



Study in Australia



a guide for
International
Students

Study in Australia!

Australia is a modern, fascinating country with a high standard of living and an excellent education system. Students benefit not only from the academic integrity of Australia's schools and universities – they are also able to travel and experience this great and diverse country, from the Red Deserts and Tropics in the north to the sunny beaches of the Gold Coast. Australia is well-known for its unique native wild life, beautiful beaches, friendly people, and classic barbecues, or "barbies." Come to Australia to experience the best of this incredible country – everything you've already heard of and so much more!

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1. About Australia

- 1.1 About Australia
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1.1 About Australia

Australia is a beautiful country located in the Southern Hemisphere and makes up the entire Australian continent. As the 6th largest country in area, Australia stretches about 7.6 million square kilometers from Sydney on the east coast to Perth on the west.

The land of Australia was originally inhabited about 40,000 years ago by indigenous peoples. Europeans arrived much later, first in the 1600s and then more permanently in the 1700 and 1800s. The Commonwealth of Australia was formed in 1901 as a constitutional monarchy whose population has since expanded greatly to its current number of 22.7 million people. Once a penal colony established to dispose of society's misfits, Australia is now a very popular place both to visit and live.

Today Australia is a thriving, exciting country with a successful economy and healthy standard of living. With this comes a high academic standard, which is maintained from the beginning years through to highest levels of education at the 38 universities and beyond.



1.2 Australia in Short Facts & Figures



Capital: Canberra
Official Language: English
Government: Constitutional monarchy
Area: 7,682,300 sq km (world's 6th largest country)
Population: 22.7 million
Currency: Australian dollar
Calling Code: +61



1.3 In this Study in Australia Guide

Over 280,000 international students from 195 countries study in Australia every year. Australia is in fact an international leader in support services for international students. And there are many more reasons to pursue an education in this incredible country. Students who decide to study in Australia quickly come to appreciate the broad spectrum of educational opportunities offered at schools in Australia. Read more about the different types of higher educational institutes available and a few practical details to consider during preparations for studying in Australia.

2. Education in Australia

- 2.1 Education System in Australia*
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- 2.5 Entry Requirements for Schools in Australia*

2.1 Education System in Australia

An Australian education provides both an international education and the opportunity to form a global network. Focus is placed on practical learning in order to gain a thorough understanding of topics. Australian educational institutions have nurtured the needs of international students for many years; most have departments with competent staff whose job it is to help international students in Australia.

The week before the start of the semester, higher education schools in Australia usually arrange an Orientation Week to help international students get to know the campus and student life in Australia. Different student organizations provide information about their activities and recruit new members. Orientation Week also includes social activities – the perfect opportunity to make new friends.

The Australian education system has three main sectors of higher education: universities, vocational institutions, and English language institutions. Continue reading for more information on these three types of education.



2.2 Australian Universities



Australian universities offer many different education courses in various fields for both undergraduate and postgraduate degree programs. Classes are a combination of lectures and tutorials; lectures are given to large groups of students, perhaps a few hundred, and then discussed in small groups within tutorials.

Universities in Australia are linked to other educational institutions in over 100 countries, creating a true international dynamic. Grades in Australia are determined by a combination of exams, assignments, attendance, and class participation.

The most common type of education degree at universities in Australia is a bachelors degree. Upon completion of a bachelors degree, students may choose to specialize in research training or professional development through masters or doctoral degrees. The research of postgraduate students in Australia is at the forefront of development and application of new technologies. Other types of education degrees in Australia are Graduate Certificates, Graduate Diplomas and Associate Degrees.

2.3 Vocational Training in Australia

Within Australia's vocational and technical education (VET) facilities, students gain valuable, career-focused skills that are sought by employers. Vocational and technical education institutions offer practical courses in both real and simulated work environments in subjects such as business, tourism, marketing, computing, and hospitality.

Vocational training is offered by Technical and Further Education (TAFE) Institutes, private colleges, and many other schools and universities. The educational curriculum of this training is developed by the government and industry together, and combines lectures and tutorials in small classes.

