



Travel Newsletter

Institute
for Study
Abroad
BUTLER UNIVERSITY

AUSTRALIA

Semester 1 2012

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Important Reminders

Documents

Before you get on a plane, make sure you have:

- Your **passport**
- Your **visa grant notification**

Remember, you will not be allowed to board your flight and/or clear immigration in Australia without these items.

Payments

Make sure you have paid your **program fee** and/or taken care of your financial aid. We can't place you in housing if your program fee isn't paid.

Travel notification form

Send us your **travel notification form** if you haven't already done so. We need to know when to expect you in case you don't arrive on time.

Check In and Boarding Passes

Allow plenty of time

Whether you take the group flight or travel independently, you should plan to arrive at the airport three hours before your international flight. This will allow you enough time to check in, get a boarding pass, clear security and make it to your gate.

Check in!

You must check in for your flight. Otherwise, the airline can assign your seat to someone else.

Checking your baggage

At your domestic airport, find out if your domestic airline has an agreement with your international carrier to check baggage. If so, your domestic airline may be able to check your bags all the way through to Sydney, and you will also receive your international flight boarding pass at your domestic airport.

If your bags can't be checked through to your final destination, you'll have to do the following once you arrive at your international departure airport: Claim your luggage, check in and re-check your luggage with your international airline, and go through security again to re-enter the gate area.

Get to the gate in plenty of time so you don't miss your flight!



Travel Problems?

If you are delayed and might miss a flight, you'll need to make arrangements to get on the next available flight:

Students on the group flight

Contact Advantage Travel at **800-788-1980** and let them know about your flight delay or missed connection. Advantage can help get you on a new flight if necessary. Leave a message if no one picks up; Advantage checks messages regularly and will return your call.

Students traveling independently

Contact your airline (not travel agent!) to make alternate flight plans.

All students

Call IFSA-Butler at **800-858-0229** to let us know about your new travel plans. We will then inform our Australia office of any delays on your behalf. We monitor messages on flight days, including evenings and weekends, so leave a detailed message if you do not speak with someone directly.

Leave your name, airline, new flight numbers, departure and arrival times, and the name, phone number and room number of your hotel if necessary.

Be sure to call IFSA-Butler on our general line at 800-858-0229 to ensure that the correct person gets the message. Please do not leave a message about travel problems on your program advisor's voicemail.

Baggage Allowances

Check with your domestic and international airlines for baggage allowances. If you try to check luggage that exceeds their limits, you may have to repack or pay an excess baggage fee. Do not overpack!

We do not recommend bringing items such as skis and bikes. If you feel you must bring your own, call both your international and domestic carrier for information about packing and excess baggage fees.

Do not lock your luggage. The U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) has asked travelers to keep suitcases unlocked so they can be easily searched. Putting locks on your luggage can result in damaged, lost or delayed bags.

Security Check

You will have to undergo numerous security checks. Do not joke about having weapons or explosives. Be patient and cooperative with all airport personnel.

You may be required to turn on electronic equipment or remove batteries from electronics. Be sure your electronics are fully charged, and include the power cord or battery in your carry-on.

Your Carry-On Bag

Be sure to pack:

- Passport (and at least one copy of it)*
- Visa grant notification*
- Plane tickets or e-ticket confirmations*
- Cash, ATM card, credit cards*
- This newsletter
- Insurance coverage details*
- List of contact names, phone and fax numbers, and email for:
 - Parents and relatives
 - Study abroad advisor at your home college
- Camera
- Medications and prescriptions*
- Spare glasses/contacts
- Updated transcript (unofficial is fine)
- Toiletries (liquids, gels and/or aerosols must be 3.3 ounces or less and fit comfortably in one clear, re-sealable quart-sized plastic bag)
- Something to read/listen to
- Water (purchased after clearing security)
- Change of clothes in case your luggage is lost

** Keep these items and other valuables secure and with you at all times.*

Travel Tips

Below are some tips for staying comfortable during your long flight and once you land:

- Wear loose, layered, comfortable clothes.
- Try to sleep as much as possible on the plane.
- Drink as much water as possible on the plane.
- Avoid drinking alcohol, which will dehydrate you.
- Don't nap when you arrive in Australia! Your body needs to get used to the different time zone. Go out in the sunshine and get as much fresh air as possible.



Clearing Customs

When you go through customs, the officials will ask you the purpose of your visit. Tell them that you are a student and present your **passport** and **landing card** (distributed on the airplane). You should also have a printed copy of your **visa grant notification** email in case there is any question about your status.

