



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of CBS Expert Team on WIS Centres (ET-WISC) Melbourne, 13 - 16 March 2012

### Information for Participants

**Background:**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of ET-WICS will be held in Melbourne, Australia, from 13-16 March 2012. It is hosted by the Government of Australia through the Australian Bureau of Meteorology.

**Venue of the Meeting:**

The meeting will take place at:

6th floor Conference Facilities  
 Australian Bureau of Meteorology Headquarters Building,  
 700 Collins Street, Docklands  
 Melbourne, Victoria  
 Australia

**Accommodation Arrangements:**

Participants are responsible for making their own accommodation arrangements.

Special meeting rates have been negotiated at the following hotels which are all within walking distance of the meeting venue. Please mention the visit of "Bureau of Meteorology" when booking. The attached map shows hotel locations.

Hotel	Address	Rate	Contact	Email/web
Travelodge Docklands	66 Aurora Lane, Docklands	Standard room with kitchen facilities: \$135	Tel: +613 8615 1000, Fax: +613 9356 1085	<a href="http://docklands.travelodge.com.au">docklands.travelodge.com.au</a>
Quest Docklands Apartments	750 Bourke St, Docklands	Studio: \$155 1 bed apart \$180 2 bed apart \$275	Tel: +6139630 1000, Fax: +6139630 1099	<a href="mailto:Questdocklands@questapartments.com.au">Questdocklands@questapartments.com.au</a> <a href="http://www.Questdocklands.com.au">www.Questdocklands.com.au</a>
Quality Batman's Hill on Collins	623 Collins Street, Melbourne	Standard: \$143 Club: \$184 Studio: \$204 1 bed apart: \$236 2 bed apart: \$272	Tel: +613 9614 6344, Fax: +613 96141189,	<a href="mailto:res@batmanshill.com.au">res@batmanshill.com.au</a>
Kingsgate Hotel	131 King Street, Melbourne	Standard room: \$139	Tel: +613 9629 4171, Fax: +613 9629 7110	<a href="mailto:info@kingsgatehotel.com.au">info@kingsgatehotel.com.au</a> <a href="http://www.kingsgatehotel.com.au/default.htm">http://www.kingsgatehotel.com.au/default.htm</a>

Alternative accommodation may be found at the following websites: [www.wotif.com.au](http://www.wotif.com.au) or [www.hotelclub.com.au](http://www.hotelclub.com.au)

**Local Transport:**

Melbourne International and Domestic Airport Tullamarine is located about 20 km to the northwest of the city centre. Transport to the city is by Skybus or taxi. For details of the Skybus, see: <http://www.skybus.com.au/timetables-how-to-get-around-in-melbourne-airport/>

The fare is AUD 16 one way AUD 26 return. The city terminal is around 200 m from the recommended hotels, via the Bourke Street elevated walkway over Southern Cross Station. A shuttle service also operates from the Skybus city terminal to most city hotels at no extra cost. A taxi from the airport to the hotels will cost AUD 45-50, depending on the time of day.

**Time:**

Australian Eastern Daylight Saving Time is UTC +11.

**Entry Requirements:**

Visitors to Australia from most countries will require a visa or electronic travel authority (ETA) to enter the country. They should also be in possession of national passports valid for at least 6 months from the first date of travel. For visa requirements and other information on entry conditions, see: <http://www.immi.gov.au/visitors/event-organisers-participants/>

Another useful web site here is:

<http://www.acacia-au.com/australia-visa.php>

If you require an invitation letter then please contact Weiqing Qu at [w.qu@bom.gov.au](mailto:w.qu@bom.gov.au)

**Money**

The Australian currency is the Australian dollar (AUD) and cents. In February 2012:

1 AUD = 1.07 US dollar

1 AUD = 0.81 Euro

All major credit cards are accepted virtually everywhere.

Most restaurant, taxi and similar bills already incorporate some form of service charge, so additional tipping is not obligatory. Nevertheless, tips are always welcome, 5 % of the bill is suggested.

**Melbourne**

Melbourne is Australia's second largest city, with a population approaching 4 million, renowned for its parks and gardens, art and culture, sport and extensive tramway system. For more information on the city and its services, go to:

<http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx>

The city transport system, comprising a network of tramways, rail and bus lines, is excellent. For a map, see:

<http://www.metlinkmelbourne.com.au/maps-stations-stops/melbourne-public-transport-map>

For details of timetables, fares etc, see:

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

**Climate**

March is a transition month between summer and autumn. Hot weather may still be experienced in mid March with dry northerly wind. Average conditions for March:

Mean daily max.: 23.9C

Mean daily min.: 13.2C

Mean m'thly rainfall: 50.3mm

Mean no. rain days: 9.4

Mean daily sunshine: 6.6 hours

For more detailed climate information, see:

