

## The *Who*, *What*, *Where* and *When* of living in AUSTRALIA.

G'day mate and welcome to Australia!

This brochure will take you through everything  
you need to know when starting a life

DOWN UNDER.



From all the team here at 'No Borders' we  
wish you the very best,  
Thank you, good luck and we hope  
to stay in touch.

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### ➤ Getting a Health Care card.

If you aren't an Australian or New Zealand citizen,  
and don't have permanent residency in Australia, you  
may be liable for the full costs of any medical  
treatment you need while you are here.

Australia has reciprocal healthcare agreements with  
several countries which provide visitors from those  
countries with access to free emergency medical care  
and subsidized medicines.

### Enrolling with Medicare

If you have been granted permanent residency in  
Australia you need to enroll with Medicare after you  
arrive here.

You need to take your passport and travel documents  
to a local Medicare office and, if all the enrolment  
requirements are met, you will be given a Medicare  
number and your Medicare card will be posted to you  
about three weeks later.

### Cost of treatment

Depending on what doctor you see you may have to  
pay for some of the cost of your treatment. Some  
General Practitioners charge more than the Medicare  
scheduled fee and you have to pay the difference.  
Some doctors bulk bill and you don't have to pay  
anything, but others charge you and you have to  
claim the cost back from Medicare.

For further info. Contact:

[www.centrelink.gov.au/internet/internet.nsf/payments/ocn\\_cards\\_hcc.htm](http://www.centrelink.gov.au/internet/internet.nsf/payments/onc_cards_hcc.htm)

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### ➤ Home Sweet Home.

#### What should I look for in a rental property?

If you are thinking about renting a house in Australia  
here are some questions that you might want to  
consider:

- How close will you need to be to your place of  
employment?
- Will you have a car or will you rely on public  
transport?
- Do you have school-age children?
- What recreational activities do you want to pursue?
- Do you have pets?

#### Once you've found a property you'd like to rent - what next?

You should arrange to inspect the property you are  
interested in before making a decision; in some cases  
you may be competing with other interested families  
and may not be selected.

To secure a rental property, you will need a security  
bond (refundable deposit) plus a payment of several  
weeks' rent which has to be paid in advance.

In most cases you will also be asked to provide two  
'references'. If these are difficult for you to obtain,  
contact your local Migrant Resource Centre for advice  
and assistance.

#### How do I find a house for rent/sale in Australia?

- 'To Let' section of newspapers, or Real Estate  
agents.
- [www.realestate.com.au](http://www.realestate.com.au)
- [www.domain.com.au](http://www.domain.com.au) plus others...

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➤ **Getting a drivers licence.**

Please locate your State's Roads and Traffic Authority.

- Phone book: Search under Government listings in the white pages for Roads and Traffic Authority
- Internet: Search Roads and Traffic Authority

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➤ **Car sales and renting.**

Just to name a few options...

- Sales: visit - [www.carsales.com.au](http://www.carsales.com.au)
- Read - 'Trading Post' newspapers
- Renting: visit [www.budget.com.au](http://www.budget.com.au)  
[www.avis.com.au](http://www.avis.com.au)

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➤ **Renting Appliances.**

Below are some rental companies who specialise in renting household appliances (E.G. fridges, T.V and washing machines).

- Mr Rentals - [www.mrrentals.com.au](http://www.mrrentals.com.au)
- Radio-rentals - [www.radio-rentals.com.au](http://www.radio-rentals.com.au)

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➤ **Schooling your children.**

There are different types of schools depending on how old your children are and what type of schooling you want for them. There are free State schools or private schools.

School starts about 9.00am and finishes about 3.00pm Monday to Friday and, many public and most private schools have a uniform policy; your children may be expected to wear a school uniform.

➤ **Telephone & internet access.**

The following are just a few of the providers that will help you with any questions and connection procedures:

- [www.optus.com.au/](http://www.optus.com.au/)  
○ 133 345
- [www.telstra.com/](http://www.telstra.com/)  
○ 13 22 00

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➤ **Getting a bank account.**

Walk into any bank within 3 weeks of arriving in the country and provide your passport.

After 3 weeks you may need to provide 100 points of identification. This may include:

- Passport.
- Confirm current Australian address (lease, bills)
- Birth certificate
- Drivers licence (Australian OR forgien)
- Medicare card

Another option is to set up an account on-line before you arrive. Westpac bank offers this, just visit the following link:

<http://www.westpac.com.au/internet/publish.nsf/Content?PBIT+Migrant+banking>

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*Please note this is a general guide only and your entitlements to certain benefits such as schooling and health cover is dependent on your visa subclass and conditions.*

➤ **For Emergency and Help Contact Information Ring:**

**000**

Ambulance, Police and Fire Brigade

➤ **Aussie Slang**

- Arvo : afternoon
- Amber fluid : beer
- Barbie : barbecue
- Bottle-o : liquor shop
- Cab Sav : Cabernet Sauvignon
- Dunny : outside lavatory
- Good onya : good for you, well done
- Lippy : lipstick
- Longneck : 750ml bottle of beer
- Maccas: McDonald's (the hamburger place)
- Pash : a long passionate kiss;
- Perve: looking lustfully at the opposite sex
- Pokies : gambling slot machines
- Make a Quid: earn a living
- Ripper : great, fantastic
- Roo : kangaroo
- Servo : petrol station
- Sickie : day off sick from work. (chuck a sickie = take the day off sick from work when you're perfectly healthy!)
- Smoko : smoke or coffee break
- Tee-up : to set up (an appointment)
- Tinny : can of beer
- True blue : patriotic