If the official asks for your address and you do not yet have one, give the address of our Sydney office:

107/1 Erskineville Road
Newtown, New South Wales 2042

Customs Forms

As your plane descends into Australia, your flight attendants will hand out a few forms with customs and agricultural declarations. They limit the amount of alcohol and cigarettes that you can bring into the country (duty-free goods valued up to AU\$900, 2.25 liters of alcohol and 250 cigarettes are allowed). Remove the price tags and wrappings from new purchases; you don't want to pay customs charges on new items. If you have nothing to declare, go through the green channel.

If you have a question about declaring goods, declare them. It's not a problem to declare something you don't have to. However, if you neglect to declare something customs considers dangerous to Australian agriculture or against Australian laws, they may fine, deport or imprison you.

Lost Luggage

If your luggage does not come out of the carousel, see an airport official to file an airline lost luggage claim before leaving the customs area. You can give airline officials the address of the orientation site:

Institute for Study Abroad, Butler University
Sydney Harbour YHA
110 Cumberland St.
The Rocks, Sydney
Telephone: (02) 9454 0222

If you lose your luggage, you will receive a lost luggage file number. Keep this information handy, as it will have all the relevant information you will need to help airline staff track down your luggage.

Arrival Information

Orientation begins at 11 a.m. on the program start date. IFSA-Butler orientation will be held at:

Sydney Harbour YHA
110 Cumberland St.
The Rocks, Sydney

Students on the group flight

Students arriving on the group flight will be met at the Sydney airport by IFSA-Butler staff and transported to the orientation accommodation.

Arrives in Sydney February 6 at 8:20 a.m. on Qantas #12:

Australian National University, James Cook University, Monash University, University of Southern Cross, University of Western Australia, Murdoch University

Arrives in Sydney February 13 at 8:20 a.m. on Qantas #12:

Macquarie University, University of Technology Sydney, University of Wollongong, University of Melbourne, University of Tasmania

Arrives in Sydney February 15 at 8:20 a.m. on Qantas #12:

Flinders University, University of Adelaide, Griffith University, University of Queensland

Arrives in Sydney February 17 at 8:20 a.m. on Qantas #12:

University of New South Wales

Arrives in Sydney February 23 at 8:20 a.m. on Qantas #12:

University of Sydney

Students traveling independently

Independent travelers should arrive at the Sydney Harbour YHA no later than **11 a.m.** on the program start date for the beginning of orientation. Rooms at the Sydney Harbour YHA will be available for you to check in starting at **2 p.m.** the day prior to the start of orientation.

The easiest and most affordable way to travel to the orientation accommodation is via taxi. Inside the international terminal at the Sydney airport are signs pointing to the taxi rank, where you can wait until a taxi is available for you. You can expect to pay approximately AUS\$55 from the airport to the Sydney Harbour YHA. The address of the YHA is listed above. The ride from the airport to orientation is about 30 minutes, depending on traffic.

As an independent traveler, you will need to make your own arrangements for transportation from the airport to the Sydney Harbour YHA.



If You Arrive Early

IFSA-Butler cannot accommodate early arrivals. If you plan to arrive in Australia before the program start date, we recommend that you book a room at the Sydney Harbour YHA.

Note: Students may check into their room at the orientation accommodation, Sydney Harbour YHA, beginning at **2 p.m.** the day before orientation begins.

Luggage Storage

Neither IFSA-Butler nor your host university has luggage storage facilities; however, the Sydney airport does have a baggage storage system. Baggage Storage™ by Smartecarte is located towards the southern end of the arrivals level of International Terminal (T1), opposite Sydney Airport Travel Concierge.

Currency

You can exchange currency at the airport. Banks give a better rate of exchange, but hours are limited. Some post offices have currency exchange windows. They generally give good exchange rates and have few fees, but again, hours are limited.

If you cannot get currency or traveler's checks in Australian dollars, you can exchange U.S. dollars and traveler's checks at banks in Australia for a small fee. You might also be able to use your U.S. ATM card to withdraw money from your account in Australian dollars.

Updated Calendar

We've included an updated Australia program calendar in this mailing. Please check to see if any dates have changed. Remember, all exam dates are provisional; you should verify exam dates after arriving at your host university before confirming your plane ticket home.

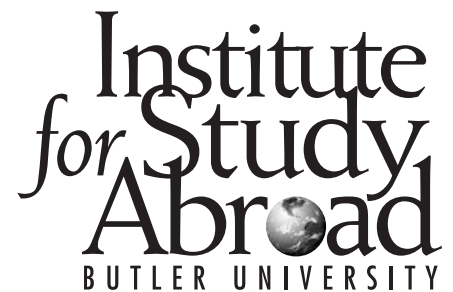


Questions? Call us at 800-858-0229 or visit us online at www.ifsa-butler.org.



