

Tasmania Climate Analysis

Introduction

Tasmania, located south of the Australian mainland, is renowned for its diverse natural landscapes and variable weather conditions. Understanding its climate characteristics is crucial for determining the best time to visit and planning outdoor activities. Compared to other parts of Australia, Tasmania generally exhibits a temperate oceanic climate, with relatively mild temperatures, but significant variations in rainfall and sunshine across different seasons.

This analysis aims to systematically explore the main climatic features of Tasmania, including temperature ranges, rainfall patterns, and seasonal variations in sunshine hours. Through a comparison of different seasons, the analysis will address questions such as the intensity of summer heat, the severity of winter cold, the wettest season, and the sunniest periods, and further provide practical guidance for tourists regarding the best time to travel, clothing recommendations, and suitable times for outdoor activities.

Data

Data Source

Bureau of Meteorology (BOM), Australia

Website: <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/>

Type: Government official meteorological data

Data Characteristics:

- **Range:** 1882-2025 (143 years of observations)
- **Data Type:** Monthly climate averages
- **Variables:** Temperature, rainfall, sunshine hours
- **Missing Values :** No missing values (because the data is monthly averages)

Note: This data represents long-term averages.

Season Classification:

Seasons are defined based on the Southern Hemisphere calendar, as Tasmania is located south of the equator. Accordingly:

- Summer: December to February (warmest period)
- Autumn: March to May
- Winter: June to August (coolest period)

- Spring: September to November

Note: These seasonal definitions are reversed relative to those in the Northern Hemisphere.

```
library(shiny)
library(ggplot2)
```

Warning: package 'ggplot2' was built under R version 4.3.3

```
library(plotly)
```

Warning: package 'plotly' was built under R version 4.3.3

Attaching package: 'plotly'

The following object is masked from 'package:ggplot2':

```
last_plot
```

The following object is masked from 'package:stats':

```
filter
```

The following object is masked from 'package:graphics':

```
layout
```

```
library(dplyr)
```

Attaching package: 'dplyr'

The following objects are masked from 'package:stats':

```
filter, lag
```

The following objects are masked from 'package:base':

```
intersect, setdiff, setequal, union
```

```
library(leaflet)
library(knitr)
raw_data <- read.csv("~/Desktop/MA615/Mapping/ mapping/Tasmania.csv")

max_temp_row <- raw_data[2, ]
min_temp_row <- raw_data[12, ]
rainfall_row <- raw_data[25, ]
rain_days_row <- raw_data[35, ]
sunshine_row <- raw_data[42, ]

max_temp <- as.numeric(max_temp_row[2:13])
```

```

min_temp <- as.numeric(min_temp_row[2:13])
rainfall <- as.numeric(rainfall_row[2:13])
rain_days <- as.numeric(rain_days_row[2:13])
sunshine <- as.numeric(sunshine_row[2:13])

climate_clean <- data.frame(
  month = c('Jan', 'Feb', 'Mar', 'Apr', 'May', 'Jun',
            'Jul', 'Aug', 'Sep', 'Oct', 'Nov', 'Dec'),
  max_temp = max_temp,
  min_temp = min_temp,
  rainfall = rainfall,
  sunshine = sunshine
)

climate_data <- data.frame(
  month = factor(c('Jan', 'Feb', 'Mar', 'Apr', 'May', 'Jun',
                  'Jul', 'Aug', 'Sep', 'Oct', 'Nov', 'Dec'),
                 levels = c('Jan', 'Feb', 'Mar', 'Apr', 'May', 'Jun',
                           'Jul', 'Aug', 'Sep', 'Oct', 'Nov', 'Dec')),
  month_num = 1:12,
  max_temp = c(21.8, 21.8, 20.3, 17.4, 14.6, 12.1, 11.8, 13.2, 15.2, 17.0, 18.8, 20.4),
  min_temp = c(12.1, 12.1, 11.0, 9.0, 7.0, 5.2, 4.6, 5.3, 6.5, 7.8, 9.4, 10.9),
  rainfall = c(46.5, 38.8, 44.1, 49.4, 47.4, 53.6, 51.9, 54.0, 53.0, 62.0, 54.0, 56.7),
  sunshine = c(8.0, 7.3, 6.4, 5.3, 4.2, 3.9, 4.4, 5.0, 5.9, 6.5, 6.9, 7.4)
)

climate_data <- climate_data %>%
  mutate(season = case_when(
    month_num %in% c(12, 1, 2) ~ "Summer",
    month_num %in% c(3, 4, 5) ~ "Autumn",
    month_num %in% c(6, 7, 8) ~ "Winter",
    month_num %in% c(9, 10, 11) ~ "Spring"
  ))

