



Grim news is all good

Tired of the choking smog of peak hour traffic? Take a breather in Tasmania, home to the world's cleanest air – and that's official.

Tasmanian air's clean bill of health has been confirmed by the CSIRO and Bureau of Meteorology's high-tech baseline air pollution station at Cape Grim on the island's north-west tip.

The rugged and isolated cape was named by seafaring explorers Bass and Flinders during their

instruments are apparently so sensitive they can detect exhaust from a fishing boat 20km offshore.

Experts say the clean bill of health is mainly due to Tasmania's position in the Southern Ocean, its low-key development and its distance from other land masses.

"The further south in the world you travel the cleaner the air generally becomes," says Cape Grim's officer in charge, Dr Neil Tindale.