

WELCOME TO  
**MELBOURNE!**





# WEL- COME!

We are delighted to welcome you to 'Marvellous Melbourne', Australia's sporting, leisure and culture capital. This pre-arrival letter is intended to help you settle into your temporary new home! It will be complemented by a full welcome on arrival.



# MELBOURNE

According to the OECD, Australia is the world's happiest country, and The Economist ranks Melbourne 'the most liveable city' on the planet. This hospitable, safe, metropolis is full of events and entertainment and has a population of just over four million people. Melbourne is also one of the most diverse, youthful and multicultural cities on the planet with 42% of its residents born overseas and a median age of just 28!

Positioned at the south-eastern part of mainland Australia, Melbourne is the state capital of Victoria.

From the top of the tallest building in the city, the Eureka Skydeck, you can see the city stretching out along the Yarra River and the Dandenong Mountain Ranges to the east.

A short boat trip from the southeast of the city is Phillip Island and Phillip Island Nature Park is a unique wildlife reserve where kangaroos and wallabies roam free on land and fur seals and marine birds line the coast. Heading west from the city is the Great Ocean Road leading to Torquay and Bell's Beach, one of the world's most famous surfing beaches and home to the Rip Curl Pro World Tour surfing competition.







Melbourne enjoys a temperate climate with warm to hot summers, mild, balmy springs and autumns, and cool winters. The hottest summer months are from December to February and its cooler winter months are June to August. Melbourne receives less annual rainfall than other Australian cities such as Sydney or Brisbane and snow is rare. But it is a coastal city so the weather changes quickly. A visitor to the city should be prepared for four seasons to appear in one day so take an umbrella with your sunglasses and bring layers that can be worn or removed as needed.

Melbourne is a comparatively young settlement, named in 1837 after the then British Prime Minister William Lamb, 2nd Viscount of Melbourne. It was defined by the Victorian gold rush and the mines that surround the town turned Melbourne in to one of the richest cities in the world by the 1850's.

This illustrious history is echoed in the beautiful Government House, grand Parliament House and distinctive yellow and green copper Flinders Street station. Flinders Street Station is the busiest suburban railway station in the Southern Hemisphere and locals have arranged to 'meet under the clocks' for the last hundred years.

## Penguins Ahoy!

Each year millions of people come to Phillip Island to see the Penguin Parade, a unique event where the world's smallest species of penguin, the aptly named Little Penguin, gather on the beaches each evening.





## Dress

Melbourne is a relaxed city and the dress code reflects this. In summer, shorts, t-shirts and thongs (flip-flops) are common and in winter jeans and jumpers are worn. In general you should take cues from your placement company on what to wear to work. Corporate roles in the Central Business District (CBD) will probably expect you to be smartly attired in freshly ironed shirts/blouses each day, roles in other industries may take a more casual approach. But remember: as an intern you have a chance to impress your placement company,

it is easier to make smart clothes more casual than casual clothes more smart. If you are not sure what to wear, go in smarter, neutral clothes (a plain suit) on the first day and see how it goes from there.



Whatever you do, make sure that when you meet your new boss your clothes are clean and smart and, most importantly, that you are wearing a smile.

## Visa

You should also print out and bring your visa documents with you as you will be asked to produce them at customs. Failure to do so could leave you unable to pass through border control.

## Insurance

It is the responsibility of every intern to present proof of full travel insurance, including personal liability insurance to The Intern Group at least three weeks prior to departure. Our insurance partners <http://www.theinterngroup.com/insurance/> can assist you with this.



## Taxis & Transport

We will make sure that there is someone to pick you up from the airport but you must let us know your flight details as soon as you have them so we know when you will arrive.

Melbourne is a walkable city, but it also has a well-connected public transportation system. The tram stop to the Central Business District (CBD) is just 2 minutes walk from your accommodation. Once you're in the CBD area, you get to travel for free as it is within the Free Tram Zone. You can take bus and trains for traveling to surrounding suburbs and areas outside of the CBD. No matter what form of public transport you use, you can pay for all of them with one payment method: a myki card.

The accommodation is located in Carlton, very close to the central Melbourne business district (approx. 10 minute walk, or two tram stops away). This is a busy, safe area, popular with students and close to Melbourne University, trendy Lygon Street Carlton, and the famous Queen Victoria Market.

In your welcome pack, you will receive a Myki transport card for use during your program. This will also include enough travel credit for the first 30 days of your program. After this period, you can top up credit for transport using the same card.

Access to trams and trains are within walking distance of your accommodations and take you directly into the Central Business District (CBD).