```

Map:

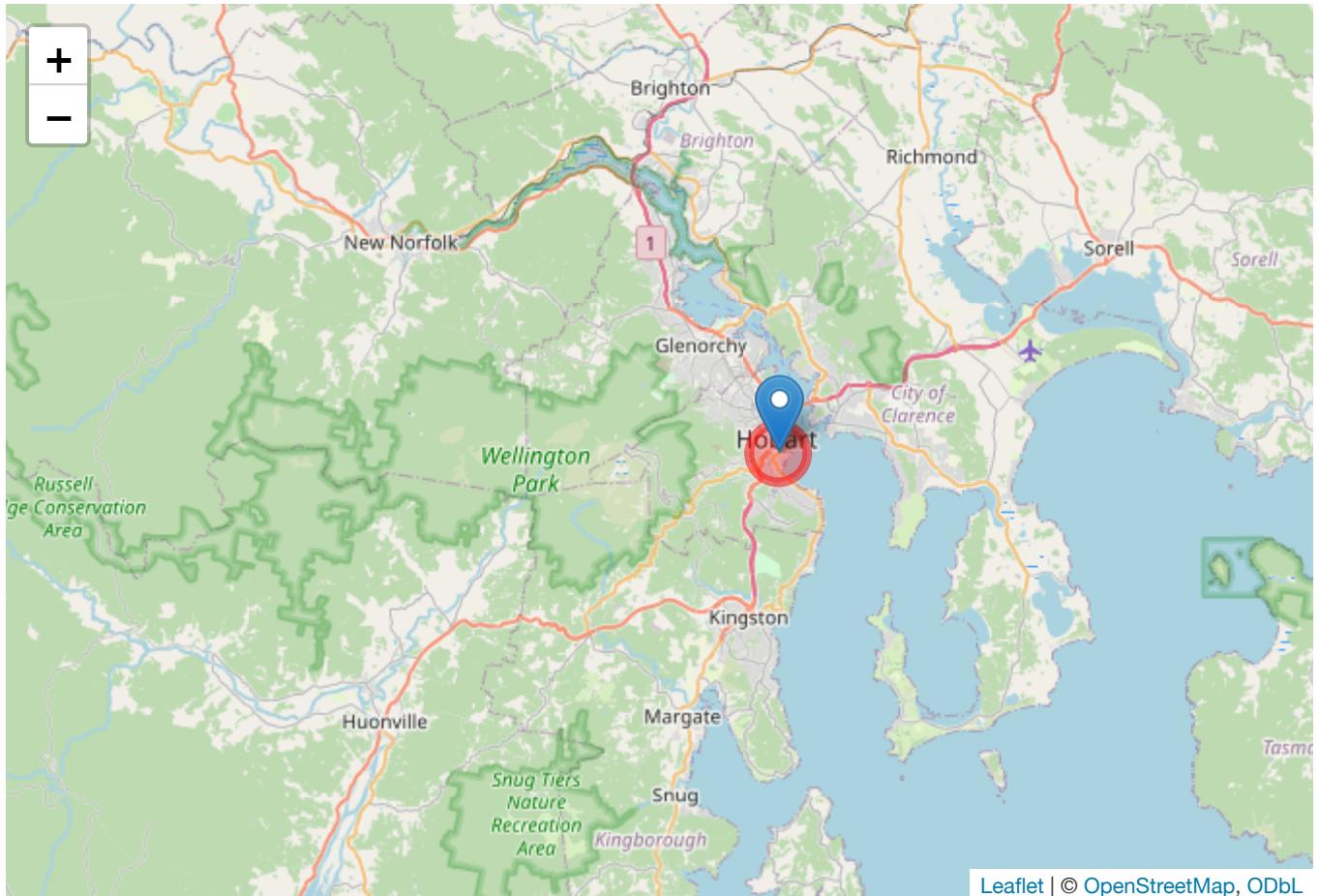
Map 1:

```

leaflet() %>%
  addTiles() %>%
  setView(lng = 147.33, lat = -42.89, zoom = 10) %>%
  addMarkers(
    lng = 147.33,
    lat = -42.89,
    popup = "<strong>Hobart Weather Station</strong><br>
              Station #094029<br>
              Hobart (Ellerslie Road)<br>
              Elevation: 51m<br>
              Coordinates: 42.89°S, 147.33°E"
  ) %>%

```

```
addCircleMarkers(
  lng = 147.33,
  lat = -42.89,
  radius = 15,
  color = "red",
  fillColor = "red",
  fillOpacity = 0.3,
  popup = "Weather Station Location"
)
```

