

# AAIDD Delegation to Australia

August 7-14, 2016: Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne

# Logistics



- AAIDD's travel partner is **Colibri Boston**.
- Please send AAIDD your flight info ASAP; this information will be used to arrange your airport pick up/drop off.
- Airport pickup: look for representative holding sign reading "**Colibri**".
- If you need extra hotel nights (at your own expense) or earlier/later airport transport, please call or email Colibri at 617-301-1237 or [info@colibríboston.org](mailto:info@colibríboston.org)
- Tipping : 10% expected, all group meals have tips included
- Free WIFI in hotels and in some public spaces.
- All breakfasts, most lunches and dinners included in our program.
- Last reminder to share food allergies or issues.
- Luggage space in hotel/airport transport vehicles and in hotel rooms is limited. Please travel lightly.

# FAQs

## Do I Need a Visa? **YES**

An Electronic Travel Authority (**ETA**; a “tourist visa”) is **required** for all delegates. An ETA is good for 12 months; please apply at least 2 weeks before departure. The application fee for the ETA is approximately \$10 USD, to apply for the ETA, visit <https://www.eta.immi.gov.au/ETAS3>, and select “tourist” as the ETA type.

## What will the weather be like?

We are visiting 3 cities with very different climates: It will likely be warm in Brisbane, moderate-to-cool in Sydney, and quite cool in Melbourne. Plan to bring **clothes that can be layered** to accommodate the very cool weather in Melbourne, and be sure to also pack a sweater or light jacket. The hotels will have umbrellas.

## How should I dress for the trip?

We will be visiting universities, public schools, and provider organizations with dress codes that mirror those found in the US, that is “**business casual**.” As we will be walking distances on uneven ground and up and down hills and climbing stairs, **comfortable shoes** are strongly recommended.

# FAQs

## **What is the exchange rate? \$1 AUD is about \$ 0.75 USD**

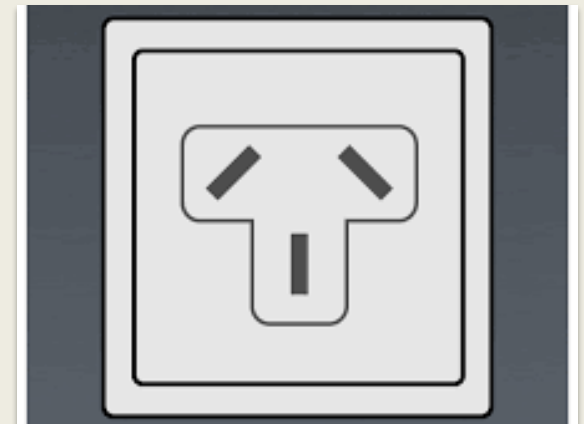
Please ***do not attempt to exchange money at the airport*** because there will be driver waiting for you. Our Brisbane hotel will exchange up to \$300 USD per person. Cash can also be exchanged at banks and exchanges, cash can be withdrawn from ATMs, and credit cards are accepted nearly everywhere. To avoid declined charges, please alert your credit card company about your travel to Australia.

## **What travel insurance is included in the program fee?**

- Colibri provides a basic travel insurance to all participants that starts from August 7<sup>th</sup> till 14<sup>th</sup>. It covers medical emergencies with \$500 deductible and up to \$50,000, evacuation up to \$500,000. You must have primary insurance to qualify for this insurance.
- Trip cancellation insurance is not included in the program fee; however, if you want trip cancellation insurance, flight disruption insurance or extended benefits, Colibri offers a policy at \$145 per person.

# Travel Tips

- **Before** you leave the country,
  - Arrange with your **cell phone** provider for international calling/data for Australia
  - Alert your **credit card** company about your travel
  - Secure your **ETA** (visa).
- Bring a **power converter**.
  - North American outlets operate at 120V.
  - Outlets in Australia supply electricity 230V, and typically use different outlet.
- Pack **lightly**.
  - Only one free checked bag is included on flight between cities.
  - Bring comfortable shoes and plan to wear layers in colder cities.
- Expect **physical accessibility accommodations** in buildings, on transport, or in public spaces to be limited.



