

THE ULTIMATE STUDENT GUIDE TO NEWCASTLE, NSW



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Abstract

If you are moving to Newcastle for your further studies, then you must know about this city in New South Wales and should have to be familiar with your new locality. This city is one of the most beautiful places around the region and it is very famous for its tourism. Thousands of tourists visit this city every years and love to spend time here. So, if you are considering this city to relocate for better education, then it can be a great move. Here in this guide, we have mentioned everything that you must know about this city.



1. Introduction

The city is also famous for world class education facilities and you will find here a variety of schools and collages who are offering the best education. This is why many people preferring this city to live for the better education of their kids in Newcastle. The University Of Newcastle is also one of the best universities around the country known for the quality education. So, if you want to move here for your studies, then here we have mentioned some great things that you should know about this city.

2. Living in Newcastle

Are you thinking about coming to Newcastle to study or work? Newcastle, Australia is a vibrant and diverse city with a population of 550,000.

"Newcastle is a place where if you want to work hard and have innovation, you can open your own business, you can get involved with the University and do your own research. Newcastle is an incubator for great ideas." Professor John Fischetti.

Newcastle, Australia has been named as one of the world's top 'Smart Cities' to watch in 2017 by Global magazine National Geographic Traveler.

In 2011, the highly respected travel guide Lonely Planet listed Newcastle - Australia's seventh largest city and economic hub of the Hunter region - among the world's Top 10 Cities.

Discover Newcastle



Nestled on Australia's spectacular NSW coast and surrounded by some of the state's most popular destinations, Newcastle is an all-round great choice as a safe and friendly place to live.

The city itself has a lot to offer - great weather, beautiful surrounds, an unbeatable lifestyle and a vibrant cultural identity that is truly its own. The city is recognised world-wide for its ongoing transformation and has come a long way since its 90 year history as the 'Steel City'.

There are lots of ways to get to know the city of Newcastle and plenty of information available to help you. Visit our [Getting to know Newcastle](#) page to get started.

Beautiful surrounds

When you choose the University of Newcastle, Australia for work or study, you will enjoy the area's stunning scenery and world-famous destinations, including the Hunter Valley Wine

region, historic Maitland, Lake Macquarie, Port Stephens and Barrington Tops National Park. Newcastle is also the gateway to the state's north coast.

The city itself is an interesting mix of old and new architecture, dominated by the magnificent Christ Church Cathedral that sits atop The Hill, with views over the busy harbour, the city and coastline.

A thriving arts scene

With the support of fantastic programs like Renew Newcastle, Newcastle is fast developing a reputation as the 'place to be' for the creative arts. We have the highest ratio of artists per head of population in the country.

On top of the thriving local scene, Newcastle has always been a popular destination for major international and national artists and shows touring Australia.

Venues range from world-class galleries, museums and theatres to shopfronts and the emerging small bar scene.

Hunter region a leader in health and education



Newcastle offers world-class health care via the Hunter New England Health Service. The John Hunter Hospital, one of Australia's leading teaching hospitals, is the hub of health services in the region, and the recently upgraded Calvary Mater Hospital is a two-minute drive from the University campus.

The Newcastle region boasts quality education facilities. Many of the region's primary and secondary schools rate among the best in the state and in addition to the University of Newcastle, TAFE NSW – Hunter Institute offers more than 450 courses.

3. Art and Culture in Newcastle



Newcastle has nurtured, supported and inspired generations of artists. Boasting more artists per capita than any other city in Australia, it is a thriving creative hub. Wander around town and you'll find a wide range of galleries and public art that populates the Newcastle landscape.

The City of Newcastle owns and operates many of the cultural institutions listed below and actively supports the creative sector through grants and sponsorship opportunities.

Explore this creative city, see What's On today and keep an eye out for New Annual - the city's annual festival in September.

Newcastle Museum

Newcastle Museum is located at Honeysuckle in Workshop Way. The Museum is Free and is open Tuesday to Sunday.

Art Gallery

Newcastle Art Gallery is the custodian of one of Australia's most substantial public art collections outside the major capital cities.

City Hall

Opened in 1929, Newcastle City Hall is one of Newcastle's most unique and prestigious venues.

Civic Theatre

The Civic Theatre Newcastle is one of Australia's great historic theatres and hosts a wide range of concerts, comedy, drama, dance and other events.

