

Hello!

I am an English major who was determined to combine travel *and* school. Why choose when you can have the best of both worlds, I thought? I exchanged to Macquarie University, located in beautiful, sunny-because-it-rains-like-maybe-twice-a-month (except in summer) Sydney, Australia! ----- official dates were July-November 2013, but they're more easily encapsulated as "fall of 2013" ----- Bearing in mind that Australia is in the Southern hemisphere, the seasons are switched. So

you need/want to have, but it's a good guideline. Plus, you will buy clothes while there.  
*This is a given.*

Book flights early. Flights prices increase closer to departure dates (sometimes there are deals, but don't count on this) and around any major holiday (including end of summer "holidays").

Direct flights are nice, but I prefer the inconvenience of stopovers if I can shave \$400-500 off. Air New Zealand was cheapest for me, with one stopover in Auckland, but I scored a direct flight home from Air Canada for a similar price.

Travelling within Australia is similar

- Sydney Harbour Bridge
- Darling Harbour
- Sydney Opera House
- The Blue *Mountains* (so they claim)
- Manly Beach
- Sydney Skytower (put a blue jumpsuit, attach yourself to the tower and walk around outside of the tallest building in Sydney.)
- Bondi Beach
- The Rocks- cultural and historical hub of the city
- Taronga Zoo- koalas, emus, and whistling spiders, oh my!
- Surfing lessons (My flatmates did not stop talking about how awesome they were for weeks.)

Accommodation options:

1. Parklands Apartments. (I stayed there). This is the cheapest. Located 15 min walk from campus but perks include being kitty corner to The Ranch pub/nightclub (I.e. the shortest walk home after a night out.) Up to 3 flatmates and no meal plan.
2. University Village. More expensive, but heard to have great parties. A similar system to

-O Week- equivalent of "Week of Welcome"- March 3-6

-Conception Day- early Oct -

Take the pictures that you think might be cheesy. Do the things you think are silly and perhaps stereotypical. You will regret it if you don't. A picture is worth 1000 words and you would hate to realize that after you've returned home.



