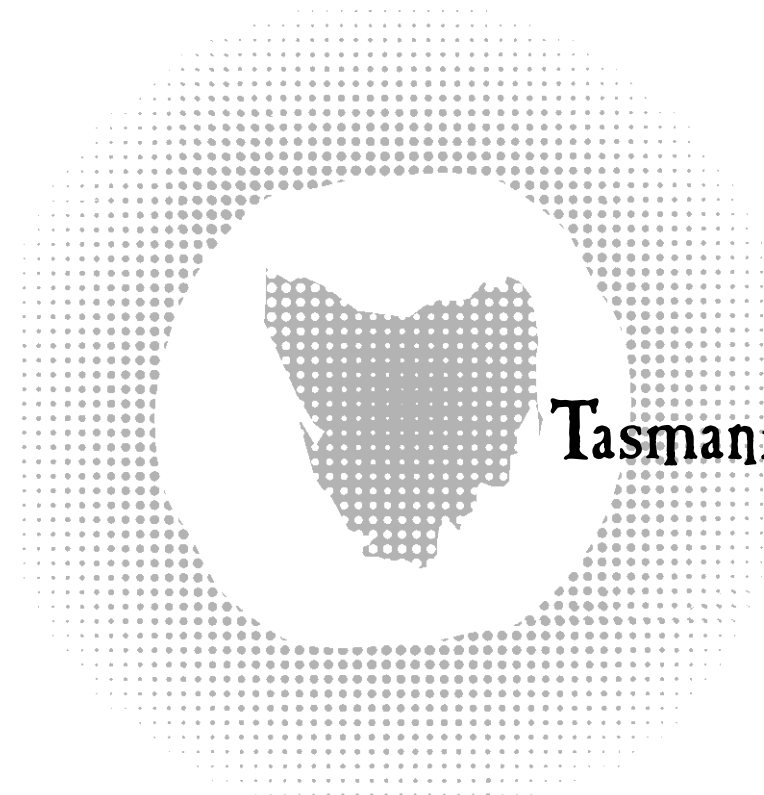


tasmania
2008
linux.conf.au



Tasmania's bid to host LCA 2008

The Tasmanian Linux Users Group, invites Linux Australia to consider Hobart, Tasmania as the destination for linux.conf.au in January 2008 ("LCA 2008").

We warmly invite Linux Australia to consider Hobart for the reasons outlined in this document —because our beautiful city has the meeting infrastructure, accommodation and conference experiences to successfully host linux.conf.au. And we will also extend a warm welcome and our friendly island hospitality to each and every one of your delegates upon arrival and for the duration of their stay.



...one of the greatest natural harbours in the world.

Executive summary

The city of Hobart is situated close to magnificent wilderness areas and has one of the greatest natural harbours in the world. Mount Wellington provides a dramatic backdrop to a city where a diverse range of restaurants, rows of Georgian buildings and a vibrant cultural life are all interwoven. It is one of Australia's most picturesque capital cities.

The cool, temperate climate of Australia's island state with its distinctive four seasons makes this place ideal for year-round comfortable living and touring. The average maximum Hobart temperature for January is 21.5°C. Long summer days and lingering twilights provide opportunity for extended sight-seeing.

Hobart is a delightful convention destination, with all the facilities you would expect from a capital city. National and international conferences in Tasmania traditionally attract a high number of registrations. As Tasmania has never before hosted linux.conf.au, we believe registrations will be very strong, as Tasmania is a destination that many "mainlanders" are yet to visit and a place that offers a unique conference experience. Many LCA 2008 delegates will welcome a reason to visit our beautiful state.



Executive summary *continued*

We propose holding LCA 2008 at the University of Tasmania which is only two kilometres from the city centre and the historic waterfront precinct of Salamanca Square and Battery Point. The University has excellent facilities for large plenary sessions with plenty of rooms for breakout sessions and a robust, ultra-fast wireless networking infrastructure. We have already received an extremely competitive pricing offer from the University. Different to previous Conferences, we are proposing to have 90-minute lunch breaks with shuttle buses taking delegates for the short ride to the waterfront area for lunch. Those wishing to stay within the University for lunch can use the excellent Lazenby's Restaurant and Café.

We propose to stage the LCA 2008 conference dinner at the Hotel Grand Chancellor, a 4 star venue on Hobart's waterfront. The official Speakers' Dinner will be held at a mystery location south of Hobart following a 40 minute river cruise on a high speed luxury catamaran .



Our team is dedicated to designing and organising the best linux.conf.au so far. Many organisations have pledged their support to make this happen. The Tasmanian Linux Users Group (TasLUG) is the lead sponsoring organisation, and will be supported by Open Source Tasmania and the Hobart chapter of SAGE-AU.

