Study NSW coordinates a wide range of programs and support services for international students to help you make the most of your time in Sydney and NSW

- Visit our international student welcome desk at Sydney International Airport
- Contact Service NSW for free information and referral advice
- Explore work experience and work integrated learning opportunities through NSW Global Scope and our airport welcome desk work integrated learning program
- Access free legal advice from International Student Legal Service NSW
- Find out about our NSW International Student Awards
- Visit our website www.study.sydney to find out more and keep in touch

For more information on our events visit www.georgesriver.nsw.gov.au
Welcome

Sydney is known as the ‘city of villages’, with no two suburbs the same. You can be sipping on a delicious flat white at a cafe in Sydney’s Inner West and, just 20 minutes later, you could be breathing in the fresh, salty air at one of the many beaches scattered along the iconic coastline. Just as varied as the suburbs are the people who occupy them; the city is a cultural melting pot complete with diverse communities, great food and events. There’s no doubt you’ll find a pocket of Sydney to call home.

Contents

Setting up

Everything you need to know to get your new student life organised and start enjoying the experience of being in a new city.

Areas

Learn about the different areas that make Sydney and NSW an ideal place to live and study.

Activities

Looking for something to do on the weekend? Want some new ways to make friends or explore the city? Find out the best activities in and around Sydney.

KEY CONTACTS AND SERVICES

Need some help while you are in Sydney? Find the contact details of the various support services available.
Welcome to Sydney and New South Wales

On behalf of the New South Wales (NSW) Government, I warmly welcome you to the premier state of Australia. As the Minister responsible for supporting our international students, I am proud of everything NSW has to offer.

NSW is the leading destination for study in Australia, welcoming over 270,000 international students from 160 countries each year to study across the state.

The NSW Government has set up Study NSW, a government agency dedicated to supporting and enriching your student experience. Our aim is to ensure that NSW feels like a home away from home and that you can make the most of your experience here.

Study NSW coordinates a wide range of initiatives to help you with living, studying, and working in NSW. For example, the agency funds the International Student Legal Service NSW, offering free legal advice to international students across the state. If you’re looking for practical experiences, Study NSW also provides work integrated learning opportunities through programs such as NSW Global Scope and our International Student Welcome Desk at Sydney Airport. Please make sure you visit www.study.sydney to find out more about Study NSW programs designed to help you.

Study NSW initiatives complement the state’s world-class education sector. Wherever you study here, you learn from the best. Our universities, research organisations, vocational education and training institutions, including government-owned NSW Technical and Further Education (NSW TAFE), have a global reputation for excellence. We are also home to many of Australia’s leading private education and training providers, English language colleges and secondary schools.

I wish you every success with your studies. I also encourage you to explore all that Sydney and our wonderful state has to offer, with a view to becoming the next generation of ambassadors for NSW.

Deputy Premier John Barilaro,
Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade
In Sydney, I love having the opportunity to interact with different cultures and the geniality of Sydneysiders!

Chintan, India
Studying at Macquarie University

In Sydney, I love having the opportunity to interact with different cultures and the geniality of Sydneysiders!

Chintan, India
Studying at Macquarie University

What I love most about living in Sydney is its natural and historical beauty. Not only can you visit iconic landmarks such as the Opera House and experience the city life, but you can also enjoy the beautiful scenery of its beaches and green parks – all in the same place!

Giorgia, Italy
Studying at UTS

Quick facts

Iconic landmarks

The Coathanger
The Sydney Harbour Bridge is affectionately known as ‘The Coathanger’ because of its shape. Despite its fun nickname, it should be taken seriously – it’s the world’s widest long-span bridge and tallest steel arch bridge!

Famous beaches
Sydney has over 100 beaches and swimming spots. Sydney’s iconic Bondi Beach is the centrepiece of the popular show Bondi Rescue, while Palm Beach in the Northern Beaches is where Aussie soap opera Home and Away is filmed.

Multicultural city
As of 2016, nearly 43 per cent of Sydney’s population was born overseas. The majority are from China, followed by England, India, New Zealand, Vietnam, the Philippines and Lebanon.

First nations people
Aboriginal Sydney-siders are known as the ‘Gadigal people of the Eora nation’. Eora means ‘here’ or ‘from this place’ and Gadigal (also spelt Cadigal or Caddiegal) is one of many ‘clans’ that inhabit the Eora nation.

Something fishy?
Sydney is home to the second-largest and most varied fish market in the world, coming in behind Tokyo. Based in Pyrmont, it trades 13,500 tonnes of seafood each year.

What I love most about living in Sydney is its natural and historical beauty. Not only can you visit iconic landmarks such as the Opera House and experience the city life, but you can also enjoy the beautiful scenery of its beaches and green parks – all in the same place!

Giorgia, Italy
Studying at UTS

What I love most about living in Sydney is its natural and historical beauty. Not only can you visit iconic landmarks such as the Opera House and experience the city life, but you can also enjoy the beautiful scenery of its beaches and green parks – all in the same place!

Giorgia, Italy
Studying at UTS
### Must-do in Sydney

There are so many fun things to do in Sydney, but here are a few you can’t leave the city without doing.

1. **Say hello to the Harbour**
   The Sydney Harbour Bridge, Sydney Opera House and Luna Park should be your first port of call. You can soak up the magic of all three at once by taking a ride on the ferry from Circular Quay (we recommend doing it at night – it’s magic).

2. **Cockatoo Island**
   For 100 years, this former convict island in Sydney’s harbour was off-limits to the public. Now, it’s a UNESCO-protected landmark where visitors can join historic tours, take a picnic, attend events or even camp overnight.

3. **Get some salt on your skin**
   In summer, Sydney’s beaches are the hottest spots to visit (by that we mean both popular and actually hot, so make sure you wear sunscreen and a hat).

4. **Go bush**
   Just an hour out of Sydney, the Blue Mountains offers some reprieve from the hustle and bustle of the city with plenty of hikes and lookouts to explore.

5. **Understand Australia’s roots**
   Learn about Australia’s Aboriginal culture, land and food by booking into a Guringai Aboriginal Tour of Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park.

6. **Wander through the markets**
   Spend the weekend scouring the various markets that pop up in Sydney’s suburbs, selling second-hand goods, boutique items, art and great food.
Improving your English
If you’d like to continue improving your English during your time in Australia, there are a few tools and resources that can help.

**SPEAKING**

Join a conversation group. There are plenty of conversation groups on Meetup.com, as well as at local libraries and community centres.

Find a friend who also wants to improve their English and only chat to them in English - including via text message, online, over the phone and in person.

Make friends with people from other nationalities so you only communicate in English.

Join a volunteer group or sports team so you can put your English skills to good use.

**READING & LISTENING**

Read in English every day. This includes websites, online news outlets, newspapers, magazines and books.

Listen to English-language music and podcasts, watch English-language films, television shows and YouTube videos, and try to do so without subtitles!

**WRITING**

Write a daily journal in English. It doesn’t matter what you write about, as long as it’s in English.

Do little translation exercises. Take a passage from a book or article in your native language and translate it into English, or do the reverse.

---

**WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE TO HELP ME IMPROVE MY ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>LINK</th>
<th>WHAT IS IT?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English Central</td>
<td><a href="http://www.englishcentral.com">www.englishcentral.com</a></td>
<td>A platform full of English language videos that progressively build your comprehension.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BBC Learning English</td>
<td><a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish">www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish</a></td>
<td>Watch well-crafted videos and complete related activities to increase your knowledge of the English language.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>italki</td>
<td><a href="http://www.italki.com">www.italki.com</a></td>
<td>Choose between native speakers and qualified tutors (more expensive) to have a 1-on-1 video chat with you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Busuu</td>
<td><a href="http://www.busuu.com">www.busuu.com</a></td>
<td>A website and mobile app, Busuu is a social network of people learning new languages.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Australian slang

**Expressing yourself**

**Aggro (Adjective)**
Angry, showing aggression
‘He’s so aggro at the moment, you should avoid him.’

**Fair enough (Idiom)**
Alright/OK
‘You’ll be late? Fair enough, traffic is bad today.’

**Feral (Adjective)**
Disgusting, something repulsive
‘I just saw someone drop their hot chips and then continue to eat them off the ground - that’s so feral.’

**Hey? (Exclamation)**
Used at the end of a sentence to ask if someone agrees ‘You’re going out tonight, hey?’

**She’ll be right (Idiom)**
It will be fine
‘You missed the bus? She’ll be right, there’ll be another one soon.’

**Heaps (Adjective)**
A lot or very
‘Wow, that show was heaps good.’

**Cuppa (Noun)**
Hot beverage
‘A hot cuppa tea goes well with biscuits.’

**Avo (Noun)**
Avocado
‘I love avo toast with feta cheese.’

**Snag (Noun)**
Sausage
‘For the best snags, I go to Bunnings Warehouse.’

**Esky (Noun)**
Ice cooler
‘The esky will keep the drinks cool while we swim.’

**GOING OUT**

**Arvo (Noun)**
Afternoon
‘Let’s catch up this arvo for a coffee.’

**Barbie (Noun)**
BBQ
‘Let’s fire up the barbie for dinner tonight.’

**Bathers (Noun)**
Swimming costume
‘Remember to bring your bathers, my friend has a pool.’

**Brekky (Noun)**
Breakfast
‘I always have a big brekky. I’m so hungry when I wake up in the morning.’

**Chemist (Noun)**
Drug store/pharmacy
‘We should go pick up some Panadol from the chemist.’

**EFTPOS (Noun/Acronym)**
Machine for electronic (card) payments. Stands for Electronic Funds Transfer at Point Of Sale
‘Luckily, the café has EFTPOS, because I don’t have any cash.’

**Bottle-o (Noun)**
Liquor store
‘I have to go and get some beer from the bottle-o.’

**Macca’s (Noun)**
McDonald’s
‘I’m too tired to make dinner, shall we go to Macca’s instead?’

**Mate (Noun)**
Friend (this can be used intransitive verb)
‘I like her, she’s a good mate, she always has my back.’

**Rip-off (Adjective)**
To cheat/something that’s too expensive
‘This brunch is such a rip-off - $18 for toast?’

**Servo (Noun)**
Service station/gas station
‘On long drives I have to stop at the servo to buy snacks.’

**Shout (Verb)**
To pay for the next round of drinks i.e. ‘it’s your shout’
‘I paid for the last round, so it’s your shout this time.’

**Spud (Noun)**
A potato
‘I’d love a baked spud with sour cream right about now.’

**WHILE STUDYING**

**Bludge (Intransitive Verb)**
To not try your hardest
‘He’s bludging uni, there’s no way he’ll graduate.’

**SWOTVAC (Noun/Acronym)**
Study break/revision week
‘I have so much revision to do during SWOTVAC. I shouldn’t have slacked off so much during the semester.’

**Chuck a sickie (Phrasal verb)**
To fake a sick day from work or study
‘I can’t miss The Bachelor tonight - I’ll just call work and chuck a sickie.’

**Dodgy (Adjective)**
Poor quality/not reliable/suspicious
‘That website is dodgy, I’m pretty sure it gave me a virus.’

**Good on ya (Exclamation)**
Well done/good on you
‘Congratulations on that HD! Good on ya!’

**Reckon (Verb)**
Think/figure/assume
‘I reckon I’ll go for a run; I’ve been feeling lazy as.’

**Uni (Noun)**
University
‘Do you want to walk to uni together?’
Your first week in Sydney

1. **Buy an Opal card**
   You’ll need an Opal card to get around on public transport. Buy one from convenience stores and other selected retailers.

2. **Set up your bank account**
   This is crucial if you’re planning to work in Australia, but is also useful for paying rent and other expenses.

3. **Sort out your phone**
   You can use your existing phone or buy a new one in Australia, with the option of going prepaid or signing up for a plan.

4. **Know the emergency number**
   If you need emergency assistance – police, fire or ambulance – you can call Triple Zero (000), even when your phone can’t get reception. Make sure to store this number in your phone.

5. **Stock up your fridge**
   Once you’ve found your nearest grocery store, stock up on basic ingredients and your favourite foods from home – they’ll help if you get homesick during your first week!

6. **Plan your studies**
   Find out when classes start, where your campus is located (some institutions are spread across several campuses) and when O-Week kicks off.

---

“**I like exploring residential neighbourhoods and attending events at the local community centres. It’s not exactly touristic, but it gives you a feel of the city.**”

---

**Priya, Canada**

**Studying at the University of Sydney**

---

**PRIYA’S HIGHLIGHTS**

**COFFEE**

For coffee, I like Forum on the University of Sydney campus. I love the ambience.

**BREAKFAST**

Tripod Cafe near Redfern Station does good breakfast. Their Cherry Tomato Omelette is delicious, comes in a large portion size, and most importantly, is healthy!

**DINNER**

For dinner, go to Thai Riffic in Newtown and order the pineapple fried rice. It’s delicious and authentic.

**THREE THINGS NOT TO MISS**

1. Royal Botanical Garden
2. Ferry from Circular Quay to Manly
3. Bondi to Coogee walk
Private rental $200-$700/wk
This is true independent living; renting an apartment or a house, either alone or with housemates. Living with others is ideal for meeting new people and reducing your costs. However, if you decide to live alone, you will have to pay for everything and may get lonely (depending on your personality, of course). Rentals come either furnished or unfurnished.
Note: Listed price is per room.

Homestay $250-$350/wk
Homestay involves staying with a family in their home with meals, internet and utilities covered by your host. It is a popular choice for a true Australian experience, and it also allows you to settle into your new life in Australia with the support of a family. Homestay can be both close to and some distance from your educational institution – make sure to check access and public transport options.

Managed accommodation $200-$500/wk
These large centres are full of apartments of varying sizes, generally one to five bedrooms. You will get a fully furnished bedroom with 24-hour support and internet included. Generally, student accommodation is conveniently located for students, is secure and safe, and boasts a real sense of community. The downside to this is the internet can slow down at peak times and the rooms can be on the smaller side.

Residential college $450-$550/wk
While they appear more expensive than other options, residential colleges do include a lot of extras. They’re usually located close to campus, your fully furnished bedroom will be cleaned weekly, study facilities and gyms are supplied, and the meals are included. The downside is that you often have to lock in a lease for 12 months and you may not need all the extras that you’re paying for.

Comparing your options

LET US HELP YOU FIND YOUR ACCOMMODATION
The Insider Guides website now has an accommodation finder. We can help you find the perfect place to suit your needs and budget.
Before you take out a lease on a property

- Ensure you have enough money to cover the bond
- Arrange a reference or guarantor
- Inspect the property before you sign a contract or pay a deposit
- Photograph any existing damage or issues
- Make sure you receive, and keep, a copy of your rental agreement and receive a receipt for all rent and bond payments
- Pay attention to details regarding the end of your rental agreement

Other factors to consider when selecting accommodation

- How close is it to your study institution?
- How close is it to public transport and what will the travel cost be?
- What is nearby? (shops, hospitals, police stations, parks)
- Is there adequate heating and cooling?
- Is it noisy?
- Is the area safe and is the building secure?
- What will the insurance costs be?
- Does everything work? (smoke alarms, appliances, light switches)

Connecting utilities in your new home

Companies like Fast Connect can organise your phone, internet, electricity, gas and Pay-TV, all through a single service.

www.fastconnect.net.au

THE SIMPLE WAY TO GET CONNECTED

Fast Connect offers a free service to get your phone, internet, electricity, gas and Pay-TV set up for when you move into your new home.

- Free service
- No lock-in contracts
- Stress free and secure
- Easy online application
- Phone and email support
- Choice of top Australian retailers

As Australia’s longest established connections service provider looking after many students and their families, we can be trusted to get you connected.

