

2016 ET NCMP meeting

When: 20 – 22 September 2016

Where: Australian Bureau of Meteorology (BoM), 700 Collins Street, [Melbourne](#), Australia. The meeting will be held in the conference rooms on Level 6. You need to sign-in at reception, where a visitor pass will be waiting for you.

Visa requirements: PLEASE NOTE that Australia has strict visa requirements depending on the passport that you travel under. Depending on the country, the visa processing can take weeks. Please visit the Australian government [visa information website](#) and make sure you have organized the right paperwork for your arrival through customs.

Local ET NCMP contact: Karl Braganza +61 467 710 932 (call anytime if you need to)

BoM executive assistant for meeting: Janine Williamson, J.Williamson@bom.gov.au, +61 3 8638 8230

Local time zone: UTC +10

Climate Information: http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/averages/tables/cw_086071_All.shtml

The weather in Melbourne in September can be changeable, and you should be prepared for warm or cool weather (wind chill) — but it's not especially hot or cold.

Mains Power: socket is [AS/NZS 3112](#)

Currency: [\\$AUD](#) There are banking facilities both within and outside the international customs zone of the airport. ATMs are easy to find everywhere. Most places/services accept major credit cards except some smaller lunchtime cafes — you can get by without cash if you have to.

International airport: [Tullamarine](#)

Airport transfers:

BoM is located in the downtown area, known locally as simply 'the City' or 'CBD'. It is about 20 minutes (22km) by freeway to the airport.

TAXI: There are multiple taxi ranks at the airport, and the fare is metered and should cost around \$AUD60.00 one way.

SKYBUS: There is a public transport option called 'SkyBus' which goes express from the airport to the City. This service operates 24/7, including all public holidays. Buses run every 10 minutes throughout the day. Cost is \$AUD19.00 one way. The SkyBus drops you off at Southern Cross Railway Station, which is located right next to the BoM building.

For UBER users: UBER operates in Melbourne but drivers are not allowed to pick up from inside the airport. If you prefer a private driver meet you at the airport with a sign, this can be pre-arranged, but the cost is generally around \$AUD80.00 one way.

Public Transport in Melbourne:

The greater Melbourne area is served by the [PTV](#) public transport system of trams, trains and buses.

The City has a [Free Tram Zone](#) that includes the BoM office (tram stop is in front of building) and should cover everywhere you need to go in terms of hotels and restaurants during the meeting — the tram tells you when you are exiting the free zone.

If you have the need to travel outside of this zone, please note that you need to purchase a travel card known as 'Myki'. There is a [tourist travel pack](#) available from PTV Hubs, [two of which](#) are located next to the BoM building.

Accommodation:

BOOK EARLY — the meeting coincides with the local football finals/play-offs, and hotels in Melbourne tend to fill up during this time (once people know whether their team is in).

There are quite a few hotels within a few minutes walk of BoM. The two closest and most used by visitors are:

[Travelodge Docklands](#)

[Vibe Savoy Hotel](#)

Some people prefer to stay at serviced apartments in Australia rather than a hotel. These provide you with a mini apartment that includes a bedroom, kitchen, washing machine, free WiFi etc. and are often a better deal than a hotel room. One that is recommended is:

[Apartments of Melbourne on Collins Street](#)

... but there are quite a lot of these around the BoM, including serviced apartments and Airbnb apartments within residential complexes — plug “serviced apartments, Docklands, Melbourne” into Google.

The precinct that the BoM is located in is busy during business hours, with lots of food options etc, so you can easily stay within this area. The City centre has more 24/7 options for restaurants and shopping, and is a few minutes away by tram — some people prefer to stay in town and walk or tram it to BoM.

Meeting dinner: Proposed for Wednesday 21 September