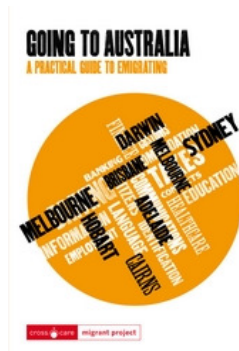


# Practical Tips & Hints for Going to Australia



## Employment

Be prepared for a period of unemployment as depending on your skills and qualifications it may prove difficult to find employment. Bring adequate funds to ensure that you are able to support yourself financially during this period.

Ensure necessary preparation before departure by bringing with you copies of any qualifications and up to date C.V.s. Most jobs require a qualification so ensure that the ones you are seeking to use are recognised in Australia. A useful source of information in this respect can be found at the following -

<http://www.immi.gov.au/asri/>

Employment opportunities are greatest in nursing, teaching, trades, hospitality and the caring industry (aged and disability care). In the case of nursing and teaching a recent Garda check is necessary. For details regarding obtaining Garda Clearance please refer to the following link -

<http://www.garda.ie/Controller.aspx?Page=66&Lang=1>

If you wish to extend your stay on a Working Holiday visa in Australia by a further year you will be required to work in rural areas for a period of three months. Employment in rural areas is readily available. For details on eligibility and how to apply for this please refer to the following website link -

<http://www.immi.gov.au/visitors/working-holiday/417/how-the-visa-works.htm>

Brisbane and Perth are acknowledged as cities which offer higher potential for finding employment over places such as Sydney.

## Accommodation

Upon arrival in Australia be prepared for the fact that it may take up to several weeks before you will be able to find a suitable and more permanent form of accommodation in your chosen location. To assist with this search it is advisable to

arrange temporary accommodation which you will be able to use before departing for Australia.

In searching for accommodation in the larger cities such as Sydney you can expect to have to pay up to \$1,000 for an initial one month deposit for accommodation. In addition it is common for this sort of accommodation not to be furnished so this can be an additional expense when setting up a place of home.

## **Get involved in Irish associations and support groups**

Whether you are going to Australia with some friends or on your own it can be a difficult and lonely experience so the meetings offered by these associations and support groups can provide you with the opportunity to create friendships in Australia. The scale and geography of the country is vastly different to Ireland so these support outlets can be helpful also in this respect.

Suggested Irish associations and support groups include;

- **Australian Irish Welfare Bureau – Melbourne**

This Welfare Bureau can be contacted via the following email address – [aiwbmel@inet.net.au](mailto:aiwbmel@inet.net.au)

- **Irish Australian Welfare Bureau and Resource Centre NSW**

The details for this centre can be found at the following website - [www.iawb.org.au](http://www.iawb.org.au)

- **Claddagh Association – Perth**

This association provides assistance to the Irish community in the western region of Australia in times of crisis. For further information this association can be contacted at the following - 6161 5678 or 0403 972 265

- **Irish Australian Support Association Queensland**

The details for this association can be found at the following website - <http://www.iasaq.com.au/>

- **Irish Chaplaincy Australia, Sydney - Fr Tom Devereux**

Fr. Tom Devereux is a primary point of contact and support for all spiritual and pastoral needs for all Irish emigrants in the Sydney area. His telephone number is - +61 (0)2 9365 1195 and his email address is - [oziechap@bigpond.net.au](mailto:oziechap@bigpond.net.au)

- **Your local regional GAA Club**

Clubs can be found in the following states; New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Western Australia, Victoria. The website for the GAA in Australia is - [www.gaelicfootball.com.au](http://www.gaelicfootball.com.au).

## **Insurance**

Ensure that you take an appropriate level of travel insurance before departing for Australia. It is not uncommon for many of those who do not take up this option to encounter difficulties when or if they have an accident whilst in Australia. When or if things go wrong it can be extremely expensive, for example it is not uncommon for a medical repatriation to cost up to \$100,000 Aus.

For those departing on a one year working holiday visa a Reciprocal Health Care Agreement has been established between Ireland and Australia which will entitle you to limited subsidised health services for medically necessary treatment whilst in Australia. For further information concerning your medical entitlements whilst in Australia please refer to the following link -

[www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/public/migrants/visitors/ireland-nz.jsp](http://www.medicareaustralia.gov.au/public/migrants/visitors/ireland-nz.jsp)

For those looking to extend your stay in Australia for an additional year please remember that you will need to renew your insurance policy for this period. To do this it is advisable to notify your insurance company to extend your cover before the initial policy expires.

Please note that most insurance policies are null and void if alcohol has been consumed at the time when the accident occurs.

## Return Ticket

When purchasing your flight ticket to Australia it is advisable to do this by obtaining a return ticket. Most tickets are easily changed with only minimal fees so even if you extend your stay into a second year this can be accommodated. Don't bank on making enough money or saving enough money to pay for your return fare home to Ireland. Whilst most people do have a fantastic time in Australia, there will always be those who do not find employment and consequently find themselves having to rely on friends and family to fund their ticket home.

## Personal Safety

To ensure that you have a memorable experience during your time in Australia please ensure the safety of yourself and your friends by being mindful of your actions and those around you at all times.

Beware that Australian law is strictly enforced. Actions which you may be able to get away with at home in Ireland may not be tolerated by the Australian police. Each year numerous young people end up spending a few nights, if not a few months in Australian jails. Don't forget that a night of "fun" can result in a criminal record that will stay with you for the rest of your life.

**For further information please contact us**

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**Web:** [www.migrantproject.ie](http://www.migrantproject.ie)

**Note** - All information provided is based on direct feedback from Australian based associations and support groups.