



Native palms in Echidna Chasm



Learn about the region's flora

International Visitors

CURRENCY

Australian currency is decimal with the dollar being the basic unit (100 cents equalling one dollar). Notes come in \$100, \$50, \$20, \$10 and \$5 denominations. Coins are minted in \$2, \$1, 50c, 20c, 10c and 5c denominations.

DEPARTURE TAX – PASSENGER MOVEMENT CHARGE

Before departure from Australia, every person over 12 years of age must pay a departure tax of AU\$38 (except for 24-hour transit passengers not passing through immigration). This tax is usually incorporated in the price of your air ticket and is subject to increase from time to time.

QUARANTINE REGULATIONS

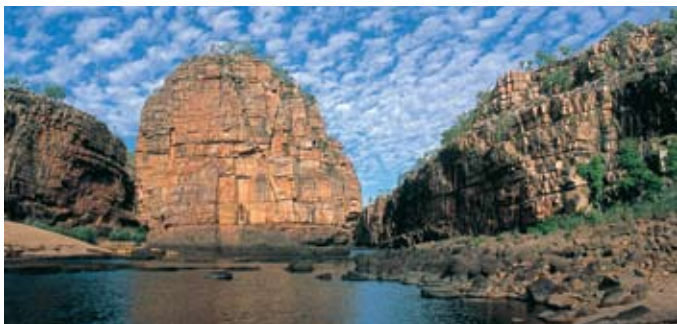
Australia has quite strict quarantine regulations. Trained detector (sniffer) dogs work at all domestic and international airports around the country.

Travelling interstate, you may not transport fruit, vegetables, fresh flowers, plants or cuttings. Occasionally, additional specific items will be targeted during disease outbreaks. International visitors arriving in Australia are advised to declare all food (fresh, tinned or packaged), animal and plant material or their derivatives, drugs (medication) and medicines (therapeutic, herbal and vitamins). Declaring goods does not necessarily mean your luggage will be examined. Penalties for not declaring prohibited or restricted items are severe. For more information contact:

Quarantine Enquiries Aust: ph +612 6272 5455; www.aqis.gov.au
Australian Customs Service, Canberra: ph +612 6275 6666

DRIVING

All vehicles are right-hand drive, and drive on the left side of the road. Give way (yield) to the right applies. Wearing seat belts is mandatory. If you plan to hire a car, or drive, make sure you have your international or current hometown driver's licence with you.



Explore Katherine Gorge

LANGUAGE

English is the official language of Australia, but you will likely hear many colourful expressions and, of course, the unique accents. To help you along, here is a list of words you may encounter:

AUSTRALIAN EXPRESSIONS

BBQ/Barbie	– An outdoor get-together. Food is cooked on a grill or grate over a flame
Bathers/Togs	– Swimming suit
Billabong	– Waterhole in a semi-dry area
Billy	– Tin container for boiling tea water
Boot	– Trunk of car
Chips	– French fries OR crisps
Entree	– Appetiser (not the main course)
Facilities	– Bathrooms
Fair dinkum	– The real thing, absolutely true, genuine
Footpath	– Sidewalk
Jumper	– Sweater
Lollies	– Candy
Never-never	– Desert land far away
Outback	– Remote, far away from the cities
Sweets	– Dessert OR candies/lollies

BANKING

Banking hours are generally Monday – Thursday, 9.30 am to 4 pm and Friday, 9.30 am to 5 pm. Some branches in major centres are now also open for limited hours on Saturdays.

Money can also be accessed through Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) with Visa, Mastercard, Maestro or Cirrus. The best way to carry money is with a credit card. Commonly accepted credit cards are American Express, Visa, Mastercard and Diners Club. Usage in country areas may be restricted and banking facilities can be limited. Travellers cheques are widely accepted and most places will cash them if in Australian dollars (international currency travellers cheques are difficult to change in non-major centres).



Admire pretty Galvans Gorge



The Boab Prison Tree

International Visitors

SHOPPING HOURS

Shopping hours are generally 9 am – 5 pm daily with late-night shopping in some areas on Thursday and Friday until 9 pm. Some supermarkets are open 24 hours. Remote areas may not have shopping available on weekends.

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

Australia has a Goods and Services Tax, but generally the displayed price is the price you pay. Prices do vary and will be more expensive in remote areas. Prices below are a general guide only:

Local Phone Call	50c (may be higher from hotel/motel)
Taxis	\$1.40 booking fee; \$3.10 flag fall plus \$1.31 per kilometre. Usually, a surcharge of 20% applies from midnight to 6 am.
Can of Coke	\$2 – \$4
Cinema ticket	approx. \$15 (adult)
Car Hire per day	from \$45
Take-out sandwich	from \$4
Cappuccino	\$2.50 – \$4
Newspaper	\$1 – \$2
Chocolate bar	\$2 – \$3
Weekly magazines	\$3 – \$6
Monthly magazines	\$5 – \$12
300 mL orange juice	\$3

CLOTHING SIZES

Clothing sizes vary from country to country around the world. We have listed the approximate comparative sizes.

