



# Visiting or Transiting Australia

Travellers who wish to transit Australia on the way to a third country have a number of visa options open to them depending on their circumstances. All visa applications should be made by individuals well in advance of any proposed travel.

## APEC Business Travel Card (ABTC) Holders

Holders of a valid ABTC with AUS recorded on the reverse side of the card do not need to apply a visa for entry to Australia for this purpose. An ABTC allows the holder to visit Australia for short-stay business purposes for a maximum stay of up to three months (or 90 days) at a time. Travellers should ensure the passport number printed on the ABTC matches the passport number that is being using to travel.

Travellers with a valid ABTC that does not have 'AUS' printed on the reverse side, and those seeking further information should visit the Department website [at https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/busi/trav/apec/for-foreign-applicants](https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/busi/trav/apec/for-foreign-applicants)

## Electronic Travel Authority (ETA)

Persons from ETA eligible countries may obtain an ETA which allows the holder to travel to Australia as many times as required within the validity period which is either 12 months or how long the passport is valid for, whichever is the shorter period. The maximum length of each visit is three months. Further information can be found on the Department website at: [Electronic Travel Authority \(subclass 601\)](#)

## eVisitor visa (subclass 651)

Persons from eVisitor eligible countries may obtain an eVisitor visa which allows the holder to travel to Australia as many times as required within the validity period of 12 months. The maximum length of each visit is three months. Further information can be found on the Department website at: [eVisitor \(subclass 651\)](#)

## Visitor visa (subclass 600)

Visitor visas can be granted for a stay for up to 12 months, depending on how long the holder wants to stay in Australia and for what purpose. These visas can be granted with either single (if the holder leaves Australia they cannot re-enter Australia on the same visa) or multiple entry (permits re-entry as many times holder requires before the visa expires) and generally permit a stay of up to 3 months on each visit. Further information can be found on the Department website at: [Visitor visa \(subclass 600\)](#)

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## Transit visas

This visa lets a traveller:

- transit through Australia; and
- enter and stay in Australia for no longer than 72 hours.

Further information about how to apply is available on the Department's website at <https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/trav/visa-1/771->

## Transit without Visa

Some travellers are able to transit Australia without applying for a visa provided they belong to an eligible category and meet certain criteria.

Eligible travellers must be able to meet the following criteria to be permitted to transit Australia without applying for a visa. Travellers must:

- enter Australia by aircraft;
- hold a confirmed onward booking to leave Australia to travel to a third country on the same or another aircraft **within 8 hours of arrival** in Australia;
- hold documentation necessary to enter the country of destination; and
- **not** need to leave the airport transit lounge except to continue their journey.

If a traveller needs to leave the airport transit lounge and clear immigration for any reason they are ineligible to transit without a visa and will need to obtain a visa prior to travel.

Categories of eligible travellers and further important information about transit without visa is available on the Department website at

<https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/lega/lega/form/immi-faqs/do-i-need-a-visa-to-transit-through-australia>