Living in Australia: Insects

Insects are just a part of life down under. Given Sydney’s coastal climate, it is guaranteed you will come across insects at some point. The important thing to remember is not to panic!

MOST COMMON INSECTS IN AUSTRALIA

- **Cockroaches** – They’re everywhere, but they’re also very harmless;
- **Spiders** – Most spiders are harmless, but there are still some you do need to be wary of. If you do see a spider indoors, insect spray should work like a charm;
- **Ants** – Like cockroaches, you won’t get away with being in Australia without running into a few ants. They’re just a part of life here;
- **Mosquitoes** – Mosquitoes are the pests that come every summer. Whilst their bites are only very small and harmless, it can get a little itchy; and
- **Lizards** – We know lizards aren’t an insect, but they’re worth a mention here! Lizards like to chill in the sun to warm up, so leave them in peace and they will also leave you alone.

ADVICE FOR DEALING WITH INSECTS

Every year the Accommodation Office organises pest control and gutter clearing at the apartments to prevent any unwanted guests. We will never be able to completely eliminate insects though, so follow the steps below to help reduce insects in your home:

- Purchase insect spray or insect bombs from your local supermarket;
- Clean up after yourself in the kitchen, ensuring not to leave behind any food on benches or floor;
- Take out the rubbish regularly;
- Keep the fly screen on windows and doors closed – most insects are attracted to light, so this is particularly important at night to keep those mosquitoes out; and
- Ensure regular cleaning of the house to reduce dust build-up.