



2009 Work in Australia Program

Location	Throughout Australia, including major cities in New South Wales and outback/rural areas.
Start Dates	Year-round; Visas valid for up to 12 months. Only one visa issued in a lifetime.
Program Fees	US\$800
What's Included	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job placement assistance prior to departure and after arrival. • 24/7 pre-departure & local support via toll-free Australian number. • Airport pick-up in Sydney. • Welcome Orientation & Training. • 2 nights hostel lodging in Sydney with breakfast. • Help opening an Australian bank account with ATM access. • Registration for Australian Tax File Number. • Private mailbox with forward mail service anywhere in Australia. • Free luggage storage for 1 month. • Free Internet access in over 24 locations throughout Australia. • Monthly social activities program. • Housing Assistance (many employers provide housing and meals). • Lonely Planet Australia guidebook. • Membership for many in-country discounts & benefits for tours, excursions, hostels, restaurants, and outdoor activities.
What's Not Included	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International transportation. • Visa Fees (AU\$250-416, AU\$195-Working Holiday). • Accommodations & Meals for some placements (assistance will be available if needed). • Personal expenses.
Benefits	Varies based on experience and job. Average compensation ~AU\$17 per hour. If position does not include room & board, salary is usually higher.
Accommodations	Many jobs include on-site or near placement housing with meals included. If your employer does not provide housing, clean, affordable, and comfortable temporary housing is generally available.
Country Facts:	
Capital	Canberra
Total Population	~21.1 million
Currency and Exchange Rate	Australian Dollars (AU\$); Daily exchange rates: http://www.xe.com/ucc/

Program Details & Highlights

Cultural Embrace's Work Australia program offers participants an incredible opportunity to experience the Australian lifestyle and countryside first-hand, making accessible a truly unique continent that is certain to leave lasting, meaningful impressions on you for years to come. Australia's labor department has recently elected to allow more foreigners the chance to work non-technical jobs, providing today's travelers with opportunities rarely afforded in the past. There are two visas that will allow you to earn a local wage, interact and live with the locals, and travel in the Land Down Under:

1. The **Work and Holiday Visa** offers high school graduates and young adults between 18 and 30 years old the chance to obtain a work visa extremely easily (via the Internet, if you so choose) and to work for up to 12 months. Citizens of Canada, the UK, Japan, Ireland, Holland, Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Finland, Malta, Cyprus, Hong Kong, France, Italy, Iran, Thailand, Chile, and Korea are also eligible for the **Working Holiday Maker** or **Work and Holiday visas** for a stay of up to one year. These are once-per-lifetime visa options.
2. The special **416 Visa** allows participants aged 18-30 years old to work for a maximum of four months. This is ideal for participants that have not graduated high school yet and want to go on a gap break, or those that want to save their Work & Holiday visa (good for up to 12 months) for a later date.

Enjoy the 'no worries, mate' attitude of your Aussie experience before, during, and after you go abroad. *Cultural Embrace's* Austin office will prepare you for your adventure prior to your departure, and once you arrive in Sydney, you will receive an airport pick-up, welcome orientation & training, 2 nights Jet-Lag recovery in Sydney with breakfast, and personalized attention from our local partners to help secure your Aussie job. Work placements include but are not limited to jobs within the hospitality, tourism, food & beverage, customer service, retail, administrative, farming or agriculture, and domestic/childcare industries.

Job duration may range from a single day to 6 months (remember: 4 months maximum under the 416 visa) at any one location. This flexibility will give you the chance to travel around Australia and work in a variety of environments and cultures. As soon as you are ready to take on a job, search the members-only employment database with over one hundred jobs available on a daily basis (access provided before departure and during your trip), and/or contact our local representatives who are dedicated to helping you with your job placement and answering any travel-related questions you may have.

Work in Australia Offers:

- An opportunity to broaden your perspective and worldview.
- An economical way to live and travel abroad.
- An opportunity to participate in and learn about local cultural activities (e.g.: language, music, cooking).
- Memorable travel experiences with the chance to see exotic sites you have always dreamed about.
- The chance to make lifelong friends from around the world.
- Valuable, marketable work experience that strengthens your resume.
- A great way to develop and support your self-confidence and interpersonal skills.

Cultural Embrace Offers:

- **Job Placement Assistance**

You will have access to vacant job listings for up to 4 months (416) or 12 months (Work and Holiday). Our local representatives will help you utilize an easy-to-access online job databank and will also search and provide you with local Australian listings.

