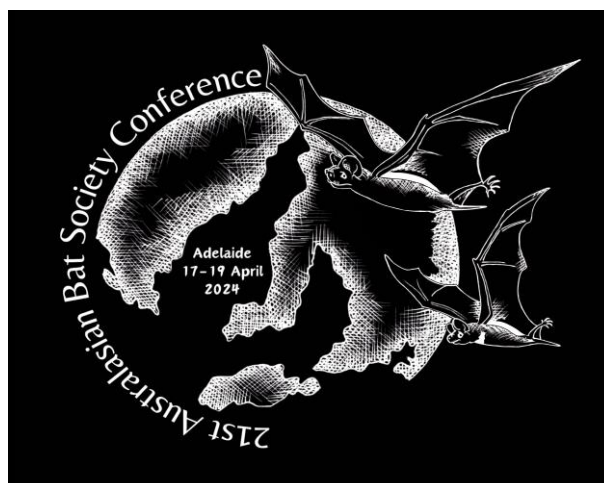


21st Australasian Bat Society Conference, AGM & Pre- Conference Workshop

The University of Adelaide

17 – 19 April 2024



CALL FOR REGISTRATION AND ABSTRACTS

Registration and presentations on any topic of bat biology and conservation are invited for the 21st Australasian Bat Society, Inc. conference on 17-19 April 2024, to be held on at the University of Adelaide, North Terrace campus, North Terrace, Adelaide. The conference will be both in person and online.

Prior to the conference there will be a workshop on Key Biodiversity Areas, which will be in person only and require members to nominate their attendance.

The Australasian Bat Society, Inc. Annual General Meeting will be held during the conference.

Key dates

- Pre-conference Workshop – Key Biodiversity Areas (optional attendance) – Tuesday 16th April 2024
- Welcoming Function – the evening of Tuesday 16th April 2024
- Conference – Wednesday 17th to Friday 19th April 2024
- Conference Dinner – Thursday 18th April 2024
- Post-conference Field Trip – Saturday 20th April 2024 (returning to Adelaide on Sunday).

Note that these dates are two weeks later than the originally advertised dates of 3-5 April 2024. Unfortunately, we had to shift the conference as most accommodation in Adelaide was already booked out, or excessively expensive, due to the AFL Gather Round. We apologise if this has caused any inconvenience. If you had already booked flights or accommodation and will incur a cost to change these, please contact us and we will look at what financial assistance we can provide.

Registration

Due to the wonderful generosity of our conference sponsors, we are able to provide a substantial discount on the registration fee for members who are students, unemployed or retired.

To register for the conference, and pay via Paypal or Direct transfer, visit the registration page [here](#).

If anyone is having problems with the online registration form, please contact us.

Key registration dates:

Early bird registration closes – 16 February 2024

Normal registration closes – 16 March 2024

Abstracts due – 1 March 2024

Below there is lots of information on the conference, transport and accommodation options. Hopefully this will answer all your questions, but if you have any further queries, please contact Kyle (for general enquiries) or Dani (for questions specifically about registration).

