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Australia Outback Ranch Training

Adventure Relaxation Culture

Trip Name: Australia Outback Ranch Training **Trip Code:** OZOR **Duration:** From 9 days

Trip Highlights

- Get your hands dirty living and working the real Aussie outback lifestyle.
- Experience a week learning basic ranch work.
- If you pass the course, we'll help you find up to a years paid work on an Australian ranch. For those who would like to experience life on a real outback ranch, but do not require assistance in finding paid work, a non paid work option is available.
- Ride trail bikes, ride a horse, drive cattle. Do it all!

Overview

Always wanted to travel and experience the diversity of life, outback travel and get up to a year's paid work on a "real" Australian cattle station? Then saddle up! Our Outback Ranch Training course is just for you!

You'll spend the first few days getting to know the sights of Sydney before heading to the ranch to experience a week learning the basic skills needed for ranch work. From cattle handling to fencing, you'll be getting your hands dirty with this really big outdoor adventure - perfect for horse riders, tractor drivers, carpenters, joiners, builders, agricultural or veterinary students, anyone who has lived on a farm or anyone that wants to do paid farming and agriculture work which can go towards their 2nd year visa. But don't forget, this is Australia, and Australians are big on people having the right attitude – if you're willing to pull your sleeves up, work hard and muck in, it doesn't matter if you're not an expert - you'll have the time of your life.

Read past Real Gapper Chloe's experience on the Outback Ranch over on the Real Gap blog...

Destination Info

Australia is a country of superlatives and extremes. It's the only country that inhabits an entire continent. It has the world's largest coral reef – the Great Barrier – the world's largest monolith – Mount Augustus – is the flattest

continent and the driest inhabited continent, has a population density among the lowest in the world, and animals and vegetation unique in the world. It has a scarily large number of animals that are out to get you if you don't treat them with respect. It has climates that range from the temperate to the Mediterranean to the scorching and habitats ranging from alpine to tropical. It has bustling cosmopolitan cities and tiny one-horse towns in the middle of nowhere. It has beautiful gardens and total wilderness, vineyards and wide open Australian ranches. If you spend time there, you'll be part of it forever.

Itinerary

As there are different types of jobs available from the course and they are based on your preference, we obviously don't know where you're going to end up working. So an itinerary for the full year isn't appropriate. This is how you'll spend your time when you first arrive.

Day 1 to 3 - Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Welcome to Sydney! Enjoy a relaxing weekend exploring this cosmopolitan city. You'll spend your first three nights in a central hostel close to all the best attractions. You'll receive information on arrival at the hostel explaining all the things you need to know about your week ahead.

Day 4 - Monday

Head to our training ranch! You'll be up early, to make your way to Sydney Central train station. The train you catch this morning will to take you to Mudgee where you will be met by a representative. There will also be the chance to set up bank accounts and make any last minute purchases.

Upon arrival at the ranch, you'll meet the team who will start by telling you everything that you're going to be doing in the week ahead, including paperwork, the job process, going through student handouts, and you'll begin lessons with knot tying, basic fencing knots and changing a tyre. The day is finished with an Aussie BBQ!

Days 5 to 9 - Tuesday to Saturday

Once you're kitted as a Jackaroo/ Jillaroo, it's time to start your training! Over the next 5 days, you'll learn everything you need to know to work happily, successfully – and, above all, safely – on an Australian ranch. From horse riding to cattle mustering, tractor riding to general maintenance, motorbike and quad work to stock horse riding to 4 x 4 vehicle driving and basic first aid, you'll know exactly what you need to work on a real outback ranch in Australia.

You'll also have time to discuss with the team where you'd like to be based (i.e location – town/ remote location) so that can help you find the right job to suit you. Please note that a job offer is only subject to you successfully completing the course. If you do not need wages immediately and wish to explore Australia on your own, the ranch team will help you find jobs for up to 12 months.