$50 CREDIT

Promo code: IGNU

Receive a $50 credit to your account when you connect your electricity and/or gas through Fast Connect in NSW.*

*Terms & conditions apply.

www.fastconnect.net.au
Housemates’ code

Sharing a house with others can be a really fun experience. Use these tips to ensure a happy and harmonious household.

1. **Food**
   - Establish early on how groceries will be purchased and make it clear what food is shared. Avoid eating any food that isn’t yours or designated as shared.

2. **Guests**
   - Communication with your housemates is crucial when it comes to guests. Guidelines to consider include when/how long they should be there and which areas/rooms are shared spaces.

3. **Cleaning**
   - Consider creating a cleaning roster, noting that some housemates may prefer certain tasks. You will still be responsible for doing your own dishes and laundry, and keeping your room tidy.

4. **Rent**
   - Make sure rent is paid on-time to the right person. You might be paying rent to a head housemate or making individual payments to the real estate agent or landlord.

5. **Bills**
   - Have a plan for how bills are divided up and paid. One person is generally responsible for managing bills, but like rent, make sure they’re paid on-time to avoid housemate disputes.

6. **Moving out**
   - If someone decides to move out, establish the process involved. Determine how much notice they need to give and whether you need to alert your property manager or landlord.
How to pay rent
There are a few different ways to pay rent in Australia. These include direct debit (bank), BPAY (a type of electronic payment), or paying in person with card or cash. Your real estate agent or landlord will sometimes offer a range of options or request only one.

Rental scams
Unfortunately, rental scams can occur in Australia. But, there are a few things to look out for so you can protect yourself. Be careful of offers that sound too good to be true. Ask advice from trusted friends, or your school or agent, if you see any of the following warning signs:

- The rent is a lot cheaper than other similar accommodation in the area
- You are asked to sign a lease or pay a bond or deposit before you have seen the property
- The photos or description of the property don’t match the reality on inspection
- The landlord or agent makes excuses that you can’t view the property, such as saying they are overseas
- The landlord or agent requests money via money transfer
- The scammers may try to appear genuine by providing photos, real addresses of properties, copies of land titles, and even scans of stolen passports. Scammers also ask for personal details – such as bank and credit card numbers – which they use for credit card and identity fraud
- Make sure you always inspect the property in person (or via Skype if you can’t attend) and don’t send any money via money transfer

Can I get a pet as an international student?
If you are considering getting a pet, you need to make sure you have done research into the type of pet that would be suitable to your situation. Pets can be fantastic, however there are a few things you need to think about before getting one. Things like the size of your pet, where it will live, how much time you can spend with it, what will happen to it when you return home and the amount of money you have to properly take care of it should all be part of your decision to get a pet. You also need to make sure you know the rules and requirements of pet ownership. They may be different from what you are used to and you may get into trouble if you don’t follow them.

What support services are available for renters in NSW?
Tenants NSW can help you understand your rights when renting a room, apartment or house in Sydney. Visit the Tenants NSW website to learn about bonds, condition reports and where you can ask for assistance with accommodation issues before and after you arrive.

Factors to consider before owning a pet
- WILL MY ACCOMMODATION ALLOW THEM?
- UPFRONT COSTS (DESEXING, REGISTRATION, ETC)
- ONGOING COSTS (FOOD, BOARDING, HEALTHCARE, VETERINARIAN COSTS, ETC)
- WILL YOUR PETS NEED DAILY WALKS AND EXERCISE?
- WILL YOU NEED A FULLY ENCLOSED BACKYARD?
- HOW OFTEN ARE YOU NOT AT HOME?
- HOW LONG WILL YOU BE STAYING IN AUSTRALIA, AND WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO YOUR PET IF YOU DECIDE TO LEAVE?
IMPORTANT STEPS

Once you've moved into your new home, there are a few things you'll need to do.

1. Notify your bank, employer, education provider and OSHC provider of your new address. Your student visa requires you to update your education provider within seven days of arriving in Australia or moving to a new address.

2. Get to know your local area and council. Find out where your nearest medical centre, shops, public transport hubs, fitness facilities and more are located. Learn about waste disposal in your area, including recycling and composting options. Check out your local council's website for more information.

3. Tell your friends and family back home where you're living. They probably want to know that you're in a safe place and they may want to send mail from time to time.

4. Think about home and contents insurance. If you're living in your own apartment or house, or have joined an existing share house, you might want to purchase home and contents insurance to protect your belongings from theft or damage.

5. Check your home is in working order. Make sure things like hot water, taps and switches work. If there are any faults or issues, notify your agent or landlord.

Setting up your house

There are plenty of stores and online marketplaces in Australia offering affordable furniture and other home items. Here's our guide to some of the best.

FURNITURE STORES
There are three IKEA stores located in Sydney (Tempe, Rhodes and Marsden Park), where you can find reasonably priced furniture and homewares. Fantastic Furniture and Amart are also good options for larger items, with locations around the city.

SECOND-HAND STORES
If you're looking for one-of-a-kind, affordable furnishings and home items, second-hand stores are fantastic places to look. Popular second-hand chain stores in Sydney include Vinnies and Salvos, as well as independent shops and boutiques.

ONLINE MARKETPLACES
In Australia, Gumtree and eBay are two of the biggest online marketplaces for new and used furniture and home goods. On Gumtree, you'll often find people giving things away for free.

FACEBOOK
Facebook is a great resource for buying (and selling) furniture and homewares. Facebook Marketplace is full of second-hand furniture, appliances, decorative pieces, cookware, and even clothing, electronics, and hundreds of other items.

DEPARTMENT STORES
Look for your nearest Kmart, Target, Big W or Spotlight – these stores sell everything from furniture and lighting to kitchenware and bedding at low prices.

BUY, SWAP, SELL
You’ll find plenty of buy, swap, sell groups on Facebook that are dedicated to particular suburbs around Sydney. There are also websites such as Ziilch and Freecycle.
What should I watch out for?
Read your contract, or the terms and conditions, closely to make sure you understand any additional charges that can be applied. Another thing to be aware of is extra subscriptions that may come with the service. If the overall deals between phone providers are similar, then consider if you would save money by having free access to another service. For example, the plan may come with free sport streaming, Spotify or Netflix.

How do I get started?
For both prepaid and plan options, head to one of the phone shops we’ve listed below. To get started, you’ll need some documents to prove who you are:
- An Australian bank statement or rental agreement
- Your student visa details
- Proof of identity, such as your passport

Plan vs prepaid
Prepaid involves buying credit for your phone and topping up each week or month. This way, you can control how much you spend. It’s a great option if you’re in Australia for a short time. If you’ll be here for over 12 months, you may want to consider a ‘plan’ or a ‘contract’, which is a set payment per month to use the network. Usually, you will get more phone calls and data this way than through prepaid options.

Factors to consider before signing a phone contract
- HOW LONG IS THE CONTRACT?
- HOW MANY MINUTES OF PHONE CALLS DO I GET (AND ARE INTERNATIONAL CALLS INCLUDED)?
- WHAT IS THE MONTHLY DATA LIMIT AND HOW MUCH EXTRA WILL I BE CHARGED FOR GOING OVER THE LIMIT?
- HOW MUCH WILL I BE CHARGED IF I NEED TO END THE CONTRACT EARLY?
- WHAT EXTRAS/DISCOUNTS/SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE INCLUDED?
- HOW GOOD IS THE NETWORK COVERAGE?
- WILL I BE CHARGED EXTRA FOR PAYING BILLS IN A CERTAIN WAY (E.G. CREDIT CARD)?

Mobile phones

WHERE CAN I BUY A NEW MOBILE PHONE OR SIGN UP FOR A PLAN?
There are several mobile phone providers in Australia that sell phones and/or SIM cards, offering both plans and prepaid options. Some of the most popular providers include Vodafone, Telstra, Optus, Virgin Mobile, Amaysim, Boost Mobile and Vaya.

Communication
Internet

How do I arrange home internet?

There are several home internet providers in Australia including Optus, Telstra, iiNet, TPG, Belong and more. Services like Compare Broadband are a good starting point if you are unsure of pricing and the options available in your area. Month-by-month and six-month contracts are becoming more common. They work for students in regards to contract length but cost more than 12 or 24-month contracts.

After you’ve chosen an internet provider, setting up your home internet is easy. You can buy your own modem or purchase one through your provider. They’ll then provide you with all of the necessary steps required to finish your set-up.

Australia is gradually connecting to the National Broadband Network (NBN), a process that is expected to be completed this year. But, note that speeds in many locations are still quite slow, especially if you come from a country with fast internet.

Free wi-fi in Sydney

Sydney offers free wi-fi in certain parts of the city, predominantly around the CBD. You’ll also find free wi-fi at Sydney Airport – ideal if you’ve just arrived in Australia and need internet to navigate your way into the city.

Public libraries and community centres usually offer free wi-fi too, and you’ll find that many cafes around Sydney give decent internet access (either for free or with purchase).

Streaming options

Netflix (netflix.com)

Netflix provides on-demand access to a range of local and international shows. You can watch on smart TVs, gaming consoles, Apple TV and Chromecast, mobile devices, and computers. From $9.99/month.

Foxtel Now (foxtel.com.au/now) and Stan (stan.com.au)

Both available on computers, smart TVs, Chromecast and gaming consoles. The Foxtel Now app allows you to sign up for the subscription service, Foxtel, without any installation costs or contracts. Foxtel is a good choice if you want to access live sport. Stan is an Australian subscription service that offers an extensive back catalogue of local and international content. From $25/month (Foxtel) & $10/month (Stan).

Sport streaming services

Kayo is the most popular streaming service for sport content, with over 50 sports available. It works by streaming from popular sport channels including ESPN and Fox Sports. Prices start at $25/month. Optus Sport has the rights for the English Premier League and UEFA Champions and Europa Leagues. These games can be watched on mobile devices or on Chromecast, Fetch TV or Apple TV. It is free for most Optus customers or $14.99/month for non-Optus customers. AFL (Australian Rules Football), A-League (Football/Soccer), NRL (Rugby League) and Super Netball can be streamed on mobile devices through Telstra. These have varying prices for non-customers but are free to Telstra customers.

ABC iview, SBS On Demand, 7plus, 9Now, 10 Play

The main free-to-air stations in Australia all have apps available that allow you to watch their shows on demand. These apps are free to download and use, but most of them do contain advertising.

How do I arrange mobile broadband?

If you can’t get a hotspot using your phone and want a good connection for your device, an easy solution is mobile broadband. Visit a Vodafone, Optus or Telstra store and pick up a 4G modem - they start at around $15-20 per month, but prepaid options are also available.

COST OF LIVING CALCULATOR

Want to work out your budget? Use our Cost of Living Calculator to receive a customised breakdown of your expected costs in Sydney.

Banks in Australia

Why do I need an Australian bank account?
Opening an Australian bank account will enable you to earn money in Australia. Any payment you receive from employment or a scholarship will need to be paid directly into an Australian account. Additionally, you will easily be able to access funds without attracting fees for international transfers.

How do I set up a bank account?
This step is easy. There are several banks to choose from in Australia. When you arrive in Australia, simply head to your chosen bank and let them know you’re an international student and would like to open an account. You will need to bring some important documents. You will be provided with access to a day-to-day account and an online savings account.

Once you have been identified, you will be provided with a debit card, allowing you to shop across Australia and online without paying additional fees.

What should I bring with me?
- PASSPORT OR BIRTH CERTIFICATE
- NATIONAL IDENTITY CARD (IF YOU HAVE ONE)
- PROOF OF AUSTRALIAN ADDRESS (CAN BE A HOUSEHOLD BILL)
- PROOF OF ENROLMENT

Note - It is not necessary to have a Tax File Number to get a bank account, but without one you will get taxed up to 48% (approximately) on the interest your money earns in the bank account.

Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs), contactless payment and PayID
Your debit card allows you to withdraw cash from most ATMs across Australia. Note that using an ATM that’s not from your bank may incur a fee. You don’t always need to use your debit card though; you can also set up contactless payments so you can pay for things using your mobile phone, meaning you don’t need to carry a card around. PayID is another way to make payments that uses either your mobile number or email address. Ask your bank for more information.

Can I get an Australian credit card as an international student?
It’s a little more complicated to get a credit card as an international student, as most Australian banks require you to be on a particular visa and earning a minimum amount of money per year.

If you’re set on getting an Australian credit card, talk to your nearest bank branch. In most cases, you will need to undergo a credit check and meet certain requirements.
Managing your money

How do I manage my budget?
The first thing you need to do is get an understanding of your current financial position. Predict and list all your income and expenses for the next three to six months as best you can. Then, it’s time to think about ways to improve it. Think about the things that add a lot of value versus what you pay for but don’t really need, like buying a coffee every day vs making one at home. Then, download an app like Pocketbook on your phone, and sync up your bank accounts so you can start tracking and setting goals for spending and saving. Use ASIC’s free budgeting tool to get started.
www.moneysmart.gov.au

What should I do if I am facing financial difficulties?
If you are having any difficulties with your finances, your first contact should be your educational institution. They have qualified staff available to help and can point you in the right direction for support. If you are experiencing financial hardship then you may be able to apply to pay your tuition in instalments.

Where can I seek help for gambling?
Gambling can be addictive, which not only affects your health, but your finances too.
To get an accurate picture of how much gambling is costing you, use the calculator on the Gambler’s Help website.
www.gamblershelp.com.au

The Insider Guides Cost of Living Calculator lets you work out how much you’ll likely be spending in Sydney.


Everything you need to know about studying in Australia

Don’t forget to subscribe to our weekly e-newsletter for competitions, events, news and opportunities to further experience life in Australia.

• international student news
• accommodation
• employment
• competitions and events
• study and student life
• explore your city
Australia’s way to pay bills

When it comes to paying your bills think BPAY®. We are uniquely Australian and trusted by Australians.

How to pay with BPAY

Bill
Find the BPAY biller code and CRN on your bill.

Bank
Log in to your online or mobile banking.

Done!
Select BPAY, your preferred account, enter the BPAY details, amount and payment date.

Transferring funds

Setting up your new life in Australia is an exciting process, but it does come with a lot of expenses. You will need to pay course fees to your institution, buy textbooks, pay your accommodation costs, pay your bills every month, and have access to your money for everyday spending. This can mean a lot of transactions. There are many different ways to send and receive funds; with a little research, you can find the best solution to suit you.

Send and receive money from home

If you have internet banking set up with your bank, you can easily receive funds from home or send money overseas. Just make sure you have all the required codes (SWIFT, Sort and, for Europeans, IBAN) and the correct account numbers. Bank accounts are best for transferring small amounts and paying your everyday expenses. If you are transferring larger amounts of money and want a better exchange rate with lower fees, you may want to consider other services.

Money transfer companies provide a fast option to send and receive money overseas in minutes. If you shop around, specialist international money transfer companies will often give you a better deal on currency exchange rates than your bank.

PayPal is perhaps the most well-known money transfer system, but it does attract a currency conversion fee. Otherwise, you can check out dedicated international money transfer services like Western Union, Cohort Go and Flywire.

A prepaid credit card is a great way to receive money from home for daily expenses and not fall into the trap of spending more money than you have in your budget. Companies like Vasco Pay offer prepaid cards designed just for students, as well as additional services like weekly discounts so you can get a bit of extra spending power.

Pay your education expenses and other bills

Student payment services are a secure way to make payments to educational institutions, insurance, accommodation or other education service providers, or to your own bank account for living expenses. Companies like Cohort Go and Flywire offer great foreign exchange rates and make paying for your education expenses easy.

