



# Living in Western Australia



## Contents

- ..... 1
- 1. Fast Facts on Western Australia (WA) ..... 2
- 2. St John of God Health Care WA Hospital Locations..... 2
- 3. Getting Around Western Australia ..... 3
- 4. Accommodations Options..... 4
- 5. Tips for when you first arrive in Australia ..... 5
- 6. Useful Websites to Note ..... 7

## 1. Fast Facts on Western Australia (WA)

- WA is the largest state in Australia with just under two million people living here.
- Perth is the capital city of WA and is situated along the banks of the Swan River (named after the Black Swans which are unique to WA).
- Kings Park has wonderful views of the city and river with over 400 hectares of natural Australian bushland – a must see for visitors and new comers.
- WA enjoys a Mediterranean climate in the south, desert in the east and tropical conditions in the north. Perth is the sunniest capital in Australia with average maximum summer temperatures of 29°C, and days around the 12°C mark in Winter.



## 2. St John of God Health Care WA Hospital Locations

Visit our St John of God Health Care website [here](#).

### 2.1 St John of God Bunbury Hospital

- Located at the corner of Robertson Drive and Bussell Highway, Bunbury WA 6230
- 173 KM South West of Perth CBD
- 145 bed hospital
- [Visit our Bunbury website here](#)



### 2.2 St John of God Geraldton Hospital

- Located at 12 Hermitage Street, Geraldton WA 6530
- 417 KM Mid-West of Perth CBD
- 60 bed hospital
- [Visit our Geraldton website here](#)

### 2.3 St John of God Midland Public and Private Hospitals

- Located at 1 Clayton Street, Midland WA 6056
- 22KM from Perth CBD
- 307 bed Hospital
- [Visit our Midland website here](#)





## 2.4 St John of God Mt Lawley Hospital

- Located at the corner of Ellesmere Road & Thirlmere Road, Mount Lawley WA 6050
- 4.2 KM from Perth CBD
- 205 bed hospital
- [Visit our Mt Lawley website here](#)

## 2.5 St John of God Murdoch Hospital

- Located at 100 Murdoch Drive, Murdoch WA 6151
- 15.3 KM from Perth CBD
- 537 bed hospital
- [Visit our Murdoch website here](#)



## 2.6 St John of God Subiaco Hospital

- Located at 12 Salvado Road, Subiaco WA 6008
- 5.6KM from Perth CBD
- 578 bed hospital
- [Visit our Subiaco website here](#)

# 3. Getting Around Western Australia

## 3.1 Driving

Driving is a popular option to get around WA and commuting to and from work. Please see sections below on licensing and purchasing vehicles in WA.

### 3.1.1 Applying for a licence

If you hold a permanent visa you have three months in order to transfer your current Driver's License to a Western Australian License. Click [here](#) for instructions on how to transfer your license.

If you hold a temporary visa you may only drive those vehicles that you are authorised to drive on your overseas license, for as long as it remains valid in the country of issue.

### 3.1.2 Buying a Car

When buying a new car, it is important to consider a range of issues and complete some checks. Click [here](#) for more information on buying vehicles in Australia.

You can visit one of the many car dealerships located around the state or click on the websites below:

[Carsales](#)

[Carsguide](#)

[Gumtree](#)

SJGHC offers caregiver's benefits on new vehicles with BMW and MINI. Once you have commenced with us please visit our Intranet page for more details.



SJGHC also offer Novated Leasing options through our Salary Packaging provider Maxxia. For more information, refer to the Maxxia Employment Benefits Guide linked in your employment contract.

### **3.2 Public Transport**

The Perth metropolitan area is serviced by a public transport system of trains, busses and ferries. The Perth CBD also has free bus services for journeys within this area. For more information on prices, times and quickest/best route options please visit the Transperth Website [Journey Planner](#).