For those who would like to experience life on a real outback ranch, but do not require assistance in finding paid work, a non paid work option is available.

Throughout the week, you'll end the day with a well-earned beer, great food and a chat by the campfire.... pure aussie style!

At the end of your training on day 9, the ranch will provide a return transfer back to Sydney at an extra cost of $50 AUD. You can arrange this with the team at the end of your course.

Australia Outback Ranch Training

This programme requires you to be very active, so participants need to ensure they feel physically fit and able to join a programme of this nature. A willingness to learn and participate in farm life is essential as well being able to laugh at yourself... and others!! While not essential, if you have a trade, horse riding ability, motorbike riding experience, welding experience, sound mechanical knowledge, or are from a farming background it will be easier to assign a job upon successful completion of the training course.

Staff will be looking for people who are willing to work hard and get stuck in to each of the tasks, however, passing the course also has a lot to do with a positive attitude rather than level of skill and the success rate is extremely high.In the event that you do not pass the training course, we will not be able to offer you a job placement due to health and safety reasons. Positions during the Australian summer months (December and January) can be limited due to the heat and stress on the stock at ranches. January to March is also the time in the northern parts Australia that experience the torrential monsoon rains often resulting in widespread floods.

An option for non paid work is available for those who wish to experience life on an outback ranch but do not require assistance in finding work.

Once you have successfully completed your training course, our partners will find you a job placement or you can head off and enjoy your independent travels in Australia. You will receive a certificate upon completing the course and the ranch team are also happy to provide verbal references to prospective job placements.

Please note: If you have booked the non paid work option, our partners will not be required to find you a work placement after the course has been completed.

The majority of ranch placements are in Queensland and New South Wales, however the ranch employee database is strongly increasing in South Australia and Western Australia.

Students generally work at a ranch for 2-3 months, however the duration will usually be negotiated between the employer and student when they first make contact. Paid farming and agriculture work goes towards 2nd year visa (Please ensure that you are eligible and speak to one of our sales advisors for more information)

Wages will depend on your contract with your employer however will meet the national minimum wage in Australia (which is around $10/$12 AUD per hour). An added bonus with most job placements is that accommodation and meals are usually included which means you get to save most of your wages for your independent travel to explore Oz!

Please note: To be eligible to work, you will need to obtain a working holiday visa. As part of your working visa application you must demonstrate that you have sufficient funds to support yourself. The Australian Immigration set this as AUD$5000 minimum. You may have to provide evidence of this in the form of a bank statement.

Why not add a working holiday visa to your booking?

Accommodation

Your first three nights will be spent in a hostel in Sydney. After that the next five nights are spent on-site at the training ranch.

Accommodation at your job placement is dependent on the set-up at each individual ranch. As we are not aware of where your placement will be until your course has been completed, we are unable to confirm the type of accommodation you will be staying in.

Please note that ranch accommodation and facilities may be basic and that some ranches are, by their very nature, extremely remote. Internet and mobile phone service are not always available in remote areas and ranches may not be close to public transportation.

Accommodation type varies and might include living in trailers on site or in caravans on the move if the job requires it. Rooms can vary from single rooms to dorm rooms and may be unisex. This is authentic outback ranch-life so forget about your home comforts and embrace the experience!

Programme Services and Facilities

Internet

There is Internet access at the training ranch. However, at the work placements facilities will vary and you may not always have Internet access. Some of the ranches are very remote!

Telephone

The international dialling code for Australia is +61. To place an outgoing, direct dialled international call, dial +44 for the UK followed by the telephone number.

In the cities and more populated areas there will be mobile phone signal, however, as Australia is such a big place there is not service everywhere, and you may not get phone signal in some of the more rural areas.

As part of the programme conditions you will need to bring an UNLOCKED mobile phone handset. This way you can purchase an Australian SIM Card when you arrive in Sydney. Employers suggest that the best phone to purchase is a Next-G network and sim card (all Telstra shops carry these phones). the in-country team will require an Australian number to contact you on with regards to jobs etc.

