

# HLH GROUP

# SURVIVAL GUIDE





# BACKPACKERS ARRIVING IN AUSTRALIA

## WHAT YOU SHOULD EXPECT



Over the past couple of decades, Australia has been hugely popular amongst backpackers wanting to live a care-free life before starting a career or simply to have a break from their usual job to start a new adventure away from home.

### **Sydney – High Living Costs & High Wages**

Upon arriving in Australia, you'll be impressed by the beautiful coastline and endless landmarks to explore. Australia is a 'must do' for travellers across the world and we can guarantee you won't be disappointed. You will, however, notice a big difference in the cost of living compared to those in South-East Asia if that's where you have travelled on your way here. A pint of beer will now cost a whopping \$13 instead of \$2 and the local hostels will noticeably burn a larger hole in your wallet! It is worth noting that whilst living costs are high, the wages in Sydney do reflect this. General labourers can find themselves earning \$30 an hour once they have completed the 1-day white card course.



Additionally, construction workers will also receive generous travel allowances, meal allowances and penalty rates for extra hours. Many backpackers struggle to secure office jobs due to lots of industries rejecting working holiday visas which consequently opens their horizons for other opportunities. Labouring roles may not typically enthrall some people from the UK or Ireland due to the bleak winters and endless rainy days however it is a different story over here in Australia. Many jobs are found on beautiful residential developments with picturesque views of the ocean. The short-lasting winter here averages 17-18 degrees so you don't need to worry about purchasing gloves and scarves any time soon!

# AUSTRALIAN WORKING HOLIDAY VISA FAQ

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Thousands of backpackers make the move to Australia every year to explore this amazing country. Speaking from experience, this can seem daunting at first as there are a lot of things that need to be planned and organised for this to happen smoothly. The information here will act as a guide to pointing you in the right direction as it is based on the FAQs we get asked about Working Holiday VISAs to Australia.

Firstly, and most importantly you need a visa. The type of visa you get will be based on how long you intend to stay and what you want to do here. For example, there are tourist visas that entitle you to multiple entries to Australia, but you do not have working rights. These visas typically have a duration of 3 months. Another option is a student visa for people intending to study here full time which they can do for up to 5 years. Working rights are usually restricted on this visa, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic student visa holders were only allowed to work 40 hours per fortnight but that has been relaxed in recent months to help ease the labour hire shortage.

## WHAT IS THE MOST POPULAR VISA FOR AUSTRALIA?

The most popular VISA among young travellers looking to move to Australia for work and travel is the working holiday visa.

This visa allows multiple entries and unlimited working rights for up to **6 MONTHS** with one company.

This visa has a duration of **12 MONTHS**.



If visa holders wish to activate their second years working holiday visa, they are required to complete 88 days of work in regional parts of Australia. The eligibility for these visas is age 18-30 and 35 in some countries. The cost of this visa is \$495 AUD. The times it takes to complete the application and processing times are generally short and super convenient.

## Frequently asked questions about Working Holiday Visas:

### *What Do I Need to Apply for A Working Holiday Visa In Australia?*

1. Aged between 18-30 (35 in some countries)
2. Have a valid passport with at least 6 months of renewal on it
3. Have sufficient funds to support yourself
4. Have no dependent children accompanying you at any time during your stay in Australia
5. Must be outside of Australia when you apply for the visa, and it gets accepted.
6. Not have any criminal convictions
7. Not have any substantial medical issues

### *What Can I Do in Australia With My Working Holiday Visa?*

- Work is available in most industries such as hospitality, construction, admin, recruitment, and regional work.
- You are only allowed work for one employer for a maximum of 6 months.
- Study up to 4 months maximum
- Travel to and from Australia as many times as possible

# HOW TO GET A CONSTRUCTION JOB IN SYDNEY



Sydney is an iconic city. It has beautiful beaches, iconic landmarks and stunning architecture. An image that resonates with people from all around the world. There's a place for everyone in Sydney as Aussies, skilled migrants, backpackers and, as of recently, tourists live and work across its sprawling suburbs. One thing that you'll see no matter where you go in Sydney is the booming construction industry and for working holiday makers, there is no better time to come! In this post we'll give you the skinny on how to get a construction job in Sydney!

