



Holiday & Work in Australia on a Visa 417

Guidance for Class 1 and Class 2 Drivers



This guide is for information purposes only. You should not rely upon it or make any decisions that will involve you incurring expenditure until you take your own advice or obtain assistance. Refer to [Disclaimer](#) on page 24 for further details.

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Introduction

Are you a professional driver who has always dreamt of experiencing a long-term holiday in a beautiful country like Australia? There is a way you can whilst earning good money at the same time!

Although not on Australia's 'skills shortage' list, the country is expecting a boom within the transport and logistics industry and therefore need good quality, customer-focused drivers just like you!



- ***Earn up to \$1,280 gross PER WEEK****
- ***9.5% superannuation payments on top of your pay*****
- ***Experience a different way of life***
- ***See the sights and landmarks of Australia, enjoy a warmer climate with sun, sea and beaches***

The earning potential is great

Not only are pay rates considerably higher for professional Drivers in Australia compared to the UK, you will also benefit from 9.5% superannuation payments on top of your pay, which can be claimed back when you return to the UK.

*Based on 45 hours per week at the average hourly rate for HC (Class 1) before tax. **Superannuation payments can be claimed when you return to the UK.

Working Holiday Visa (417)

Each year, thousands of travellers aged 18 - 30 head to Australia on a Working Holiday visa (subclass 417), as it allows you a year's worth of travel with the bonus of being able to work to fund yourself along the way! As well as allowing you to holiday and work in the country for up to a year, the visa allows you to leave and re-enter Australia any number of times while valid.

To qualify for a Visa 417, you must:

- be at least 18 but not yet 31 years of age
- not have a dependent child accompanying you at any time during your stay in Australia
- have a passport from an eligible country (such as UK) and have over 12 months passport validity remaining

This booklet will advise you on:

- what you would need to consider before commencing your visa 417 journey
- Driver Hire Australia and the driving opportunities available, which could provide you with an income whilst in the country
- potential earnings
- the different states and their individual licence requirements
- where to go next if you decide this is an unmissable opportunity for you!

Considerations – '12 and 6'

The main purpose of your visit to Australia is for an extended holiday, but you can work over the course of your 12 months stay. However, you need to be aware that conditions of your visa limit you to a maximum period of six months working with any one employer.



The 'employer' is the business or organisation for which you are working **directly**. If you are referred by an agency or labour supplier (such as Driver Hire) to a business, you can work for six months for that business. The same agency or labour supplier can then refer you to another business where you can work for another six months.

This means that if you wanted to work for one Driver Hire Australia office for the whole 12 months, you can, as long as each company Driver Hire Australia places you with is no longer than six months e.g. work at A&B Transport for six months, then B&C Transport for six months.

You cannot stay in the same position in the same location with an employer for more than six months by using different employment agencies, business affiliates or sub-contracting arrangements. The six-month work limitation applies to full-time, part-time, casual, shift and voluntary work. For more information, visit the [Home Affairs website](#).



So, what will the process involve?

You will need to be self-sufficient and it is important that you understand what will be required from you throughout the process. You will also need to carefully consider the costs before progressing onto the next stage. Here's a list of things that you would need to consider:

1. Applying for your visa:

- You will need to meet the criteria as stated in the introduction. You can apply online for your visa and read more about this, including eligible countries, on the [Home Affairs website](#);
- Take a look at the [checklist](#) which tells you about the type of employment evidence you will need, personal documentation and charge information;
- The cost to apply varies from time to time, however it is around **£275**. There is a [pricing estimator](#) that enables you to view cost;
- The process can take a few weeks, however you can track the process of your application online once you have applied (we advise you to check [Home Affairs website](#) to see up to date lead times)

2. Understanding licence conversion requirements:

- **Driver Hire Australia** may be able to offer regular work to professional Class 1 and Class 2 drivers once you are in the country. However, you will have to convert your UK licence to the relevant state licence to drive legally for any employer;
- You will need to consider state licence conversion requirements, tests/examinations and costs, advice which is found in the 'Conversions' section of this document;
- You can find out about pay rates / earning potential, superannuation, as well as the tax you will be eligible to pay while you are working, outlined in the 'Earning Potential' section.

