



IRSO 2019 – First Information

April 2019

Dear colleagues,

The 32nd International Research Ship Operators (IRSO) meeting will be held from 7-10 October 2019 in Hobart, Australia, hosted by the Commonwealth Scientific Industrial and Research Organisation (CSIRO).

Please find following the key details of the meeting including general agenda, travel, fees and tourist activities in Hobart.

Background Information

The International Research Ship Operators (IRSO) organisation was founded in 1986 and its annual meeting involves managers of ocean research ship fleets for the purpose of discussing topics and sharing information of mutual interest. This includes discussion on new research vessels, marine scientific equipment, ship systems, marine operations, changing scientific requirements, scheduling, manning, training, classifications, regulations, certifications, as well as insurance, vessel barter, and lessons learned. The meeting is held each year at one of the member countries. IRSO minutes, news and other information can be found at the website: www.irso.info.

Hosting Institution

The Commonwealth Scientific Investigation and Research Organisation (CSIRO) is Australia's national science organisation and one of the largest and most diverse scientific research organisations in the world. CSIRO's research is focused on the biggest challenges facing the nation and also includes the management of national research infrastructure and collections.

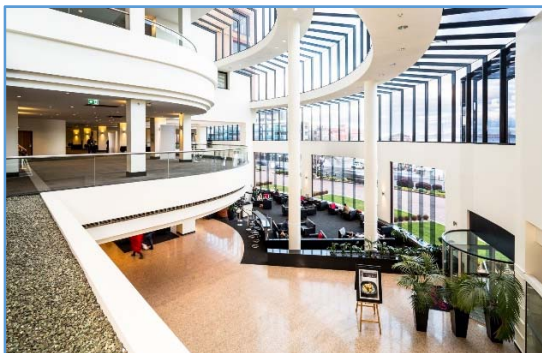
Forming a key part of the nation's research infrastructure is the CSIRO managed Marine National Facility (MNF), which includes RV *Investigator*. The MNF manages and operates *Investigator* on behalf of the nation, with the ship being Australia's only dedicated blue-water research facility, and funded by the Australian Government. *Investigator* is a multi-purpose research vessel configured to enable a wide range of atmospheric, biological, geoscience and oceanographic research throughout Australia's vast ocean territories.

For more information on the Marine National Facility, please visit:

<http://www.mnf.csiro.au>

Meeting Venue and location

The meeting will be held at the Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart.



The Hotel Grand Chancellor is located on Hobart's waterfront, with many restaurants, bars, shop and tourist attractions just a few short minutes' walk away. For further details, please visit the Hotel Grand Chancellor <https://www.grandchancellorhotels.com/hotel-grand-chancellor-hobart>

Hobart is located in southern Tasmania, Australia. As IRSO 2019 will be hosted in spring, the weather could be variable. Average spring temperatures for Hobart are 7 to 17 degrees Celsius/44 to 62 degrees Fahrenheit with the chance of rain. It is advised participants bring warm clothing and a rain jacket/umbrella if the forecast is for rain. It is not unusual for Hobart's Mount Wellington to receive snow falls during spring.

32nd IRSO Meeting Program

Following the icebreaker events on the evening of 7 October, the IRSO official meeting is scheduled for three days from 8-10 October.

Schedule

Thursday 3 October	<i>Details to follow</i>	Optional tour of RV <i>Investigator</i> during port period in Brisbane
Monday 7 October	13:00-15:30 16:00-17:30 17:45-18:00 18:00-19:00 19:00-19:15	Workshop: "Introducing marine facilities planning software at CSIRO" Prior Registration and afternoon tea icebreaker at Hotel Grand Chancellor Bus departs Hotel Grand Chancellor Welcome Reception – Government House Bus returns to hotel
Tuesday 8 October Day 1	08:00-08:30 08:30-17:00	Registration IRSO meeting
Wednesday 9 October Day 2	08:30-14:00 14:30-17:30 18:00-19:30	IRSO meeting Visit to Vessels <i>Aurora Australis</i> Evening reception
Thursday 10 October Day 3	08:30-15:00 16:30-22:00 22:00-23:00	IRSO meeting Conference cruise and dinner Cruise returns to Hobart
Friday 11 October	<i>Details to follow</i>	Excursion from Hobart

Optional Excursion Friday 11 October

An optional excursion is being planned for Friday 11th October. Details are currently being finalised and will be available in the IRSO registration and future update of the First Information document.

