



# Launceston to Hobart Yacht Race 2023

## Weather Forecast

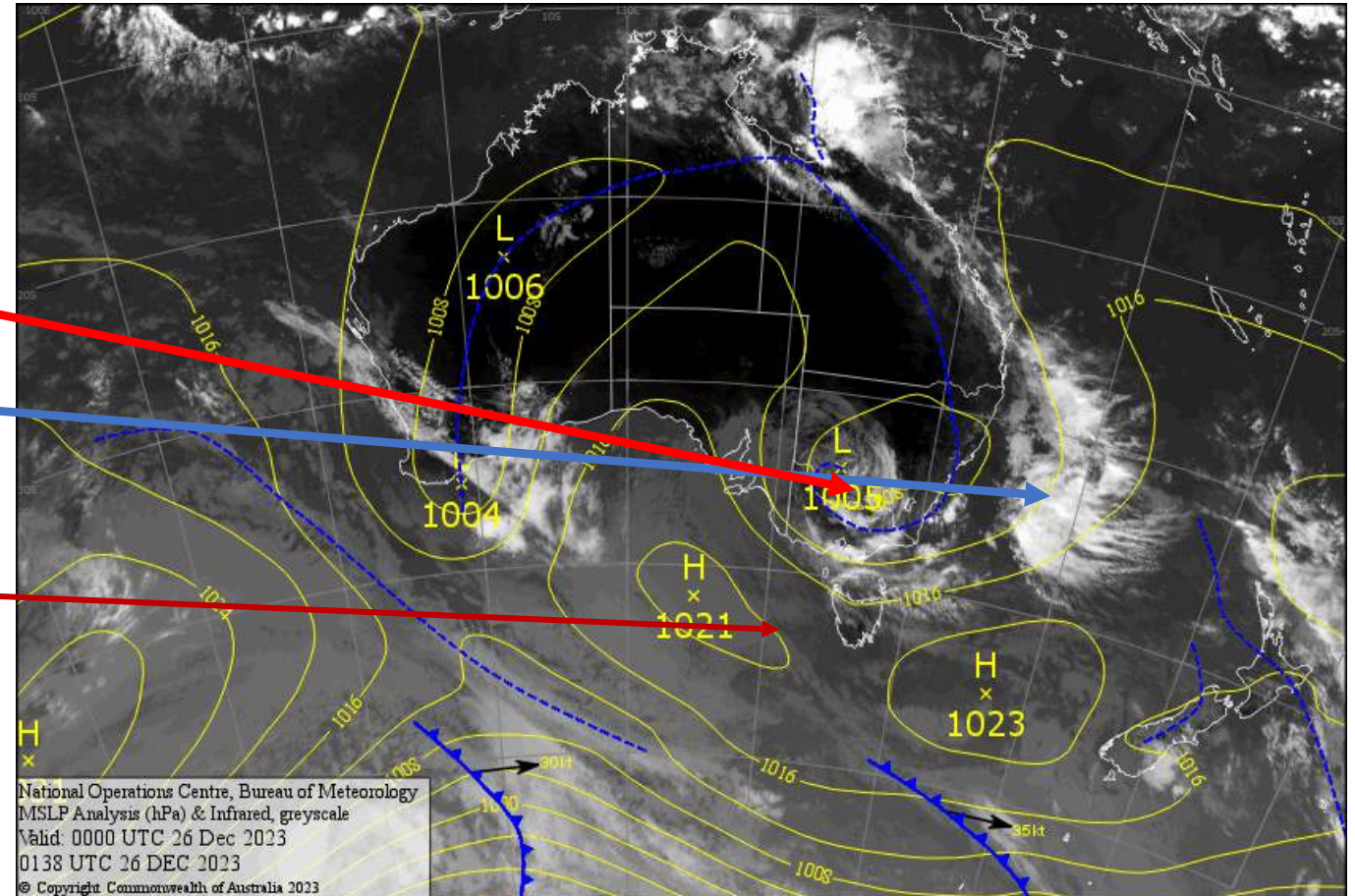
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Issued by Kenn Batt at 1500hr 26/12/2023

# Latest Surface Isobaric Chart

A low is positioned over inland New South Wales with thick bands of cloud spiralling out from the system, with some embedded convection. Another thick band of cloud extends from the Tasman Sea and along the southern Queensland coastline.

A ridge of high pressure lies to the west and south of Tasmania.