Kyle Armstrong: kyle.armstrong@adelaide.edu.au

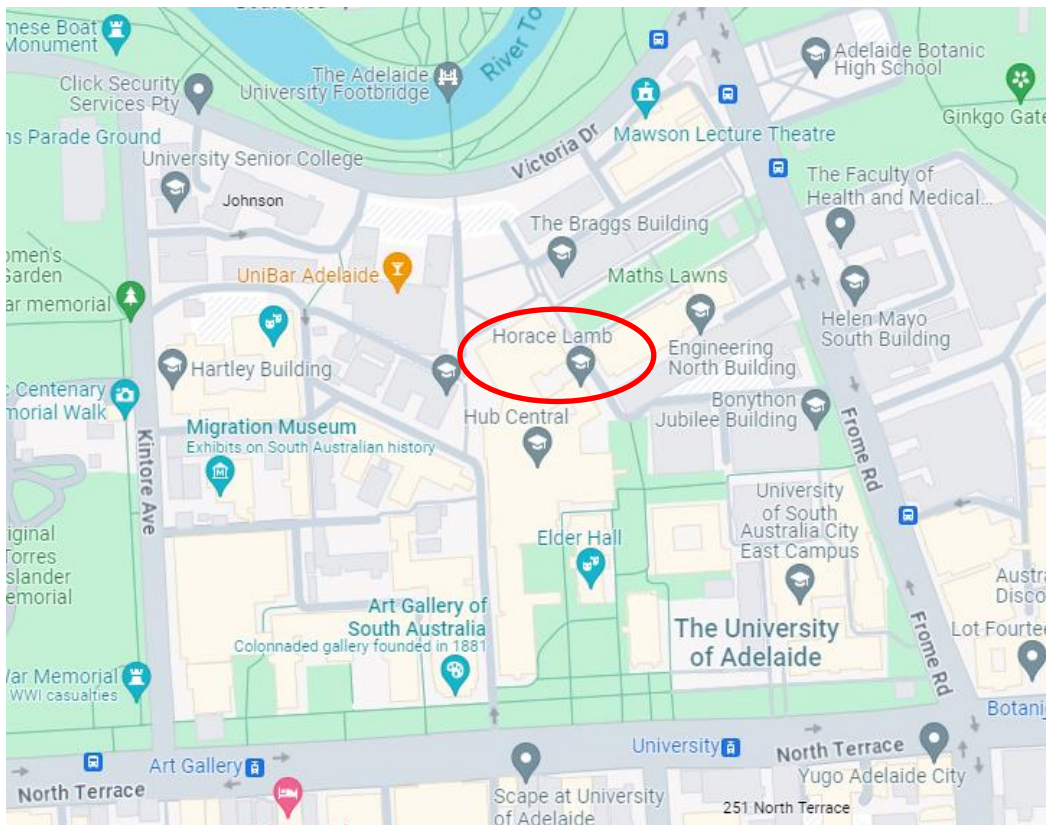
Danielle Eastick DEastick@biosis.com.au

We welcome everyone with an interest in bats from across all of Australasia to join us at this conference and look forward to seeing you in Adelaide. We hope to see you there in person, but if this is not possible, we are running the conference as a hybrid event so welcome you to join online.

Conference venue

The Conference will be held in the Horace Lamb Lecture Theatre at the North Terrace campus of the University of Adelaide.

The University of Adelaide is nestled in the city's cultural precinct, between the Park Lands and the city centre, an area that features museums, art galleries, the botanical gardens, the Adelaide Zoo, and other attractions. The campus is within easy walking distance of a great variety of foraging sites (restaurants), watering holes (bars), and roost sites (accommodation options). Train, bus and tram networks are available for exploring further afield, and the venue is just a 20-minute drive from Adelaide airport.



Some helpful links are given below to give you a taste of the University of Adelaide, our conference venue, and Adelaide.

The University of Adelaide
<https://www.adelaide.edu.au/>

The University of Adelaide, North Terrace Campus map
<https://www.adelaide.edu.au/campuses/north-terrace>

Experience Adelaide
<https://www.experienceadelaide.com.au/visit/>

Scientific Programme

Spoken Presentations: Presentations should use PowerPoint or equivalent. If other presentation methods are required, contact the organisers. A Microsoft Windows-based computer will be available to connect portable USB drives and there will be access to wifi. There are two types of spoken presentations:

Full-length talks: 15 minutes in total – 12 minutes for the talk with 3 minutes for questions.

Speed talks: 5 minutes in total – 4 minutes for the talk and 1 minute for questions. Ideal for providing a project overview, results from a small project or for outlining proposed projects.

Spoken presentation can be presented in person or online – please indicate if you will be presenting online when submitting your abstract.

Poster Presentations: Posters should be no larger than A0 in size. If you are joining the conference via the online option, and would like to present a poster, please post a hard copy of it to Adelaide in advance of the conference. Contact Kyle or Lindy if you would like to organise this.