Many internships office locations will be located outside of the CBD as it is quite small compared to many international cities and many companies (especially those not in the financial sector) choose surrounding suburbs for their operations base.

Travel times to internships can be expected to be over 45 minutes. You can plan your route to your placement company at <https://goo.gl/h3BDQT>





## Money Matters

To avoid bank fees when withdrawing money and to reduce the risk of carrying cash, The Intern Group Australia program advises that Interns bring travellers cheques and/or a prepay card such as Travelex or Fairfx as well as a credit/debit card from home that is cheap to use abroad. Visa and Mastercard are accepted at most places in the city however you should take cash to pay for meals when going out to eat with friends as in general Australian restaurants do not like to split bills between multiple credit/debit cards.



Please [click this link](#) to see a real time exchange rate between the Australian dollar & US Dollar.

## How much money will I need?

Lunch in Melbourne may cost you from AUD 10 in some of the cheaper places but a dinner at a swanky restaurant can cost around 50 to 100 AUD. A cup of Melbourne's famous coffee will cost from around 3.50 AUD while a bottle of beer will cost around AUD 7-10 AUD depending on where it is bought.

Look out for student discounts and offers and Bring your Own (BYO) restaurants, these eateries, often Vietnamese or Italian let you bring your own alcohol to consume on premises and often offer a cheap option for eating out. Tipping is not common in Melbourne but if you feel the service has been exceptional a maximum tip of 10% should be offered.



## Biosecurity – Pack Carefully

Australia is home to a unique and fragile ecosystem and in Australia biosecurity is taken very seriously. When coming to Australia make sure to be extra vigilant that you have not bought any food or perishable goods into the country. Australia has one of the world's most stringent customs authorities and non-compliance with national laws will result in you being held at the airport or even deported, if in doubt don't bring it! You can find out more information in the biosecurity area of [DAFF](#).

## Phoning Home

The accommodation includes internet (subject to fair use) and Skype is the easiest (and cheapest) way to keep in

touch with friends and family back home. Cheap Pay As you go, (PAYG) phones can be purchased on arrival but if you choose to use a sim only deal and bring your own phone from abroad be sure to check with your home provider that your phone is unlocked and can be used with an Australian PAYG sim provider. Our team will provide you with an Australian SIM in your Welcome Pack.



## Safety first

As with any city, it's important to only take out the cash you need with you, be careful with how much you drink, and to be aware if in train stations or downtown areas late at night.

You are not required to carry your actual passport with you while you are in Melbourne but it is advisable to bring photocopies of the photo page of your passport as with you as a back up. A student ID can be used for discounts deals and Talanta advises that on arrival you leave your passport locked up securely at your accommodation.

You may want to take a driving licence or another form of photo ID with you if you are planning on going to a nightclub or bar for an evening.



## Melbourne, your new home

Your Melbourne housing offers accessibility and student-style living for your Aussie adventure.

The student basic accommodation plan will provide everything you will need during your stay and enable you to live and enjoy the city with your fellow interns and other local and international students.

The location of the accommodation is in close proximity to Melbourne city centre (less than 15 minutes walk), and close to trendy university neighbourhoods and attractions.

The student housing includes a free gym, shared-dining and kitchen, and multiple communal space and study/work pods.

The basic accommodation plan comes as a standard 1 person private bedroom an en-suite bathroom, with linen, pillow, and duvet provided.

### Upgrade Options

If you would like to enquire about possible upgrade options, please contact our team for estimated costs and availability at [melbourne@theinterngroup.com](mailto:melbourne@theinterngroup.com).

Overall, we find that the benefits of living with a community of like minded people and your fellow interns outweighs the expense of upgrade options, however we do under- - gets and requirements.





## Check-In

Please note that if you arrive earlier than gam on the weekend of your arrival, the front reception desk may not be manned and you should contact the Resident Advisor on duty. Our team will inform you of this number if required.

## What's Included

Small single bedroom with same sex twin share bathroom and kitchenette. Located at 5-17 Flemington Road, North Melbourne.



## Other Features Include

Linen, pillow, TV, fridge, stovetop, kitchen utensils, desk, chair, small built-in ward - robe, 50GB per month basic internet. Bed linen is provided, but you may bring your own if you prefer.

Laundry rooms and additional shared kitchens are available, but be careful not to leave mess or per - sonal belongings in these communal areas. Don't forget your towel and gym gear to take advantage of the swimming and exercise facilities. There is also a barbecue facility for you to use.