Library Services

Discover everything your library has to offer. From DVD's, books and music to internet and school holiday activities.

4. Education and living costs



Knowing the average cost of living and studying in Australia is an important part of your application and financial preparation.

Students should be aware that the costs of studying in Australia will depend on your education provider, the level of study you choose and your study location in Australia.

Knowing the average living costs in Australia is an important part of your financial preparation. For your reference, here are some of the costs associated with living and studying in Australia (all costs are in Australian dollars).

The costs below are an approximate guide only and don't take into account your budget and spending habits.

Accommodation

- Hostels and Guesthouses - \$90 to \$150 per week
- Shared Rental - \$95 to \$215 per week
- On campus - \$110 to \$280 per week
- Homestay - \$235 to \$325 per week
- Rental - \$185 to \$440 per week
- Boarding schools - \$11,000 to \$22,000 a year

Other living expenses



- Groceries and eating out - \$140 to \$280 per week
- Gas, electricity - \$10 to \$20 per week
- Phone and Internet - \$15 to \$30 per week
- Public transport - \$30 to \$60 per week
- Car (after purchase) - \$150 to \$260 per week
- Entertainment - \$80 to \$150 per week

Cost of living

The Department of Home Affairs has financial requirements you must meet in order to receive a student visa for Australia.

Refer to the step by step Student Visa Subclass 500 application and Document Checklist Tool for details on how to provide the evidence required to cover the costs of your stay, including your travel, study and living expenses.

As of October 2019 the 12-month living costs are;

- For students or guardians - AUD\$21,041
- For partners coming with you - AUD\$7,362
- For a child coming with you - AUD\$3,152

The Home Affairs website covers in more detail how to work out how much money you might need to cover the costs of your stay in Australia as international student.

The Insider Guides 'Cost of Living Calculator' is also a useful, practical tool to help estimate your cost of living in Australia.

If you experience financial trouble while in Australia, talk to your institution's international student support and student accommodation services staff for assistance.

Course and study costs in Australia will depend on the education provider and level of study you choose.

Use the Course Search on this website to find courses and see details such as their tuition fees. There may be additional costs for your course, including course materials and access to institution facilities.

Students should refer to their provider's payment conditions for specific advice.

Education costs

The list below gives you a broad indication of the range of course costs (yearly) for different types of qualifications.

- School - \$7,800 to \$30,000
- English language studies - Around \$300 per week depending on course length
- Vocational Education and Training (Certificates I to IV, Diploma and Advanced Diploma) - \$4,000 to \$22,000

- Undergraduate Bachelor Degree - \$20,000 to \$45,000*
- Postgraduate Masters Degree - \$22,000 to \$50,000*
- Doctoral Degree - \$18,000 to \$42,000*

***Note:** This does not include high cost of delivery courses such as veterinary and medical. Please visit institution websites directly to see costs for these courses.

5. Top Suburbs To Live In Newcastle

We absolutely love Newcastle, Lake Mac and the Hunter Valley, and so do you guys! Ever wondered what the most popular suburbs are in Newie? Well we've done the numbers for you and come up with Newcastle's Top 5 most searched suburbs.



Cue the drum roll...

Charlestown. Coming in at fifth place is Charlestown, centrally located just minutes from the shores of Lake Macquarie, Newcastle's southern beaches and a mega shopping centre. Charlestown is convenient, yet family-friendly and peaceful, with plenty of shopping, entertainment and coffee options at your fingertips. This includes our healthy fave, Mama P.

Newcastle. This inner city suburb has everything at its doorstep: cafes, beaches, bars and boutiques. With heaps of new developments springing up in recent years, there are more

apartments options in Newcastle than ever, with everything from high-end penthouses through to entry level studio apartments.

Here you needn't worry about having a car, you'll be walking everywhere, which won't necessarily be a bad thing. With so many local dining options, pounding the pavement will help ensure the kilos don't creep on. Let's go out for dessert and cocktails, again!

Tighes Hill, nestled between cosmopolitan Hamilton and up-and-coming Mayfield, Tighes Hill has a beautiful community vibe to it. Surrounded by bike paths, parklands and walking distance to some great cafes like Baked Uprising, Little Birdy and the main strip of shops in Islington. Tighes Hill strikes a wonderful balance between family-friendly and inner city.

