



Lifestyle in Australia

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Leisure Time & Climate

There is a big emphasis on leisure and leisure time in Australia, which is helped by the fantastic weather. In the spring and summer it is warm to hot everywhere, but particularly tropical in the north. In autumn and winter northern and central Australia have clear warm days and cool nights, whereas the south has cool days with occasional rain but still plenty of sun. Many homes enjoy pools, tennis courts and entertaining space in order to make the most of the good weather.

Cost of Living

Property in Australia is very much cheaper than in the UK and most Australians will own their own home which will be relatively large by European standards. Very few people live in flats. People who have made the move to Australia comment on the low cost of living compared with that in the UK. Fruit and vegetables grow in abundance and are usually locally grown, so you'll find they are not only cheaper but much fresher than in many home countries. The meat is also inexpensive and of an excellent quality.



Sport

Sport is very popular and is central to the social life of many Australians. Children are encouraged from a young age to play at least one sport and many young working Australians will be a member of a sports team.

Healthcare & Education

Public facilities of all types are of a high standard, and Education and Healthcare are exceptionally high. As a guide an Australian honors degree holds a higher status in the UK university system than a degree from a British University.

Food and Entertainment

Australia enjoys a massive cultural diversity which can be seen in the enormous choice of restaurants and range of entertainment on offer in most cities.

Television

There are 4 main broadcasting channels nationwide.

The Australian Broadcasting Commission is commercial free television funded by the federal government and operates TV and radio across Australia. No License fee exists in Australia like here in the UK. Instead the commission is funded by tax revenue.

Other channels are commercially owned and funded by advertising.

The special Broadcasting Service (SBS) provides multi lingual and multicultural broadcasting across Australia and is accessed through a special receiver or antenna.

Both cable and satellite TV are available in Australia however cable is the most popular. Subscription rates are between AU\$50 and AU\$100 depending on the package you choose.

<http://www.abc.net.au/>

<http://www.yourtv.com.au/>- Australian TV guide featuring complete program listings for every channel in every region in Australia.

www.ebroadcast.com.au/tv/ - Australia's no. 1 online television guide

Culture and Customs

The culture and customs consist of a rich tapestry of nationalities including traditions, legends, myths and folklore. The indigenous 'dream time' forms the base of tens of thousands of years of spiritual, aboriginal art and culture.



Language

In Australia over 200 different languages and dialects are spoken, including 45 indigenous languages. The most commonly spoken languages (other than English) are Italian, Greek, Cantonese, Arabic, Vietnamese and Mandarin.

States and Territories

Australia is made up of 6 states and 2 territories



Map of Australia