3. Setting up a bank account:

- It is best to apply for a bank account whilst still in the UK, so it is straight forward process once you have arrived in Australia and have a residency address;

- You will need to do your research on which bank account to open, however the four main banks are ANZ (Australia and New Zealand Banking Group), National Australia Bank (NAB), Westpac and Commonwealth. Take a look at [this advice](#) for information.

4. Set up a Superannuation fund:

- You can set up your own 'super' fund when opening a bank account at the same time or Driver Hire Australia can do this for you upon successful application to work. A superannuation fund is basically a pension pot that your employer will pay into, more information in the 'Earning Potential' section of this guide.

5. Apply for a Tax File Number (TFN):

- This is a personal reference number in both the tax and superannuation systems (similar to your UK NI number);
- If you don't have a TFN, your employer must withhold 45% of your wages regardless of your income so you must apply for this once you have residency in Australia – you need a valid passport and Australian address to apply. There is no cost to apply for a TFN.

6. Enrol with Medicare:

- You will need to enrol once you arrive in Australia. Similar to the UK's NHS, Medicare will cover you for treatment which is only medically necessary and provides access to prescriptions at a cheaper rate. More information is available on this in the Medicare section of this document. Enrolment costs are free.

7. Travel Insurance:

- Medicare only covers medically necessary treatment. Non-clinical care and other things like ambulance travel, physio, dental care etc won't be covered. These, as well theft, loss of possessions, cancellations and so on will need to be covered through your own private travel insurance;
- The cost will vary on the cover and provider you choose so have a look into the various insurance policies available to you. Many provide insurance only for 30 – 60 days so make sure you look thoroughly and ensure it is enough to cover your stay. For more advice and information, visit the [Money Supermarket](#).

8. Get a phone SIM:

- If your current phone is unlocked, you will be able to simply use an Australian pay as you go SIM card. The main providers are Optus and Telstra. Phone contracts usually have a minimum of two years so definitely worth getting an unlocked phone.

9. Organise accommodation:

- This is completely dependent on where you want to work and travel! Once you know where you want to look for work and understand the requirements once you're there, you can then

start looking at places to live. [Rent](#) may be a place to start - prices will vary but it is an obvious cost to consider when thinking about on-going living costs.

10. Transport:

- How will you get about in Australia? If you are considering buying your own vehicle once you're there, take a look at [Car Sales](#) to view used cars for sale.

11. Flights:

- Take a look at [SkyScanner](#) for a quick look at potential flight costs. This could be anything from £500 - £800 and upwards for direct flights but will of course vary on the time of year and destination.

12. Preparing your Driver portfolio:

- Consider what evidence you can put together to create a portfolio which will put you in a strong position when applying for state licences. This could be employer references outlining the vehicles you drive, how much experience you have along with photos and other evidence to support. Some of the training centres Driver Hire Australia work with also advise making a note of GVM and length of the vehicles you have driven.

13. Savings:

- An obvious one, but you'll need to plan ahead and have some savings behind you to fund your trip!
- Think about possible gaps in employment once you arrive or throughout your year's travel. You will need money to live on whilst waiting for your new licence etc;
- Make the most of your trip. Take a look at the sight-seeing section and consider all of the wonderful things you'd like to do during your time in Australia!

14. International Driver Permit (IDP):

- Have a look into state requirements as to whether it is recommended to get an IDP. Some car rental businesses may ask for it alongside your licence, so worth checking either before or when you're in the country.

Still interested? Keep reading to find out about the earning potential working as a professional driver in Australia and how you can start the ball rolling with your Working Holiday VISA!