- **Compensation**

While each position offers a different salary, the average salary per hour is AU\$17, and many positions include subsidized room and board. The minimum wage in Australia is AU\$14.17/hour.

- **Housing Assistance**

Cultural Embrace will help you find a clean, safe, and affordable room. Many jobs include housing or have employees that need a roommate. Your salary should be enough to cover your basic living expenses while abroad. Please note that short-term (weekly basis) housing leases are very common throughout Australia.

- **Visa Assistance**

Cultural Embrace will assist you with the information and paperwork necessary to obtain the appropriate visa. The 416 visa is AU\$250, and the Working Holiday visa is AU\$195. However, we do not have control nor the ability to guarantee government issuance and/or visa availability.

- **Arrival Pick-Up & Welcome Jet Lag Package**

Airport pick-up from Sydney international airport plus two nights shared accommodations with breakfast is included with your program.

- **Orientation & Training**

An orientation will inform you of Australia's laws, safety, work, social, and travel customs. Plus, assistance in setting up a bank account with ATM access, obtaining a cell phone, local SIM card, or tax file number, and help finding housing or transportation (if applicable).

Cultural Embrace ♦ 7201 Bill Hughes Road ♦ Austin, Texas 78745 U.S.A. ♦

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- **In-Country Assistance**
Participants are given a private mailbox in Sydney with mail forwarding to anywhere in Australia, free luggage storage for up to one month, and 24/7 toll-free emergency assistance.
- **Social & Cultural Activities**
Fun, social, and recreational activities & excursions will be available throughout your time in Australia. This will provide you with a great chance to see local sites, and take exciting adventures, and have fun meeting and making new friends in the Land Down Under. Some activities and excursions will have specified registration dates and additional nominal fees.
- **Cultural Embrace Cultural Kit**
Useful tips, advice, and information to prepare you for the amazing adventure of living and working abroad.
- **Full-time Representation**
Cultural Embrace provides representation in the United States and in your host country prior to, during, and after your placement.

Program Requirements

- Must be between the ages of 18 and 30 (visa requirements).
- Working Holiday Visa (*for non-US citizens*): Be enrolled, or be enrolled and deferred, as a post-secondary student or be a graduate from a post-secondary institution. The 416 Youth Visa does not require high school graduation.
- Work and Holiday Visa (*for US citizens*): Have graduated high school or have your GED.
- You must have access to a minimum of AUD\$3000 while in Australia or possess a return ticket. This minimum amount does not have to be entirely in cash – traveler’s checks, ATM, and debit/credit cards may also satisfy the requirement. Per visa requirements, you are required to show that you have immediate access to funds via bank accounts or parental assistance.
- Enjoy working with others in a busy, fast-paced environment.
- Open to foreign cultures and living abroad.
- High level of responsibility.

For Work and Holiday Maker* Citizens:

This visa allows you to work and travel in Australia for up to 1 year, as long as you change jobs every 6 months. *Citizens of Chile, Thailand, Turkey, and USA. Arrangements with Bangladesh will be finalized soon. This is a once-per-lifetime visa.

For Working Holiday Maker* Citizens:

This visa allows you to work and travel in Australia for up to 1 year, as long as you change jobs every 6 months. *Citizens of Belgium, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France,

Germany, Holland, Hong Kong, Iran, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malta, Norway, Sweden, Thailand, UK, and USA. Again, this is a once-per-lifetime visa.

For 416 Visa Applicants (US citizens only):

This visa allows you to work and travel in Australia for up to four months. This is a perfect option for those who only have a short time to spend in Australia, have not graduated high school, or those that want to save their Working Holiday visa for a later time.

2009 Program Fees

US\$800/€590

*Can\$, Aus\$, Br£ can be accepted with an additional service charge for currency conversion.

**Please note that prices are subject to change according to exchange rate of foreign currency.

How to Apply

1. Obtain the **Work Abroad Application Forms & Procedures** documents in one of two ways:
 - (a) Download the forms from our website at www.culturalembrace.com
 - (b) Call **Cultural Embrace** at 1-512-469-9089 or 1-888-214-8570 to have the forms mailed to you within 7-10 days.
2. Read the instructions carefully and complete all forms.
3. Submit your completed application packet to:

CULTURAL EMBRACE
7201 Bill Hughes Road
Austin, TX 78745 USA

Completed packets should include the following:

- Work Program Application.
- Signed Work Program Agreement.
- Resume/CV.
- Cover letter explaining why you want to work abroad.
- Copy of your Bachelor's degree/diploma and other significant credentials.
- Copy of your passport (information page only).
- Two Letters of Recommendation. Your referrer can send it directly to us via post or email).

