

New Migrants Information Kit

About Brisbane:

Brisbane is the capital and most populous city in the Australian state of Queensland, and the third most populous city in Australia. Brisbane's metropolitan area has a population of 2.24 million, and the South East Queensland urban conurbation, centred on Brisbane, encompasses a population of more than 3 million. The Brisbane central business district stands on the original European settlement and is situated inside a bend of the Brisbane River, approximately 15 kilometres (9 miles) from its mouth at Moreton Bay.

The metropolitan area extends in all directions along the floodplain of the Brisbane River valley between Moreton Bay and the Great Dividing Range. The metropolitan area sprawls across several of Australia's most populous local government areas, including the City of Brisbane, which is by far the most populous LGA in the nation. Brisbane is named after the Brisbane River on which it is located, which in turn was named after Scotsman Sir Thomas Brisbane, the Governor of New South Wales from 1821 to 1825.



Photo: Lachlan Fearnley

First things First:

Once you arrive in Brisbane (Australia), below are the must do list:

- Medicare
Follow the below link to enrol in the healthcare facility available to all Australian residents.
<https://www.medicare.gov/>
- Bank Account
Below are the links to popular banks in Australia. You can check the sites for documents that you will need for opening a bank account.
<http://www.commbank.com.au/>
<http://www.westpac.com.au/>
<http://www.nab.com.au/>
<http://www.anz.com/>
- Tax file Number (TFN)
A TFN is needed by every individual for taxation purpose. It is equivalent to PAN in India. Please follow the below link to apply for TFN.
<https://www.ato.gov.au/individuals/tax-file-number/apply-for-a-tfn/>

Accommodation in Brisbane:

Property Management in Australia is generally done through real estate agency.

Please refer following links for details.

www.domain.com.au

www.gumtree.com.au

www.realestate.com.au

Library Facilities:

Local Councils are an important touch point of everyone's life in Australia. The councils are responsible for providing the great quality of life that we are look forward to enjoy in Australia. They not only manage the cleanliness of our cities, quality of the water we drink or safety on our roads but also manage activities for the community to interact with each other.

You can find out more about the various councils and their services through the following website hosted by Local Government Association of Queensland:

<http://www.qldcouncils.com.au/>

www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/facilities-recreation/libraries

www.cpaaustralia.com.au/member-services/library

www.charteredaccountants.com.au/Training/Resources/Knowledge-centre

Newspapers:

Please refer following links for details:

www.brisbanetimes.com.au

www.couriermail.com.au/

www.newspapers.com.au/brisbane.html

Community Groups:

Brisbane and its nearby locations offer some of the most beautiful places to visit in the world. The city is surrounded by beautiful white sand beaches for relaxing, large waves for surfing, beautiful waterfalls to enjoy, tropical forests to wander and a number of other opportunities for people to enjoy.

Apart from these beautiful places, it also offers a number of community activities and delicious food for its residents to enjoy.

You can explore more about these opportunities through a quick search on the internet. Following are some of the good websites to get you started:

<http://www.mustdobrisbane.com/>

<https://www.visitbrisbane.com.au/>

www.indiantimes.com.au/

www.indianlink.com.au/

www.meetup.com/The-BNE-Indian-Meetup-Group-Every-Tuesday/

Please also check out the council websites for local activities for each area.

Information Helpline numbers for Utility Services:

Electricity & Gas:

If you need help with your home's electricity and natural gas call [13 24 63](tel:132463), weekdays 7am to 9pm- Origin Energy

<http://www.originenergy.com.au/46/Electricity-and-gas>

You can check the below link for the electricity and gas providers in Queensland

<https://www.uchoose.com.au/electricity-and-gas-providers-queensland/>

Water:

<http://www.urbanutilities.com.au/>

Contact: 132657 (7 am-7 pm Weekdays)

<http://www.ewoq.com.au/Usefullinks/Energyandwatersuppliers.aspx>

Transport Information:

Trans Link is a division within the Department of Transport and Main Roads with state-wide responsibility for:

- mass transit including bus, train ferry, and tram across South East Queensland
- buses in Cairns
- regional services
- Demand Responsive Transit
- active transport (cycling, walking)
- taxis
- Long distance rail, coaches and regional air.

www.translink.com.au

www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/traffic-transport/public-transport

Driver's License

If you are a permanent resident visa holder and have a current driver's licence from another country, you are allowed to drive for the first three months after arrival. After that, if you want to drive, you will need to have the appropriate Australian driver's licence. Follow the below link for obtaining a Queensland driving licence.

<http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Licensing/Getting-a-licence>