BPAY is an electronic bill payment system that enables secure payment for many different expenses, like your monthly mobile phone or other utility bills. Look for the BPAY reference number on your bill and then select the BPAY option on your internet, mobile or phone banking account to make your payment.

Published by BPAY Pty Ltd (ABN 69 079 137 518) (Phone (02) 9646 9222; email: marketing@bpay.com.au). The BPAY Scheme is managed by BPAY Pty Ltd. BPAY Payments are offered by over 150 BPAY Scheme members. When you use BPAY the BPAY Scheme is paid fees relating to processing costs and BPAY Scheme membership. Contact your financial institution to see if it offers BPAY and to get the terms and conditions. Any financial product advice provided by BPAY Pty Ltd in relation to BPAY payment products is general advice only and has been prepared without taking into account your objectives, financial situation or needs. Before acting on such advice, you should review the Product Disclosure Statement and consider whether BPAY payment products are appropriate for your personal circumstances.
Internships and work experience

An internship may be a compulsory part of your degree, or you might just want a bit of extra professional experience to improve your resume. Check with your institution’s career centre for options for arranging an internship or work experience.

Employment basics

Can I work while studying?

While on a student visa, you can work up to 40 hours per fortnight during the semester and unlimited hours during semester breaks. A fortnight means 14 days. Australia has laws guaranteeing basic workplace rights, including minimum pay and conditions. We’ll go into these later in the guide.

What do I need to know about tax?

Before working in Australia, it is crucial to obtain a Tax File Number (TFN). Your TFN will ensure that you get taxed at the correct rate for the amount of work you are doing. Australia has a tax-free threshold of $18,200, meaning you will pay no tax if you earn less than this amount in one year. If you have any tax taken from your earnings, you will need to complete a tax return at the end of the financial year.

Do I need an Australian Business Number (ABN)?

You don’t need an ABN to work for an Australian employer. You only need one if you’re an independent contractor, like a freelancer.


What is superannuation?

Often known as ‘super’, it is a financial contribution towards a fund that you use to live on when you retire. You can contribute to your own fund, but most commonly your employer does this. If you are an employee, the law in Australia says you are entitled to receive super from your employer. If you earn over $450 (before tax) in the calendar month, your employer must contribute at least 9.5% of your earnings to your nominated super fund. This is in addition to your ordinary wage. You can also claim your super when you leave Australia.


Internships and work experience

An internship may be a compulsory part of your degree, or you might just want a bit of extra professional experience to improve your resume. Check with your institution’s career centre for options for arranging an internship or work experience.
Learn How to Find a Job in Australia

Where should I look for a part-time/casual job?

You can start by looking at your education provider’s careers board. Otherwise, many international students use websites like Seek, Career One and Indeed to look for jobs, or student-focused sites like OneShift and SpotJobs. These student-oriented sites make it easier for international students to find appropriate roles while studying in Australia.

Common part-time jobs for international students:

- Retail Sales Assistant
- Administrative Assistant
- Barista
- General Hospitality Staff
- Event Staff
- Cleaner
- Food Delivery

Where should I look for a part-time/casual job?

- www.seek.com.au
- www.careerone.com.au
- au.indeed.com
- au.oneshiftjobs.com
- www.spotjobs.com

Where can I get more employment information?

The Insider Guides website and YouTube channel provide lots of information on employment.


Successful Graduate

Job Readiness Training for Students and Graduates

FREE: 7 Steps to Job Readiness Webinar

REGISTER NOW AT: successfulgraduate.com/7-steps
How do I write a résumé?

The basics of a résumé include your contact details, previous work history and, for students and recent graduates, information on your education. Keep it as concise as possible and get somebody to proofread it for you.

Include at least one reference; this should be a previous employer or someone who knows your work or study ethic. Speak to a friendly tutor if you need them to be a reference. Your résumé and cover letter should be targeted for a particular role; don’t use the same generic versions for all jobs.

We have underlined the errors in the following résumé in red.

PERSONAL INFORMATION
Ms Jane Lee
2019 Guides Street
Email - iloveponies27@hotmail.com
Ph (01) 2345 6789
DOB - 01/02/03
Height - 250cm Weight - 170kg
Visa - Student
Marital Status - Divorced
Religion - Jedi

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY
Shop Assistant
Insider Shop Jan 2017 - Present
Responsibilities: Handling Money
Key Achievements: Staff Award

EDUCATION HISTORY
Bachelor of Arts - Insider University

Responsible Service of Alcohol Certificate 2017

Avoid including your date of birth or particularly personal information like your height/weight, marital status or religion. You also don’t need to include your visa status, as you should have working rights anyway.

Make sure your email address is professional.

Carefully proofread your résumé to eliminate all typos and other errors.

Highlight your responsibilities in the role and, where relevant, showcase any significant achievements (awards, beating targets etc.).

If you haven’t graduated yet, list your expected completion date.

You certainly don’t need to include your primary school education. High school is definitely optional, but won’t look out of place if you want to highlight your history of high achievement.

Include short courses if you believe they are relevant or beneficial to the role you are applying for.

La Trobe is in the top 1.1% of universities worldwide*

* Times Higher Education (THE), 2020, World University Rankings 2020; Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC), 2019, Ranking Web of Universities

latrobe.edu.au/sydney
It’s important that you understand your rights at work. There are a few things to be aware of to ensure you don’t end up being exploited by your employer.

1. Avoid job ads that look suspicious. Make sure they mention the business name and look it up on the Australian Business Name register (abr.business.gov.au).

2. Minimum wage is currently set at $19.49 or $24.36 for casuals, and may go up in July 2020.

3. You should be paid at least once a month, receiving a payslip within one working day of being paid.

4. You should always be paid for work that you do, including training and trial shifts. Record your hours to make sure you’re being paid in full.

5. Employers are not allowed to give you goods or services (including food) instead of pay.

Am I getting the right pay?
As an international student, you have the same workplace rights as all workers in Australia. The Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO) can help if you have concerns about pay, leave or how you’re treated at work. www.fairwork.gov.au has information in different languages to help you understand your work rights. Check if you are getting the right pay and entitlements using the Fair Work Ombudsman’s Pay And Conditions Tool (PACT) at www.fairwork.gov.au/PACT.

You can contact the FWO for help without fear of your visa being cancelled, as long as certain conditions are met. See www.fairwork.gov.au/internationalstudents for more information.

The FWO’s anonymous reporting tool at www.fairwork.gov.au/tipoff lets you report a workplace issue without providing your personal information. It’s available in 17 languages. The FWO’s record my hours app makes it easy to record the hours you’ve worked. Download it now from the App Store or get it on Google Play!

You can visit www.fairwork.gov.au or call the FWO on 13 13 94. To speak your language you can call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 13 14 50. Tell the operator the language you speak and ask them to call the FWO on 13 13 94. Contacting and getting help from the FWO is FREE!
WHY SHOULD I VOLUNTEER?
Volunteering will provide you with a vast range of soft skills, improve your ability to communicate, allow you to make new friends, and help you integrate with your new community. Your university may have a volunteering office, but if not, seek help at the careers office. Off-campus volunteering may take you further into the local community and allow you to learn about Australian customs. The experience you develop through volunteering can be of great advantage when you apply for a professional role.
www.volunteering.nsw.gov.au

GETTING A JOB AFTER YOU GRADUATE
After you graduate, you can apply for a Temporary Graduate visa (subclass 485) which will let you live, study and work in Australia for a set number of years depending on the education level you complete.

In your final year you will be able to apply for graduate positions with a range of organisations. Employers have the opportunity to sponsor your visa, too. See the Department of Home Affairs website for more information.
www.homeaffairs.gov.au

To learn more about employability skills, we recommend reviewing the International Education Association of Australia (IEAA) International Employability Guide.
www.ieaa.org.au/research/employability

JOIN 360 PRO
$18.15* per week

Five pools, three gyms and lots of fitness classes.
*Students 360 Pro membership price
360card.com.au
What services are available on campus?
You’re paying a lot of money to study here, so you should know what your institution offers for free as part of your fees! Many international students don’t realise just how much help is available.

CAREER CENTRE
This office will assist you in creating an effective résumé and explain how to complete a job application and prepare for a job interview. Staff can also help you plan out your graduate career and discover volunteer and internship opportunities. They can help you find casual work, too. Not many students use this office because they simply don’t know about it. Now you do!

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT OFFICE
On campus, this office is your best friend. Staff will assist with your orientation, organise social events and answer any questions that relate specifically to international students.

LIBRARY
There is more to the library than just books. Libraries are full of meeting rooms, TVs, journal databases, computers and more. If you can’t get work done at home, head to the library. Learning how to use the library effectively will drastically improve your chances of truly succeeding in your studies. Libraries also offer a range of workshops to enhance your academic skills.

Where can I get help with my coursework?
If you need assistance with your studies or are falling behind on your coursework, there are plenty of support services around NSW.

STUDENT LEARNING HUBS
Most educational institutions offer a central learning hub that provides free individual support in particular subjects, as well as activities designed to improve things like English skills, digital literacy, writing and more. Check out your provider’s website for details.

PRIVATE TUTORING
You can hire a private tutor if you need assistance in a particular subject. You’ll usually find them listed on your education provider’s noticeboard, or you can use the Student VIP website.

APPROACH STAFF
Your teaching staff are there to help. If you’re struggling, reach out to them for assistance – it’s their job to provide the advice you need. They can also refer you to other support services.
Forward thinking, career focused

Study at Australia’s number one university for graduate employment.

We pride ourselves on providing international students with practical, industry-focused courses that prepare you for a rewarding career.

- 12-week post-study internship program provided by Study Group Australia Pty Limited.
- Two-year, 12-subject master’s degrees with the eligibility to apply for post-study work rights.
- Located in the heart of Sydney, ranked #3 of the world’s most livable cities, with additional centres in Brisbane and Melbourne.
- Celebrating 25 years of success between Charles Sturt University and Study Group Australia Pty Limited.

Learn more: csustudycentres.edu.au/insider

WHAT IS PLAGIARISM?

Plagiarism is essentially copying someone else’s work and presenting it as your own. This may be literally copying part of an essay (or the entire thing) written by someone else, or using the words of an author without referencing them. If you use someone else’s idea, even if you write it in your own words, you will need to provide the source. If you are found guilty of plagiarism there can be serious consequences, including expulsion from your course. This may lead to the cancellation of your student visa.

HOW DO I SAVE MONEY ON TEXTBOOKS?

1. Check with students from higher years
Look for adverts on your institution’s message boards (both online and on campus) and if you can’t see what you are looking for then post your own advert.

2. Use an online tool
Online resale sites like Student VIP allow you to buy second-hand textbooks from students across the country.
www.studentvip.com.au

3. Consider eBooks
Do you need a hard copy of your textbook? If not, download a digital copy and save some money.

4. Rent your textbooks
Will you ever look at the textbook again? If you only need it for one semester then consider renting it online.

5. Use the library
Campus libraries often have limited numbers of textbooks available to actually borrow but they will have reserved copies that you can access while in the library.

WHAT IS PLAGIARISM?

Plagiarism is essentially copying someone else’s work and presenting it as your own. This may be literally copying part of an essay (or the entire thing) written by someone else, or using the words of an author without

4. Rent your textbooks
Will you ever look at the textbook again? If you only need it for one semester then consider renting it online.

5. Use the library
Campus libraries often have limited numbers of textbooks available to actually borrow but they will have reserved copies that you can access while in the library.
Sharpen your mind at one of Australia’s top universities

As the top university in Sydney and Perth for Learner Engagement, Skills Development, Skills Scale and Graduate Employability*, Notre Dame trains you in critical thinking so you can question answers and challenge assumptions, no matter your degree.

High levels of professional experience are core to our degrees, so you graduate with experience on your CV – a real advantage to gaining employment. With cosmopolitan campuses in Sydney and Perth, we provide personalised attention in smaller classes to support you throughout your time with us.


Arts & Sciences | Business | Education | Health Sciences
Law | Medicine | Nursing | Philosophy & Theology | Physiotherapy

Prepare for your studies

- CREATE A LESSON TIMETABLE
  An easy-to-understand lesson timetable means you’ll always know where you’re supposed to be and when.
- CREATE A STUDY TIMETABLE
  Organise your routine around your classes and include time for study and other activities.
- CHARGE YOUR DEVICES
  Make sure your laptop and phone are charged. You don’t want to run out of battery halfway through your second class!
- PRINT OUT OFFICIAL UNIVERSITY DOCUMENTS
  Make sure you’ve printed all the paperwork you need, so orientation is an easier process.

Want to know more? Contact us now notredame.edu.au/international

Notre Dame Australia. Natural critical thinkers.

Attending O-Week

Be part of any society or community, including societies at your university. By joining any of them, you will meet new friends. Attending Orientation Week (O-Week) is also beneficial for new students because you will meet other new students.

I met my first friends when I attended a friendship event at O-Week. After that, my classmates pretty much became my friends.

- Nurul, Indonesia

WHAT TO PACK

- STUDENT ID (IF RECEIVED IN O-WEEK)
- OFFICIAL UNIVERSITY DOCUMENTS
- DIARY
- CAMPUS MAP
- TEXTBOOKS FOR ALL SUBJECTS (OR AT LEAST A COUPLE OF SUBJECTS!)
- FOLDERS FOR ALL SUBJECTS
- A COUPLE OF PENS AND PENCILS
- A NOTEBOOK OR TWO
- CABLES FOR ELECTRONIC DEVICES
- SNACKS, PLUS MONEY FOR COFFEE

Be part of any society or community, including societies at your university. By joining any of them, you will meet new friends. Attending Orientation Week (O-Week) is also beneficial for new students because you will meet other new students.

I met my first friends when I attended a friendship event at O-Week. After that, my classmates pretty much became my friends.

- Nurul, Indonesia
Healthcare basics

How does Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) work?
All students in Australia must have OSHC to cover the entire period of their stay. This would have been arranged when you organised your visa. OSHC covers in-hospital and out-of-hospital medical assistance, prescription medications and emergency ambulance assistance. Make sure you know the extent of your cover to avoid any unwanted charges. Every time you go to an appointment, take your OSHC card with you, along with photo ID.

What should I do if I have a complaint about my OSHC provider?
If you face a situation where you feel like you’re being taken advantage of or treated unfairly in regards to your OSHC, you can contact the Private Health Insurance Ombudsman (PHIO). It’s a free service designed to help you get out of trouble!

What do I need to know about hospitals?
If you are feeling sick, visit a doctor at a local medical centre first. This is the cheapest upfront option and you may be able to claim all or some of the cost from your OSHC provider. Hospitals are for emergency situations – either life-threatening or an injury/illness that is quickly getting worse. If you need to visit hospital, call your health cover provider to see if you’re covered, as the hospital may charge you a fee.

What should I do when medical clinics are closed?
Very few medical clinics are open seven days or have 24-hour services (and those that do can be expensive). If you need a medical certificate or you have a minor illness, it’s best to wait until the medical clinics are open. For urgent non-life-threatening enquiries, there are after-hours home doctor services available including 13SICK (call 13 7425) and DoctorDoctor (call 13 26 60).
You can also ring Healthdirect Australia (1800 022 222) to get advice on treating non-life-threatening illnesses.

How do I find a doctor?
Your OSHC provider will likely maintain a list of recommended providers. Their website may even have a ‘find a doctor’ resource to assist you in finding your nearest doctor. The Health Engine website can also be used to locate a doctor to match your needs.
www.healthengine.com.au
Mental health

What should I do if I’m feeling homesick?
Remember to take time out for yourself. If things seem too hard and you’re not feeling like you think you should, it’s important to talk to friends and family and ask for help. Use one of the resources mentioned below or visit your general practitioner (a local doctor, also called a GP). Like your body, your mind also needs care and attention, and it’s important that you look after it. Mental health is a big reason people go to the doctor, so don’t ignore any of the signs.