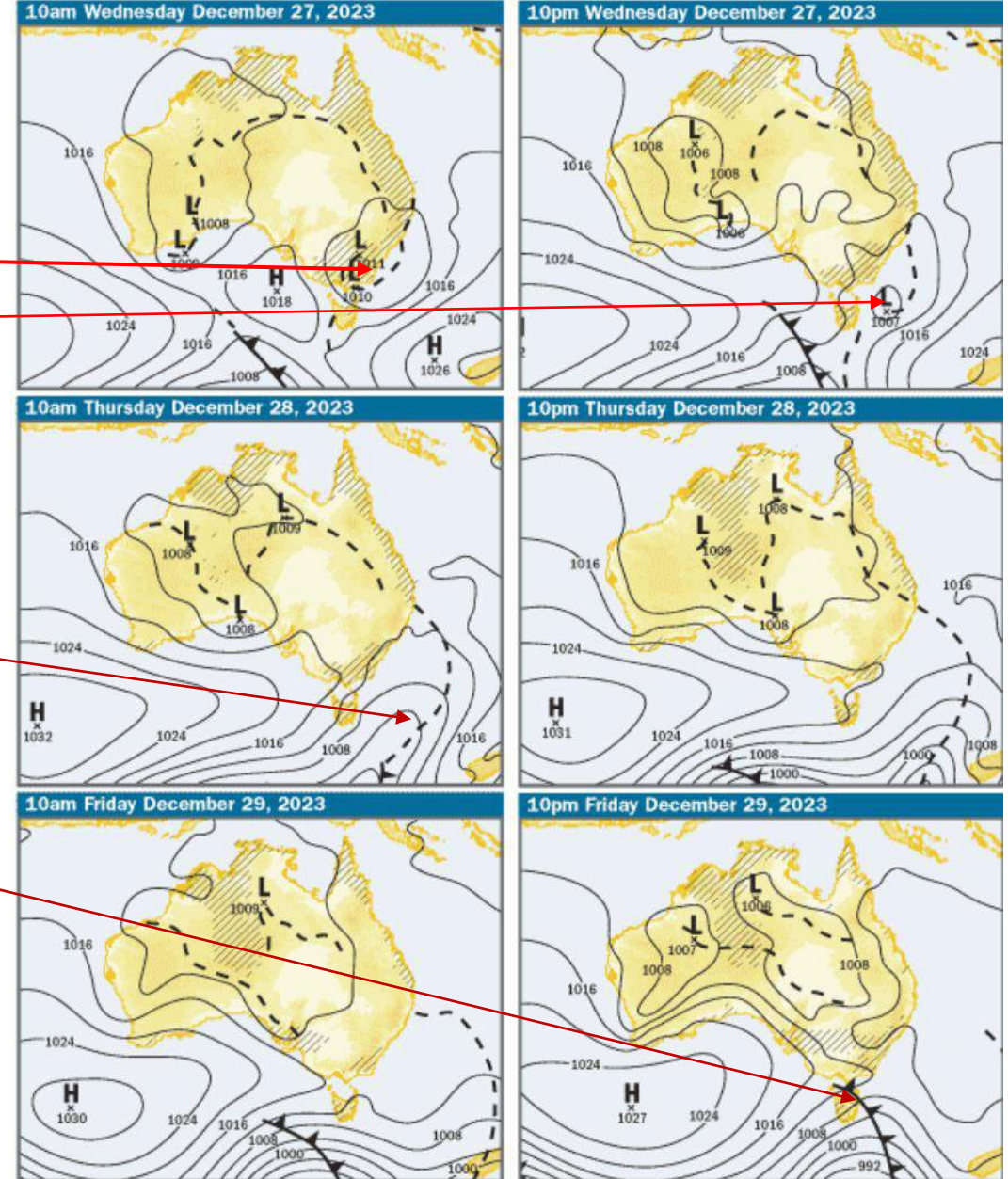




# Forecast Charts for next few days

The low will move off the NSW coast during Wednesday and will move towards the SSE whilst weakening.

A cold front will move through Tasmania early on Thursday. This will be followed by another cold front late on Friday.

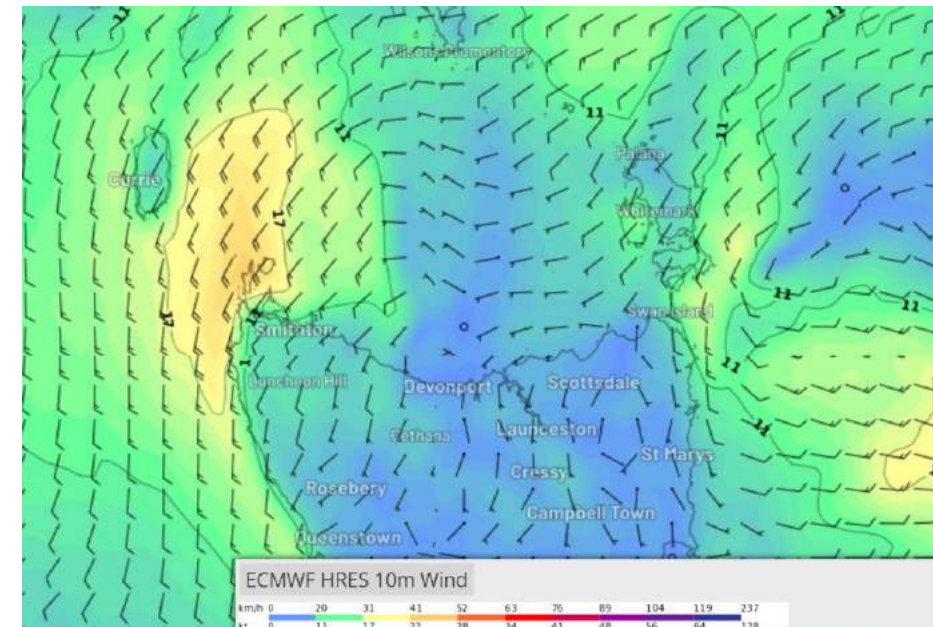
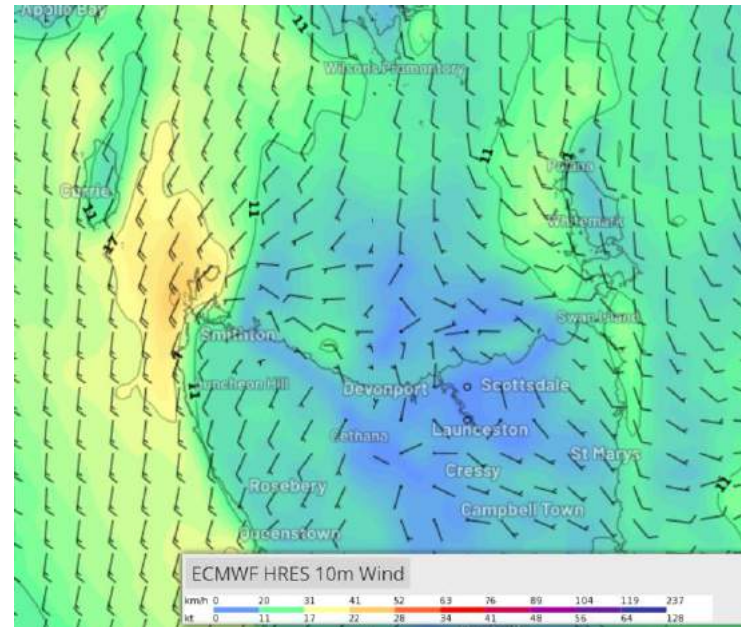
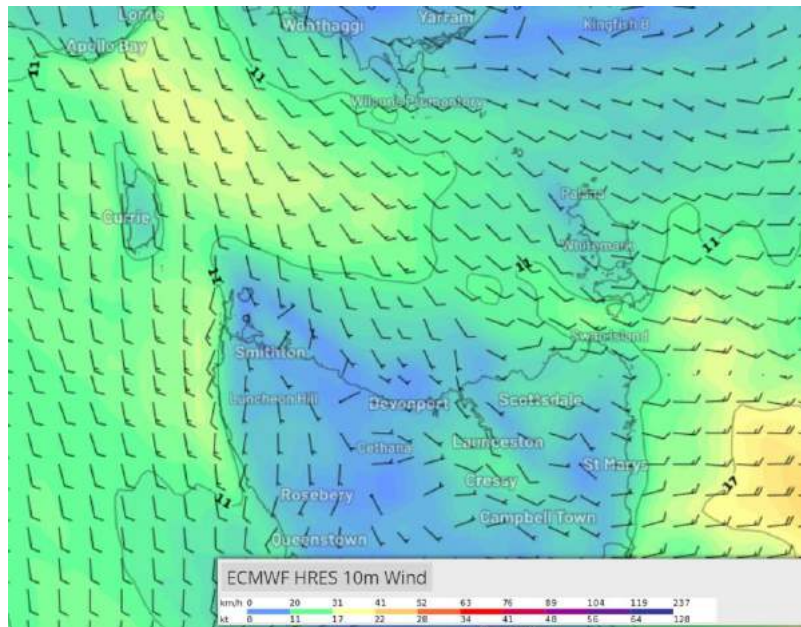


# Forecast Winds

- ECMWF Forecast winds below are courtesy of Weatherzone (subscription service) [Weatherzone Layers](#)
- My current model of choice is the ECMWF model.
- Check out Windy.com for EC and ACCESS models.
- Update weather forecasts and warnings regularly via the internet and radio sources.