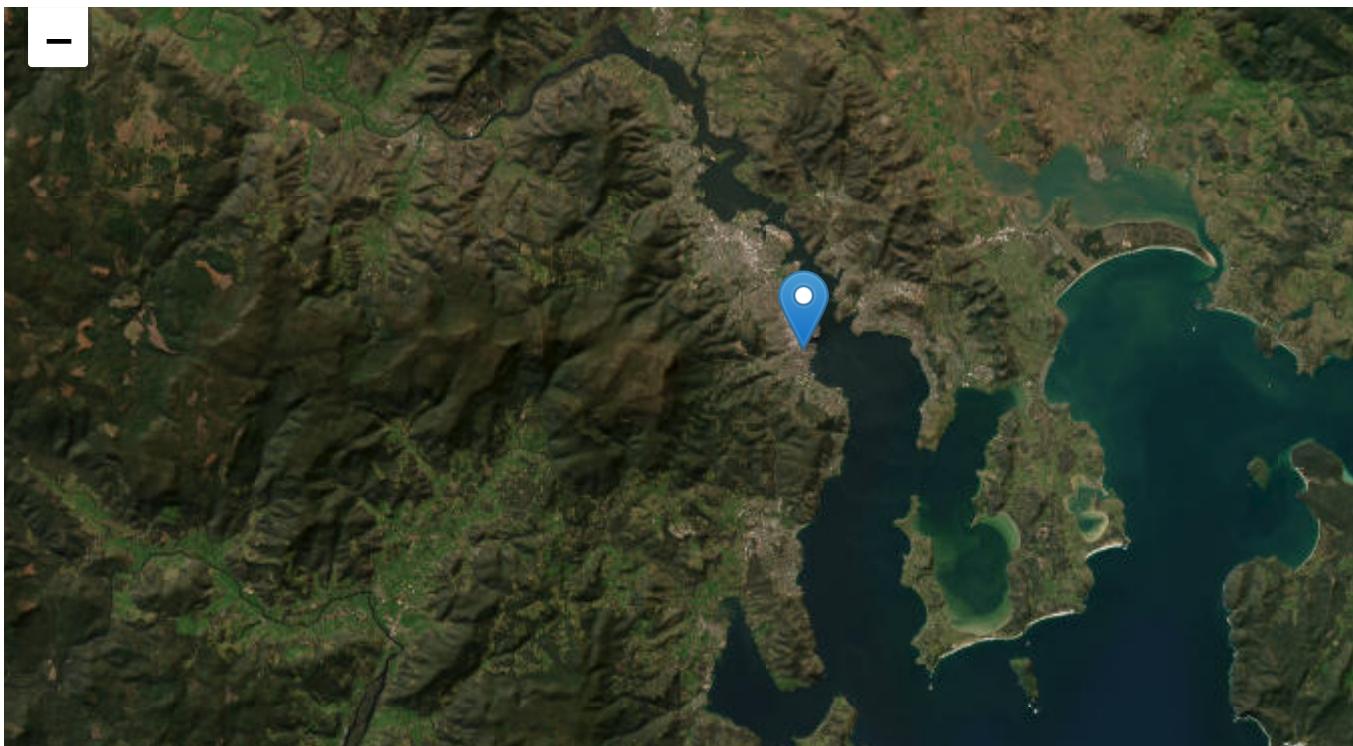


Street Map: Presents the weather station location using a detailed street basemap. Users may click on the marker to view station-specific information, including geographic coordinates, elevation, and station identification number.

Map 2:

```
leaflet() %>%
  addProviderTiles(providers$Esri.WorldImagery) %>%  #
  setView(lng = 147.33, lat = -42.89, zoom = 10) %>%
  addMarkers(
    lng = 147.33,
    lat = -42.89,
    popup = "Hobart Weather Station"
)
```





[Leaflet](#) | Tiles © Esri — Source: Esri, i-cubed, USDA, USGS, AEX, GeoEye, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, UPR-EGP, and the GIS User Community

Satellite Map: Displays high-resolution aerial imagery of the Hobart region, providing geographic and environmental context for the weather station location.