Grades are determined through assignments, exams, attendance, and class participation.

Upon completion of vocational training in Australia, students are awarded a Certificate or Diploma. Students who complete a vocational education may choose to either enroll in a university education program or search for a job.

2.4 English Language Courses in Australia

Quality English language courses in Australia are available to students of any level, year-round, and range in duration from 4 to 48 weeks. The English language skills which students gain in their schooling are put to use in everyday life outside of the classroom through English conversation. There are 5 main types of English language courses taught in Australia:

- General English – develop communication skills, specifically speaking and listening
- English for Academic Purposes – preparation for study at an English speaking institute of higher education
- English for Specific Purposes – English for specific courses such as Business or Tourism
- Secondary School Preparation – practical English for entry into secondary school
- Examination Preparation – focus on knowledge of English for proficiency examinations such as the IELTS or TOEFL

2.5 Entry Requirements for Schools in Australia



Entry requirements for schools in Australia vary, depending on the educational institution and program. Considerations include the level and content of study already completed, whether in Australia or in another country.

Minimum academic requirements in Australia almost always include a sufficient level of English language proficiency. English language skills are required in order to receive a student visa, and the only test accepted by the Australian Department of Immigration and Citizenship is the IELTS. Students must not only consider the Australian government's entry requirements for a student visa, but also the specific educational institution's requirements for enrollment.



Students who do not meet a school's entry requirements may enroll in either a secondary school or a Foundation Studies education course to prepare for further study in Australia. A number of English language courses are also offered with starting dates throughout the year. Consult the admissions office of the educational institution at which you would like to study for more details.

3. Practicalities when you Study in Australia

- 3.1 Visa & Residence Permit for Australia
- 3.2 Student Housing in Australia
- 3.3 Cost of Study in Australia

3.1 Visa & Residence Permit for Australia

In order to study in Australia, international students are required to obtain a student visa. The specific process of acquiring this visa depends on the student's country of origin, but there are also several general requirements.

International students must be enrolled in a full-time education course which is accredited by the Australian government. All students must also prove that they have health insurance coverage. It may be necessary not only to confirm enrollment, but also to pay tuition fees before receiving a student visa. Other visa conditions may apply for students upon entering Australia.

A successful student visa application will be awarded with a Multiple Entry Visa, allowing students to travel to and from Australia within the period for which the visa has been granted (depending on the duration of the education course). For more specific information on the process of attaining a student visa to Australia, refer to your home country's Australian Embassy.

International students in Australia may obtain permission to work up to 20 hours per week while studying and full-time during vacation periods. This permission is gained through the Australian Embassy and requires an application and fee of AUD 55.

3.2 Student Housing in Australia



International students have a variety of high-quality accommodation options when it comes to finding a place to live throughout their education in Australia. Most universities and colleges in Australia can offer on-campus student housing, usually prioritizing first-year international students. There is also the option to either rent an apartment or a room in a residence hall with shared kitchen facilities.



A homestay with an Australian family can be another good accommodation option for students to become integrated into the local community right away and have a true Australian experience. Students may also live in shared housing or in a hostel. Students who are not interested in living on-campus can often find off-campus housing opportunities on local noticeboards or in newspapers. Off-campus housing does not always include furniture and often requires payment of a security bond equal to one month's rent.

Affordable housing can be difficult to find in Australia, so it is best to contact your school about accommodation options as soon as you know you've been accepted. It is highly recommended for students to arrange temporary accommodation for a few nights before they arrive in Australia. This allows them some time to explore various accommodation options and find what best suits them.

3.3 Cost of Study in Australia

Education is an investment of a lifetime – and in Australia, that investment comes at a reasonable price. Costs to study in Australia vary greatly. However, in general, students earning a bachelors degree pay between AUD 9,000 and 14,000 each year, while study toward a masters degree can range from AUD 11,000 to 36,000 per year.

Living costs in Australia depend on a variety of factors as well, such as location and lifestyle. According to Study in Australia, international students spend an average of AUD 360 per week. This amount includes accommodation, transport, food, clothing, entertainment, and other necessities.

