

MELBOURNE

Melbourne would be painfully hip if it weren't such a darn nice place. Regularly named the world's most liveable city, it combines high and low culture with amazing shopping, more sport than you can shake a stick at, and communities from all over the world who all turned up bringing great food.

There's a ridiculous amount to do. In Melbourne, time is marked by sporting events: Office ground to a halt for a horse race? – must be November. Australian Grand Prix? – time to buy Easter eggs. Absurdly fit men in tiny shorts? – ah yes, winter, and the AFL season ... And with the Commonwealth Games last March, the city's facilities and attractions are better than ever before.

The eating is unbelievable, the coffee is perfect, the people are beautiful, the wineries are just down the road and you get to go places by tram ... a year in Melbourne and you'll wonder why people make such a fuss about Sydney

Where will I live?

Young people - especially singles - prefer the inner city so that they can take full advantage of what it has to offer. They tend to favour Carlton and Fitzroy, Richmond, Prahran, St Kilda and the Docklands.

Families often look to the suburbs with top choices located in the eastern/south-eastern corridor known as the Balwyn-to-Brighton belt. If proximity to shops and schools is important then places like Hawthorn, Camberwell, Kew, Malvern, Armadale and South Yarra are good options. These are the prime residential areas; suburbs beyond this belt still offer good accommodation that is more affordable.

What will it cost for essentials?

A latte AUD\$2.50 to \$3

A glass of wine AUD\$7-\$8

A movie AUD\$12

A 2 bedroom apartment AUD\$300+ a week

Useful links...

www.visitmelbourne.com

<http://melbourne.citysearch.com.au/>

To convert your currency:

<http://www.xe.com/ucc/>