Climate Analysis

Temperature Patterns

Annual Temperature Statistics

```
annual_max_mean <- mean(climate_data$max_temp)
annual_min_mean <- mean(climate_data$min_temp)
annual_mean <- mean((climate_data$max_temp + climate_data$min_temp) / 2)

warmest_month <- climate_data$month[which.max(climate_data$max_temp)]
warmest_temp <- max(climate_data$max_temp)

coolest_month <- climate_data$month[which.min(climate_data$min_temp)]
coolest_temp <- min(climate_data$min_temp)

annual_range <- max(climate_data$max_temp) - min(climate_data$min_temp)

cat("Annual Average Maximum Temperature:", round(annual_max_mean, 1), "°C\n")
```

Annual Average Maximum Temperature: 17 °C

```
cat("Annual Average Minimum Temperature:", round(annual_min_mean, 1), "°C\n")
```

Annual Average Minimum Temperature: 8.4 °C

```
cat("Overall Annual Mean Temperature:", round(annual_mean, 1), "°C\n")
```

Overall Annual Mean Temperature: 12.7 °C

```
cat("Warmest Month:", warmest_month, "(", warmest_temp, "°C)\n")
```

Warmest Month: 1 (21.8 °C)

```
cat("Coolest Month:", coolest_month, "(", coolest_temp, "°C)\n")
```

Coolest Month: 7 (4.6 °C)

```
cat("Annual Temperature Range:", round(annual_range, 1), "°C\n")
```

Annual Temperature Range: 17.2 °C

Key Findings:

Overall, Tasmania has a moderate climate, with an annual mean temperature of approximately 12.7 °C (54.86°F). The temperature range is relatively small (around 17.2 °C/62.96°F) compared to continental regions, indicating limited seasonal variation. As a result, extreme temperatures are rare: summers are generally mild, while winters are cool rather than cold. This stable temperature pattern is largely influenced by the surrounding ocean, which moderates temperatures throughout the year.

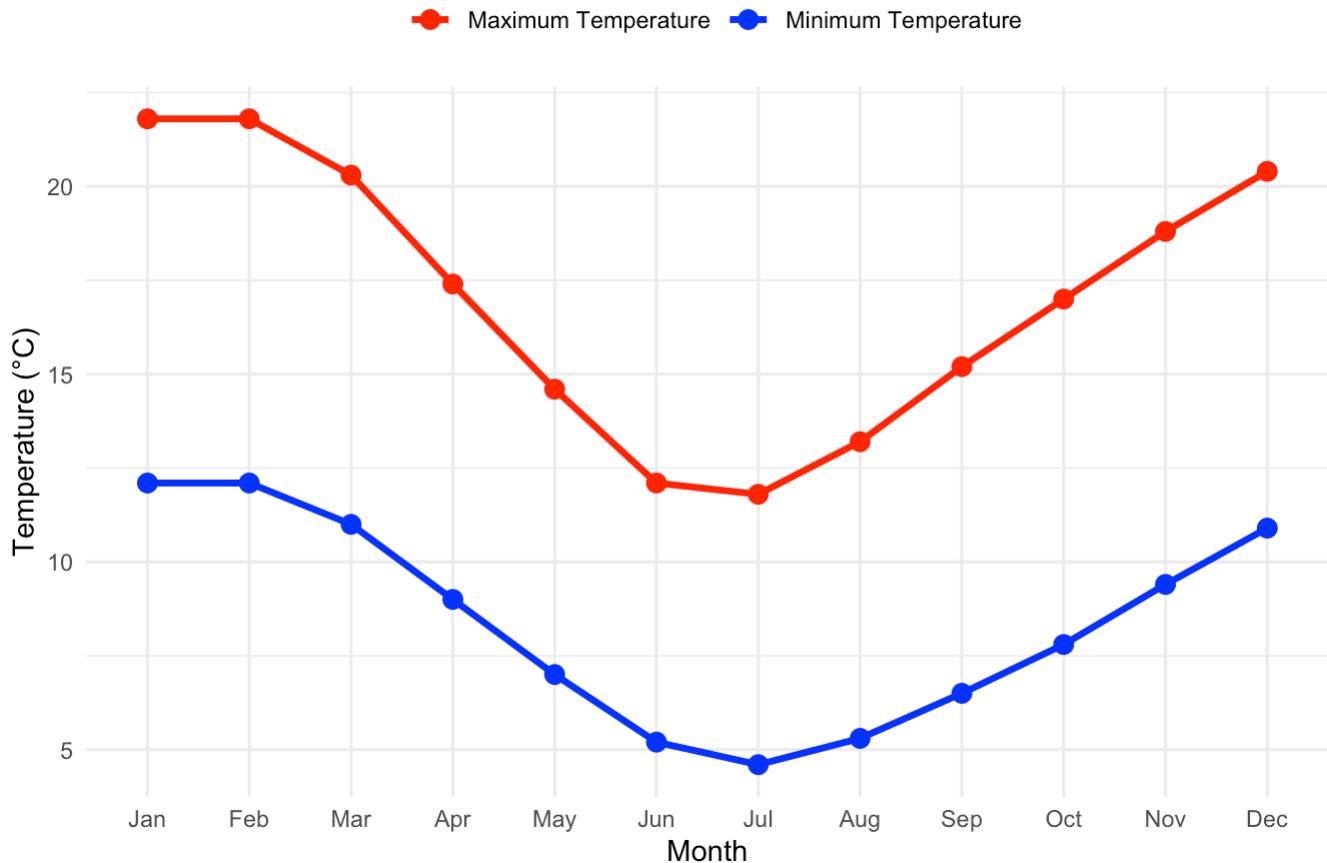
Monthly Temperature Visualization

```
ggplot(climate_data, aes(x = month)) +  
  geom_line(aes(y = max_temp, group = 1, color = "Maximum Temperature"), size = 1.2) +  
  geom_point(aes(y = max_temp, color = "Maximum Temperature"), size = 3) +  
  geom_line(aes(y = min_temp, group = 1, color = "Minimum Temperature"), size = 1.2) +  
  geom_point(aes(y = min_temp, color = "Minimum Temperature"), size = 3) +  
  scale_color_manual(values = c("Maximum Temperature" = "red",  
                               "Minimum Temperature" = "blue")) +  
  labs(  
    title = "Monthly Temperature Pattern in Hobart, Tasmania",  
    x = "Month",  
    y = "Temperature (°C)",  
    color = "")  
  ) +  
  theme_minimal() +  
  theme(legend.position = "top")
```