Licences

In Australia, there are some licences that the UK does not have. Below is a guide to the Australian licences and where applicable, the UK's closest counterpart:

Australian Licence	Closest UK Equivalent	Info
HC (Heavy Combination)	C+E (Class 1)	Articulated vehicles with three or more axles, heavy rigid vehicle trailer combinations including unladen dolly, with three or more axles, any towed trailer with a GVM more than nine tonnes
HR (Heavy Rigid)	C (Class 2)	Trucks and buses with a GVM more than eight tonnes, and three or more axles. Any towed trailer must not weigh more than nine tonnes GVM and bendy buses
MC (Multi Combination)	None	B-doubles, prime mover, low loader dolly and low loader trailer combinations, and road trains
MR (Medium Rigid)	None	Trucks and buses with a GVM more than eight tonnes and two axles, any towed trailer must not weigh more than nine tonnes GVM
LR (Light Rigid)	C1/C1E (7.5T)	Small trucks with a GVM of up to 8T (towed weight no more than 9T) or buses that seat more than 12 adults including the driver and GVM up to 8 tonnes
C (Car)	B (Car)	

GVM = Gross Vehicle Mass

Road Ranger Gearboxes

As well as the different licences to the UK, Australia has a large number of trucks that have, what is known as, a Road Ranger gearbox. A lot of companies will not employ drivers without having this experience. In the UK, it is doubtful you will have gained this, so we advise having some lessons.

Work Diaries

Instead of tachographs, Australia use [Work Diaries](#). Information and guides are available on the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator website.



Earning Potential

The earning potential is great and not only are pay rates considerably higher for professional Drivers in Australia compared to the UK, you also benefit from 9.5% superannuation payments on top of your pay. Let's take a look...

All pay rates for different assignments will differ, however the average hourly pay rates for Driver Hire Australia drivers are as follows:

- HC - \$28.50 average hourly rate
- HR - \$27 average hourly rate
- Van - \$25 average hourly rate

How does it compare?

UK Licence	UK Avg p/h	Australian Licence	Aus Avg p/h	What's that in £?
Class 1	£10.50 - 12	HC (Heavy Combination)	\$28.50	£15.55
Class 2	£9.50 – 10.50	HR (Heavy Rigid)	\$27.00	£14.74
Van	£7.50 – 8.50	Van (Cat C)	\$25	£13.64

**UK average pay rates range drastically; the figures are to provide guidance only. The £ conversion has been calculated using the [Google Finance](#) conversion calculator and will vary from time to time.*

Average take home pay



We took a look at our *full-time* **Driver Hire Australia** HC and HR Drivers' net pay for one week to provide a guide on average pay. Using their actual pay and averaging them over a 45-hour week, registered HC Drivers went home with \$1,150 and HR Drivers \$1,000* (after tax).

On top of this, there's a 'super' 9.5% payment being made by us to a separate account on anything over \$450 per month. For working holiday makers, you are entitled to claim this back when you return to the UK, see next section for more information.

**We looked at a selection of permanent residency Drivers that had worked for Driver Hire Australia in one week of April 2018. Pay rates for the varying assignments will differ. Net pay for working holiday makers will vary due to the no tax-free threshold (all income is taxable) See tax section for further information.*

What's Superannuation?

In Australia, a **9.5% superannuation** – or 'super' – is paid by the employer to employees who are over the age of 18 and earning more than \$450 a month. This is basically a payment paid by your employer into a pension pot. You may be eligible to claim the amount accumulated in the pot once you have left Australia, but tax WILL be payable when you claim. See [this Super Guide article](#) for more information.

To claim, you would need to submit a form for the funds no more than 6 months after leaving Australia. If you don't do this, the money will go back to the Australian Government as unclaimed. The refund is called a 'Departing Australia Superannuation Payment' (DASP), information of which is available [here](#). As far as we are currently aware, you are unable to transfer the funds directly to a UK pension plan although you can always check with your own UK pension provider to see if this is an option.

Tax

As a working holiday maker, you will pay tax on **all income** earned as you cannot claim the Low-Income Tax Offset. There is a tax calculator available which can provide estimate taxes for holiday makers / 'backpackers' here <https://www.paycalculator.com.au/>



As a non-resident you will pay **15% tax** (on the first \$37,000) which is 4% less than Australia's own permanent residents (who pay 19% tax in this pay band) although you will pay tax on all earnings. For over \$37,000 earnings, see the full list of the [tax bands](#) available on the Australian Government's tax office website, also available on [tax information specific to Working Holiday Makers](#).