The cost associated with this excursion will be in addition to IRSO 2019 registration fee.

Partner Program

A partner program is being developed for accompanying guests and will be advised in the coming month.

Registration Fee

The registration fee for each member participating in the IRSO meeting is \$350AUD.

The fee will be paid online and details will be provided once registration opens.

Members' registration fee includes:

- Reception at Government House (7 October)
- Refreshments and lunches (8 to 10 October)
- Tasmanian Polar Network Reception (9 October)
- Conference Dinner and cruise (10 October)

Any accompanying guests are welcome to join all social events. The guest registration fee is \$150AUD and includes:

- Government House Reception (7 October)
- Tasmanian Polar Network Reception (9 October)
- Conference Dinner and cruise (10 October)

Confirmation of Participation:

Registration details are to follow and will be available at <https://www.irso.info/meetings/>. An email will be sent when registrations open.

Optional Tour of RV *Investigator*



The RV *Investigator* will be in Brisbane, Queensland and an option to tour the vessel on Thursday, 3 October 2019 may be available to interested members. Arrival into Brisbane on Wednesday, 2 October is recommended, with onward flights to Hobart on Thursday 3 or Friday 4 October. There is a direct flight from Brisbane to Hobart Saturday 5 October.

Expressions of interest are now open for a tour of RV *Investigator* on Thursday 3 October. To assist with planning this tour, if you would like to visit *Investigator* please email irso2019@csiro.au by 31 May 2019. Formal tour registration will take place with the IRSO registration online at a later date.

The Brisbane Port Authority is unlikely to advise of *Investigator's* berthing location until a few days prior to the ship's scheduled arrival, and this is subject to change at short notice. We will communicate the ship's location and plans via email/phone in the days ahead of the tour. Staff from Australia's Marine National Facility will be in Brisbane to assist.

Posters

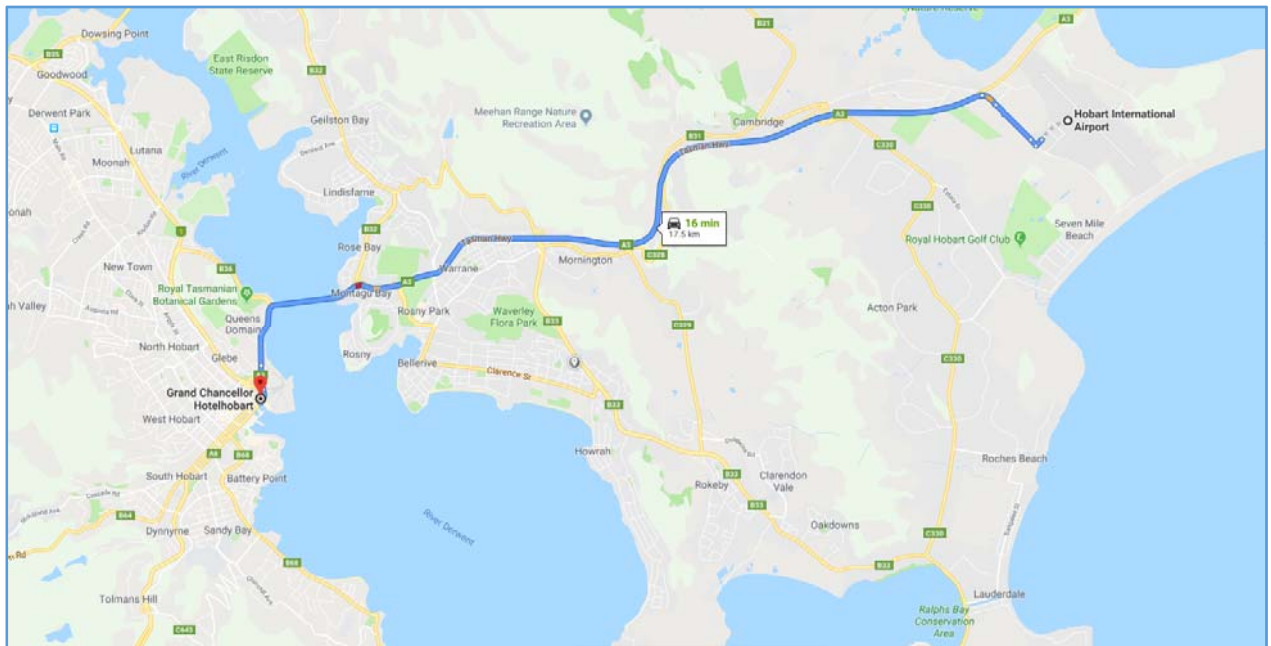
As with previous IRSO Conferences, a poster session will be held during IRSO 2019. Please note that poster size is A0 (841mm x 1189mm) and will be printed in Hobart. Poster files should be supplied in high quality PDF or EPS format.