We will be calling for a wide range of speakers to ensure that all key areas of interest are addressed. We propose that the conference sessions be structured along 'communities', to reduce the incidence of 'clashes' with speakers. The key "communities" are likely to include: Developers, Sysadmin/servers, Desktop/Users, and Advocacy/Legal. We will be calling for papers on as wide a range of topics as possible, to make LCA 2008 the most memorable conference yet in terms of content and location.

Hobart is a fascinating mixture of the very best of modern, contemporary life juxtaposed against the backdrop of heritage buildings and world class scenery. It is a magnificent setting for the LCA 2008 conference aimed at advancing the key IT infrastructure of the 21st century.

We warmly invite you to consider Hobart as the destination for the linux.conf.au in January 2008. Each member of TasLUG is looking forward to hosting this prestigious conference, so please read on to find out more about the exciting program we have in store for LCA 2008.



Venue

TasLUG has the ideal meeting venue for LCA 2008 - The University of Tasmania's Sandy Bay campus. The Uni offers excellent facilities and a high level of professional service. It has everything that delegates will need for LCA 2008 – from affordable accommodation, to restaurants, cafés and the Uni Bar. The campus is only a few minutes walk to the busy Sandy Bay shopping village or a few minutes by bus to the Hobart CBD– where delegates can find restaurants, shops, pubs and clubs.

The Uni has placed a hold on our required dates (20 – 27 January 2008 inclusive) and we have already sourced a detailed quote based on the provision of conference facilities for up to 700 delegates. The quote, which includes the hire of conference facilities for the plenary sessions, break out sessions, trade spaces and registration area, is extremely competitive and they have offered us a 10% discount on most charges by way of sponsorship support. The quote also includes costs for all audio visual IT-related equipment. A copy of the quote from the University of Tasmania is attached for review.



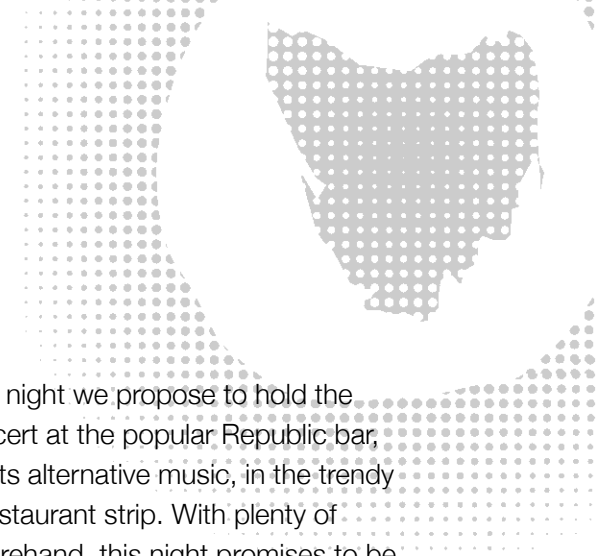
Lunch Facilities: The University has a choice of two on-campus lunch facilities - Lazenby's and the student accommodation restaurant. Both venues offer either hot or cold lunch options. However, we are proposing to allow 90 minute lunch breaks, with extra shuttle buses to provide transfers to Salamanca Square for lunch. This will make the lunch break more relaxing and allow for networking in a very convivial atmosphere.

Dinners: We are proposing to hold the LCA Dinner at the Hotel Grand Chancellor, a four-and-a-half star hotel with full banqueting facilities for up to 1,000 delegates on Hobart's waterfront. The venue is a 15 minute bus ride from the

University of Tasmania, and a short walk from the Salamanca Square restaurant area.

The Speakers' Dinner will begin with a cruise down the picturesque Derwent River, to a mystery location, where LCA 2008 delegates will disembark for a special dinner. The venue is a showcase of the best produce this bountiful region has to offer, with the seasonal harvest presented on a menu that is updated daily and includes fresh organic beef, farm cheeses, jams, oysters and mussels, meats and fish, fresh fruit and vegetables. Delegates will taste this passion as they savour the breath-taking panoramic views from the restaurant.





On the Tuesday night we propose to hold the Audio conf concert at the popular Republic bar, well-known for its alternative music, in the trendy North Hobart restaurant strip. With plenty of advertising beforehand, this night promises to be a successful one!

In the Wednesday the organising committee will charter several shuttle buses to transfer delegates between the University, Hobart's famous Wrest Point Hotel & Casino, restaurants and historic pubs in Salamanca Place and the "North Hobart Strip" where many of the city's best restaurants and popular pubs are located. LCA 2008 delegates will be able to explore these exciting parts of Hobart and when they have wined, dined and partied on, the buses will be there to take them back again afterwards.