Abstracts: Abstracts are required for all full-length talks, speed talks and posters. Abstracts should be no more than 250 words and be as informative as possible, giving a summary of results to be presented. Abstracts should be submitted electronically via an email attachment, and clearly indicate if it is for a full-length, speed or poster presentation. Please include the lead author's name in the file name and what type of presentation it is, and if it will be presented in person or online. The preferred format is a Microsoft Word file. Abstracts will be printed in the Conference Handbook and will subsequently be published in the *Australasian Bat Society Newsletter*. Please indicate on the registration form if you do **not** wish to have your abstract printed in the newsletter. Please use the abstract template to aid the final formatting of the conference handbook; the **abstract template** can be downloaded by clicking [here](#).

Our usual practice is that all submitted abstracts will be accepted, however if more full-length spoken presentations are received than can be fitted into the programme, some people may be asked to change their talk to a speed talk or poster. If this is the case plenty of notice will be provided.

Abstracts for full-length talks, speed talks and posters should be emailed to Leroy Gonsalves (email: leroy.gonsalves@dpi.nsw.gov.au) by 1 March 2024. In your email and in the file name, please include your name, the type of presentation and if you will be presenting online.

Optional Pre-conference Workshop on Key Biodiversity Areas – in person only, on Tuesday 16th April

Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) are the most important places in the world for species and their habitats. Faced with a global environmental crisis we need to focus our collective efforts on conserving the places that matter most. The KBA Programme supports the identification, mapping, monitoring and conservation of KBAs to help safeguard the most critical sites for nature on our planet – from rainforests to reefs, mountains to marshes, deserts to grasslands and to the deepest parts of the oceans. Sites can qualify as KBAs if they meet one or more of 11 criteria, clustered into five higher level categories: threatened biodiversity, geographically restricted biodiversity, ecological integrity, biological processes and irreplaceability. For further information on KBAs: <https://www.keybiodiversityareas.org/>

The ABS will be working together with BirdLife Australia and the global KBA partnership to identify and declare KBAs for bats in Australia applying the global IUCN standard for KBAs. Two approaches will be taken. Firstly, existing KBAs will be reviewed and bats will be added as trigger species if/where applicable. Secondly, new areas will be put forward to be nominated as KBAs based on these being areas of significance for bats and when these meet the IUCN standards <https://portals.iucn.org/library/node/49979>.

To assist with this process, a workshop will be held on Tuesday 16 April, prior to the ABS Conference. Prior to the workshop, a review of current bat distribution maps and requirements for sites to be designated as KBAs will be undertaken by the ABS Conservation Officer (Michael Pennay) and ABS member, Damian Milne (who has developed BatMap). As part of this process, potential new KBAs and additions to existing KBAs will be identified. The results of the review will be circulated as a data-package to attendees prior to the workshop along with a series of questions that will focus discussions during the workshop. At the workshop, attendees will have the opportunity to contribute by providing feedback on the pre-prepared data package and/or by nominating alternative KBAs.

All ABS members are welcome to attend the workshop, but to make the day as efficient and effective as possible, we ask that only those members who will actively contribute to discussions nominate their attendance.

The workshop will be in person only. If you are unable to attend but want to contribute to developing KBAs, please contact Michael Pennay, Conservation Officer, conservation@ausbats.org.au.

The workshop will be held at the same venue as the conference, on 16 April 2024. There is no cost to attend the workshop.

Travel Grants

Due to the generosity of the attendees at the ABS 2022 conference dinner auction, our conference sponsors, and our accumulated ABS funds, we are delighted to be able to offer a number of travel grants for the 21st ABS conference to the total value of \$5000. The aim of these grants is to assist ABS members who would otherwise find it difficult to attend the conference due to the cost of travel – this includes students, low-income earners and retirees.

The deadline for applying for a Travel Grant is 12 February 2024. We will assess these quickly and let applicants know in enough time to book everything.

For details of how to apply refer to the ABS website <https://www.ausbats.org.au/conference-travel-grants1.html>

Social Activities

Welcoming Function – Tuesday evening, 16th April 2024

The Welcome Function will be held at the Belgian Beer Café Oostende. The Café is located centrally on Ebenezer Place and just off Rundle Street, in Adelaide CBD. Known for Belgian beer, delicious food and good times, this pub is steeped in its rich cultural roots, rightly combined with Australian touches to make any local feel at home. A range of finger foods will be provided, and you will be able to purchase alcohol and soft drinks.

