Your First 48 Hours in Perth

Welcome! Try to stay up until night time and drink plenty of water. This will minimise the effects of jet lag.

CALL OR EMAIL HOME TO LET YOUR FAMILY KNOW YOU HAVE ARRIVED SAFELY

If you have not already done so, you can change currency in downtown Perth or at most banks.

ACCOMMODATION

If you are looking for off campus accommodation, visit the housing office website: www.housing.uwa.edu.au

We have also arranged a housing information session where you can get information and meet other students who are looking for a house. Visit the UniStart schedule for more information.

Remember: If you rent a property with other students, NEVER hand over money without getting a receipt!

If you are going to stay in a backpackers before finding permanent accommodation, you can compare prices online at any hostel booking website. The following suburbs are the most popular places that backpackers stay in:

- Northbridge (can be quite noisy as it has a lot of pubs and clubs, but is the closest to the city)
- Mount Lawley and Leederville (close to the city and have great places to eat and pubs to relax in)
- Cottesloe (near the beach, and close to the Stirling Hwy and train lines)
- Fremantle (a very relaxed port town with loads of cafes and restaurants, worth visiting for a day)

SETTLING IN

- We drive on the LEFT hand side, so be careful crossing the road - always look right first.
- The nearest grocery stores to the campus are on Hampden Road, Broadway or up Stirling Highway. All prices are inclusive of taxes so what you see is what you pay.
- We do not normally tip for services/meals/drinks in Australia
- If you go out at night please be aware that many venues require proof of age to show that you are over 18. To avoid taking your passport out with you, get a Photo Card from the Department of Transport & Infrastructure - The form is available from the http://www.transport.wa.gov.au/licensing/photo-card.asp for further information. Most venues do have dress standards, especially for men in relation to shirts and shoes.
- The intensity of the sun in Australia is very different to the Northern Hemisphere. Make sure you wear 30+ sunscreen if you are spending ANY time outside. If you go to the beach make sure you swim between the flags and be careful of rip tides, sandbars and rocky outcrops. If they tell you get out of the water please do so calmly.
- Enjoy the beautiful and fun city of Perth! Please keep in mind that as with any other city, there is an element of crime. Avoid risky situations - make sure that you don’t walk alone after dark, keep to well-lit area, look after your friends when out at bars and clubs, avoid carrying large amounts of cash and valuables.
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**IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

- Life threatening emergencies (police, fire, ambulance) 000
- To call police for a non-life threatening situation 131 444
- Swan taxis 131 330
- Study Abroad Office 6488 8199
- UWA Campus Security emergencies 6488 2222

**TRANSPORT**

To get to downtown Perth from UWA, you can catch the following Transperth buses from the campus on Stirling Hwy: 102, 103, 107, 950, or 23,

While you are in the city you can use the four free ‘CAT’ buses to get your way around.

You will need to pay a full fare until you are enrolled when you can then obtain a student concession Smartrider card for cheaper transport fares. Fares are based on how many ‘zones’ you travel. Tell the bus driver where you want to go and they should be able to help you out.

A standard bus ticket lasts 2 hours, or a ‘day rider’ can be purchased for $11.80 (standard) and $4.70 (student concession when you have your smart rider) if you will be making multiple trips. Visit www.transperth.wa.gov.au for more information and bus/train routes.

Please note that it is compulsory to wear seat belts in all motor vehicles and you can be fined $200 if caught.

If you have any questions at all please don’t hesitate to ask; Australians are friendly and willing to help. Please let the Study Abroad Office know if you are experiencing any problems.