# 27<sup>th</sup> December



11am

5pm

11pm

Light SW to SE winds, becoming variable at times. Winds tending light to moderate SW-SE in eastern parts.

Sea waves: up to 1m (Hsig)

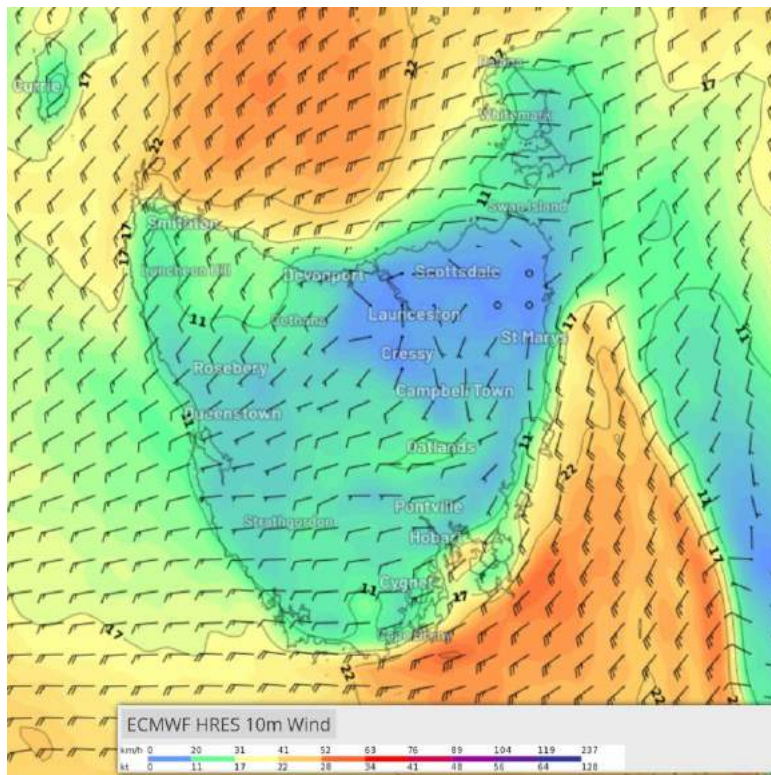
Swell waves: from E-NE 1 to 2.0m (Hsig) reaching 2.5m (Hsig) at times in far east parts.

NOTE: Waves can be higher than forecast especially when ocean/tidal currents oppose wind/swell waves

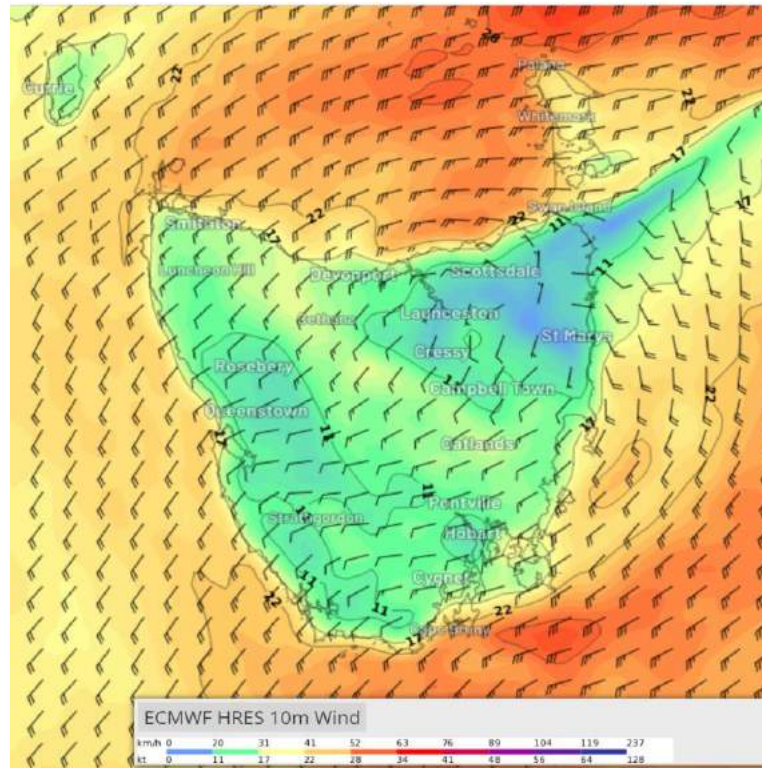
Weather: Cloudy with showers. Chance of a thunderstorm.



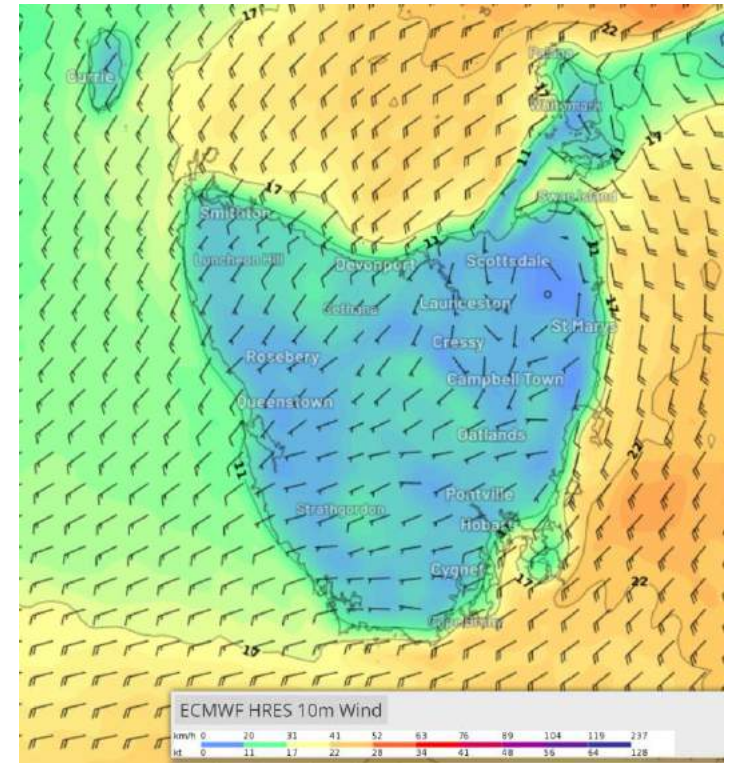
# 28<sup>th</sup> December



8am



2pm



11pm

A cold front pushes through Tasmania early on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup>.

