



Forensicare

WORKING IN
MELBOURNE WITH
FORENSICARE

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WORKING FOR FORENSICARE

Forensicare (Victorian Institute of Forensic Mental Health) is the state-wide specialist provider of forensic mental health services in Victoria, Australia. Forensicare is the only agency in Victoria that provides clinical forensic mental health services which span all components of the mental health and criminal justice sectors – giving Forensicare a unique perspective on mental health and public safety issues. It is able to provide specialist forensic mental health services tailored to meet the specific needs of both sectors.

"Forensicare provided me with placements to work across different parts of the service. This gave me the opportunity to develop further expertise and skills in specific areas of forensic psychiatry. It also provided me with opportunities to act up in senior roles, in preparation to being a Consultant Psychiatrist."

Prashant, Consultant Psychiatrist
Forensicare



WE PROVIDE FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR PEOPLE:

- with a serious mental illness in the criminal justice system;
- at risk of offending and pose a risk to themselves or others;
- referred from the general mental health system for specialist advice, support and/or treatment.

Forensicare's primary focus is the provision of clinical services within a recovery framework. These services include the effective assessment, treatment and management of forensic patients, prisoners and clients.

A comprehensive research program operates through Swinburne University of Technology's independent Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science, to support the ongoing development of clinical services. Specialist training and ongoing professional education is also provided to our staff and the broader mental health and justice fields.

Forensicare is an employer of choice in the mental health field, and the reputation our staff have gained nationally and internationally for quality and innovative service provision is well deserved. We are proud of our staff and take the opportunity to highlight them wherever possible.

OUR SERVICES CAN BE DEFINED BY FOUR KEY SERVICE OFFERINGS:

COMMUNITY FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

Our community service is a critical component of our organisation as it not only assesses and treats people in the community, but also supports other agencies to work more effectively with mental health consumers involved in the criminal justice system.

It involves specialist assessment and multidisciplinary treatment to high risk clients referred from Area Mental Health Services, correctional services, courts, the Adult Parole Board, Thomas Embling Hospital, prison services, government agencies and private practitioners.

THOMAS EMBLING HOSPITAL

The Thomas Embling Hospital is a 116-bed secure hospital with seven units which provides both acute care and continuing care programs, including a dedicated women's unit. Patients are generally admitted to the hospital from the criminal justice system under the *Crimes (Mental Impairment and Unfitness to be Tried) Act 1997*, *Mental Health Act 2014* or the *Sentencing Act 1991*. A small group of patients are admitted each year from other public mental health services under the *Mental Health Act 2014*.





PRISON MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Forensicare provides specialist mental health services at the Melbourne Assessment Prison, Dame Phyllis Frost Centre and the Metropolitan Remand Centre, as well as larger, publicly-managed prisons.

Our Prison Mental Health services include:

- Melbourne Assessment Prison – a 16 bed acute assessment unit, specialist clinics, outpatient services and a reception assessment program for adult men.
- Marmak Unit (Dame Phyllis Frost Centre) – a 20 bed residential program, intensive outreach program and a therapeutic day program for women.
- Metropolitan Remand Centre – a Mobile Forensic Mental Health Service which provides outreach to other prisons and incorporates satellite psychology services at Barwon Prison and Marnongneet Correctional Centre.
- Ravenhall Correctional Centre - a dedicated, purpose-built 75 bed forensic mental health service which includes outpatient services for 100 prisoners at the prison (scheduled to open in late 2017).
- Port Phillip Prison - a 30 bed specialist unit and outpatient service providing a recovery and rehabilitation program to adult men with significant mental health issues (scheduled to commence in September 2017).
- State-managed prisons – visiting consultant psychiatric and nurse practitioner sessions conducted at Ararat, Langi Kal and Loddon prisons as well as sessions by visiting psychiatrists at Ararat, Barwon, Dhurringile, Loddon, Marnongneet, Middleton and Tarrengower prisons.

ACADEMIC UNIT

Research at Forensicare is carried out primarily with the independent Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science (CFBS), a research and training centre in Swinburne University of Technology. Led by Professor James R.P. Ogloff AM, the CFBS is Australasia's leading centre for excellence in the areas of forensic mental health, forensic psychology and forensic behavioural science. It brings together academics, clinicians,

researchers, and students across a variety of disciplines. Key aims of the centre include:

- understanding, predicting and ultimately reducing violence and other offending by people with mental illness or problem behaviour; and
- improving the legal system through empirical research and policy analysis.

BENEFITS AVAILABLE FOR FORENSICARE STAFF

Forensicare staff are offered a number of benefits when they join the organisation which extend beyond the competitive salary package. These benefits include:

- Extensive Professional Development Programs – a comprehensive education program offers a broad range of specialist education opportunities for all staff and other service providers, together with a student placement program;
- Study Leave Assistance;
- Paid Parental Leave;
- Car Novated Leasing;
- [Salary Packaging](#);
- Forensicare Social Club – The social club brings together staff to socialise, who would not necessarily meet through the course of employment within their respective roles. Events such as hot air ballooning, winery tours and bowling nights are just some of the past successes. Members can also access discounted tickets to the movies, zoo's and also some major events;
- Free Car Parking*;
- Free Gym/Swimming Pool Access*;
- Wellness Program;
- Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM)
- Employee Assistance Program – A counselling service offering you an opportunity to discuss any work or personal issues impacting your life;
- [Discounted HCF Health Insurance](#);
- [Access to Optus Mobile Corporate rates](#);
- Access to free anti-virus software.

* Denotes not available at all Forensicare locations

A photograph of the Melbourne skyline featuring several tall skyscrapers, including the Eureka Tower, behind a dense line of green trees. In the foreground, there is a calm lake reflecting the sky and buildings, with a grassy park area and a few people walking along the shore.