Out of the hustle and bustle, but close enough to the city that you can easily ride your bicycle to work, Tighes Hill rocks.

Merewether. Perennially popular Merewether is without a doubt one of Newcastle's most popular suburbs. With a Summer uniform of a bikini or boardies, Merewether is all about living the beach lifestyle.



With a quick surf before work or a sunset dip on a hot Summer's night, Merewether offers a Summer holiday lifestyle just kilometres from the city. Coupled with plenty of options for eating out, like Blue Door on Merewether Beach, Surfhouse, The Burwood Inn and the classic Beaches Hotel to name a few. Plus Darby Street is within walking distance!

Mayfield. And the winner of Newcastle's most popular suburb is Mayfield! Once an industrial, blue collar suburb, Mayfield has reinvented itself in recent years to become the

go-to suburb for first home buyers. It's just 10 minutes from the city and is full of beautiful period feature homes ripe for renovating.

Maybe it also has something to do with the fact that Mayfield has amazing cafes and some of the best coffee in Newcastle, including: Zaaki Espresso, Side Pocket, Portafilter, the Spanish tapas bar Barrio 2304, or the cheesy goodness of Pork Ewe Deli - the list goes on.

Mount Hutton. Mount Hutton is one of those suburbs in Newcastle that offers both residential and commercial properties at affordable price. The median house price in this suburb is around \$525,000. This is why the owners occupy more than 71 per cent of the homes in this place.



Moreover, this place offers privacy, less traffic, peaceful surroundings, low crime rate and greenery. Mount Hutton has 5 parks that cover nearly 4.2 per cent of the total area. Alexander Street, Barker Avenue, Chilcott Avenue, Ford Avenue, Harmony Crescent, Kariboo Lane, Lampeter Close and Melody Lane are some of the important streets where people look for their preferred properties.

6. Things to Do in Newcastle

Two hours north of Sydney, the former steel town of Newcastle has reinvented itself. It's now a thriving yet laidback city with amazing beaches, fun-filled parks, fantastic restaurants and unique shopping. And don't worry about spending loads of money. There's lots of free

fun to be had with many attractions, activities and icons that won't cost you a cent. Here are 20 fun (and mostly free) things to do in Newcastle, NSW.

Stroll along Anzac Memorial Walk

Go for a walk along the Anzac Memorial Walk and remember World War 1 service personnel while you enjoy Newcastle views. This 450 meter cliff top walkway at Bar Beach is a stunning walk along the coastline. It features incredible 360 degree views of Newcastle from the coast to city. As it's a tribute to the Anzacs, the memorial walk features history panels with information about different aspects of the conflict, names of local servicemen and servicewomen as well as listing the geographic place names of various conflicts.

Visit Newcastle Museum



To learn more about the history of Newcastle, visit Newcastle Museum with its free admission. It contains many exhibits which chart the development of the city from convict beginnings to a modern vibrant city. Be sure to catch the 6 minute BHP Steelmaking show which features special effects. It runs every hour on the hour and provides a fascinating and entertaining history about the Newcastle's steelmaking past.

Discover the past at Fort Scratchley

Visitors can take a self-guided tour around Fort Scratchley viewing the cannons and other above ground defence structures. If you would prefer a full site tour and a chance to explore the underground tunnels, pay for a guided tour with one of the Fort Scratchley Historical Society volunteers. General admission to Fort Scratchley is free. Fort Scratchley is open six days a week, 10am to 4pm (closed Tuesdays).

Walk along Bathers Way

For a scenic city walk, stroll along Bathers Way from Nobbys Beach to Merewether Ocean Baths. This 6 kilometre route takes in some of Newcastle's iconic beaches and often you'll see dolphins frolicking in the waves.

Spot koalas and kangaroos at Blackbutt Reserve

See native Australian animals like koalas, kangaroos and emus up close at Blackbutt Reserve. This popular attraction covers 182 hectares in the middle of Newcastle's suburbs and features native animals, walking trails, playgrounds and tranquil picnic areas. Admission is free but there's a parking charge.

Walk out on Nobbys breakwall



Nobbys Beach is a favourite with tourists and locals alike for its views of Nobbys Headland and Stockton Bight. Work up a sweat walking to the end of Nobbys breakwall and then cool off with a swim at Nobby's Beach (patrolled year-round). Visit on a weekend and you can walk up to Nobbys Headland.

