

GETTING AROUND: PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN AUSTRALIA



Transport

Whether you need to get to and from your school or university, or if you want to go out on the weekend or even travel around our big country — it is likely that you will need to use public transport at some stage during your stay in Australia.



Australian transport options include buses, trains, ferries, trams, taxis and, of course, planes. It is well organised and covers large areas of Australia.

Each state and territory has a specific website for their public transport system. These websites are a great way to find out more about what transport available is in your city and how much it costs. We've provided a summary here of very basic information to help you get started.

Sydney, New South Wales

Transport Infoline

Phone in Australia: 131 500

Website: www.131500.info

Train

Sydney has a vast network of efficient rail services. Trains run from 5am to midnight. See www.cityrail.info for more information.

Bus

This service travels to most suburbs, and connects with many train services. See www.sydneybuses.info for more information.

Ferry

Regular STA ferries, JetCats and RiverCats depart from Circular Quay in the city and travel to many locations on the harbour and along the river. See www.sydneyferries.info for more information.



Brisbane, Queensland

Translink

Phone in Australia: 13 12 30

Website: www.transinfo.qld.gov.au

Ferry

CityCats and ferries travel up and down the river from about 5am to midnight. They are a popular way to travel.

Bus

The Loop, a free bus service that runs through the centre of Brisbane, leaves every 10 Minutes, Monday to Friday, between 7.00am and 6.00pm. Other buses run every 10 to 20 minutes, Monday to Friday from 5.00am to 6.00pm, and from 6.00am on Saturdays. Services are less frequent at other times.

Train

The fast Citytrain network has seven train lines that run from the Sunshine Coast to the Gold Coast. All trains pass through the Brisbane stations Roma St, Central and Brunswick St.



Melbourne, Victoria

Metlink

Phone in Australia: 131 638

Website: www.metlinkmelbourne.com.au

Metcards allow travel on any bus, train or tram from Melbourne.

Train

Suburban trains depart from Flinders Street Station. They are faster than trams or buses, but only service some suburbs. Trains operate from five in the morning and stop at midnight Monday to Friday.

Bus

Buses continue from where trains stop, or go to hospitals, universities, shopping malls in the suburbs and outer suburbs, where there is no other transport services.

Tram

Trams cover the city of Melbourne and some suburbs, with tram stops numbered from the city centre outwards. There are also light rail services to some suburbs, including St Kilda, which run along the disused railway lines.



Adelaide, South Australia

Adelaide Metro

Phone in Australia: 1300 311 108

Website: www.adelaidemetro.com.au

The Adelaide Metro Information Centre (located on the corner of King William St and Currie St) sells tickets and provides schedules for buses and trains for the metropolitan and integrated Glenelg tram.

Bus

Adelaide is serviced by a well organised bus service with a free bus operating around the city loop incorporating a number of stops.

Train

Suburban trains depart from Adelaide Railway Terminal, by the Casino.

Tram

The famous Glenelg tramline extends from the Adelaide Entertainment Centre on Port Road, Hindmarsh, via the city centre and all the way through to beachside Glenelg.



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Perth, Western Australia

Transperth

Phone: 13 62 13

Website: www.transperth.wa.gov.au

A single ticket allows travel on any means of transport in the Transperth network.

Ferry

Transperth ferries travel across the Swan River from the Barrack St Jetty to the Zoo. Private ferries also operate from the same Jetty and take you as far as Freemantle and Rottnest Island.

Bus

There are free CAT bus services around the central business district, otherwise the regular bus services travel throughout all the major suburbs and train stations.

Train

The Fastrak suburban train lines go to Armadale, Fremantle, Midland and Joondalup. There's free train travel (in the free transit zone) between Mclver and City West stations.



Canberra, Australian Capital Territory

Action Buses

Phone in Australia: 13 17 10

Website: www.action.act.gov.au

Bus

The main Civic Bus Interchange follows by Alinga St, East Row and Mort St in the city centre. There is an information kiosk on East Row.



Darwin, Northern Territory

Northern Territory Public Transport

Website: www.nt.gov.au/transport/public

Bus

The Darwin Bus (City Bus Interchange, Harry Chan Ave) offers a comprehensive service in its small terminal.

Taxi

In addition to a regular taxi service, there are two taxi services — Arafura Shuttle and Unique Minibus — that take you anywhere in the central area for a fixed price of AU\$3.00 (or AU\$5.00 for two) and outside this area, such as Fannie Bay or East Point, for a fixed rate.



Hobart, Tasmania

Transport Tasmania

Phone in Australia: 1300 135 513

Website: www.metrotas.com.au

Bus

The Metro operates the local bus network which services Hobart. There is a Day Rover ticket available which provides unlimited travel for a day.



Travelling Interstate

You can travel from state to state by trains, buses or planes. You can find details on the various public and privately run transport companies on the internet.