LIFE IN MELBOURNE



Melbourne Cup is an annual spring time horse racing event

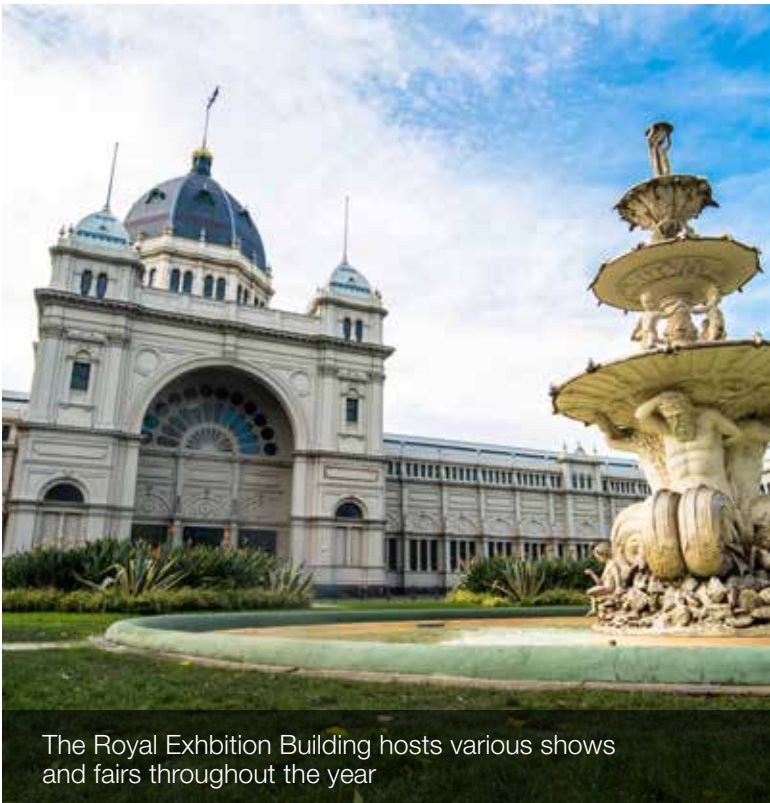
LIFE IN MELBOURNE

Located in the state of Victoria, Melbourne is the capital city of the state. Melbourne is Australia’s second most populated city with close to five million residents calling it home. It is a city that is both dynamic and cosmopolitan, and proud of its place as Australia’s cultural capital.

Melbourne is regularly awarded the prestige of being the world’s most liveable city, mainly due to its vast range of activities available as well as its high quality bars and restaurants. Melbourne is fondly revered for its chic shopping, prestigious sporting events as well as its art and fashion scene.

SOME OF MELBOURNE’S ANNUAL HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- [Australian Open \(Tennis\)](#)
- [White Night Melbourne Light Festival](#)
- [Australian Formula One Grand Prix](#)
- [Melbourne Fashion Week](#)
- [Melbourne International Comedy Festival](#)
- [Melbourne International Film Festival](#)
- [Melbourne Cup \(Thoroughbred Racing\)](#)



The Royal Exhibition Building hosts various shows and fairs throughout the year



Melbourne's iconic Flinders Street Station

CLIMATE

SUMMER (DECEMBER – FEBRUARY)

Melbourne warms up in summer with mean temperatures between 14 - 25.3°C (57.2 - 77.5°F). These months are dry, with occasional hot spells that can last more than three days. Melbourne's top temperatures are usually in January and February, when temperatures can soar past 30°C (86°F).

AUTUMN (MARCH – MAY)

Autumn sees cooler weather with average temperatures ranging from 10.9 – 20.3°C (51.6 - 68.5°F). Morning fog usually clears to welcome fine, sunny days, however toward the end of the season there can be extended periods of light winds.

WINTER (JUNE – AUGUST)

In winter, average temperatures range from 6.5 - 14.2°C (43.7 - 57.6°F), and snow falls in the north-east of Victoria, known as the High Country. The weather is frequently cold and cloudy, and nights can be accompanied by frost. Heavy rain is rare at this time of year.

SPRING (SEPTEMBER – NOVEMBER)

During spring average temperatures range from 9.6 - 19.6°C (49.3 - 67.3°F). The season is known as the most variable of the year, when weather can quickly change from calm and sunny to cold and windy. Pack your umbrella – October is the wettest month with roughly 10 days of rainfall.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Melbourne is well serviced by multiple forms of public transport; buses, trains and trams. The train system, the Melbourne Metro, caters for passengers on sixteen different train lines that all connect to the Melbourne CBD.

Trams are readily available within the CBD and Melbourne's inner suburbs. They venture as far as Vermont South in the East, East Brighton in the South and Bundoora or Airport West in the Northerly direction.

For regional travel within Victoria, passengers can access [V-Line services](#) to a number of cities or towns.

FORENSICARE TRANSPORT OPTIONS

[Public transport routes for Ravenhall Correctional Centre, Deer Park](#)

[Public transport routes for Community Forensic Mental Health Service, Clifton Hill](#)

THERE ARE A NUMBER OF BUS ROUTES THAT SERVICE THE NEARBY AREA TO THOMAS EMBLING HOSPITAL:

- **Bus route 200** (City – Queen St to Bulleen/ Bulleen to City – Queen St)
- **Bus route 207** (City to Doncaster SC via Kew Junction/ Doncaster SC via Kew Junction to City)
- **Bus route 250** (City – Queen St to La Trobe University/ La Trobe University to City – Queen St)
- **Bus route 251** (City – Queen St to Northland SC/ Northland SC to City – Queen St)
- **Bus route 546** (Melbourne University to Heidelberg via Clifton Hill/ Heidelberg via Clifton Hill to Melbourne University)
- **Bus route 609** (Hawthorn to Fairfield via Kew/ Fairfield to Hawthorn via Kew)



The MCG hosts many of Australia's annual sporting events

ACTIVITIES

Melbourne offers many activities and you are certain to find what you're looking for whatever your hobby might be. Use some of these links to aide you in your search:

- [Melbourne Parks and Gardens](#) – A list of Melbourne's best gardens for you to explore
- [Good Sports](#) – Find a sporting club near you
- [Team Melbourne](#) – Sporting clubs for the GLBTIQ community
- [What's on in Melbourne](#) – Your go-to-guide for upcoming events of interest
- [Visit Victoria](#) – Details of events, things to do and recommended destinations in Greater Victoria
- [Places of Worship](#) – Directions here on how to find your local place of worship

RELIGION

Because of Melbourne's culturally diverse population, people of different religions peacefully cohabitate here in our wonderful city. Close to 26.7% of Victorian residents list their religious affiliation as Catholic. The next highest responses were No Religion at 24%, Anglican 12.3%, Uniting Church 4.7% and Eastern Orthodox 4.3%.