International students in Australia may be eligible for scholarships at certain schools and universities. Most of these, however, are designated for postgraduate studies. Scholarships may be available through education institutions, the Australian government, and other organisations.

4 City/ State Guides in Australia

4.1 City Guide: Sydney

4.2 City Guide: Melbourne

4.3 City Guide: Perth

4.4 City Guide: Brisbane

4.5 State Guide: Queensland

4.1 City Guide: Sydney

Sydney, Australia – also known as the Harbour City – truly offers something for everyone: the latest fashion, lively nightlife, surfing and swimming along a stunning coastline, and historic landmarks from the European settlement of Australia. Sydney is not the Australian capital, but it is the country's largest, oldest and most cosmopolitan city, and has one of the highest standards of living in the world.

The city of Sydney is located on Australia's southeast coast on the Tasman Sea. It is the site of Britain's first colony – a penal colony – in Australia by Arthur Phillip in 1788, and has grown tremendously since then into one of the busiest commercial hubs in the Asia-Pacific region.



The central metropolitan area of Sydney can be split into the City Centre, the Rocks, Darling Harbour, City South, City East and City West. The City Centre is located by Sydney Harbour, and is home to many of Sydney's tourist attractions such as the Opera House and Sydney Tower. Sydney's finance and government center can also be found here.



A number of Sydney's oldest buildings can be found in the historic Rocks district. This area includes the first colonial village of Sydney as well as the Sydney Harbour Bridge, one of the city's most well-known landmarks. In contrast to the classic architecture of the Rocks, Darling Harbour offers visitors a modern entertainment and leisure center. With the National Maritime Museum, an aquarium, nightclubs, popular restaurants by the water, Darling Harbour is a popular area for tourists visiting Sydney.

City South is the area just south of Sydney's city centre, and includes Chinatown, Capitol Square, and the Haymarket. Sydney South is popular for its discount shopping, good

value restaurants, and budget accommodation.

Sydney's City East offers a great nightlife and boutique shopping along Oxford Street. Further east in the suburbs are the infamous Bondi Beach, Watsons Bay, and Nielsen Park. City West lies just west of Darling Harbour and is famous for its fish markets. The Powerhouse Museum with historic popular culture such as fashion, arts and music together with a sci-tech theme can also be found in City West. Further west of Sydney are the foothills of the Blue Mountains where visitors can find Parramatta, Australia's 2nd oldest European settlement, and the base for the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.

4.2 City Guide: Melbourne

With a population of about 4.1 million people, Melbourne is Australia's 2nd largest city and the capital of Australia's 2nd smallest state, Victoria. Melbourne is located on the south-east coast of Australia on the Yarra River around Port Phillip Bay. This area was once the traditional land of the indigenous Kulin Nation, but in 1835 was founded by Europeans as Melbourne and has only grown since.

The city of Melbourne has had several waves of migration, the first in the 1830s as Europeans discovered and settled the area. Melbourne became the capital of Victoria in 1851. It was during this decade that another wave of immigration took place in the Victoria Gold Rush. People from all over the world flocked to Melbourne in hopes of striking rich – and as a result, the city itself became one of the world's largest and wealthiest cities.

Another influx of people arrived in Melbourne as post-WWII refugees sought new lives. And again, in the post 1970s, many Cambodians and Vietnamese flocked to Melbourne. It

is no wonder Melbourne is one of the world's most culturally diverse communities today with residents from more than 140 countries.

Melbourne is a sophisticated city, full of galleries, bars, restaurants, cafes, and boutiques. The place has a vibrant energy, and has been described as possessing a feeling of openness and natural light. Melbourne has repeatedly been ranked as one of the most livable cities not only in Australia, but in the world based on education, culture, healthcare, environment, and sustainability. And Melburians do indeed prioritize sustainability – in urban design, reduced water consumption, and a goal for zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2020. Melbourne also has the largest tram network in the world, creating an efficient transportation system for easy travel.

