



A Complimentary 3-Night Tour Program for AEC Students participating in a full degree program to Australia or New Zealand*

***Wheels of Diplomacy & Australian Seat of Government
Tour Program
– Canberra, Capital of Australia***

A folder of 'Orientation to Australia' (or New Zealand) materials will go out to you after you accept your offer of admission. You will have this prior to your departure. The 'Orientation....' notes will include details of your complimentary program including travel arrangements from Sydney to Canberra, returning to Sydney. (The AEC will work in consultation with you when arranging your dates for Australia/New Zealand).

What is included in your complimentary program:

- *Round trip travel between Sydney and Canberra.*
- *3 nights housing in Canberra*
- *A schedule of activities planned for 3 days to increase your awareness of Australian history and culture, Australian Government and Places of Interest.*

Purpose:

To raise your awareness about the country you are have chosen to study in. This includes visits to places which have cultural and historical significance.

Dates:

Your dates will coincide with your US/Canada departure dates. Once you have accepted your admission into the Australian or New Zealand university, the AEC will send you instructions on what you do next. Within those instructions will be several options about dates. (All dates will be set to coincide with start dates at the Australian or New Zealand university campus. AEC will consult you before finalizing your dates for this complimentary program.

Other Options:

For those students who do not want to participate in this program on arrival into Australia (or New Zealand for the NZ program which is currently being negotiated but will have a similar theme) may choose to: defer this program until their mid-semester break at the Australian / New Zealand university

Some of the visits/activities within the framework of the program:

Parliament House

See Australian politics in action at Parliament House – home of Federal Parliament – in one of the world’s most acclaimed buildings. Situated in the centre of the nation's capital, the building is renowned for its impressive architecture, landscaped gardens and collection of Australian contemporary art. The 81 metre flag mast soaring above the building has become the symbol of Canberra. When Parliament is sitting, visitors can observe the process of democratic government. The lively debate of question time at 2pm attracts wide interest and proceedings may be observed from the public galleries. Free guided tours commence every 30 minutes. Self guiding brochures and audio-guides are available in English, French, German, Japanese and Chinese. The Queen's Terrace Café offers sweeping views of the Parliamentary Triangle and Lake Burley Griffin. The Parliament Shop stocks a wide range of quality gifts, souvenirs and books.

High Court of Australia

See Australia’s highest court of appeal in a striking building by Lake Burley Griffin that features a seven storey high public hall and stunning waterfall. The High Court features three courtrooms and an impressive public hall adorned by murals depicting the development of the Australian nation and its Constitution. Interpreting and upholding the Constitution is one of the important functions of the High Court, together with interpreting Federal Law and hearing cases referred from other courts. High Court sittings are open to the public. The building was opened in 1980 and was the result of a national architectural competition.

International Flag Display

The 80 flags representing the countries that have a diplomatic presence in the national capital are featured along the lake shore at Commonwealth Place in the Parliamentary zone. The flags are dedicated to the United Nations and are positioned on the promenade between the High Court and the National Library on the southern shore of Lake Burley Griffin. The flags are flown continuously, 24 hours a day and lit at night, casting a vivid reflection on the Lake.

Commission of The European Communities

The Commission of The European Communities in Australia carries out its diplomacy in the southern hemisphere in Canberra.

Seat of Local Government (Canberra, ACT) Legislative Assembly

The Legislative Assembly for the ACT is the youngest legislature in Australia and comprises 17 members. The leader of the government is the Chief Minister, elected by

the Chamber. The Assembly has dual responsibilities for state and municipal matters, the only legislature in Australia which oversees two levels of government.

Australian - American Memorial

Affectionately known as 'The Eagle', the Australian - American Memorial was officially opened on the 16th February 1954. The memorial stands 73 metres high and is located in the forecourt of the Defence Offices at Field Marshal Sir Thomas Blamey Square, Russell. The memorial symbolises the deep gratitude felt by Australians to American service personnel for their assistance during the Second World War, and the close ties which were established during that conflict.

Anzac Parade and Memorials of Anzac Parade

Anzac Parade is the national capital's major ceremonial avenue and is easily recognisable from Mt Ainslie lookout. Spanning the length of the Parade are 11 memorial sites dedicated to the many Australian and New Zealand soldiers who lost their lives in war. The Parade is set along the magnificent Land Axis which forms a key feature of Walter Burley Griffin's original 1912 plan for Canberra. The Australian War Memorial is located at the northern end of the Parade. The Parade features red gravel and the mixed plantings of Australian blue gums and New Zealand Hebe species and links the Parliamentary Zone to the northern lake shore.

Australian Institute of Sport

See the world of an elite Australian athlete at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), a world class sporting facility where athletes train. Join a tour of the complex with an athlete as your guide – you might even see one of the country's sporting heroes training. At the Sports Visitors Centre, test your sporting skills at Sportex – an exhibition of interactive sports displays, videos and tributes and learn about the latest sports technology. If you'd really like to experience sport where the champions train, you can go for a swim in the AIS pool, enjoy a spa or game of tennis, as many of the AIS facilities are open to the public.

