

Melbourne Travel Guide and Activities



Melbourne is the coastal capital of the southeastern Australian state of Victoria. It is a bustling multicultural city filled with art, fantastic shopping and great restaurants to explore. With Melbourne's combination of world-class dining, art galleries, homegrown fashion and a packed sports calendar, it's no surprise Victoria's capital is regarded as the world's most livable city. EC Melbourne is centrally located in the heart of the business district, close to shops, cafes and diverse cuisine. EC Melbourne offers a great balance of serious language learning with a fun and social atmosphere.



5 THINGS TO SEE

- Federation Square and Eureka Tower
- St Pauls Cathedral and National Gallery of Victoria
- Royal Botanic Gardens
- Melbourne Aquarium and Zoo
- Polly Woodside

5 THINGS TO DO

- Enjoy drinks with a view at one of Melbourne's many rooftop bars
- Explore the city centre, following the cobbled laneways
- Shop at famous Melbourne markets
- Attend one of Melbourne's numerous sporting events
- Savour the Yarra Valley's wine and wildlife

CLIMATE

Melbourne has a temperate oceanic climate and is well known for its weather conditions. The city is often described as having four seasons in one day - but it can still be enjoyed all year round.

COST OF LIVING

Coffee/cappuccino (Starbucks) \$3.50 - \$4.80
Soda (0.33 litre bottle) \$2.50 - \$4.00
Bottle of water (0.33 litre) \$2.00 - \$3.50
Fast food combo meal \$10.00 - \$14.00
Meal, inexpensive restaurant \$12.00 - \$25.00
Cinema ticket \$18.00 - \$22.00
Fitness club (monthly, 1 adult) \$15.00 - \$60.00
Nightclub entrance \$10.00+
Public transport(local train) 'Myki Card' full fare \$6.00
Full day fare is \$8.80; Zone 1 / Zone 1+2 \$61.60 p/w

CURRENCY

Currency - Australian Dollar (A\$)

All major credit cards are widely accepted.

The main banks are:

- Commonwealth Bank
- National Australian Bank (NAB)
- Westpac Bank

Banking hours:

Banks are usually open during business hours from:

9.30 am to 4 pm, Monday to Thursday

9.30 am to 5 pm on Fridays

Some banks and branches may stay open longer or open on weekends.

HEALTH & INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Australia has a special health insurance coverage for international students called Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC). OSHC is insurance designed to help international students cover the costs of medical and hospital care that they may need while in Australia. Because of these requirements, it is important that international students purchase their Australian international student health insurance prior to departing their home country. Belgian students do not need to purchase OSHC since they are covered under the Reciprocal Health Care Agreement. Swedish students do not need to purchase OSHC since they are covered under the National Board of Student Air or by Kammarkollegiet. If not covered by either, then Swedish international students will need to purchase OSHC. Norwegian students do not need to purchase OSHC since they are covered under the Norwegian National Insurance Scheme.

USEFUL LINKS

- [Melbourne Travel guide](#)
- [Melbourne Main Attractions](#)
- [Public transport general information](#)

VISA REGULATION

For Visa information please read: [Immigration and Visas](#)

TELEPHONE COUNTRY CODE

0061

DRIVING AGE

The driving age in Australia is 17 years. A learner can drive at the age of 16 under the supervision of a fully licensed driver. After obtaining a licence, a driver continues to be subject to restrictions during a 2-year probationary period.

ALCOHOL AGE

It is illegal for any person under the age of 18 years to purchase, supply, or drink alcohol on licensed or regulated premises, even if they are with their parents or guardian.

SMOKING LAWS

Australia has very strict local laws on smoking. Current laws prohibit smoking anywhere inside pubs, clubs, hotels, restaurants and workplaces and outdoor public places, including the Queen Street Mall, Bourke Street Mall, playgrounds, beaches, sports stadiums and within 4 metres of non-residential building entrances.

TAP WATER - DRINKABLE!

Melbourne's water is from natural sources. It's filtered to the high standards set by the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines. This ensures it's safe to drink straight from the tap.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

- 1st January 2019
- 28 January 2019
- 11 March 2019
- 19 April 2019
- 22 April 2019
- 25 April 2019
- 10 June 2019
- 27 September 2019
- 5 November 2019
- 25 December 2019
- 26 December 2019



SPECIFIC TRANSPORT INFO DEPENDING ON DESTINATION: BIKES / CAR HIRE ..

Melbourne is an easy and inexpensive city to get around, with the metropolitan area servicing a great network of public transport, roadways and walking paths. You can travel like a local and save yourself some money by using the free city tram services which operate in the city center. The City Circle Tram (number 35) is a great introduction to Melbourne with city loop services running every 12 minutes. The entire circuit takes about 48 minutes and provides historical commentary if you listen carefully. This hop on/hop off service links with other bus and train routes, and passes major attractions stopping on Flinders Street, the Harbour Esplanade, Docklands and Queen Victoria Market. And best of all, it doesn't cost a cent. To use public transport outside of the free tram zone in Melbourne, you need to purchase a Myki card, which costs \$6 plus travel fares. You can purchase a Myki card from retail outlets displaying the Myki sign, visitor centres, and at train stations.