Four distinct seasons divide the year in Melbourne, with hot summers and cool winters. Although Melbourne is known for frequent rain, it actually gets less rain than Brisbane or Sydney. Melburians have a passion for good food and drink, so there are plenty of delicious cuisines available in Melbourne, no matter what the season. Melbourne as a city offers so much to residents and visitors alike – but there is plenty more to do outside the city as well. Within easy access to Melbourne are some of Australia's most gorgeous beaches along a sweeping coastline, as well as national parks and forests, lakes, mountains, and wineries.



4.3 City Guide: Perth

As Australia's sunniest capital and the capital of Western Australia, Perth is a bustling metropolis within a beautiful setting on the west coast of Australia. Nearly 1.7 million people enjoy living in Perth, which has been named the most isolated major city in the world. However, this does not mean that there is not plenty of activity in this so-called "City of Light," a nickname earned when Perthonians lit up their houses and street lights as American astronaut John Glenn passed overhead in orbit in 1962 and again in 1998.

Perth was founded in 1829 by Captain Stirling; its building was predominately completed by convicts. The Aboriginals who inhabited the area believed that the Swan River was created by a mythical snake which weaved its way to the ocean. Today Perth's Mediterranean climate allows people to take advantage of all the Swan River has to offer – water-skiing, swimming, sailing, kayaking, parasailing, river cruising.

Attractions in Perth include the Swan Bells Tower, Art Gallery of WA, and the Perth Mint. King Street, Murray Street, and Hay Street are popular shopping destinations, while lively nightlife can be found in Northbridge, Mount Lawley, and Leederville. A wide range of cafes and restaurants along the riverside offer excellent cuisine in Perth. Or escape city life in Kings Park botanical gardens with their sprawling wilderness and gorgeous views of Perth city center. The gorgeous beaches of Perth offer a chance to truly relax, and include Cottesloe, Scarborough, and Mindarie Keys.

Music is very much alive in Perth, and many national and international musicians pass through the city. Bands that come from Perth include Empire of the Sun and Eskimo Joe. There is also an opportunity to see sporting events in Perth, especially cricket, rugby, and Aussie Rules. Athletes can participate in events such as the City of Perth Triathlon, City to Surf fun run, Great Bike Ride, and many more.

Perth's downtown has become the business and administra-



tion center for the state of Western Australia and its many natural resources. As for local natural resources, an abundance of fresh seafood can be found in Perth's port city, Fremantle, or Freo. Freo is located just 20 kilometers west of Perth where the Swan River meets the Indian Ocean, and has become a lively artistic community with historical character and plenty of alfresco cafes and restaurants.

Another popular attraction near Perth is Swan Valley, just 20 minutes to the northeast. Swan Valley is one of Western Australia's oldest wine regions with more than 40 vineyards serving wines that aren't produced anywhere else in the world. There are also several micro-breweries for beer drinkers to enjoy.

4.4 City Guide: Brisbane

The city of Brisbane is fresh, modern, and full of exciting activity. Not long ago, Brisbane – or Brissie as the locals say – was thought of as a sleepy country town. Today, however, Brisbane is one of the most attractive cities in Australia, and since 1990 has had the highest percentage rate of population increase of all the state capital cities in the country. It is estimated that about 1,000 people move to Brisbane each *week*. So what's all the hype about Brisbane?



Brisbane is the capital of the state of Queensland and the 3rd largest city in Australia. It is located about 25 kilometers from Australia's central east coast inside a bend of the Brisbane River. The original settlement – Redcliffe – was established in 1824 as a penal colony at Moreton Bay where the Brisbane River meets the Coral Sea. But hostile Aboriginals and a lack of good drinking water forced the colony to move up the river to where Brisbane now stands and extends over the Brisbane River valley floodplain between the bay and the Great Dividing Range.

Brisbane was named after the Brisbane River which was named after Sir Thomas Brisbane, Governor of New South Wales in the 1820s. Today, however, Brisbane is the capital of the state of Queensland, which separated from New South Wales in 1859. Queensland is the 2nd largest and 3rd most populated state in Australia.

