

THE ULTIMATE DESTINATION GUIDE

Australia

Timing, entry, regions, stays and budgets for travellers from India

2026-27 EDITION

CURATED BY TRIPSTOR

 INSIDE

Contents

How this guide is arranged

The guide moves from orientation and entry rules to timing, transport and regions, then to stays, experiences, romance, families, food, culture, packing, health and budgets. Sources and a closing page finish the guide. Fares, fees and exchange rates are planning figures checked on 17 October 2026, so confirm them before you book.

✓ Start here

A welcome note and an overview of Australia in key facts.

✓ Entry and money

The visitor visa route, the application steps, arrival declarations, and fees and refunds.

✓ Getting there and around

Flights from India, distances within Australia and driving on the left.

✓ Regions

A regional atlas followed by profiles of the main areas to explore.

 INSIDE

Contents continued

How this guide is arranged



Stays and experiences

Accommodation styles, reef and wildlife notes, and wine country.



Travelling for two or for family

Slow romance ideas and practical days out with children.



Food and culture

Vegetarian options and cafés, along with First Nations sites and local customs.



Preparing to go

Packing, health and safety, budget planning, sources and a back cover with next steps.

INSIDE

Contents continued

How this guide is arranged

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 WELCOME

Planning a long journey with care

A calm start to planning a long-haul trip

A slower start for a long-haul trip

Australia rewards a considered pace. Distances are large, seasons run opposite to those in India, and the visa process begins months before you fly. A little structure at the start makes the rest of the journey feel lighter.

This guide takes the essentials in a sensible order: when to go, how to apply, what to declare on arrival, and what each stage is likely to cost. Treat every figure as a snapshot. Exchange rates, visa fees, departure charges and airfares change, and some rules are still being confirmed. Where we are unsure, we say so and point you to the official source.

Start early. Check the Home Affairs pages for current fees and processing times, and gather evidence of funds, employment and your ties to India before you apply. Keep copies of your documents with you while you travel.

When you are ready to compare flights, stays or a complete itinerary, you can explore [Australia Holiday Packages](#) at your own pace and return to this guide whenever a detail needs checking.

OVERVIEW

Australia at a glance

Key facts in one place

Australia is a long-haul destination, so it helps to see the core facts together before comparing regions. The figures here were checked on 17 October 2026 and will change. Confirm visa, fare and tax details on official pages before you book. You can browse [Australia holiday packages](#) for a starting point.

Currency	Australian dollar (A\$). An indicative rate was about ₹66 per A\$1 on 17 Oct 2026. Bank rates usually include a 2–3% markup.
Entry	Indian passport holders need a Subclass 600 visitor visa. Australia has no visa on arrival.
Visa fee	A\$250 when applied for from outside Australia. Confirm the current fee with Home Affairs.
Flights from India	Non-stop services were reported from Delhi and Bengaluru. Check current schedules before planning.
Seasons	Reversed compared with India. The tropical north wet season runs from October to April.
Driving	Australia drives on the left. Check each state's rules on using an Indian licence.
Departure charge	A\$70 per passenger over 12, usually included in airfare. A proposed rise to A\$80 had not been confirmed as law at the time of checking.
Emergency number	000 (general knowledge; verify before travel)
Plug type	Type I (general knowledge; verify before travel)

TIMING

When to go

Reversed seasons and regional weather

Australia's seasons run opposite to India's, so the southern summer falls around December and January. Timing matters more here than in many destinations because the country spans tropical, desert and temperate zones. Start with the region you want to visit, then [check current timing and options](#) before you fix dates.

Tropical north, month by month



 TIMING

When to go continued

Reversed seasons and regional weather

Regional weather at a glance

Oct to Apr	Tropical north The wet season runs October to April. The dry season is warm and dry and is generally the better window for travel.
Summer heat	Desert centre Alice Springs and Uluru are arid, with summer temperatures often above 35°C. Plan early starts and shade.
Jun to Aug	Southeast Rainfall is spread more evenly through the year, with June to August tending to be the wettest months.
Nov to May	Queensland waters Stinger season runs November to May. Wear a stinger suit and swim only inside stinger nets.
Not a forecast	Recent conditions The 2025–26 northern wet season had rainfall 44% above the long-term average. That is not a forecast for the coming season.

Peak periods, including December and January, school holidays and Diwali, tend to raise fares. This is a planning judgement, not a price quote. Weather varies from year to year, so [see the current seasonal outlook](#) before you settle on dates.

ENTRY

The visitor visa route

Subclass 600 for Indian passport holders

Start with the right visa

Indian passport holders cannot use the Electronic Travel Authority (ETA 601) or the free eVisitor (651), so the Subclass 600 visitor visa is the route to plan around. Australia has no visa on arrival, which means every short-stay visitor needs authorisation before boarding. Confirm the current route directly with Home Affairs before you book flights.

The Tourist stream fee is A\$250 when you apply from outside Australia, or A\$630 if you apply while already in the country. At 66 rupees per A\$1 that is roughly ₹16,500 for the base fee, though rates move. Sources disagree on whether recent increases apply to every figure you may see online, so check the official fee on the day you apply. Each person, including children, needs a separate application, and health checks or biometrics can add to the total.

Visas are generally granted for stays of 3, 6 or 12 months per entry, and they do not permit work. Processing times vary widely between sources, so apply well ahead of any fixed trip and rely on the Home Affairs processing-times page rather than a single estimate.

Evidence to gather

Keep these ready



Funds

Bank statements showing you can cover the trip and your daily costs.



Employment

A letter from your employer confirming approved leave and your return to work.

 ENTRY

The visitor visa route continued

Subclass 600 for Indian passport holders

Keep these ready

✓ Ties to India

Evidence of home, family, study or business commitments that support your return.