[http://www.bom.gov.au/cgi-bin/climate/cgi\\_bin\\_scripts/map\\_script\\_new.cgi?86071](http://www.bom.gov.au/cgi-bin/climate/cgi_bin_scripts/map_script_new.cgi?86071)

For daily weather forecasts and related information, see:

<http://www.bom.gov.au/vic/>

**Contact Details:**

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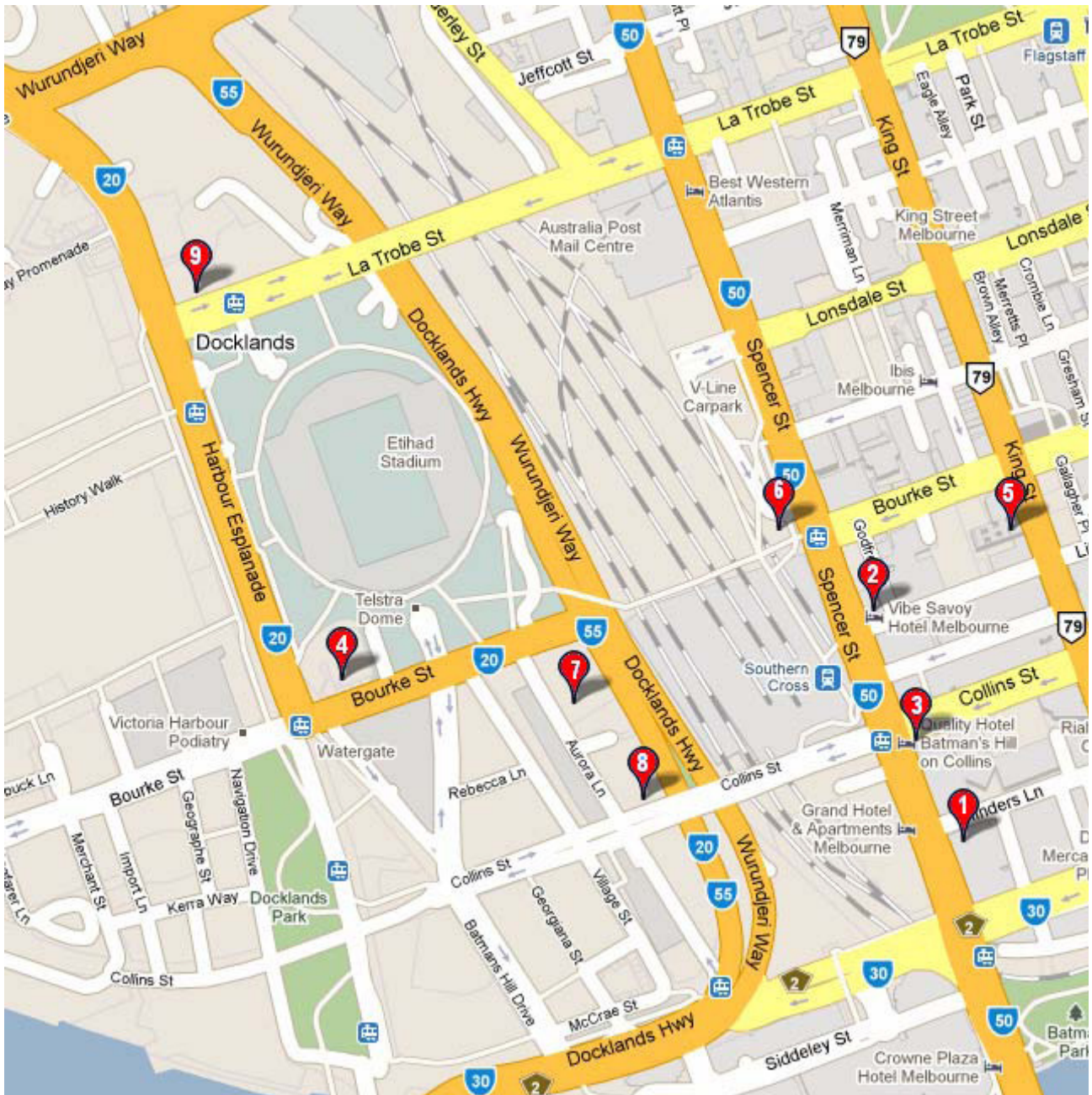
Australia

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## Map of Hotels and Meeting Location



1. The Holiday Inn on Flinders Hotel
2. Vibe Savoy Hotel Melbourne
3. Quality Batman's Hill on Collins
4. Quest Docklands
5. Kingsgate Hotel
6. Skybus Terminal
7. Travelodge Hotel Docklands
8. Bureau of Meteorology Head Office
9. Bureau of Meteorology Training Centre