Your registration pack will be available for collection at this function. The cost of the evening is included in the registration fee for conference delegates. Accompanying people are welcome; please contact the conference organisers for details on availability and cost.

Conference Dinner – Thursday evening, 18th April 2024

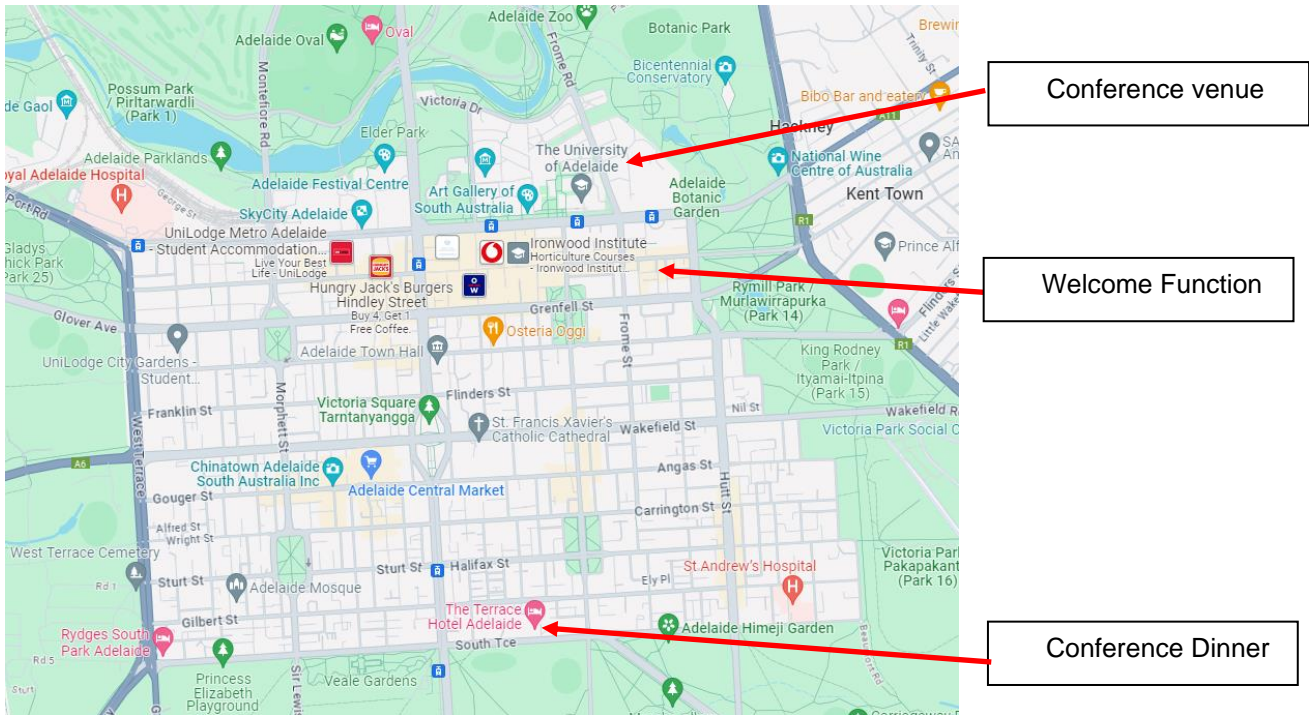
The Conference Dinner will be held from 6:30 – 10:30 pm on 18th April 2024 in the Botanical Room at The Terrace Hotel, 208 South Terrace, Adelaide. <https://www.theterracehoteladelaide.com/venues-events/corporate-events/>

Dinner will consist of a three-course meal. Please advise us of any special dietary requirements when you register. The cost of the dinner is included in your registration fee. To keep the costs down and tailored to personal tastes, drinks (soft and alcoholic) will be available for purchase from the bar.

If you would like to bring a guest to the dinner, please contact the organisers and we will advise on availability and cost.

An auction will be held during the conference dinner to raise funds for travel grants for the next ABS conference, so please bring along items to contribute to this worthwhile (and fun!) fund-raising event.

