



General Information

Australian Consultancy provides a professional service of education counseling that will assist you to organise the ideal study trip. We recommend you make an appointment with one of our Australian consultants who will be able to personally assist you with your study plans.

Australian Consultancy is a mix of Swiss and Australian university graduates who work together with the leading Schools and Universities in Australia. We have offices in Australia and Switzerland and are always on hand to answer any of your queries. Below we have outlined some of the most important factors that you should consider when planing the trip of a lifetime.

Australia provides the perfect environment to undertake further study. Whether you are looking to undertake a university degree or polish up on your English language skills, Australia is a beautiful and safe environment in which to study. World class courses and facilities ensure excellent value for money.

Australian universities and colleges pride themselves on their ability to deliver world class, cutting-edge industry tailored courses. Increase your future opportunities and career prospects while studying in a warm and friendly environment.

Our Australian office

Our office in Brisbane, Queensland can assist with any questions or problems you experience whilst in Australia.

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Information can be obtained on further study options around Australia plus visa queries including immigration. Information can be obtained from this office in English, German, French and Italian.

Safe, Clean and Fun

Australia is a friendly, safe, multicultural destination. Students from all over the world come to Australia to take advantage of our world class education and to enjoy our friendly hospitality and cultural diversity. Australia has a very low crime rate and very strict gun laws meaning it's a very safe environment in which to learn and travel. Australia enjoys one of the highest standards of living in the world having excellent transport systems, cosmopolitan restaurants, cafes and shopping complexes and excellent health care services.

Climate:

Australia's climate is second to none. The climate facilitates a healthy, active lifestyle and makes it a perfect place to study. Australia has a wide range of climates but generally no extremes. The average temperature ranges from 23-26 degrees Celsius above the Tropic of Capricorn with the southern areas more temperate although subject to variations. This and the fact that Australia is the driest continent on earth makes our land a great all-year destination. In winter it is possible to ski in the southern states one day and be diving at the Great Barrier Reef in Queensland the next.

Sydney:

The warmest months of December to February have an average maximum temperature of 26° Celsius. Being close to the ocean, hot days are often tempered by cooling sea breezes and evening temperatures are balmy. June to August are the coolest months, with daytime temperatures rarely falling below 7° Celsius. Even on mid-winter days, with their bright blue, wide-open skies, an overcoat is usually not necessary in Sydney.

Sydney	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Max C	26	26	25	23	20	17	17	18	20	22	24	26
Min C	19	19	17	14	11	8	7	8	10	13	15	17
Sunny Days	20	20	19	20	20	20	22	21	21	20	20	20

Source: Australian Bureau of Meteorology

Brisbane:

Brisbane has a subtropical Climate. The coolest months are July/August with day temperatures around 21 Degrees Celsius, nights around 10 Degrees. The hottest season (January/ February) has highs around 29 degrees and evenings around 21 degrees. Queenslanders have a saying "Beautiful one day perfect the next!"

Brisbane	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Max C	29	29	28	26	24	21	21	22	24	26	27	29
Min C	21	21	20	17	14	11	10	10	13	16	18	20
Sunny Days	18	14	17	19	20	22	24	24	23	21	20	19

Source: Australian Bureau of Meteorology

Perth/ Fremantle:

Perth is the perfect sunny Australian City having a Mediterranean climate. It has an average of 8 hours of sunshine a day, year round. It has four seasons, with average temperatures of around 30 degrees in summer and around 18 degrees in winter. Perth has to be one of the nicest year round destinations in Australia to study.

Perth	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Max C	32	32	30	25	22	19	18	18	20	22	26	29
Min C	17	17	16	13	10	09	8	8	9	10	13	15
Sunny Days	28	25	27	22	18	13	13	13	17	21	23	27

Source: Australian Bureau of Meteorology

Melbourne:

Melbourne enjoys four distinct seasons. Summer has plenty of warm, sunny days around 26 degrees. Winter June to August can be cold and skiing in the snowy mountains is only a couple of hours drive away. Melbourne has a very European type atmosphere.

Melbourne	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Max C	26	27	24	20	17	13	13	14	16	19	22	24
Min C	14	14	13	10	8	6	5	6	7	9	10	12
Sunny Days	22	21	22	20	18	16	17	15	15	17	18	22

Source: Australian Bureau of Meteorology

Cairns:

Welcome to the tropics. Warm all year round. Daytime temperatures in Cairns range from around 31 degrees in December to March to around 26 degrees in May to August. Cairns is surrounded by a tropical rainforest on one side and the Great Barrier reef on the other. An exciting and beautiful place to Study.

