

**ENVIRONMENT INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND (EIANZ)
&
COMMISSION ON LAND DEGRADATION AND DESERTIFICATION (COMLAND)**

Conference Field Trip: Southern Tasmania, Australia

25 - 29 October 2014

Theme: *Mining, farming, conservation, tourism and energy production in a remote wilderness landscape.*

Our small group will drive from Hobart to consider forestry research, high altitude farming and land conservation, historic and present day mining as well as tourism. Travel will be through rolling farmland, managed forests and world heritage parkland. Landscape views will be spectacular. There will be daily themed visits and inspections led by specialists.

Participants will develop an understanding of local land management issues and trends whilst having ample opportunity to discuss and engage in challenging debate.

Accommodation will be twin-share in "motel style" rooms with ensuite bathroom. All meals and transport will be provided together with evening refreshments. Snacks and water will be available during the bus travel. Participation fee covers time from start (08:00 25 Oct in Hobart) to end (15:00 29 Oct in Hobart).

Day 1: From Hobart to Geeveston and Warra in the Huon Valley: forestry heritage and current forestry research. Overnight in Bronte Park (Central Highlands).

Day 2: Central Highlands field inspections: land conservation and farming in a challenging high altitude environment. Overnight in Queenstown.

Day 3: Copper Mines of Tasmania facility visit in Queenstown: presentations on historic and current production processes and environmental management. Overnight in Strahan.

Day 4: Cruise on Macquarie Harbour and Gordon River: commentary on colonial penal settlement and forestry history, current tourism and aquaculture activities. Also, a visit to a wood crafting business. Overnight in Strahan.

Day 5: Return to Hobart with opportunities for photography. Visit to a farming property for a presentation and perspectives on local land management. Arrive Hobart mid afternoon.

Cost: AU\$ 1270. Single supplement – add \$225.

Expression of interest deadline: 8 May 2014

Payment deadline: 30 June 2014

Participants must arrive in Hobart on or before 24 October to allow an early start next day. Trip completion is scheduled to allow participants time to prepare for and attend the optional main Conference event that evening (separate registration and payment). Any private onward travel from Hobart should only be scheduled on or after 30 October.

This field trip will involve limited walking in exposed landscapes. Participants must be adequately prepared in case of cold and wet conditions. Sun protection is essential.

Wi-fi will be available in motels (except first night). Mobile (cell) phones will work in towns but there may not be coverage in remote areas. Telstra is regarded as having the best rural coverage. Motel power outlets will only suit Australian style plugs at 240V. Plug adaptors can be purchased in Hobart "outdoors" stores.

Tap water is safe to drink everywhere but bottled water is also available for purchase in stores (walking distance from all motels).

Because of space limitations on the bus, participants should limit their field trip bags to what is acceptable for airline “carry-on”. Larger bags should be left in Hobart hotels.

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