✓ Itinerary

A clear outline of dates, places and bookings, even if some details are provisional.

The 'genuine visitor' test is the main criterion, and one commercial source names it as the top reason Indian applications are refused. That is a secondary view, so treat it as a reason to prepare carefully rather than as a guarantee either way. Once your visa position is clear, you can compare [Australia holiday packages](#) with your own plan.

ENTRY

Applying step by step

Ordered steps, starting early

Indian passport holders need the Subclass 600 visitor visa before they fly. Work through these steps in order, and allow plenty of time. Fees, processing times and rules have changed recently, so confirm each point on the Home Affairs website before you apply. You can compare routes and dates with our [Australia Holiday Packages](#) page.

Step 1**Confirm your route**

Sources agree that the ETA (601) and eVisitor (651) are not available to Indian passport holders, so the Subclass 600 visitor visa is the route to check.

Step 2**Gather evidence of genuine intent**

Prepare proof of funds, employment or study commitments, and ties to India. Officers assess whether you are a genuine visitor, so keep documents organised.

Step 3**Check the current fee**

Sources report A\$250 when applying from outside Australia. Charges reportedly rose on 1 July 2026, so older figures may be out of date.

Step 4**Apply for every traveller**

Each person, including children, needs a separate application and fee. Budget for these costs across the whole family.

Step 5**Plan for any health checks**

Health checks and biometrics may add cost beyond the base charge. Confirm which requirements apply to you before you pay.

Step 6**Allow time for a decision**

Sources give conflicting processing times. Check the Home Affairs processing-times page and apply well ahead of your flight.

Step 7**Choose your stay length**

The visa is generally granted for 3, 6 or 12 months per entry. It does not permit work, so plan activities accordingly.

Step 8**Prepare for arrival**

Keep your visa grant with your passport. Check whether your route is eligible for the digital Australia Travel Declaration, which may issue a QR code before departure.

ARRIVAL

Declarations and biosecurity

What to declare and what to leave at home

Australia takes its borders seriously, but most of the rules are simple once you know them. Every arriving traveller must complete an Incoming Passenger Card, which is a legal document, so answer every question accurately. A digital version, the Australia Travel Declaration, is being rolled out and may be issued with a QR code up to 72 hours before departure. Check whether your route is eligible before you fly.

✓ Fresh produce

Fresh fruit and vegetables cannot be brought into Australia.

✓ Meat, poultry and pork

Fresh and processed animal products are restricted, so check before packing.

✓ Eggs and dairy

These are not permitted in most cases.

✓ Live plants and seeds

Do not carry them, even as gifts.

When in doubt, declare

Many Indian travellers carry spices, snacks, sweets, dried foods or wooden items. Declare these rather than hoping they go unnoticed, because officers can inspect bags. Failing to declare can lead to visa cancellation and a ban on returning for up to three years. Items used in rural areas or near animals should be cleaned before you travel and declared as well.

Carry medicines in their original packaging, with prescriptions. Secondary sources mention a three-month medicine supply guideline and a reporting requirement for cash of A\$10,000 or more. Confirm both on official government pages before you travel, and plan currency with care, since bank rates are usually less favourable than mid-market rates.

 ARRIVAL

Declarations and biosecurity continued

What to declare and what to leave at home

For a journey that already allows time for these checks, explore [Australia holiday packages](#).

 COSTS

Fees, taxes and refunds

Verified before publishing

Fees at a glance

Figures are approximate, converted at about ₹66 per A\$1 on 17 October 2026. Exchange rates move, and bank or card margins of roughly 2–3% can add to the cost. Check each amount on official pages before you book, as charges have changed recently.

Visitor visa, applied from outside Australia	250	16,500	Per person, Tourist stream. Fees rose on 1 July 2026, so older figures may be out of date.
Visitor visa, applied inside Australia	630	41,580	Per person. Applying from within Australia costs more.
Passenger Movement Charge, current	70	4,620	Per passenger over 12. Usually included in the airfare.
Passenger Movement Charge, proposed	80	5,280	Applies only if a bill passes for departures on or after 1 January 2027. I could not confirm it has become law.

Claiming a GST refund

The Tourist Refund Scheme returns GST on eligible goods, not on services such as accommodation. The conditions below come from the Australian Taxation Office, but its page is dated, so confirm current rules before you shop.

 COSTS

Fees, taxes and refunds continued

Verified before publishing

✓ Minimum spend

Purchases must total A\$300 or more, GST inclusive, from a single business using the same ABN.

✓ Purchase window

Goods must be bought within 60 days of departure.

✓ Cabin baggage

Carry the goods in your cabin baggage when you fly out.

✓ Claim early

Make the claim at the airport facility at least 30 minutes before departure.

Plan the fees alongside your flights and accommodation. You can compare [Australia holiday packages](#) to see how costs are structured before you commit to separate bookings.

TRANSPORT

Getting there from India

Direct routes and fare snapshots

Direct flights from India to Australia are becoming easier to plan. Sources describe three non-stop routes in 2026: Air India's two Delhi services, to Sydney and Melbourne, and a Qantas service from Bengaluru to Sydney. Schedules change, so treat these routes as a starting point and confirm them with each airline before you plan around them.

Criterion	Non-stop	One-stop
Routes	Air India from Delhi to Sydney or Melbourne; Qantas from Bengaluru to Sydney	IndiGo via Singapore, one example seen
Journey time	Roughly 11h 50 to 13h 30 in one source	Longer; not quantified in the sources
Fare snapshot	Air India Delhi to Melbourne return about ₹85,000 to ₹86,000 for late October to November departures	IndiGo return about ₹69,932

Fare figures seen online are search-engine snapshots, not offers. They change by date, cabin and booking time, and they were not fully current when checked. Use them only to gauge a rough range, then request live quotes before setting a budget. Airfares are an area where the figures in this guide should be re-checked close to travel.