Other common religions in Melbourne are Buddhism, Islam, Judaism and Hinduism, collectively accounting for 8.4% of the State's population.

[Places of Worship](#) – Directions here on how to find your local place of worship



The famous Cape Schanck boardwalk is one of many activities you can do throughout Victoria



Drive out to visit the 12 Apostles on Victoria's Great Ocean Road

WEST MELBOURNE

Melbourne's West is the fastest growing region of the city. The area is highly attractive due to its affordability and close proximity to Melbourne's CBD. It is also where a number of Forensicare's key prison services are located:

- Melbourne Remand Centre;
- Dame Phyllis Frost Centre; and
- the new Ravenhall Correctional Centre (scheduled for completion in late 2017).
- Port Phillip Prison

The area offers large shopping centres as well as only being a short distance from the coastlines of Altona and Williamstown, which both offer a breezy, seaside café-culture for visitors.

Those based in the West are close to Werribee Mansion and the Werribee Open Range Zoo, both great for exploring on sunny days. They also have easy access to the Great Ocean Road, possibly one of Victoria's most alluring attractions for tourists.

In the South West of Melbourne, you will find the You Yangs Regional Park. The You Yangs are distinctive granite peaks and also a fantastic location for mountain biking. There are two mountain biking areas with over 50 kilometres of exciting trails catering for riders of all ages and ability.

The park is also popular for its magnificent views, birdlife and for bushwalks and picnics.

For those stationed to work at Ravenhall Correctional Centre, suburbs you may wish to consider living in could include: Altona, Williamstown, Newport, Yarraville, Essendon, Maidstone, Maribyrnong or Moonee Ponds to name a few. All of these locations would leave with you with only a short commute to work. All these suburbs are well established and well-populated. All the expected amenities can be found in these locations, such as:

- Bars, Restaurants and Cafes;
- Shopping malls and Cinemas;
- Sporting clubs;
- Train stations, tram and bus stops;
- Child care and day-care options;
- Primary and Secondary Schools (both Public and Private);
- Child Entertainment Centres;
- Places of Worship;
- Parks and Nature Reserves;
- Swimming Pools and Gymnasiums;
- International Airport.



You Yangs Regional Park



GENERAL INFO

GENERAL INFO

VOTING

In Australia, not everyone is required to vote for Local, State and Federal elections.

You are eligible to enrol to vote if you:

- are an Australian citizen, or [eligible British subject](#),
- aged 18 years and over, and
- have lived at your address for at least one month.

For further details on how to enrol to vote, visit the [Australian Electoral Commission website](#).

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Victoria has a number of Public Holidays, which is a paid day off for workers. Those working within Forensicare may be required to work on some of these days (roster dependant), however penalty rates do apply should you be rostered on to work.

HOLIDAY	DATE
New Year's Day	1st January 2017
Australia Day	26th January 2017
Labour Day	13th March 2017
Good Friday	14th April 2017
Easter Saturday	15th April 2017
Easter Sunday	16th April 2017
Easter Monday	17th April 2017
ANZAC Day	25th April 2017
Queen's Birthday	12th June 2017
AFL Grand Final Eve	29th September 2017
Melbourne Cup	7th November 2017
Christmas Day	25th December 2017
Boxing Day	26th December 2017

CHILDCARE

A number of different childcare services are offered in Melbourne.

Childcare Services are in high demand so please enrol your child in care as soon as you can to avoid disappointment. For a list of comprehensive list of services and their locations, please refer to the [MyChild website](#).

SCHOOLING

Melbourne provides many schooling options for your child, from secular to non-secular, private to public and also the option of International School. The school year runs from January to December, with four school terms. The longest holiday is over the summer and Christmas period, where most educational institutions close for at least six weeks. There are three other school holiday periods in April, July and October.

Types of school in Victoria are divided into two major categories (for both primary and secondary level):

- Public schools (also known as state schools or government schools)
- Private schools (non-denominational or religious schools, including Catholic schools).

In Victoria, there are:

- 1594 state schools
- 484 Catholic schools
- 218 independent schools (private non-denominational or religious association).

It is legal to home-school children in Victoria but you must register with the [Victorian Registrations and Qualification Authority](#).

Subclass 457 visa holders in Victoria are exempt from international student fees, but may contribute minor administrative fees as do domestic students.

Private schools come at a significant cost in comparison to state schools and should you wish to send your child to a private school, its best to be aware of the additional fees.

[Private School Costs Information](#)

To locate a school and obtain school-specific information, please go to the [MySchool website](#) for more assistance.

"I like being part of an organisation which focuses squarely on the assessment and treatment of patients, as well as being provided with the resources to carry out this role effectively. Through this work I feel I am contributing to the wellbeing of patients, as well as the protection of the community.

Chris, Acting Principal Psychologist
Forensicare



UNIVERSITIES

Victoria possesses many high calibre learning institutions that invites both domestic and international students to participate.

Victoria's pool of Universities consists of:

- [University of Melbourne](#)
- [Monash University](#)
- [La Trobe University](#)
- [Deakin University](#)
- [Swinburne University of Technology](#)
- [RMIT University](#)
- [Victoria University](#)
- [Australian Catholic University](#)
- [Federation University](#)

As an alternative to University, TAFE (Technical and Further Education) is also an option for budding students. Should you or one of your family members be interested in studying at TAFE, please visit the link below to view a list of Learning Institutions:

[TAFE & Learning Institutions Index](#)

VOLTAGE/ ELECTRICITY

Electricity in Australia is 220-240volts, AC 50Hz. Universal outlets for 240V or 110V shavers are found in most leading hotels.