Laundry

There is access to laundry facilities at the training camp. Although amenities will vary between work placements, most places will have laundry facilities.

Tax

Whilst you are working in Australia you will be taxed. Our in-country partner has teamed up with a company called TAXBACK. They assist travellers in Australia with their tax returns for their home country as well as with the Australian Tax and Superannuation when they leave Australia. You will be provided with an information pack when you leave the training ranch.

Meals

Meals are not included during your stay in Sydney. Once on the training course meals are included (except Weds night where you will be taken to the pub for dinner - pub meals are subsidised - approx $10-12 per meal). Food and accommodation is often included with your job placement. If it is not, you will usually be paid more to cover these extra costs.

Beers and soft drinks are not included at the training ranch. You can buy your own refreshments in town or help yourself to the drinks in the fridge on the training ranch. The ranch operates an honesty system, it's approx $2 a beer and $1.50 for soft drinks. Tea, coffee, water and cordial is available for free.

What's Included

- Transfer from Sydney International Airport
- 3 nights dorm accommodation at Sydney Hostel
- Pick up and transfer from hostel to training ranch
- 5 nights accommodation at training ranch
- Meals at the ranch + discounted meal at the pub one night
- 5-Day Farm Training Course (Which includes stock horse riding, cattle mustering, motor bike and quad lessons, tractor work and maintenance and first aid)
- Job offer on successful completion of course
- Help to open a bank account and apply for a Tax File number
- Work shirt
- Working Holiday Visa (if you pick visa included option)
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What's Not Included

- Flights
- Working Holiday Visa (if you don't pick visa included option)
- Travel Insurance which will cover horseback riding and ranch work
- Return transfer from training ranch back to Sydney
- Meals and drinks while in Sydney
- Drinks at the ranch except water, cordial, tea and coffee

Is This Trip For You?

This outback farm training course is actioned packed and not for the faint hearted! It guarantees to teach new skills and to build on existing skills. Completing the course allows the trainers to assess you to ensure the job duties are most suited to you. The course is hard work**,** but also a fun filled and an exciting experience.

Requirements for the course

English

- Understand, speak and write fluent English
- Comprehend instructions – on the job the employers will not have time to repeat instructions, and may put you and other staff in danger doing so have the ability to ask questions and make conversation

Personality

- Accept and embrace cultural differences including food, activities, and conversation voluntarily get involved with all activities
- Use initiative
- Be motivated to take on anything that is put in front of you

Please note: To protect the health of the horses at the ranch participants must weigh under 100kgs to be able to participate in the course.

Additional Information

Please Note

You must hold a driving licence. We strongly recommend that it is a full manual driving licence - a student without a full licence will have limited job opportunities. In addition, if you are vegetarian, or if you wish to be placed with a friend/partner, it may take longer to find a job.

It is absolutely essential that you have the correct insurance cover, especially if you intend to work with horses and use machinery.

Job Finding Services

After all your training our ranch team will match you to a placement that suits you best. The team will take into account your skills, where you want to be located and whether you want to be nearer to a town or if you want to experience the real Aussie outback and be stationed on a remote ranch.

If you successfully pass the course, you will receive an offer of a job as soon as possible. The time it takes to receive a suitable job offer depends on the availability at the time and the number of jobs that suit your skills. Most people go straight to a job on the grounds that they would rather have money in their pockets before travelling around Australia. However, if you decide you want to travel around for a while before settling into a job, then that is fine by us! You can pick and choose when you work and when you play. You have the security of knowing that the ranch team will help find you jobs for up to 12 months.

The ranch has contact with many employers throughout Australia so you can work your way around the country taking jobs as it suits you; employers do prefer two or three months work though, and not just one or two weeks. Please be aware that you will be working for full wages like any other Australian in that position, the farms and stations you will be placed at are real working farms and although you will have a great time, positions should be taken seriously. Employers will usually work alongside you and at times the jobs are tough and demanding. A good reference is usually required before further work is offered.