✓ Confirm schedules

Check operating days, airports and aircraft on airline websites before booking.

✓ Watch the calendar

Research notes suggest that peak periods such as December to January, and Indian holiday windows such as May to June and Diwali, tend to raise fares.

 TRANSPORT

Getting there from India continued

Direct routes and fare snapshots

✓ Weigh connections

One-stop options can cost less, but the journey is longer and connection times matter.

✓ Allow for arrival

Time your flight so that visa grant, declarations and biosecurity steps are complete before you travel.

When you are ready to compare current options, review [Australia Holiday Packages](#) alongside airline sites. Confirm fares, baggage rules and visa requirements before paying.

TRANSPORT

Getting around

Distances, domestic flights and driving on the left



Distances shape the route

Australia is vast, so a multi-city trip usually means domestic flights rather than long road journeys. The sources I could check did not cover domestic flights or rail, so confirm schedules and operators directly before you book. Driving suits shorter loops, but plan for long days and fuel stops, especially away from the coast.

Practical notes

✓ Driving on the left

Australia drives on the left. Allow extra time at junctions, and check with each state or territory road authority how an Indian licence is treated.

✓ Domestic flights

Most multi-city itineraries rely on domestic flights. Peak periods such as December and January may raise prices, so book early (general knowledge, verify current fares).

 TRANSPORT

Getting around continued

Distances, domestic flights and driving on the left

Practical notes

✓ Remote distances

In the Northern Territory and the outback, towns can sit hundreds of kilometres apart. Carry water, fuel and a charged phone, and share your route.

✓ Trains and coaches

Rail and coach timetables vary by state. Confirm them with each operator before planning connections.

Browse [Australia Holiday Packages](#) to compare routes and internal travel options, then check final timings on official operator pages.

REGIONS

Regions at a glance

A map with regional profiles

Choosing your regions

Australia is vast, so two or three regions usually make a better trip than trying to cover the whole continent. Each region suits a different kind of traveller. Sydney and Melbourne are the simplest starting points from India, as the non-stop services described in our research currently land in those cities. Look for [combined itineraries](#) that link them with a domestic flight.

Regional profiles

Sydney and Blue Mountains, NSW

OFTEN SUITS

Harbour views, mountain walks, city days

SEASON NOTE

Spring and autumn are generally mild; summer is peak season

COMMON BASE

Sydney

Melbourne and Great Ocean Road, VIC

OFTEN SUITS

Food, coffee, coastal drives

SEASON NOTE

Weather can change within a day, so pack layers

COMMON BASE

Melbourne

N ↑



- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 · Sydney | 2 · Blue Mountains |
| 3 · Melbourne | 4 · Great Ocean Road |
| 5 · Cairns | 6 · Whitsundays |
| 7 · Darwin | 8 · Uluru |
| 9 · Barossa Valley | 10 · Margaret River |
| 11 · Perth | 12 · Hobart |

Natural Earth boundary · approximate markers

 REGIONS

Regions at a glance continued

A map with regional profiles

Regional profiles

Queensland and the reef, QLD

OFTEN SUITS

Snorkelling, rainforest, islands

SEASON NOTE

Stinger season runs November to May in the north

COMMON BASE

Cairns

Regional profiles

Northern Territory

OFTEN SUITS

Uluru, Kakadu, desert landscapes

SEASON NOTE

Tropical north wet season runs October to April; the centre is arid

COMMON BASE

Darwin, Uluru

Wine country and south-west, SA and WA

OFTEN SUITS

Barossa, Margaret River, Perth

SEASON NOTE

Cooler months generally suit wine tasting; confirm cellar door hours

COMMON BASE

Adelaide, Perth

REGIONS

Regions at a glance continued

A map with regional profiles

Regional profiles

Tasmania, TAS

OFTEN SUITS

Nature, walks, local food

SEASON NOTE

Winters are cooler and wetter; plan ahead

COMMON BASE

Hobart

Seasons differ by region

Timing changes sharply from north to south. The tropical north has a wet season from October to April, while the desert centre stays arid with hot summers. The south-east receives rain more evenly through the year. Distances are long, so keep the number of bases low, allow for travel days and confirm current domestic flight options. Check each state road authority's rules on using an Indian licence before you plan any self-drive.

REGIONS

Sydney and the Blue Mountains

Harbour, mountains and the most flight options



Sydney is often the first stop for travellers from India, and it is the city many people picture when they think of Australia. Non-stop services from India have been reported for 2026, but schedules change, so confirm current timetables before you book. Harbour views, a relaxed pace and an easy link to the mountains make it a strong first chapter.

Harbour and city

Start at Circular Quay and walk towards the Sydney Opera House. Ferries cross the water through the day, and the foreshore paths suit an unhurried first evening. If you want to see inside the building, book a guided tour, as access depends on performances and schedules.

Mountains within reach

The Blue Mountains lie a few hours west of the city and are usually reached by train or road, so check current services and allow generous time. Eucalyptus valleys, sandstone cliffs and lookout points reward a slow day. The valleys can be misty in the morning, so an early start often helps.

Choose your light

Early mornings and late afternoons suit the lookouts and harbour paths best.

Pack for two climates

Carry layers. Mountain air and evenings can feel cooler than the city.

 REGIONS

Sydney and the Blue Mountains continued

Harbour, mountains and the most flight options

Allow travel time

Distances look short on a map, but trains and roads can take longer than expected.

Check before you go

Timetables, ferry routes and attraction hours change, so confirm them shortly before each day out.

A gentle pacing idea

✓ Harbour day

Circular Quay, the Opera House and an evening walk along the foreshore.

✓ Mountains day

Lookouts, a short walk in the valleys and a relaxed lunch.