- Four passport-size photos (please print your name on the back of each photo).
- Full-length photo (alone or with friends and family).
- Police Background Security Check.
- Recent medical record verifying that you are mentally, emotionally, and physically healthy.
- A full-length picture.
- US\$200 non-refundable deposit (credited toward your program fee).

Upon receipt of your application, a *Cultural Embrace* coordinator will contact you for a 20-30 minute phone interview. Once we accept you in to our program, you will receive an invoice for the remainder of your program fee. In order for us to contact our local partners to start your placement process, we require at least 50% of your program fee.

There is no deadline for applications - first come, first serve. We recommend submitting your application and program fee at least 12-16 weeks prior to your desired start date in order for us to organize and arrange your work placement with our local partners.

**Cultural Embrace* requires an expedited application fee for those applying 12 weeks or less before the desired date of departure. Applications received 8-12 weeks prior to desired departure date will be charged US\$150. Applications received less than 8 weeks before the desired departure date will be charged US\$250.

Frequently Asked Questions

1.) *Why should I use Cultural Embrace to organize my work placement?*

Cultural Embrace and our in-country partners specialize in assisting you with your job placement, housing, and insurance. Approximately 135,000 visas are granted annually across the Work and Holiday and Working Holiday visa programs in Australia, creating a competitive market for non-technical jobs. Plan ahead and try to have your Aussie life situated before you leave your home country. CE's services will alleviate the troubles and stress of getting everything organized in a new country, which will allow you more time and energy to enjoy yourself while abroad. Ultimately, your time in Australia will be an independent and memorable one, but we will do whatever possible to ensure you have a safe, healthy, and comfortable experience before, during, and after your adventure.

2.) *What type of job placements can I expect?:*

Jobs are typically in food and beverage, kitchen, and cleaning/housekeeping industries. Front desk or office work and chef/culinary positions are limited, yet remain available to those with experience. Being fluent in English will assure you an advantage with

employers.

3.) *What will my working schedule be like and can I take time off to travel?*

A wide variety of unique job listings are available on our members-only database. The database lists both part-time and full-time jobs with placement duration ranging from one day to six months. For full-time work, your schedule will be assigned by your employer, though most of these positions range from 35-42 hours per week with a 5- or 6-day work week. Of course you are encouraged to travel, but please consult with your employer if you plan to return to your job and want time off; if you wish to travel and find another company and/or destination, then our in-country partners can assist you with a new job and housing search. Please note that you may only work for any single employer for a maximum of six months, but with our database, you will have easy access to additional job postings for the remainder of your stay.

4.) *What type of visa should I get?*

Australia has **Work and Holiday** visa arrangements with the USA, Thailand, Chile, and Turkey. Arrangements with Bangladesh will be finalized soon.

Australia has **Working Holiday** visa arrangements with 19 countries, including the United Kingdom, Canada, Japan, the Netherlands, Ireland, Korea, Malta, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Hong Kong, Finland, Cyprus, Belgium, Italy, France, Taiwan, and Estonia.

The **416 visa** is available for US citizens that want to work for a maximum of 4 months in Australia. You do not need to have graduated from high school to obtain this visa. This is ideal for gap breakers, repeat participants, or those who only have a short time to spend in Australia.

5.) *How long is my visa valid for?*

The **Work and Holiday** and **Working Holiday visas** are valid for **12 months** from the **first date of entry** into Australia.

The **416 visa** is valid for **four months** from the **first date of entry** into Australia.

6.) *Can I leave and re-enter Australia within the 12-month period?*

Yes, you can leave and re-enter Australia as often as you choose to within the 12-month period. For example: let's assume you arrive in Australia January 10. After arriving, you work at a hotel for 3 months and then travel to New Zealand for two months. If you return to Australia June 15th, then you still have roughly 6 months left to work and travel in Australia.

7.) *How soon after the visa is granted must I travel to Australia?*

You have 3 months from the date the visa is granted to enter Australia. Please plan accordingly since the online visa application is easy to complete and is generally processed very quickly.