## **4. Accommodations Options**

Please note you must organise accommodation prior to arriving in Australia. Short term accommodation options may assist for when you first arrive. Please view the websites below for online bookings:

[StayZ](#)

[AirBNB](#)

### **4.1 Renting**

Renting options in WA are either through a real estate agent who will act on behalf of an owner (landlord), alternatively you can rent directly from the owner.

The following websites are good options when searching for a rental:

[Relestate.com.au](#)

[REIWA](#)

[DOMAIN](#)

Local real estate agents can also assist finding you a property. Find a local one [here](#).

Please also read [this](#) information sheet on renting a home in WA (INSERT LINK)

## 4.2 Buying

Key resources to use when searching for property to buy are Real Estate websites or Real Estate Agents. You generally won't be in a position to buy a house if you haven't yet arrived in Australia however you may want to consider this option once you arrive. Please use the websites list and real estate information mentioned above under 'Renting' when browsing options.

Please ensure you read [Home Buyers Survival Guide for WA](#) before you buy a house in Western Australia – it outlines what you need to know before purchasing or building a house and will help you make the most informed decision.

## 5. Tips for when you first arrive in Australia

### 5.1 Apply for a Tax File Number (TFN)

A TFN is a unique identifier issued by the Australian Taxation Office, you will need to apply for one as soon as possible to ensure you are not taxed at the highest bracket.

You can apply for one once you are in Australia [here](#), or via phone on 132861.

For more information on Tax and Tax File Numbers please visit the ATO website.

### 5.2 Open a bank account

You must open a bank account in Australia as soon as possible as your SJGHC salary will be paid fortnightly into your nominated bank account.

The four major banks in Australia are:



Australia and New Zealand Banking Group



Westpac Bank



Commonwealth Bank

Commonwealth Australian Bank



National Australia Bank

**TIP:** Ensure you provide your TFN to your bank, while this isn't essential, if you do not provide yours the interest earned may be taxed at the highest rate.

### 5.3 Register with Medicare / Organising Health Insurance

### 5.3.1 Medicare

If you are a permanent resident, you may be eligible to join Medicare. Medicare provides access to a range of medical services, lower cost prescriptions and free care as a public patient in a public hospital. For more information on Medicare please click [here](#). Please note Medicare does not provide for all service, there are a range of Private Health Insurance options available detailed below.

### 5.3.2 Private Health Insurance

For temporary residents you must have adequate private health insurance before arriving and must maintain throughout your stay in Australia.

Private health insurance funds may cover costs for your treatment as a private patient in private or public hospitals and can include some services that Medicare does not cover, such as dental care, most optical care and ambulance transport. If you wish to purchase private health insurance, it is important to compare different funds. The cost and type of cover can vary widely. Websites that compare health funds include

[Compare the market](#)

[Iselect](#)

The government has a website which provides detailed information about private health insurance funds, and how the private health system works. See [Private Health](#) for more information.

SJGHC also offer various product and discounts available for caregivers through HBA, HBF, Bupa, GHMDA, and Medibank. Visit our Intranet page for more information.

## 5.4 Enrol your child in school / child care

### 5.4.1 Child Care Services

There are several day care facilities located around the hospitals. [Click here](#) to locate a child care facility in your suburb or close to the hospital. When selecting a Day Care facility for your child, be sure to visit the facility first and review the rules and regulations.

### 5.4.2 School

The law in Western Australia states children of school age must attend every day up until 16 years of age. Children can attend either Public schools in their local area, or Private schools.

For information on public schools in WA [please click here](#).

Public School Fees - 457 Visa Holders only, please note there are fees payable for sending your children to Public Schools in WA. Visit [this page](#) for more information and calculators.

For information on private schools in WA [please click here](#).

It's best to assess where you are planning on living, where you work, the distance to preferred schools, school fees and public transport options before selecting a school to enrol your child in.

## 6. Useful Websites to Note

If you are working as a Doctor in WA please visit [this website](#) for brief overviews of information specific to working as a general practitioner (GP), as a hospital non-specialist and as a specialist.

Some other helpful websites include:

[AHPRA](#)



[ANMAC](#)

