

Sydney: A Paradise on Earth

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Useful Sources of Information on Accommodation

Check out the following useful websites that provide excellent information on many rental accommodation listings, options and costs.



Living in modern terraced houses

www.realestate.com.au

www.domain.com.au

www.property.com.au

www.flatmates.com.au

www.gumtree.com.au

In addition, the Sydney Morning Herald (SMH) newspaper is another good source of information about accommodation. It is best to buy SMH on Wednesdays or Saturdays to get plenty information in the classifieds section about Board and Accommodation, Share Accommodation, and Flats/Units and Houses to Let.

If you wish to check in at a low-budget backpacker inn for just a few days upon arrival in Sydney, you may find some contacts on www.google.com.au. Usually, they accept online bookings.

Important Note:

Do not accept long-term off-campus accommodation before you arrive in Sydney. It is very important to inspect properties in person as there are some companies and individuals who offer accommodation over the internet, ask you for a deposit but then do not provide the accommodation.



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Finding a Location on an Online Map

To find the actual location of any Sydney street (including your pre-arranged accommodation in Sydney), visit the following online interactive maps.

www.whereis.com

<http://maps.google.com.au/>

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Suburb Profiles in Sydney

If you do not wish to live in the city centre, you may need to find out more about the suburbs around Sydney. Remember, it may be a bit cheaper living further away from the city centre, but you will need to pay for the transportation costs.



To learn more about the suburb profiles in Sydney and their locations on a map, visit the following websites which are meant to guide you to know where to live if you prefer certain areas accordingly to the descriptions.

<http://www.living-in-sydney.com/Sydney-suburbs-profile.html>

<http://www.living-in-sydney.com/sydney-maps.html>

Generally speaking, Sydney suburbs can be categorised into 4 areas; Sydney North, Sydney South, Sydney West and Sydney East. We have extracted the following information from the above-mentioned websites to give you an overview of the four suburb profiles.

People living in Sydney's **Northern suburbs** tend to have high income and work in top executive jobs in the nearby North Sydney or Sydney central business district. Also, many migrants from the UK prefer to live in the Northern suburbs.



Apartments with water view in Cremorne



Charming terraced houses in the inner west

As for the **Southern suburbs**, they are populated with ethnic groups or people who immigrated to Australia. Areas such as Punchbowl and Bankstown provide cheaper accommodation and the property value is within the range of A\$100,000 to A\$600,000. Having said this, areas south to Sydney are also populated with Australian-born nationals. There are also many mosques based in these areas.

The **Western suburbs** are well linked to Sydney City via highways and trains. They also provide cheaper rent than Sydney city or the northern suburbs.

The **Eastern suburbs** are also a very expensive area to live in with many restaurants around. Some Eastern suburbs like Bondi, Bondi Beach, Coogee attract many tourists due to their lovely beaches and other suburbs such as Vaucluse and Watsons Bay have got lovely water views and many synagogues.



Bondi, an Eastern suburb by the sea



Living by the sea in Coogee

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Payment Mode and Security Deposit

In Australia, rental payment is normally done on a fortnightly basis and it may not include electricity and water bills. You may also need to pay extra for the internet, phone calls, and excessive use of electricity or water in share accommodation. Make sure you discuss everything in detail with the landlord or owner before making any payment. It is common that you will be asked to pay a security deposit initially to secure your room.

If you choose the option of renting property, you are expected to pay a bond (security deposit) equivalent to one month's rent on top of having to pay for your furniture and all the utilities bills.



Living by the sea in Bondi

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Tenant Resources

To learn more about Security Deposits (Bonds) and housing-related issues, visit the following websites for more details.