Swim at Newcastle Beach

Go for a surf or swim at Newcastle Beach. If the waves are a bit rough, go for a swim at the nearby Newcastle Ocean Baths. With its historic Art Deco façade, it's a great place to float

and count the coal ships moored offshore. There's plenty of room to swim laps or splash around and the sandy bottom of the pool feels great squished between your toes.

Visit the Bogey Hole

If it's a hot day, check out this popular bathing spot located in King Edward Park. The Bogey Hole is a favourite with tourists and locals alike. The Bogey Hole was built by convict labour by order of Commandant Morisset who served as Commandant of Newcastle from 1819 to 1822.

Swim at the famous Merewether Beach & Ocean Baths

Another popular Newcastle Beach is Merewether Beach. Home to the famous surfing competition Surfest, it's popular with surfers and swimmers alike. Definitely worth a visit. Go for a swim at Merewether Ocean Baths, the largest ocean baths complex in the Southern Hemisphere. As well as being a massive pool, it's extremely scenic with views out to the ocean.

Explore Newcastle Harbour



Swap ocean views for harbour views and walk along Newcastle's working harbour. As one of the world's largest coal export ports, this busy working harbour is full of coal ships gliding in and out of the harbour. They're joined by an increasing number of cruise ships. If you're lucky, you might spot a coal ship entering or leaving the harbour dwarfing the tugboats besides them.