Note there are free trams throughout Adelaide CBD including from North Terrace (conference venue) to South Terrace (conference dinner). <https://www.adelaidemetro.com.au/plan-a-trip/free-and-special-transport>



Post-conference Field Trip – Calperum Station, 20th – 21st April 2024

The Conference Field Trip will take place on the evening of Saturday 20th April 2024, at Calperum Station, Renmark, returning to Adelaide on Sunday 21st. <https://alt.org.au/about-calperum-station/>

Calperum Station, run by the Australian Landscape Trust, is located 15 mins north of Renmark, 274 km from Adelaide. It encompasses more than 337,000 ha of rich and unique mallee country, including stretches of creeks, rivers and wetlands which provide habitat for a wide range of flora and fauna – including lots of bats, with the possibility of the Little Pied Bat *Chalinobus picatus*.

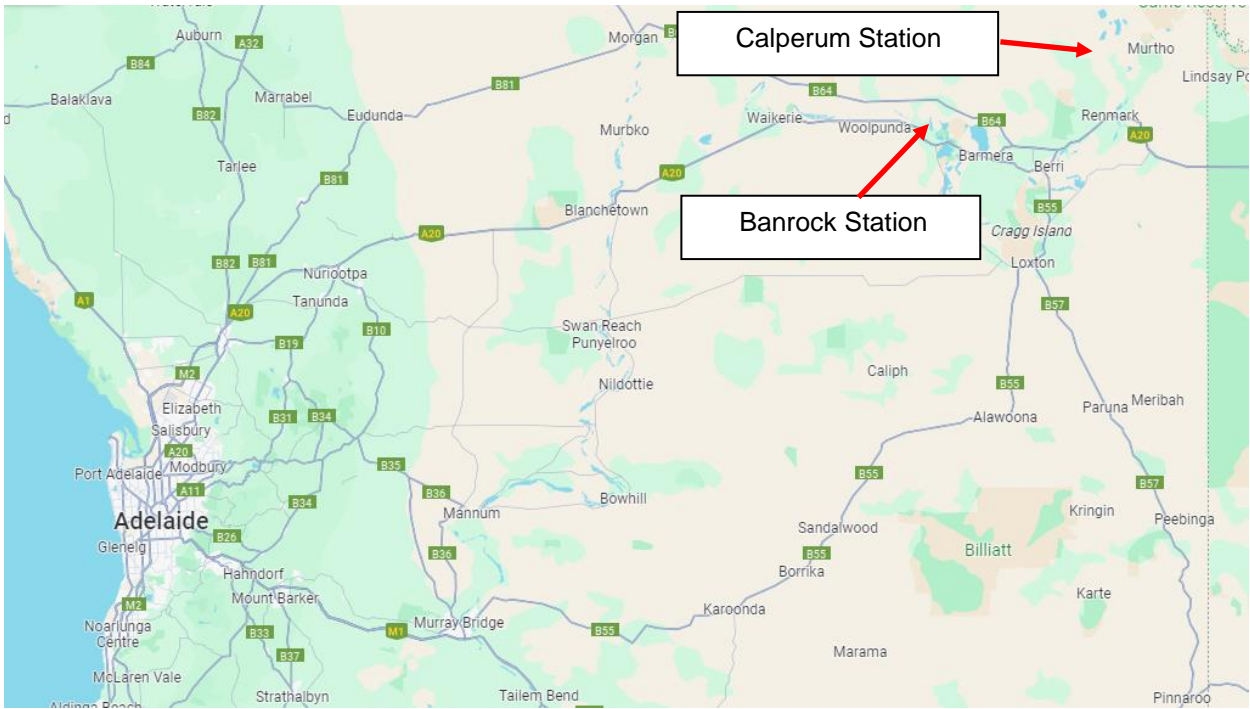
We will organise buses to transport participants to Calperum and back to Adelaide. The cost of the bus is \$50 per person. The bus will take 3.5 hrs, plus stops, to get to Calperum. On Sunday the bus will return to Adelaide by lunchtime.

