HINTS AND TIPS FOR AURORA INTERNS BY LOCATION

Supplementary document to Aurora’s
Handbook for Interns

November 2018

Proudly funded by the Australian Government
The Aurora Project Placements team would like to thank the many past interns who have contributed information and provided feedback for the Handbook for Interns to help future interns get the most from their placements.

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Introduction

In this document you will find information provided by past interns relating to their internship experience, along with a directory, by location, of Aurora host organisations.

This document is a valuable supplement to ‘General Hints and Tips’, chapter 15 in the December 2015 edition of Aurora’s Handbook for Interns. It includes detailed information from past interns about their experiences not just working within their specific host organisation but also about the cities they have been placed in.

If you are travelling away from home to undertake your internship, we strongly encourage you to read the following pages that directly relate to your placement city.

If you are not travelling away from home, please have a look at the pages relevant to your home city. We rely on feedback from interns to keep our Hints and Tips up to date and appreciate your suggestions at the end of your placement.

What you can expect to gain from your internship overall

• A legitimate career or study-based learning experience in a vocational placement that enhances learning and will inform and inspire your future study and work life.

• The placements are a benefit to you as a student, near-graduate and/or graduate transitioning from education to the workforce (or considering a career change) and create opportunities for those interested in working in the area of Indigenous affairs in general.

• An opportunity to gain hands on experience and insight into working in the area of native title, land rights, policy development, social justice, human rights, public interest law and Indigenous affairs more generally.

• Access to experience and an industry that can otherwise be difficult to access - a great “foot in the door” and a way to create professional relationships in a new network.

• Develop valuable practical legal and research skills in a diverse range of tasks in order to sharpen your skills - skills you have rarely used or did not know you had.

• An opportunity to undertake challenging work in a mentally stimulating work environment, with the ongoing support of the Aurora Placements team throughout your placement.

• Be acknowledged by a group of experienced practitioners and mentors for your commitment, work ethic and overall contribution to your host organisation.

• Greater insight and understanding of what it is like to work in the area and into the professional context of such work.

• Invaluable experience in the field you are passionate about which can be quite transformative and can often lead to paid work.

• The chance to be involved in meaningful work whilst also exposing you to the difficult realities inherent in this area of work and to gain a glimpse at the range of issues impacting Indigenous communities.

• The chance to have an insightful and humbling experience whilst gaining a depth of knowledge of some of the issues facing Indigenous groups in Australia.

• An opportunity to learn a lot, academically and culturally, in the knowledge that the work that you do will often actually be used to help Indigenous Australians.

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1 To access an electronic version of the Handbook for Interns, December 2017, visit www.auroraproject.com.au select heading ‘Native Title’, then select ‘Aurora Internships’, then select ‘About applying for an internship’, at bottom of page is ‘related links’.

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• Allow you to accomplish personal and professional goals.
• Experience disadvantages and injustices faced by Indigenous communities first hand which can be an eye-opening and motivating experience.
• An experience that highlights the importance of access to justice and the positive influence you can have in providing social justice.
• An opportunity to work with talented and committed individuals.
• An opportunity to apply theory to real world practice which is invaluable.
• An opportunity to work autonomously and grow from the experience.
• An experience which may open your mind about your career options and how to best utilise your academic background.
• A memorable, significant and distinguished learning experience which will often far exceed your expectations.
• A more defined idea of your desired career path - often the most rewarding and enlightening learning experience that can be life changing.
• Be able to develop your learning and confidence, which will often set you up for the next chapter in your career path.
• Be inspired to consider pursuing a career in the area.
• The opportunity to take advantage of the numerous career opportunities offered by Aurora as a direct outcome of your internship as well as by joining the Aurora alumni network.

Before you go

• Be sure to read the Internship Induction and Obligations Kit (page xv-xxiii of the Handbook for Interns) carefully before and during your placement.
• Be in contact with the current round of interns where possible, especially in the city in which you are placed.
• Research your placement organisation. Read their website if they have one. Find out as much about the organisation you are going to before you arrive so from the very beginning you can engage with your supervisor/s and co-workers about the work they are doing.
• Try and learn about Indigenous culture and the importance of country before commencing your internship.
• Create a budget for your time on placement. Be aware of what finances you have available to you before you commence, as 5 - 6 weeks is a long time to sustain yourself whilst working full-time (or even part-time) in an unpaid capacity. Sometimes you just don’t realise quite how much money you spend and incidentals often arise (i.e. doctors appointments, the odd lunch out with staff etc.). If you plan this well before you start, you will be more comfortable throughout your placement.
• Scholarships for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander funded interns are paid in weekly installments and will cover daily living expenses. In addition, travel and accommodation costs will be funded for away-from-home placements.
• If you are placed at an NTRB, make every effort to have a manual drivers license before you go.

Other important considerations

The Aurora Project has arranged travel and voluntary insurance cover with ‘Accident & Health Insurance International’ for all interns undertaking an Aurora internship, for anywhere between four and eight weeks.
• **Re: Driving on placement** - Aurora does not have a motor vehicle policy via our existing policy for interns. The host organisation will be required to cover the intern/s under their Motor Fleet Policy for both on-road and off-road activity, when required

• **Re: Air travel on placement** – Aurora interns are only covered by our policy when they fly on scheduled commercial flights. Private chartered flights or helicopters are not covered.

In the past Aurora interns have experienced issues with exclusions to insurance policies for certain types of damage to rental cars. It is important to note, in particular, most car rental companies (Hertz, Budget, Europcar, Thrifty etc) DO NOT provide insurance coverage for flood or water damage, roof damage or under carriage damage. (You will most likely find buried deep in the fine print in your hire contract a section that outlines these exclusions.)

In instances where you are renting a vehicle for personal use during an internship (including getting to and from your placement) please be aware Aurora will not be in a position to assist with the cost of repairs to a rental vehicle should you experience this type of damage. In addition, Aurora’s experience is that repairs for these types of damages can be very costly and run into the thousands of dollars or even tens of thousands of dollars. We recommend you do not drive any vehicle while on placement that does not belong to you without first discussing with the owner of the vehicle (be it a hire company or other organisation or individual) and satisfying yourself as to your personal liability should an accident occur.

**Photography**

Interns are encouraged to take photographs of interest whilst on placement. However, it is important to ensure that you have been granted written permission by your host organisation and/or community and/or individuals to take any photographs of people and/or scenery whilst on placement. (see Photo Release Form)

**Personal issues**

In the event you experience distress or have a grievance whilst on placement, you must immediately contact Kim Barlin, the Aurora Placements Manager, so the problem can be rectified. Kim will liaise, or mediate where necessary, with the relevant parties to resolve the matter as quickly as possible.

**Working environment**

- Try to help out with whatever is going on – not just within your team or unit. Be proactive by introducing yourself to people in the organisation and putting yourself out there to help. This way you will make a greater contribution and be exposed to a wider range of work.

- Assistance of any kind is very much appreciated in light of the lack of funding and resources.

- Be flexible and keep an open mind regarding both people and assignments.

- Listen carefully and show an interest (such as by asking questions – but not too many!).

- Seek clarification if you are unsure but try to maintain a degree of self-sufficiency.

- Take up any opportunities to tag along ‘on country’ – it’s a great opportunity to meet some of the individuals involved in some of the topical issues, as well as a fantastic way to see more of Australia! Be understanding if the opportunity does not arise.

- Don’t be afraid to discuss any particular areas of interest you have with your supervisors – they are generally keen to make this a really positive experience for you, and it can assist them when considering the kind of work to give you.

- Establish good relationships with staff members – they will be your most valuable source of information.

- Show initiative by undertaking self-directed research on local issues relating to your host organisation.
  - Be positive
- Try to fit in seamlessly
- Don't put too much pressure on yourself to get your head around the native title process straight away - it's complex and takes time.

- Host organisations are often under-funded and under-resourced. As a result there is potential for interns to be given a relatively high degree of autonomy in completing tasks given to them, and for these tasks to be quite important in the context of the work done by the organisation. The most challenging thing about the internship - the sense of being thrown in the deep end - is also the most rewarding aspect. Pace yourself, do what you can, ask questions when you need to and remember that when work is done on an important task there is a great sense of satisfaction at having been useful in some way.

- In the words of a past intern, “expect to be at the bottom of the hierarchy, to not take anything personally and to use the experience to practice participant observation skills, and much will be revealed!”

- Sitting at a desk
  Please be aware that placements will often require that interns sit at a desk for 4 to 6 weeks, 7 hours/day. This can be challenging, especially where interns are encountering a full-time work scenario for the first time. Please be sure to take breaks every hour, move away from the computer screen and walk around. It is also preferable to take a lunch break and get some fresh air.