Really important! Note, if you do not apply for a Tax File Number (TFN) your employer will withhold 45% of your earnings so you must apply for this as soon as you arrive in the country. There is no cost to apply and it will usually arrive within 28 days of your application. If you inform your employer that you have applied for the TFN number, you will then have 28 days to provide them with it before the withholding amount applies. You will not be able to assign your TFN number to your super fund either if you do not have one. More information on applying is available [here](#).

You're exempt from a Medicare levy: Casual workers in the country aren't eligible for holiday or sick pay as it is included in the pay rate however as a non-resident from the UK, you will be exempt from paying a 2% Medicare levy which Australian residents have to pay. This is like National Insurance contributions for the NHS in the UK. You must enrol for Medicare once you arrive in Australia. More information about how to do this is available in the Medicare section in 'Other Useful Info'.

“Sounds great! So how do I convert my licence?”



Conversions – State by state

If you haven't already guessed, there are different regulations around licences dependant on the Australian state in which you work. For most of the states, your UK category B (car) Driving Licence can be transferred over to a category C (car) licence in Australia with no requirements – allowing you to drive a car. Some states however ask that you have a valid International Driver's Permit alongside it, and other driver licence categories are completely state-specific.



Although **Driver Hire Australia** cannot guarantee work, most of the work available is HC and HR and to be considered to drive for clients on your holiday, you **must** firstly have had your UK driving licence **converted** to the specific state licence. It is Driver Hire Australia policy that you cannot drive professionally using solely your UK licence.

For some, you may have to undergo a test or assessment to prove you are qualified to drive this class of vehicle professionally to gain one. You can discuss temporary employment options with a Driver Hire Australia office beforehand if you require further advice.

Another thing to note...

You cannot hold one licence for one state, then go and work in a different state for more than 90 days.

This isn't just for visitors, it applies to Australia's own residents too! Once you have an Australian licence however, changing it to another state licence is as straight forward as changing your address in the UK.

For example, if you wanted to work in one state for a few months, then move to another state and work there for the remaining months on your visa, you would be required to change your licence specific to the new state.

State Licence Requirements

The resources over the next few pages offer advice and further reading that will help if you want to find out how to convert your licence in a particular state. Some information has been provided based on Driver Hire Australia's own experiences in providing work to holiday makers and we have provided links to relevant training providers when relevant,

In addition, we advise you study as much as possible about road rules and regulations in the country - there are links to each state's guidance included.

New South Wales

Useful if you're considering work with Driver Hire Australia in [Sydney](#)

To transfer your UK licence, you must complete a written and practical test once you're in Australia. You would need to provide your UK licence details and take the test in a road ranger gear box truck.

- Information about the types of licence classes and transfer requirement are [here](#).
- Information specific to the test along with the up to date costs are [here](#).

Although you will be able to drive cars and light vans on your UK licence in New South Wales, you won't be able to drive trucks without converting and completing required tests.

[Further reading on heavy vehicle rules and regulations in New South Wales.](#)

Queensland

Useful if you're considering work with Driver Hire Australia in [Brisbane](#)

You can drive an equivalent vehicle using your UK licence BUT if you want to work for Driver Hire Australia, we cannot consider applications with this due to policy whereby you cannot drive for clients solely using your UK licence, you must have applied for the Queensland equivalent. No theory or practical test is required but you:

- Must have written confirmation from employers of your experience driving that class of vehicle to demonstrate your experience
- Will need to take your UK licence that is in date and showing you have the relevant class of licence (i.e. C = HR, C+E = HC)
- Be able to show any certificates i.e. DCPC training, would be good and a list of training courses you have attended
- Will have a UK licence check as proof of status of licence i.e. you haven't been banned. Our [dhLicence Check](#) service can do this, available from any Driver Hire office
- Will also need your passport and working visa, a Medicare card, an Australian bank card and proof of residency

Any restrictions on your licence, for example if you have to wear glasses etc, will be transferred over. Once you have all of the above, you will take it along to a DoT office (no appointment needed),

where you will then complete a driver's licence application form and have a photo taken. If you are approved for heavy vehicle licence you will be given a paper proof of transfer and can drive on this until your plastic card comes through the post which normally takes around 28 days.