# Focus of Delegation

- The delegation will be lifespan in its approach and will provide content related to research, practice, and public policy concerning ID in Australia.
- The delegation will participate in 3 university seminars (one per city), learn about an innovative telco tailored to the needs of people with ID, attend a guest lecture about the education system, and visit elementary schools and adult services.
- Of particular interest will be information on the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), a systems change effort on disability policy (payment) for early intervention, youth, and adult services that was launched nationally in July 2015.
- Advance Reading:  
*2010-2020 National Disability Strategy: An Initiative of the Council of Australian Governments*  
[https://www.dss.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/05\\_2012/national\\_disability\\_strategy\\_2010\\_2020.pdf](https://www.dss.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/05_2012/national_disability_strategy_2010_2020.pdf)

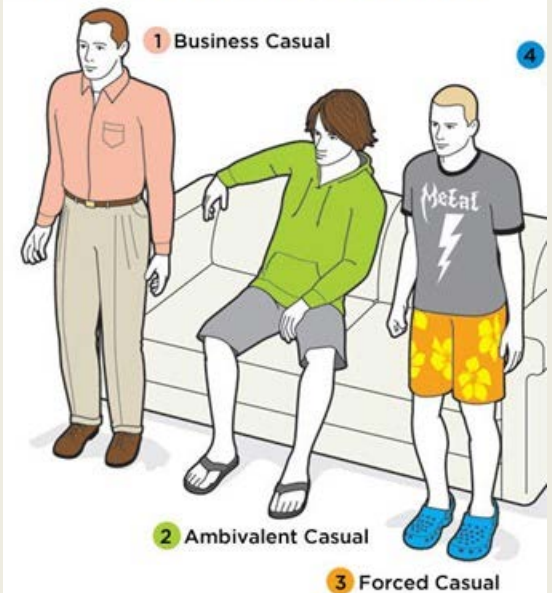
# Professional Visits

- Bring business cards
- Bring a notebook and pen to visits
- Bring 9 small presentation gifts – given where you see the \* on the itinerary
- Gifts will be combined into an AAIDD (conference style) bag for single presentation *as we leave the hotel that day's visits*
- Dress is business casual—expect lengthy walks from curbs to buildings. Expect to climb several flights of stairs at visits.
- What are appropriate gifts?
  - Small items of interest to a professional colleague (branded items are fine), such as flash drives, pens, articles or books, desk items, note cards or art by self-advocate artists, etc.
  - Promotional pamphlets or other advertisements, clothing, liquids, bulky items, etc.



## The Taxonomy of Casual

A breakdown of dressing down, dressing up and not looking stupid



# Brisbane: Hotel Jen (4.5 star)

159 Roma Street, Brisbane QLD 4000

## ARRIVING FROM AIRPORT

15 min from Brisbane Airport

## LOCATED IN THE HEART OF BRISBANE

- 10 min walk from major shopping area
- 2 min walk to the river
- 1 min walk to restaurants and convenience store

## THINGS TO KNOW

- Breakfast provided in hotel
- Free public Wi-Fi
- Mini bar or extra services are at your own expense.





# Brisbane Itinerary

## Sunday August 7

- Arrive at airport, look for sign “**Colibri**” for transport
- 2 pm pick up at hotel for trip to Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary
- 6:30 pm Welcome Dinner and orientation



## Monday August 8

- 10:30 -12pm Morning sightseeing Brisbane downtown–walking tour
- Group lunch
- 12 pm Seminar at the University of Queensland QCIDD\*
- **Dinner on you own**