## Working In Construction in Sydney

To work in construction in Sydney you'll need a valid work visa. Labour hire jobs for backpackers in Sydney can be ideal as the flexibility of the work coupled with some of the best-paying construction work in the world can suit their nomadic lifestyle. Another good thing to tick off your list is your White Card Ticket, which is the general induction for working in construction. We recommend that you complete this in a one-day classroom environment course as some of the online white card courses are not accepted. There is white card training centre in the same building as the HLH office and we can send you a discount code to book it in.

Another thing you'll need to work on construction sites in Sydney is PPE (personal protective equipment). Typically PPE will include, but is not limited to:

- Steel toe capped work boots
- Hi-visibility shirt or vest
- Hard hat
- Gloves
- Glasses

You can purchase your steel toe capped work boots from Kmart for about \$70. We have the other PPE you require in stock in our office when you come in for an induction we can supply these to you.



# PPE FOR CONSTRUCTION WORK IN SYDNEY

Typically PPE will include, but is not limited to:



**STEEL CAPPED  
BOOTS**



**HI-VISIBILITY  
SHIRT OR VEST**



**HARD HAT**



**GLOVES**



**GLASSES**



## Finding a Job in Construction in Sydney

Once you have landed in Sydney and you've found a place to call home, you'll be thinking about finding your first construction job. Job agencies in Sydney, like HLH Group are the perfect start and getting your resume out to them is an easy process. From there labour hire recruiters will work to find you the perfect role that suits your experience and preferences. General labouring is a good place to start if you have limited experience. A good work ethic and willingness to learn will get you a long way. If you prove yourself to be a strong and reliable worker, your recruiter will value you highly and work with you to find the best-paying and most convenient roles.

## Find Jobs Online

Once you have that you have the perfect resume you are ready to begin your job search. As with most things in the modern world, this can be done primarily online. You will find HLH Group's latest jobs postings online or on all our social media accounts. Here at HLH Group, we are one of the leading labour hire agencies located in Sydney, NSW. We recruit and place workers from all around the globe on construction projects throughout the sunny suburbs of Sydney.

You will find regular jobs postings online a vast array of different jobs such as general and skilled labouring, carpentry, truck driving, machine operating and a host of other trade and ticketed work. Asking around your group of mates is another sure way to find work as some job openings are never even advertised.

# RELOCATING TO SYDNEY 101

## GUIDE FOR CONSTRUCTION WORKERS



### Sydney Transport Options

Sydney has an excellent public transport system which I relied heavily on as a construction labourer when I first arrived. Initially, I was shocked by how easy and efficient getting to different suburbs was; unlike the UK, buses and trains run on a punctual schedule here! Once you've topped up your Opal card, getting to and from work is easy. You can use the train, light rail, bus service or even the ferry. You can expect to see a sea of men and women in hi-visibility clothing as various construction workers, labourers and tradies make their morning commutes to site, often clutching a 7/11 coffee, and lately with face masks on.

### Accommodation In Sydney

The first thing on your mind when you land in Sydney is where you're going to be staying. Hostels are a brilliant option as you usually pay to stay for as long or as little as you want and they're also a great place to meet new people. I stayed in hostels for around 9 months and I loved how they made me get out of my comfort zone. If you are working for a labour hire agency, some hostels in the city such as Base Backpackers, Wake Up! And Mad Monkey Broadway are perfect as they are close to public transport, have a relaxed atmosphere and has comfortable clean sleeping quarters. If you're looking to stay long term, there are many different options for apartments and house-shares where you can live with like-minded people.



