

Your Free Road Trip Guide to Travelling Australia

by Indefinite Leave
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Travelling Australia is one of the most extraordinary things you can choose to do.

It is to enter a world of discovery where every day is another incredible adventure.

If you love adventure, have a passion to explore and feel Australia's incredible beauty is calling you, then now is a great time to begin planning to do it.

Find out about the history, culture and traditions of our country.



This is a country so large, so diverse, so amazing. Every state is different and spectacular in its own way.

Australia is enormous in size and it is very easy to underestimate exactly how big it really is. These photos of Australia overlaid with Europe and the US gives us an idea of just how big it is.



Australia is 7.7 million km², the 6th largest country by total area. The coastline goes for 34,218 kilometres.

Australia's population is only 24.5 million across all this huge vastness.

Our currency is the Australian Dollar (AUD) and if you are coming from overseas you should ensure you complete your research into the budget you will require.

Travelling Australia can be expensive, fuel costs are high, Phone coverage is costly and tours and adventures aren't cheap. Do your research thoroughly to fully understand the budget you will need.

Also our phone coverage isn't great when you travel outside the major cities. Telstra provides

the best coverage around Oz by a country mile so if remaining connected is important for you it really is your best choice. There are some Phone companies such as Boost and even Aldi mobile who use the Telstra network and may provide adequate coverage at cheaper rates.

The Country is made up of 6 States:

- Queensland – New South Wales – Victoria
- Western Australia – South Australia
- Tasmania and 2 Territories, Northern

Territory and Australian Capital Territory.

This size means whilst one part of Australia can be in snow with Antarctic conditions another part of the country can be sweltering in searing heat and humidity.

We have many insects and bugs you may need to get used to, as well as biting midges and horse flies

plus normal flies that want to be in your eyes, nose, mouth and ears. A net for your head to keep the flies at bay will become your best friend in some parts of the country. The East Coast flies however are much more civilised, they just want your food.

Australia is also home to some of the world's most venomous animals such as snakes and spiders and our oceans and rivers can be home to man eating sharks and Salt Water Crocodiles, the ultimate predator. If you apply good common sense and follow directions, you will be fine. Adhere to the advice on local signs and at information centres. Also swimming between the flags on Australian beaches will ensure your safety from ocean rips. This really is important as anyone not familiar with our beaches can get caught out and be at risk.

Be sensible, follow advice and stay safe.



What is the best direction to travel Australia?

This will depend if you are doing the Full Lap, where you start from and what time of the year you choose to leave.

Most people will choose to be in the Northern part of the Country from May to August. July in Darwin for example is a great time with so many fantastic events. Summer is very humid and very hot and has an increased likelihood of a Cyclone and is therefore not as popular.

The majority of travellers will explore the South of Australia and go to Tasmania, Victoria and South Australia in the Summer, between December to March.

Uluru and the middle of our country are bitterly cold in winter and searing hot in summer so Spring and Autumn may be ideal.

There are a lot of events around the country you may want to attend at different times of the year therefore you might want to plan around them. Whether it's the Birdsville Races in September, The Boxing Day Test after Christmas in Melbourne, Riverfire in Brisbane in September, New Years Eve in Sydney, Territory Day in Darwin in July, turtle hatching at Mon Repos in Bundaberg in January/ February or Western Australia's Margaret River Gourmet Escape in November. There are so many events on all around the country which may place you in certain places at certain times of the year.

So start your plan around where you want to be throughout the year and then form a rough road map from there.



What is the best way to find where to go and what to see?

Caravan and Camping Shows are a great source of books, pamphlets and information on where to go, what's on and when is the best time to be there.

Do an Online search and type in Google things like What to do in Queensland, Best places to go in Western Australia or What should I see in Darwin for example and you will find a lot of information available.

Each town has an Information Centre providing maps, free magazines and brochures of where to stay, what to do and everything there is to visit and see.

Social Media, especially Facebook and Instagram, have lots of pages and groups and the State Tourism Board pages also provide great details. The main pages are below but you can still find more informative pages with some further research.

Of course, make sure you follow us at Indefinite Leave and read our Blogs and Stories on our website at <https://www.indefiniteleave.com>

Here are links to pages from all around Australia on Facebook that will provide a lot of information for you.

Queensland

<https://www.facebook.com/visitqueensland/>
<https://www.facebook.com/DiscoverQueensland/>

New South Wales

<https://www.facebook.com/visitnsw/>

Victoria

<https://www.facebook.com/Victoria-Camping-And-Tourism-833344846773645/>
<https://www.facebook.com/Victoria-Camping-And-Tourism-833344846773645/>

South Australia

<https://www.facebook.com/SeeSouthAustraliaAU/>

Western Australia

<https://www.facebook.com/ExtraordinaryWesternAustralia/>

Northern Territory

<https://www.facebook.com/northernterritoryaustralia/>
<https://www.facebook.com/ParksandWildlifeNT>

Tasmania

<https://www.facebook.com/Tasmania/>
<https://www.facebook.com/UncoverTasmania/>

Talk to locals and other travellers, some of the best places we have visited have been from tips we've received from other people. Locals can tell you about places no-one else may know of, they are a great source of information.