Where can I seek help for mental health issues?
Your OSHC covers visits to a GP. The GP is the first person you should see, as you will need to get a referral from them if you want to see a psychiatrist or psychologist. You will only be partially covered for a limited amount of visits with a psychologist. Check with your OSHC provider for details.
Most educational institutions offer free or discounted counselling services to their students (both international and local). Some require appointments, so check your education provider’s website to find out.

What if I need immediate support?
There are several organisations that offer 24/7 mental health support over the phone or through an online chat service.
Lifeline delivers crisis support, suicide prevention and mental health support services across Australia.
Phone 13 11 14 or www.lifeline.org.au
Beyond Blue is for people with depression, anxiety and other emotional issues.
Phone 1300 224 636 or www.beyondblue.org.au
Kids Help Line provides support for people up to the age of 25.
Phone 1800 551 800

Finding a mental health expert that speaks your language
You can use an interpreting service if you need assistance in your language. TIS National should be your first stop when accessing mental health services or making an appointment. Not only can they help you book an appointment over the phone, but you can also request an on-site interpreter to attend your session with you.
Phone 131 450 or www.tisnational.gov.au

Other support services

Support for your children and spouse
Many international students choose to bring their spouse and children with them when they study in Australia. Some education providers offer language or other kinds of support that cover both you and your spouse. Ask your educational institution for more information.
If your children are school-aged, they’ll need to be enrolled at either a public (government-funded) or private school. Visit the NSW Government website for details.
www.education.nsw.gov.au
If your children are younger, Sydney has a wide network of childcare facilities. Your educational institution may provide childcare, but you can also get in touch with your local council to find childcare in your area.

Support services for LGBTIQ people
LGBTIQ stands for Lesbian Gay Bisexual Trans Intersex Questioning. In Australia, the Sex Discrimination Act 1984 makes it against the law to discriminate against a person on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity or intersex status.
QLife is a great resource that provides peer support and guidance over the phone and online for the LGBTIQ community in Australia.
www.qlife.org.au
If you’re looking for support services that are sensitive to your cultural needs, or would just like to engage with other LGBTIQ students from similar backgrounds then AGMC is a good resource. Or join the Rainbow International Students Network on Facebook.
www.agmc.org.au
Staying safe

Police in NSW

NSW Police Force’s main role is to protect the community and property. It does so by preventing, detecting and investigating crime, and monitoring and maintaining safety and order.

Its services are free and available 24/7 to everyone in the community, including visitors and international students. If you are the victim of a crime or you have seen or heard something unlawful, phone the police or go to a local police station. If you cannot speak or understand English, police can arrange for and communicate with you through an interpreter. Some police stations have Multicultural Community Liaison Officers to help communities. Visit the NSW Police Force website for information. Study NSW and NSW Police have developed a ‘Stay safe in our State’ video series which is available in 9 languages on the Study NSW YouTube channel.

www.police.nsw.gov.au

How can I stay safe?

Be aware of the security and emergency arrangements of both your institution and the local area. If you are leaving your institution at night then try to walk with a friend or a group. Take well-lit paths that are used regularly by other people. If this is not going to be possible, check if your institution has an escort service.

Who can I contact if I have been sexually harassed or assaulted?

Your first call should be to the police. You can visit your local police station or call 000.

The NSW Rape Crisis Centre provides 24/7 free and confidential support online and over the phone for any person who has experienced sexual violence in NSW.

Call 1800 424 017 or visit www.nswrapecrisis.com.au

Should you need to contact someone at your university to report sexual assault or for support services in relation to sexual assault, Universities Australia lists contact details for universities.

www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au

WHAT DO I DO IN AN EMERGENCY?

If you have a medical emergency, if there is a fire, or if you need police attention, call 000 (Triple Zero) it’s entirely free to call. You will then be asked if you need police, fire or ambulance. You can also request a translator if you need one.

www.police.nsw.gov.au
Sexual health

Where can I get advice on sexual health?
You can ask your doctor about sexual health matters including sexually transmitted infections (STIs), contraception options, and more. If you are a woman, you can choose to visit a female doctor if that makes you feel more comfortable.

Your education provider may also offer sexual health support, so make sure to check their website or visit the student help desk to find out.

For free and confidential advice about contraception options, pregnancy and sexual health, contact 1800 My Options. It is important to remember that the more sexually active you are the more often you should get tested for sexually transmitted infections (STIs). If left untreated some STIs can have serious impacts on your health outcomes.

The Sydney Sexual Health Centre and Western Sydney Sexual Health Centre provide free and confidential services to all international students.
www.1800myoptions.org.au
www.sshc.org.au
www.wslhd.health.nsw.gov.au/Western-Sydney-Sexual-Health-Centre

Contraception options in Australia
You can get contraceptive medications and devices very easily and cheaply in Australia. You should talk to your GP about long-term contraception options like IUDs and the pill. Condoms are available from supermarkets and pharmacies. Emergency contraceptives are available from pharmacies if you need them. Pregnancy tests are also available at the pharmacy or supermarket.

Staying fit

Gyms
If you’re keen to join a gym during your time in Sydney, there are several options available including Virgin Active, Anytime Fitness, Jetts, Fitness First and more. There are also womens-only gyms such as Curves and Fernwood. Most universities have gyms and offer students reasonable rates, while some managed accommodation providers have gyms on-site. Your local pool may also include a gym, which is often accessible for a low cost.

Fitness classes
While you can usually find a variety of fitness classes within a gym, there are options for classes-only venues. You can take up a membership for all kinds of fitness classes including kickboxing, F45 (high-intensity group workouts), weight training, cycling and more. Use the MINDBODY app to find fitness classes near you, or sign up for ClassPass where you can access lots of different fitness facilities under one membership.
www.classpass.com

Yoga
There are many different types of yoga, with varying levels of intensity and movement. The most common are hatha, Bikram and Ashtanga. Use Find Yoga to find a class near you; there are plenty of beginner classes available.
www.findyoga.com.au

Pilates
Pilates is an exercise that focuses on flexibility and strength. There are two different types of Pilates: mat-based and equipment-based, which is sometimes called ‘reformer Pilates’. YouTube is a great starting point but for further instruction check out a studio using Australian Pilates.
www.australianpilates.asn.au

BEACH SAFETY
A day spent at one of Australia’s 10,685 beaches is rarely a day wasted. If you’re planning a day out by the water, here’s your guide to staying safe and having a great day.

Plan your visit
Check the weather forecast before you leave. If there’s heavy rains or storms, consider postponing. Make sure you apply and pack sunscreen. Even if it’s cloudy the UV can be high. Don’t go swimming if you have consumed drugs or alcohol.

Stay safe
Don’t go swimming alone - grab a couple of friends and head to a patrolled beach. Once there, check for any signs and follow the instructions. Swim between the yellow and red flags, this is the monitored spot that’s deemed safest for swimming. Don’t dive into water, you may overestimate the depth and this can have very serious consequences.

How to get help
If you ever find yourself in trouble while swimming, try to stay calm and raise your hands to show that you need help. If you see someone else in distress in the water, emergency dial Triple Zero (000). For more information see Royal Lifesaving Australia. www.royallifesaving.com.au

Staying fit

Contraception options in Australia
You can get contraceptive medications and devices very easily and cheaply in Australia. You should talk to your GP about long-term contraception options like IUDs and the pill. Condoms are available from supermarkets and pharmacies. Emergency contraceptives are available from pharmacies if you need them. Pregnancy tests are also available at the pharmacy or supermarket.

What is sexual harassment?
Sexual harassment can take many forms, both physical and non-physical. Sexual harassment may include:

- Unnecessary familiarity, such as unwelcome touching
- Suggestive comments or jokes, insults or taunts of a sexual nature
- Physical assault, indecent exposure, sexual assault, stalking or obscene communications
- Sending sexually explicit emails or text messages
- Intrusive questions or statements about someone’s private life
- Requests for sex or repeated unwanted requests to go out on dates

- www.australianpilates.asn.au
- www.sshc.org.au
Dating

WHAT’S THE DATING CULTURE LIKE IN AUSTRALIA?

Australia has a pretty relaxed dating scene. In a lot of cultures, the first or second date can mark the beginning of a relationship. But in Australia, you’ll probably find yourself doing a lot of ‘couply’ activities before the relationship starts. Australia doesn’t have a huge pick-up culture. Generally, people will want to know someone a little bit before they agree to share contact details or hang out somewhere.

Remember, Australia does not tolerate verbal or physical abuse, nor stalking behaviour. Understand what is and isn’t appropriate before dating – you can read our sexual harassment section for more information.

WHERE CAN I MEET PEOPLE?

- Apps like Tinder, Bumble, OKCupid, Coffee Meets Bagel, Hinge, Happn and Plenty of Fish are popular in Australia and cater to various sexual preferences.
- Otherwise, pretty much any place we mentioned above under ‘Making Friends’ is bound to offer opportunities to meet potential dates!
- Remember to stay safe on a date. Laws around consent may be different in Australia compared to your country. Read our Safety section to find out more.

Making friends

You’ll probably meet lots of new people in your course or through where you live, whether it’s a share house or managed student accommodation. But there are also a few other avenues you can take to make friends.

HOBBIES AND INTERESTS

If your education provider has a student club network, make sure to join one that suits your interests – you’re bound to meet one or several like-minded people. You’ll find clubs and societies focused on all kinds of things, from individual sports and hobbies to specific cultural backgrounds or religions.

Outside of your educational institution, think about joining a choir, community garden, movie or book club, or any other group that matches your interests.

SOCIAL SPORTS

If you’re keen on a particular sport, you’ll most likely find a social sports league near you. Sports including basketball, futsal, cricket and other leagues are available all over Sydney.

www.justplay.com.au
www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/explore

LANGUAGE GROUPS

There’s bound to be other international students in Sydney looking to improve their English. There are countless English conversation groups happening all over the city; check your local library or community centre, or visit your education provider’s website to find out more. You’ll also find conversation groups on Meetup.

www.meetup.com

APPS AND WEBSITES

The key to finding friends might be in the palm of your hand. There are plenty of great apps and websites designed to help you meet people. Bumble BFF, We3 and Meetup are some of the best.

Understand that you won’t necessarily ‘click’ with everyone and that it can take time to make good friends. Don’t overthink it and just have fun meeting lots of new people!
Areas of Sydney

1. CITY CENTRE
   A buzzing epicentre of commuters, historical buildings, and student-heavy areas like Ultimo and Haymarket.

2. INNER SOUTH
   Home to youthful, arty and student-friendly suburbs like Redfern, Waterloo and Chippendale.

3. INNER WEST
   Alive with a culture of their own are the funky Inner West suburbs of Glebe, Newtown, Camperdown and Erskineville.

4. INNER EAST
   Take a step back in time on the leafy streets of Paddington, Darlinghurst and Surry Hills.

5. WESTERN SUBURBS
   The Western Suburbs of Parramatta, Penrith and Homebush make up Sydney’s cultural melting pot.

(not on map)
Getting around

Sydney’s transport system is diverse, clean and reliable. With buses, trains, ferries and a new light rail lane, there are plenty of transport options for getting around the city easily and efficiently.

**TRAINS**

Sydney has several train lines from Central that head east, north, west and south from the Central Business District (CBD). There are plenty of stations along each line, so check the timetable to see if any are close to where you live. The train system is an effective choice for getting to the outer suburbs and around the CBD quickly.

**LIGHT RAIL**

A new CBD & South East Light Rail lane has just opened, running from Randwick and Kingsford to the CBD. Light rail services are also available between Central Station and Dulwich Hill, stopping at a number of popular city centre and Inner West locations. At peak times on weekdays they run every ten minutes.

**BUSES**

To get to many of Sydney’s metropolitan areas, buses are the best option. Buses service almost all parts of Sydney and its outer suburbs, so it’s pretty likely there’ll be a bus stop near you. Buses around Sydney vary in arrival times, usually averaging between 5-15 minutes at popular bus stops and ranging up to an hour in the outer suburbs. If the bus has an L or X somewhere in the number, be careful! Some of these buses are express buses, meaning they won’t stop at certain bus stops. Check with the driver if you’re unsure.

**FERRIES**

Ferries cover almost every suburb that’s fronted by Sydney Harbour, including Manly, Balmain and Circular Quay, and even extend as far as Parramatta. The ferry system is one of the prettiest ways to get around the city, taking advantage of the city’s harbour, port and river system. Tickets are a little more expensive but worth it for the scenery.

**Planning**

To get real-time travel information for buses, trains, light rail and ferries in Sydney, download the TripView app. Available from the App Store, Google Play and Windows Phone Store, it makes planning your travel around the city a lot easier. With information on delays, vehicle locations and service interruptions, it will help you select the best available option for your journey.

**Ticketing**

You can either use your debit/credit card to use the public transport network or purchase an Opal transport card. Regardless of which option you choose, you need to tap on and tap off your card, as the fares are calculated based on the distance you travel. If you don’t do this, you may be charged at a higher rate.

If you want to use Opal, you’ll need to load money onto your Opal card at a station or an authorised store such as 7-Eleven. Visit opal.com.au for information on where to buy and top up an Opal card.

**CONCESSIONS**

International students are generally not entitled to transport concessions in NSW unless study is fully funded by specified Australian Government scholarships. For more information see:

www.transportnsw.info/tickets-opal/ticket-eligibility-concessions
BUYING A BIKE
The cheapest overall option is to buy your own bike to use throughout your time in Sydney. There are plenty of dedicated bicycle shops around the city, but you can also purchase affordable ones from Kmart.

Second-hand bikes are also a great option if you want to save money. Try Facebook Marketplace or Gumtree. You can also use these websites if you want to sell your bike when you leave Australia.

www.gumtree.com.au

BIKE LAWS
It is illegal to ride in Australia without a helmet and you must have a light on your bike if you plan to ride at night. As a bike rider, you’re allowed to ride on the road, on bike paths and on shared paths. You usually can’t ride on pedestrian footpaths. When you’re riding on the road, you’re expected to follow the same road rules as drivers. Check out the Transport for NSW website for more information.

www.roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au

BIKE LANES
There are several bike lanes and tracks around Sydney, designed to keep you safe. These are clearly marked so you know where you can safely ride. You can contact your local council for an up-to-date bike map or visit the Roads & Maritime Services website to use the interactive Cycleway Finder.


STORING AND LOOKING AFTER YOUR BIKE
You’ll find plenty of bike storage racks and lockers located all over Sydney, where you can securely leave your bike for an extended period of time (just make sure you have a good-quality lock). The Transport NSW website has a map showing all bike rack locations.


City of Sydney runs regular bike care and maintenance courses for only $25. Check the City of Sydney’s What’s On website for dates and times.

www.whatson.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Riding a bike
Most international students will spend between $700 - $1500 a year on transport. This makes getting a bike a very cheap alternative.

Add to that, riding a bike is:
- Good for your physical health
- Good for your mental health
- Good for the environment
- Reliable (no more waiting for late buses or traffic jams)

Ridesharing
The first to launch, and still by far the most popular, is Uber. A recent addition has been UberPool, allowing you to reduce your fare by sharing with others heading in a similar direction. Other companies in the Sydney market include GoCatch, Bolt and Ola, offering discounted rates during quiet hours of the day. The most unique ride sharing option available in Sydney is the female-only service Shebah. All drivers and all passengers of the service are female, with the exception being males under 18 travelling with a female, and many cars come with car seats available.

