Derwent Regency Festival, 27th-30th Nov 2026

Nipaluna/Hobart Town, Lutruwita/Van Diemen's Land. Draft programme - subject to minor changes.

Tickets: https://events.humanitix.com/derwentregencyfestival26

Details: folktas.org/regency

ACTIVITY	TIME	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION
Friday 27th November			
Georgian and Regency Evening at Narryna Heritage Museum	5-7:30pm. Arrive from 4:45pm.	Regency costume showings, exhibition of historic furniture, tours of Narryna house (1830s merchant house), refreshments in the garden, live music, Maypole dancing, walking cane self-defence display, meet and greet other festival goers	Narryna Heritage Museum, 103 Hampden Rd, Battery Point
Saturday 28th November			
Regency Dance Workshop	11:15 for 11:30am-1:30pm	With live period music and Dancing Master David Wanless. Learn or refresh the basics of Regency dancing for the evening ball, or just have fun with some easy Regency dances. No partner or dancing experience required. Note that you are welcome to attend the evening ball whether or not you have attended this workshop. BYO water bottle.	St James' Church Hall, 462 Elizabeth St (off Rupert Ave, enter behind church)
Intermediate Regency and Georgian Dances	2:20 for 2:30-4:30pm	With live period music and Dancing Master David Wanless. Have fun with a variety of lively dances, some for the evening ball and some just because they're exciting dances. No partner or dancing experience required but if you can make it to the earlier workshop first that would be good. Learn a Quadrille for an informal display at the ball. BYO water bottle.	St James' Church Hall, (as above)
Jane Austen Grand Regency Ball	7:15 for 7:30-11:30pm	Jane Austen Grand Regency Ball - dance or enjoy the spectacle. Divine period music including many Tasmanian pieces, by Van Diemen's Angels (harp, piano, fiddle and flute). Thrill to dances which Jane and her characters enjoyed and other joyful dances of the Regency era. Dancing Master David Wanless will lead you through an evening of fun and lively dances. Special guests, Historic Dance Delights from Canberra, will provide inspiring dance displays. No partner or dancing experience required, though attending the morning workshop would make it even more fun. Period attire encouraged, otherwise something dashing or elegant. BYO water bottle and supper to share.	St James' Church Hall (as above)
Sunday 29th November			
Runnymede Garden Party	10:30am-4pm	A day of Regency activities, fine food and tea in the fine garden of historic Runnymede. Your ticket includes delicious lunch and afternoon tea of period sweet and savoury food and hot and cold drinks, as well as Regency country dancing, live music, Maypole dancing, period games to play and a historic tour. There will also be a hat stall and an opportunity to make a bonnet. Period attire encouraged, otherwise something dashing or elegant. See detailed programme (TBC)	Runnymede House, 61 Bay Road, New Town, Hobart (not the town of Runnymede)
After Party	5pm	An informal party. Includes vegetarian dinner and refreshments, more music and lively dancing without much teaching. Tickets only available for weekend or Sunday ticket holders.	St James' Church Hall (as above)
Monday 30th November			
Music and History Cruise on the Lady Nelson	12:40 for 1-3pm and 3:10 for 3:30-5:30pm	An afternoon sail on the Derwent river on the magnificent tall ship, the Lady Nelson, with refreshments, live music, shanty singing and history. Regency, formal or nautical attire admired but not required. You will also have the opportunity to help haul on a line or two if you so wish. Allow at least half an hour extra if parking a carriage – it is hard to find a spot.	Elizabeth St Pier, Hobart waterfront
Monday Night Folk Dance - Historically themed contra dances	7:15 for 7:30pm	Our Monday night folk dance, this time historical/chestnut Contra Dances, most from the 19th Century. Live music and lots of fun.	St James' Church Hall, (as above)

All ages and identities welcome.

Session and discounted weekend tickets are available. Entry conditions, health, safety and inclusion: folktas.org/conditionshealthsafety

Dressing up in period attire or some approximation thereof will be admired and can be lots of fun. Think "dashing" or "elegant". Most people will dress up for most events. See https://folktas.org/but-darling-i-have-nothing-to-wear/ for easy ideas.

Information about finding the venues, and reducing our environmental impact in transport and at the events, is at folktas.org/venuesenv

We don't have any relationship with any hotels, but look for something between St James in New Town (the Saturday venue) and Narryna in Battery Point (the Friday venue). There are many buses going past St James to and from central Hobart, and Narryna is a walkable distance from the centre. There are many other lovely things to do in Hobart and surrounds. Some places to visit with some Regency relevance are Port Arthur, the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, the Shot Tower or simply wandering through Battery Point.

Cathy and David, volunteer organisers, 03 6273 2127, folkdancetas@gmail.com
Folk Federation of Tasmania Inc, folktas.org/regency, Facebook: Dance Folk Tasmania or FolkTas, Instagram: folktas

See folktas.org/hobartdances for our other events including
Regency Picnic (Jan), **Monday Night Folk Dances** (1st and 3rd Mondays, Feb-Dec), **End of Month Dances/Balls** (last Saturday, Mar-Nov)