There is a [licence application fee](#) which will apply and more information is available [here](#).

Further reading on heavy vehicle rules and regulations in Queensland:

- <https://www.nhvr.gov.au/law-policies/heavy-vehicle-national-law-and-regulations>
- <https://www.qld.gov.au/transport/safety/heavy/rules>
- <https://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Safety/Driver-guide>

South Australia

Useful if you're considering work with Driver Hire Australia in [Adelaide](#)

According to instructions on the [SA Transport](#) website, you can drive on your UK licence whilst on a 417 visa, as long as it clearly shows the weight of vehicle you are entitled to drive and you have an International Driver Permit. **However** - from our own experience and from gaining advice from Alan Millar Transport Training;

- All Drivers are required to go to Service SA to present their licence and the requirements thereafter are determined on a case-by-case basis;
- They will either convert your licence there and then (which at this time, we believe only NZ licences are recognised) or;
- You will receive a letter of eligibility to convert that will allow you to convert your licence - this confirmation eligibility to upgrade letter means you can go straight to the licence class you currently hold. We strongly advise you also have evidence of your driving experience to avoid doubt of the vehicle weights you can drive.
- You will be required to take this letter of eligibility to a training school (such as [Allan Miller Transport Training](#)) and book on a course to convert it
- The course will involve a practical test (around 6-8 hours, \$125 per hour) and a theory test may also be required

The advice we have provided above is based on our own experiences and if you take a look at the [SA Transport](#) website, you will find the information on there does differ to this. We strongly advise that to gain further clarification about this process, speak to Allan Miller Transport Training which have supported us with putting this guidance together. See www.alanmillar.com.au

[Further reading on heavy vehicle rules and regulations in South Australia.](#)

Victoria

Useful if you're considering work with Driver Hire Australia in [Melbourne](#)

You can drive on your UK licence whilst on a 417 visa, as long as you have a letter from a UK authority stating what class of vehicles you are eligible for, further details are available [here](#). However, due to Driver Hire Australia policy and from the request of our clients, you cannot drive professionally until you have converted your licence. It is **strongly** advised by Victoria, and our Melbourne office, that you get a letter to accompany your licence that clearly states which weight of vehicles you can drive and you would need to sit a test to convert to a Victorian licence. This process involves applying for a car licence and then making an application for an exemption from holding time before going for a heavy vehicle licence. You then have to sit a knowledge and practical test. More information on this is available [here](#).

[Further reading on heavy vehicle rules and regulations in Victoria.](#)

Western Australia

Useful if you're considering work with Driver Hire Australia in [Perth](#)

You must make an application to the Department of Transport (DoT) to obtain a WA licence but for your application to be considered, you need to be very, very clear on the outcome you want to achieve and must have a lot of evidence to prove your experience and capabilities:

- Documentary evidence of your in-class experience from your employer i.e. written references stating the class of vehicle driven and the height, weights and lengths used and the period of driving (one year plus);
- A portfolio of driving including the employer's letter (which should include their contact details including fax), evidence of HGV driving experience (photos, vehicle type illustrations, UK licence etc) will be most helpful when applying at the DoT
- Present your evidence to the counter staff and make a good impression as it is known they record notes about drivers' lack of experience which will make future efforts difficult
- Have your objective clear – obtain a DoT learner permit for an appropriate Truck Class (HC or HR). If you're not clear and are unsure of your planned outcome, it is likely you will obtain a downgraded learner's permit i.e. (MR). Once this happens and the notes are placed on their system, it can be difficult to proceed to high truck classes without entering graduated licencing system class duration requirements

The advice we have provided above is based on our own experiences and if you take a look at the [WA Transport](#) website, you will find the information on there does differ to this. We would strongly advise that to gain further clarification about this process, speak to Wrightway Road Training which have supported us with putting this guidance together. See www.wrt.com.au

[Further reading on heavy vehicle rules and regulations in Western Australia.](#)

Driver Hire Australia



As a market leader in the UK's recruitment and training industry with almost 35 years experience, it was a natural decision to export our expertise to other markets. In January 2012, Driver Hire Australia was established with the launch of our first office in Perth, Western Australia. The impact of our arrival on the local market and the rapid growth of the business proved the transferability of our products and services, and led to the opening of four further offices, in Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney and Adelaide.