Taxis
There are a few taxi ranks located around the city - these are specific areas where you can line up and get a taxi, otherwise you can try hailing one from the side of the road.

Renting a car
If you want to explore some of Sydney’s outer parts or regional areas surrounding the city, you can rent a car for one or multiple days. There are several car rental providers around Sydney – use a comparison website like VroomVroomVroom to find the best deal.

www.vroomvroomvroom.com.au

Renting a bike
There are two bike share schemes running in central Sydney: Lime electric-assist bikes and Mobike.

You simply need to download the app to find your nearest bike.

www.li.me

www.mobike.com

Riding a bike
Most international students will spend between $700 - $1500 a year on transport. This makes getting a bike a very cheap alternative.

Add to that, riding a bike is:
- Good for your physical health
- Good for your mental health
- Good for the environment
- Reliable (no more waiting for late buses or traffic jams)

BUYING A BIKE
The cheapest overall option is to buy your own bike to use throughout your time in Sydney. There are plenty of dedicated bicycle shops around the city, but you can also purchase affordable ones from Kmart.

Second-hand bikes are also a great option if you want to save money. Try Facebook Marketplace or Gumtree. You can also use these websites if you want to sell your bike when you leave Australia.

www.gumtree.com.au

BIKE LAWS
It is illegal to ride in Australia without a helmet and you must have a light on your bike if you plan to ride at night. As a bike rider, you’re allowed to ride on the road, on bike paths and on shared paths. You usually can’t ride on pedestrian footpaths. When you’re riding on the road, you’re expected to follow the same road rules as drivers. Check out the Transport for NSW website for more information.

www.roadsafety.transport.nsw.gov.au

BIKE LANES
There are several bike lanes and tracks around Sydney, designed to keep you safe. These are clearly marked so you know where you can safely ride. You can contact your local council for an up-to-date bike map or visit the Roads & Maritime Services website to use the interactive Cycleway Finder.


STORING AND LOOKING AFTER YOUR BIKE
You’ll find plenty of bike storage racks and lockers located all over Sydney, where you can securely leave your bike for an extended period of time (just make sure you have a good-quality lock). The Transport NSW website has a map showing all bike rack locations.


City of Sydney runs regular bike care and maintenance courses for only $25. Check the City of Sydney’s What’s On website for dates and times.

www.whatson.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

68
History of Sydney

Pre-settlement

While there’s no official figure, experts estimate that Aboriginal people lived in Australia for 50,000-120,000 years prior to English settlement.

1790-1791

The second and third fleet of ships arrive in Sydney.

1816

The Royal Botanic Garden opens.

1831

The first edition of well-known newspaper the Sydney Morning Herald is published.

1850

The University of Sydney is founded.

1851

The discovery of gold brings many people from China, North America and Europe to the region.

1883

A railway is built between Sydney and Melbourne.

1901

Australia’s first Prime Minister, Sydney-born Edmond Barton, is elected.

1935

Luna Park opens.

1973

The Sydney Opera House opens to the public.

2000

Sydney hosts the Olympics.

Early 1788

The first fleet of British ships arrives in Botany Bay in January, and the first European settlement and penal colony is set up at Sydney Cove.

1842

Sydney officially becomes a city.

1854

The Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) opens.

1879

Sydney Airport starts operating.

1906

Central railway station opens.

1924

Sydney hosts the Olympic Games.

1932

The Sydney Harbour Bridge opens.

1979

The Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras holds its first festival.

Built on immigration

EARLY IMMIGRATION

There were between 300,000 to 950,000 Aboriginal people living on Australian land when the British first colonised in 1788, bringing nearly 1,500 men, women and children with them on the First Fleet.

THE GOLD RUSH

The discovery of gold in 1851 led to a wave of Chinese and European settlers arriving in Australia over the next decade. In the years following World War I and the Great Depression era in the 1930s, many more British settlers were encouraged to come to Australia, as were German Jews fleeing persecution. The Indian population in Australia increased in 1947, following India’s independence from Britain.

ASIA

Thousands of refugees from Thailand, Hong Kong, Malaysia and Vietnam arrived in Australia by boat in the late 1970s and early 1980s, and those who stayed have since set up thriving communities in Sydney. Cabramatta in south-west Sydney now has the largest Vietnamese population in Australia (and some of the best Vietnamese food in the city).

MIDDLE EAST

In the 1970s to 1990s, many people seeking asylum in Australia came from the Middle East. During the Lebanese Civil War in 1975-1990, thousands of people fled to Australia with the majority of Lebanese immigrants opting for Sydney as their city of choice.

TODAY

Since the creation of the first immigration portfolio in 1945, around 7.4 million people from overseas have settled in Australia. Now, around 39% of Sydney’s population was born overseas. The top countries of origin are China, the UK, India, New Zealand and Vietnam.

LEARN MORE

To learn more about Sydney’s migration history and to discover how various cultures have helped shape Australia, make sure to visit the Museum of Sydney. Located in the CBD, the museum is open daily from 10am to 5pm and entry is $12 for students.
Aboriginal culture

There was once over 500 different Aboriginal nations in Australia – so there’s no single ‘Aboriginal culture,’ there are many. There are about 29 clan groups of the Sydney metropolitan area referred to collectively as the ‘Eora Nation’. The ‘Eora people’ was the name given to the coastal Aboriginal peoples around Sydney. ‘Eora’ means ‘here’ or ‘from this place’.

HISTORY AND CULTURE
Learn more about Aboriginal history and culture at the Muru Mittigar Aboriginal Cultural & Education Centre in Rouse Hill. The centre houses a range of artefacts with presenters offering talks on all kinds of topics, including language, lifestyle and protocol. You can also take part in a painting lesson or boomerang workshop.

ART
The Art Gallery of New South Wales and the Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA) both house a fantastic selection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art. At both locations, you can check out traditional artefacts as well as more contemporary pieces across all kinds of mediums. There are also plenty of smaller galleries dotted across the city, including the Boomalli Aboriginal Artists Cooperative in Leichhardt.

FOOD
Take part in a Bush Tucker Walk at Muru Mittigar Aboriginal Cultural & Education Centre. You’ll learn all about how plants are traditionally used and be offered the opportunity to try native foods. The Royal Botanic Garden also runs an Aboriginal Bush Food Experience where you’ll identify, gather and prepare various bush foods.

MUSIC
Music is a big part of Aboriginal storytelling, and traditional instruments like the didjeridu, bulroarer and clapsticks are still used today. Make sure to check out artists like Yothu Yindi, A.B. Original, Baker Boy, Thelma Plum and Dan Sultan.

EVENTS

NAIDOC Week
NAIDOC (which stands for National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee) Week is a celebration of Aboriginal talent and culture, held every year in the first week of July. Each year, a different Australian city is chosen to host the welcoming ceremony, and a different theme is picked. Awards are given to celebrate the achievements of Aboriginal people, such as the Person of the Year Award, and the Caring for Country Award.

National Reconciliation Week
National Reconciliation Week is a time for Australians to learn about Aboriginal culture and history as a part of reconciliation. It lasts from 27 May, the anniversary of the 1967 referendum which included Aboriginal people in the census, to 3 June, the anniversary of the High Court Mabo decision that recognised the native title of Australia.

National Sorry Day
National Sorry Day, held on 26 May, is a day for Australians to acknowledge and raise awareness for the struggles of Aboriginal people, especially the impact of the Stolen Generation. The day was initiated in response to the absence of an apology by the Australian Government. Since their official apology in 2008, it has become a day of recognition and remembrance.
Sydney's Central Business District (CBD) is a buzzing epicentre of commuters, historical buildings, and student-heavy areas like Ultimo and Haymarket.

**Highlights**

Home to some of Australia’s most recognisable icons – such as the Harbour Bridge, Opera House and the Rocks – the CBD is filled with history and offers plenty of fun for day or night.

After you’ve ticked the obvious items off your bucket list (as mentioned above) you can unwind by taking a stroll around the heritage-listed Royal Botanic Garden, which offers stunning views of the harbour as you walk amongst the manicured lawns. If you’ve got the time, you can sign up for a guided tour with an expert who will teach you all about New South Wales’ native plants, or you can join one of the many classes on offer, such as the Aboriginal Bush Food Experience.

There are lots of great shopping opportunities in the city, too. You can brave the crowds at Pitt Street Mall for big retail stores like Zara, H&M, Uniqlo and smaller local shops. Or, head to outlet mall Market City or fresh food-focused Paddy’s Markets if you’re looking for a bargain.

At night, the Sydney CBD comes alive with a variety of food options. Chinatown in Haymarket is not to be missed. Here, you’ll find great yum cha and Japanese restaurants, and some of the city’s best dumplings at Chinese Noodle House on Quay Street (order the braised eggplant dumplings – you won’t be disappointed). For a delicious Brazilian feast, try Braza Churrascaria in Darling Quarter for an all you can eat BBQ.

The CBD is also home to a lot of secret underground bars. Grandma’s Bar on Clarence Street is great for cheap toasted sandwiches and a mouth-watering mango margarita. Other popular underground bars in the CBD include Stitch Bar, Ramblin’ Rascal Tavern, and Palmer & Co.

Don’t miss out on the perfect Instagram opportunity at the ‘In Between Two Worlds’ street art display in Kimber Lane, Haymarket. Afterwards, why not have some fun playing arcade games at Timezone or catch a show at the Capitol Theatre? If you’d rather stay in and cook, then you can stock up on all your groceries at Miracle Supermarkets on George Street. This Asian grocer has a great variety of foods and supplies – it’s a nice spot to get kimchi and Korean BBQ ingredients. For all your Japanese grocery needs, head to Maruyu on Kent Street or Conveni 8 on Pitt Street.

**Community facilities**

The Ultimo Community Centre is a popular space for sports and other recreational activities. You can hire a basketball court, take a yoga or fitness class, or learn how to do Chinese painting. The centre also offers English conversation classes, and there’s a bilingual Chinese community worker on duty at the facility between Monday and Friday.

There’s also a brand-new City of Sydney library in Darling Square, located inside the Exchange building. The library holds over 30,000 books, including a large Asian literature collection. You can come here to enjoy a good book or study in peace and quiet.

There are several churches around the Sydney CBD, including Scots Church (which welcomes cultural diversity), Church Hill Anglican, St. Patrick’s Catholic Church and the Hillsong City Campus. Sydney City Masjid in Argyle Place offers two different prayer times on Fridays: 12.15pm and 1.15pm. There are also smaller musallas near Town Hall (167B Castlereagh Street) and Wynyard (56-60 Erskine Street) stations.

**Unique experiences**

The Sunrise Coffee and Kayak tour, run by Sydney by Kayak, is the perfect way to start your day. It’s worth braving the 5.30am start to experience gliding through the glassy waters of Sydney Harbour as the sun is rising. Tours depart from Lavender Bay and the guides will greet you with a hot cup of coffee in hand, making the early start a little more bearable.

Explore the stunning Queen Victoria Building (known as the QVB) and roam through the boutique stores lining the strand arcade. This building was designed in 1898 during difficult financial times, when the government planned its development as a means to employ out-of-work craftsmen. The building has acted as many different things: a concert hall, a library, and even a place for palmists and clairvoyants to rent out. While it nearly succumbed to demolition in 1959, it still stands tall in the heart of Sydney.

If you’re looking for a spot to test your singing skills, Sydney’s CBD is scattered with great karaoke bars. Try Lantern by Wagaya on George Street (order some delicious Japanese food to eat while you sing), K1 Karaoke Lounge on Dixon Street (which offers very cheap happy hour karaoke from Sunday to Thursday and before 8pm on Friday and Saturday) and Echo Point (great for a small group of friends) on Pitt Street. Sydneysiders love their karaoke, so make sure you book ahead of time to secure a private booth.
In the city, there are great Brazilian places (Ovo Cafe) or Italian places (Vanto Restaurant), but pancake-lovers should check out Pancakes On The Rocks in Darling Harbour.

Abdul, UAE
Studying at CQ University (Sydney)

TOP 5

Sweet spots

Get your sweet fix at one of the many renowned dessert spots in the CBD.
1. Lorraine’s Patisserie is the go-to spot for incredible baked goods.
2. Head to Black Star Pastry to try their iconic Strawberry Watermelon Cake.
3. Aqua S does fascinating soft serve flavours like sea salt and Vietnamese coffee.
4. For traditional Japanese cheesecake, Uncle Tetsu’s is your best bet.
5. Koko Black serves all kinds of incredible chocolate dishes and drinks.

CHEAP CHOICE

Enjoy an authentic, cheap Malaysian meal at Mamak, located in Chinatown. Make sure you book a table, as there are often huge lines of people waiting to get in.

Ordering coffee

Some people can go a bit wild with their coffee orders, but here are the basics of ordering a cup of coffee in Australia.

- LATTE
- FLAT WHITE
- CAPPUCCINO
- LONG BLACK
- ESPRESSO
- MOCHA

Ingredients:
- Coffee Shot
- Warm Milk
- Water
- Chocolate Powder or Syrup
- Milk Foam
Inner South
The Inner South is home to youthful, arty and student-friendly suburbs like Redfern, Waterloo and Chippendale (known as ‘Chippo’ to locals).

Highlights
Chippendale is a small suburb packed with terrace houses and is just a short stroll away from Broadway Shopping Centre which houses everything you’ll need, including supermarket chains and big stores like H&M. Chippo is also home to one of the city’s best coffee spots, Brickfields, where you can buy delicious baked goods, too.

Once you’ve got a coffee in hand, you can explore the White Rabbit Gallery on Balfour Street, which exclusively exhibits 21st-century Chinese contemporary art.

Chippendale backs onto the popular Central Park shopping complex and a Palace cinema, which offers student discounts. You’ll find lots of great eateries both inside and around the complex, including Spice Alley, a strip of food vendors selling a variety of cheap and cheerful Asian cuisines every night of the week, and Anita, which does excellent gelato.

Not far from Chippo is Redfern, an area with strong cultural significance for Australia’s Aboriginal community. It’s where the Black Power movement was first born, and since the 1960s, the area has been the meeting point for political activism and protest around Aboriginal peoples’ rights.

The area is home to a selection of great bars, like Bart Jr. (named after a local neighbourhood cat), Arcadia Liquors and Moya’s Juniper Lounge (for gin-lovers), as well as mouth-watering food options. Try Breadfern for a weekend pantry or RaRa Ramen for some seriously good ramen.

Connecting the Inner South to the Inner West is the suburb of Waterloo. The area is quite industrial, but you’ll find lots of fantastic cafes dotted throughout. The centrepiece of Waterloo is Danks Street, which boasts plenty of great eating experiences, from Vietnamese favourite SO 9, to Middle Eastern-inspired Kepos & Co. Art-lovers should check out the Brenda May Gallery for young, emerging artists and Utopia Art Sydney, which highlights Aboriginal artists.

The adjacent suburb of Alexandria is also the place to go to stock up on cheap household items and plants from Bunnings Warehouse, or kitchenware from outlet store Victoria’s Basement.

Community facilities
Youthblock Youth Health Service on Abercrombie Street in Darlington (right behind Redfern train station) offers free and confidential counselling and health services for people aged 12 to 25 years old. If you need someone to talk to about money, family or relationship problems, or you have questions about your health or sex life, this is the place to go.

Myhealth Medical Centre Central Park in Chippendale offers a range of services, including psychology. Mandarin-speaking doctors are available. Redfern Station Medical Centre and Waterloo Medical Centre also provide a number of services.

For all things health and fitness you can go to the National Centre of Indigenous Excellence (NCIE) on George Street in Redfern. This community sports centre has a small gym, a heated indoor swimming pool, and a basketball court for hire. If you’re not a confident swimmer, you can join one of the ‘Learn to Swim’ classes, or try a range of fitness classes like yoga, Pilates, spin class, strength class and body pump. Student memberships are available.