Thursday is the Professional Networking session mentioned above and Friday we will hold the Traditional Penguin Dinner.

On the final day of the conference we will hold a traditional Aussie BBQ with the best Tasmanian meats, sausages and vegie burgers washed down with local Tasmanian beer (or soft-drink).

Professional Networking Session

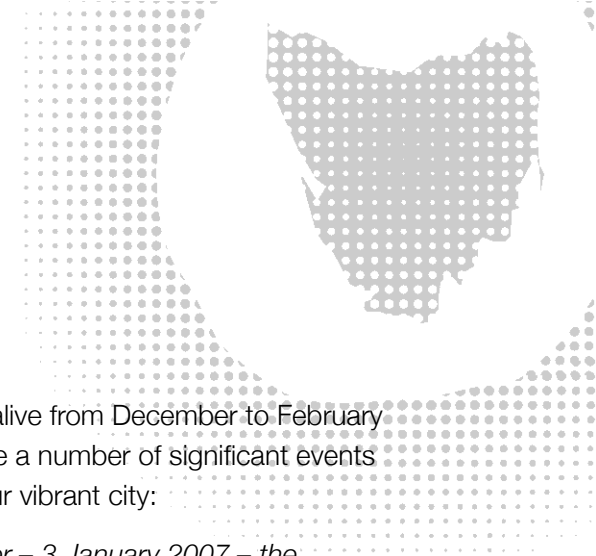
The professional delegates will be greeted by Tasmania's Head-of-State at a very special event, in a very special location. This grand event is being organised to enable delegates to network with each other in a unique session that has become linux.conf.au tradition. Please note this networking event is being provided free of charge to LCA 2008 by the City of Hobart.

Program

Unlike other conferences, the Tasmanian bid organising committee plans to offer a range of night-time activities for conference delegates on each night of the conference (not including the usual Penguin dinner, etc.).

On the first day of the mini-confs, delegates will be treated to a night at the uni bar, with entertainment provided by local musicians.





In the long summer evenings, a late meal in the extended twilight on the Hobart waterfront is an experience that few other cities can match.

Food, Wine & Beer

Hobart has a number of award winning restaurants (including Mures Seafood Restaurant). Most restaurants are located on the Hobart waterfront, at Salamanca Place and in Battery Point. In the long summer evenings, a late meal in the extended twilight on the waterfront is an experience that few other cities can match. There is also the trendy North Hobart restaurant strip, which is located 1.5km north of the CBD.

Hobart is also home to award winning cool climate wines and beers. Cascade Brewery, Australia's oldest brewery, is located 2km from the city centre and its ales continue to win prestigious national and international awards. Tasmania produces some of the nation's leading cool-climate wines including pinot noir, sauvignon blanc and chardonnays. A wide range of Tasmanian wines can be found on most city restaurant menus.

Attractions

Hobart comes alive from December to February each year. There a number of significant events happening in our vibrant city:

28 December – 3 January 2007 – the Taste of Tasmania food festival. This acclaimed festival is held on Hobart's waterfront and features the best of Tasmanian food and beverages.

2 January 2007 – King of the Derwent yacht race. Competitors from the Sydney-to-Hobart and Melbourne-to-Hobart yacht races compete in this full day of activity on Hobart's Derwent River.

15 – 21 January 2007 – Tasmanian Wine Show Hobart. A week of wine appreciation activities showcasing Tasmania's thriving wine industry.

26 January 2007 – Australia Day activities and events are held around the state to celebrate Australia Day.

Of course, there are Hobart's regular attractions such as the Salamanca Market, held every Saturday morning in historic Salamanca Plac





There will be accommodation available for around 450 delegates within the University colleges.

Accommodation

There will be accommodation available for around 450 delegates within the University Colleges. There are many other hotels and motels within a 1km radius from the Uni. Wrest Point Hotel & Casino is a 5 minute walk from the University. It has accommodation on-site which ranges from budget to 5-star. There are also several properties offering holiday apartments, for delegates seeking self-contained accommodation options during LCA 2008.

Transport

Getting to Tasmania has never been easier or more affordable! There are daily direct flights with Qantas, Jetstar and Virgin Blue from Brisbane, Sydney Adelaide and Melbourne, including special discount airfares available for conference groups. There is also the unique option of cruising to Tasmania from Melbourne on board the luxury car and passenger ships, Spirit of Tasmania I and II. Delegates can bring their own cars to Tasmania (for a minimal fee in January) for some pre or post conference touring. For more information see www.jetstar.com.au www.virginblue.com.au, www.qantas.com and www.spiritoftasmania.com.au.