Each of the five offices are located in different Australian states:

Driver Hire Office	State
Sydney	New South Wales
Brisbane	Queensland
Adelaide	South Australia
Melbourne	Vitoria
Perth	Western Australia

The level of service and the fresh ideas Driver Hire Australia brings to the market means we have worked with prestigious international blue-chip companies across a wide range of sectors and are extremely experienced in recruitment. We support local business' recruitment requirements with casual / temporary work, which is where you may have an opportunity to earn income if you decide to travel to Australia on a visa 417.

Jobs

If you are planning to travel to Australia on a visa 417, you may be able to secure ongoing work at one of our offices to provide income during your stay. This guide can only provide examples of the types of roles which may be available when you do arrive and want to take up work in the country with us. There is generally always have work available for:

- HC Drivers
- HR Drivers
- MC Drivers
- Van Drivers (although the amount of work available can be rare. This is completely dependent on the office you are working with and the work they can offer at the time)

Jobs are regularly advertised on [our website](#) which outline the specific requirements and you can always contact the office too to discuss and apply for certain vacancies.

Requirements - You must understand all of the state-specific conversion requirements and assessments expected in order to be employable and considered in your application, as outlined in the previous section. Ideally, you will have at between 1 - 3 years minimum experience driving professionally with a UK C or C+E licence.

As this is purely a guide and we cannot guarantee work with Driver Hire Australia, we would advise you to speak to the Australian office beforehand to discuss your experience and the possible job opportunities with them (certain clients may accept less experience than others). You can e-mail them direct using the details in the Offices section or call direct - but please remember to check the time zones before calling! Take a look at time zones [here](#).

British Colleagues – Here to Help



We have a great team at Driver Hire Australia, everyone is very friendly and we want to make the opportunity to work whilst you're on holiday as easy as it can be.



We do understand though that considering a trip like this on your own can be quite daunting at first and it can be difficult to imagine what life will be like once you arrive in Australia. To put your mind at ease, you might find it useful to know that we have team members working in Driver Hire Australia offices who have relocated from the UK themselves. Our colleagues are on hand to offer you advice, support and peace of mind when you're there and you're also welcome to e-mail or call (check time zones prior) to discuss any matters that you may have concerns about beforehand.

Pictured left to right; Chris Chidley (CEO) with Neil Percy (Victoria State Director, Melbourne office), Dean Hewitt (Managing Director, Driver Hire Australia) and Margaret-Ann Coldwell (Group Business Administrator, Perth office).

David Carroll, Driver Hire Australia Case Study

David, aged 25 from Liverpool

David learnt of Driver Hire Australia whilst working in the UK for various agencies as an articulated truck driver. Struggling as a new driver to gain the experience he wanted, he took up the opportunity to work in Sydney and he hasn't looked back! We found out why and how he did it, and what it's really like to work for Driver Hire Australia...

What made you firstly look at Australia as a place to work?

I was working as an articulated truck driver in the UK for different agencies, from postal services and general haulage to refrigerated goods. I was finding that to secure any sort of good work in the UK, you needed the 'experience' and as I had none, it was preventing me from gaining it in the first place.

Australia is somewhat familiar and it looked like a very interesting country, so instead of wasting my time in the UK getting poor work, I thought I'd travel to Australia and see if I liked working there as a truck driver.

I had learnt about Driver Hire Sydney whilst in the UK and it was part of my plan in getting work once I had flown over there. I already knew the steps I would need to take in order to acquire an Australian licence and I knew once I had done it, I could contact them for work.