On Saturday, lunch will be provided at Banrock Station Wine and Wetland Centre, on the way to Calperum. Banrock Station is a winery that is committed to improving the environment through investing some of their profits into conservation projects around the world and restoring wetlands on their property. <https://banrockstation.com.au/>. If there is time, there is the option of doing a wetlands self-guided walk (\$5) or wine tasting (\$10-15) (to be paid for on the day).

A BBQ dinner will be provided (catering to all dietary requirements) at Calperum in the evening. There will be a simple breakfast the following morning, plus snacks will be provided.

The cost of food (lunch, dinner, breakfast and snacks) is \$80 each. BYO drinks.

Accommodation is in shared bunkrooms with 2-5 people in each room. The cost of the accommodation is \$40 per person. Bedding can be provided for an additional \$30 per person (a bed made up plus towel), or bring your own (sleeping bag, pillow and towel). Camping is also an option, which costs \$10 per person.



Conference T-Shirt and hoodie

A conference T-shirt and a conference hoodie will be available at the conference. These need to be ordered and paid for along with the registration, including the number and sizes required. The T-shirt is 100% combed cotton and the hoodie is 80% cotton and 20% polyester anti-pill fleece. The T-shirt and hoodie will be black with a small white ABS logo on the front and the conference design across the back, also in white – see below for mock-ups of the T-shirt and hoodie, and size guides.

The T-shirts will cost \$28.50, available in Men's and Women's styles.

The hoodie will cost \$46 and is unisex.



Men's T-shirt size guide

SIZE GUIDE

	XS	SML	MED	LRG	XLG	2XL	3XL	4XL	5XL
Body Width (cm)	43	47	52	56.5	61	64	68	75	80
Body Length (cm)	68	71	75	78.5	82	83.5	85	87	89

Women's T-shirt size guide

SIZE GUIDE

	XSM	SML	MED	LRG	XLG	2XL	3XL
Body Width (cm)	45.5	48	50.5	53	55.5	58	60.5
Body Length (cm)	63.5	64.5	65.5	66.5	67.5	68.5	69.5



Hoodie unisex size guide

SIZE GUIDE

	XS	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL
Body Width (cm)	49	52	55	58	61	64	67
Body Length (cm)	69.5	72	74.5	77	79.5	82	84.5

Conference mugs

This year's conference cup is a 320ml curved double wall vacuum cup, printed with the conference design. It will keep drinks hot or cold for about 3 hours, and has a push seal lid with sliding splash proof cover. It is BPA free stainless steel which is easy to keep clean. Eco Credentials: Reusable, sustainable, and printed using renewable energy. <https://brandedproducts.com.au/category/main-category/search-result/cascade-coffee-cup-line>

To reduce waste and assist with the process of cleaning utensils, we ask that everyone uses this cup for their drinks throughout the conference and on the field trip.

Accommodation in Adelaide

Conference participants need to book their own accommodation in Adelaide. There are many accommodation options available, including hotels, apartments and backpacker hostels. A reminder that if you are going on the post-conference field trip you will need to book your Adelaide accommodation to include the night of 19th April as participants will leave Adelaide for the field trip on Saturday 20th April.

All of the hotels/backpackers listed are within easy walking distance of the venue at University of Adelaide, North Terrace Campus. All prices given below are in Australian dollars (AUD) and include GST but may be subject to change. Please confirm prices at time of booking.

Note that there are many other accommodation options in Adelaide City and surrounds that are not listed below, including lots of other hotels and Air B&B or similar. This list is not intended to be exhaustive, but rather a representation of available accommodation for different budgets. Also note that there are free trams within the CBD.

Pullman Adelaide (450 m, 7 min walk to University of Adelaide, Northern Terrace Campus)

Superior Room, 1 King Size Bed: AUD \$346/night. King bed, 1-2 guests.

Website: <https://pullmanadelaide.com.au/>

Phone: +61 8 8206 8888

Address: 16 Hindmarsh Square, Adelaide SA 5000

Crowne Plaza Adelaide (270 m, 4 min walk to University of Adelaide, Northern Terrace Campus)

1 King Standard: AUD \$238/night. King bed, 1-2 guests.

Website: <https://www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/us/en/adelaide/adlad/hoteldetail>

Phone: +61 8 7077 2222

Address: 27 Frome St, Adelaide SA 5000

Princes Lodge Motel (1.9 km, 26 min walk to University of Adelaide, Northern Terrace Campus)

Standard single room: AUD \$170/night. Double bed, 1-2 guests. Deluxe Queen Room: AUD \$227. Large double bed, 1-2 guests.