Program Calendar

Australia Semester 1 2012



IFSA-Butler arranges optional transatlantic group flights for most programs. Group flights depend on the availability of commercial flights and the number of students attending each university program.

	Australian National University	Flinders University	Griffith University, Gold Coast
Group flight departs	February 4	February 13	February 13
Arrive in Sydney*	February 6	February 15	February 15
Program starts	February 6	February 15	February 15
IFSA-Butler orientation	February 6-9	February 15-18	February 15-18
Move into housing	February 9	February 18	February 18
University orientation	TBA	February 20	February 20
Classes begin	February 20	February 27	February 27
Semester break	April 6-22	April 19-22	April 6-15
Examinations	June 7-23	June 18-July 1	June 9-23
Program ends	June 24	July 2	June 24

	Griffith University, Nathan Campus & Queensland College of Art	James Cook University	Macquarie University
Group flight departs	February 13	February 4	February 11
Arrive in Sydney*	February 15	February 6	February 13
Program starts	February 15	February 6	February 13
IFSA-Butler orientation	February 15-18	February 6-9	February 13-16
Move into housing	February 18	February 9	February 16
University orientation	February 20	February 10	February 22
Classes begin	February 27	February 20	February 27
Semester break	April 6-22	April 14-22	April 7-20
Examinations	June 9-23	June 2-15	June 11-29
Program ends	June 24	June 16	June 30

	Monash University	Murdoch University	Southern Cross University
Group flight departs	February 4	February 4	February 4
Arrive in Sydney*	February 6	February 6	February 6
Program starts	February 6	February 6	February 6
IFSA-Butler orientation	February 6-9	February 6-9	February 6-9
Move into housing	February 9	February 9	February 9
University orientation	February 14	February 10	February 15
Classes begin	February 27	February 20	February 20
Semester break	April 6-13	March 19-23, April 6-15	March 31-April 9
Examinations	June 4-22	June 4-15	May 24-June 2
Program ends	June 23	June 17	June 3

	University of Adelaide	University of Melbourne	University of New South Wales
Group flight departs	February 13	February 11	February 15
Arrive in Sydney*	February 15	February 13	February 17
Program starts	February 15	February 13	February 17
IFSA-Butler orientation	February 15-18	February 13-16	February 17-20
Move into housing	February 18	February 16	February 20
University orientation	February 20	February 17	February 20-24
Classes begin	February 27	February 27	February 27
Semester break	March 31-April 15	April 6-15	April 6-15
Examinations	June 16-30	June 4-22	June 8-25
Program ends	July 1	June 23	June 26

	University of Queensland	University of Sydney	University of Tasmania
Group flight departs	February 13	February 21	February 11
Arrive in Sydney*	February 15	February 23	February 13
Program starts	February 15	February 23	February 13
IFSA-Butler orientation	February 15-18	February 23-26	February 13-16
Move into housing	February 18	February 26	February 16
University orientation	February 20	TBA	February 20
Classes begin	February 27	March 5	February 27
Semester break	April 6-15	April 6-15	April 5-12
Examinations	June 9-23	June 18-30	June 9-26
Program ends	June 24	July 1	June 27

	University of Technology, Sydney	University of Western Australia	University of Wollongong
Group flight departs	February 11	February 4	February 11
Arrive in Sydney*	February 13	February 6	February 13
Program starts	February 13	February 6	February 13
IFSA-Butler orientation	February 13-16	February 6-9	February 13-16
Move into housing	February 16	February 9	February 16
University orientation	TBA	February 14	February 20
Classes begin	February 27	February 27	February 27
Semester break	April 21-29	April 9-13	April 6-15
Examinations	June 9-29	June 9-23	June 9-21
Program ends	June 30	June 24	June 22

* All students must arrive in Sydney by 11 a.m. on the day marked "Arrive in Sydney."

These dates are correct as of January 20, 2012, but must be regarded as provisional, given the mutability of Australian university calendars.

Upon arrival at your Australian university, check the academic schedule for changes before confirming your return travel plans. Ending dates vary from department to department, and you must complete all course obligations prior to departure. In addition, you should not make plans to travel on the final day of exams, as you may have an exam on that day.

All program support services end on the "Program Ends" date.

Exams must be taken where and when scheduled. Under no circumstances may students request that an exam time be changed. In Australia exams are taken under formal examination conditions, and changes cannot be made for individuals.