Warning: Using `size` aesthetic for lines was deprecated in ggplot2 3.4.0.

i Please use `linewidth` instead.

Monthly Temperature Pattern in Hobart, Tasmania



Key Findings:

The temperature graph reveals a typical temperate oceanic climate pattern, characterized by warm summers (January–February, with a maximum temperature of ~22°C/71.6°F) and cool winters (July, with a maximum temperature of ~12°C/53.6°F). The smooth seasonal transition and moderate temperature range (~10°C/50°F difference between maximum and minimum) throughout the year reflect the moderating influence of the surrounding ocean, with no extreme temperatures occurring in any season.

Seasonal Temperature Comparison

```
seasonal_temp <- climate_data %>%
  group_by(season) %>%
  summarise(
    avg_max = mean(max_temp),
    avg_min = mean(min_temp),
    .groups = 'drop'
  ) %>%
  mutate(season = factor(season, levels = c("Summer", "Autumn", "Winter", "Spring")))

kable(seasonal_temp,
      digits = 1,
      col.names = c("Season", "Avg Max (°C)", "Avg Min (°C)"),
      caption = "Seasonal Temperature Averages")
```

```
Warning: 'xfun::attr()' is deprecated.
Use 'xfun::attr2()' instead.
See help("Deprecated")
```

```
Warning: 'xfun::attr()' is deprecated.
Use 'xfun::attr2()' instead.
See help("Deprecated")
```

Seasonal Temperature Averages

Season	Avg Max (°C)	Avg Min (°C)
Autumn	17.4	9.0
Spring	17.0	7.9
Summer	21.3	11.7
Winter	12.4	5.0

Rainfall Patterns

Annual Rainfall Statistics

```
annual_total <- sum(climate_data$rainfall)
monthly_average <- mean(climate_data$rainfall)

wettest_month <- climate_data$month[which.max(climate_data$rainfall)]
max_rainfall <- max(climate_data$rainfall)

driest_month <- climate_data$month[which.min(climate_data$rainfall)]
min_rainfall <- min(climate_data$rainfall)

cat("Annual Total Rainfall:", round(annual_total, 1), "mm\n")
```

Annual Total Rainfall: 611.4 mm

```
cat("Monthly Average:", round(monthly_average, 1), "mm\n")
```

Monthly Average: 51 mm

```
cat("Wettest Month:", wettest_month, "(", round(max_rainfall, 1), "mm)\n")
```

Wettest Month: 10 (62 mm)

```
cat("Driest Month:", driest_month, "(", round(min_rainfall, 1), "mm)\n")
```

Driest Month: 2 (38.8 mm)

