

Embrace

the charming difference



by Damien Thomas

One of the major changes in the last couple of years in Hobart, is how many people positively choose to come for a holiday in winter, rather than avoid it.

Is it cold in winter? Yes, if you wear t-shirts, shorts and thongs, but not if you dress appropriately. I would refer to it as being 'crisp' as the average daytime temperature is around 10 degrees. That is cool, but not cold enough to worry brass monkeys!

I am not suggesting you should run into the Derwent River naked as the sun rises on the winter solstice, unless of course that's what floats your boat. I don't have to try it to know that would be cold. But where else do you get an opportunity to rug up warmly and find cosy cafes, restaurants etc while accommodation prices are at a fraction of those in the main season. Imagine how many more adventures, meals and refreshments you can indulge in because the rates are so good.



Lawrenny Estate - paddock-to-bottle production

Most mainlanders don't come to Hobart for a beach holiday (although we have some of the best in the world around us), so embrace the season. It has a charm of its own.

What better excuse could you have to sip something to warm the cockles of your heart? Whiskey Week is in June each year, and Tassie Whiskeys are taking the world by storm. For something different, take a delightful drive to Ouse in the central highlands, just about an hour from Battery Point. The Lawrenny Estate is historically



Port Arthur can be a short cruise destination from Hobart

picturesque and is one of the very few distilleries in the world capable of boasting paddock-to-bottle whiskey production. It grows its own ingredients.

There are wineries close by and the Apple Shed, just 30 minutes' drive along the Huon Highway to Grove, serves a range of delicious ciders - now you know why Tasmania is called the Apple Isle!

API's Battery Point two-bedroom apartment is receiving so many great reviews. Its location is so fantastic that you don't need to hire a car during the days you allocate to exploring Hobart. Being so close to Salamanca Markets and Constitution Dock, you could reach many other destinations by boat, putting that car hire money into a cruise instead. For example, cruises can take you to MONA (you should not miss MONA whatever you do), Port Arthur, Bruny Island, as well as wildlife sight-seeing. It gets better. As an **API member**, you can get **10% discount** on the cruises through **Experience Oz** or **RedBalloon**, so seriously, ask yourself how long you need to hire a car for. Then head to the **API website** and get a **discount on the car hire** as well. My strong recommendation is book your car hire well in advance as there is a shortage of hire cars in Tasmania currently.



The cosy Shipwright Arms has hearty meals close to your accommodation

As your accommodation is nestled in the most historic part of Hobart, make sure you take the time to walk around the suburb. The history is all around you, but is easy to miss if you are not keeping an eye out for it. The oldest garden walls will have glass embedded in the top of them to prevent 'the thieving peasants' from climbing over them. It was effective, if less subtle than the CCTV of today.

“ You don't have to run into the Derwent River naked to appreciate one of the best seasons in Hobart. ”



Arctic expeditions often set off from Hobart

The name 'Battery Point' refers to the canons placed in this suburb to repel possible attacks from the French and other nations who wanted to get their hands on the whaling industry. Today, we have great reverence for the graceful whales passing our coastline. Today, we get lubricating oil from petroleum industries and our lights run on electricity. Hobart was founded as a whaling station, when all oils for lamps and everything else could only be derived from whales, and that history is abundant around Constitution Dock. Keep a sharp eye to find places you could tie up your horse, while you drop into an inn!

While you can book from just three nights at API's Battery Point apartment, you will need at least a week to explore the city and surrounds. But even then, you will be booking another trip next year as there is still more to see and do. **API**

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