✓ Slow morning

Coffee, a market or a museum before you set out.

Sydney suits a short stay before or after a longer trip. To see how the city links with other regions, [compare Australia holiday packages](#) or speak with a planner about your dates.

 REGIONS

Melbourne and the Great Ocean Road

Food, coffee and coastal drives

A city of laneways and coffee

Melbourne is widely known for its café culture, and its laneways reward an unhurried walk. Give the city a few days before you head out, with time for markets, galleries and, if your dates allow, a sporting fixture. Event calendars change, so check fixtures when you book.

For vegetarian travellers from India, many cafés and eateries serve Indian-inspired dishes such as dal, roti and fresh chutneys. Menus change often, so ask about ingredients, ghee and shared fryers if these matter to you.

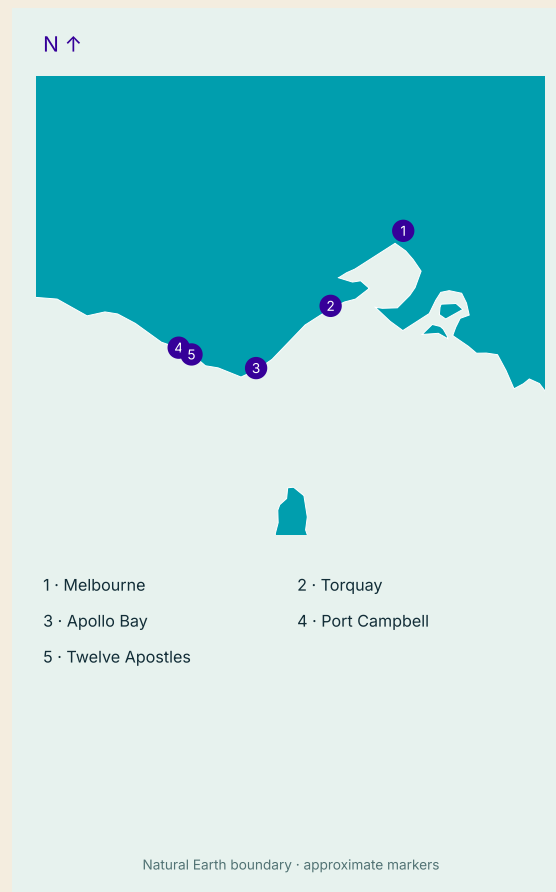
Along the Great Ocean Road

The Great Ocean Road runs west from Melbourne along the coast, with clifftop views, surf beaches and pockets of rainforest. Traffic drives on the left, so take extra care at first. Distances take longer than the map suggests, so allow a full day for a shorter stretch rather than rushing the whole route in one go. Check current road conditions and your licence rules with the relevant state road authority before you set out.

REGIONS

Melbourne and the Great Ocean Road continued

Food, coffee and coastal drives



Stops worth planning for

✓ Melbourne laneways

Cafés, small galleries and street art in the central grid.

✓ Torquay and the surf coast

Beaches and surf shops, a good first stop out of the city.

 REGIONS

Melbourne and the Great Ocean Road continued

Food, coffee and coastal drives

Stops worth planning for

✓ Apollo Bay

A relaxed harbour town, useful for an overnight break.

✓ Twelve Apostles

Limestone stacks best seen at a quieter hour of the day.

For a route built around your dates and interests, browse [Australia Holiday Packages](#) or ask our team to help shape the days ahead.

REGIONS

Queensland and the reef

Reef, rainforest and stinger season



Queensland is where many travellers from India first meet the Great Barrier Reef, and it rewards a slower pace. Cairns, the Whitsundays and the Gold Coast each offer a different mix of reef, rainforest and coast. Plan around the weather rather than against it, because the tropical north has two very different seasons.

Choosing your season

The tropical north's wet season generally runs from October to April, with warm temperatures and high humidity. The Bureau of Meteorology's summary for 2025–26 recorded rainfall 44% above the long-term average. That describes a past season and is not a forecast, so check current outlooks before you book reef days.

Stinger season

From about November to May, marine stingers are a risk in parts of Queensland. Wear a stinger suit when entering the water, and swim only inside stinger nets where they are provided.

Sun and water

A protective suit also shields skin from strong sun. Bring sunscreen, a hat and water, and swim between the red and yellow flags on patrolled beaches.

 REGIONS

Queensland and the reef continued

Reef, rainforest and stinger season

Check local advice

Local safety pages list hazards such as crocodiles, box jellyfish and Irukandji at some beaches. Ask your operator and check current conditions on arrival.

Reef trips, wildlife parks and rainforest walks suit most schedules, and the Gold Coast is often used as a base for families. Operators run tours through the year, but conditions and availability change, so confirm details directly. For curated options, [compare Australia Holiday Packages](#) and check inclusions carefully.

REGIONS

The Northern Territory

Outback distances and wet-season timing

The Northern Territory is a vast region where distances are measured in hours rather than kilometres. Most visitors pair the red centre with the tropical north, so the season you choose matters as much as the route. Plan flights and drives around the weather rather than trying to see everything in one trip. If you would like help shaping a route, compare [Australia Holiday Packages](#) with an itinerary that suits your pace.

✓ Distances

Journeys between towns can take many hours by road. Build in rest stops, fuel planning and a flexible first day after arrival.

✓ Dry season

From roughly May to September, the tropical north is generally warm and dry, which suits most visitors.

✓ Wet season

From October to April, expect heavy rain, high humidity and possible flooding that can change road access. The 2025–26 wet season ran 44% above the long-term average, but that is a record, not a forecast for the coming season.

✓ Desert centre

Around Alice Springs and Uluru the climate is arid, and summer days often pass 35°C. Early starts, shade and plenty of water make a real difference.