Women's dresses and suits

Australia/NZ	10	12	14	16	18	20
United Kingdom	10	12	14	16	18	20
United States	8	10	12	14	16	18
Europe	38	40	42	44	46	48



Wander along Tunnel Creek

Men's suits and jackets

Australia/NZ	84	87	90	93	96	99	102
United Kingdom	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
United States	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
Europe	44	46	48	49½	51	52½	54

Men's shirts

Australia/NZ	37	38	39	41	42	43	44	45
United Kingdom	14	15	15½	16	16½	17	17½	18
United States	14	15	15½	16	16½	17	17½	18
Europe	37	38	39	41	42	43	44	45

CONVERSION CHART

Australia operates on a metric standard.

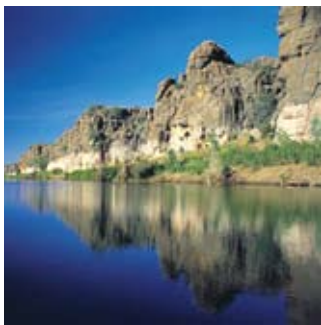
Convert From/To	Divide By
centimetres to inches	2.54
centimetres to feet	30.48
metres to inches	0.0254
metres to feet	0.3048
metres to yards	0.9144
hectares to acres	0.4047
litres to UK pints	0.5683
litres to UK quarts	1.1365
litres to UK gallons	4.54609
litres to US pints	0.47
litres to US quarts	0.95
litres to US gallons	3.79
grams to ounces	28.3495
kilograms to ounces	0.0283
kilograms to pounds	0.453
kilograms to stones	6.3503

Converting kilometres/hour to miles/hour

60 km/h	=	37.5 m/h
80 km/h	=	50 m/h
100 km/h	=	62.5 m/h



See Wandjina rock art



The peaceful Geikie Gorge

International Visitors

INTERNATIONAL POSTAGE COSTS

Stamp prices below are a guide only.

	Postcards	Letters
Domestic (standard mail):	\$0.50	\$0.50
Airmail to: US/Canada	\$1.30	\$2.00
UK/Europe	\$1.30	\$2.00
New Zealand	\$1.30	\$1.35
Japan/Singapore	\$1.30	\$1.35

TELEPHONES

Local calls cost 50 cents. Check with the operator for long-distance charges or consult the front pages of a telephone directory. You can buy pre-paid phonecards at shops.

To make an international call:

1. Dial 0011 (international access code);
2. Next dial the country code (see list below);
3. Then dial the area code (see list below);
4. Lastly, dial the telephone number.

Amsterdam	0011	+ 31	+ 20	+ local number
Athens	0011	+ 30	+ 1	+ local number
Bangkok	0011	+ 66	+ 2	+ local number
Denmark	0011	+ 45		+ local number
Berlin	0011	+ 49	+ 30	+ local number
Hamburg	0011	+ 49	+ 40	+ local number
London	0011	+ 44	+ 171/181	+ local number
New York	0011	+ 1	+ 212	+ local number
Rome	0011	+ 39	+ 06	+ local number
San Francisco	0011	+ 1	+ 415/650	+ local number
Stockholm	0011	+ 46	+ 8	+ local number
Tokyo	0011	+ 81	+ 3	+ local number
Toronto	0011	+ 1	+ 416/905	+ local number
Vancouver	0011	+ 1	+ 604	+ local number

Additional codes may be found in local telephone directories.



Cathedral Gorge – a natural amphitheatre

AIRLINE TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Air Canada	1300 655 767
Air New Zealand	13 24 76
American Airlines	1300 650 747
British Airways	1300 767 177
Cathay Pacific	13 17 47
Garuda	1300 365 330
Jetstar (Aust.)	13 15 38
KLM	1300 303 747
Lauda Air	1800 642 438
Lufthansa	1300 655 727
Malaysia Airlines	13 26 27
Olympic Airways	(03) 9251 2044
Qantas	13 13 13
Thai International	1300 651 960
United Airlines	13 17 77
Virgin Blue (Aust.)	13 67 89

1800: free. 1300: cost of a local call.

CONSULATE/EMBASSY TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Austrian Consulate General	(Sydney)	(02) 9251 3363
British Consulate General	(Canberra)	(02) 6270 6666
Canadian Consulate General	(Sydney)	(02) 9364 3050
German Consulate General	(Melbourne)	(03) 9864 6888
French Consulate	(Sydney)	(02) 9261 5779
Italian Consulate General	(Sydney)	(02) 9392 7900
Japanese Consulate General	(Melbourne)	(03) 9639 3244
Netherlands Consulate General	(Melbourne)	(03) 9909 7173
Switzerland Consulate General	(Melbourne)	(03) 9825 4000
United States of America Consulate General	(Sydney)	(02) 9373 9200