Fresh to strong and gusty W/SW winds developing in Bass/Banks Straits behind the front.

Winds will tend moderate to fresh and gusty SW-S along the E Tassie coast.

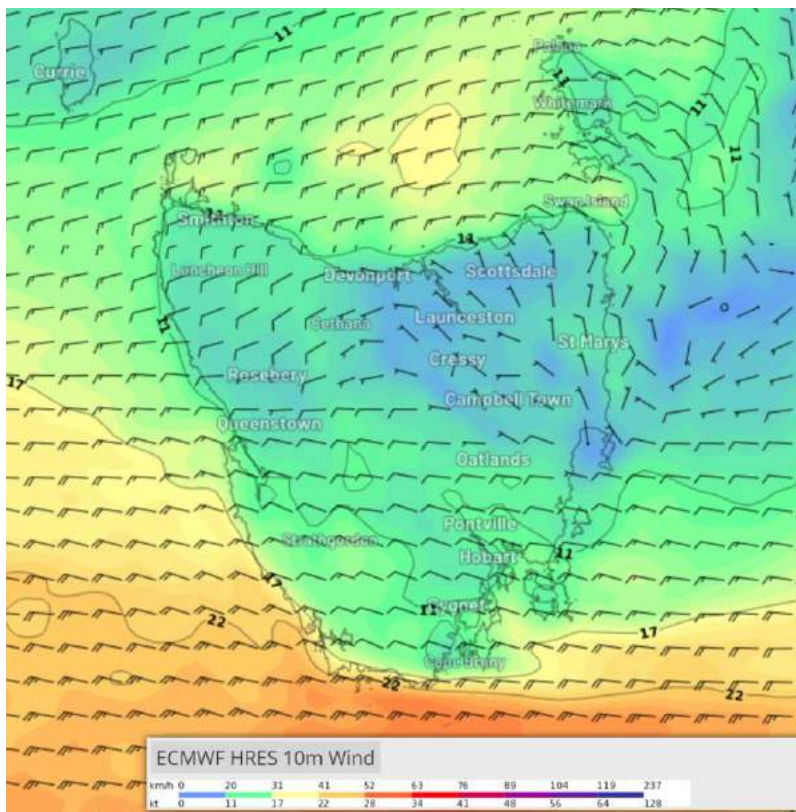
Sea waves: 1 to 1.5m (Hsig) at first rising 2 to 3m (Hsig) behind the front

Swell waves: E-NE 1 to 2m (Hsig) with a S'ly 1 to 2m (Hsig) swell developing during the day along the E Tassie coast

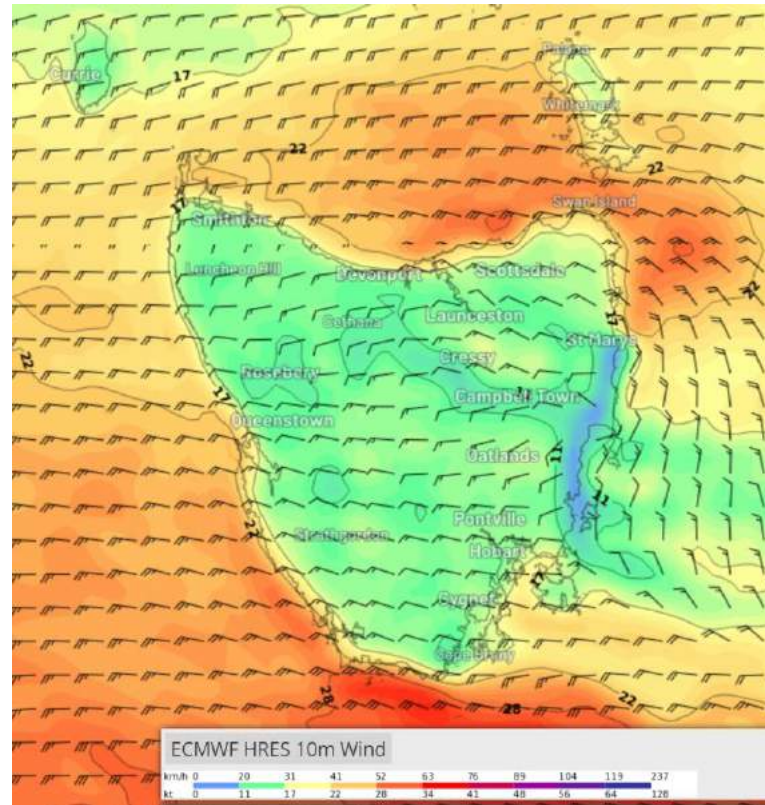
Weather: Chance of showers/thunderstorm



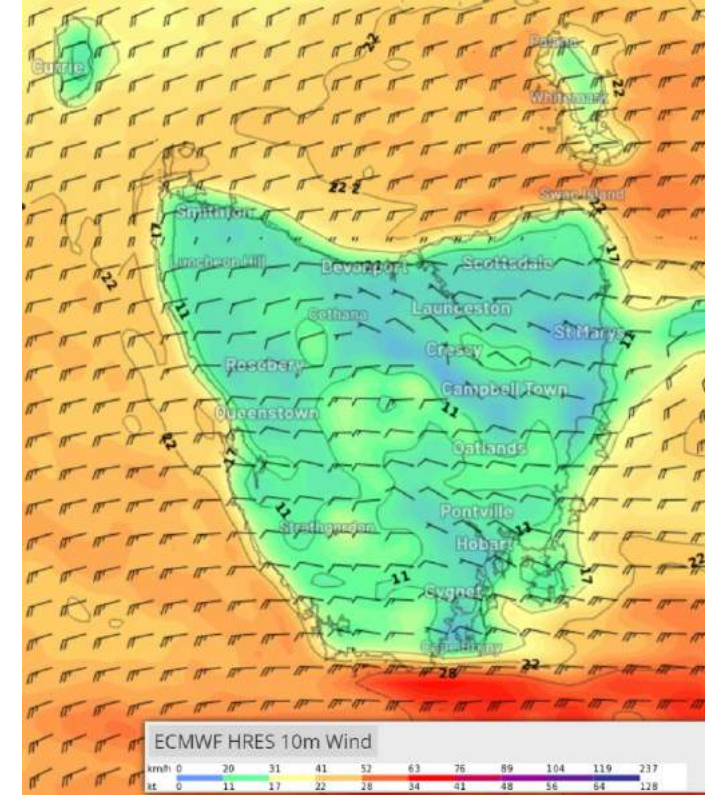
# 29<sup>th</sup> December



11am



5pm



11pm

Winds ease early morning 29th and tend light to moderate NW/SW, even N'ly at times during the day. Winds freshen from the W generally by late evening. But being close to E Tassie coast comes with it problems. Read <https://ryct.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/25-Tricky-Tassie-Coast-Kenn-Batt-Alasdair-Hainsworth.pdf>