CURRENCY

Australia's currency is the dollar and has been in place since 1966. Depending on your place of origin, you may be surprised at the value you will get when exchanging your money to Australian Dollars.

Should you wish to exchange your finances to Australian dollars, you may wish to use one of the following foreign exchange services:

- [Moneycorp](#)
- [Number 1 Currency](#)
- [Travellex](#)
- Your Australian bank of choice will also offer foreign exchange services

BANK ACCOUNTS

Australia has numerous banking options; both home grown and international banking institutions exist in Melbourne that you can choose to join.

To open a bank account in Australia you must present to the bank with your address details and passport within 90 days of arriving. Leaving it any later will result in you having to provide 100 points of ID. If you require 100 points, your passport provides 70 points and the remaining points can be made up by documents such as your work permit, job offer letter or photo driver license ID.

Once an account has been opened, you will be given a BSB number and account number. These details are integral to receive payments, online and other transaction types.

Australian banks charge bank fees as their normal practice. When withdrawing cash from an ATM it is best to search for an ATM of your own specific bank. Using another provider will usually result in an administration fee (of up to AU\$5.00 per transaction).

Some banks will allow you to set up your bank account prior to arriving in Australia. The Commonwealth Bank can arrange to setup your bank account prior to arrival and can offer you your own personalised Relationship Manager to liaise with upon arrival. Contact Forensicare Human Resources for the contact details of a Commonwealth Bank representative.

Melbourne's most recognised banks include:

- [Commonwealth Bank of Australia](#)
- [National Australia Bank](#)
- [Westpac Bank](#)
- [ANZ Bank](#)

TAXES

The Australian tax year commences on the 1st July each year and finishes on 30th June, the following year. Everyone must complete a tax return form for any earnings in Australia and submit it to the [Australian Taxation Office](#). To assist you in completing the form, you can contact a taxation accountant. There are many independent accountants in Melbourne.

In Australia, a taxpayer's income is taxed progressively. Broadly, this means that as you earn more income your average tax rate rises. Progressive taxation means that higher income earners pay more tax than lower income earners. This is achieved by taxing a range of income brackets as a set percentage or cents in the dollar.

TAX RATES

The following rates for 2016-2017 apply from 1st July 2016

TAXABLE INCOME	TAX ON THIS INCOME
0 - \$18,200	NIL
\$18,201 - \$37,000	19c for each \$1 over \$18,200
\$37,001 - \$80,000	\$3,572 plus 32.5c for each \$1 over \$37,000
\$80,001 - \$180,000	\$17,547 plus 37c for each \$1 over \$80,000
\$180,001 and over	\$54,547 plus 45c for each \$1 over \$180,000

*The above rates do not include the Medicare levy of 2%

CALCULATORS

Goods and Services Tax (GST) is included on most goods in Australia, this is similar to VAT. This is charged at 10%.

[Australian Tax Calculator](#)





"Forensicare fosters professional development in its staff and is receptive to listening to innovative ideas and approaches to working with clients. Not only is there scope for specialising in clinical assessment and treatment methods, there are opportunities for gaining supervision experience and contributing to service and program development."

Aleksandra, Principal Psychologist
Forensicare

DRIVING

Australian's drive on the left-hand side of the road and the steering wheel is on the right hand side of the vehicle. Very strict drink-driving laws apply and seatbelts must be worn by all people within the vehicle.

For information on whether you can drive in Victoria with your current licence, please investigate this link: [Drivers Licence information for Overseas Drivers](#)

MEDICARE

Medicare is Australia's health service, which enables eligible individuals the right to health services.

The Australian Government has signed Reciprocal Health Care Agreements with the governments of the following countries: Belgium, Finland, Italy, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, The Republic of Ireland, Slovenia, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

This entitles these residents to limited subsidised health services for immediately necessary treatment while visiting Australia. For citizens of these countries you can take your passport/visa to a Medicare Office where you will be issued with a Medicare card.

Medicare covers:

- Free or subsidised treatment by health professionals such as doctors, specialists, optometrists – and in specific circumstances – dentists, and other allied health practitioners
- Free treatment and accommodation for public Medicare patients in a public hospital
- 75% of the Medicare Schedule fee for services and procedures if you are a private patient in a public or private hospital – this does not include hospital accommodation and items such as theatre fees and medicines

It is important to note that Medicare does not provide benefits for ambulance transport, dental treatment, physiotherapy, spectacles, podiatry, chiropractic/osteopathic/naturopathic services and private hospital accommodation.

If you are eligible for Medicare, you will still need to take out private health insurance as per [Immigration Guidelines](#).

If you're currently earning over \$90,000 while working here in Australia, you may also incur the [Medicare Levy Surcharge \(MLS\)](#) at tax time next July. To avoid the MLS, we strongly recommend that you purchase a private health insurance policy.

PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE

Although you may qualify for Medicare and meet the minimum conditions of the 457 subclass visa, you should be aware the Medicare is a basic level of health cover and has many exclusions.

A temporary Work (skilled) subclass 457 visa holder will need to provide evidence of adequate health insurance for the duration of their stay in Australia.

The following list are some of Australia's leading private health care providers:

- [BUPA](#)
- [Australian Unity](#)
- [IMAN](#)
- [HCF](#)

However, we encourage you to do your own research to ensure you take out a fund which best suits your needs: the following websites will assist you to conduct a broad search of providers:

- [Compare the Market](#)
- [iSelect](#)
- [Choosi](#)

AMBULANCE COVER

Ambulances provide emergency transport to hospital, as well as on-the-spot urgent medical attention. Ambulance transport is very expensive, so it is important to ensure you consider subscribing to ambulance cover. A short trip (10 minutes) to hospital in an ambulance can cost in excess of \$500. To insure your family for ambulance cover contact [Ambulance Victoria](#) via: **Phone: 1800 648 484**

Alternatively, a number of private health insurance providers provide Ambulance cover as part of their policy offering, so check this with them when you are obtaining quotes.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Australia's emergency services contact number is **000**. This is the number to call should you have an emergency and need to contact Police, Ambulance or Fire Brigade services. For those that are deaf or hearing impaired, the number to phone is **106**.