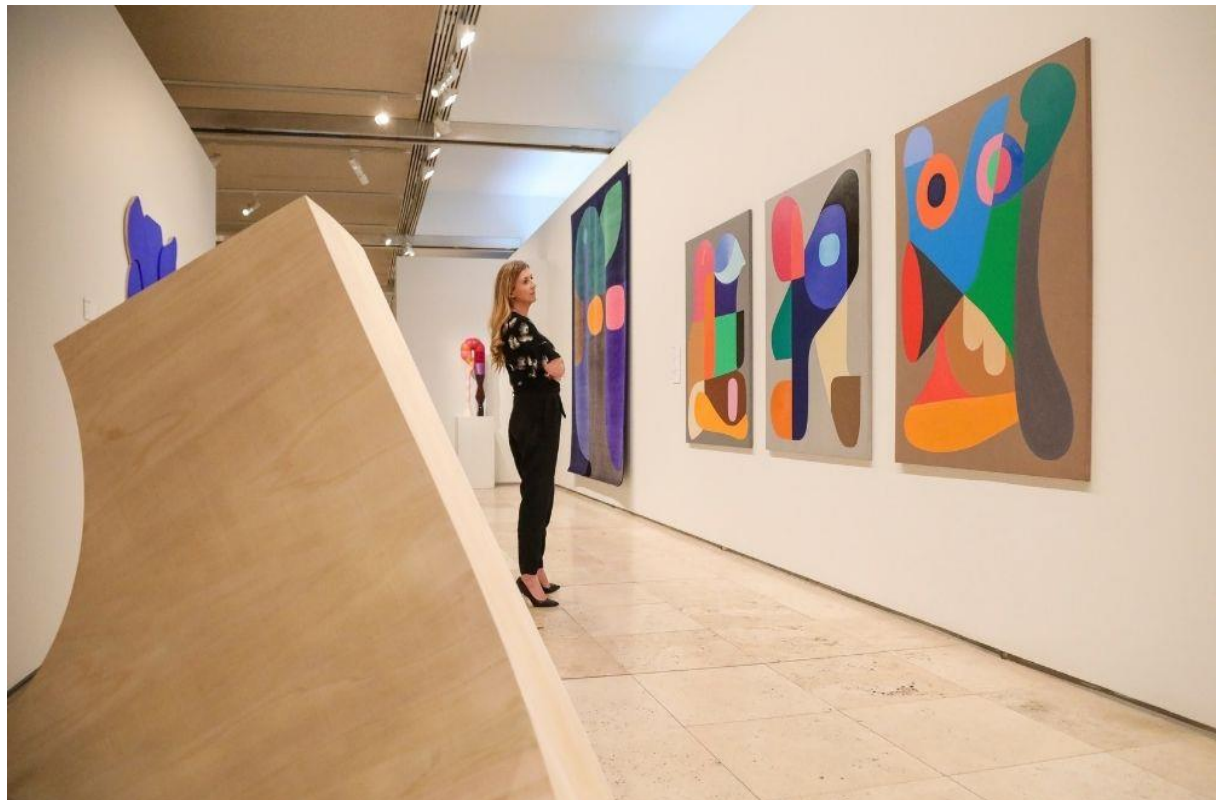
Go “overseas” to Stockton

If you have time, take the ferry (it takes 5 minutes) over to Stockton to see back to Newcastle. With ferries running every 15 minutes departing from Queen’s Wharf, you can check out Stockton by foot or by bike before returning on the ferry. From the wharf in Stockton, you can walk to Stockton Beach and out to the breakwater on the Shipwreck Walk. There you’ll see remnants of shipwrecks.

Find some quiet at Christ Church Cathedral

This imposing Anglican cathedral dominates Newcastle’s skyline. Visitors are welcome and you’re able to go inside and see beautiful stained glass art, religious artifacts and tapestries. During certain hours of the week, visitors are able to climb the cathedral tower for a \$10 donation. From the top, they can see 360 degree views which extend up and down the coastline and across the entire city including the working harbour. Wander through the graves at the back of the cathedral. They date back to Newcastle’s early history as Australia’s second settlement outside Sydney.

Get arty at Newcastle Art Gallery



Get a dose of artwork at Newcastle Art Gallery. The gallery features a rotating display of exhibitions. In front of the gallery, get your photo taken with the Brett Whitely egg sculpture in front of Newcastle Art Gallery. From the right angle, the egg and nest sit right on your head.

Find wildlife at Hunter Wetlands

Get out into nature at the Hunter Wetlands Centre. The wetlands are filled with a variety of biodiversity including 217 species of bird, including magpie geese, and several types of mammal, reptile, frog and fish. There's reptile talks, bird feeding talks, guided walking tours as well as walking and cycling tracks.

Experience nature at Glenrock Lagoon

Enjoy a hike followed by a swim in Glenrock Lagoon. The Yuelarbah Walk at Glenrock State Conservation Area near the suburb of Kahibah is a 4.6km return walk through the bush that ends up at a secluded beach. Glenrock State Conservation Area is a 500 hectare area between Dudley and Merewether is a wonderful nature escape so close to the city and offers opportunity for fishing and mountain biking as well as hiking.

Spot the Shark Tower at Redhead Beach



Visit Redhead Beach and spot the iconic Redhead Shark Tower. Redhead is named for its red cliff headland. Go for a swim when the beach is patrolled. From here, you can also do the Awabakal Walk, a clifftop walk from Redhead to Dudley.

Discover outdoor art along the Sculpture Walk

The Warners Bay foreshore has been transformed. It now features an outdoor sculpture trail as well as exercise stations in the stretch between Eleebana and Warners Bay. The sculptures

are created by nationally and internationally renowned artists. Among others, the works include a flying pig, an oversized Buddhist monk-child and a mauve bust of Charles Darwin. It's a fun excursion combining culture with some physical exercise.

Explore Lake Macquarie



Lake Macquarie is Australia's largest salt water lake and offers no shortage of water based activities. Enjoy fishing, kayaking, boating and sailing in this lake.

Explore sea caves at Caves Beach

Caves Beach located in neighbouring Lake Macquarie features a network of sea caves with weathered rocks and unusual formations. Visit at low tide and you'll discover a variety of different sized caves to explore, some of them with narrow openings to crawl through.

7. Finding a Job

If you're interested in working in the NSW public sector, you can search for a job online at the 'I work for NSW' website (formerly jobs.nsw). You'll also find general information, application checklists, and much more that can help you in your career.



What you need

- keyword(s) or job reference ID
- job categories you're interested in
- agencies you'd like to work for
- organisations you'd like to work for.

How to find

- Select the 'Find online' button.
- Enter your keyword(s) or job reference ID into the search field.
- Enter any other refinements you have such as location, agencies or organisations.
- Select 'Search Now'.

Conclusion

Moving for studies is temporary but you must know about your new city before you arrive there with your entire belongings. So, if you have decided to move to Newcastle for your further studies, then here we have a complete guide to help you out. We have discussed some great things that will help you know about the city and make your relocation easier

than ever. Read the entire guide carefully and know everything about the city. From the cost of your studies to cost of living, we have explained everything here in this guide to offer you the best information about the city.

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