**Tropical north,
including
Darwin and
Kakadu**

Hot and humid, with a monsoonal
wet season

Dry season, roughly May to
September

REGIONS

The Northern Territory continued

Outback distances and wet-season timing

**Desert centre,
including Alice
Springs and
Uluru**

Arid, with summers often above
35°C

Cooler months are more
comfortable; confirm with local
operators

Kakadu National Park and Uluru are widely visited highlights, but opening arrangements, access and cultural protocols can change, so confirm them before you travel. Respect First Nations sites and any restrictions on photography or entry. In the far north, crocodiles are a real risk, so swim only where local advice allows and follow posted signs.

REGIONS

Wine country and the south-west

Barossa, Margaret River and Perth



South Australia and Western Australia offer some of the country's most relaxed wine country, with long lunches, stone cellar doors and coastline close by. Plans here are best made around daylight driving and local timetables, which can change by season. Many smaller cellar doors keep limited hours, so confirm opening days before you travel.

A gentle, pastoral landscape of vineyards on rolling hills, with historic stone buildings and an unhurried pace.

Many visitors combine the valley with a stay in Adelaide, the state capital, which is generally within a short drive. Autumn brings vines in warm colour, and many cellar doors offer tastings through the year. If you plan to taste, arrange a driver or guided tour in advance, since drink-driving rules apply and local transport options vary.

A wine region on the south-west coast, paired with forests, beaches and the city of Perth.

Barossa Valley	Margaret River
Rolling vineyards and stone cellars	Coast, forests and vineyards
Stone houses and cellar doors	Coastal walks and beach days
Adelaide, generally a short drive	Perth, several hours south by road (verify)

 REGIONS

Wine country and the south-west continued

Barossa, Margaret River and Perth

Stay with a view

Consider a low-rise guesthouse or verandah stay overlooking vineyard rows. Confirm facilities directly with each property before booking.

Book tastings ahead

Smaller cellar doors may limit numbers and hours, so reserve tastings and tours early, especially in autumn and during holiday periods.

Plan for distance

Vineyards are spread out across the countryside. Use a driver or guided tour, and check current rules before you drive.

Between wine days, the south-west coast offers beaches and forest walks. Pack sun protection, water and layers, as weather can change quickly. To compare complete trip options, browse [Australia holiday packages](#) and review the details with your travel adviser.

STAYS

Where to stay

Accommodation styles with approved images



Choose accommodation by purpose as well as star rating. Compare location, transport links and what is included, then confirm details directly with each property. For bundled options, see [Australia holiday packages](#).



QUIET STAYS

Boutique guesthouses

Low-rise guesthouses with verandahs and garden or vineyard views suit travellers who want quiet days. Ask what breakfast and transfers include before booking.

REGIONS

Wine-country stays

Vineyard-area accommodation is often spread out, so a car or pre-booked transfer helps. Check the distance to dining and cellar doors before you choose.

CITIES

City hotels

Central hotels suit short stays in Sydney or Melbourne, where walkable areas and public transport can reduce taxi use. Confirm room types and accessibility needs in advance.

 STAYS

Where to stay continued

Accommodation styles with approved images

FAMILIES

Family apartments

Self-contained apartments with separate sleeping space can suit families. Confirm bedroom count, cot availability and kitchen facilities directly with each property.

COAST

Reef and island stays

Island and reef-coast stays can be remote and sometimes weather-dependent. Confirm transfer times, inclusions and seasonal arrangements, including stinger precautions.

OUTBACK

Outback lodges

Remote lodges can be far apart. Plan fuel, driving time and distances, and book early for peak periods, as availability may be limited.

EXPERIENCES

Experiences worth planning for

Practical notes on reef, wildlife and wine

Australia's signature experiences reward a little planning. Reef, wildlife and wine suit different kinds of days, so book flexibly, leave room for rest and check current operator details before you travel.

REEF

Reef snorkelling with care

Reef tours run through the year with precautions. In Queensland, stinger season runs from November to May, so wear a stinger suit when entering the water and swim only inside stinger nets where they are provided. Choose operators that brief guests before boarding.

WATER

Sun and water safety

Swim between the red and yellow flags on patrolled beaches. Bring sunscreen, a hat and water, and consider a protective suit for long days in the sun or on the water. Check conditions each morning and follow lifeguard advice.

WILDLIFE

Wildlife at a respectful distance

Wildlife sanctuaries near Brisbane let you see kangaroos and koalas in gum trees from marked boardwalks. Stay on paths, keep your distance from animals and follow keeper instructions. Photograph without flash or food.

WINE

Wine country at an easy pace

The Barossa Valley and Margaret River suit relaxed days of cellar doors and vineyard lunches. Plan one tasting a day, arrange a driver or taxi in advance and check opening hours, as some estates keep limited schedules.

Popular reef and wildlife tours can fill quickly during school holidays. Compare inclusions, cancellation terms and seasonal closures before paying. For bundled flights, transfers and experiences, you can review options on the [Australia holiday packages](#) page.

ROMANCE

Slow romance

Islands, harbours and wine



Slow days for two

Australia suits couples who value unhurried days. Distances are large, so choose two or three bases rather than many, and leave space between flights and transfers. Compare options on [Australia holiday packages](#) or speak with an adviser about honeymoon-friendly itineraries through [honeymoon ideas](#). Check current flight schedules before you commit, because fares change often.

✓ Sydney Harbour

Evenings around the harbour, with the Opera House and a mountain stay in the Blue Mountains, which is reachable as a day trip. Sydney also has the most flight options from India, so it makes a practical first base.

✓ Whitsunday Islands

Reef islands with clear water and quiet beaches for walks at dusk. In Queensland, stinger season runs from November to May. Ask about stinger-safe swimming and swim only inside stinger nets.