Sitting at a computer for long periods often causes neck and shoulder stiffness and occasionally lower back pain. Do these stretches (on the following page) every hour or so through the day, or whenever you feel stiff, experience headaches and generally need a healthy break.
Your safety

Be wary of travelling alone, particularly to the more regional areas, and particularly at night. In a cross-cultural setting and a foreign physical environment, men and women can both be faced with difficult circumstances and possible threats to their physical and emotional well-being. You should therefore be wise and cautious and have company wherever possible.

In some rural and remote placements, be warned that the wider community can sometimes be quite hostile to native title, land rights and the work of the land council, or organisation.

Suggested reading


Age and gender

Age and gender are significant influences when engaging cross-culturally in any capacity – but particularly so in an Indigenous community. Not all knowledge can be accessed by outsiders and you are also not neutral. You have a subject position and will be understood by the traditional owners and claimant groups in terms that relate specifically to your gender and your age.

Gender may be pivotal to how you are engaged, the level of access you may have to men/women in a working capacity, and may shape the extent of knowledge shared with you. Issues of your age and gender will impact upon you as an intern. New non-Indigenous workers can often receive good practical advice from Indigenous workers, especially field officers, about the extent to which it is acceptable or appropriate to work with traditional owners of the opposite sex. Do not assume that the sensitivities around this issue are the same in all communities, or the same as in mainstream Australian society. The following is a list of suggested readings that deal with these and related topics.

Suggested readings on age and gender issues:


Some things you might like to bring

• In the event that you go ‘on country’ for any length of time consider taking appropriate clothing (long sleeved shirt, trousers, boots) as well as things that could be expensive in regional areas, e.g. fly net, insect repellent, bottled water etc.
• Small first aid kit
• Hat, camera, personal medication and needs (contact lens fluid etc.)
• Backpack that can fit 3 days’ worth of clothing, work documents, toiletries and food for day trips
• A journal – this is likely to be one of the most unique experiences of your life so record your experiences and observations
• Shopping bags (those durable green/blue bags that you get from Coles or Woolworths)
• Take a radio: great company when spending time at night in your room. A laptop with a DVD player would also provide easy access to entertainment (but make sure you have somewhere secure to store it).

Cross-cultural awareness

If you are Indigenous, previous Indigenous interns have suggested being clear with your host organisation on what questions you are or are not comfortable answering about culture and Indigeneity, so that you aren’t caught off guard with potentially invasive questions during your placement.

For all interns, specifically placed at NTRBs, NTSPs and Aboriginal corporations but possibly at other host organisations:

• Be aware of the complex and often sensitive relationships the host organisation might have with their clients, especially in the case where a native title claim has been going on for some years. If approached by a client or stakeholder of your host to answer a query, always clearly explain your role up front, which is that of an intern, and therefore that you are not in a position to give feedback, even if you are sure that you have the correct information.
• In such instances, always defer to your supervisor as anything you say could be misunderstood or misconstrued and could jeopardise a very complex relationship between your host and their clients and have negative repercussions even after your placement has ended.
• Be aware that some situations may become problematic due to the sensitive nature of the issues being discussed, the barriers imposed by cross-cultural relationships and expectations held by clients.
• Listen carefully, and show an interest. When claimants hear that you are an intern, they are often eager to share their knowledge with you and to encourage you to get involved in the native title process.
• Listening is incredibly important – don’t assume you know an Indigenous person or community’s story.
• Kinship, familial terms (such as aunty, uncle, brother, sister etc.) or skin names are sometimes used as terms of respect to address Indigenous elders. A ‘whitefella’ using these terms may cause animosity in different groups so use them only if invited to do so.
• Newcomers can be met with wariness. Do not take offence to this and approach the situation with
• Refrain from taking photographs of people and places without asking permission from your host organisation or community members.

• Try to keep your emotions in check when confronted with a situation where claimants feel the need to vent their anger due to the difficulties they may have encountered in seeking native title. It is not directed at you. Listen with empathy and respect and then defer to your supervisor.

• Let it be generally known that you are keen to go ‘on country’, even to those who work in other sections of your host organisation. It’s best however not to have an expectation that this might happen to avoid disappointment.

• If you are fortunate to be invited to go ‘on country’, always check with your supervisor as to what the appropriate protocol would be in regards to dress code and addressing community members, particularly traditional owners.

• Be patient. This is the way one learns most about culture, history and the specific developments relating to a claim.

• When attending working group meetings it is a good idea (where appropriate) to introduce yourself before or at the start of the meeting. Claimants will often be interested to know where you are from and why you are there.

• We understand that sensitive and confidential information will be shared with Aurora interns in order to facilitate their understanding of the work that their host organisation does, and to enable interns to contribute in a meaningful way. With this in mind, we ask that interns take special care not to be drawn into the internal politics of their host organisation as it is often difficult for interns to assess differences of opinion between work colleagues and/or clients, and this can cause undue stress and confusion in their efforts to please and assist. Aurora and host organisation supervisors have a duty of care to ensure that interns are able to learn about and contribute to host organisations in a healthy environment. If you find yourself in a challenging position in this regard, please get in touch with the Placements team as soon as possible, to help you resolve this.
Hints and tips from interns, by location and host

Western Australia
South-west organisations
Perth

Perth weather

Temperature
Summer: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 24°C to an average maximum of 35°C
Winter: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 10°C to an average maximum of 24°C

Climate
The landscape of Western Australia is very varied, and the climate varies accordingly. The coastal area in the south-west corner around Perth is very temperate, with a fairly low level of rainfall during the summer (it also gets some hot, dry winds).

Perth tourist information

Tourist Office
Western Australian Visitors Centre Albert Facey House, Forrest Place, Perth Phone: 1300 361 351
www.westernaustralia.net

Perth medical information

Travel Medicine Centre
5 Mill Street, Perth Phone: 08 9321 7888 www.travelmed.com.au

Royal Perth Hospital Victoria Square, Perth Phone: 08 9224 2244 www.rph.wa.gov.au

Perth transport

Look into getting a student card or student pass for the transport system before you get to Perth. You will need your school to be on an approved list or have the university fill out a form and mail it to the Transperth office. If you plan to travel as a student then you must purchase a Smartrider for bus, train and ferry travel. You can buy a standard Smartrider pass then go online and change it to a tertiary student card (through your university) which gives you the student discount. For more information go to www.transperth.wa.gov.au/TicketsandFares/SmartRider/BuyingSmartRider/StudentSmart Riders/tabid/90/Default.aspx

Bus
Public transport (run by Transperth) in Perth is very comprehensive and easy to use. The City Area Transit (CAT) buses within the city centre are free (in the area between Northbridge, the Causeway, the river and Kings Park). On all other buses, the cost of a ticket will depend on the number of zones you’re travelling through. Some money-savers include the DayRider (a day pass, available weekdays after 9am). Note that past interns have advised making use of the train network in Perth, as buses can be slow due to roadwork.
Train
Transperth also operates the train system, and you can use the same ticket across all services within that zone. Once again, travel is free in the city centre (between Claisebrook and City West stations). Taxis travel is reportedly the easiest and most reliable way of getting around in Perth by public transport (apparently buses are much less reliable). A Smartrider is required to travel free of charge in the city. If you plan to travel as a student then you must purchase a Smartrider. The Smartrider only costs $10, it’s quick and there is a 15% discount on the fare. www.transperth.wa.gov.au/SmarRider/WhatsSmarRider/tabid/237/Default.aspx

Taxi
Swan Taxis: 13 13 30. Keep in mind that outside of the city cabs can be quite difficult to get late at night on the weekend, so plan movement at these times carefully

From the airport:
Bus: Transperth bus No.37 travels between the domestic airport and the city bus terminal every half hour, and will cost around $3. If you’re feeling tired after your flight, you can get the Airport-City Shuttle Bus for around $9, which will drop you off at all hostels/hotels in the city centre.
Taxi will cost around $25 from the domestic airport to the city.
The taxi service in Perth is widely known to be very unreliable. It is fine if booking in advance to go to the airport etc however if calling one to get home after a night out you can expect to wait for a long time.