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND

## Tuesday August 9

- Morning Departure to Sydney



# Sydney: Four Seasons Hotel (5 star)

199 George St, Sydney NSW 2000

## ARRIVING FROM AIRPORT

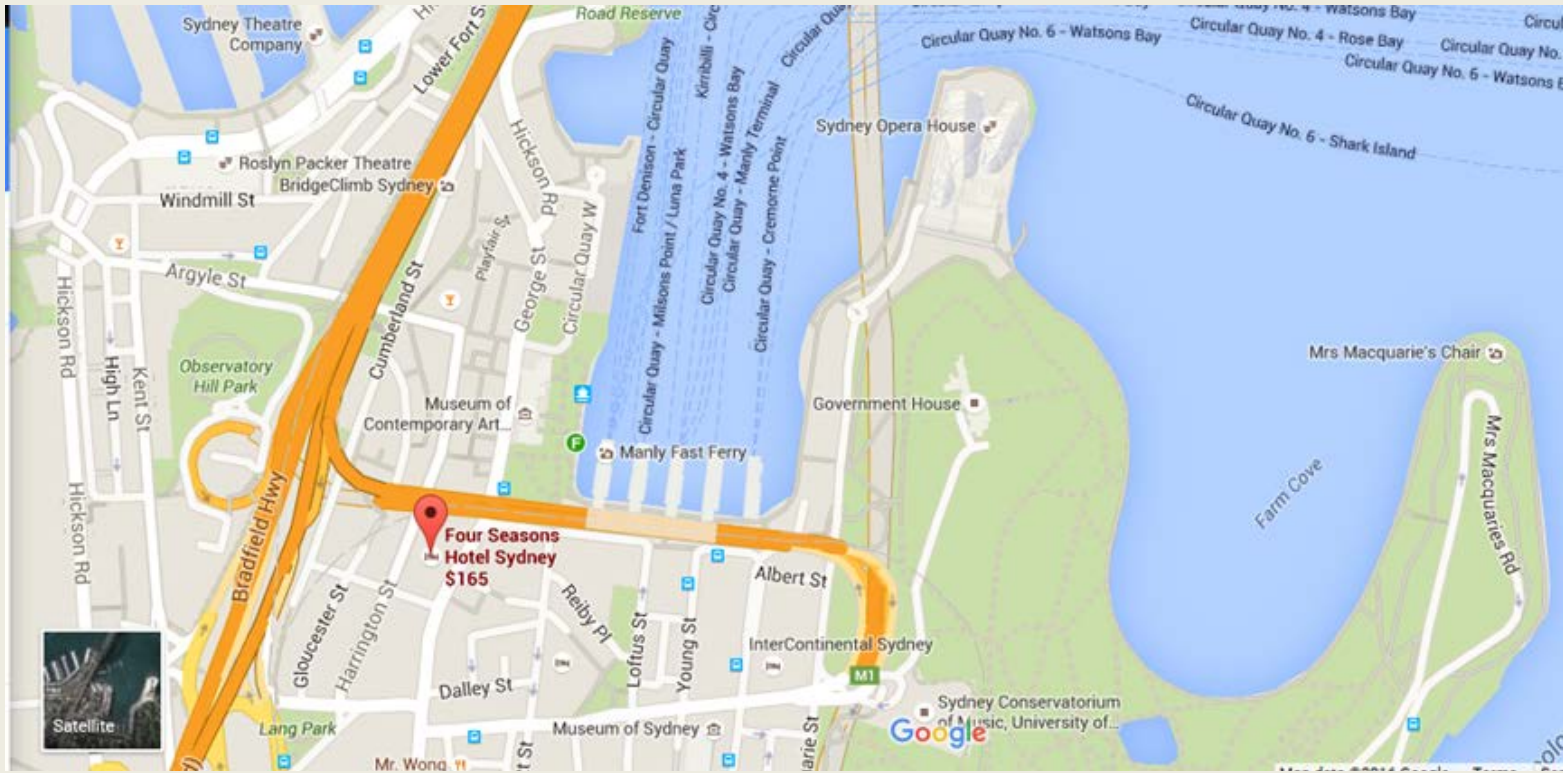
20 min from Brisbane Airport

## LOCATED IN THE HEART OF THE CIRCULAR QUAY

- Surrounded by shopping and restaurants
- 2 min walk to the Ferry Terminal
- View of the Opera House

## THINGS TO KNOW

- Breakfast provided in hotel
- Wi-Fi provided in hotel
- Mini bar or extra services are at your own expense.



# Sydney Itinerary

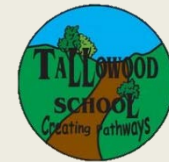
## Tuesday, August 9

- Morning: Departure from hotel in Brisbane
- 12 pm Lunch
- 1 pm Seminar at University of New South Wales Medical School\*
- 6.30 pm Group Dinner



## Wednesday, August 10

- 8 am-5pm site visits: Jenee Mobile\*, Tallowood School\*, Ponds School\*. Lunch provided.
- **Dinner on your own**



## Thursday August 11

- 11:00 am– Walking tour of Circular Quay and The Rocks
- 12 pm- Lunch
- Ferry to Manly Beach–free time for shopping
- **Dinner on your own**