There are several churches in the area including one1seven Church Redfern, St. Benedict’s Catholic Church in Chippendale, and Hillsong’s Waterloo Campus. Redfern is also home to Redfern Mosque.

Unique experiences
When researching Sydney, you may have already seen highly-Instagrammable cafe Grounds of Alexandria (known as ‘The Grounds’) popping up on your feed. This place is packed with people on the weekend and offers a variety of food stalls, florists and produce vendors, as well as a small selection of farm animals – the resident pig, Kevin Bacon, always draws a crowd.

For a very unique night out, head to The Bearded Tit on Regent Street in Redfern. It’s worth visiting just to see the eccentric decor alone. The venue hosts a variety of fun events that celebrate all things quirky and LGBTIQ+ friendly, from underwear parties to singles date nights.
Central Park

Central Park is a one-stop destination for all your shopping and entertainment needs.

1. Jasmine Asia Market sells groceries and other products from across Asia.
2. Head to Daiso for cheap homewares, storage products and utensils.
3. Glue Store, Hype and Superdry are your go-tos for streetwear and sneakers.
4. Stop by Ippudo for delicious ramen.
5. Finish your day at Timezone for arcade games and karaoke.

STUDENT TIP

“Go to Cuppa Flower in Waterloo for coffee and breakfast.”
Ying, China
Studying at the University of Sydney

CHEAP CHOICE

The Cauliflower Hotel in Waterloo has daily meal specials, including $10 burgers on Thursdays, $1 dumplings on Fridays and $1 wings on Saturdays.

UP TO 20% SCHOLARSHIPS

14 CAMPUSES AUSTRALIA-WIDE

1ST ASHOKA U CHANGEMAKER CAMPUS IN AUSTRALIA

5 STARS IN EMPLOYABILITY, INTERNATIONALISATION AND TEACHING^
Unique experiences

If you’re looking for a unique and fun activity, challenge yourself to one of the three escape room experiences on offer at The Cipher Room in Newtown. You and your friends will have an hour to immerse yourselves in a real-life, puzzle-solving adventure where you’re ‘locked’ in a room and given clues on how to get out. Don’t worry, you’re not really locked in the room – you can leave at any time. It’s all just part of the fun!

If you’re after a true local experience, visit the Young Henrys Brewery in Newtown. This local brewery provides beer to several pubs and restaurants in the area, with the aptly named ‘Newtowner’ a particularly popular brew. You can even take a tour of the brewery if you want to learn about how the beer is made.
Richmond is a hotspot for shopping, brunch, nightlife, sport, and street art. Bridge Road has traditionally been the best place to go shopping, but Swan Street has made a strong resurgence in recent years. The street is packed with great cafes, local boutiques selling a range of different products, cool burger joints, and classic Greek restaurants.

Marrickville and Leichhardt

Marrickville is around seven kilometres south of Sydney’s CBD. It’s popular among students because the rent here is considerably cheaper than in the city.

There’s a large Vietnamese community in Marrickville, and with that comes a lot of great food and grocery stores. Illawarra Road is where a lot of the best Vietnamese food is located, including Hello Auntie and Marrickville Pork Roll, which serves up the best banh mi in Sydney (it’s cheap, too).

Every weekend, Marrickville hosts a great produce market at the Addison Road Centre. There’s lots of great food and fresh fruit on offer at the Marrickville Market, as well as stalls selling secondhand furniture and antique finds. It’s the perfect place to grab a coffee and laze about in the sun on the weekend.

There are so many great cafes to try in Marrickville, including Cornersmith, which is known for its pickled goods, and Two Chaps (try the amazing beetroot and halloumi sandwich – it’s heavenly).

If you’re after some live music, Marrickville’s Lazybones is a small and cosy bar that often hosts local musicians. Order a nice glass of wine and enjoy the tunes. If you’re after a larger venue, The Factory Theatre hosts an array of events (comedy nights, music gigs and plays) and is situated near The Vic on the Park, so you can grab a beer with your friends before or after catching a show here.

Heading back towards the Inner West is Sydney’s Little Italy, Leichhardt. Sydneysiders flock here for beautiful and authentic Italian feasts and, of course, gelato! Head to Bar Italia for a drop of espresso or go to Mezzapica Cakes for perfectly crisp cannoli – both of these restaurants have been around since 1952.

Make sure to visit in October for the Norton Street Italian Festa. The whole precinct is closed off to cars so pedestrians can roam the streets and soak up the food and entertainment that comes with Italian culture.
Highlights

This part of Sydney is a little more upscale than the rest. What was once a working-class area is now a thriving hub full of boutique stores and big, gorgeous houses.

You can spend a whole day roaming the streets of Paddington and Darlinghurst, popping in and out of the many stores scattered along Oxford Street and winding your way through the back lanes. Paddington’s Five Ways is a small area in the suburb’s heart brimming with cafes, craft bottle shops and boutique fashion labels.

Springtime is a real treat around Oxford Street and its surrounds; the Jacaranda trees drop their flowers onto the streets, creating what looks like purple snow (it’s great for a photo opportunity). This part of town is also home to University of New South Wales (UNSW) Art & Design Faculty. Students can often be found working on assignments at the cafe across the road, Ampersand, or amongst the colourful novels at funky cafe/bookstore, Berkelouw Books. Here you’ll also find the classic pub The Unicorn, which hosts regular live music nights and offers a variety of fantastic pub food and drinks. For a cheaper alternative, just up the road is trendy hotspot Darlo Bar.

Surry Hills is Sydney’s cafe hub. You could spend a whole day hopping from cafe to cafe here and still not have time to try them all. Reuben Hills is a big, airy cafe on Albion Street with hip decor and a delicious South American-inspired menu. Devon Cafe is an Instagram-favourite, with lots of unique and beautiful dishes on the menu. Haven Specialty Coffee is a fantastic spot for Asian-inspired dishes and wonderfully made coffee.

One of Sydney’s best Lebanese restaurants, Abdul’s, is located in Surry Hills. It’s on the corner of Elizabeth and Cleveland Streets, just a 10-minute walk from Central Station. The food is cheap and no fuss, and every Friday and Saturday night you can enjoy your meal while watching a belly dancing performance. Also make sure to check out The Dolphin Hotel and The Clock on Crown Street. Both are great venues for an afternoon drink.

Community facilities

Surry Hills Library offers free wi-fi and peaceful study areas. And if you don’t have your own laptop, the library has computers and printers that you can use. There’s also a great selection of Russian books, DVDs and newspapers on offer, as well as Chinese and Spanish newspapers. What’s more, it has won awards for being an environmentally friendly and sustainable community building.

Darlinghurst is also where St Vincent’s Hospital is located, which was first built in 1857 and is one of Australia’s top hospitals. As well as offering general hospital services and emergency care, St Vincent’s operates the Anxiety Disorders Clinic. This service offers face-to-face appointments as well as low cost online treatments supervised by experts.

Darlinghurst is home to St John’s Anglican Church and Sacred Heart Catholic Church. In Surry Hills you’ll find King Faisal Mosque on Commonwealth Street. Paddington has several churches, including Paddington Uniting Church, Paddington Church of Christ and St. Francis of Assisi’s Catholic Church.

Unique experiences

Some of the best Indian food in Sydney can be found in Darlinghurst. Malabar on Victoria Road is famous for its dosas, and Brick Lane on Stanley Street serves up fantastic ‘new-age’ Indian food. For something a little different, Govindas on Darlinghurst Road is a cosy vegan Indian restaurant with an in-house cinema. It’s been running for nearly 40 years and is thought to be one of the city’s first plant-based restaurants. For $24.80 you have access to the all-you-can-eat buffet, and for $38.80 you can enjoy the buffet and a film.

If you have a concession card, you can watch a film for just $16.90, but the meal/film deal doesn’t apply to concession cards. Govindas is open from 5.45pm from Wednesday to Sunday.

For a fun night out, head to the Standard Bowl in Darlinghurst. This student-friendly bar has free entry and an in-house bowling alley which is free to use, retro arcade games and Johnny Wong’s dumpling bar. Many students flock to this bar for a dance and a drink, with DJs playing every Friday and Saturday night from 9pm to 3.30am.
Richmond and Melbourne Park

Kensington, Randwick, eastern beaches

The best part of Sydney is its beaches, with the most well-known being the famous Bondi Beach. While it’s certainly a stunning beach, it can get quite crowded, so there are a few alternatives you can try. Bronte and Coogee beaches are great swimming spots, while Clovelly Beach is a smaller inlet with minimal waves, making it great for beginner swimmers.

For the perfect start to your weekend, there’s a stunning three-kilometre coastal walk that takes you from Bondi to Bronte. Or, you can take it even further and do the six-kilometre Bondi to Coogee coastal walk. Stop in for a coffee at Coogee cafe The Little Kitchen at the end of your walk and enjoy the seaside atmosphere.

Kensington is home to the main UNSW campus, which means there are lots of students living in the area. Locals have some funny nicknames for this suburb, including ‘Kenso’, ‘Ensington’ and ‘Enso’. It’s home to large department store Peter’s of Kensington, which sells a variety of homewares, kitchenware and luggage at low prices. You can’t miss it – the building is pink! For something different, you can visit the Museum of Human Disease at UNSW, which houses over 2,500 human tissue specimens. Here, you can learn about many of the causes and outcomes of human disease.

There are many great dining options in the neighbouring suburb of Randwick. Just up from the beach, you’ll find pizza bar Maybe Frank for a delicious bite to eat – for meat-lovers, the Alba pizza isn’t to be missed. If you’re after something quick, Tucker has you covered. The menu is designed to grab and go, so you can take a salad or sandwich down to the beach and enjoy it seaside.

Randwick is also home to one of Sydney’s most iconic vintage cinemas, the Ritz. Enjoy new-release films and older movies that are showcased at special events, or settle in for a movie marathon (the Harry Potter and Lord of the Rings series are regulars here). Catch a film on Student Mondays, when tickets are only $6.

Darlinghurst is the place to go for a fun night out. Here are some of the area’s best bars.

1. Shady Pines Saloon has a Wild West vibe and great drinks.
2. Big Poppa’s serves delicious cheese plates alongside old-school hip-hop.
3. Eau De Vie is the spot for fancy and unique cocktails.
5. Stonewall is the heart of LGBTIQ culture in Sydney.

Top 5 Bars in Darlinghurst

My favourite dinner spot is Gogyo in Surry Hills. Gogyo is famous for delicious ramen.”

Ronil, India

STUDYING AT WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY

Student Tip

“Visit European bar Black Bottle for an incredible happy hour deal. You can get $1.50 oysters between 5pm and 7pm Wednesday to Friday, plus $2 glasses of wine on Thursdays.”

Randwick, Kensington, eastern beaches

Studying at Western Sydney University

Top 5 Bars in Darlinghurst

Darlinghurst is the place to go for a fun night out. Here are some of the area’s best bars.

1. Shady Pines Saloon has a Wild West vibe and great drinks.
2. Big Poppa’s serves delicious cheese plates alongside old-school hip-hop.
3. Eau De Vie is the spot for fancy and unique cocktails.
5. Stonewall is the heart of LGBTIQ culture in Sydney.

Cheap Choice

Visit European bar Black Bottle for an incredible happy hour deal. You can get $1.50 oysters between 5pm and 7pm Wednesday to Friday, plus $2 glasses of wine on Thursdays.
Western Suburbs
Parramatta, Penrith, Homebush and surrounding areas make up Sydney’s cultural melting pot. Here, you’ll find pockets of unique cultures and an affordable lifestyle.

Highlights
There’s a never-ending supply of things to do in Sydney’s western suburbs. Western Sydney University hosts an Out and About program, which sets up regular activities and adventures for students at discounted rates. You can go sightseeing, bushwalking or opt for an adrenaline-pumping experience like a climb up the Sydney Harbour Bridge or canyoning and abseiling in the Blue Mountains. It’s a great way to get to know other people on campus and make new friends. The University’s Penrith campus is home to the Penrith Observatory, where astronomy-lovers can gaze at the stars through telescopes, attend public workshops, or listen to experts speak for around $12.

For all your shopping needs, head to Direct Factory Outlets (DFO) in Homebush near Sydney Olympic Park. If you’re a bargain-hunter, this is the shopping centre for you; DFO houses many well-known brands selling stock at discount prices. Once you’ve tired yourself out from shopping, enjoy a snack at the international food court.

The west is where you’ll find the best selection of international food in the whole city. For delicious Malaysian food, look no further than Temasek in Parramatta. The laksa and beef rendang are the champions of the menu. If you’re on a budget and looking for a lunch under $10, head to Parramatta’s Destination Roll for delicious banh mi, or try the plant-based menu at Soul Burger.

There’s a great selection of authentic Northern Indian dishes available at Homebush’s Rasika Indian Restaurant. It’s best-known for some of its vegetarian dishes, like the vegetable manchurian and Aloo Baising. In Homebush you’ll also find several South Indian and Sri Lankan restaurants, including Blue Moon, New Shakthi Takeaway and Ram’s Food.

If you’d rather cook yourself, Homebush has several international supermarkets, like the Indian & Pacific Groceries, which are both located on The Crescent.

Not only is the food great in Western Sydney, but there’s also a huge selection of entertainment on offer. Sydney Olympic Park hosts many big name singers – like popular South Korean boy band GOT7 – and big sporting events throughout the year. In summer, embrace your inner child at Raging Waters Sydney in Prospect. With over 30 rides and attractions, it’s Sydney’s biggest waterpark and a guaranteed good time. The Japanese-inspired Auburn Botanic Gardens is a beautiful spot to explore all year round, but it’s particularly stunning in August during the nine-day Cherry Blossom Festival.

Community facilities
The City of Parramatta Library has a central location as well as six branches around the Western Sydney area. You’ll find a great selection of books, plus English conversation classes and various workshops and events, both in English and other languages.

Over 60 percent of NSW’s Islamic places of worship are located in the western suburbs, Australia’s largest mosque, and the first purpose-built mosque in Sydney, is the Lakemba Mosque. It offers worship services and an Islamic counselling service. If you’re not part of the Muslim community but want to learn more about it, the mosque provides tours and education sessions.

If you’re looking for a Hindu place of worship, the Shree Swaminarayan Temple in Blacktown hosts daily Darshan sessions as well as weekly Satsang Sabha every Sunday evening, followed by Mahaprasad.

To get in touch with nature, take a walk around the beautiful Parramatta River and visit one of the many cafes along the way. Or, get your fitness fix by taking your bike along the 20-kilometre cycle path between Parramatta and Sydney Olympic Park.

Unique experiences
Western Sydney has plenty of unique experiences on offer. Step back in time at the Blacktown Skyline Drive In. This colourful 1950s-themed diner and drive-in cinema is perfect for enjoying a movie the good old-fashioned way or trying one of the many snacks on offer in the cozy diner booths.

Take a step even further back in time by visiting the historic Old Government House, a 19th-century governors’ residence built by convicts, which now houses a collection of colonial furniture. The House, which sits in over 200 acres of land, is the oldest surviving public building in Australia. The main part of the building was built in 1799 by Governor John Hunter, but Governor Macquarie and his wife spent the most time in this residence.

Adventure-seekers should head to TreeTops Western Sydney to monkey around 15 metres above the forest floor on one of the 108 climbing challenges or flying foxes (the longest one is 250 metres). This adventure park offers courses of varying difficulties and has barbeque and picnic facilities for you to enjoy after a long day of climbing and zipping your way through the trees.
Heading to Eat Street in Parramatta? Make sure you try one of these great spots.