How did you find the Visa 417 process?

Because of the time difference and the amount of checks that needed to be made by the Australian Government, it took all in all about two weeks to get my Working Holiday Visa through.

"I had learnt about Driver Hire Sydney whilst in the UK and it was part of my plan in getting work once I had flown over there..."

The cost of the visa was around £267, which is just to be allowed into the country and work. This doesn't include flights, accommodation, transport, all things that would be necessary if you want to work down under.

How did you convert your licence?

To convert my UK HGV Class 1 licence over to an Australian licence, it only took me two weeks as I already knew how to drive trucks and the theory questions were simple - a lot easier than the UK tests!

"The experience of working alongside Driver Hire Sydney is the best I've had. I've worked for a lot of agencies and none are as passionate or as hard working as they are."

My UK licence, which wasn't taken off me or defaced, was converted to a HC driving licence, meaning I could drive single trailer trucks or semis. The next step up would be MC but I have to have driven HC for one year before having the opportunity to sit the MC licence test.

What was it like working for Driver Hire Australia?

I only had to apply for one agency as their service was beyond brilliant. Driver Hire Sydney not only got me work quickly but if an issue did occur, it was dealt with swiftly and professionally. The branch is located in Parramatta, it is small but has a very good family feel.

The experience of working alongside Driver Hire Sydney is the best I've had. I've worked for a lot of agencies and none are as passionate or as hard working as they are. I can't think of anything that could improve the service I already received.

What type of work have you had whilst in Australia?

My first job was with a general haulage company that primarily dealt with toilet paper, the next two were refrigerated transport companies. I have spent most of my time with one company and brought the 2018 New Year in with them. If you want to drive American trucks, this company was the one to look for.

I then moved from Sydney to go and work for Driver Hire Brisbane and the company which I am currently working for is another general haulage firm. I drive everything from 6 tonne rigids to 44 tonne American behemoths.

What would you advise someone considering this opportunity?

My advice to anyone is read and learn everything first before you come over.

There are no digital tachos yet, so the amount of paperwork is five times heavier than in the UK and for most deliveries, you will need a site induction. Most of the work you will be doing is local unless you go for a MC licence.

The upside to working here (even if for a little bit) is it's Australia!

It's sunny 90% of time, you're never more than an hour away from a beach and the people that live here are so laid back, it's funny!

Driver Hire Australia Offices



Driver Hire Sydney

New South Wales

Latest Jobs: <http://www.driverhire.com.au/candidates/jobs.html>



Contact:

Email: sydney@driverhire.com.au

Address: Driver Hire Australia
27/103 George Street
Parramatta
NSW 2150

Telephone: (02) 8843 1317

With area code if calling from the UK: (+0061) 2 8843 1317

Time difference: 9:00 hours ahead. [Check the time right now.](#)



For licence conversion advice, take a look at the guidance specific to New South Wales in the 'Conversion' section of this guide.



Driver Hire Brisbane

in Queensland



Email: brisbane@driverhire.com.au

Address: Driver Hire Australia
Unit 1
789 Kingsford Smith Drive
Eagle Farm
QLD4009

Telephone: (07) 3069 0092

With area code if calling from the UK: (+0061) 7 3069 0092

Time difference: 9:00 hours ahead. [Check the time right now.](#)



Latest Jobs: <http://www.driverhire.com.au/candidates/jobs.html>

For licence conversion advice, take a look at the guidance specific to Queensland in the 'Conversion' section of this guide.



Driver Hire Adelaide

in South Australia



Email: adelaide@driverhire.com.au

Address: Driver Hire Australia
Office 5/300 Cormack Road
Wingfield
Adelaide
SA 5013

Telephone: (08) 8425 0606

With area code if calling from the UK: (+0061) 8 8425 0606

Time difference: 8:30 hours ahead. [Check the time right now.](#)



Latest Jobs: <http://www.driverhire.com.au/candidates/jobs.html>

For licence conversion advice, take a look at the guidance specific to South Australia in the 'Conversion' section of this guide.