Important notes:

- If you are looking for work it is your responsibility to contact the ranch team to inform them of your needs. Clearly, if you do not let them know that you are looking for work they cannot find you a job. By keeping in regular contact with the ranch they will be aware of your needs and address them as soon as is possible.
- A good work ethic as well as willingness to learn and get stuck in is often more important than your actual skills, so make sure you bring an open mind and a hard working attitude!
- Placement types are many and varied and you will have the choice as to whether you want to work somewhere close to a town or in a more remote area, although this will be dependent upon availability. Please be aware that the remote placements can often be quite isolated with maybe only one or two other employers. The ranch will give you lots of information about the job placement when it is offered to you and you will also have the opportunity to call the employer and ask any questions before leaving the training ranch. It’s important you find out as much as possible about your potential placement and are sure that you are happy to accept it. Although it is possible to change placements once you are there, this is not encouraged, as it is disruptive for yourself and your employer.

- Although it may not affect the outcome of the training course, for health and safety reasons, we need to be made aware of any learning difficulty such as dyslexia or ADHD etc (no matter how mild) so we can pass this information onto the Ranch team.
- Positions during the Australian summer months (December and January) can be limited due to the heat and stress on the stock and horses at ranches. Adverse weather conditions caused by monsoon rains can also affect the availability of animal and horse jobs in Northern Australia during February and March.
- The ranch strongly recommend students have a full manual drivers license (however they will not turn away a potential student with a provisional or automatic - it will just limit job opportunities).
- If you are a vegetarian, or if you want to be placed with a friend/partner, it may take longer than usual to offer you a job placement.

Do you want to work with horses? If you are wishing to work in the equine industry (working with horses in any kind of role), you will need to prepare and take with you a CV that should include details about the following:

- Age started riding
- Number of years of consistent riding and frequency
- Ownership of horse (number of horses)
- Riding competition i.e. eventing, dressage, show jumping, showing etc
- Work experience part-time/full-time in stables, pony clubs, vet assistant, polo groom, etc (please supply references from employers)
- Qualifications, such as, certificates, diplomas etc (supply copies)

Please note: To take part in horse riding and quad bike activities there is a maximum weight limit of 100kg (15st 11lb). If you are over this weight you can still take part in the programme, just not these activities.

Rates of pay

Food and accommodation will almost always be included with the job. On average you can expect to earn around AUD$250-320 per week… and as your outgoings are generally quite low it’s a great opportunity to save some cash ready for your travels.

What to Pack

Please note that this list is intended to help you plan what you may need to take with you and therefore, you may not need all of the listed items on your travels nor is it exhaustive.

Personal Admin

- Documents
- Passport
- Driving Licence
- Birth Certificate - if you have a driving licence without a photograph
- NHS card or a National Insurance card or proof of entitlement to your National Health Service, or the German Krankenversicherungskarte
- Insurance Policy document or card showing home address and recent date
- Working Holiday e-Visa notification
- Digital copy of your CV
- Credit Card, for emergencies and booking internal flights

General

- Journal or diary
- Towel
- Toiletries
- Alarm Clock
- Torch
- Sleeping bag
- Mobile phone (unlocked so it can accept an Australian SIM Card)
- Pocket knife (not essential)

Clothing

- Work Clothes
- Jeans/work trousers (2-4)
- Long sleeved work shirts (3-5) (we provide one work shirt)
- Work boots (can be bought locally)
- Hat
- Casual Clothes
- Shorts
- T-shirts
- Swimming costume
- Comfortable footwear
- Something smart
- Something warm
- Rain coat

Medical Kit

- Medication
- First Aid Kit
- Mosquito repellent

Money

Travellers Cheques: We recommend that you get Australian dollar traveller cheques (rather than pound sterling or Euros).

Cash: We recommend you take around AUD$85with you in case of emergencies or if you get delayed and need to buy some food/drinks in the airport. It's also a good idea to have around AUD$1100 to pay for any initial expenses for things like food and activities in Sydney and to pay for your bus ticket to your first job.

Debit card: Most debit cards can be used in Australia. Please check with your bank before departure. Remember you will also be given an Australian debit card on arrival. You can easily transfer some money from your home bank account into your new Australian account. It's recommended that you transfer your money in traveller's cheques, as it's free of charge to do so. Our on-site partners can advise you on how to do this.

Credit Card: If you do not have a credit card you will need to make sure you have at least AUD$500 cash with you when you arrive at the training ranch to ensure you have enough money to purchase any work clothes you may

need and for the onward transport from the training ranch to your first job.

Minimum Age

Participants must be aged 18-30 (due to working holiday visa restrictions).

Flights

Your flight to Australia should arrive at Sydney International Airport (SYD) on your programme start date, and your return flight should be arranged for your programme end date.

To book your flights, please contact us on 01273 647219. Our specialist team can help you find some great flight quotes.

Please note: If you are flying to Australia via the USA you will need to obtain Travel Authorisation by registering online through the Electronic System for Travel Authorisation (ESTA) no later than 72 hours before departure. This is compulsory and will cost USD$14 to register. To register, please visit: www.esta.cbp.dhs.gov

It is important that once you have booked your flights you add these details to your Online account, or alternatively you can contact us with your departure date, the flight number and arrival time at your destination.

FAQs

1. **Do I need to be able to ride a horse?**
   We recommend that if you do not have any riding experience before your start the course that you take a few riding lessons so that you feel comfortable riding. Furthermore if you can confidently ride it will open up more work opportunities for you!

2. **Can I take my girlfriend/boyfriend with me?**
   Yes. You can go as a couple, but this may restrict job opportunities for you.

3. **Do I have to stay and work for 12 months?**
   No. You can stay anytime up to 12 months. But to receive the full service, you are required to stay for a minimum of 3 months.

4. **Where will I be working?**
   Many ranch placements are based in Queensland and New South Wales with the majority of backpackers finding ranch work in Roma, Queensland however the ranch employee database is strongly increasing in South Australia and Western Australia.

5. **Will I be somewhere remote?**
   Some of the ranches are really remote and may not have internet or phone reception. But that's what it's all about - experiencing the real outback Australia. If there's internet and phones - that's a bonus!

6. **Do I need to take a sleeping bag?**
   Sleeping bags are not needed at the ranch where you will have your training, but some jobs require their employees to have their own sleeping bag. If you choose not to take a sleeping bag but require one for a job, you will have to make time to purchase it between your training at the ranch and on route to your job.

7. **Do I need to take a mosquito net?**
   A net it not essential, however if you wanted to take one for your own comfort then you are more than welcome to.

8. **Will a safe/safety deposit box be available?**
   There is a secure place for your valuables while you are doing your training, however this cant be guaranteed when you get a job.

Police Check

This trip requires a Police Check to be carried out - please contact us for further information on how to do this.

Support & Advice

Your safety is paramount which is why all our programs have been visited and assessments have been conducted to ensure any major risks have been minimized.

In addition, you will have access to a 24 hour emergency contact number so you can contact one of our staff at any time should you need to. In addition our overseas partners and coordinators are on hand in-country to assist you.

Financial Security

We know that the last thing you want to worry about when you're planning your trip of a lifetime is whether your money is in safe hands. As a leading global gap year provider it's our job to make sure your finances are secure, so when you book with us you can be confident that we do just that.

Real Gap Experience is part of TUI Travel Plc, one of the largest travel organisations in the world, and these days in the travel industry, large means secure.

Insurance

Whether you're traveling for two weeks or two years, trekking the Amazon in Ecuador or on safari in Africa, insurance is an essential part of your adventure and will help you enjoy your travels, secure in the knowledge that you have the protection you need. In fact, everyone traveling with us must have adequate cover before their trip begins.

Of course you are free to buy insurance from any provider, however at Real Gap Experience, we have partnered with World Nomads to offer policies that have been specifically designed to meet the needs of global travel. If you think you're already covered by an existing policy, such as those offered by credit card providers, check the policy wording very carefully to ensure it covers you for your Real Gap Experience.

For more information on travel insurance please contact us to speak to one of our travel advisors.

Money Matters

The unit of currency is the Australian Dollar. Changing foreign currency or travellers cheques is usually no problem at banks throughout Australia or at licensed moneychangers.

Australia is affordable by Western European and American standards, but if you are travelling on from Southeast

Asia you'll notice a big increase in costs!

Meal, Inexpensive Restaurant 13.37 $

Domestic Beer (0.5 litre draught) 5.04 $
Coke/Pepsi (0.33 litre bottle) 2.40 $
Water (0.33 litre bottle) 2.14 $

(Prices quoted in US Dollar)

Passports and Visas

You should ensure that you have a full passport that is valid for 6 months beyond the intended length of stay. It is your responsibility to have the correct personal documents and to obtain your own visa, if one is necessary, in accordance with the regulations of the country you are to visit. The information provided below is to help you with that process. We are not responsible for the actions of local immigration and customs officials, whether at points of entry or otherwise, and any subsequent effects.

All visitors to Australia need a visa – only New Zealand nationals are exempt, however you will receive a 'special category' visa on arrival.

For entry into Australia you will require an eVisitor visa. UK passport holders can apply for a 90-day tourist visa online at www.immi.gov.au All other nationalities should consult the relevant embassy.

If you intend to work after your week in Sydney you will be required to apply for a working holiday visa.

Working Holiday Visa
To take part in this programme you will require a working holiday visa. The working holiday visa is available to anyone age 18-30. The emphasis is on casual employment: you are meant to work for no more than six months at any one job. If you want to stay in Australia for up to 24 months, this is now possible for some nationalities. Speak to one of our sales advisors for more information.

To be eligible for a Working Holiday Visa, you must:

- Be aged between 18 and 30 years at the time of application
- Have a valid passport for one of the countries listed at Australian Immigration, www.immi.gov.au
- Have no dependant children
- Have not previously entered Australia on a working holiday visa
- Meet health and character requirements
- Be outside Australia at the time of visa grant

To be granted a working holiday visa you must also agree that:

- Your main reason for coming to Australia is to holiday
- You must not undertake studies or training for more than 4 months
- You will leave Australia at the end of your authorized stay
- You must have sufficient funds to support yourself for the initial part of your stay. AUD$5000 minimum is regarded as sufficient. You may have to provide evidence of this in the form of a bank statement.

For the most up to date information on visa requirements, please visit http://www.immi.gov.au/

Cultural Considerations

Australia is a melting pot of different cultures. It has a population of over 21 million people with most of the population living on the east coast between Adelaide and Cairns. High waves of immigration from England, Ireland, Italy, Greece, Malta and Eastern Europe have occurred during Australia's brief history, particularly after World War II, and the later waves from the Middle-East, East, and South-East Asia, as well as the Indian subcontinent, have created a truly diverse population.

Although Australia has no official language, English is spoken by 80% of the population. Chinese, Italian and Greek are respectively the next most common languages, reflecting Australia's cultural diversity and concentration of nationalities. Australians have very strong attitudes and belief systems which are reflected in their culture. Australians traditionally have a very ironic sense of humour.

Vaccinations & Health

Travel health can often be something people forget about before going away, but a little preparation and knowledge can go a long way to help you stay fit and healthy while abroad. The risks to your health whilst travelling will vary depending on your general health and the type of activities you are going to be partaking in and the length of your stay.

Since we are not medically qualified, it is recommended that you consult with your Doctor or a recognised Travel Medical Advisory Service who will assess your particular health risks before recommending vaccines and/or anti-malarial tablets and advising you on what precautions you should take.

Safety

As in most countries there are people who try to take advantage of tourists. The following advice is intended to help you keep safe:

- Always keep your personal items such as passport, money and camera with you and in a safe place. You can buy mini padlocks to prevent people from going into your bag without your permission.
- Don't carry excess amounts of cash
- Wherever possible, walk around in groups, especially after dark, and avoid taking short cuts
- Do not pick up hitchhikers if you are driving and do not hitch hike yourself
- When you are out do not leave your drinks unattended, as there have been reports of drinks being spiked

We advise that you check your government's advice before travelling abroad. For UK and American customers please see the relevant links below;

UK: www.fco.gov.uk
USA: www.travel.state.gov

ATM Theft

It is very likely that you will need to withdraw cash at some point during your travels. Please be cautious when withdrawing money from an ATM and ensure that you are vigilant of other people near the ATM, especially those that offer unsolicited assistance if your card is detained. It has been recognised that individuals are operating unlawful withdrawals by placing 'traps' in ATMs whereby personal bank cards are being detained, causing the victim to believe their card transaction has not been completed, and leaving their bank card in the ATM which is then later retrieved by the thief.

If your card is confiscated or you are concerned that your card has been tampered with, please report immediately to the bank or cancel your card.

Language Guide

Here are some Australian terms and phrases that you might find useful:

Bottle Shop - *Off-licence/Liquor store*
Bonzer - *Good*
Bush - *Unsettled country area*
Dag - *Nerd*
Esky - *Portable insulated box to keep food/drink cold*
Fair Dinkum - *Honestly, truly*
Pokies - *Gambling machines*
Pom - *Person of English descent*
Singlet - *Sleeveless cotton vest*
Smoko - *Tea break*
Thongs - *Flip flops/Sandals*
Ute - *Utility vehicle/pick-up truck*

Food & Drink

You will find food in Australia to suit all taste buds, with the larger cities in particular offering a great range of places to eat. Due to the large amount of British settlers, Australian food is reasonably similar to that in Western Europe, but if you are feeling particularly adventurous get involved in some bush tucker (kangaroo, emus) or the infamous vegemite. For less scary Aussie food, look out for fresh seafood and of course, a typical Aussie barbecue!

Please let Real Gap know before you depart if you are a vegetarian or have any other dietary requirements.

Public Holidays

When planning your trip, you should be aware of the major national holidays celebrated throughout the country.

To view a list of the public holidays for Australia, please see the link below:

www.timeanddate.com/holidays/australia/

Weather

Australia is located in the southern hemisphere, where seasons are the opposite of those in the northern hemisphere.

The summer months in Australia (November to March) can get very hot. Up north, in Queensland for example, the summer period brings the rainy season and the weather can be very hot and humid with lots of rainfall. The winter months (June to August) in Queensland bring much dryer weather but still heat. The further south you go the colder and wetter winter becomes and in some mountainous areas of New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania skiing is possible.

Time

Australia is such a big country that it has three time zones:

Eastern Standard Time (Queensland) – 10 hours ahead of GMT depending on Daylight Savings
Central Time – 9.5 hours ahead of GMT
Western Time - 8 hours ahead of GMT

Electricity

Electricity in Australia is 240 Volts, alternating at 50 cycles per second.

Sockets in Australia are V-shaped flat prongs.

Trip Note Disclaimer

The information contained in this trip note has been compiled with great care and is provided in good faith. Any itinerary featured is correct at time of release. However, our itineraries may change as make improvements that result from travellers' comments, our own research or from time to time as a result of reommended travel advice.

You can rest assured that it is always our goal to provide you with the most rewarding trip and experience ever!

Our Details

If you have any questions about this trip please do not hesitate to contact us and we'll be happy to answer them.

Phone: 1-800-985-4852
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