In order to contact the [State Emergency Service](#), the Australia wide number **132 500** can be used. This number should only be used for non-life-threatening situations.

PETS

Foreign residents entering Australia do have the option of bringing their furry friend with them. Cats and dogs can be imported to Australia under strict conditions designed to manage biosecurity risks. For the import conditions applicable to your cat or dog, view the [step-by-step guides](#).

You will not require a permit to import a cat or dog from [New Zealand](#), however conditions apply.

If you wish to import reproductive material or animals other than cats or dogs, view [Live Animals and Reproductive Material](#) information.

Use the [Pre Export Preparation Calculator](#) to get an indication of import costs.

*If your country of export does not appear in the calculator you will need to prepare your animal using the non-approved country via Group 2 or 3 country [step-by-step](#) guide.



Cats and
dogs can
be imported
to Australia



COST OF LIVING



COST OF LIVING

REAL ESTATE

Melbourne has experienced a property boom over the last 15 years. Increased income, property development and overseas investor interest have all contributed to Melbourne's current real estate values.

Australia's top Real Estate search sites:

- [RealEstate.com.au](https://www.realestate.com.au)
- [Domain](https://www.domain.com.au)

RENTING

There is a great deal of variance in rental costs. Factors such as property age, square metre size, location and access to amenities and facilities all help to dictate the rental cost of a particular property.

Here are some rental cost examples below:

INNER CITY:

Modern 2-bedroom apartment (Richmond location)	\$450-650 per week
(Clifton Hill location)	\$420-620 per week

SUBURBAN LOCATION:

Contemporary, spacious 4-bedroom home with garden (Deer Park location)	\$380-450 per week
3-bedroom detached house (Maribyrnong location)	\$420-650 per week

BUYING A HOME

Buying your own home has long been thought of as the Great Australian Dream and you will have the opportunity to do the same if you and your family wish too. Prices vary greatly depending on location, features and square metre size. Studio apartments can cost less than \$200,000 whereas large, luxurious homes in the affluent areas of Toorak and Port Melbourne can exceed \$6,000,000!

As a temporary resident on a 457 visa, you can still purchase property. You are generally limited to borrowing up to 80% of the value of the property. However, there are exceptions to this 80% rule, sometimes allowing you to borrow 90%*.

*If you are considering purchasing in conjunction with your Australian or permanent resident spouse (married or de facto), then you may have the option of a 95% home loan providing you have 5% genuine savings.

Additionally, the Victorian Government offers the [First Home Owners Grant](#), which can contribute to significant stamp duty concessions and/ or financial contributions from the Government towards the purchase of your new home.

However, be aware that there are additional costs other than just the purchase price when buying a home in Victoria. These [hidden costs](#) need to be considered when determining your budget.

Here are some purchase cost examples below:

INNER CITY:

2-Bedroom Apartment (Footscray location)	\$350,000-500,000
2-Bedroom Apartment (Kensington location)	\$430,000-550,000

SUBURBAN LOCATION:

Contemporary, spacious 4-bedroom home with garden Deer Park (West Melbourne location)	\$450,000-590,000
3-bedroom detached house (Maidstone location)	\$500,000-800,000



UTILITIES

Whether choosing to rent or purchase property whilst living in Melbourne, you will inevitably have gas and electricity connected to your home. Gas is often used to power showers, ovens, stovetops and heating. Electricity typically powers everything else, however some homes will be gas-free and have electric power throughout.

When you arrive in Melbourne and have arranged accommodation, you will need to contact energy providers to advise them that you wish to be connected. You have the freedom to choose a provider you wish to connect with. Some popular Victorian providers include:

- [AGL](#)
- [Origin](#)
- [Simply Energy](#)
- [Lumo Energy](#)

You can also utilise comparison sites to pinpoint the best offer from a number of providers that they have existing relationships with. Some comparison sites to visit are:

- [Compare the Market](#)
- [Victorian Energy Compare](#)
- [iSelect](#)

AVERAGE COSTS

Family of 4

\$200-600 per quarter for gas and electricity

Couple

\$200 per quarter for gas and electricity

*Highly dependent on whether usage is peak or off peak; peak rates are higher cost. Also consider whether the dwelling is using electricity only or both.

WATER RATES

Victoria has 19 water authorities that service all dwellings and businesses within the state. Which water authority services your home is dependent on your address.

AVERAGE COSTS

Family of 4

\$200-250 per quarter for water

Couple

\$100-150 per quarter for water

* Depending on your lease arrangements, if you are renting, your water costs might be paid for by the landlord.

INTERNET

You will have the option of choosing from a number of Internet Service Providers (ISP) when getting connected within your home. At present, you will need to connect the internet via a phone line until the National Broadband Network (NBN) is complete and live. Providers will often package up a number of services for you with a discount applied for doing so.

For a list of ISPs please visit the link below:

<http://www.idd.com.au/internet-service-providers.php>

Some of Victoria's most popular ISPs include:

- [Telstra](#)
- [Optus](#)
- [TPG](#)
- [iiNet](#)



MOBILE PHONES

Mobile phones in Australia typically operate via 4G, however 3G still functions. Australian networks use the GSM standard. This is the same as most other countries, although some places like the USA and Japan also rely on CDMA. If you have a CDMA-only phone you will not be able to access any of the networks in Australia.