ROMANCE

Slow romance continued

Islands, harbours and wine



Wine country

The Barossa Valley in South Australia and Margaret River in Western Australia suit slow tastings and long lunches. Drive only if you are comfortable driving on the left, or book a driver or tour for the day.



Tasmania

Nature and food make Tasmania a gentle final stop. It needs extra travel time, so build it in only if your schedule allows.

Timing shapes both mood and price. December and January bring peak summer demand and school-holiday fares. Shoulder periods often feel calmer, though weather varies widely by region. Confirm seasonal conditions with Tourism Australia and state tourism sites before you book.

When you reserve, ask directly about room facilities, cancellation terms and transfers, since these vary between properties. Keep a little flexibility in each day, so the best moments can come without a rush.

FAMILIES

Travelling with children

Wildlife, patrolled beaches and easy days



Easy days with young travellers

Australia suits family travel well, with wildlife sanctuaries, long sandy beaches and relaxed city life. Days with children tend to work best when they are unhurried. Long flights from India mean that one or two bases are often easier than many moves, and a single main activity each day leaves room for beach time and rest.

Every traveller needs a visa, and children are included. Each person, including children, submits a separate Subclass 600 application. The Tourist stream fee is A\$250 per person when applied for from outside Australia, so a family of four comes to about A\$1,000 before any health check or biometric costs. Fees changed on 1 July 2026, so confirm current amounts with Home Affairs and apply well ahead. You can compare options through [Australia holiday packages](#).

Beaches with flags

Swim between the red and yellow flags on patrolled beaches, and keep younger children within arm's reach at the water's edge. Bring sunscreen, a hat and water.

Wildlife at a distance

Wildlife sanctuaries often offer boardwalks where kangaroos and koalas can be seen calmly from a respectful distance. Teach children not to approach or feed animals.

 FAMILIES

Travelling with children continued

Wildlife, patrolled beaches and easy days

Stinger season

In Queensland, stinger season runs from November to May. Wear a stinger suit and swim only inside stinger nets, even on calm days.

Far north caution

Crocodiles are a risk in the far north. Some Queensland beach advice also lists box jellyfish and Irukandji, so follow local signage and guidance before entering the water.

Check current safety guidance before you travel. Official visitor-focused safety sources are limited, so use Indian government advisories, Australian state tourism pages and emergency information alongside this guide. The emergency number is 000. Comprehensive travel insurance that covers children is strongly advisable, as Medicare is generally not available to Indian visitors.

FOOD

Eating well

Vegetarian options and cafés



Australia's large cities offer a wide range of food, and vegetarian eating is generally straightforward to arrange. Indian and vegetarian dishes are easiest to find in the big cities, where Indian-inspired menus are common. We did not research specific restaurants, so check current listings and recent reviews before you plan a meal around one place.

Laneway cafés are a relaxed way to begin a day in a larger city. Many serve coffee with toast, bowls and plates that include vegetarian choices. Opening hours and menus change, so confirm details before you go.

✓ Ask about ingredients

Stocks, sauces and desserts can contain animal products even when a dish looks vegetarian. Ask staff directly, as menus do not always say.

✓ Explain your diet clearly

A short written note of your dietary needs can help when ordering in busy cafés, especially where English is not the first language of the kitchen team.

✓ Pack snacks with care

Spices, sweets, dried foods and snacks must be declared on arrival. Check the biosecurity rules before you pack, and declare anything you are unsure about.

 FOOD

Eating well continued

Vegetarian options and cafés

For a tailored plan that includes city dining and regional stops, see [Australia holiday packages](#).

CULTURE

Culture and respect

First Nations sites and local customs



Australia is informal in everyday life, and most conversations feel relaxed and friendly. Many places, however, carry deep meaning for First Nations peoples, whose connections to Country are long-standing and ongoing. A little care goes a long way, and it is usually welcomed.

Sites and access

Rock art, ceremonial grounds and sacred landscapes may have access restrictions, seasonal closures or guided-only entry. Follow signs, stay on marked paths and never touch art or remove materials. Where a local guide is offered, a guided visit is often the most rewarding way to learn the story behind a place. Photograph only where it is permitted, and ask before recording anyone.

Everyday customs



Manners

Friendly, casual greetings are normal, and first names are common in most settings.



Tipping

Tipping is generally optional. A small amount for good service is appreciated, but it is not expected.

 CULTURE

Culture and respect continued

First Nations sites and local customs

Everyday customs



Dress

Light, casual clothing suits most places. Carry a layer for air-conditioned venues and cooler evenings.



Respectful distance

At community events and cultural tours, follow the host's lead on where to stand, sit and walk.

“Ask before you photograph, and listen carefully when a guide says a place is not open to visitors.”

Access rules change by site and community, so check current notices from local operators, land councils and state tourism pages before you go. Our [Australia holiday packages](#) can help arrange guided visits where they are available.

PACKING

What to pack

Layers, sun protection and declarations

Australia can feel cool in the south and hot in the tropical north, so a flexible wardrobe works best. Pack for the regions and months you plan to visit, and keep anything you may need to declare easy to reach at the border.

Pack list

☐ Layers

Mornings can be cool even in warm months, so bring a jumper or light jacket alongside summer clothes.

☐ Sun protection

Pack a hat, sunglasses and high-SPF sunscreen, plus a refillable water bottle for days outdoors.

☐ Swimwear and stinger suit

If visiting northern Queensland waters from November to May, a stinger suit is advised. Swim only inside stinger nets.

☐ Medicines and prescriptions

Keep medicines in their original packaging with prescriptions. Check quantity rules before you fly.

☐ Plug adapter

Australia uses Type I plugs. Confirm this on official travel advice before buying an adapter.

☐ Clean footwear and gear

Clean boots, walking gear and camping equipment before flying, especially after rural or animal visits.