8.) *What are the eligibility requirements for this particular program/visa?*

In order to get a Working Holiday visa or Work and Holiday visa, you must meet the following requirements:

- a. You must have a valid passport.
- b. Be at least 18 and not yet 31 at the time of application.
- c. Be outside of Australia at the time of application and granting of the visa.
- d. Be enrolled or be a graduate of a post-secondary institution (US citizens still qualify if not currently enrolled).
- e. Show proof of sufficient funds for the first part of your stay in Australia or at least have a return ticket. The guideline is to have proof that you have access to \$3000-\$5000 Australian dollars. This can be in the form of a credit card, a letter from your bank, or traveler's checks.

9.) *Why is there an age requirement to work in Australia? Isn't that age discrimination?*

The Working Holiday and Work and Holiday visas are meant to offer international youth an affordable experience and opportunity to visit and travel throughout Australia. The jobs available under this visa are typically "unskilled" or "non-technical" positions (except nursing) that will not affect the local economy and unemployment rate. Additionally, it is a reciprocated immigration law made with other countries, so similar (or even more stringent) requirements are often mandated to Australians working and travelling abroad.

10.) *Can I study in Australia while on these visas?*

Only for four months. If you wish to study longer, you must get a student visa. You can apply for a student visa while in Australia.

11.) *How long will it take to make my placement?*

We ask applicants to apply at least 12-16 weeks in advance of your desired start date. The process may take less time than this, but we want to ensure that we have enough time to find a great placement for you! As mentioned above, there are additional administrative fees if you apply less than 12 weeks in advance, and we do not contact our local Australian partners until we receive at least 50% of the program fee payment.

12.) *What types of housing options are available and how much does housing cost?*

Cultural Embrace's Work in Australia program offers the flexibility to decide exactly what sort of experience each participant wants. Since housing is so varied (per city, city center

vs. suburbs, or beach-side accommodations; weekly or monthly leases in shared flats or youth hostels), *Cultural Embrace* does not pre-book your housing before you arrive in Sydney. However, when you arrive in Sydney, *Cultural Embrace* will have pre-booked 2 nights accommodations while you get to know the city, look for a job, and rest up from that jet lag! You will be afforded a variety of options for your housing accommodations, and with dozens of other participants arriving each day, finding new roommates and friends should be a breeze. This way, you can pick your city, your accommodations, and your roommates!

- 13.) *When should I buy my plane ticket(s) and does **Cultural Embrace** provide any resources to help with plane tickets?*

Plane tickets should not be purchased until after your placement has been confirmed. *Cultural Embrace* works with consolidators and discount travel agencies that can help find cheaper tickets than those that are available to the general public. We have a partnership with STA Travel (1-877-236-1048) for great student/youth rates, and they have a very nominal service fee if you need to make any changes before or during your travels.

- 14.) *What do I do if I have a problem or complaint within my work placement?*

You must speak to your employer or manager to give them an opportunity to explain or investigate the situation. If you feel the problem or complaint is not sufficiently addressed, then please contact your local representative in Australia as well as *Cultural Embrace* (Austin office) so we can mediate on your behalf.

- 15.) *Will I have free time while working in Australia?*

Absolutely! Through this program, you will have a great chance to relax, travel, and explore this genuinely beautiful and unique continent. You will have the liberty to pick and choose your jobs, so you may opt to have a part-time job(s), full-time job, weekend job, etc. Our online members-only database will provide you with a list of vacant jobs, their locations (generally throughout Australia), their schedule, and duties and responsibilities. This provides you with the freedom to select where, when, and what you will do in Australia.

A Few Words. . .

At *Cultural Embrace*, we want to facilitate experiences that, first and foremost, help individuals become better acquainted with both themselves and the richly textured cultures of the world around them. We design all of our programs with this goal in mind, and our Australia offerings are no exception. While in Australia, participants will have the opportunity to explore each region and state's vast reservoir of distinct, diverse, and exhilarating activities, so no matter where you end up, rest assured that adventure is always close at hand. If you would like to pre-arrange excursions (i.e.: sight-seeing or adventure sport trips) or cultural activities

(ie: diving lessons, surf classes, etc) prior to your departure, we may assist you by making recommendations and reservations. This will help alleviate the time and energy needed to make plans while you are abroad, and as an additional bonus, you will often receive a pre-booking discount as opposed to organizing it while in Australia. If you decide to wait, however, our local coordinators in Australia will be able to assist you.

For any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at work@culturalembbrace.com or you can call us at 1-512-469-9089 or 1-888-214-8570 (US/Canada toll-free).

Discover the Similarities. . .
Share the Differences. . .