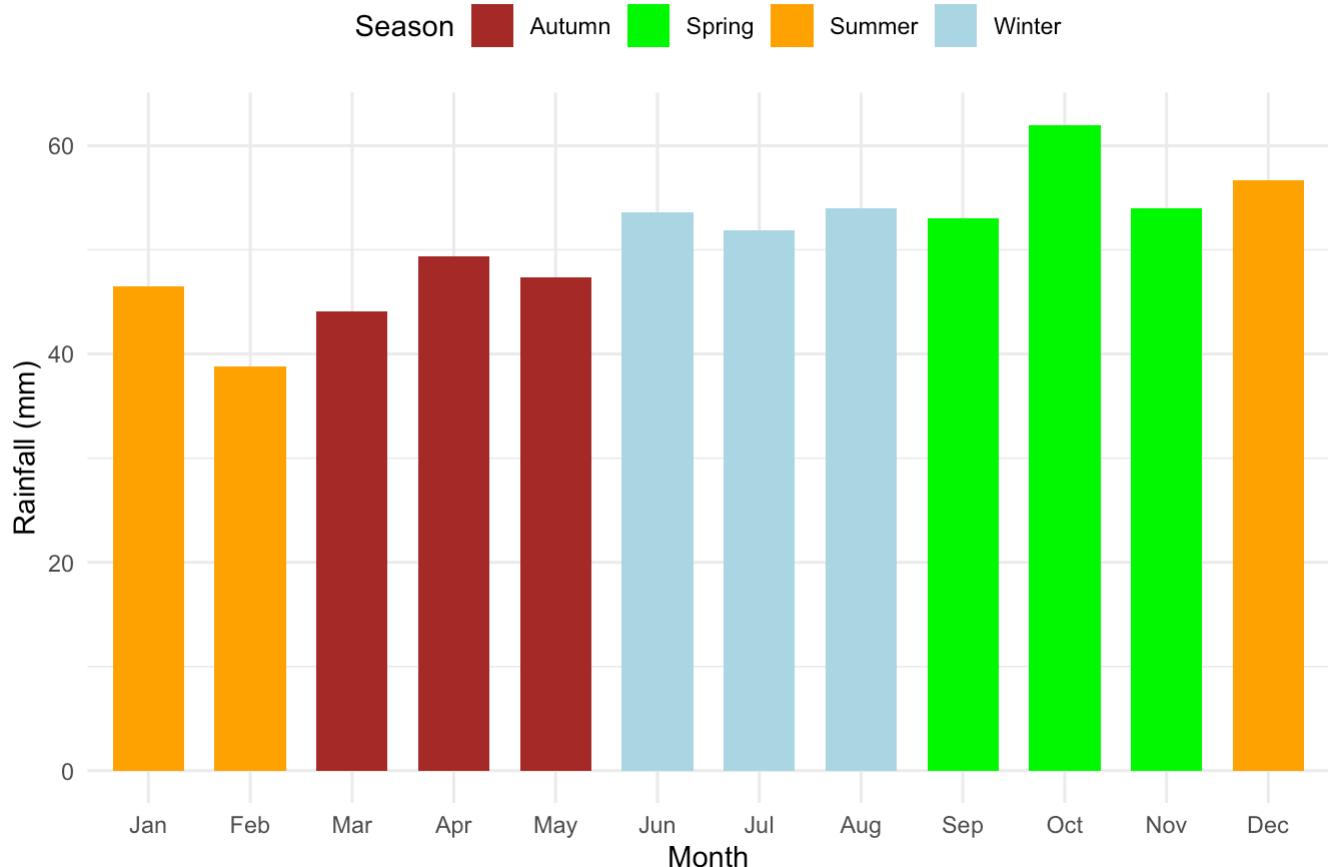
Key Findings:

Tasmania receives an average annual rainfall of approximately 611 millimeters, with rainfall distributed fairly evenly throughout the year. There is no distinct dry season in the region, as each month receives at least approximately 38 millimeters of rainfall. Rainfall is slightly higher during spring (September to November), but the differences between seasons are not significant. Overall, monthly rainfall variations are relatively small, indicating a consistently humid climate throughout the year.

Monthly Rainfall Visualization

```
ggplot(climate_data, aes(x = month, y = rainfall, fill = season)) +  
  # Add bars  
  geom_col(width = 0.7) +  
  # Set colors for each season  
  scale_fill_manual(values = c(  
    "Summer" = "orange",  
    "Autumn" = "brown",  
    "Winter" = "lightblue",  
    "Spring" = "green"  
) +  
  # Add labels  
  labs(  
    title = "Monthly Rainfall in Hobart, Tasmania",  
    x = "Month",  
    y = "Rainfall (mm)",  
    fill = "Season"  
) +  
  theme_minimal() +  
  theme(legend.position = "top")
```

Monthly Rainfall in Hobart, Tasmania



Key Findings:

The bar chart shows the average monthly rainfall in Hobart, Tasmania, highlighting a relatively consistent precipitation pattern throughout the year. Hobart has an oceanic climate and is one of Australia's driest capital cities. Overall, the city receives rain fairly evenly across all months, with annual rainfall averaging around 626 mm.