Driver Hire Melbourne

in Victoria

Email: melbourne@driverhire.com.au

Address: Driver Hire Australia
Unit 3b
141 Dohertys Road
Laverton North
VIC3026

Telephone: (03) 9369 2333

With area code if calling from the UK: (+0061) 3 9369 2333

Time difference: 9:00 hours ahead. [Check the time right now.](#)



Latest Jobs: <http://www.driverhire.com.au/candidates/jobs.html>

For licence conversion advice, take a look at the guidance specific to Victoria in the 'Conversion' section of this guide.



Driver Hire Perth

in Western Australia



Email: perth@driverhire.com.au

Address: Driver Hire Australia
22 Hardy Street
South Perth
WA6151

Telephone: (08) 9474 4077

With area code if calling from the UK: (+0061) 8 9474 4077

Time difference: 7:00 hours ahead. [Check the time right now.](#)



Latest Jobs: <http://www.driverhire.com.au/candidates/jobs.html>

For licence conversion advice, take a look at the guidance specific to Western Australia in the 'Conversion' section of this guide.



Things to do in Australia

Although one of the most remote countries in the world, Australia is one of the most popular places to visit especially amongst back packers and budget travellers. Due to the price of flights and the time it takes to actually get there, it doesn't make sense to visit for short breaks. Lengthy trips are so much more worthwhile and because simply there's so much you can do and see where you're there!

With your own research, you can plan your trip and list the sights you want to see during your trip, but here is a simple list of places to consider:

- [Great Barrier Reef](#)
- [Sydney's famous opera house and harbour](#)
- [Perth](#)
- [Western Australian outbacks](#)
- [Uluru](#)
- [Wine regions](#)
- Barbecues
- [Surfing](#)
- [Beaches](#)
- [Jungles and Rainforests](#)
- [Boating, camping and fishing](#)

Start planning your visit!

Below are a few links to tell you more about visiting Australia and links to each state website:

- [Visit Australia](#)
- [Visit Western Australia](#)
- [Visit Queensland](#)
- [Visit New South Wales](#)
- [Visit Victoria](#)
- [Visit South Australia](#)

Other Info and Links

Medicare

The Australian government has reciprocal healthcare agreements in place with the UK that provides cover to visitors for the duration of approved time in Australia.

Medicare covers treatment that is deemed 'medically necessary out of hospital', 'medically necessary care as a public patient in a public hospital' and covers prescription medicines at a lower price. This means any ill-health or injury which occurs while you are in Australia and requires treatment before you return home. This includes:

- Free treatment as a public in-patient or outpatient in a public hospital
- Subsidised medicines under the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme
- Medicare benefits for out-of-hospital medical treatment provided by doctors through private surgeries and 'bulk bill' community health centres. If not bulk billed, you will have to pay for appointments and treatment.

You should enrol with Medicare as soon as you arrive in Australia and have an address. Please read the [checklist](#) which tells you what information you will need to enrol once you're in the country.

Further advice available on the following websites: [UK Government](#)'s Australian travel and health advice, [Australian Department of Human Services](#) website and the [Travellers website](#).

Other helpful links:

- [Public Holidays](#)
- [Time Zones](#)
- [Weather](#)

Disclaimer

This guide is for information purposes only. We really hope the information included is useful in helping you to learn about the exciting opportunities with Driver Hire Australia. The information provided is for the purposes of generic guidance only. You should not rely upon it or make any decisions that will involve you incurring expenditure until you take your own advice or obtain assistance around matters including, but not limited to, immigration, road transport laws in Australia and elsewhere, your ability to work outside the UK, tax, benefits or remuneration. Much will depend on your individual circumstances and our notes above cannot be said to apply to each and every circumstance. They do not, therefore, amount to advice specific to every or any particular individual. We think the information set out above is reasonably accurate as at 1 May 2018 but do not accept any liability for negligence of the information in the event it is wrong. We do not accept any liability that you might suffer as a result of relying or acting upon the contents of this guide, including, without limitation, any direct, indirect or consequential losses. In the event you had any specific queries, we would be happy to speak with you.