

Australia



About Australia

Capital city:

- Canberra

Monetary Unit:

- Australian Dollar (AUD)

Major Language:

- English

Main Exports:

- Meat
- Wheat
- Wool

Natural Resources:

- Coal
- Gold
- Iron Ore
- Crude Petroleum

Our Immigration Services in Australia

Business Travel – Guidance and assistance with applications for Business Electronic Travel Authority (ETAs), eVisitor, and Business (Short Stay) visas

Temporary Work Permits – Business Long Stay nominations and visa applications for foreign nationals with the Department of Immigration & Citizenship (DIAC)

Employer Nomination Scheme (ENS) – Permanent residency applications for foreign nationals who will transfer to Australia for extended assignments or permanent relocation

Standard Business Sponsorship (SBS) – For employers who wish to sponsor foreign nationals who will hold skilled positions in their business

The Australian Economy

Home to over 21 million people, Australia is the sixth largest country and 13th largest economy in the world. Australia is a member of the Group of Twenty (G20) and was the only major economy to have avoided a technical recession in 2009. It has free trade agreements (FTAs) with New Zealand, Singapore, Thailand and the U.S. Australia is negotiating FTAs with a number of other key trading partners; specifically Chile (where negotiations have concluded), China, Japan, Malaysia, ASEAN and the Gulf Cooperation Council.

China became Australia's largest export market in 2009, surpassing Japan. China is also Australia's largest source of imports, which include clothing, communications equipment, computers, and other household goods. Its vast and diverse natural resources attract high levels of foreign investment from a variety of regions which have been further improved by economic stimulus and trade incentives.

Australia ranks first in the region for labour, agricultural and industrial productivity per person employed, according to the IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook. The Canberra Times recently reported projections for economic growth of 3% in 2011 and 3.5% in 2012.

For detailed information about Australia's Economic Outlook, visit the Department of Foreign Affairs web site at: <http://tinyurl.com/2875suw>

Business Travel to Australia

Foreign nationals who wish to travel to Australia for business should ensure their passports are valid for at least six months beyond the intended dates of stay and contain

at least one blank visa page. All travelers, except citizens of New Zealand, must obtain a visa or travel authority, which will typically permit up to 90 days of stay, before traveling. European passport holders are no longer eligible to use the Australian ETA service and should instead use the [eVisitor](#) service.

Permissible activities as a business visitor may include attending a conference, contract negotiations, business related meetings, seminars, conventions, networking or exploratory business visit.

The Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade maintains an updated list of foreign entry requirements and Consulates abroad at: <http://www.dfat.gov.au/missions/>

Living in Australia

Australia is an expansive country, which stretches approximately 4000 kilometers from east to west – about the same distance as New York to Los Angeles, London to Tehran, Bangkok to Tokyo, Singapore to New Delhi or Hong Kong to Mumbai. It houses 10% of the world's biodiversity and a great number of its native plants, animals and birds exist nowhere else in the world. The country's strong commitment to conserving its unique environment and natural heritage, including many national parks and wildlife sanctuaries, has made it a popular tourist and expatriate destination.

Most of the population lives along the coasts of Australia. Melbourne reached second place on [The Economist's 2008 World's Most Livable Cities](#) list, followed by Perth, Adelaide, and Sydney in fourth, seventh and ninth place, respectively. Single-family homes as well as flats can be leased.

Continued on next page.

Australian Business Culture

Australians are known for their directness or frankness. These attributes are valued in business dealings, which can be viewed as casual when compared to North America and Western Europe. Modesty is valued and many in business tend to play down their roles. Although not characterized as hierarchical, Australians observe the chain of command. Business presentations that are factually oriented and direct are preferred over highly technical or detailed presentations.

Australian Work Permit Process

1

Qualifying organizations within Australia may sponsor foreign nationals for work authorization by submitting a nomination application with DIAC

2

If outside of Australia and a visa is required, the foreign national must apply for a corresponding visa at a Australian Consulate prior to entry

- OR -

If already within Australia, the foreign national may be eligible for a bridging visa that will permit them to remain and, in some limited circumstances, work in Australia while the work authorization is pending

3

Upon entry to Australia the foreign national should apply for a Tax File Number (TFN) with the Australian Taxation Office and must report any changes in employer or occupation to DIAC

How Goel & Anderson can assist your organization in Australia

Organizations that wish to employ foreign workers abroad require an immigration service provider with a record of successfully coordinating and delivering global, business immigration services for multinational organizations. Goel & Anderson practices exclusively in the field of immigration to assist your company with the recruitment, hiring, and retention of foreign workers across the globe, including Australia. We understand that time and resources are valuable to your business and that staffing an international project can be critical to your business' reputation and success. We are committed to efficiently delivering business immigration solutions that combine broad global coverage with a depth of local expertise.

We carefully select co-counsel who share our service and compliance-oriented approach to meet the needs of organizations doing business in the global marketplace. Our Global Immigration Practice group and local counsel work closely together to ensure comprehensive business coordination and seamless delivery of services. Our immigration services include end-to-end processing, including: Work Permit and Visa Application preparation and filing; guidance on the visa stamping and post-entry

process; and tracking key expiration dates. Personal representation at the Australian Embassy or Consulate abroad may be available.

Australian or foreign business may sponsor skilled foreign national employees under the subclass 457 visa program. The Standard Business Sponsorship arrangement is the most common route for 457 sponsorship and should be secured prior to nominating an individual employee. Thus, if your company's Australian office anticipates engaging foreign talent, an early analysis of immigration options and strategies, as well as a thorough understanding of the sponsorship obligations, will better position your project for success. We also understand that despite careful planning, emergent issues can arise. We are well positioned to assist your business to address unexpected business requirements. Because global immigration matters do not occur within a vacuum and the law is infrequently static, we seek local experts who may also assist with a range of related legal services, including corporate formation, contracts, employment agreements, licensing, and transactions and who will advise of changes in policy and procedures.

With headquarters outside of Washington, DC in Reston, Virginia and operations in Pune, India, Goel & Anderson is an immigration firm that is international in scope and personal in nature. We are known as a firm that is highly professional and also highly human. We offer clients extensive experience and a comprehensive understanding of all areas of business, employment, and family-based immigration law worldwide.

For more information about our Global Immigration Practice and services, please contact Jill Marie Bussey at jill.bussey@goellaw.com or +1 703.796.9881.

*Goel & Anderson, LLC does not engage in the practice of law within India. All services in India are provided by our affiliate, G&A Immigration Services Private Limited.

The information contained in this document is intended for informational purposes only, is general in nature, and does not constitute legal guidance.



Innovative Approaches to Immigration Law

Goel & Anderson, LLC
1984 Isaac Newton Square East
Suite 203
Reston, Virginia 20190
USA

Phone: +1 703.796.9898

Fax: +1 703.796.9005

E-mail: info@goellaw.com

www.goellaw.com