Please be aware that while the swimming pool is heated, it is outdoor, and may be chilly in the winter months from May to September.





## Tramtastic!

Melbourne has the world's largest tram network and the tram is a great way to see the city. When you first arrive it is definitely worth the longer ride on the tram from your accommodation in to the CBD to get the feel of the city and to see its chic neighborhoods, boutique shopping, trendy restaurants and cool bars and coffee shops on the way.

During the Australian open and other big sporting events free shuttle tram services operate too.

The City Circle tram offers a free service around points of interest all year round and is a good tip if you are in the centre of town.

Before you come to Melbourne, find out your best option for getting to work by visiting the journey planner at:

<https://citymapper.com/company?lang=en>

They also have a useful app you can download.

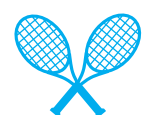
Myki is the ticketing system for trams, trains and buses in the city. There are a number of weekly monthly and daily options for the Myki pass that you can review here:

<https://www.ptv.vic.gov.au/tickets/myki/>



# A City of Sport

Melbourne is one of the world's great sporting cities with three world class sporting arenas, the Rod Laver Arena, the MCG and the Ethiad Stadium. It is home to a full Calendar of sporting events including:



**Australian Open  
Tennis: January**



**Formula 1 Australian  
Grand Prix: March**



**Rip Curl World Pro Surfing  
Championships: March- April**



**MotoGP: October**



**Spring Racing Carnival  
including the Melbourne Cup: Sept-November**





## Coffee Culture

Nothing sums up Melbourne quite like its coffee culture and Melburnians pride themselves on being able to make some of the world's best coffee. There are barista academies, bean shops all around the city.

Like most chain stores and multinationals Starbucks is ignored by the connoisseurs and the independent shop is prevalent in the majority of the city. Neighbourhoods such as Brunswick, Fitzroy and Carlton have a coffee shop on every corner and this is the centre point for a lot of the work, chats, and meetings that make up the local lifestyle.

If you like coffee, or a rich hot chocolate, coming to Melbourne is heaven but even if you don't, be sure to grab a tea or a soft drink in one of the many cafe's one afternoon and spend time people watching at St Kilda or on Lygon street early in your stay.



As you watch the trams roll past and people from all over the world chatting, relaxing, doing business and discussing the latest show or sporting event you can plan your new adventure and prepare to explore.

This experience is when you know that you have truly arrived in 'Marvellous Melbourne' and are ready for the adventure of your international internship.



## G'day

English is Australia's national language and is spoken everywhere. Even so there is some Australian slang that might catch out a newcomer. Below are some idioms for you to practise.

- **Arvo** — Afternoon
- **Aussie** — An Australian
- **Bloody** — Universal epithet the great Australian adjective. Used to emphasise any point or story. Hence “bloody beauty”(bewdy!) or “bloody horrible” or even “absabloody-lutely”!
- **Bloke** — Man, guy
- **Bottle shop** — Liquor shop
- **Dag** — A funny person, nerd, goof, loser
- **Dinkum, fair dinkum, dinky di** — Genuine, truthful, the real thing
- **Dunny** — The toilet, W.C., or bathroom
- **Footpath** — Sidewalk
- **Footy** — Aussie Rules
- **G'arn** — Go on, you're kidding!
- **G'day** — Universal greeting, used anytime day or night, but never as a farewell. Pronounced “gud-eye”, usually followed by “mate” (mite)
- **Good as gold** — Great!
- **Good Onya** — Omnipresent term of approval, sometimes ironic
- **Grog** — Liquor, beer. BYOG is “bring your own grog”
- **Icy pole** — Popsicle, lolly pop
- **Jackaroo** — A male station hand
- **Pommie or pom** — An English person
- **Reckon** — Think, as in “Your shout or mine? What' ya reckon?”
- **Schooner** — Large beer glass
- **She'll be right** — No problem, don't worry, mate
- **Sheila** — A woman
- **Shout** — **To shout means to buy the next round (of drinks usually)**
- **Strewth** — Pronounced “staruth” general exclamation of disbelief or shock
- **Tee-up** — To set up an appointment



- **The Lucky Country** — Australia, of course
- **Tinny** — Can of beer
- **Too right** — Definitely!
- **Tucker** — Food
- **Ute** — A pickup truck
- **Vegemite** — Sandwich spread derived from vegetable yeast extract, dark brown, gooey, salty. It's what makes Aussies strong
- **Walkabout** — Aboriginal term meaning "to go on a wander"





The Intern  
**Group**



*Realize your potential*