Food and shopping in Perth

Shopping
You shouldn’t have any problem locating a Woolworths or Coles supermarket – ask at your accommodation where the nearest store is. Additionally, you can try: City Fresh Fruit Company (393 William Street): To stave off the possibility of scurvy, go here for all your fresh fruit and vegetable dietary needs.
• Kakulas Bros (14 William Street, Northbridge): European delicatessen (closed Sundays).
• Subiaco Markets: lots of cheap fruit & veges and is close to the city www.subiacomarkets.com.au
• Golden Gate Supermarket in Subiaco (close to the train) is amazing and full of cheap vegetables and a huge range of Asian specialty foods http://goldenchoicefresh.com.au/
• If you’re in Fremantle, Galatis is the best choice for fruit or veg and bulk items http://www.galatiandsons.com.au/

Dining out in Perth

Cheap meals
• Food halls are always a good option (although if you’re looking for quality they won’t necessarily be your first stop). Check out the Metro Food Hall (corner Hay and William Streets) and the Carillon Arcade Food Hall (Carillon Arcade).
• Aldas (Wolf Lane): Operated by Melbourne-ites who wanted to bring a slice of the Melbourne Cafe culture to Perth. Tucked down a side alley off Murray Street (next to Country Road), it doesn’t offer much in the way of food but the waiters are generous with wine tastings.
• Brew-Ha, The Ritual (Shop 3-4, 162 Rokeby Road, Subiaco): Comfortable coffee shop.
• E-Sense (193 Hay Street, Perth): They offer fabulous service, great coffees and yummy and reasonably priced cooked breakfasts. Great way to start a working day with the other interns if you can get out of bed early.
• Ginos (1 South Terrace, Fremantle): A fabulous coffee shop located on the buzzing Cappuccino Strip in Fremantle. Amazing breakfast menu, lovely Italian dinners, and delicious range of cakes. They go through 150 kg of coffee per week! Great place to sit and enjoy the sunshine and watch the world go by www.ginoscafe.com.au

• Govinda’s Restaurant (200 William Street, Northbridge): Vegetarian, mains $2 to $6.

• Han’s Café (245 William Street, Northbridge and 822 Hay Street, Perth): Good value Vietnamese food (mains $7 to $12). www.hanscafe.com.au

• Il Lido (88 Marine Parade, Cottesloe): A modern Italian restaurant just opposite Cottesloe beach, with high ceilings and communal Wagamama-style dining on long cedar tables www.llido.com.au

• Little Creatures Brewery (40 Mews Road, Fremantle): A favourite, especially on Sunday afternoons after a morning swim at the beach. The brewery is housed in a converted boat shed that was previously a crocodile farm. Beer is poured fresh from the conditioning tanks and there is a buzzing, somewhat alternative atmosphere. Great food also, especially vegetarian options. Enjoy the atmosphere out on the back overlook looking the fishing boat harbour – watch sunset over a game of bocce in their bocce pit www.littlecreatures.com.au

• Red Teapot (413 William Street, Northbridge): Big range of Chinese dishes for a relatively cheap price (mains $8 to $14).

• Tiger Tiger (329 Murray Street, Northbridge) is great for coffee.

• Utopia (109 James Street) is affordable Chinese and vegetarian place to eat ($10-$15 per main).

• Lotus Vegetarian (2/220 James Street): famous ‘all you can eat’ buffet offered on Fri, Sat and Sun for lunch and dinner ($13 - $17) www.yongcorp.com.au

• Taka Japanese, Shafta Lane, 347-417 Murray Street): value for money and open 11am to 9pm Monday to Saturday.

• Anna Lakshmi (Jetty No4, Barrack Street) ‘Eat as you like, pay as you feel’. www.annalakshmi.com.au

• Sussa Coffee House (4/135 Royal Street): just down the road from DAA and does really interesting coffee – think Brazilian cappuccinos, Vietnamese lattes, chilli-choc mochas. And they have a little place for you to leave your loyalty card there so you never forget it.

• City Farm Café (1 City Farm Place) If you are at the DAA in East Perth, walk down to Claisebrook cove to refresh, or eat some amazing food from the Perth City Farm. Perth City Farm is directly across the road from DAA and is great for lunch during the week and groceries on Saturday morning. http://perthcityfarm.org.au Their Prana Chai lattes are delicious.

• The Royal Cambodia (37/82 Royal Street) is a fantastic place for cheap and satisfying meals.

• Nagoya Japanese (Adelaide Terrace) has amazing sushi and bento boxes.

• Baker’s Terrace (Adelaide Terrace): delicious baked goods and rolls.

• Get to Fremantle whenever you can, there are some excellent bars and food there...particularly recommend Istanbul Turkish Restaurant!

If you’re feeling rich.....

• Crown Perth Casino (Great Eastern Highway, Burswood): Other than the gambling the Crown complex offers a number of restaurants and bars such as Rockpool Bar & Grill, Nobu and The Merrywell. www.crownperth.com.au

• Café Bocca (Shop 4, Shafta Lane, Perth): Italian dishes (and strong coffee) in a beautiful courtyard.

• Chutney Mary’s (67 Rokey Rd, Subiaco): Great Indian food.

• Must Wine bar (519 Beaufort Street, Highgate): If you feel like having a swanky night, go here for some French food and an extensive wine list.

• Royal Bar & Brasserie (Royal Street corner Plain Street, East Perth): Fabulous location right on the water, Royal is one of several restaurants. Great fine dining if you feel like spoiling yourself.

• Kaditi Internet Café to make a reasonable brew of coffee (201 Beaufort Street, Northbridge 6000).
Entertainment in Perth

Outdoor

• Cottesloe Beach is one of the most stunning stretches of beach. Enjoy a sunset over the ocean from the beach or one of the pubs – you haven’t seen Perth properly unless you do this. Have an afternoon swim, then dinner at Barcetta, which is nearby. www.barchetta.com.au

• Rottnest Island is a fabulous getaway for a day or a weekend if you can borrow a tent to camp (recommended). Gorgeous beaches and a few nice bars on the water such as the Quokka Arms. A return ferry from Fremantle will cost about $50 if you have a valid student concession. www.rotnestisland.com

• Swimming: There are some beautiful beaches in Perth. If you’re into surfing, check out Scarborough and Trigg Island (the latter can be dangerous in rough weather). If you prefer to just go for a swim, head down to Crawley or Peppermint Grove beaches. If you forgot to bring a swimsuit with you, go to Swanbourne, where everyone else will be naked too!

• If you do travel out of Perth, keep in mind there are public pools in Newman, Leonora and Port Hedland. Trust me, you will need to visit the pool, as it is so humid in these towns that as soon as you step off the plane you feel like you need a shower.

Sights and activities

• Fringe Festival in the city in January/February – so many great things to see on all budgets!

• Northbridge often have events and festivals during the summer, which are usually advertised online www.cityofperth.wa.gov.au

• Fremantle Prison is great to visit for a sense of the history of the area. They operate a spotlight tour by night which is good fun. www.fremantleprison.com.au

• Margaret River wine region is worth the trip. Take a bus from Perth and check out some of the great wineries. www.margaretriver.com.au

• The Maritime Museum in Fremantle is definitely worth a visit.

• Take a trip to the Gravity Centre.

• Perth Cultural Centre (William Street, close to Perth Train Station): Houses the museum, library, art gallery and the Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts.

• Swan Bell Tower (Barrack Street Jetty): Home for the historic bells donated by the Academy of St-Martin-in-the-Fields, London. You can climb up to the lookout and hear the bells ringing daily at lunchtime. www.swanbells.com.au

• Swan Valley Vineyards: Extends along the river between Guildford and the Upper Swan, and various tours and wine tastings are available.

• Kings Park is a must on a sunny day.

• Whale watching: Between September and December you can see the humpback whales as they make their way south. Various types of tours are available, so it’s probably a good idea to check out the tourist office for one catering to your interests/swimming abilities.

• If you are here in Winter, then check out X-Press magazine (Smartphone App) to find cool stuff to do. If you’re here in Summer, my personal tip...go to Breakfast (Boxing Day cultural institution)!

Nightlife in Perth

Cinemas

• Cinema Paradiso (Galleria Complex, 164 James Street, Northbridge): Arthouse films.


