



Nautical Cartography Working Group

LOGISTICS INFORMATION

NCWG8 - 15 Nov – 18 Nov 2022

Wollongong, AUSTRALIA

Title:	Accommodation and meeting information, IHO NCWG8 in Wollongong, Australia.
Target date:	15 November – 18 November 2022.
Status:	Meeting information and registration.
Required action:	For information – Please register to confirm attendance.
Distribution:	NCWG members IHO website (NCWG section)

TRAVEL AND MEETING INFORMATION

The Australian Hydrographic Office is pleased to welcome NCWG members and accompanying persons to Wollongong, Australia for NCWG8.



MEETING VENUE

The meeting will be held at:

Sage Hotel Wollongong, “Watersedge Room”

T: +612 4201 2111

M: +61 0405 167 687

W: <https://www.nexthotels.com/sage/wollongong/>

FB: facebook.com/SageHotelWollongong

60-62 Harbour Street, Wollongong, NSW 2500, Australia



A map of Wollongong showing the location of the venue is at Annex A. Go to the hotel reception desk and ask for the “Watersedge” meeting room.

MEETING SESSIONS

The official event will commence on morning of Tuesday the 15th and conclude with Lunch on Friday the 18th of November. A working style lunch will be provided at the hotel each day of the meeting. The hotel is located just back from Wollongong South Beach.

GENERAL INFORMATION

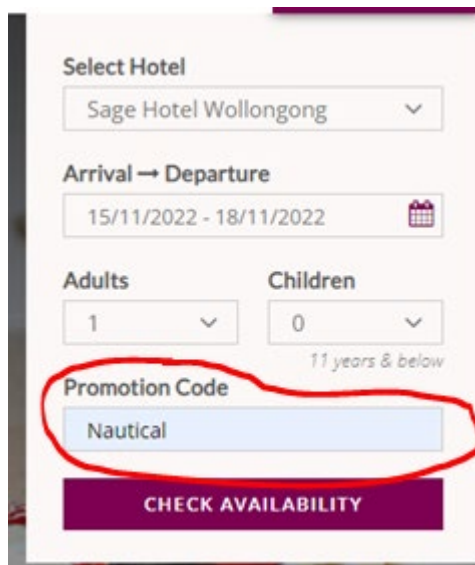
Wollongong is a coastal city in Australia, 1hr south of Sydney along the Grand Pacific Drive. Surfing beaches and rock pools line the coastline. Trails encircle the forests and rocky cliffs of Mt. Keira in the Illawarra mountain range, which frames the city. Wollongong has a collection of world-class beaches, playful adventures, eats, arts, golf and iconic attractions. Wollongong’s CBD, restaurants & cafes, local attractions are all within easy walking distance of the meeting venue.

See <https://www.visitwollongong.com.au/>

ACCOMMODATION

The Sage Hotel offers a 15% discount on room rates to delegates attending the conference:

When booking via the WEB, please select Promotion Code **Nautical** to receive your 15% accommodation discount, see sample below



Select Hotel
Sage Hotel Wollongong

Arrival → Departure
15/11/2022 - 18/11/2022

Adults 1 Children 0
11 years & below

Promotion Code
Nautical

CHECK AVAILABILITY

There are a number of alternate accommodation venues within 10-15 minutes walk from the meeting venue, which should suit any budget.

- Novotel Wollongong Northbeach - 2/14 Cliff Rd, North Wollongong NSW 2500, 15 min walk. <https://www.novotelnorthbeach.com.au/>
- Adina Apartment Hotel - 19 Market St, Wollongong NSW 2500, 8 min walk. <https://www.adinahotels.com/en/>
- The Belmore All-Suite Hotel - 39 Smith St, Wollongong NSW 2500, 10 min walk. <https://www.belmore.net/>
- Wollongong Serviced Apartments - 54 Kembla St, Wollongong, 12 min walk. <https://www.wsa.com.au/>
- Astra Apartments – Beatson Street Wollongong, 7 min walk. <https://www.astraapartments.com.au/apartments>

SOCIAL DINNER

An ice-breaker cocktail reception is planned for Monday 14th November at the Sage Hotel in the Five Islands Restaurant from 6-8pm.

A social evening will be organised for the Wednesday evening. Dinner will be at the delegates own expense and further information about the night will be made available on day 1 of the meeting.

REGISTRATION

All members and/or observers intending to attend the meeting must register via the IHO online registration system.

Please note registration deadline for face to face meeting is **30 September** and **11 November** for VTC.

CONTACT DETAILS

The point of contact regarding the conference details, more particular logistics, visa and accommodation queries are provided below.

Robert Cario – robert.cario@defence.gov.au

Alvaro Sanchez – alvaro.sanchez@defence.gov.au

GENERAL INFORMATION

PASSPORTS, VISAS AND VACCINATIONS

Please check the latest information from the Australian Department of Immigration's website, www.immi.gov.au. Vaccinations are not required unless you have come from, or have visited, a yellow fever infected country or zone within 6 days prior to arrival. You do not need any other health certificate to enter Australia.

COVID-19

All passengers arriving by air into Australia should complete the Digital Passenger Declaration (DPD)

When filling out the DPD, you will need to:

- provide your contact details, including a contact phone number in Australia
- make a legally binding declaration in relation to your vaccination status
- make a declaration about your travel history in the last 14 days
- make a declaration that you are aware of the quarantine and testing requirements that apply when coming to Australia and in the state or territory you are landing and the penalties for non-compliance.