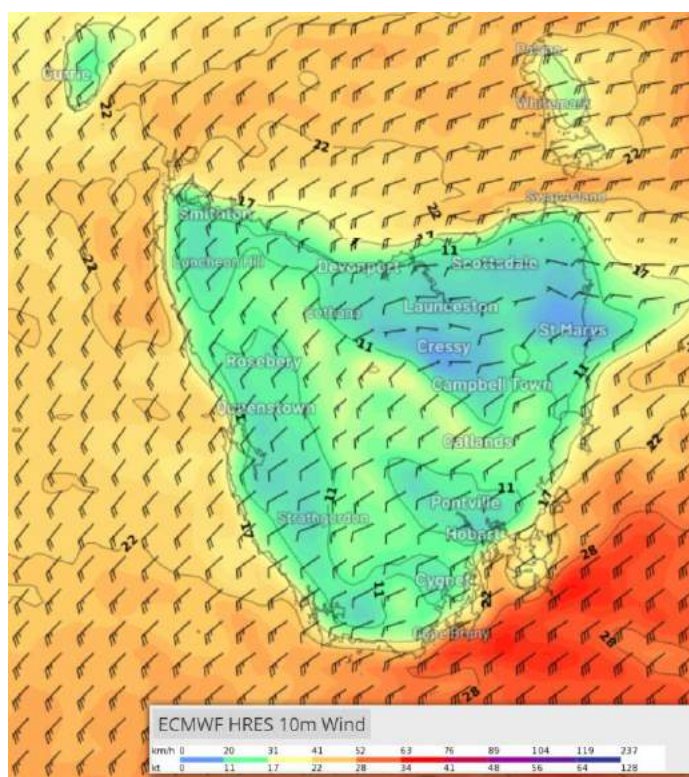
Sea waves: up to 1m (Hsig)

Swell waves: from S 1 to 2m (Hsig)

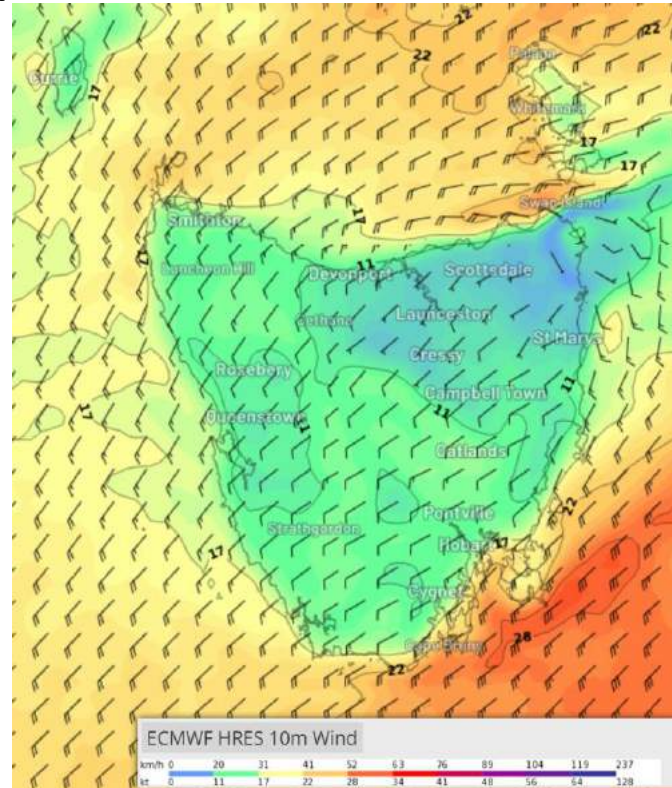
Weather: Partly cloudy. Slight chance of a shower.



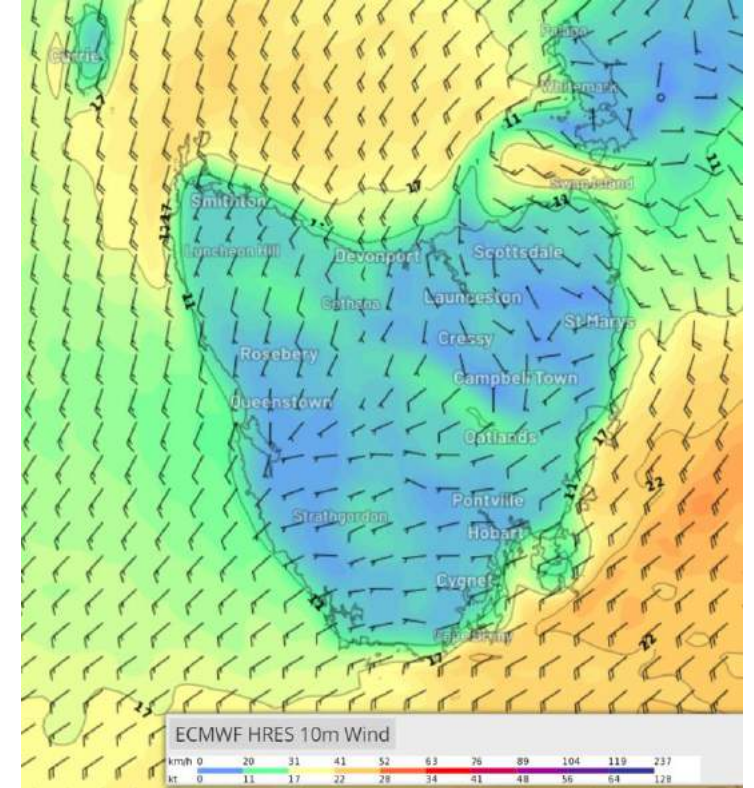
# 30th December



8am



2pm



11pm

A cold front moves through Tasmania early on 30<sup>th</sup>. This feature will freshen the W/SW flow over the State. The wind direction is expected to tend more southerly along the E Tassie coast and ease during the evening.