☐ Food and natural items

Fresh produce, meat, eggs, dairy, live plants and seeds cannot be brought in. Declare spices, snacks, sweets, dried foods and wooden items.

 PACKING

What to pack continued

Layers, sun protection and declarations

Declare before you arrive

Everyone must complete an Incoming Passenger Card, which is a legal document. If you are unsure whether an item is allowed, declare it. Failing to declare can lead to visa cancellation and a ban on returning for up to three years. Read the [current arrival rules](#) before you pack, and consider [Australia holiday packages](#) if you would like help arranging the rest of the trip.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Staying safe and well

Water, sun, insurance and official contacts

Beaches and water

Swim between the red and yellow flags on patrolled beaches, and follow lifesaver direction at all times. In Queensland, stinger season runs from November to May. Wear a stinger suit when entering the water and swim only inside stinger nets (S25). Protective suits also help shield you from the sun and reduce the risk of jellyfish stings (S28).

Sun and heat

Bring sunscreen, a hat and plenty of water. Plan active days for cooler hours, especially inland, where summers are often above 35°C (S23). Layers help too, as mornings can be cool even in warm months.

Before you fly

✓ Travel insurance

Health insurance is recommended but not a visa requirement. Indian visitors are generally not covered by Medicare (general knowledge, verify), so compare comprehensive travel insurance that includes remote and water activities.

✓ Medicines

Carry medicines in their original packaging with prescriptions. A three-month supply rule is reported by a secondary source, so confirm it with official guidance before you pack (S14).

✓ Visa extras

Health checks and biometrics can add costs beyond the base visa charge (S31). Budget for them alongside the fee.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Staying safe and well continued

Water, sun, insurance and official contacts

Wildlife and remote areas

Crocodiles are a risk in the far north, so keep out of water where signs advise against entry (S29). Admire wildlife from a respectful distance, and check local guidance before walks in remote country.

Official contacts

Smarttraveller provides advice for Australians travelling overseas, so it is not written for visitors to Australia (S27). Check India's MEA travel advisories before you go, use Australian state tourism and emergency pages once you arrive, and dial 000 for emergencies (general knowledge, verify). For a planned itinerary with support, you can browse [Australia holiday packages](#).

TALK TO THE TRIPSTOR TEAM

Email

hello@tripstor.com

Call

+91 98253 43323

Message

WhatsApp

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BUDGETS

Planning your budget

Planning estimates, not offers

Start with the fixed costs

All figures are planning estimates in Indian rupees, converted at about ₹66 per A\$1 as of 17 October 2026. Exchange rates move, and bank retail rates usually add a 2–3% markup, so check a live quote before you book. Nothing here is an offer. Obtain real quotes for every line before you set a final budget.

TRIP STYLE Entry and government charges, per person TOTAL · INR 21,120 – 21,120 Visitor visa, Tourist stream, applied from outside Australia (A\$250) 16,500 Passenger Movement Charge, current rate (A\$70) 4,620 APPROXIMATE INR ₹21,120 to ₹21,120	TRIP STYLE Return flights from India, unverified snapshots TOTAL · INR 69,932 – 86,000 Direct and one-stop return fares seen in search snapshots 69,932 – 86,000 APPROXIMATE INR ₹69,932 to ₹86,000	TRIP STYLE On-ground costs per person per day TOTAL · INR 13,000 – 30,000 Mid-range accommodation, food, local transport and activities 13,000 – 30,000 APPROXIMATE INR ₹13,000 to ₹30,000
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Visitor visa, Tourist stream, applied from outside Australia (A\$250) Passenger Movement Charge, current rate (A\$70)

Bars show the lower-estimate cost mix. Amounts already in INR; no conversion applied · reference 2026-10-17 · estimates, not quotes.

BUDGETS

Planning your budget continued

Planning estimates, not offers

What sits outside these figures

Domestic flights are not included, and they are common on multi-city trips because distances are large. Travel insurance, comprehensive health cover, forex margins and any health check or biometrics fees are also excluded, and those extras can push the total above the base visa charge. If you apply from inside Australia, the visa fee is A\$630, which is about ₹41,580 per person. Dates matter too. December and January, school holidays and Diwali periods tend to raise fares, so keep a reserve. Once you have a fare in mind, compare current [Australia holiday packages](#) before committing.

Budget checks before you commit

✓ Confirm the visa fee

Charges rose on 1 July 2026, and some pages still show older figures. Check Home Affairs and apply early, because each family member pays separately.

✓ Watch the departure charge

A bill to raise the charge to A\$80 from 1 January 2027 had not become law when sources were checked. Confirm before you finalise costs.

✓ Treat fares as temporary

Search snapshots change constantly and are not offers. Recheck the fare close to your booking date.

SOURCES

Sources and checks

Checked 17 October 2026

Figures and rules were checked on 17 October 2026 and may change at short notice. Confirm visa fees, processing times, the departure charge, flight schedules and fares on official Home Affairs, ATO and airline pages before you book. For curated trip options, see [Australia Holiday Packages](#).

S1 AUD to INR rate - Australian Dollar to Indian Rupee today

Australian Dollar to Indian Rupee today 1 AUD = 66.0663 INR Live rate, as of 17 October 2026 at 00:27 UTC.

S2 AUD to INR

AUD to INR ## Best Online AUD to INR Currency Converter (Live Exchange Rates) ## AUD-INR Currency Converter 1 AUD = 66.0331 INR Interbank/ mid-ma...

S3 Australian Dollar to Indian Rupee Exchange Rate Today

Australian Dollar to Indian Rupee Exchange Rate Today (AUD/INR) ## AUD/INR Chart 68.1761 ▲ +0.05% Open: **68.1355** Low: **68.0222** High: **68.227...