Cairns	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Max C	31	31	31	29	28	26	26	27	28	29	31	31
Min C	24	24	23	22	20	18	17	17	19	21	22	23
Sunny Days	13	8	12	12	17	21	22	23	22	23	20	17

Source: Australian Bureau of Meteorology

Cost of Living:

The cost of living differs depending on where you will be living and studying. For budgeting and visa purposes you will need at least \$1,000 per month to cover general living expenses after your tuition costs have been paid.

Accommodation:

A variety of high standard student accommodation options are available to suit your needs. Through our office each school, university or college can organise the accommodation which best suits you. We recommend those wanting to undertake language studies to take a home stay placement with an Australian family. This will allow you to practice your English out of the class room and experience all aspects of the real Aussie culture.

Accommodation is available in campus houses or dormitories (private/shared) with other students which can also be a lot of fun. Hotel and hostel accommodation can also be arranged through each school's accommodation office. Prices vary according to accommodation and location. Please refer to each individual school's information on accommodation options.

Visa:

Australian Consultancy works directly with Australian Immigration and Trade Services Ltd, the official Swiss visa processing office for the Australian Embassy in Berlin. Australian Consultancy will recommend which visa is the most appropriate for your stay in Australia and will assist you in obtaining this visa in advance of your departure. Up to date visa information can always be found on the internet at

www.ait-s-australia.ch

Studies of up to 3 months can be completed with a tourist visa. If you are enrolled to study for more than 3 months you will need to apply for a student visa. You are able to work for up to 20 hours a week on a student visa during your course time and full time during recognised holidays. (You will need to apply for a work permit once your course starts.)

Insurance:

Australian Consultancy recommends that all clients seek the advice of their local Swiss insurer. Students are responsible for their own accident and property insurance. Australian Consultancy recommends that you take out travel insurance before leaving Europe.

Those wishing to study for more than 3 months in Australia require a student visa. The student visa requires you to pay Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC). You are required to have this for the duration of your stay in Australia. OSHC provides a safety net for international students similar to that provided to Australians through Medicare. OSHC costs depend upon how long you will be in Australia. Premiums vary depending on the health fund but generally they start from A\$74 for three months insurance (A\$274 a year). More information about OSHC and which services are included is available at www.health.gov.au/OSHC

OSHC will be organised when you book your school. **Please note this is limited cover.**

Working in Australia:

It is generally not possible for Swiss nationals to work in Australia. However, those travelling on a student visa can apply for permission to work at any office of the Department of Immigration, Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs once they have started their course (charge \$50). Work is limited in these cases to 20 hrs a week and is unlimited during semester breaks and official holidays. If you are studying a masters or doctorate (subclass 574) in Australia you can work unlimited hours. You should not rely on working to support your stay in Australia.

Work can often be found on a casual basis in the industry relevant to your course of study, and also in the hospitality industry such as bar tending or in restaurants, in sales, IT or picking fruit. If you wish to work you will have to apply for a Tax File Number from the Australian Taxation Office (required forms can be obtained from the post office or Department of Immigration, Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.)

Flights:

Australian Consultancy Ltd works together with Qantas Airways, the safe and reliable Australian Airline. Visit Qantas Zurich website at www.qantas.ch to see the latest specials from Switzerland. Qantas will also be able to organise inland flights around Australia. Certain Qantas flights attract special rates for students and young people (under 26 years old).

Banking:

Australian Consultancy can assist you to open an Australian bank account. This is done directly with Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA). This will permit you to transfer funds to Australia in advance of your arrival. You will need to visit your nearest CBA branch office in Australia to present your passport and provide details of your Australian address. You will be able to withdraw funds from the CBA branch office while waiting for your CBA bank card to be issued (4-5 days.)

Money:

The Australian currency is dollars and cents. Bank notes are \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100. Coins are 5cent, 10cent, 20cent, 50cent and \$1 and \$2. At time of writing, one Swiss franc buys around \$1.12. The most commonly accepted credit cards are American Express, Bankcard, Diners Club, MasterCard, Visa and their affiliates. Use of credit cards may be restricted in smaller towns and country areas and small retail shops. Some retailers in larger centres will also accept JCB cards.

Sunscreen:

The sun, especially in Summer, shines very strong in Australia. Australian Consultancy recommends the use of a 30+ sunscreen when undertaking any activity in direct sunlight.