• Moonlight Cinema (Kings Park): Open-air movies from Tuesday to Sunday, December to April.
Bars and nightclubs

- **Carnegies (356 Murray Street):** A rock 'n' roll themed bar that also has branches in Hong Kong, Taipei and Kuala Lumpur. Go on a Wednesday night for a dance and half-price cocktails from the extensive menu [www.carnegies.net](http://www.carnegies.net)
- **399 (399 William Street, Northbridge):** Huge selection of drinks and great mulled wine. It's a bit pricey but worth it.
- **Grosvenor Hotel (339 Hay Street, Perth):** Good place for a relaxed drink, and usually has live music from Wednesday to Sunday. [www.thegrosvenorperth.com.au](http://www.thegrosvenorperth.com.au)
- **La Bog (361 Newcastle Street, Northbridge):** With a name like this, it had to be an Irish pub. Very popular – is usually crowded with drinkers and dancers ’til the late hours of the early morning.
- **La Sing (261 Gouger St):** a Korean karaoke bar which serves cheap drinks, great food, and a great selection of songs to perform on stage in front of active crowd.
- **Queens Hotel (520 Beaufort St, Mt Lawley):** Loads of local and imported beer on tap. Great quality food but not all that cheap for pub grub. Good atmosphere with inside and outside dining. You will need to book a table on Fridays and Saturdays. [www.thequeens.com.au](http://www.thequeens.com.au)
- **Mustang Bar (46 Lake Street, Northbridge):** American bar usually with a DJ mixing some tunes. Come here to laugh at the moose heads on the walls (or have a conversation with them, depending on your state of sobriety).
- **Universal Bar (221 William Street):** Jazz and blues, with live music Monday to Saturday. It also has awesome cocktails. [www.universalbar.com.au](http://www.universalbar.com.au)
- **Windsor Hotel (112 Mill Point Road, South Perth):** A funky bar that serves beer in long pint glasses. Has a beautiful garden bar which is popular on Saturday nights.
- **Belgian Beer Café (347 Murray Street, Perth):** Great range of Belgian beer, but at a cost. In the past you've had to leave one of your shoes behind the bar as security for the fishbowl glasses! [www.belgianbeer.com.au](http://www.belgianbeer.com.au)
- **For classical music, the Perth Concert Hall (5 St. Georges Terrace) is the place to go. For listings, check their website: [www.perthconcerthall.com.au](http://www.perthconcerthall.com.au)**
- **Brookfield Place, on St Georges Terrace, has quite a few new bars which are nice to visit after work or on the weekend. [www.brookfieldplaceperth.com](http://www.brookfieldplaceperth.com)**
- **The Bird (Williams St, Northbridge) is a great bar and venue for local live music. Mechanics Institute, Sneaky Tony's are also great in Northbridge [http://www.williamstreetbird.com/](http://www.williamstreetbird.com/)**
- **Greenhouse Bar at 100 St Georges Terrace is amazing. They have great craft beers on tap along with nice food which is all grown themselves!**

**Tips from past interns**

**General**

- WA law only recognises Australian drivers licences, passports and WA proof of age cards as ID.
- **Try** to stay in the suburbs such as Fremantle or Northbridge, as the CBD is pretty lifeless outside of office hours. Anywhere along the train line is good. If you are looking for an active, bustling city vibe, East Perth will disappoint. Fremantle is a great area to be based, only 20 minutes by train to the CBD, close to the beach, and there’s always a party on.
- That said, Perth is extremely sprawled and public transportation is still lagging behind, so location is everything. Depending on the suburb, it can take hours to public transport to and from the host organisation. Finding accommodation that is either near the city centre or within walking distance to a train-line or bus port is
Aboriginal Health Council of Western Australia (AHCWA)

- AHCWA is located on Beaufort Street, Highgate. The location is very accessible both by public transport and by car. Buses regularly stop right out the front of the organisation and it is pretty easy to find free parking in the back streets behind the office.
- Beaufort St is nice to walk along during your lunch break to get some sunshine.
- Highgate has lots of high quality food/restaurants however they are a little pricey (especially for a student). Recommend bringing lunch if possible because AHCWA has a well-equipped staffroom. Also eating lunch with the staff there from different areas within the organisation was a valuable experience. AHCWA has a really welcoming and fun workplace culture.
- Every Monday morning there is a staff meeting so that everyone is aware of what is going on in each department.
- Just show up with the right attitude, they are a very accommodating workplace.
- Past interns’ tasks have included:
  - Researching existing youth health strategies at local, state and national levels
  - Writing reports in response to WAs methamphetamine action plan, and the issues surround My Health Record and Aboriginal data sovereignty.

Aboriginal Legal Service WA (ALSWA), Perth

- If you are going to intern with Care & Protection, check with your supervisor if you will need a Working With Children Check as soon as you find out about your placement.
Central Desert Native Title Services (CDNTS)

- CDNTS is made up of three parts of the organisation, and the legal team is fairly small.

- Central Desert is just outside the main business district, a few minutes’ walk from Mcyver train station (Claisebrook station and Perth Central station are also less than 10 mins walk away). It takes about 10 mins to walk into the city centre and 5 minutes to the East Perth café strip.

- If you stop at the Claisebrook station, you will enter the back of the CDNTS building from Royal Street.

- For interns who are traveling into Perth city and getting off at the Perth underground station, I found that catching the Yellow CAT rather than the Red CAT saved me time and walking distance. The Yellow CAT takes you about 4-5 stops and drops you at ‘Wellington Square’ which is just on the opposite side the park that CDNTS is on: do be careful though, as the park is notorious for violence after dark.

- If you are driving to the office remember to register to use the carpark at reception, the City of Perth can give out infringements to unregistered cars.

- As for where it is best to stay if you’re coming to Perth, it depends how far you are prepared to travel — but essentially Perth city bus/train stations are usually just a short walk away so you can plan the public transport. Some good suburbs nearby to live in would be East Perth, South Perth, Nedlands, Subiaco, Northbridge, Murdoch, Cottesloe — plus all their neighbouring suburbs — but essentially near the city would be ideal.

- Before you begin your internship, spend a few hours looking at the map for the geographical area you are about to be dealing with, and practice reading and saying out loud the different locations. I found some locations were pronounced very differently to the way they were written, and it led to confusion when transcribing client interviews and understanding general conversation around the office.

- It would be helpful to do some pre-arrival research about native title law and the basic concepts and cases, which should be read as background.

- Recommended reading: Clare Land’s ‘Decolonising Solidarity’.

- If you don’t want to read a lot before starting, definitely take the time to look on Youtube for videos relating to different claim groups. I watched Rabbit Proof Fence, and some videos about sacred country in one claim I was working on (on the advice of my supervisor), which definitely helped in building my understanding. I was given a copy of Putuparri and the Rainmakers to watch on my arrival. I would thoroughly recommend people watching this prior to starting for some context.

- It is best for an intern/Aurora to check that the supervisor(s) they are dealing with will actually still be at CDNTS when the intern is there. Check before starting the internship. The other thing is that a supervisor who is a lawyer may well be away on country when the intern starts and you will need to be self-directed in your work.

- Central Desert has a terrific induction routine and a very warm and welcoming work culture. It is a good idea to be friendly in return. Many of the staff even those doing non-legal work would inquire into what I was working on (on the advice of my supervisor), which definitely helped in building my understanding. I was given a copy of Putuparri and the Rainmakers to watch on my arrival. I would thoroughly recommend people watching this prior to starting for some context.

- Don’t be afraid to ask questions. The staff at CDNTS are very passionate about the areas and people they work for and they have an immense amount of knowledge of the history of the area and the people who live there. As CDNTS deals with huge amount of land in the Western Desert it can be daunting on understand exactly what needs to be done and why. Asking questions allowed me to understand exactly what I was doing and the region it was relevant to.

- If you are placed in winter, you may participate in field trips in the middle of the Central Desert and, under these circumstances, reception for your phone or internet will probably be limited. Though connectivity is not required, if you would like to stay connected, one suggestion is to have a NextG Telstra Phone so that you can have better coverage. Also, most of the staff carry their laptops with them on fieldtrips, so feel free to take yours as well. In doing so, if you want to access the internet you may need to purchase a Telstra USB internet modem and an additional aerial for better coverage.
• Make sure you bring clothes that are appropriate for central WA, in case you have the opportunity to go on country. It gets very hot in summer and very cold in winter. Either way, clothes should be loose, comfortable and not too fancy (not least because they will certainly get covered in red dirt). If the opportunity to go on country arises, CDNTS has some handy documents drawn up about trips to country that would be useful to read before going on fieldtrips.
• In winter the legal offices are generously heated (politely meaning they are overheated and very warm). It is best to dress in light layers of clothing to remove as the heat builds up.
• In some areas Central Desert travels to there is an increased risk of certain diseases so it is a good idea to make sure immunisations are up to date; just visit your GP before you leave and tell them you may be travelling to remote Indigenous communities and see what they recommend.
• After undertaking a field trip, Central Desert often allow you to come in later the next morning as you often fly back into Perth after 8pm. It is a good idea to take the chance to have a sleep-in if a late start is offered by your supervisor, as it takes a while for your body to adjust from travelling (particularly as meetings on country can be so intensive).
• You can request your own key to the office if needed.
• The office usually run soup and curry days on Mondays, so make sure you have spare change (between $3-$5) so you can share lunch with everyone.
• There are plenty of good coffee stops and sushi places just behind the CDNTS office. CDNTS provides you with an excellent map of where everything is during the induction.
• The local IGA has wonderful and affordable curry. It is only a five minute walk, and there is a beautiful park nearby with a lake and several water fountains.
• The Japanese place for lunch just around the corner from CDNTS has amazing teriyaki fish. Going and reading a book in the sun at Perth City Farm is a wonderful way to relax over lunch.
• If you are doing genealogy work, you will likely be using OmniGraffle software.
• As lightweight as this may sound, in winter time the legal offices are generously heated (politely meaning they are overheated and very warm). It is best to dress in light layers of clothing to remove as the heat builds up.