My best advice is don't just see the touristy places, there is so much to see outside what is in the brochures.

Regardless if you are an Australian or an overseas traveller, the people you meet along the way will make your trip so much better. Ensure you have a friendly approach, a big smile and say Hello to everyone you see. This is the best way you will find great locations and places to visit.

For more on what to expect from your trip around Oz you can read about it here - <https://indefiniteleave.com.au/travelling-australia-far-just-adventures/>

If you have you been following our adventure and thinking to yourself, I wish I could do that, the great news is, you can.

Possibly a friend or family member has recently been and done the Big Lap and you feel it's your turn now.

It's actually cheaper living out here than at home. The hardest part is to change your thinking. Leaving family and friends behind to tour the country is a massive and brave decision. The step of leaving work and not having the safety and security of constant income is enormous. Closing the door to your home and stepping out into the unknown is a mental challenge, but thousands of others are doing it.

This is one of our very first articles I wrote, describing how we first made the decision to travel Australia, our planning and the decisions we made.

It talks about choosing our vehicle, taking our Dog with us, telling Family and Friends and setting a date to leave - <https://indefiniteleave.com.au/decision-travel-australia-preparing-trip/>

You can do it too!!

You can leave all the stress of life at home for day after day, chilling at the beach, watching sunsets and exploring the greatest country on the planet.

Here's 10 reasons why you should travel Australia.

- Stress Free
- Oz is amazing
- The Sunsets
- The beaches
- The animals
- Everyone is so friendly
- Life's too short. There has to be more to life than go to work, pay the bills, do chores and then do it all again next week.
- You will make so many more new friends
- The experience
- You will love it



Here's how to do it

- Decide to do it
- Make a date
- Set your budget

Create a mini flexible plan of where you want to go.

- Get a map of Oz and tag where you need to be at certain times of the year. Top end in winter, bottom in summer is common
- Create a budget in an Excel Spreadsheet
- Begin listing all the places you want to go in a word or excel document under each state and keep adding to it
- Visit some caravan and camping shows to get ideas
- Choose the vehicle you want to travel in. There is no perfect way to travel Oz, just choose which way works best for you.
- Work out how much money will you need.
- If you want to work while you travel there's a lot you can do. Jobs are available all around the country. Get your RSA and RSG license for pub work.



How long do you want to travel for?

Most people plan their adventure for 12 months and this is a great minimum time to take to travel the Country. Others have shorter periods but the longer you have the better, and be prepared, you may not want to go back.

Would you work while travelling?

There is so much work available while travelling Australia. We go into this in much more detail in our [Ultimate Guide to Planning your Lap of Australia](#) but you can use your current skills to find work or choose something new and exciting, either way there are lots of opportunity to expand the Budget if you need to.

Where to stay

You will want the app I call the **Australian Travellers Bible** that every Camper must have. The **Wikicamps** app for your phone is just \$7 and it provides you information on everywhere to stay, where to find water, dump points, public toilets, laundromats and so much more. You can even use the maps to track your stays.

You can choose to stay at Caravan Parks, Campgrounds, stay at Pubs and working Stations, RV parks and you can find allocated Free Camps around the country.

Australian beaches are some of the most spectacular in the world and our warm climate and superb weather allows us to enjoy a lot of time at the beach.

Australians are a friendly bunch and you are guaranteed to make a lot of new friends.

Always wear a smile, say hello as you walk past anyone, invite people over for happy hour and you will have a greater experience than the places you visit.

On the land and in the water, Australia will provide so many opportunities to get up close to our most amazing animals in their natural settings. Dingos, Platypus, Possums, Kangaroos, Seals, Penguins, Sharks, Crocs, Koala's, Cows, Horses and so many more.

You will learn about the stars and how to read them, you will learn all about Crocodiles and the habits and environment, you will learn so much more about how the war effected us in Australia, the History of How Australia was explored.



We have written numerous articles about travelling Australia, where to go and what to see, which you may enjoy. See them all at <https://www.facebook.com/indefiniteleave/>

Best Beaches link

<https://indefiniteleave.com.au/best-beaches-australia-21-30/>

<https://indefiniteleave.com.au/best-beaches-australia-11-20/>

<https://indefiniteleave.com.au/best-beaches-australia-1-10/>

21 Best Campgrounds - <https://indefiniteleave.com.au/21-best-free-low-cost-campgrounds-australia/>

17 Best Free camps - <https://indefiniteleave.com.au/17-best-free-camps-australia/>

18 months Budget - <https://indefiniteleave.com.au/18-months-expenses-travel-australia/>

If you are planning a trip of Australia you will need our very popular e-book, the [Ultimate Guide to Planning your Aussie Lap](#). Order your copy now.

We wish you the very best on your trip and hope you receive as much enjoyment as we have in travelling around Australia.

Safe Travels

Indefinite Leave

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