# Weather forecasts for selected areas

## North Tamar

Wednesday 27 December

Cloudy. High chance of showers. The chance of a thunderstorm. Winds south to southeasterly 15 to 25 km/h becoming light in the evening. Overnight temperatures falling to between 12 and 15 with daytime temperatures reaching the low to mid 20s.

## St Helens

Thursday 28 December



Min 15 Max 23

**Shower or two.**

Possible rainfall: 0 to 7 mm

Chance of any rain: 70%

Partly cloudy. High chance of showers, most likely in the afternoon and evening. Light winds becoming east to southeasterly 15 to 20 km/h during the day then becoming light during the evening.

Sun protection recommended from 8:50 am to 5:20 pm, UV Index predicted to reach 11 [Extreme]

Friday 29 December



Min 10 Max 23

**Partly cloudy.**

Possible rainfall: 0 to 1 mm

Chance of any rain: 30%

Partly cloudy. Slight chance of a shower. Light winds becoming northerly 15 to 20 km/h during the day then turning west to northwesterly 20 to 30 km/h during the afternoon.

# Maria Island

Thursday 28 December



Min 16Max 21

Shower or two.

Possible rainfall: 0 to 1 mm

Chance of any rain: 50%

East Coast area

Partly cloudy. Medium chance of showers, most likely in the afternoon and evening. Winds west to southwesterly and light becoming southwesterly 15 to 25 km/h during the morning then increasing to 25 to 35 km/h during the day. Overnight temperatures falling to between 11 and 15 with daytime temperatures reaching the low to mid 20s.

Sun protection recommended from 8:50 am to 5:30 pm, UV Index predicted to reach 11 [Extreme]

Friday 29 December



Min 11Max 20

Partly cloudy.

Chance of any rain: 20%

East Coast area

Partly cloudy. Slight chance of a shower in the north, near zero chance elsewhere. Winds southwesterly 15 to 25 km/h turning westerly during the morning then increasing to 25 to 35 km/h during the afternoon. Overnight temperatures falling to between 5 and 10 with daytime temperatures reaching between 17 and 21.

# Hobart

Friday 29 December



Min 10Max 20

Partly cloudy.

Chance of any rain: 20%

Hobart area

Partly cloudy. Slight chance of a shower. Winds westerly 25 to 35 km/h.

Sun protection recommended from 8:50 am to 5:30 pm, UV Index predicted to reach 11 [Extreme]

Saturday 30 December



Min 11Max 18

Cloudy.

Chance of any rain: 10%

Hobart area

Cloudy. Winds westerly 25 to 35 km/h.

Sunday 31 December



Min 10Max 23

Partly cloudy.

Chance of any rain: 5%

Hobart area

Partly cloudy. Light winds becoming east to southeasterly 15 to 25 km/h during the day.

Monday 1 January



Min 13Max 22

Cloudy.

Chance of any rain: 20%


Hobart area

Cloudy. Slight chance of a shower. Light winds becoming south to southeasterly 15 to 25 km/h during the day.



# Update your weather information

[Marine & Ocean \(bom.gov.au\)](http://bom.gov.au)



Australian Government  
Bureau of Meteorology


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[Bureau Home](#) > Marine & Ocean

**Marine & Ocean**

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 **Warnings**

Select state using the tabs above.

Current:

• [Marine Wind Warning Summary for Tasmania.](#)

Forecasts	Observations
<a href="#">Denwent Estuary</a>	<a href="#">Latest weather for the Hobart area</a>
<a href="#">Frederick Henry and Norfolk Bay</a>	<a href="#">Live wind map for Tasmania</a>
<a href="#">Storm Bay</a>	<a href="#">Latest coastal weather</a>
<a href="#">The Channel</a>	<a href="#">Coastal observations via clickable map</a>
<a href="#">MetEye forecast wind and wave maps for Hobart waters</a>	<a href="#">Latest weather graphs via clickable map</a>
<a href="#">Central Plateau Lakes</a>	<a href="#">Radar Viewer</a>
<a href="#">South West Lakes</a>	<a href="#">Cape Sorell waves</a>
<a href="#">Local &amp; coastal waters forecasts via clickable map including Southeast Inshore &amp; Inland Lakes</a>	<a href="#">Maria Island waves</a>
<a href="#">Bass Strait and approaches</a>	
<a href="#">MetEye forecast wind and wave maps</a>	

National Services

[Marine Wind Maps](#)

[Tide Predictions](#)

[Sea Temperature & Currents](#)

[Interactive Weather and Wave Maps](#)

[High Seas Forecasts](#)

[Seasonal Ocean Temperature Outlooks](#)

[Marine Lite](#)

[Port Air Pressure](#)

[Marine Weather Knowledge Centre](#)

[About marine forecasts](#)

[Boating safety](#)

[Rock fishing safety](#)

[Communication services](#)