For more information please visit: ['Will my Mobile Phone work in Australia?'](#)

The three major mobile phone network providers are:

- [Telstra](#)
- [Optus](#)
- [Vodafone](#)

GROCERIES

Melbourne has two main supermarket brands found in most suburbs as well as two smaller, more independent supermarkets.

While gourmet items may seem expensive in Melbourne, our staple items are still very reasonably priced.

APPROXIMATE GROCERY COSTS (MELBOURNE):

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| • Eggs (Dozen) | \$3.00-6.50 |
| • Milk (2L) | \$2.00-4.00 |
| • Apples (1Kg) | \$2.70-4.00 |
| • Loaf of Bread | \$0.85-4.00 |
| • Coca-Cola (2L) | \$1.50-3.00 |
| • Cheese (1Kg) | \$9.00-14.00 |
| • Toilet Paper (24 Pack) | \$10.00-15.00 |
| • Tube of Toothpaste | \$1.00-4.00 |

SUPERMARKETS:

- [Woolworths](#)
- [Coles](#)
- [Aldi](#)
- [Ritchies IGA](#)

PETROL

The price of petrol fluctuates regularly but is usually in the region of 0.90c to \$1.50 per litre. Most vehicles operate using unleaded, leaded fuel or Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG).

CARS

Victoria offers a large variety of motor vehicle showrooms, with a large selection of Asian manufacturers as well as European makes. You will certainly be able to obtain a suitable vehicle for your needs. New cars start at approximately \$13,000 on road for a Mitsubishi Mirage, running into the hundreds of thousands of dollars for luxury makes of imported vehicles.

AUSTRALIA'S MOST POPULAR CARS IN 2015 WERE:

Light/ Mini: Hyundai i20, Toyota Yaris, Mazda 2, Mitsubishi Mirage

Small: Mazda 3, Toyota Corolla and Volkswagen Golf

Medium: Toyota Camry, Mazda 6, Subaru Liberty

SUV: Mazda CX-5, Toyota RAV4, Nissan X-Trail

[CarSales](#) is Australia's premier online site for purchasing new and second- hand vehicles.

Some advice for buying a car in Australia:

<http://www.expatarrivals.com/australia/buying-a-car-in-australia>

DINING OUT

Melbourne is renowned for its gourmet restaurants, hip cafés and über trendy bars. Melbourne's multicultural legacy is prevalent in its extraordinary offering of different cuisines – everything from Vietnamese, Malaysian, Indian, Italian, to Afghani, Korean, South African, Hungarian to Peruvian cuisine (and much more) are all available for your tastebuds to explore.

There are hundreds of bars hidden in Melbourne's majestic city laneways as well as very popular bars and pubs in inner suburbs such as Fitzroy, Collingwood, Brunswick, Richmond, St Kilda and South Yarra.

AVERAGE COSTS:

Meal: \$20-40 for a main course per person

Bottle of wine: \$40+ within a restaurant

Bar: \$8-11 for a standard alcoholic drink i.e. Gin & Tonic

Want to find a great place to eat or drink nearby?
Try one of these websites:

- [Trip Advisor](#)
- [Broadsheet](#)
- [Good Food](#)
- [Gourmet Traveller](#)
- [TimeOut](#)

TAXI

Whilst not the most economic means of transport, taxis are readily-available throughout the Melbourne CBD and inner suburbs. Should you wish to hail a taxi outside of these areas, the best option is to phone the switchboard to book direct. Uber also operates within Melbourne as an alternative to traditional taxis.

- [13CABS](#)
Phone: 13 2227
- [Silver Top Taxis](#)
Phone: 131 008
- [Uber](#)



Melbourne is renowned for its gourmet restaurants, hip cafés and über trendy bars.

BEFORE YOU LEAVE



BEFORE YOU LEAVE

REMOVALISTS

Costs and service level will differ somewhat so it is in your best interests to obtain multiple quotes from a range of International Removalists.

Door to door delivery is the easiest option as they will pick up all your belongings and deliver them to your door here in Melbourne. Do be sure to check if storage in Melbourne is included in your quote; you're not necessarily going to be in your new home on the day your belongings arrive so best that you plan for this. By putting items in storage, this allows you time to find where you want to live before your belongings need to be delivered.

Take a note of the transit time for your goods. For example, items from the UK can take 6-12 weeks to arrive.

FACTORS TO CONSIDER BEFORE BOOKING:

- Is insurance included in the price? You will need to have maritime insurance in place to protect your goods and avoid liability.
- Is temporary storage included? Is this something you are going to need?
- Do you need to pack that? Some items are not worth the expense of packing and can just as easily and cheaply be bought in Melbourne.
- Can you bring that? Australia has strict quarantine laws and its important you check you are not bringing in forbidden items - <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/travelling/moving-immigrating>
- Scrub your shoes! Foreign soil and residue is a no-no with Quarantine and carries a hefty fine.

PASSPORT

Ensure that your passport is still active and that the expiry date is more than six months away from your designated arrival date in Australia.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Forensicare strongly recommend that you take out a travel insurance policy prior to leaving your country of origin and to cover yourself during your arrival in Australia.

This will help cover you for unforeseen lost baggage or in the event of any incident en route to Melbourne.

THERE ARE MANY TRAVEL INSURANCE PROVIDERS AVAILABLE WORLDWIDE, HERE ARE SOME EXAMPLES:

- [Allianz Travel](#)
- [BUPA Travel](#)

BOOKING AIRLINE TICKETS

Forensicare highly recommend you don't arrange any travel or book any tickets until your visa and AHPRA Registration have both been pre-approved.

If you book non-changeable flight tickets and/or accommodation, you do run the risk of not being able to meet these dates (due to the changing nature of AHPRA and Immigration Australia processing times).



VISA PROCESS



"Being a mental health nurse is such a rewarding job - especially seeing the patients going through their recovery journey. Just being there to listen validate and reassure brings satisfaction. I don't see myself doing any other job. I've been a mental health nurse for over ten years and i'm still enjoying it."