Australian War Memorial

The Australian War Memorial commemorates the sacrifice of Australian men and women who have served in war. Through its exhibitions the Memorial presents stories of Australians at war, in armed conflict and during peacekeeping activities. With its ceremonial areas, extensive exhibitions and research facilities, the Memorial has, since the present facility was opened in 1941, become a significant and important part of the National Capital. Each gallery contains magnificently presented relics, artworks, photographs and personal items that help define Australia and Australians. The focus of commemoration is the Hall of Memory, together with the Tomb of the Unknown Australian Soldier, the Pool of Reflection, and the Roll of Honour listing 102,000 Australian servicemen and women who have died in war.

Captain Cook Memorial Jet

One of Canberra's most visible attractions, the Captain Cook Memorial Jet was inaugurated in 1970 by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II to commemorate the bicentenary

of Captain Cook's discovery of the east coast of Australia. When operating at full capacity, the jet reaches a maximum height of 147 metres. About six tonnes of water is in the air at any one moment.

National Carillon

The National Carillon is a striking bell tower located on Aspen Island, Lake Burley Griffin. The Carillon was a gift of the British Government to the people of Australia in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the national capital and is played on a regular basis during the year by both local and visiting carillonists. With 55 bronze bells the National Carillon is large by world standards and each bell weighs between seven kilograms and six tonnes. With the tower rising to a height of 50 metres, the music of the bells drifts across Lake Burley Griffin and through Kings and Commonwealth Parks. The tower is lit at night, providing a magnificent landmark in the national capital.

National Film and Sound Archive

Experience 100 years of Australian film, television, radio and recorded sound at the National Film and Sound Archive. Film clips, sound bites, touch screens, photographs, costumes and other memorabilia showcase Australia's recorded history. Visit exhibitions, stay for a movie, browse our shop, enjoy the art deco architecture and courtyard cafe. See continuous screenings of film classics. Teachers can book an interactive excursion where students from lower primary through to tertiary level can participate in innovative education programs that seek to encourage understanding and appreciation of how Australian life is represented through screen and sound media. The Archives – housed in the former Institute of Anatomy – are a division of the Australian Film Commission.

National Library of Australia

See the beautiful, the rare and the unexpected from the National Library of Australia's vast collections on show in the Visitor Centre and Exhibition Gallery. Australia's largest reference library has 220 kilometres of shelving. Visitors can take a behind-the-scenes look to discover where the books, manuscripts, newspapers, maps and paintings are located. Browse in the all Australian bookshop, or relax over coffee with beautiful views of Lake Burley Griffin.

National Museum of Australia

Australian and international visitors have an opportunity to explore what it means to be Australian at the National Museum of Australia. Awarded Best Major Tourist Attraction 2005, the National Museum is the first in the country devoted to the stories of Australia and Australians, exploring the key issues, events and people that have shaped and influenced our nation. The Museum uses three key themes of Land, Nation and People to tell the story of Australia and Australians. State-of-the-art technology and exhibition design present the stories of the collection in an exciting and inventive manner, including the use of multimedia, live performances, hands-on activities and guided tours to appeal to a wide range of audiences. Excitement and innovation are not just limited to the exhibits — the colourful building itself is now an architectural landmark, one which complements the beautiful surroundings.

National Press Club

Located in the heart of the parliamentary precinct, the National Press Club is Australia's leading forum for the discussion of issues and debate of public policy. Restaurant, lounge, bar and internet cafe available. Column restaurant winner of best restaurant, clubs, clubs ACT awards 2003.

Old Parliament House

Delve into Australia's political past at Old Parliament House, home to Australia's Federal Parliament from 1927 to 1988. Today, this much-loved heritage building offers tourists a unique glimpse into Australia's fascinating past – a time when this magnificent building was the centre of political controversies and drama. Old Parliament House echoes with the power and the passion of stories from Australia's political past. Today, this much-loved heritage building offers an exciting program of guided tours, exhibitions and other engaging activities for all ages, and is also home to Australia's National Portrait Gallery.

Prime Minister's Lodge

The official residence of Australian Prime Ministers since 1927.

Royal Australian Mint

At the Royal Australian Mint you can mint your own \$1 coin and watch money being made from a viewing gallery. The Royal Australian Mint was officially opened in February 1965 to produce Australia's decimal coinage. Today the Mint – the first mint in Australia not be a branch of the Royal Mint of London – produces more than 600 million coins per year. Watch presentations in the theatre explaining coins and coin production, see displays of coins dating back to the First Fleet and visit the coin shop where you can browse among a wide range of collector coins and medallions. The Mint is currently undertaking a major refurbishment of its facilities. When the refurbishment is complete in mid-2008, the Mint will be able to offer a revitalised experience for visitors. Some displays and exhibitions may be closed or reduced during the refurbishment. We apologise for the inconvenience, but look forward to welcoming visitors to our new facilities in 2008.

United States Of America, Embassy Of The

The Embassy of The United States Of America is located in the suburb of Yarralumla approximately five kilometres south of the city centre.

Other Embassies and Diplomatic Missions

All foreign Governments have their main Embassy/High Commission within Canberra.

- (Students proceeding to a New Zealand university through the AEC may participate in the complimentary program in Australia or accept a separate program in New Zealand A program for students proceeding to New Zealand is currently being negotiated. Contact the AEC directly on 1-800-565-9553)

NOTE:

1. If necessary, the AEC reserves the right to make adjustments to the program.
2. Students traveling with family, friends can take additional persons on the program at full cost. Discuss with the AEC Program.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL THE AEC PROGRAM AT: 1-800-565-9553 OR 1-954-680-0453. EMAIL enquiries@mystudyaustralia.com