

= Brooke Street Pier =

The Brooke Street Pier is a floating pontoon building at Sullivans Cove in the waterfront area of the city of Hobart , Tasmania , Australia . It was constructed in 2014 ? 15 at a cost of A \$ 13 million . It weighs 5 @, @ 300 tonnes (5 @, @ 216 long tons) and was Australia 's largest floating building upon completion . It is connected to the Hobart shore at Franklin Wharf , near the base of Brooke Street . Primarily a ferry terminal , the architect has described it as a " tourism transport hub " .

= History =

A pier at Brooke Street has existed since the 1820s . The earliest renovation of it on record occurred in 1879 , after which the dimensions were 147 ft x 50 ft (45 m x 15 m) . At the time , the pier was also known as Monarch Pier . Unlike the larger piers at the northern end of Franklin Wharf , Brooke Street Pier and the other piers in the vicinity did not have the capability for large volumes of cargo which would require overhead cranes .

In the 1960s , these piers were replaced with small freestanding jetties and were used for tourist cruise vessels . One of the larger companies providing these services is Navigators (originally Roche Bros) which has been operating from Brooke Street Pier since 1951 .

The number of ferry passenger in Hobart increased from 90 @, @ 000 in 2010 to over 300 @, @ 000 in 2014 . The old pier was unable to withstand this increase in traffic . One ferry operator suggested that the pier was " about to fall in the river " .

The Government of Tasmania twice called for expressions of interest from the private sector in redeveloping Brooke Street Pier . The first was in 2007 ? the successful respondent was a consortium named Hunter Developments , which included Federal Hotels , Navigators and Simon Currant . Their proposal included multiple wharves , including a hotel . The design was considered out of character for the Sullivans Cove area and in January 2009 Hunter Developments announced the cancellation of the hotel proposal .

The second attempt came in 2010 . A development application was lodged with the Hobart City Council in April 2012 . In June 2012 , the state and federal governments agreed to contribute A \$ 5 million to the redevelopment , and project commencement was announced in December 2013 .

= Construction =

Construction started in April 2014 at Incat , a ferry manufacturer based at Prince of Wales Bay . In November 2014 the partially completed structure , then weighing 4 @, @ 000 t (3 @, @ 937 long tons) , was towed 8 km (5 mi) down the river to be positioned at its final location . It is anchored to the sea @-@ bed by cables . The structure is 80 m (262 ft) long by 20 m (66 ft) wide and is four levels tall . One concrete basement level sits 4 m (13 ft) below the water 's surface and includes services such as kitchen facilities , storage , toilets and hydronic heating and cooling systems . The three above @-@ water levels are enclosed in a semi @-@ translucent polycarbonate cladding injected with nanogel , creating a diaphanous skin and keeping the structure as light as possible . This cladding contains LED lights , which gives the pier a glowing effect in the evening .

Environmental considerations taken into account when designing the building include the polycarbonate cladding , used for natural light and passive heating ; and a hydronic heating and cooling system using the constant temperature of the sea water below the pontoon . As a floating structure , it will not be affected by rises in the sea level . The gabled roof design is intended to fit in with the other buildings in Sullivans Cove including PW1 , Elizabeth Street Pier and the Mac02 Cruise Terminal ? which themselves are based on the historic use of the area as a freight port .

= Facilities =

The pier is primarily a ferry terminal ? key tenants are Navigators (operator of the MONA ferry) and Peppermint Bay Cruises . There are also a public space and a market area for other tourism

operators and suppliers of Tasmanian produce , such as seafood , dairy , wine and whisky . Outside of ferry operating hours , the terminal level can be used as an event space for up to 1 @, @ 200 people .

The largest permanent tenant is a restaurant , The Glass House , run by Islington Hotel 's David Meredith , and featuring Ikuei Arakane as head chef . It also hosts a cafe (" Adrift ") , and an espresso bar (" Bright Eyes " , run by the owners of Pilgrim Coffee) . Trade stallholders selling Tasmanian products include Valhalla Icecream , Huon Aquaculture , TasmanianMarket , Grandvewe Cheeses , Moorilla Estate and McHenry Distillery . The pier also offers free wifi for patrons visiting the terminal .