Esther, Registered Mental Health Nurse
Forensicare

VISA PROCESS

Over 150,000 people enter Australia on 457 visas each year, meaning pressure and demand on the Department of Immigration to process these visas is high. Processing timeframes can be lengthy, hence it is best to complete your application honestly and accurately to avoid additional delays.

WHAT IS A 457 VISA?

A 457 visa, otherwise known as a Temporary Work (Skilled) visa (subclass 457), typically allows a skilled worker to live and work in Australia providing they are sponsored by an approved business or organisation.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS OF A 457:

- It generally has a 4-year duration approval;
- Applicants can often apply for Permanent Residency prior to the 457 visa elapsing (4 years);
- Applicants can usually bring their spouse and any dependants with them as part of a 457 visa;
- Your dependants can work or study in Australia without restriction;
- Applicants and their families can typically travel in and out of Australia as often as they want whilst on a 457 visa;
- A 457 visa can be lodged in your country of origin;
- Processing time is typically 2-3 months from the date of submission.

YOU CAN APPLY FOR A SUBCLASS 457 VISA IF YOU:

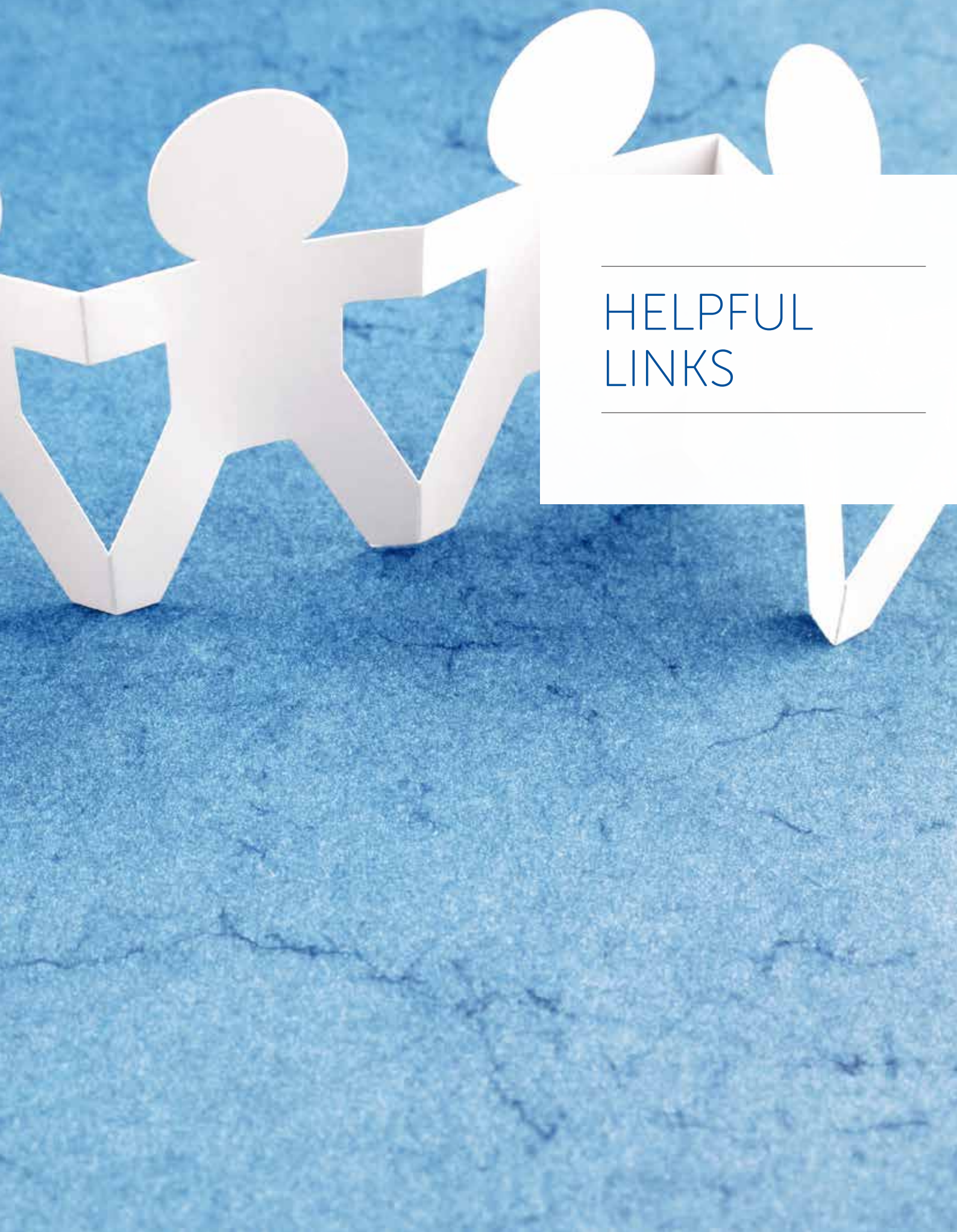
- have been nominated by an employer to work in Australia under standard business sponsorship and you have been advised by that employer to apply for your visa;
- have been nominated by an employer to work in Australia under a labour agreement and you have been advised by that employer to apply for your visa;
- have been nominated to work in Australia on the basis of a transfer within your company and have been advised by your employer to apply for your visa;
- are a member of the family unit of a primary visa applicant who is seeking to be granted a subclass 457 visa on the basis that they meet the primary visa requirements.

LODGING YOUR APPLICATION

Once Forensicare has nominated your position, you can then go online and begin your Application. Follow this link to get started:

<https://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Visa/Apply/Employer-sponsored-workers>

By working through the [457 Visa Document Checklist](#) you can ensure that you provide all required evidence and documentation for your visa application.