**WHERE TO  
LIVE IN  
SYDNEY  
AS A  
BACKPACKER?**

## Living In the Eastern Suburbs

We start off with the most popular place to live and by far, the place where backpackers, student visas and almost the entire nation of Ireland live – the Eastern Suburbs of Sydney. Famous for its beaches this place has it all with lovely coastal walks, beautiful beaches and astronomical rental prices. The Eastern Suburbs mainly include Bondi Beach, Maroubra, Clovelly, Bronte Beach, Coogee, Tamarama, and the popular and usually cost-effective option of Bondi Junction as it's close to the train station. Beachside is lovely but you need to remember that getting to work will be at least 40 min to 1h 15 which is no easy task 5 days a week when the temptations of the Coogee Bay Hotel and Coogee Pavilion are calling. The one thing we especially love about the Eastern Suburbs in Sydney is it makes feel like you're on a constant sunny holiday as there is just that holiday buzz in the air.

**Best Feature:** Close to the beaches

**Worst Feature:** Expensive rent





## Living In the Sydney CBD

So you want to be right in the heart of the city? The lifeblood of any city the CBD has seen a dramatic fall in foot traffic since COVID, however, times are on the up with the return of backpackers in Sydney. In the CBD you will have an endless pick of all the hostels to choose from and is a rite of passage for all backpackers coming to Australia. The CBD also has some great food options and entertainment so if you are looking for something to do one evening you are minutes away from all the action. Getting to work is super easy from Sydney's CBD with all the transport options available – buses, trains, light rail and ferries making which makes the commute a dream. Great choice to live for convenience. If you are looking for the CBD experience without being right in the business centre, we recommend suburbs like Surry Hills, Newtown and Paddington. They are on the outskirts of the Sydney CBD and provide at times a more atmospheric neighbourhood.

**Best Feature:** Endless Entertainment & Public Transport Options

**Worst Feature:** Constant Traffic & Business



## Living In the Northern Beaches

There is a constant divide with the Northern Beaches – it's either for you or it isn't. The constant timeless debate is between Manly & Bondi as both offer very similar attractions on paper but in reality, they offer quite a different vibe. Nicknamed "The North Shores Bondi", this place is a mix of locals who never cross the Harbour Bridge, a splatter of backpackers and South Americans on student visas. Although Manly might be crazy busy, it also offers up quite a relaxed vibe compared to Bondi which is constantly rammed with tourists (especially in summer). Sydney's Northern Beaches run from Cremorne to Avalon and have some of Sydney's best secret beaches. There is a strong demand for labour hire workers in the Northern Beaches as the majority of Sydney lives south of the Harbour Bridge. So, if you were looking to move there you wouldn't struggle to find a labour hire job in the Northern Beaches. Transport to the city is easy thanks to the B1 and Manly's fast ferry but if you are looking to travel to Palm Beach you will need transport as public transport is not as accessible and convenient. Our only hesitancy with the Northern Beaches is that a lot of your backpacker friends and events will be hosted in the Sydney CBD or Eastern Suburbs. This means that you will be constantly far from home and the transport costs such as public transport, Uber and taxis will be sure to add up.

**Best Feature:** Less Crowded & Employment Demand

**Worst Feature:** Constant Travel



## Living In the Inner West

Sydney's Inner West is a popular area to rent in Sydney because it's more affordable than a lot of suburbs. These suburbs mainly consist of Newtown, Marrickville, and Redfern. The Bohemian Capital of Sydney mainly Newtown is an eclectic mix of people from all corners of the globe. Some would even say it has possibly the best nightlife in the whole of Sydney. Food options in Newtown are brilliant with everything you could possibly need from Indian to Pub Food to Vegan restaurants – Newtown has the lot. Places like Newtown & Redfern have busy main streets with so many cool and hidden bars and you'll find more alternative types living there. Other than the great pubs and nightlife scene, it's easy to get into town by jumping on the train for 10 minutes to Sydney Central. Easy!

**Best Feature:** Alternate Vibe with Great Pubs & Restaurants

**Worst Feature:** Not Modern





# GUIDE TO WHITE CARDS IN AUSTRALIA

## CPCCWHS1001



The 'Prepare to Work Safely in the Construction Industry CPCCWHS1001', or more commonly known as the 'White Card' is a mandatory requirement for construction workers in Australia. The White Card is physical proof that an individual has attended and been certified in general construction induction training. No one is permitted to enter, let alone work on a construction site without one. This applies to all roles within construction from the general labourers to foremen, site managers and surveyors. In New South Wales, it is mandatory to complete this training face-to-face. Watch out for the slightly cheaper option of an online course! This option is cheaper for a reason, it is not an acceptable course. Don't say we didn't warn you!