Cross Country Native Title Services

• This host does not currently have a website. Past interns suggest getting in touch with them before the placement to find out more about the organisation and the kind of work that you would be undertaking.
• You are required to bring your own laptop.
• Expect a really relaxed atmosphere with a moderate pace you’ll really enjoy. As long as you give your best, you’ll do just fine.
• It’s right in the middle of the city, there are arcades, Asian restaurants, fast food - anything you can think of.

Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries – Aboriginal Culture and History WA (DLGSCI-ACHWA) – formally the Department of Aboriginal Affairs

• The Yellow Cat bus can be caught from the Wellington street bus station in the city and stops right outside of the DAA building. You can also get off earlier at the Wellington Fair bus stop and cut across Wellington park, which saves some time.
• The closest train station is Claisebrook, which is a 5-minute walk to the office.
• The public transport costs are very high, so try and stay somewhere as close as possible to East Perth.
• If you need to drive, there is a public car park across the road (approximately $13 for the day). Parking is very limited.
• The DAA AACSC is a fairly formal section within the DAA. Suits are not necessary but the standard of dress is higher than in other areas.
• Be aware that your role may change frequently and be prepared for some interesting challenges.
• If you are assigned with a separate research task, I would recommend asking your colleagues for as much information as possible before you try and figure out everything for yourself. Not only does this mean that you will have a better start on the project, but it is a chance to build a rapport with the other members of your team, or colleagues in other areas that you might not encounter otherwise. Also, be friendly and chatty to colleagues in all departments. My best contacts were made not in the legal section, but in many other departments within my host organisation. People are willing to help and mentor young students, make the most of it.
• Ask everybody about how the organisation works, where they work and where they fit in in the overall structure. It’s not a stupid question, most people don’t know themselves and they love to talk about the politics of the organisation, the different ministers that have overseen it and the difficulties in Indigenous affairs. The staff were all very supportive and willing to assist if I had any questions, or share their own stories – take every opportunity to have a chat and share your own story.
• Don’t forget ‘casual Fridays’ dress, and don’t forget to take your door pass every day!
• Read the ‘What’s on’ daily email that goes out - there are very interesting articles on poignant topics.
• The sushi place up the road has gluten free soy sauce.
• Always take up an offer for coffee or lunch with your team or co-workers, even if it’s just a 10-minute break to walk up the road.
• Expect to do a lot of research.

Goldfields Land and Sea Council (GLSC)

• The Perth Office is now at: Level 4, 251 St Georges Terrace PERTH WA 6000. It is quite a walk to the city centre and the courts - so I would recommend taking a bus down (which are within the free transit zone).
• For those working in Perth, Hay Street Backpackers is in a great location and is in walking distance to the office. www.hostelz.com/hostel/11685-Hay-Street-Backpackers
• The bus takes a long time to get to East Perth in the morning and leaving in the evening due to the presence of extensive construction works in the CBD at the present. A map of the current roadworks can be found at www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/usingroads/roadtrafficinformation/roadworkscllosures/pages/ cbdprojects.aspx
• It is much easier and faster to catch the free CAT buses to East Perth than to travel down St Georges Terrace in the morning. All buses that are on St Georges Terrace are free and run all day up and down the terrace.
• If you are offered a trip to the Head Office, take it up, and follow it up as staff are busy, some days you may be forgotten and you may miss your chance.
• Favourite sandwich place was called ‘Toastface Grillah’ and coffee place was ‘Mo’s Espresso’! Within walking distance from the Perth Office are Cloisters Square and Shafto Lane. Both locations provide great options to go have lunch, and are very popular with office workers.
• The Perth office is right on the edge of the city and it’s easier to pack lunch than to go out and buy it.
• On the dresscode - the GLSC office is more casual than expected. You don’t need to rock up in a suit. Neat, conservative and modest clothing is appropriate. Friday is casual-dress day and jeans are commonplace.
• The best aspects of the program are that you are able to gain an unvarnished view of what working in native title law involves, and are able to learn from your mentors’ experiences. During my placement I was confronted with the many obstacles, challenges and frustrations that NTRBs face, which has given me a whole new level of respect for people working in native title.

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• Socialize with people at the office, GLSC has a multicultural environment where people are incredibly friendly. It is a great opportunity to meet people who have been in the sector for a number of years and from whom you might learn quite a bit. Particularly, get to know the anthropology consultants, you can learn a lot from them. Just go and have a chat with them. Don’t be afraid to ask questions and make friends with your colleagues. I have found that lunchtime conversations were one of the most revealing and educational times for me during my internship.

• A tip for future interns would be to ‘test the waters’ on their first day - take note of whether the staff follow a set ‘9 to 5’ schedule or if their work hours vary according to what projects they are working on.

• Research some major native title cases that had previously succeeded or failed. For example, an extract of Lindgren J’s judgement in the Wongatha land claim might be useful as a point of reference for future interns.

• Keep in contact where possible with supervisors and staff at your host organisation. My supervisor and colleagues have been really helpful and encouraging with regards to finding work in the area, offering references and advice, and even help with job applications.

• GLSC has two offices, Kalgoorlie office has more staff, and most of the administrative and project assistance is located there. There is also a permanent heritage section. The Perth office has less staff, but it houses the majority of the legal staff. The Perth office staff visit Kalgoorlie on a regular basis and all of the claim group meetings (at which the lawyers get instructions) are conducted in Kalgoorlie or a surrounding town.

• Offices that are based in the city centres will not usually be involved in much hands-on anthropological research. My experience as an Anthropology intern mostly involved converting research that had been done ‘on-site’ into a digital, readable format.

• State at the start of the placement what you would like to gain from the internship, so that both your supervisor and yourself are on the same page.

• If you are confused about any instructions you receive, make sure you ask your supervisor for clarification before you start a task.

**National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT)**

• I would recommend interns doing some light reading: an article “Getting the most out of the future act process”, which is written by Deputy President Sumner, and discusses the whole process. [www.nntt.gov.au/News-and-Communications/Speeches-and-Papers/Pages/Getting_the_most_out_of_the_future_act_process.aspx](http://www.nntt.gov.au/News-and-Communications/Speeches-and-Papers/Pages/Getting_the_most_out_of_the_future_act_process.aspx)

• Ask as many questions as you can - the staff are eager to assist you with understanding something or to talk about the work they do, and you might have an opportunity come up that you weren’t expecting.

• The Government House gardens (next door) are a bit of an oasis in the busy city. They are stunning place to sit and have a quiet lunch if you’re in need of some fresh air and greenery.

• Lots of people walk down the Causeway at lunchtime, and the path next to the water is particularly beautiful on a still day. Just cross the road from the Federal Court buildings.

**South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council (SWALSC)**

• The Department of Aboriginal Affairs website; the Department of Regional Development & Department of Lands websites; the National Native Title Tribunal website and particularly the Environmental Defender’s Office website can be particularly useful for research.

• ‘It’s Still In My Heart, This is My Country’ is a book about Noongar culture and heritage written to support the South West Noongar Native Title Claim by SWALSC researchers and is probably more of interest to anthropology interns than legal interns because of the current progress of the Noongar settlement, but is useful to all interns for background, historical and cultural information. It is quite dense though.

• Also for historical background is Nyungar Tradition by Lois Tilbrook (about Noongar family and social history); and For Their Own Good by Anna Haebich (about the history of Aboriginal peoples in WA). Optional but also related is Spinning the Dream by Anna Haebich (about Aboriginal assimilation in Australia.
• If you are doing a legal internship you should read the case Bennell v the State of WA which is the Federal Court decision recognising the existence of the Noongar Nation and their potential native title rights.

• The office is really close (about 5 minutes walk) to Beckenham station on the Armadale line (next stop after Cannington). If you can find out the station closest to your accommodation and take it to the city, then take the Armadale line on a train running all stations or the C stopping pattern. I recommend taking the train over trying to drive and get through traffic on the freeway - it should be cheaper, take less time and you’ll see more of Perth that way.

• SWALSC is located behind a group of shopping centres on Albany Hwy, Cannington. Just look for the big yellow building (which is JB HiFi) – it is behind there. Keep reception or your supervisor’s number on hand in case you get lost trying to find the building!

• There is plenty of parking outside the office if you are driving but don’t leave vehicles there overnight as staff have had their cars broken into.

• There is a Muzz Buzz almost across the road, which has good but expensive takeaway coffee, and a Subway and The Food Bar cafe just across the carpark. The Food Bar does coffee, sandwiches, paninis, salads, burgers and hot food. Cannington Markets are on the other side of Albany Highway for cheap groceries. If you have access to a car, Carousel Shopping Centre is only a two minute drive down Albany Hwy and has a wide selection of food available in their food court.