Please forward your poster data to irso2019@csiro.au by 13 September 2019.

Travelling to Hobart

It is important to note that IRSO 2019 coincides with the Australian spring school holidays, so booking flights, accommodation and any additional tours or activities you may wish to undertake should be completed in advance.

Connections Hobart Airport to Hobart and return



SkyBus offers direct route from Hobart Airport to the Hotel Grand Chancellor departing every 30 minutes during the day and hourly during the evening. Journey time is approximately 30 minutes. Adult Fare is \$18.50 one way or \$36.00 return trip. Tickets can be purchased online at: <https://www.skybus.com.au/hobart-express/buy-tickets/>

Taxis are located at Hobart Airport. A fare to Hobart is approximately \$45 to \$50 AUD.

Visa

To determine whether you need a visa to enter Australia, please visit the Australian Government's Home Affairs Website before you travel at <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/visas/getting-a-visa/visa-finder/visit>

Should you require a formal letter of invitation to support a visa application, please contact irso2019@csiro.au

Accommodation Information

A group booking has been made for IRSO 2019 from 5-11 October inclusive at the conference venue, Hotel Grand Chancellor.

Negotiated rates for IRSO 2019 are:

- Mountain View Room \$250.00AUD per night
- Harbour View Room \$285.00AUD per night

These rates are based on a per room per night basis for single/twin and double occupancy.

To access the Hotel Grand Chancellor's IRSO 2019 rates, please visit

https://www.grandchancellorhotels.com/hotel-grand-chancellor-hobart/international-research-ship-operators?_id=1552362459944

Guests will be required to pay the Hotel for all charges.

Tourist Information

There are many tourist attractions both in Hobart city as well as southern Tasmania. If you plan to arrive early, or extend your stay, links are provided below to help plan your itinerary:

<https://www.hobarttravelcentre.com.au/essential-travel-information/>

<https://www.discovertasmania.com.au/travel-information/overseas-travellers>

<https://www.discovertasmania.com.au/>

<http://www.reddecker.com.au/>

We look forward to welcoming you to Hobart. If you need any assistance or further information, please contact the organisers via email irso2019@csiro.au

Best regards

Dr Erica Koning, Coordinator Marine Research Facilities, Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research - IRSO Chair

Greg Foothead, General Manager - Vessel Operations, NIWA Vessel Management Ltd - IRSO Vice-Chair

Toni Moate, Director National Facilities and Collections, Commonwealth Scientific Industrial and Research Organisation (CSIRO) – Meeting organising committee