S4 AUD to INR Exchange Rate

Banks typically add a 2-3% markup, while specialist providers offer rates closer to the mid-market rate."}}}}

S5 Australian visitor visa (subclass 600) from India: complete 2026 guide

Indian passport holders cannot use the ETA (601) or the eVisitor (651), so the Subclass 600 visitor visa is your only route.

S6 Visiting Australia in 2026: The ETA, eVisitor and Visitor Visa Explained

Visiting Australia in 2026: The ETA, eVisitor and Visitor Visa Explained Australia has no visa on arrival — every short-stay visitor needs an author...

S7 Fee for Australian Tourist Visa: The Complete 2026 Cost Guide

**The fee for an Australian tourist visa is currently AUD \$250 when you apply from outside Australia, or AUD \$630 if you apply while already in the co...

S8 Visitor Visa (Subclass 600)

Each person, including children and people listed on your passport, must submit a separate application.

SOURCES

Sources and checks continued

Checked 17 October 2026

S9 600 Visitor Visa 2026: Fee, Stay Length & Streams

It has four streams — Tourist, Business Visitor, Sponsored Family and Frequent Traveller — and is generally granted for stays of 3, 6 or 12 months per...

S10 Think before you pack: Australia's customs and biosecurity rules explained

- Everyone must complete and Incoming Passenger Card. This is a legal document.

S11 Australia's Digital Incoming Passenger Card (2026 Guide) — CYCLADIC SPACES

****Quick answer:**** the Australia Travel Declaration (ATD) is the digital version of the orange paper Incoming Passenger Card.

S12 What can you bring to Australia?

You cannot bring fresh fruit and vegetables, meat, poultry, pork, eggs, dairy products, live plants or seeds to Australia.

S13 Studying in Australia - Biosecurity guide

Your visa may also be cancelled and, if so, you will be refused entry into Australia and you may not be able to return to Australia for up to three ...

S14 Australia Arrival Declaration and Biosecurity Guide — Food, Medicines and Cash Explained

How to fill in the Incoming Passenger Card, biosecurity declaration principles, rules for bringing in food like instant noodles and kimchi, the 3-mont...

S15 Passenger Movement Charge

Since 1 July 2024 the PMC has been [A\$] (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Australian_dollar)70 per passenger over 12 years of age, with a few limited exem...

S16 Passenger Movement Charge Amendment...: 10 Sep 2026: House debates (OpenAustralia.org)

This bill operates to amend the Passenger Movement Charge Act 1978 to increase the rate of the passenger movement charge per person from \$70 to \$80.

S17 Australia's Departure Tax Rises to A\$80 in 2027

As of September 2026 it's still before Parliament, not yet law.

S18 Tourist refund scheme

- The purchases are from a single business with the same Australian business number (ABN) and total AUD\$300 (GST inclusive) or more.

SOURCES

Sources and checks continued

Checked 17 October 2026

S19 India to Australia Flights 2026: Routes, Fares & Visa Guide

****As of 2026, three non-stop India–Australia routes operate regularly.**** Air India leads with two Delhi–origin non-stops.

S20 ₹ 27,876 Cheap Flights from India to Australia in 2026/27

Cheap flights from India to Australia from ₹ 27,876
Find the cheapest flights from India to Australia
Recent return flight deals from India t...

S21 The wet and the dry: seasons in the tropics - Social Media Blog - Bureau of Meteorology

The wet season is characterised by wet weather (no surprise there) and occurs between October and April in the southern hemisphere.

S22 Australia's 2025–26 northern wet season

The total area-averaged rainfall for northern Australia over the 2025–26 wet season (October 2025 to April 2026) was 683.8 mm, which was 44% above the...

S23 Climate of Australia

Monsoonal squall nears Darwin The rest of the territory lies in the desert centre of the country; it includes Alice Springs and Uluru, and is arid or ...

S24 Australia in the Rain: A Complete Regional Guide to the Wet Season

The temperate south and east coasts receive more evenly distributed rainfall year-round, though the June-to-August window tends to be the wettest.

S25 NQ Safety

KEY Safety Messages - **Check for Marine Stingers** During stinger season (November to May), always wear a stinger suit when entering the water, an...

S26 India to Australia Flights: Airlines, Prices and Travel Tips

- **Sydney:** Australia's largest city and most iconic.

S27 About Smartraveller

Explore this page to learn about: - the Smartraveller website - Australia's consular services - the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) - ...

S28 Jellyfish Safety & Information

However, it's recommended you wear a protective suit to help shield you from the sun and to minimise the risk of jellyfish stings.

SOURCES

Sources and checks continued

Checked 17 October 2026

S29 Etty Bay

The potential hazards are crocodiles, [Box Jellyfish] (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Box_Jellyfish) and the deadly [Irukandji jellyfish] (<https://en.wik...>)

S30 Australian Tourist Visa Subclass 600 Guide 2026

| Processing time | Tourist: 1 day – 5 months;
Business: 1–48 days; Sponsored Family: 4–27 months
| | Maximum stay | 3, 6, or 12 months (depending on
...

S31 Australia visitor visa (subclass 600): full cost breakdown for 2026

Every family member pays separately, fees are non-refundable, and additional costs for health checks and biometrics can push the total above the base ...

BEGIN PLANNING

Plan your Australia journey

Australia rewards a well-paced journey. Begin with your visa, because the Subclass 600 application and its processing time should shape your dates. Then choose regions that suit the season and the pace you enjoy. Confirm every fee, rule and schedule on official pages before you commit, since costs and requirements are changing. When you are ready to compare options, you can explore [Australia holiday packages](#) and shape a route around the places that matter most to you. Travel well, and leave room for the unplanned moments: a quiet sunset over the water, a long coastal drive, or a conversation over coffee in a laneway café.

PLAN IT WITH
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Australia Holiday Packages

