

UNESCO awarded City of Gastronomy

by Damien Thomas

New leather lounges, natural edged TV cabinet and coffee table, luxurious new main bed with matching side tables. These are some of the cosy items you will enjoy, as they form part of this year's improvements at **API's Eglington Street property in Launceston.**

Launceston has taken off like the proverbial frog-in-a-sock, with visitors positively pouring in. The city and surrounds are being recognised as a prime destination as visitors have embraced the foodie culture and the broad range of places to visit, things to experience and chilled liquids to imbibe. (The last item appears to be quite a favourite judging by the number of people who ask about Tasmania's ability to create some of the best sparkling wines - rivalling/beating French Champagnes.)



Leisure Inn at the Penny Royal Hotel



Take a load off your feet at one of the many Cafes

Visitors don't usually come to Tasmania for our beaches, despite the fact we have so many stunning white sandy beaches leading into crystal clear blue waters. I can understand the water temperature is probably not what they are used to. The major benefit of not seeking a beach holiday is that any time of year is a good time. In fact, there is a growing movement of visitors wanting to come in winter to experience the crisp coolness usually associated with a European winter.

Take my advice and make your booking because the Eglington Street property has become so popular, it is often booked out well in advance.

My second tip is that although you can book as little as three night's accommodation, you will not do the area justice in just three days. The API rates offer exceptional value, particularly for seven-night stays.



Lavender ice cream at Bridestowe Lavender Estate

Remember you are on holiday, so the pace should be relaxed. Otherwise, how will you have time to:

- fit in a trip to the iconic **Bridestowe Lavender Estate** and slurp a lavender ice cream?
- take a cruise along the **Tamar**, while munching on scones piled high with jam and fresh whipped cream?
- walk the historic streets in this remarkable **UNESCO City of Gastronomy** (there is only one other in Australia) and of course find yourself devouring the best produce in a tantalising restaurant? (I bet you are about to Google where the other one is in Australia.)
- stroll to a café in **Charles Street**, so there is no need for a DD, and soak up the atmosphere?
- make your first visit to a glow worm cave at **Mole Creek**?
- take the plunge with an exotic take away dish at the **Harvest Markets**?
- count the spoons on the wall while enjoying the most delicious breakfast at **Samuel Pepy's Café**?
- tour the **James Boag Brewery** or a craft beer and a mouth-watering burger at **St John Craft Beer Bar**?
- sip an award-winning single malt whiskey in the historic **Hangar 17**?
- compare the effervescent bubbles at **Jansz, Joseph Cromy, House of Arras, Apogee** or work on discovering a brand new one?
- visit the **Penny Royal on Cataract Gorge**?



Fresh and exotic foods at the Harvest Markets

Then, of course, you may need to put your feet up and read a book, or cook a sumptuous meal, open a bottle picked up at one of your winery visits, and create your own charcuterie platter from the ingredients acquired at the **Ashgrove Dairy** you visited earlier. At over 100 years old, the charming 3-bedroom cottage at Eglington Street has hosted many visitors, just like you. You will delight in the comfort and your car will enjoy the off-street parking in its own garage.

“Launceston is now a prime destination.”



Sash windows, leather lounges, Tasmanian timbers - at delightful Eglington Street

So, do yourself, and your family, a favour by booking a flavourful holiday in Launceston, before someone else does. When else have you had the opportunity to visit, stay and indulge in a UNESCO City of Gastronomy at API's famously great-value accommodation?

**Book your API holiday online at
www.apilifestyle.com.au or
call us on 1300 653 322.**