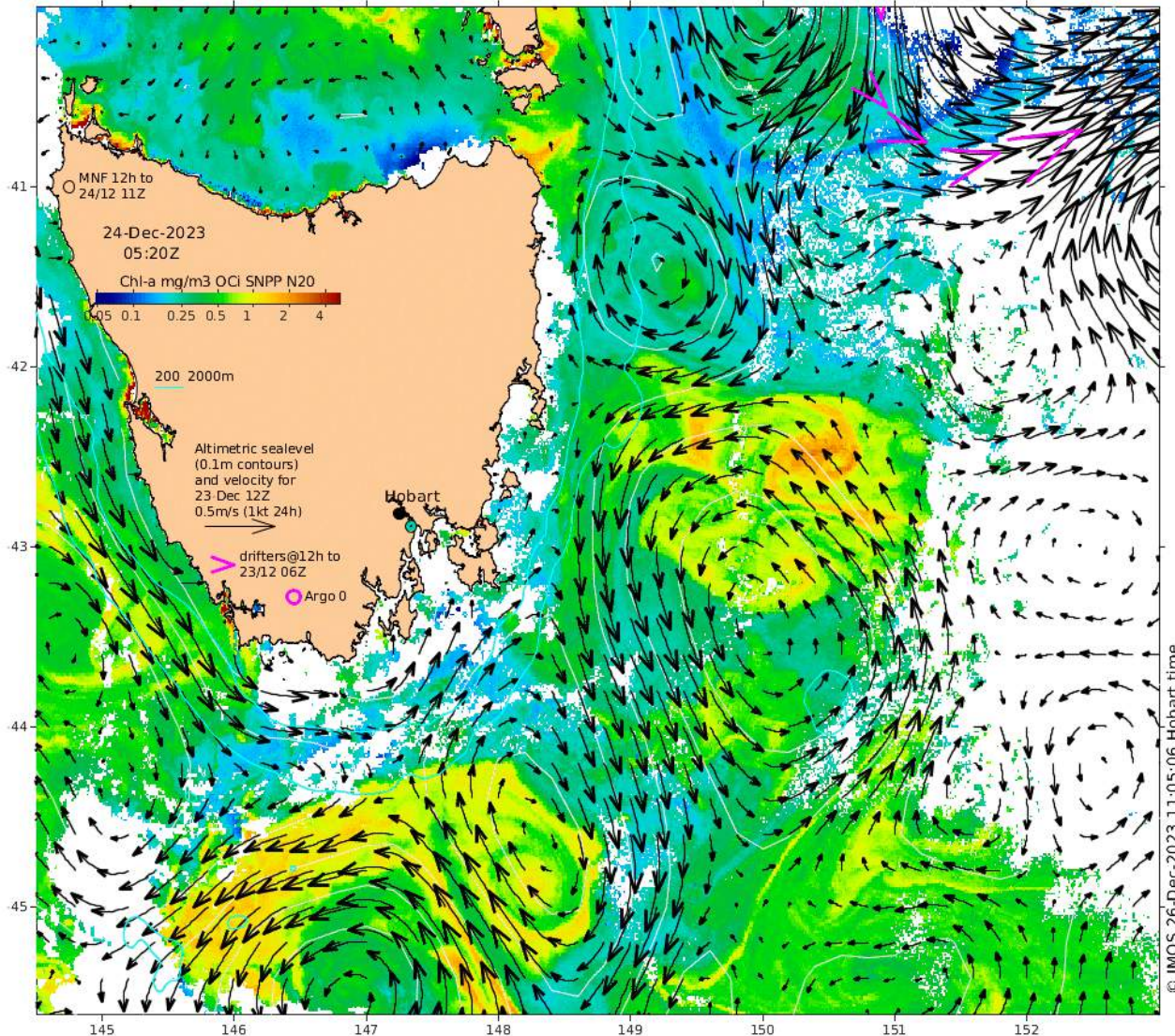
[MarineLite](#)

[Averages and trends](#)

[Definitions](#)

[Give feedback](#)

# Latest CSIRO SSTs and Ocean Currents



Check out

<https://oceancurrent.aodn.org.au/tides/index.htm>

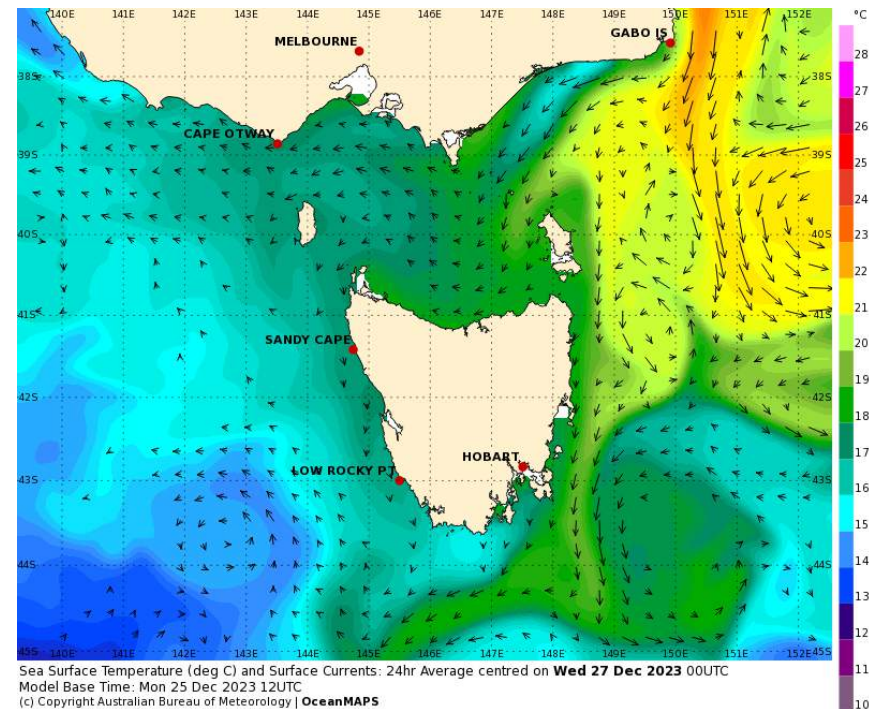
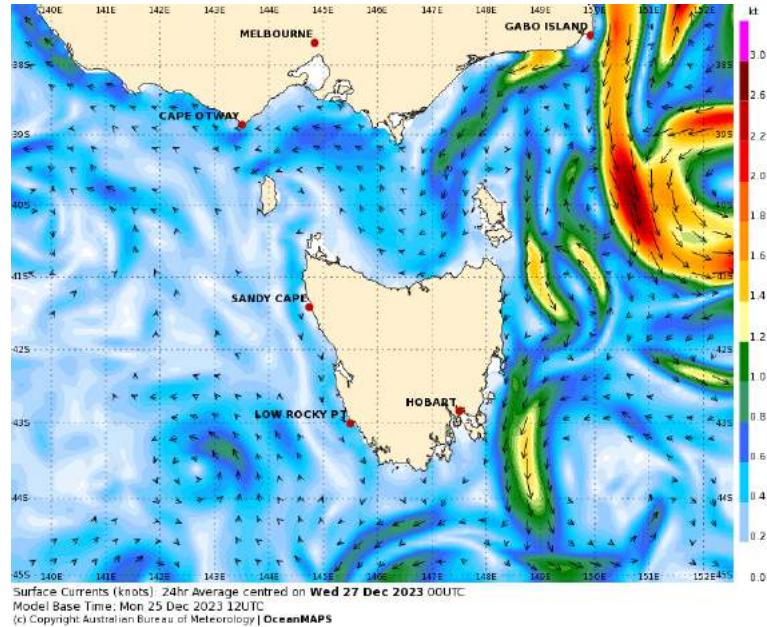
for modelling of current flows in Bass and Banks Straits.

It would appear from the latest CSIRO sea surface temperature analysis that there will be current flow against you down the east coast.