For further info and access to you DPD <https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/covid19>

QUARANTINE

Australia is an island continent, well protected from most animal and agricultural pests and diseases. To help maintain this, strict quarantine regulations apply, and the casual importation of food, seeds, animals, plants and animal or plant products is prohibited.

Quarantine regulations are strictly enforced, and penalties are very high. When you arrive in Australia, if you have any doubts about an item in your possession, **declare it**, and one of our helpful Customs Officers will assess it. More information is available from:

www.daff.gov.au/biosecurity.

CUSTOMS

In common with most other countries, Australia allows in-bound passengers to import modest amounts of duty free alcohol, tobacco and perfume. High value gifts imported into Australia may be subject to a tax. More information is available at:

www.customs.gov.au/site/page4352.asp.

Note that all Australian international inbound and outbound flights are subject to **security screening restrictions for liquids, aerosols and gels (LAG's)**. For more information go to:

www.travelsecure.infrastructure.gov.au/international/lags/index.aspx.

CURRENCY AND CREDIT CARDS

The unit of currency in Australia is the Australian Dollar (AUD\$). Notes come in AUD\$100, AUD\$50, AUD\$20, AUD\$10 and AU\$5 denominations. Coins come in 5, 10, 20, 50 (cents), AUD\$1 and AUD\$2 denominations.

Major credit cards such as American Express, Visa, MasterCard and Diners Club are widely accepted. ATMs (Cashpoints) are very commonplace throughout Australia, and generally accept a wide range of cards, including Cirrus/Maestro cards. Please take care in Sydney early in the morning and at night when using ATM machines.

Currency converters such as Travelex can be found at the airport and in the city.

TAX REFUNDS

Australia has a Goods and Services Tax (GST) of 10%, which by law is always included in the displayed or marked price. For tourists buying goods in excess of AUD\$300 as part of a single purchase, a refund of the tax is available when the goods are exported. This can be obtained through the Tourist Refund Scheme (TRS) desk at your airport of departure. Please note, however, that most Australian shops serving tourists do provide a tax-free purchasing option on presentation of a valid passport and airline ticket. TRS does not apply in these cases.

AIRPORT TRANSPORT

There are no public buses connecting the airport with Wollongong and taxis are very expensive. Airport transfers are offered by a Wollongong company (\$80.00 one way) and take about 1.5 hours from Sydney Airport (www.leisurecoastlimousine.com.au/airport-transfers)

For train buffs, there is an airport train which goes to Wollongong but you will need to change train at Wolli Creek station (wait for the southbound train). To find the station at the airport, which is below the terminals, follow the railway signs. The train also connects the International Terminal with Sydney (if you want to extend the weekend up there). From Sydney you have frequent trains to Wollongong (check <http://www.sydneytrains.info/timetables/#landingPoint>).

Self drive rental cars are available at Sydney Airport and in the city (Avis, Budget, Eurocar, Hertz etc.) starting at about AUD\$165.00 per day (4 days = \$660.00). Advance booking is recommended if you intend to hire a car and make sure you confirm with them that your plan is to return the car at their Wollongong office.

WOLLONGONG FREE SHUTTLE

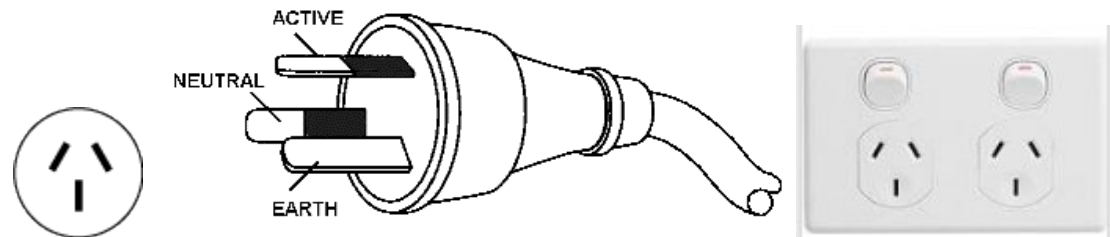
A free Wollongong Shuttle bus runs in both directions on a loop connecting Wollongong Station, CBD, University and Boat Harbour (see www.premierillawarra.com.au/shuttle.html for route map and timetable and **Annex B**).

CLIMATE

November in Australia is late-Spring and the weather is generally very nice at this time of year. The average temperature ranges from about 16°C minimum to about 23°C maximum. Being late-Spring, the weather may vary so come prepared for warmer temperatures and possibly rainy conditions. Average rainfall in Sydney in November is about 74mm. Additional information on Australian climate can be found at www.bom.gov.au.

TRAVEL TIPS

Electrical voltage is 240V AC, 50Hz. Power outlet boards will be available for use in the meeting room. You will need an adaptor to fit your plug into an Australian 3 pin socket.



Tipping is not obligatory. It is at your own discretion and only for very good service. As a guide, add 5-10% to a restaurant bill.

Smoking is not permitted within public buildings, including clubs and pubs, and is also not permitted on any public transport, including domestic air flights.

TOURIST INFORMATION AND SIGHTSEEING TOURS

Local sightseeing and tourist information will be available at your Hotel for Wollongong and the surrounding area. All arrangements should be made and paid for individually.

If you are planning to spend the weekend in Sydney there is a very good tourist information centre in "The Rocks" area. For further information on tourist activities go to www.sydney.com.au. Anyone who wants to know more about Sydney when you arrive at the airport, you can grab a booklet from the terminal corridor before you reach customs.

DEPARTING AUSTRALIA

All persons 12 years and older departing Australia must pay various Departure Taxes. This should be included in the price of your air fare, but it is advised that you check.

We look forward to welcoming you to Australia

ANNEX B: