



AVERAGE TEMPERATURES °C				High / Low
Location	Spring	Summer	Autumn	Winter
Adelaide	22 / 11	28 / 17	22 / 12	16 / 8
Alice	30 / 14	35 / 21	18 / 13	20 / 7
Brisbane	26 / 16	29 / 21	26 / 16	21 / 10
Cairns	29 / 21	31 / 24	29 / 22	26 / 18
Canberra	19 / 6	27 / 12	20 / 7	12 / 1
Darwin	33 / 24	32 / 25	32 / 23	30 / 20
Hobart	17 / 8	21 / 12	17 / 9	12 / 5
Melbourne	20 / 9	25 / 14	20 / 11	14 / 7
Perth	22 / 12	29 / 17	24 / 14	18 / 9
Sydney	22 / 13	26 / 18	22 / 14	17 / 9

AT A GLANCE

Currency

Australian dollar
 Current exchange rate:
 A\$2.50 = £1.00 sterling

Cost of living

Loaf of bread: from £0.47
 Bottle of wine: from £4.00

Time zones

Australia has three different time zones, from GMT plus 8 hours to GMT plus 10 hours. Between October and March, some states operate Daylight Saving Time (precise dates vary).

Business hours

Post offices:
 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday to Friday

Banks:
 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday to Thursday, and 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on Fridays. Some open on Saturday mornings.

Shops and supermarkets:
 9:00 am to 5:30 pm, Monday to Saturday. Some cities have late-night shopping on certain days. In some states, larger stores open on Sundays.

Population

Approximately 20 million

Languages

English (spoken by 80 per cent), plus other European, Asian and indigenous languages).

Religions

Mainly Christian (68 per cent), with Buddhist, Jewish and Muslim minorities. 15 per cent of the population records no religious affiliation.

Driving

Driving is on the left. Drivers must hold a full licence from their country of origin. Holders of permanent residents' visas must take an Australian driving test after 3 months. To rent a car, drivers must be aged not less than 21 and have held a UK licence for a minimum of a year.

Average house price

Brisbane £130,000, Melbourne £153,000, Perth £158,000, Sydney £206,000