HELPFUL LINKS

HELPFUL LINKS

VISA

www.immi.gov.au – Official information for immigrants and visitors to Australia

www.migrateaustralia.com.au – A site where you can enquire and find out more about emigrating to Australia

www.border.gov.au/Trav/Visa - Includes information on how to apply for an Australian visa, use a migration agent, technical guides on ImmiAccount, LEGEND.com and how to attach documents to an application

www.border.gov.au/Forms/Documents/1154.pdf - A comprehensive guide to the 457 visa

www.australia.gov.au/information-and-services/immigration-and-visas/migration-to-australia - Migration to Australia Guide from the Australian Government

MELBOURNE

www.bom.gov.au/vic - All about Melbourne's weather: forecasts, history, etc.

www.metrotrains.com.au - Melbourne's train network

www.ptv.vic.gov.au - Plan your journey here on public transport

www.vicroads.vic.gov.au - Victoria's road authority and also where you register your vehicle and obtain a Victorian Drivers Licence

www.melton.vic.gov.au/Home - Local Council for the Ravenhall District

www.vic.gov.au/government-economy/local-councils/victorian-local-councils.html - A Local Council Directory for the state of Victoria

<http://www.vic.gov.au/environment-water/water/water-authorities.html> - List of Water Authorities in Victoria

<http://www.ambulance.vic.gov.au/> - Ambulance Victoria

<http://www.ses.vic.gov.au/> - Victorian State and Emergency Service

GENERAL INFO

www.australia.gov.au - This website is your connection with government in Australia

www.employment.gov.au - The Department of Employment provides the government with high quality advice, programmes and services

www.fairwork.gov.au - Information about awards, wages and workplace conditions

www.ato.gov.au - Tax information for individuals, Companies and organisations, from the Tax Department of the Australian Federal Government

www.aec.gov.au - The Australian Electoral Commission has details here on how to enrol to vote

www.humanservices.gov.au/customer/subjects/medicare-services - Medicare

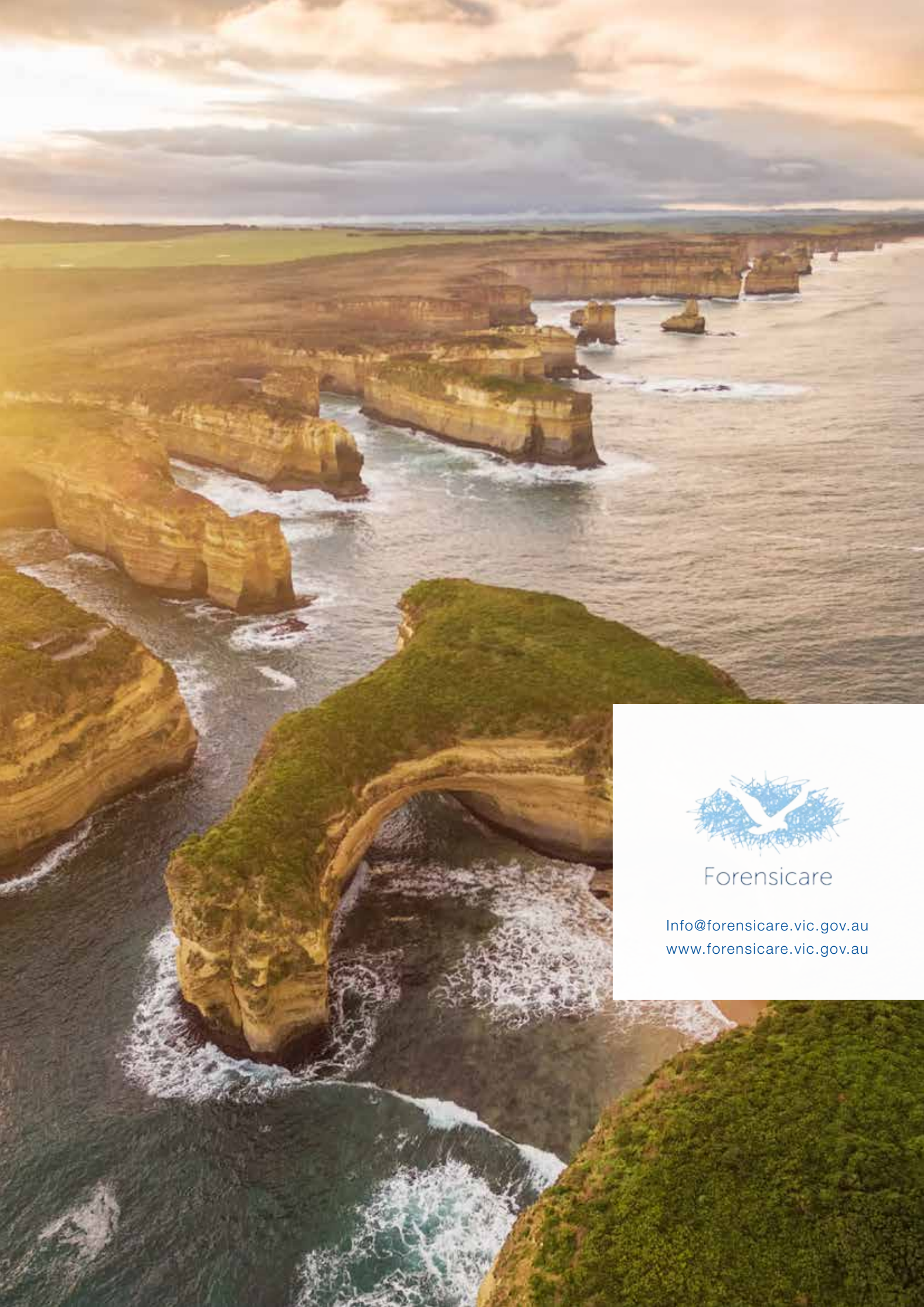
INDUSTRY

www.forensicare.vic.gov.au - Our Forensicare website

www.justice.vic.gov.au – Further information about the Department of Justice, one of Forensicare's key stakeholders

www.corrections.vic.gov.au - Corrections Victoria are one of Forensicare's key stakeholders with regards to Prison Services

www.geogroup.com.au - The GEO Group are a leading provider of outsourced correctional services and the organisation entrusted in managing the Ravenhall Correctional Centre



Forensicare

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