## Friday August 12

- Morning: Departure to Melbourne

# Melbourne: Downtowner on Lygon Hotel (4 star)

66 Lygon St Melbourne, Victoria

## ARRIVING FROM AIRPORT

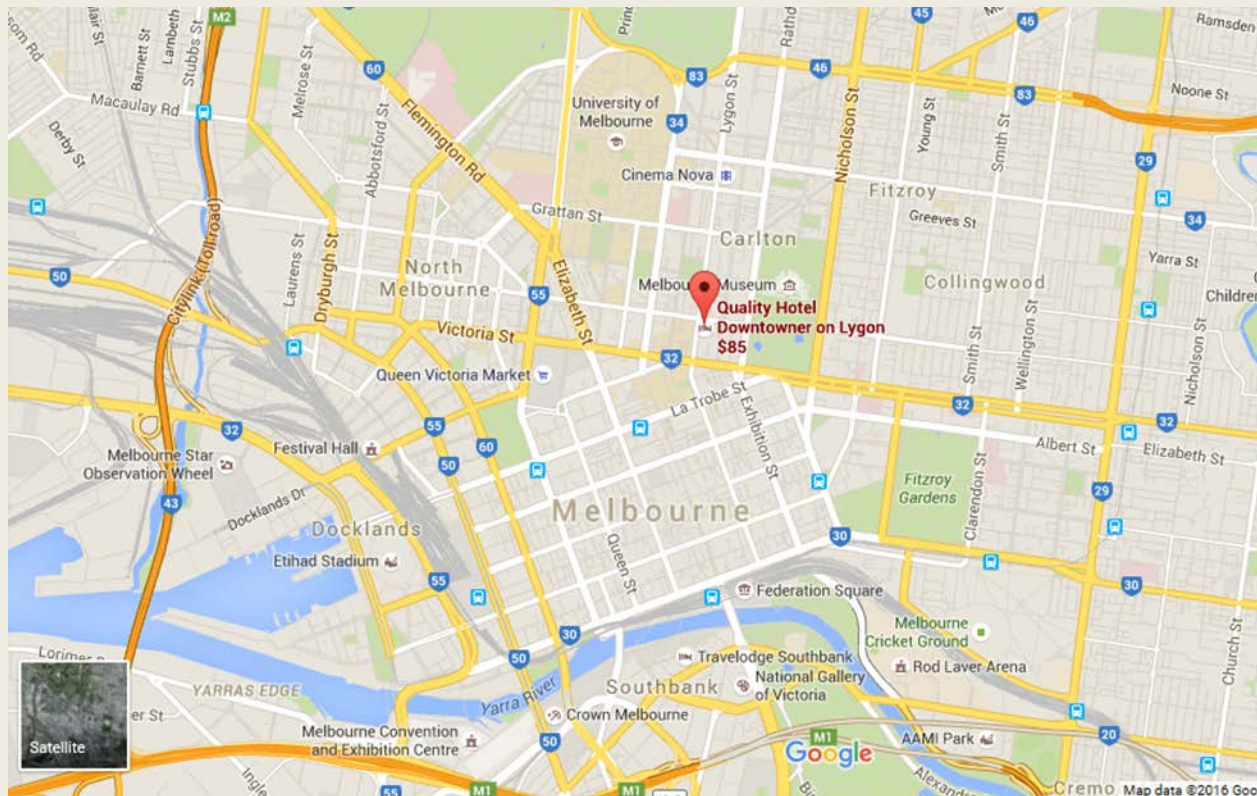
30 min from Melbourne Airport

## LOCATED IN THE HEART OF THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (CBD)

- Surrounded by shopping and restaurants
- 10 min walk to the University of Melbourne
- 10 min to Melbourne Museum

## THINGS TO KNOW

- Breakfast provided in hotel
- Wi-Fi provided in hotel
- Mini bar or extra services are at your own expense.



# Melbourne Itinerary

## Friday, August 12

- Arrive from Sydney
- Site visits: Inclusion Melbourne\*, Onemda\*, lunch provided
- 4-6 pm Latrobe University\* & University of Melbourne\* Seminar
- 6:30 pm Group Dinner



**inclusion**melbourne

## Saturday, August 13

- Yarra Valley winery tour (approx 9-5:30), consists of
  - Visits and wine tastings at a selection of 2-3 wineries,
  - Cheese tasting at the Yarra Valley Dairy,
  - Lunch at Rochford winery, and
  - Chocolate tasting at Yarra Valley Chocolate & Ice-creamery
- The winery lunch will be our “Goodbye Lunch”
- 6 -7pm return to hotel—**dinner on your own.**



## Sunday, August 14

- Airport or other drop offs
- IASSIDD opening reception at 6 pm at Convention Center



# Emergency Numbers

Australia's primary emergency call service number is Triple Zero (000), which can be dialed from any fixed, mobile, or pay phones

## Taxis



OK to flag down or call

Frequently stuck in traffic, as much as \$5-6 USD first mile

Credit cards and cash are accepted in cabs