1. Itihaas is the place to go for contemporary Indian food.
2. Try one of the delicious vegan offerings at Soul Burger.
3. El-Phoenecian is known for serving up tasty Lebanese grills.
4. Head to Lao Der Lao & Thai Cuisine for traditional dishes.
5. Finish your night at Bay Vista to try one of their indulgent desserts.

Student Tip

“The best hidden gem in Sydney is Eat Street in Parramatta!”

Priya, Canada
Studying at the University of Sydney

Cheap Choice

Western Sydney University offers a rotating roster of international food trucks for students during term time, providing dishes from across the world. Head to the University’s website for an up-to-date timetable.
HUNTER REGION

Just over two hours north of Sydney is Newcastle and the surrounding Hunter region. Many Sydneysiders have started flocking to Newcastle for cheaper rent and a slower, relaxed lifestyle. This coastal city has the perfect blend of beachy small-town vibes with all the amenities offered in Sydney, like great cafes, parks and stunning beaches.

In Newcastle, you’ll find plenty of good coffee. Beaumont Street in Hamilton used to have a lot of Italian-owned businesses, but following the 1989 Newcastle earthquake, a lot of them had to rebuild. Now, Beaumont Street is home to some of the city’s best coffee. Head to Suspension Espresso for a tasty drop and something to eat while you take in a book in the leafy courtyard area. Darby Street – which is adjacent to one of the city’s best beaches, Bar Beach – is a great strip to stroll along with many boutique fashion labels, cafes and bars lining each side.

Walk down the Hunter Street Mall for some more great food and shopping options and you’ll eventually end up in the lovely Newcastle East area, where many of the city’s beautiful, historic terrace houses still stand. Grab some fish and chips from Scotties Seafood Restaurant (they are the best in town) and have a picnic on Newcastle or Nobbys Beach.

Another great picnic spot is King Edward Park. With a beautiful rotunda in its centre, this park dips into the ground like a well, surrounded by big, grassy hills. Here, you’ll also find Newcastle’s famous Bogey Hole. This a small natural swimming spot was hand-carved by convicts in 1819.

If you drive another 90 minutes north you’ll hit the Hunter wine region, where some of Australia’s best wines are produced. Get a group of friends together and hire a bus to take you on a tour of the best Hunter Valley wineries. Some popular spots include Brokenwood Wines, Tamburlaine Organic Wines and Tyrrell’s Wines. There are lots of great accommodation options around here, so if you’ve got a big group of friends, why not stay the night and make a weekend of it?
CENTRAL WEST (BATHURST, ORANGE AND DUBBO)

If you drive through the Blue Mountains, eventually you’ll arrive in the Central West region. It’s a truly unique area that’s very different from the coastal capital cities.

Bathurst is well-known for two things: the annual Bathurst 1000 car racing event that runs around Mount Panorama, and Charles Sturt University (CSU). During the semester, the whole city comes alive and buzzes with students. If you’re planning a day trip to Bathurst, there’s plenty to see and do. The best food in town is located in a little cafe called The Hub on Keppel Street. Just down the road is Al Dente, where you’ll find Bathurst’s best coffee. After you’ve fuelled up, it’s time to go for a walk. When there are no races on, Mount Panorama is a public road, so you can take a drive around the 6.2km circuit or walk along the edges (just be careful, as there aren’t any footpaths).

To end the day, head back into town and enjoy a delicious pizza at the converted church come restaurant, Church Bar. Each pizza is named after a street in Bathurst.

If you drive 40 minutes out of Bathurst, you’ll hit Orange, which is a big wine-producing region. If you want to do some wine tasting, book into Philip Shaw Wines. You can enjoy a glass of local wine while overlooking the gorgeous countryside – it’s truly magical! Head to Orange in April for Orange F.O.O.D Week or in October for the Orange Wine Festival.

From Orange, it’s about a two-hour drive further west before you reach Dubbo. A highlight here is Taronga Western Plains Zoo. Entry (which starts at $34.20) lets you visit lions, giraffes, rhinos and more in an open safari-like setting, and you can walk or cycle through the 6km long zoo.

ILLAWARRA REGION
(WOLLONGONG, KIAMAN AND SHOALHAVEN)

If you take the majestic, winding 90-minute drive south of Sydney, you’ll find yourself in the Illawarra region. The main gem here is Wollongong, the 10th most populated urban area in Australia.

There are plenty of things to do in this beautiful coastal city. Start by having a dip in the ocean. North Wollongong Beach and Wollongong City Beach are the most popular, so if you’re after a quieter spot, try Stanwell Park Beach. Go to the headland to try and spot the humpback whales swimming past during their migration period between May and November.

If you’re into water sports like kayaking, waterskiing and donutting, the saltwater lakes in Shellharbour and Lake Illawarra are must-visits. There are also some great fishing spots in the area, too. Speaking of fish... if you’re feeling hungry, the best fish and chip spot is on the outskirts of Wollongong at Aish’s Seafood & Takeaway in Berkeley.

Just 30 minutes out of Wollongong is the smaller town of Kiama. One of the biggest attractions in this area is the Kiama Blowhole, which sprays around 50 litres of water up to 25 metres high. Around 90,000 visitors check out the Blowhole each year. After you’ve viewed this impressive attraction, head to nearby cafe Milk and Honey and enjoy a cup of coffee while overlooking the ocean.

The nature in the Illawarra region is not to be missed. Macquarie Pass National Park, located 30 minutes from Wollongong, is the perfect spot to cool off in one of the many swimming holes. And in Darawal Forest, you’ll find Dharawal National Park. Your reward for completing the hiking trail is the view of the pristine waters of Madden Falls from the lookout. This park is perfect for birdwatching and picnicking – just make sure you take your rubbish with you.

STUDENT TIP

“Go to Lupa Woodfired Pizza for dinner. It’s located in the Wollongong CBD and is the only place that serves authentic Italian pizzas!”

Yuvi, UAE
Studying at the University of Wollongong

CHEAP CHOICE

The Lord Anson is one of Orange’s best pubs, with a great selection of craft beers, good food, and a trivia night every Thursday. There are lots of prizes to win and entry is entirely free.
NEW ENGLAND

This area is made up of cities like Armidale and Tamworth. Both are well-known in Australia for two very different reasons: Tamworth is the country music capital of the nation (the Tamworth Country Music Festival is held here each year in January) and Armidale is a student-heavy area (the city is home to the University of New England and around 22,000 students).

As music is embedded into Tamworth’s DNA, it’s not surprising that there are plenty of live music venues scattered across town. Major bands can be found playing at the Albert Hotel or Capitol Theatre, and local musicians will often grace the stage at the Imperial Brew House. The town’s most iconic landmark is the roadside Big Golden Guitar. Make sure you stop by for a photo.

For a unique eating experience, try the Glasshouse Restaurant on Goonoo Goonoo Station, a former sheep station from early British settler times. You can also stay overnight in one of the historic shearing sheds or cottages.

RIVERINA

The Riverina area is the agricultural epicentre of regional NSW. It’s a five-hour drive from Sydney, so it’s best to make a weekend of it. The two biggest towns in this region are Wagga Wagga (simply referred to as ‘Wagga’ by residents) and Griffith.

The perfect day in Wagga includes a morning visit to the Blessed Bean. The coffee is roasted in-house and the cafe serves up simple yet delicious meals, like a smashed avocado and poached egg brekkie. For lunch, the Artisan Baker has a delicious selection of pastries on offer, and, in the cooler months, it’s the perfect spot to enjoy a hot bowl of soup. When it’s warmer, head to the Thirsty Crow Brewery for a locally made craft beer.

As for things to see and do, you can check out the artworks at the public Wagga Wagga Art Gallery, which has Australia’s biggest public glass art collection. Try and time your visit for when the River & Wren Market is on, which takes place every second month or so. Held at the Wagga Wagga Showground, the market celebrates everything handmade and homegrown. Market stalls sell all kinds of things including jams, soaps, cakes and flowers.

Two hours northwest of Wagga is Griffith, which is known for producing a lot of great produce and beautiful wines (De Bortoli Wines is one of the most well-known). There’s a strong Italian history in this town, showcased at the annual Festa delle Salsicce – which celebrates the end of the salami-making season with a long lunch – and at the Griffith Italian Museum.

To enjoy some of the stunning views of the surrounding farmland, take a walk to the lookout at Hermit’s Cave on the ridge of Scenic Hill. Here, you can learn about Valerio Ricetti, who lived like a hermit in the caves (hence the name) for 23 years.

CHEAP CHOICE

Head to G. Thai in Wagga Wagga for their daily lunch specials, with plenty of classic Thai dishes available for only $10.

It’s often said that Armidale is the perfect blend of city and rural living. It has all the trimmings of convenient city life (great cafes, shopping centres and cheap rental properties), but it’s also home to some spectacular waterfalls and World Heritage-listed national parks. If you feel like getting out in nature, the Wollomombi Falls picnic area is a great place to start. From here you can walk along either the Chandler walking track or Wollomombi walking track, which both boast phenomenal views of the gorge. You can even pitch a tent here if you feel like staying overnight.

Back in town, the Goldfish Bowl is one of the most popular lunch spots, with great sweet and savoury options available at reasonable prices. For a student-centric night out, head to the Stro on the University of New England campus. Non-students may have to pay for entry to certain events, but you’re bound to find other students hanging out here – even when there’s not an official event or party happening.
NORTHERN RIVERS

This relaxed region of New South Wales is a popular spot for tourists, with incredible beaches that sprawl along the eastern coastline.

Byron Bay, Australia’s most easterly point, has a real ‘hippie’ vibe, and locals can often be found walking around town in their swimming costumes.

There’s a never-ending supply of amazing, healthy food in Byron. Browse the many vendors that are set up right in front of the beach – Orgasmic Falafel is not to be missed.

After you’ve spent the day chilling out on the beach (surfing spot The Pass and Wategos Beach are local favourites), you’ll be ready for a night on the town.

The biggest pub in Byron, the Beach Hotel, overlooks the main beach and is the perfect spot to have a drink and watch the sun go down. If you’re looking for a dance, head to Cheeky Monkey’s for pop music and dancing on tabletops.

Ten minutes out of Byron is Brunswick Heads. For a fun night out, try Cheeky Cabaret at the Brunswick Picture House. It’s big, bold and brash, and features monthly world-class cabaret performances in a renovated, 50s-style cinema. It’s a truly unique Northern Rivers activity. Plus, it’s BYO (you can bring your own wine and beer)!

Around 30 minutes southwest of Byron is Lismore, an area known for its creative arts scene.

The artwork in Lismore can also be found in the streets. The Back Alley Gallery on Eggins Street has hosted large scale murals and graffiti art from over 60 artists from across the Northern Rivers region, and it’s free to visit.

A trip to the Protesters Falls walking track in Nightcap National Park is an absolute must-do. It’s about an hour north of Lismore, but is totally worth the trip. Take a stunning walk through pristine rainforest to a beautiful waterfall. There’s a lot of historical significance here, as this is where the first successful anti-logging protest in the region took place 40 years ago.

Cheat Choice

Balcony Bar and Oyster Co. in Byron Bay has some of the best food and drink deals in the Northern Rivers region. Think daily happy hour, $1.50 oysters on Wednesdays, and bottomless brunches on weekends.

Giveaway Time!

Want to enjoy Australia like a local? Win free tickets to events, sports games, experiences and more!

Head here to our website for more information

INSIDERGUIDES.COM.AU/GIVEAWAYS
A week in Sydney

**MONDAY**
Start your week with a night of big laughs at the Comedy Lounge in Surry Hills. For just $10 you can witness some of Sydney’s best comedic talent taking the stage to share some hilarious (and often cringeworthy) stories. The show starts at 8pm, but get there early for cheap drinks from 5 to 7pm.

**TUESDAY**
Put on your dancing shoes, because it’s Salsa Tuesdays at Establishment in the CBD. Enjoy free, casual salsa classes from 8pm and cheap cocktails all night to put a little extra shimmy in your shoulders. When the class is over, the salsa dancing continues throughout the night.

**WEDNESDAY**
Fancy winning a few free jugs of beer? Why not try your hand at some Wednesday night trivia? The Henson in Marrickville is known for hosting fierce rivalries between local general knowledge buffs. Enjoy a tasty pub meal and prepare for some healthy competition. Trivia kicks off at 7.30pm and entry is free.

**THURSDAY**
Unleash your inner artist at Parliament on King in Erskineville. Each week, the cafe and bookstore hosts a life drawing class from 7 to 9pm. These classes are designed for beginners and advanced painters, so everyone is welcome.

**FRIDAY**
Cheers to the end of the week at the Albion Hotel in Parramatta. Every Friday from 4 to 6pm, house beers and wines are only $5. Enjoy your drink while listening to an acoustic cover band playing all your favourite tunes from 5.30pm onwards.

**SATURDAY**
Sydney’s famous gay pride strip, Oxford Street, celebrates all things queer and colourful with a selection of bars and clubs playing buzzy dance music. On Saturdays, catch a drag show at the famous Stonewall nightclub – shows start at 10.30pm and go until late.

**SUNDAY**
Sundays are all about relaxing with a coffee at the markets. The Flour Mill Markets are held every second Sunday in the heart of the heritage-listed Mungo Scott building in Summer Hill. This is a sustainable event (plastic-free) that sells fresh produce, pottery, pastries, flowers and more. Bring your own coffee cup for a discount on your coffee!
A year in Sydney

JANUARY

SYDNEY FESTIVAL
8-26 Jan
Enjoy 19 days of creativity as Sydney highlights its best artists. Exhibitions, plays, dances and art installations are dotted across the city as part of one of Sydney’s biggest cultural celebration.
www.sydneyfestival.org.au

FEBRUARY

SYDNEY GAY AND LESBIAN MARDI GRAS
29 Feb
Each February, Sydney is painted in rainbows for Mardi Gras. Gay pride events will be held throughout the month, finishing with the annual pride parade on 29 February. Get your glitter ready.
www.mardigras.org.au/2020

MARCH

HARMONY DAY
21 Mar
On this day, Australia recognises its culturally diverse community and acknowledges the important role people from other backgrounds play in building the community. Enjoy cultural performances, workshops, food, films and forums.
www.harmony.gov.au

APRIL

FESTIVAL OF DANGEROUS IDEAS (FODI)
3-5 Apr
Hear from some of the world’s biggest thinkers at this annual festival. Guests flock to talks, panels and Q&A sessions discussing fascinating and provocative ideas on various topics.
www.festivalofdangerousideas.com

SYDNEY WRITERS’ FESTIVAL (SWF)
27 Apr-3 May
Venues across the city are abuzz with insightful events and talks with the best writers, thinkers and creatives from Australia and across the globe.
www.swf.org.au

MAY

VIVID
Vivid Festival sees colourful lights and designs projected onto the sails of the Opera House as well as other buildings throughout the CBD. Light art installments are also scattered in random pockets of the city.
www.vividsydney.com

JULY

CHRISTMAS IN JULY
Even though Australia celebrates a summer Christmas, in winter lots of pubs and restaurants will dress their stores with decorations and offer cosy Christmas food like roast dinners and mulled wine.