• The office has a fridge, toaster, sandwich press, microwave, Nutri-Bullet smoothie maker - bringing lunch is a good option, particularly as it’s a semi industrial area with limited food options. There is a staff common room next to the kitchen and a shaded outdoor seating area as well.

• If you have your birthday on placement it’s a tradition that the birthday boy/girl brings in a cake.

• No one is going to dock points for enthusiasm. Show initiative, be assertive and ask for more work. Even when you have work, make sure there is a backup.

• Be prepared to do a lot of reading when you get there. It is important to get a good grasp of the work that has been completed to date and what stage of the claims process you are coming in at.

• The SWALSC website is up to date and very useful for background information on the history of the Noongar People, the background to the South West Settlement and the current position. They also publish their annual reports online – reading the latest one will help you understand what each department has been working on the past year, and also help you identify who’s who at SWALSC and what their role is. It’s a good idea to read the whole website before you get there so you have a basic understanding to build on. Read the Quick Guide and/or Summary Guide which are published on the website for details of the Settlement.

• Office hours are generally 9-4.30 with half an hour for lunch but can be flexible if you ask. Check with your supervisor what hours they want you to work.

• Dress code is office smart however suits are not necessary. Fridays are casual. You will need to dress formally if going to court.

• SWALSC is going through a transitional stage at the moment due to Government budget cuts and because if the South West Settlement goes through then the role of SWALSC as an NT rep body will essentially be redundant. Voluntary redundancies have already taken place and several people have left. It is intended that SWALSC will change from a NT representative body to an overarching NT body corporate to oversee and support the 6 agreement areas body corporates in managing the Noongar land and trust and preserving the body of Noongar heritage and anthropological material collected during the Settlement process. The organisation will change drastically and many staff will lose their jobs. Please be sensitive to this when engaging with staff.

• The Legal team has also been restructured to take on slightly different roles and responsibilities from January.

• Whole of office staff meetings are usually fortnightly on Monday mornings.

• Social Club drinks are fortnightly on a Friday afternoon (listen for the horn!) at the office and cost $4.

• To find out more about Noongar culture see www.noongarculture.org.au for Kaartdijin Noongar (Noongar Knowledge), a heritage and culture website set up by SWALSC.

• There is a very detailed audiovisual site on Native Title and the Mabo case here: http://www.nfsc.gov.au/digitallearning/mabo/home.shtml.

• Another good site is www.creativespirits.info for historical and native title background.
Western Desert Lands Aboriginal Corporation (WDLAC)

- As YMAC and WDLAC are on the same floor and in the same environment, the tips for YMAC interns extend to WDLAC interns. When preparing for WDLAC, do some research on YMAC as there’s a high degree of crossover.
- Tasks may include: organising and digitising records (including maps), native title and anthropological research, attending meetings.
- Possibly get in touch with your supervisor a week before, to confirm that everything is ready for when you start.

Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC)

- The Perth YMAC office is located on the main street of the CBD, and is very easily accessible by bus, and a ten minute walk from the main Perth train station. East is a Vietnamese cafe right behind the building. The easiest entrance to the new YMAC office is off St Georges Tce by walking through Allendale Square to the building behind and taking lift to Level 8.
- The office is fairly informal, so no need to wear a suit, although it can be useful to have one on hand if you are invited to the NNTT for mediation, although it is not strictly required. Fridays are casual days and jeans or dresses are acceptable.
- Review their website to understand the ‘claim team’ structure & endeavour to find out about what each department does & how they are responsible to each other (generally there is the Anths, Lawyers, Archs & Heritage Survey).
- Bring a pad and pen on the first day to take notes during all the inductions.
- The Office is close to the Government House Gardens, which are open on some days from 12-2pm. Keep an eye out for this, as it’s a great place to take your lunch break.
- Keep an eye and ear out for any tasks which you want to do and believe you will enjoy- you will be able to do these the most efficiently, which benefits yourself and the organisation.
- Get involved in lunchtime sports in the workplace, it’s a great way to meet people.
- If travelling on country to meet claimants, it is important not to wear anything too revealing.
- Bidyadanga community: don’t bring black pants, bring cargo pants. You’ll need the pockets and they’ll get dirty. Bring boots, preferably steel capped ones. You’ll need a Telstra SIM and would benefit from a roaming internet stick/dongle (really really benefit).
- Be open minded and don’t be scared to communicate and get to know everyone in your office (even those that are not in your field of expertise) - you never know when you might need their help in something you’re working on. Try to talk to as many people within the office as possible as it is (usually) very interesting to find out what different people are working on. I personally found it insightful talking to anthropologists working at YMAC. Everyone is super friendly, so it’s good to have a chat to everyone and find out how they got into Native Title, or the projects they’re currently working on.
- Download the Wajarri Dictionary App. Wajarri is one of the local indigenous languages and the app was developed by Bundiyarra Language Centre, which YMAC has connections with.
- Ask lots of questions, soak up every bit of information you receive. If you find yourself with nothing else to do, ask for books to read related to the organisation/Indigenous area to read in your spare time.
- There are good, cheap food options on Hay street, nearby
- Level 1 of YMAC’s building has a brand new food court called the Underground that’s really good, with a mix of Asian cuisines and they also do breakfasts. Magnolia’s is also there and does amazing coffees and has lovely staff. There’s also a Woolsworths right across the road in the Enex building, and Mary St Bakery on the corner has amazing stuff too.
• That said, buying your lunch everyday gets expensive so make your own – buying some wraps and salad is an easy option, and you can utilize the YMAC kitchen.
Roebourne, in the North West of Western Australia (WA), is the oldest town between Geraldton and Darwin and is situated 30 kilometres east of Karratha. Many fine old stone buildings still remain as a constant reminder of the early years.

Roebourne land falls within the boundaries of the Ngaluma people. The Ngaluma land is from the Maitland River of approximately 6,400 sq km. The dominate language group in Roebourne are the Yindjibarndi.

Climate
The hottest temperature ever measured in the town was 49.4 °C (120.9 °F) on 21 December 2011.

Roebourne tourist information
Tourist Centre
Old Gaol, 5 Queen Street, Roebourne WA 6718
PO Box 248, Roebourne WA 6718
P: +618 9182 1060
Email: roetour@bigpond.net.au

Tips from past interns

Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation (YAC)

• If you’re interning at YAC, be self-driven in your work and proactive about seeking advice and more tasks - there’s a lot of space for autonomy, which I really valued, but it might not be to everyone’s liking.

• The intern MUST be able to drive a MANUAL land cruiser. This is the only transport to get to and from work.

• The intern MUST be comfortable with 4wd’ing on unsealed roads and through a bush environment.

• Given that the accommodation location was a Mining Village, and the rooms are shared in pairs. I would recommend the interns were male, or at least comfortable in a predominantly male environment

• The price of living is fairly high compared to cities or rural areas but probably reasonable compared too other remote areas.

• Roebourne is not safe after dark. Try not to spend much time away from community buildings, especially if you don’t have a respected local person with you. It is quite safe inside or near community buildings.

• Karratha is relatively sage, has good facilities and a decent social scene considering the remote location. However, prices at bars and restaurants are very high. Public transport is basically nonexistent.
Albany weather

Temperature
Summer: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 14°C to an average maximum of 25°C Winter: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 8°C to an average maximum of 16°C

Climate
Albany has a Mediterranean-type climate with generally warm summers and cool, wet winters. The city is situated on what is promoted as the ‘Rainbow Coast’ which is an appropriate title given the significant frequency of cool cloudy days with drizzle or showers.

Albany tourist information

Tourist office
Albany Visitors Centre
Old Railway Station, 55 Proudlove Parade
Phone: 08 9841 9290

Albany medical information

Medical services
Albany Regional Hospital Warden Avenue, Albany Phone: 08 9892 2222
Website: www.health.wa.gov.au

Albany Police Station

Police services
Albany Police Station
210 Stirling Terrace, Albany
Phone: 08 9892 9300 or 13 14 44

Albany transport

Bus
Loves Bus Service travels Monday to Saturday between the city centre and some of the outlying suburbs including Middleton Beach, Emu Point, Lockyer and Spencer Park. Timetables are available from the Albany Visitor Centre.

Bike
Bikes are available for hire and there are several bike paths in Albany providing access for cyclists from the city centre to some of the more popular locations. Pick up a copy of ‘Go Cycle amazingalbany’ from the Albany Visitors Centre or contact the Love Bus Service on 08 9841 1211.
Taxi
Albany City Cabs and Transport: 08 9841 7000

Car
The most direct route from Perth is via Albany Highway - a distance of 409kms taking about four and a half hours to drive.