Rainfall is slightly higher during the winter and spring months, particularly from July to October, with August generally being the wettest month, averaging between 50–60 mm. In contrast, the summer months of January and February tend to be the driest.

Note: Different colors in this bar chart represent different seasons. (Summer: Orange, Autumn: Dark Red, Winter: Light Blue, Spring: Green)

Seasonal Rainfall Comparison

```
seasonal_rain <- climate_data %>%
  group_by(season) %>%
  summarise(
    total_rainfall = sum(rainfall),
    avg_monthly = mean(rainfall),
    .groups = 'drop'
  ) %>%
  mutate(season = factor(season, levels = c("Summer", "Autumn", "Winter", "Spring")))
  kable(seasonal_rain,
```

```
digits = 1,
col.names = c("Season", "Total (mm)", "Monthly Avg (mm)"),
caption = "Seasonal Rainfall Totals")
```

Warning: 'xfun:::attr()' is deprecated.
Use 'xfun:::attr2()' instead.
See help("Deprecated")

Warning: 'xfun:::attr()' is deprecated.
Use 'xfun:::attr2()' instead.
See help("Deprecated")

Seasonal Rainfall Totals

Season	Total (mm)	Monthly Avg (mm)
Autumn	140.9	47.0
Spring	169.0	56.3
Summer	142.0	47.3
Winter	159.5	53.2

Sunshine Patterns

Annual Sunshine Statistics

```
annual_avg_sunshine <- mean(climate_data$sunshine)

max_sun_month <- climate_data$month[which.max(climate_data$sunshine)]
max_sunshine <- max(climate_data$sunshine)

min_sun_month <- climate_data$month[which.min(climate_data$sunshine)]
min_sunshine <- min(climate_data$sunshine)

sunshine_range <- max_sunshine - min_sunshine

cat("Annual Average Sunshine:", round(annual_avg_sunshine, 1), "hours/day\n")
```

Annual Average Sunshine: 5.9 hours/day

```
cat("Maximum:", max_sun_month, "(", round(max_sunshine, 1), "hours/day)\n")
```

Maximum: 1 (8 hours/day)

```
cat("Minimum:", min_sun_month, "(", round(min_sunshine, 1), "hours/day)\n")
```

Minimum: 6 (3.9 hours/day)

```
cat("Range:", round(sunshine_range, 1), "hours/day\n")
```