AUGUST

CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL
Every August in the Western Sydney suburb of Auburn, the Cherry Blossom festival takes place over two weeks. The festival pays homage to all things Japanese, with authentic food, music and sake on offer during the blooming period.
www.facebook.com/auburnbotanicgardens

SEPTEMBER

BLACKMORES SYDNEY RUNNING FESTIVAL
20 Sep
This festival has taken place every September since 2001. Choose from the marathon (42km), half-marathon (21km), bridge run (10km) or the family fun run (3.5km). All proceeds go towards charities like Beyond Blue and the Leukemia Foundation.
www.sydneyrunningfestival.com.au

OCTOBER

GOOD FOOD MONTH
Good Food Month celebrates all things food and drink, in partnership with Australia’s best chefs and restaurants. A highlight is the Night Noodle Markets at Hyde Park, which offers a wide range of Asian food stalls and pop-up bars set up under the stars.
www.goodfoodmonth.com/sydney

NYE BY THE HARBOUR
31 Dec
Get into the harbour early on New Year’s Eve so you can secure yourself a patch of grass to watch the majestic midnight fireworks display. Pack a blanket, some snacks to get you through the night and a bottle of bubbles to bring in 2021.
www.sydneynewyearseve.com

NOVEMBER

FESTIVAL OF DANGEROUS IDEAS (FODI)
3-5 Nov
Hear from some of the world’s biggest thinkers at this annual festival. Guests flock to talks, panels and Q&A sessions discussing fascinating and provocative ideas on various topics.
www.festivalofdangerousideas.com

SYDNEY WRITERS’ FESTIVAL (SWF)
22 Nov-2 Dec
Venues across the city are abuzz with insightful events and talks with the best writers, thinkers and creatives from Australia and across the globe.
www.swf.org.au

DECEMBER

NYE BY THE HARBOUR
31 Dec
Get into the harbour early on New Year’s Eve so you can secure yourself a patch of grass to watch the majestic midnight fireworks display. Pack a blanket, some snacks to get you through the night and a bottle of bubbles to bring in 2021.
www.sydneynewyearseve.com

VIVID
Vivid Festival sees colourful lights and designs projected onto the sails of the Opera House as well as other buildings throughout the CBD. Light art installments are also scattered in random pockets of the city.
www.vividsydney.com

INSIDERGUIDES.COM.AU

WWW.STUDY.SYDNEY

104

105
Cinema

Sydney is home to several cinema chains playing the latest blockbusters, as well as classic theatres showing art-house and independent films.

There are lots of great old-school cinemas in Sydney, including the art deco, heritage-listed Ritz Cinemas in Randwick, the Palace Cinemas chain (Paddington, Chippendale and Leichhardt), and the Golden Age Cinema & Bar in Surry Hills. These vintage cinemas play new releases, but they also screen classic favourites and host many of Sydney’s best film events, such as the Italian and Scandinavian Film Festivals.

Sydney also has its fair share of modern cinema chains scattered around the city, like HOYTS and Event Cinemas. Most cinemas offer student tickets, but there are some special deals worth noting.

At the Dumaresq Street Cinema in Campbelltown, all tickets are $7.50 all the time (the average ticket price in Sydney is $22 for adults and around $16 for students).

If you’re looking for something closer to the city, Dendy Cinemas in Newtown has $8 student tickets on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. For an extra $4 you can get a beer and a choc top. Or, head to Soda Factory in Surry Hills for free movie screenings and unlimited popcorn every Monday night.

One of Sydney’s most notable film events is the annual Tropfest film festival. Held in Parramatta Park in February, Tropfest draws thousands of people each year. Local filmmakers enter this competition (with a new theme announced each year) and around 16 finalists have their short films screened, with winners announced at the end of the evening. Bring along a picnic rug and some snacks and settle in for a night of films that will make you laugh and cry. Head to the Tropfest website to see previous years’ films.

www.tropfest.org.au

Live music

No matter what genre of music you like, you’re bound to find a venue that suits your tastes.

**THE LANSDOWNE HOTEL**
One of Sydney’s most iconic live music venues is the Lansdowne Hotel in Chippendale. Back in the day, it saw big names like Nirvana and the Preatures take the stage, but in 2015, the venue was sadly closed down. Two years later, the people behind Newtown’s famous burger joint, Mary’s, saved the day by purchasing it, and now this mid-sized music venue is the perfect hangout spot for students and rock ‘n’ roll/punk music lovers.

**THE MARLBOROUGH HOTEL**
For indie music fans, the top level of the Marlborough Hotel in Newtown hosts local up-and-coming talent every Thursday from 9pm. Downstairs, you’ll also find a live band doing cover songs on Friday and Saturday nights, as well as DJs playing the latest hits and classic dance songs. Further down in the basement, ‘rave cave’, also known as Tokyo Sing Song, DJs play house music on Friday and Saturday nights until the early hours of the morning.

**ENMORE THEATRE**
The longest-running live music venue in New South Wales, the Enmore Theatre is just up the road from the Marlborough Hotel. This is where more well-known artists like Carly Rae Jepsen, The Dandy Warhols and The Darkness grace the stage. It’s close to a lot of great bars and pubs for a pre-gig beverage.

**POTTS POINT HOTEL**
If jazz is more your style, head to the Potts Point Hotel for Jazz Sundays. From 3pm, you can listen to the soothing melodies of a quartet band while you enjoy a cold beer and a Sunday roast dinner. What more could you want?

**GIG GUIDES**
To stay in the loop with the big name artists who will be touring in Sydney, you can sign up to the The Brag’s newsletter. If you want to discover up-and-coming talent, City of Sydney’s ‘What’s On’ website allows you to search exclusively for gigs near you.

www.thebrag.com/gigs
whatson.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au
Fun activities

Indoor trampolining
If you’re looking for a unique day out (and a way to burn off some energy) there are several places where you can literally bounce off the walls. Let your inner child run and jump freely at many of the great trampoline parks in Sydney. Head to Sky Zone in Alexandria, Sky High Trampoline Park in Bankstown or Planet X in Richmond for a fun afternoon of flips, somersaults and leapfrogs. Just be prepared to work up a sweat!

For a different kind of night out, try a ‘Flip Out After Dark’ session at Penrith’s Flip Out. With lasers, smoke machines and an in-house DJ, you can bounce along to the music and burn some calories in the process. Prices sit between $14 and $16 for one hour, and $20 and $22 for two hours.

www.skyzone.com.au
www.indoortrampoline.com.au
www.planetxent.com.au
www.flipout.net.au

Dancing
Get your groove on at one of Sydney’s many dance/exercise classes. Whatever your dance style, there’s a class for you. If you like all things ‘80s – the music, aerobics and bold, bright fashion – then Retrosweat is for you. Classes are held at Bondi Pavilion for $25.

If casual hip-hop is more your vibe, Groove Therapy has you covered. This beginners class in Redfern prides itself on being judgement-free; everyone is welcome here.

If you’re feeling shy about dancing in front of other people, why not do it in the dark? No Lights No Lycra is a global dance movement designed to bring movement and dance into an inclusive space. You don’t have to worry about what you look like or what you’re wearing because you’re literally dancing in the dark. Let your guard down and shake your troubles away. Sydney locations include Parramatta, Manly, Bondi and Newtown.

www.retrosweat.com.au
www.groovetherapy101.com
www.nolightsnolycra.com

Quidditch
Live out your Harry Potter fantasy by joining the 2020 Australian Quidditch Championships (flying broomsticks not included). This game will get your heart pumping and is a great way to meet other students. The University of Sydney has a Quidditch Club that plays competitively in state and national tournaments, but there’s also the opportunity to play casually. Training sessions take place around three days per week in Victoria Park on Broadway.

Outside of training and playing, this club hosts several Harry Potter-themed social events like trivia, scavenger hunts and pub crawls. All muggles are welcome to join (even non-students) but other universities in Sydney also have Quidditch clubs, including UTS, Western Sydney University, UNSW and Macquarie University. Head to the Quidditch Australia website for more details.

www.quidditch.org.au

Paint and drink
Get creative with an evening of art, wine and laughs at one of Sydney’s many beginner painting classes. Bring a bottle of your favourite wine as expert artists take you through the painting process step-by-step. Everyone in the class will be guided through the same painting, but you’re encouraged to add your own personal touch. Afterwards, you can take your masterpiece home.

Cork & Chroma holds classes in Surry Hills and St Leonards, Brush and Sip is based in Newtown, and Cork and Canvas sessions are held in Darlinghurst, Crows Nest and Bondi Junction. Head to each venue’s website to choose which painting you’d like to replicate and get creative.

Classes range from $55 to $65 and include all paint, a smock, wine glasses, and your teacher’s time.

www.corkandchroma.com.au
www.brushandsip.com.au
www.corkandcanvas.com.au
Camping

In the bushland surrounding Sydney, there’s a range of great camping spots if you feel like escaping the city. Head to the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service website to find out where you can set up camp. The site will also tell you which parks are free to enter and those that require a fee.

When venturing off the beaten track, it’s always a good idea to let someone know where you’re going. Fill out a trip intention form (found on the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service website) with information on the route you’re taking. This can help locate you in case of an emergency. In some areas, like the Blue Mountains, you can also borrow a free Personal Locator Beacon (PLB) from the local police station. When activated, it sends a signal via satellite to emergency services.

When packing for a camping adventure, make sure you’ve got the basics: tent, pillows/blankets, food, water, sun protection gear, torch, utensils, comfortable shoes/clothing, swimmers, towel, toiletries, and a bag to collect all your rubbish to take back with you.

The waterside Basin campground in Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park is just an hour out of Sydney. It’s got all your basic amenities covered, as well as bathrooms, drinking water and a barbeque area. Plus, it’s thought to be one of the best snorkelling spots in Sydney.

Just an hour from the CBD, Cattai campground is situated along the beautiful Hawkesbury River and is surrounded by birds. There’s lots of space here, so it’s the perfect place to head with a group of friends for a peaceful weekend of walks along the river and roasting marshmallows on the fire.

Take a trip down the Ruined Castle walking track in the Blue Mountains National Park. For this journey, you might want to borrow a PLB; it’s a difficult track so it’s best for experienced hikers. Once you’ve walked the six-kilometre track, you can set up your tent at one of the two campsites nearby – Kedumba River Crossing and Dunphys. Enjoy a night under the stars.

HOSTELS

Hostels are a great way to travel and explore Australia; they’re affordable accommodation (share or private rooms), you can cook your own meals and most importantly, make new friends from all over the world, including some locals. YHA has over 75 hostels across Australia in all major towns and cities.

www.yha.com.au
Key contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTACT NAME</th>
<th>WHEN WOULD I USE THIS SERVICE?</th>
<th>CONTACT DETAILS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AUSTRALIAN CONSUMER LAW</td>
<td>Understand your legal rights in regards to shopping or purchasing goods and services.</td>
<td>consumerlaw.gov.au</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUSTRALIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION</td>
<td>If you feel you are being treated unfairly because of your race, descent, colour or ethnic/national origin then make a complaint to the Australian Human Rights Commission.</td>
<td>humanrights.gov.au</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUSTRALIAN TAXATION OFFICE</td>
<td>Contact them to arrange a Tax File Number or learn more about payments made to you while you're here.</td>
<td>ato.gov.au</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEYOND BLUE</td>
<td>A free counselling service that you can contact if you are feeling depressed or anxious.</td>
<td>1300 224 636 beyondblue.org.au</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CITY OF SYDNEY</td>
<td>See the website for information on all the services, facilities and events happening in the city centre and surrounding suburbs.</td>
<td>cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CITY OF SYDNEY COMMUNITY CENTRES</td>
<td>Community facilities that assist with the learning and recreation needs of the local communities in which they’re based</td>
<td>cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CITY OF SYDNEY YOUTH SERVICES</td>
<td>The City delivers six youth programs within the City of Sydney local government area which offer recreational, education and vocational programs.</td>
<td>facebook.com/cityofsydneyyouth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OVERSEAS STUDENT OMBUDSMAN</td>
<td>This resource investigates complaints about problems that overseas students have with private education in Australia.</td>
<td>1300 362 072 oso.gov.au</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONSUMER AND BUSINESS SERVICES (AND TENANCY ADVICE)</td>
<td>If you require detailed information about obligations and entitlements when buying products and services.</td>
<td>13 32 20 fairtrading.nsw.gov.au</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AUSTRALIA</td>
<td>The peak body for the interests and needs of international students, they always require volunteers.</td>
<td>cisa.edu.au</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE (FOR EMBASSIES)</td>
<td>If you require help from your country’s embassy within Australia.</td>
<td>dfat.gov.au</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONTACT NAME | WHEN WOULD I USE THIS SERVICE? | CONTACT DETAILS |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DEPARTMENT OF HOME AFFAIRS</td>
<td>This government department handles visa enquiries and issues.</td>
<td>homeaffairs.gov.au</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAIR WORK OMBUDSMAN</td>
<td>If you require assistance understanding your workplace rights and responsibilities.</td>
<td>13 13 94 fairwork.gov.au</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAMBLING HELP</td>
<td>If you are having problems managing your gambling, you can call for free, confidential support.</td>
<td>1800 858 858 gamblinghelp.nsw.gov.au</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HEALTHDIRECT AUSTRALIA</td>
<td>Outside of GP consultation hours their trained staff can help you treat non-urgent illnesses.</td>
<td>1800 022 222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDP SYDNEY</td>
<td>Assistance with assessing study options, including courses, applications and student visas.</td>
<td>8260 3300 idp.com/australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEGAL AID</td>
<td>If you need to know what your legal rights are then contact this free legal service.</td>
<td>1300 888 529 legalaid.nsw.gov.au</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIFELINE</td>
<td>If you need someone to talk to about your state of mind, this resource is a crisis support hotline.</td>
<td>lifeline.org.au</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSW OMBUDSMAN</td>
<td>An independant agency to watch over the NSW Government and improve their delivery of services to the public.</td>
<td>9286 1000 ombo.nsw.gov.au</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REDfern LEGAL CENTRE</td>
<td>This independent, non-profit community centre offers free legal advice, referral and casework to international students anywhere in NSW.</td>
<td>9698 7277 rlc.org.au</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SERVICE NSW</td>
<td>NSW Government services including driving and transport.</td>
<td>13 77 88 service.nsw.gov.au</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STUDY NSW</td>
<td>Study NSW delivers programs, events and engagement programs to enhance the experience of international students in NSW.</td>
<td>study.sydney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRANSPORT INFOLINE (PUBLIC TRANSPORT SERVICES)</td>
<td>To find out about trains, buses and ferries, including ticketing information, timetables and more.</td>
<td>13 1 500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**EMERGENCY**

For emergency services requiring ambulance, fire brigade and/or police dial Triple Zero (000). If you require a translator then tell the operator your language and they will connect you with one.
Futures shaped here

Today's home for tomorrow's leaders.

With private studios and shared apartments designed perfectly for students, social communal spaces and an unbeatable location, Scape Abercrombie is changing the shape of student living.

Get the best head start with Scape.

Scape Student Living
P. +61 3 9977 8088 E. bookings.au@scape.com W. scape.com

macleay college

Your career starts on day one.

We deliver industry driven business and communications courses in a supportive, success focused environment.

We are in the heart of Sydney and Melbourne city.

Diplomas + Bachelor Degrees
Advertising + Media
Digital Media
Business
Marketing
Journalism
Accounting

Job Opportunities Include:
Marketing Specialist
Multimedia Specialist
Journalist
Accountant
Plus many more

Phone 1300 939 888
+61 2 9267 3311
international@macleay.edu.au
macleay.edu.au

Apply Now
Join Australia’s No. 1 Young University*

- Gain the skills you need to impress future employers. Our practice-based approach will make you ready for the real world.
- Study at our campus that’s one of a kind. We are located in the heart of Sydney and our award-winning buildings will inspire your learning.
- You come first. We’ll support you along the way through our extensive range of support services.

* We’re the top young university in Australia, according to the QS Top 50 Under 50 2020 and the Times Higher Education Young University Rankings 2019.