<http://www.fairtrading.nsw.gov.au>

(The Office of Fair Trading Fact Sheets)

<http://www.tenants.org.au/>

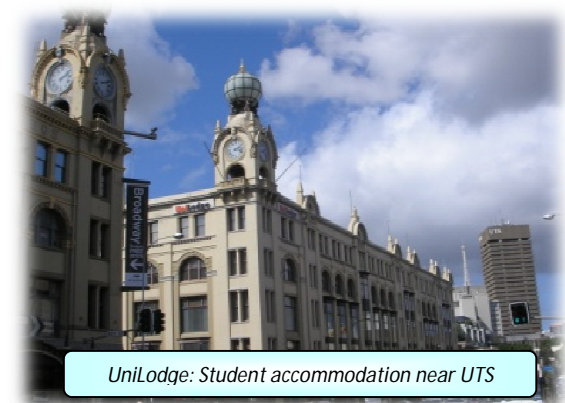
(The Tenants Union of NSW Fact Sheets)

<http://www.rlc.org.au/sharehousing/>

(The Share Housing Survival Guide)



Single-storey old houses close to the city centre



UniLodge: Student accommodation near UTS

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Accommodation and Welfare Arrangements for Students under 18 years of age

The Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) requires all international students who will be under 18 years of age upon entering Australia to study, to confirm that they have appropriate accommodation, support and general welfare arrangements in place. When you apply for a student visa, the following options are available to meet this requirement:

<p>Option 1: Living with a parent or custodian</p>	<p>One of your parents or legal custodian must be eligible to remain in Australia until you turn 18. You can bring a parent or custodian to Australia on a Student Guardian visa. Please refer to the DIAC website for more information www.immi.gov.au</p>
<p>Option 2: Living with a relative</p>	<p>A relative can be your brother, sister, step-parent, step-brother, step-sister, grandparent, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, step-grandparent, step-aunt, step-uncle, step-niece or step-nephew. They must be over 21 years of age, of good character and eligible to remain in Australia until you turn 18. You can bring a relative to Australia as your guardian on a Student Guardian visa. Please refer to the DIAC website for more information www.immi.gov.au</p>
<p>Option 3: Approved care arrangement from the education provider</p>	<p>You will need to apply for a homestay and welfare arrangement which has been approved by the Australian Ideal College. The College will only sign the DIAC Education Provider's Confirmation of Appropriate Accommodation/Welfare for a Student Under 18 Years of Age form (CAAW form) once the approved homestay and welfare arrangement provider have advised the College that you have enrolled and made the payment.</p>
<p>The CAAW form (Confirmation of Appropriate Accommodation/Welfare for a Student Under 18 Years of Age form) will then be sent to you by email and you must provide it to DIAC along with your student visa documents.</p>	

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Homestay Programs for Students under 18 Years of Age

If you are under 18 years old, it is part of your student visa conditions that you must be in a homestay program while studying in Australia. It means that you must live in appropriately supervised accommodation and you are hosted by a caring host family. In this program, you will have your own clean and comfortable bedroom with adequate study facilities and the homestay host family will



provide you with breakfast and dinner on weekdays and lunch on weekends. For more details on the living conditions in the homestay program, please go to [Contact Us](#) and consult with our Housing Officer.

Note that many students who are over 18 years old also like to choose to stay with a host family for a short period of time and then move to shared accommodation once they have settled in. Homestay is a great chance to meet native

Sydneysiders and share their ways of life, and living with an English-speaking host family also means that you will never stop learning and improving your English.

Some of the benefits of being in a homestay program:

- It offers more opportunities for students to improve their English
- It allows the students to live with families who live locally and know the local environment
- It provides students with a caring family environment while they are away from their parents
- It is handy for the international students to have direct access to local knowledge
- It is easier for the students to understand and adapt to the Australian culture and lifestyles
- It is quicker for the students to learn more about the local culture, customs and traditions
- It is always possible to develop long lasting friendships with the host family members



If you have any problems regarding your homestay, please feel free to speak with our Housing Officer for further advice and assistance.

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Accommodation Placement Service or Homestay Program

If you want the college to provide you with the **accommodation placement service or homestay program**, you need to let us know when you fill out the Application Form for enrolment. Please note that there is a nominal fee for such placement service, and your minimum stay in the pre-arranged accommodation must be at least **FOUR** weeks. Please contact us via email for more details.



Taking a stroll along the boardwalk in Bondi



Bondi: a world famous surf beach

If you need further assistance, you may make an appointment to speak with our Housing Officer who can advise you on seeking rental accommodation arrangements in Sydney.

You can also have a look at our Student Support Services for more information on Accommodation and Homestay Services for international students under 18 years old.

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