Once delegates have arrived in Tasmania, we will transfer LCA delegates everywhere! We are proposing to include transfers to all major social program events including the speaker's dinner, audio conf, professional networking session and the Penguin dinner. We will also provide a shuttle service between the main campus and the on-campus accommodation.

During the remainder of the conference, the University of Tasmania is a five-minute bus ride from the centre of the city. If you have the time, the city is a 25 minute gentle walk over flat ground. The bus service to the university is excellent, with buses every ten to fifteen minutes, as the University is located within residential Sandy Bay it is serviced by several bus routes.





We believe that Tasmania's uniqueness as a destination will attract speakers of the highest calibre from around the world.

International Guests

Overseas presenters will find Tasmania an attractive place to include in their schedules. Tasmania does not host many OSS-related conferences and the scenic attraction of Hobart will be a 'drawcard'. We are keen to attract speakers who have not attended an LCA Conference before while welcoming back speakers from previous conferences including the conference "regulars". We believe that Tasmania's uniqueness as a destination will attract speakers of the highest calibre from around the world.

Pre and Post Activities

Hobart offers a range of exciting pre and post activities for delegates to enjoy. From mountain bike riding from the summit of Mt Wellington to relaxing in the beautiful botanic gardens, there's plenty to see and do in Tasmania's capital! Here's just some of the activities available, right in the heart of Hobart:

- Sail a tall ship around the Harbour on board the Lady Nelson
- Tantalise your taste buds on the Cadbury Chocolate Factory tour
- Mountain bike from the summit of Mt Wellington followed by a refreshing beer at the Cascade Brewery
- Buy a bargain at Salamanca Market
- Take a high speed jet boat ride from Hobart to Sandy Bay.
- Take in the city sights on a red double-decker bus
- Take a twilight paddle around the Hobart docks, followed by fresh fish 'n chips.



*... 'opt in or opt out'
on tours to places
like Port Arthur, the
Tahune Airwalk, Huon
Valley, wineries or fast
ferry cruises around
the Derwent River.*

Sponsorship

To date we have managed to secure the following sponsorship from local operators:

- University of Tasmania has offered a 10% discount on venue hire and other costs.
- The Tasmanian Convention Bureau will continue to work with the organising committee to provide free assistance and resources during the planning phase.
- A range of free advertising and promotional materials have been offered to TasLUG to promote Tasmania at the Sydney conference.
- The City of Hobart has offered a complimentary event at a confidential location for the Professional Networking Session.
- Several pledges of in-kind support from various industries and groups in the Tasmanian community.

We intend working very closely with LCA's existing sponsors, and have already begun to contact local businesses for sponsorship support. Should Hobart be chosen as the destination for LCA 2008, we would envisage securing local sponsorship well in advance.

Partners and children

The beauty of Hobart and Tasmania in general is that nothing is ever very far away! Wineries are only 15 minutes from the CBD, the Tasmanian wilderness or our convict heritage at Port Arthur is a mere 90 minutes away and our fantastic food, wines and beers can be found everywhere. With the assistance of the Tasmanian Convention Bureau, the bid committee will put together some exciting, creative and fun partners programs. It will consist of a number of 'opt in or opt out' tours to places such as Port Arthur, the Tahune Airwalk in the Huon Valley (90 minutes from Hobart) winery tours and fast ferry cruises around the Derwent River. If there is sufficient interest, we would also introduce special guided walking-tours around Hobart's historic areas including Battery Point and a history lesson with a twist – a pub crawl around some of Hobart's oldest and "notorious" waterfront pubs.





Public Relations

We have the full support of the Tasmanian Convention Bureau (TCB) who has already supplied invaluable assistance to the bid organising committee. The TCB will continue to work with the organising committee during the planning phase of LCA 2008 by providing assistance with advertising, conference promotion, free advice, assistance with delegate boosting activities at the Sydney conference and referrals to local operators. Tasmania's meetings industry operators are customer focussed and will work together to ensure that the needs of our organising committee and those of LCA 2008 individual delegates are fulfilled ... and exceeded.

We invite and welcome your consideration of Hobart, Tasmania as the destination for linux.conf.au in January 2008 and very much look forward to hosting LCA 2008.

make your next conference unforgettable, make it Tasmania...





Tasmania

Best Temperate Island in the world
Conde Nast Traveler 1999 & 2000

Best Island in the South Pacific
Travel + Leisure 2002

For more information:

www.discovertasmania.com.au
www.tasmaniaconventions.com

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