By air
Skywer Airlines flies three times daily from the Perth domestic terminal to Albany airport. The flight last one hour and is the quickest way to travel to Albany from Perth www.skywest.com.au

Food and shopping in Albany

Shopping
There are a few supermarkets in Albany, so you shouldn't have any problem finding places to stock up on stores. Here's a couple of the bigger ones:

- Woolworths (Cnr Chester Pass & Catalina Road)
- Coles (38 Albany Highway)
- Supa IGA (216-218 North Road), IGA on Spencer Park (2 Hardie Road) and IGA on York Street
- Supermarkets are open 7 days a week
- Late night shopping is on Thursday night. Other days all shops (including supermarkets) are closed by 6pm.

Dining out in Albany

- 14 Peels Place is a place that prides themselves on using premium local produce. They do breakfasts, morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and on occasion private dinner parties. Open 7 days (8.30-4pm).
- Bay Merchants (18 Adelaide Crescent) is a foodies paradise. It is open from 6am to 6pm everyday (except public holidays).
- Libert at the London (162 Stirling Terrace): amazing venue with wonderful food and coffee. The atmosphere is incredible and the service is great. I also loved the beautiful antique furniture and the open warm fireplace - stunning. Opening hours: Mon-Tue (8.30-7.00pm) and Wed-Sat (8.30-til late).
- Vancouver Cafe & Store (65 Vancouver Street): overlooking Princess Royal Harbour away from the hustle and bustle of town. This cozy cafe has great food, exceptional coffee and wonderful staff. Opening hours are Monday to Sunday (7.30-3.30pm) and Thursday evenings for soup and pizza.
- Golden Town Chinese Restaurant (Cnr Aberdeen & Fredrick Streets): Dine in or Take away. All you can eat buffet menu for lunch ($10 each) and dinner ($16 each). Groups bookings are welcome and is BYO.
- Lime 303 (303 Middleton Road): offers a fresh new taste and style in the dining scene. This recently renovated eatery is famous for its different take on modern Australian cuisine. Open Monday to Friday (6.30-9.30am for breakfast and 5.00-9.00pm for dinner).
- Mean Fiddler (132 York Street): awesome food (a range of fresh seafood, steak, pasta, chicken, veal, lambshanks and mouth watering desserts), great service, excellent wine selection to choose from and a family friendly restaurant. Open Monday to Saturday from 12.00noon to late. Menu priced from $5 - $42.
- Coffee will not be cheaper than $4 and the best cafes are: Kate’s place (Stirling Tce), 14 Peels plc, the Liberte Bar, Vancouver Arts Cafe and Frederick’s.
Entertainment in Albany

Sights and activities
- Check out the Vancouver Arts Centre (Historical building and arts gallery) www.albany.wa.gov.au/facilities/vancouver-arts-centre
- Weekend markets are; farmers market (Saturday) and boatshed markets (Sunday).
- Link up to the Facebook page; ‘Albany eat, sleep, play’ for all the notices of what's happening each week.
- The Leisure centre has a range of gym/swimming options and group classes which are not too expensive, a multi-pass is also available.
- There are plenty of family friendly beaches around the southern coastline. Middleton Beach, Frenchman Bay and Emu Point have BBQ, playgrounds, toilets and changing facilities. Other good beaches include Little Beach, Gull Rock, Fisheries Beach and Goode Beach.
- The National Parks in Albany area provide a wide range of bushwalking tracks for all types of walking ability. Take a camera, water bottle, comfy shoes and someone to share the experience with.
- The Old Strawberry Hill Farm (Middleton Road) is open daily from 10-4pm. The money raised from entrance fees is used to preserve and maintain the farm. You can stroll around the gardens and visit the tea rooms for free. www.nationaltrust.org.au/wa/old-farm-strawberry-hill
- The Western Australian Museum, Albany (Harbour Foreshore, Residency Road) is open daily from 10-4.30pm. http://museum.wa.gov.au/museums/albany
- The Amity Trail - a heritage walk through the town of Albany. The trail takes about 30mins (allow longer if you visit the museums). The trail starts in York Street at York House. Details of the walk and maps can be obtained from the visitors centre.

Festivals and events
- January: Wignalls Winery Vintage Blues Festival
- March: Strawberry Farm Fair and Albany Classic (car race)
- April: Festival of Albany, Great Southern Wine Festival and Offshore Fishing Classic
- September: The Wild Flower festival
- November: Summer Street Fair

Nightlife in Albany

Cinema
- Orana Cinemas (451 Albany Highway): has recently installed RealD 3D systems across each of the four locations in WA. All cinemas showing mainstream movies and open 7 days a week. www.oranacinemas.com.au/albany.htm

Pubs and Bars
- Premier Hotel (Cnr York Street and Grey Street): Also known as ‘The Prem’, based on good company, live music and a pub to come down and have a good time. There is also a restaurant onsite with a good menu. Open 7 days a week and the hours are 11am until late (restaurant opens 11am - 2pm for lunch and dinner is 5.30pm - 9pm).
- Earl Spencer Historic Inn (60 Earl Street): Historic Family Friendly Pub and Restaurant with children’s play area. The Earl of Spencer has been serving Albany since 1884 and the bar is over 120 years old and made of solid Jarrah. Open daily from 12noon until late (the restaurant closes at 8.30pm except on Sundays it closes at 4pm).
• White Star Hotel (72 Stirling Terrace): owned by Southern Brewing Co. and is one of Albany’s first local Breweries. This pub is definitely worth a visit, a great place for lunch, dinner and drinks with some friends. Open daily from 11am to late.

Tips from past interns

General

• Organise a car if you can. There are lots of incredible surrounding coastline walks and beaches. Nearby coastal towns are also worth a visit, however a lot easier with a car.

Aboriginal Legal Service WA (ALSWA), Albany

• Come to ALS Albany with an open mind and a willingness to create a friendly relationship with the people you will be working with. The office is an inclusive and friendly environment.

• Work completed by interns may be a mix of administrative (photocopying, data entry, filing, answering phones) and legal tasks. You can expect to observe court proceedings and client interviews.

Family Violence Prevention Legal Service (FVPLS)

• There are frequent buses to and from Albany, and the office is located in the city centre, so if you are staying in the city centre you can walk to work.

• For accommodation I would recommend near York St in the historical area.

• Ask to get taken around the office by someone so you can get a feel for the variety of services offered at Southern Aboriginal Corporation. Although the FVPLS is one service they offer, there are many other areas who’s staff you may work with so it will be good to know who they are.

• Take your time when given a task, the solicitor will let you know if there is a deadline to be met. Use your initiative to find things to do that would be helpful to the organisation if you find yourself at a loose end.

• Albany weather is generally cooler than Perth so be prepared with warmer clothes and an umbrella may come in handy too.

• The FVPLS website provides a great skeleton of what they do and the resources they have to offer.

• Denmark is only about 50km away and is great for a weekend trip. You can follow the South Coast Highway and stop at the many food, art and cider producers along the way.
Goldfields organisations

Kalgoorlie-Boulder

Kalgoorlie weather

Temperature
Summer: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 16°C to an average maximum of 34°C. But keep in mind that you will get weeks of 41°C and above, sometimes reaching 46°C. If you are in Kalgoorlie in summer, bring very light and cool clothing. You will not be able to wear jeans without suffering.
Winter: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 5°C to an average maximum of 17°C. Kalgoorlie is on the edge of a desert, so it gets very hot in summer and very cold in winter. Make sure if you are here in winter you bring thick jumpers and coats, and socks. The days will be nice but the nights get frosty cold.

Climate
Kalgoorlie-Boulder has a dry climate with hot summers and cool winters. The average annual rainfall is 260mm on an average of 65 days and, while the average rainfall is fairly evenly distributed throughout the year, there is considerable variation from year to year.

Kalgoorlie tourist information

Tourist Office
Kalgoorlie Goldfields Visitor Centre
Address: Kalgoorlie Town Hall, corner Hannan and Wilson Street, Kalgoorlie
Phone: 08 9021 1966
Fax: 08 9021 2180
Email: visitors@kalgoorlie.com
Website: www.kalgoorlietourism.com

Kalgoorlie medical information

Main Office
Kalgoorlie Bega Garnbirringu Health Service
Address: Piccadilly Street, Kalgoorlie
Phone: 08 9080 5888
Fax: 08 9080 5444
Email: goldfields@health.wa.gov.au
Website: www.bega.org.au

Kalgoorlie transport

Bus
Goldenlines Bus Service, 108 Boulder Road, Kalgoorlie.
Phone: 08 9021 2655.

Train

Great Southern Rail: The Indian Pacific operates a rail link between Perth and Sydney (stopping at Kalgoorlie).
Food and shopping in Kalgoorlie

Shopping

• Boulder Market Day (Burt Street, Boulder): Local crafts and food are available at this market that operates from 10am to 1pm every third Sunday of each month

• The main street (Hannan Street) in Kalgoorlie is the major shopping district. Walk along the main road and you will see most of what you need. There is a Kmart, Target, Woolworths and Coles, as well as shops such as Diva, and a variety of clothing shops.