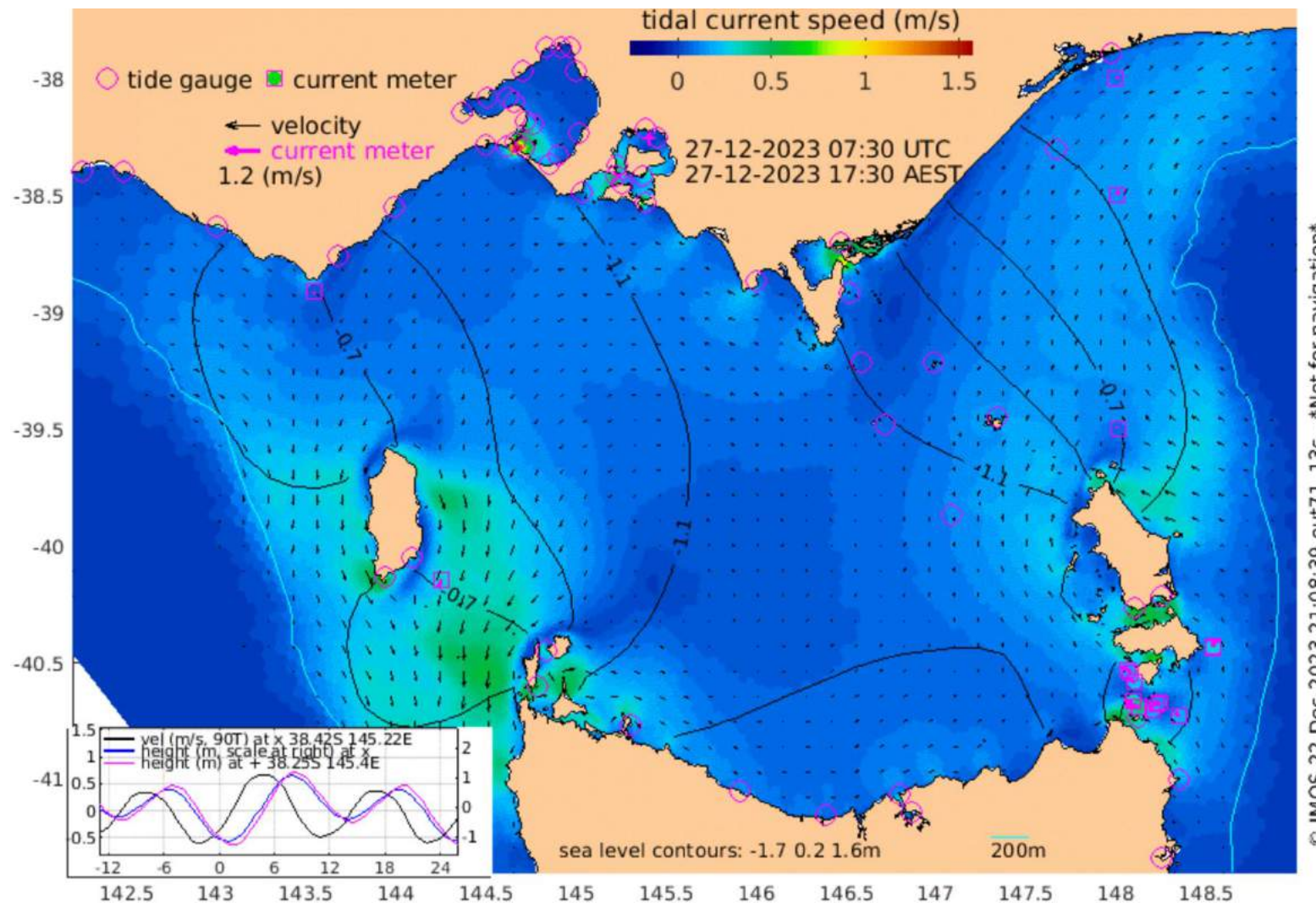
[SST IMOS-OceanCurrent](#)



# Bureau of Met Ocean Current prediction Victoria and Tasmania (bom.gov.au)



Or according to  
this lower  
resolution  
product from  
the  
CSIRO/Bureau  
of  
Meteorology.  
It shows  
current with  
you!  
Take your pick?



Tidal Flow  
in Banks  
Strait  
becomes  
slack  
around  
17:30 LT on  
27<sup>th</sup> before  
running  
from the  
east.

More information at <https://oceancurrent.aodn.org.au/tides/index.htm>



○ WED 27 DEC

HIGH

12:18 am  
3.15 m

LOW

6:29 am  
1.32 m

HIGH

12:07 pm  
3.18 m

LOW

6:53 pm  
0.60 m

Tide at Low Head

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○ WED 27 DEC

LOW	3:27 am 0.47 m
HIGH	9:34 am 1.56 m
LOW	4:22 pm 0.02 m
HIGH	10:46 pm 1.26 m

THU 28 DEC

LOW	4:12 am 0.50 m
HIGH	10:19 am 1.56 m
LOW	5:09 pm 0.02 m
HIGH	11:35 pm 1.25 m

FRI 29 DEC

LOW	4:59 am 0.52 m
HIGH	11:05 am 1.55 m
LOW	5:57 pm 0.03 m

Tides at  
Swan  
Island



**Please note:** The predictions are in daylight saving time when it is observed.

FRI 29 DEC		SAT 30 DEC		SUN 31 DEC		MON 1 JAN		TUE 2 JAN		WED 3 JAN	
HIGH	9:44 am 1.42 m	HIGH	10:25 am 1.36 m	HIGH	2:20 am 1.06 m	HIGH	2:38 am 1.09 m	HIGH	2:56 am 1.11 m	HIGH	3:15 am 1.15 m
LOW	5:58 pm 0.34 m	LOW	6:37 pm 0.38 m	LOW	5:07 am 1.05 m	LOW	6:42 am 1.02 m	LOW	7:56 am 0.98 m	LOW	9:06 am 0.92 m
				HIGH	11:06 am 1.30 m	HIGH	11:50 am 1.23 m	HIGH	12:42 pm 1.14 m	HIGH	1:45 pm 1.06 m
				LOW	7:14 pm 0.43 m	LOW	7:47 pm 0.48 m	LOW	8:17 pm 0.54 m	LOW	8:45 pm 0.59 m

# Tides in Hobart

# Last Bit

- Always keep abreast of the weather via radio sources including radio skeds, the internet (plenty of weather sites including the Bureau of Meteorology) and never forget the Eye Ball Mk1 method.
- Remember in forecasts and warnings that the average wind speed and the Significant Wave Height (Hsig) is forecast. Be aware that wind gusts can be up to 40% more (in thunderstorms it can be up to 150% more) than the average. Wave heights can be higher, up to twice the Hsig and lower than the Hsig. Wave heights can be horrific in situations where wind/swell waves opposes tidal and ocean currents.
- Winds can be locally stronger in a lot of areas including Banks Strait and Tasman Island
- Have a great but safe race