Website: <https://www.princeslodge.com.au/>

Phone: +61 8 8267 5566

Address: 73 Lefevre Terrace, North Adelaide SA 5006

Grosvenor Hotel Adelaide (1.3 km, 13 min walk to University of Adelaide, Northern Terrace Campus)

Standard Room: AUD \$169/night. Breakfast extra.

Website: <https://www.grosvenorhoteladelaide.com.au/>

Phone: 08 8407 8888

Address: 125 North Terrace, Adelaide, SA 5000

Majestic Minima Hotel (1.9 km, 26 min walk to University of Adelaide, Northern Terrace Campus)

Unique Art Room: AUD \$150/night. King bed, 1-2 guests.

Website: <https://majesticminimahotel.com.au/>

Phone: 1800 779 954

Address: 146 Melbourne St, North Adelaide SA 5006

The Terrace Hotel (where the Conference Dinner will be held) (2.0 km, 30 min walk to University of Adelaide, Northern Terrace Campus)

Room: Standard Queen Room AUD \$143/night. Breakfast extra.

Website: <https://www.theterracehoteladelaide.com/>

Phone: 08 8223 2800

Address: 208 South Terrace, Adelaide SA 5000

Econo Lodge East Adelaide (1.5 km, 23 min walk to University of Adelaide, Northern Terrace Campus)

Standard Room, Non Smoking: AUD \$123/night. Double bed & single bed, 1-3 guests.

Website: <https://www.eastadelaidemotel.com.au/>

Phone: +61 8 8362 5676

Address: 27 Dequetteville Terrace, Kent Town SA 5067

Adelaide Backpackers and Travellers Inn (1.8 km, 25 min walk to University of Adelaide, Northern Terrace Campus)

Private Ensuite Room: AUD \$120/night. Queen bed, 1-2 guests. 4 Bed Dorm Female (2 bunk beds per dorm): AUD \$38/night/guest. Single Room Ensuite: AUD \$90/night.

Website: https://www.adelaidebackpackers.com.au/?_ga=2.206358675.1862008544.1698315188-1761435231.1698315180

Phone: +61 8 8231 9524

Address: 268 Hindley St, Adelaide SA 5000

YHA Adelaide Central (1.6 km, 23 min walk to University of Adelaide, Northern Terrace Campus)

Shared dorms (4-6 beds per dorm; female only, male only and mixed): AUD \$53/bed/night. Queen Room with Ensuite: AUD \$200 room/night. Queen bed, 1-2 guests.

Website: https://www.yha.com.au/hostels/sa/adelaide/adelaide-backpackers-hostel/?utm_source=google-business&utm_medium=righthandside&utm_campaign=listing

Phone: +61 8 8414 3010

Address: 135 Waymouth St, Adelaide SA 5000

Transport options to Adelaide

Adelaide is serviced by all domestic airlines, including Qantas, Virgin, JetStar and Regional Express, as well as some international airlines.

Information on public transport in Adelaide can be found on the Adelaide Metro web site (<https://www.adelaidemetro.com.au>). Note there are free trams throughout Adelaide CBD. <https://www.adelaidemetro.com.au/plan-a-trip/free-and-special-transport>

Accompanying Persons and Tourist Activities

Non-registrants who are accompanying delegates are welcome to attend the social functions. Costs are listed on the registration form, or available from conference organisers, and please indicate if you need transport for these extra people. There is not an official programme for accompanying people; however, Adelaide and the surrounding areas offer a wide range of options for all tastes. For a taste of what Adelaide has to offer, start at the Experience Adelaide website: <https://www.experienceadelaide.com.au/visit/>

Australasian Bat Society Membership

Is your membership for the ABS due, or do you want to [join the ABS](#)? Now is the perfect time to [pay for your membership](#) if you haven't already done so.

If you are unsure of your current membership status, email membership@ausbats.org.au