In addition to its rapidly growing population of 2 million and counting, Brisbane has one of the fastest growing economies in Australia. Key industry sectors are tourism, manufacturing, communication and information technology, life sciences, and logistics.

A number of attractions draw visitors to Brisbane every year. Moreton Island is one of the world's largest sand islands and perfect for surfing, sailing, and snorkelling. North Stradbroke Island offers a beautiful oasis to escape city life. Brisbane's South Bank Parklands include striking architecture and design and an impressive man-made lagoon. The 20-million-year-old Kangaroo Point cliffs offer incredible views, whether gazing out from the top, climbing up, or abseiling down.

Australia's premier live music scene can be found at The Valley in Brisbane. Or get up close and personal with koalas at a local koala sanctuary. Premier shopping at the Queen Street Mall offers a choice of over 700 shops. Or retreat to the rustic charm and diverse landscape of the Scenic Rim and Country Valley regions to the west.

Brisbane is unique in its cosmopolitan yet laid-back, down-to-earth environment close with so much to do in the city with easy access to an adventure wonderland of beaches, mountains, and bays to enjoy the outdoors.

4.5 State Guide: Queensland

As Australia's 3rd largest state by population and 2nd largest state in area, Queensland is a diverse and exciting landscape full of opportunity and discovery. Queensland's coastal cities, situated along Australia's east coast on the Pacific Ocean, provide a gateway to the incredible Great Barrier Reef and other coral reefs. To the west, lies the splendor of the outback with its unique wildlife and unusual terrain. And between these two natural splendors lies the fascinating Tropical North Queensland Rainforest, which covers about 900,000 square hectares and is the oldest continually surviving rainforest on earth.

The relaxed, outdoor lifestyle of Queensland attracts many people. And with such beautiful weather, it is possible to be outside most of the year. The average temperature in Queensland in the summer is 25°C and in the winter is 15°C. Queensland gets more sunshine than most states in Australia, earning it the nickname the Sunshine State.

Queensland was first populated about 40,000 years ago by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The Torres Strait Islands are 100 islands between New Guinea and Australia which were made a part of Australia in 1879. Dutch explorers, however, arrived in Queensland about 200 years earlier in the 1600s. A penal colony was set up at Moreton Bay before moving inland to what is now the city of Brisbane.

Queensland was actually a part of the state of New South Wales until 1859 when it declared its independence and became its own state. In order to attract people to the newly established Queensland, a land-order system was instated – and succeeded, drawing 25,000 people to Queensland in just 3 years. A gold rush a few years later in one of Queensland's blooming towns, Rockhampton, also attracted a wave of people.

Queensland became a part of the Commonwealth of Australia in 1901, and since then has developed one of the strongest economies in Australia. Mining, agriculture, and tourism are the top industries in Queensland.

Today roughly 4.5 million people call Queensland home. Popular destinations in Queensland are:

- Brisbane – the state capital; a modern, fresh cosmopolitan city with a lively music scene and plenty of exciting outdoors activity
- Sunshine Coast – an hour north of Brisbane, known for its over 100 kilometers of pristine beaches, gorgeous national parks, and sunny days
- Cairns – in the heart of Tropical North Queensland, a gateway to the rainforests and the Great Barrier Reef
- Gold Coast – tropical rainforests, lively city life, several theme parks, and host to a number of local and international music festivals

Queensland welcomes international students to study at one of its more than 300 public and private institutions that provide education options for foreigners. Explore the beauty of Queensland's outback, coral reefs, and beaches while earning a globally-recognized education degree.



4. About *Educations.com*



Educations.com's vision is to help all students around the world to find their education by connecting schools and students worldwide. Our global internet website www.educations.com is devoted exclusively to higher education, where students worldwide can browse through a large range of courses and programmes offered by educational institutions globally. Educations.com's main objective is to provide those seeking advice regarding higher education abroad with the information they require in an accessible, fast and straightforward way.

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