



## Transport

### Public transport

Public transport is the most economical way to move around cities. Public transport varies from community to community in Australia. Cities may have:

- Trams
- Buses
- Ferries
- Trains

You must have a **ticket** when travelling on public transport. Sometimes you can buy tickets for your travel and some cities have **travel cards**. Travel cards allow you to put credit on the travel card and then you swipe your card as you get on and off public transport.

### Types of tickets

**Single:** One way ticket includes transfers within certain time limits.

**Return:** A return ticket will allow you to travel to your destination and return home later.

**Daily:** Unlimited travel within the zones purchased until the last service scheduled on the day of issue.

**Off-peak daily:** Most states and territories offer discounted unlimited travel between 9 am and 3:00 pm and after 7 pm Monday to Friday, and all day on weekends and public holidays within the zones purchased.

**Weekly:** Unlimited travel within the zones purchased for one week (seven consecutive days) from date of purchase.

**3, 6, and 12 month passes:** Long-term passes may be available for certain transportation services. The price is usually discounted and helps you save money on transportation.

### Private transport

#### Owning and driving a car

In areas where public transportation is not available or not convenient, you may want to buy your own car as soon as possible. Car ownership is convenient but it is also expensive. There are many responsibilities involved in owning and driving a car in Australia.

To drive in Australia, you must have an Australian driver's licence, the vehicle must be registered with the state and territory government and should be insured.



## Getting a driver's licence

If you have a driver's licence from your home country **you will still need to apply for an Australian licence**. To do this, you will need to complete a road rules test and take a practical driving test. You may also need to complete further driving training. You should phone your state or territory road authority for more information. Ask your caseworker or proposer to help you.

You may also need to have your driver's licence from your home country translated into English. You can do this free of charge by submitting it online at [www.translating.dss.gov.au](http://www.translating.dss.gov.au)

## How do I get an Australian driver's licence?

Australian driver's licences are administered at state and territory level and regulations vary in each state.

Contact your caseworker or proposer when you are settled and ready to begin learning how to drive. Normally, you will start driving with a learner licence, move to a provisional licence and finally obtain a full Australian driver's licence. Different rules and restrictions apply to each category of licence (for example, alcohol levels).

## Registering a motor vehicle

You must register a motor vehicle in order to drive it on the roads, and you must renew your registration every year. It is illegal to drive an unregistered car and most police cars have number plate scanners to check on the registration of cars.

## Motor vehicle insurance

Compulsory Third Party (CTP) insurance is personal injury insurance that is mandatory for every motor vehicle registered in Australia. Other forms of insurance help to pay for damage caused by accidents.

## Important things to remember about driving:

- Always wear a seat belt (this applies to drivers **and** passengers). This is required by the law and there are penalties if you do not
- Children must sit in the back seat, wear a seat belt and sit in a proper child's car seat appropriate to their age
- Never drive an unregistered vehicle on the road
- **Never drive without an appropriate licence**
- Always carry your driver's licence with you
- If you are stopped by a police officer, always answer their questions honestly
- Obey all the road rules and road signs. Take particular care driving at roundabouts
- Never drive if you have been drinking alcohol or taken drugs. This is a crime and serious penalties apply
- It is illegal to use a hand-held mobile phone while driving. This includes making or receiving phone calls, texting, playing games, taking photos/video or web browsing etc. Penalties apply if you break the law.



*Revised edition (April 2018)*



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Social Services**

Delivered by International Organization  
for Migration on behalf of the Australian  
Department of Social Services