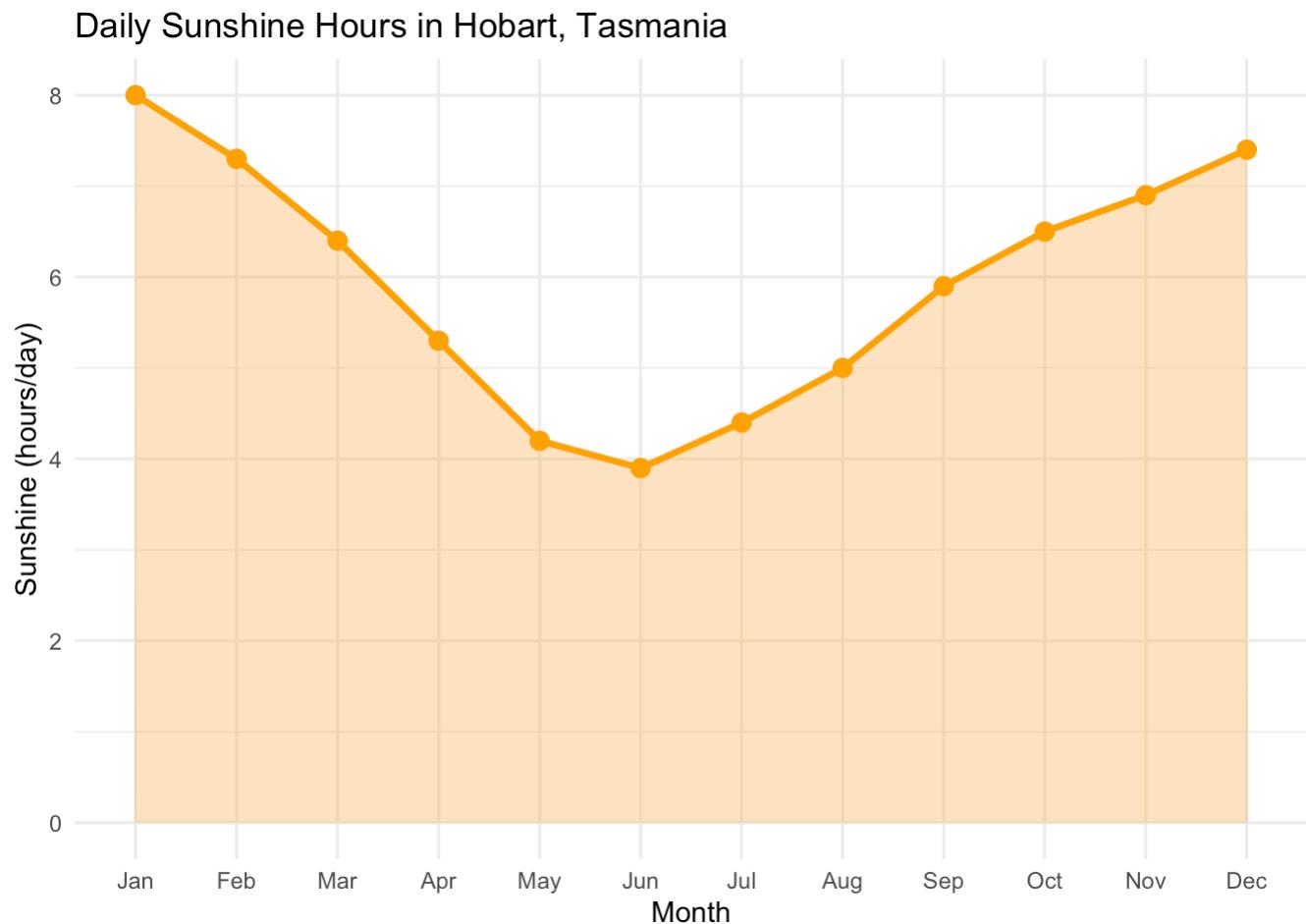
Range: 4.1 hours/day

Key Findings:

On average, Tasmania receives about 5.9 hours of sunshine per day, but there is a strong seasonal variation. Summer days are much longer, with roughly twice as much sunshine as in winter, providing ideal conditions for outdoor activities. In contrast, winter has limited daylight hours, which may restrict time for outdoor pursuits.

Sunshine Visualization

```
ggplot(climate_data, aes(x = month, y = sunshine, group = 1)) +
  geom_area(fill = "orange", alpha = 0.3) +
  geom_line(color = "orange", size = 1.2) +
  geom_point(color = "orange", size = 3) +
  labs(
    title = "Daily Sunshine Hours in Hobart, Tasmania",
    x = "Month",
    y = "Sunshine (hours/day)"
  ) +
  theme_minimal()
```



Key Findings:

The chart shows the average daily sunshine hours in Hobart, Tasmania throughout the year, exhibiting typical Southern Hemisphere seasonal variations. Sunshine hours are highest during the

summer months (December to February), averaging approximately 8 to 8.5 hours in January, reflecting the longer daylight hours and more direct sunlight during the Southern Hemisphere summer solstice. As autumn (March to May) arrives, sunshine gradually decreases, reaching its lowest point in winter (June to July), with only about 4 to 4.5 hours of sunshine in June, corresponding to the shortest days of the year. Overall, the sunshine variation shows a stable annual cycle, primarily influenced by the changes in day length due to latitude, while local weather and cloud cover also have some impact on the actual sunshine duration.

Conclusion:

Tasmania has a temperate oceanic climate, characterized by moderate temperatures, consistent year-round rainfall, and clear seasonal patterns in sunshine. Summers are mild and sunny, with temperatures ranging from 20 to 22°C and long daylight hours, while winters are cool but not severely cold, with limited sunshine. Rainfall is evenly distributed throughout the year, and there are no extreme weather events, making Tasmania accessible year-round. Overall, the climate is stable and pleasant, with the ocean playing a key role in moderating temperatures.

For visitors, the best time to travel is during the summer months of December to February, when temperatures are warmest, sunshine is longest, and outdoor activities can be comfortably enjoyed. Spring (September to November) offers blooming wildflowers but slightly higher rainfall, while autumn (March to May) provides milder weather and fewer crowds. Winter (June to August) is cooler and less sunny, suitable for those interested in winter-specific activities. Travelers should prepare light, breathable clothing for summer, layering options for spring and autumn, and warmer attire for winter. The long summer days are ideal for sightseeing, hiking, and other outdoor activities, whereas winter activities may need to be planned around shorter daylight hours and cooler conditions.