There is white card training centre in the same building as the HLH office and we can send you a discount code to book it in just in contact and we can send you their details.

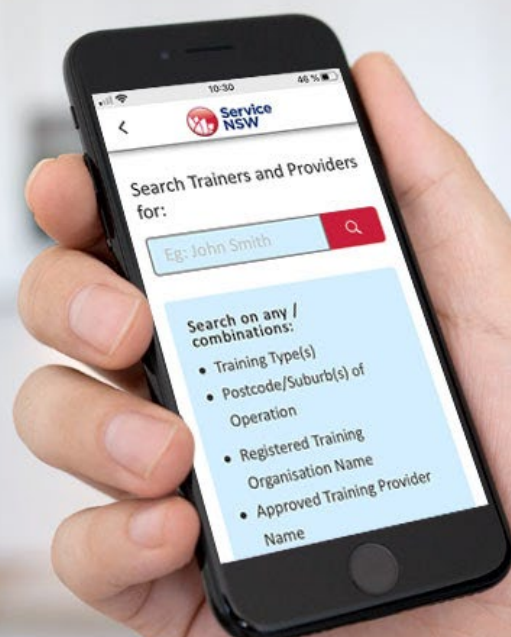
### REGISTERED TRAINING OFFICERS (RTOS) & THE AUSTRALIAN SKILLS QUALITY AUTHORITY (ASQA).

There are many training providers available in various locations throughout NSW but always be sure that they are reputable.

You can search on the **NSW SAFEWORK** website for a list of accredited providers. Only Registered Training Officers (RTOs) accredited by the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) that have an agreement with NSW SafeWork.



[hunterlabourhire.com.au](http://hunterlabourhire.com.au)



## ONE DAY WHITE CARD COURSES

The one-day course involves identifying hazards, reporting safety concerns, outlining measures to be taken to reduce the risk of accident, and how to respond correctly to incidents. This is delivered through a series of slideshows that encourage open discussion amongst the group. It can be interesting to hear different perspectives from fellow attendees as they can be from a wide variety of backgrounds with different experiences regarding Work Health and Safety (WHS). There are also several videos shown throughout the day which involve some suspect acting, to say the least! But in all seriousness, from working in the labour hire industry you realise that accidents can easily happen especially when health and safety are not considered.



### HOW LONG IS A WHITE CARD VALID FOR?

The white card remains valid for as long as you work in construction.

If you do not work in the field of construction for two years, then you will be required to complete the training again.

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[hunterlabourhire.com.au](http://hunterlabourhire.com.au)

The training isn't something you can sleepwalk through either as your tutor generally keeps you on your toes throughout the training encouraging open discussion always. In addition to this, there is an assessment at the end that you must get 100%. Otherwise, you will remain there until you correct your mistakes. So, you could be in for a long day depending on your attention to detail which is important when it comes to WHS.

## White Card Course CPCCWHS1001 – A HLH Minimum Requirement

In conclusion, the White Card course is designed to raise awareness of best practices to eliminate risks that may lead to injuries and fatalities. Training requires the ability to demonstrate knowledge of Work Health and Safety (WHS). At HLH Group, a white card is a minimum requirement, along with relevant experience when candidates are being screened for working with us.



# REGISTER FOR CONSTRUCTION WORK

Send your up to date resume to [jobs@hlhgroup.com.au](mailto:jobs@hlhgroup.com.au) or call (02) 8985 2019 to apply. Our friendly recruitment team will be in touch with you shortly to discuss what type of construction role you are interested in.



## HOW TO GET A CONSTRUCTION JOB IN SYDNEY?



**1.**

**Get to Sydney**



**2.**

**Get a Whitecard**



**3.**

**Apply with The  
HLH Group**