

STRONG ECONOMY. STRONG COMMUNITIES.



Lifestyle fact sheet

Protecting our lifestyle

More than any government in Tasmania's history, the Labor Government is committed to protecting, conserving and promoting the unique island lifestyle treasured by Tasmanians.

The Tasmanian Government recognises the importance of the cultural, environmental and heritage assets that make Tasmania a unique state in which to live, work and visit.

Now, during these times of economic prosperity, is an opportunity to enhance that lifestyle and secure it for future generations.

Tourism is central to the future prosperity of Tasmania and the Government will continue to promote Tasmania's unique assets into key markets. Similarly, funds have been injected into Tasmania's museums and art galleries so we are better able to celebrate both our historical and contemporary culture by improving its breadth and accessibility. And through enhanced protection and monitoring systems for the environment, future generations of Tasmanians will continue to enjoy our unique island lifestyle.

All of these things are central to Tasmania's identity and lifestyle and to the Government's vision for this state.

Delivering our commitments

The 2006-07 Budget delivers a package of exciting initiatives focussed on supporting Tasmania's special lifestyle.

Initiative	Benefit
\$75 million , including \$31 million in new funds, to support tourism in Tasmania	Aggressively promote and market Tasmania in key tourism markets
\$30 million for the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery (TMAG)	Creation of a contemporary cultural precinct that showcases Tasmania's historic and contemporary cultural assets
\$3 million for the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery	Development of a new gallery for temporary exhibitions
\$634,000 additional funding for the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra	Maintain the status of the TSO as one of the world's great small symphony orchestras
\$400,000 to further protect and enhance Tasmania's pristine natural environment	Establishment of an independent and transparent Environment Protection Authority
\$2.7 million to establish an air monitoring program	Establishment of air monitoring stations for local and regional areas around the Tamar Valley
\$3.7 million for initiatives that protect and enhance the value of our environment	Programs to tackle urban environmental issues such as noise, litter reduction, waste, contaminated sites and stormwater
\$75,000 to pursue World Heritage listing for some of our best-known convict sites	World Heritage listing for Port Arthur and coal mines sites and the township of Darlington on Maria Island
\$6.6 million for Cradle Mountain infrastructure	Staged construction of a new central sewerage treatment plant
\$100,000 feasibility study into bushwalk options	Development of a second great bushwalk in Tasmania to complement the Overland Track
\$970,000 for the National Trust	Secure the future of the National Trust in Tasmania
\$1.2 million for small museums and art galleries	Support the ongoing operation of Tasmania's small museums and art galleries
\$617,000 for the Theatre Royal	Additional funding to support the ongoing operation of this wonderful theatre



Did you know?

- Under a Labor Government, we have seen the number of **visitors to Tasmania** increase by more than 50% to **over 800,000** a year.
- The **tourism industry** now employs, directly and indirectly, **38,500** Tasmanians.
- We have seen visitor expenditure grow to **over \$1 billion** each year. That's a 93% increase in spending since 1998.
- Under Labor, Tasmania has become one of the most highly protected areas in the world. Nearly **half the island is protected** under legislation, covenant or conservation regime.
- Nearly all of Tasmania's **national parks** have been established under a Labor Government.
- The third *Ten Days on the Island* festival held in April 2005 attracted **audiences of more than 140,000** across Tasmania.
- Our world-renowned national parks **attract 1.3 million visitors** each year.
- The TMAG enjoys one of the highest attendance figures of any tourism attraction in Tasmania, with **almost 300,000 visitors** passing through its doors in the 2004-05 financial year.

Looking to the future

The 2006-07 Budget delivers on all of Labor's 2006 election commitments and will ensure that Tasmania's unique cultural and environmental assets will be maintained for future generations to enjoy.

With the State Government's investment in tourism, arts, heritage and the environment, Tasmania will embrace the 21st century as a culturally confident and environmentally progressive community.

Tasmania's lifestyle will continue to be the envy of the world.

Further information

For further information please contact:
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2006-07 Budget Paper set includes:

Tasmanian Budget Speech
 Budget Paper No. 1 – Budget Overview
 Budget Paper No. 2 – Operations of Government Departments (Volumes 1 and 2)
 The Tasmanian Government Financial System
 Various brochures

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