Dining out in Kalgoorlie

• The Blue Monkey (418 Hannan Street, Kalgoorlie). They have a range of meals and they do a great breakfast. The Pancakes are recommended. The lunchtime menu includes salads, some amazing burgers and pastas. Also open for dinner.

• Judds Restaurant. A Kalgoorlie hotspot. Great on a Friday or Saturday night if you want to go out afterwards. You can either get a pizza downstairs and enjoy it whilst sitting in a refined looking pub, or go upstairs for a restaurant meal. Whilst upstairs you can sit on the balcony and eat, overlooking the main street.

• Kalgoorlie Krua Thai and Japanese Restaurant (84 Hannan Street, Kalgoorlie): Good Thai food, opens 6pm until late, 7 days a week. The locals love this place. It has a great range of vegetarian and non-vegetarian options. The menu is large and diverse, the food is amazing. I recommend the sizzling pork, or the tempura battered vegetables with seaweed broth on the side. Yum!

• Bombay Palace (90 Egan Street, Kalgoorlie, telephone 08 9022 8028): Very, good Indian food with a range of vegetarian and non-vegetarian options. Anything you choose here will be a taste sensation. They have a banquet if you have a group of people, and I highly recommend this. They have also started opening for an ‘Aussie’ breakfast and lunch meals. You can get take away or eat in.

• Lunch Bowl in the Markets Arcade, opposite Coles. They have a salad bar where you can choose what you want in your sandwiches (they only use chicken breast, roast beef which they cook themselves, and other high quality ingredients). Otherwise, they do the traditional fried foods. Their home-made sausage rolls were once voted by a host on a popular Perth radio station as being the best he has ever had!! They also do home-made pasties which are highly recommended. Phone orders on 90217386.

• Dome cafe (The chain store). They do coffee, breakfast and lunches.

• Bliss Cafe (Graeme Street). If you ever get a chance to try their chocolate mudcake do NOT turn it down. Make sure it is heated up and get cream with it. You will feel sick, but it’s worth it.

• Paddy’s Ale House (Hannan Street). Local hotspot in the evenings. Good range of pub meals which are very popular or you can choose a buffet roast for a great price.

• De Bernales (Hannan Street) is another iconic pub in Kalgoorlie that also serve meals - massive menu to choose from.

• In Kal there is a McDonalds, Hungry Jacks, KFC, Chicken Treat, Red Rooster and Subway, as well as Dominos and Pizza Hut.

• Judds Pub (aka the Kalgoorlie Hotel) (Hannan Street). This is a good place to start your night on a Saturday. They often have live music or a DJ. (No skimpy)

• De Bernales Tavern (Hannan Street). This is one of the most popular ‘after midnight’ places to be on a
Saturday night. (No skimpies)

- Hay St Lunch Bar. Close to GLSC and the food is fine and quite cheap.
- Golden India (corner Wilson Street and Hannan Street): Indian food.

Entertainment in Kalgoorlie

Sights and activities

- Australian Prospectors and Miners Hall of Fame (Goldfields Highway) [www.collectionsaustralia.net/ org/1193/about](http://www.collectionsaustralia.net/org/1193/about)
- Golden Quest Discovery Trail: A 965 kilometre outback adventure [www.goldenquesttrail.com](http://www.goldenquesttrail.com)
- Karlkurla Bushland Park (Tindals Crescent): 4 km of walking trails through bushland, lookouts, wildflowers in season, sandalwood trees, picnic tables.
- Be sure to visit Morapoi one weekend. It’s a remote station 2 hours north of Kalgoorlie, owned and run by a few Wongatha families. They are trying to be self-sufficient via tourism, and will show you an amazing time [www.morapoi.com.au](http://www.morapoi.com.au)
- Questa Case (133 Hay Street, Kalgoorlie): Australia’s Oldest Brothel.
- Langtrees Brothel. (181 Hay Street, Kalgoorlie): Although (supposedly) not running as a brothel any more, you can go on a tour inside to see the differently themed rooms. It is meant to be fantastically decorated and worth a look. It is certainly something a bit different to do as well!
- Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia (Kalgoorlie Boulder Airport) [www.flyingdoctor.net](http://www.flyingdoctor.net)
- St Barbara’s Festival is held in November/December each year celebrating the mining industry and ends with a street parade [www.stbarbs.com.au](http://www.stbarbs.com.au)
- The Little Boulder Sweet Shop (Burt Street, Boulder). They import candy from all over the world. They also have some tasty gift ideas if you are wanting to take gifts back to loved ones.
- If you are lucky enough to be in Kalgoorlie for Race Round, I recommend you go. It is a glitzy affair where you get dressed as if you were going to the Melbourne Cup (Hats and all). It starts at around midday and most people head into town afterwards. It’s a great day, and if you like a bet on the horses it is even better. It is usually in the second week of September. Around 15,000 people come to town for this event, so if you need accommodation at this time you will NEED to book at least 3 months in advance to ensure you have accommodation.

Nightlife in Kalgoorlie

Cinemas

- Orana Cinemas Kalgoorlie (Oswald Street). This cinema got a MASSIVE revamp a few years back, and is now very comparable to a city one in size and seating.

Music, bars and nightclubs

- There are an astounding 36 pubs in Kalgoorlie. A great majority of them have “skimpy” bartenders who serve beer in their lingerie.
- Paddy’s Alehouse (Hannan Street). This is one of the most popular ‘after midnight’ place to be on a Saturday night. (No skimpies)
- The Exchange Hotel (Hannan Street). This bar is set up like a saloon, and can sometimes be just as rough.
But generally it is an interesting place to hang out because its bar tenders are skimpies. However, as far as Kalgoorlie skimpies go, this place probably has the most ‘class.’ Kalgoorlie youth tend to hang out here on a Saturday night. Especially since it is to the left of Paddy’s and you can internally walk in-between the two pubs.

**Tips from past interns**

**General**

- Many of the Aboriginal people in the Goldfields are quite religious (Christian), and generally have fond feelings towards Mount Margaret Mission. Interns should be careful about blasphemous language, or criticism of the missions etc.
- There is a list of restaurants offering free wifi at the Visitor’s Centre, Town Hall.
- If you go out on a Saturday night, there is a 12pm lock-out policy. Once you are in a pub after this time nobody can get in, and if you go outside you cannot get back in. This does not apply to Debernales though for some unusual reason, which is open usually until 2am. Also, do not be surprised by the fact that you cannot buy shots in Kalgoorlie bars. These were banned a few years back to try and prevent over-consumption of alcohol in Kalgoorlie. However if you go out in ‘Kal,’ you will find that it didn’t work.
- Be financially prepared as Kalgoorlie is extremely expensive.
- Kalgoorlie is a mining town as such there are very limited things to do but the place is quite alright. In winter bring warm clothes as it is extremely cold and surprisingly it rains a lot.

**Goldfields Land and Sea Council (GLSC)**

- GLSC has two offices, Kalgoorlie office has more staff, and most of the administrative and project assistance is located there. There is also a permanent heritage section. The Perth office has less staff, but houses the majority of the legal staff. The Perth office staff visit Kalgoorlie on a regular basis and all of the claim group meetings are conducted in Kalgoorlie or a surrounding town.
- The Kalgoorlie office is closer to the claim groups, which means you are dealing with people from community every single day. Also, it means you have close contact with people from anthropology, heritage, future acts and the key administration staff, which widens your potential to be able to learn about all aspects of a NTRB.
- You may come across a fair amount of racism from Aboriginal people towards non-Aboriginal people in Kalgoorlie. This is one of the reasons that the GLSC is so important in Kalgoorlie. Don't be surprised if you encounter this kind of behaviour outside of the GLSC. If it is related to your work, make sure you contact the Aurora placements team for advice or speak to a supervisor.
- Kalgoorlie is an awesome place, but not for the fainthearted. There are some amazing places to visit such as Lake Ballard, Ora Banda and Esperance if you're lucky enough and have access to a car.
- Don't be afraid to socialise with your workmates, the people in Kalgoorlie are incredibly friendly and great fun! Talk to the Aboriginal Project Officers about their cultures, they really are an often overlooked but brilliant resource and all too happy to teach you about tradition, custom and language - an absolutely invaluable experience.
- Have a karaoke song in mind before you go - it’s huge with the locals. Check out the Roller Derby if it’s on. And no visit to Kal is complete without at least one trip to the infamous Gold Bar.
- The Witch’s hat backpacker in Northbridge is a good place to stay if you don’t live in Perth. It is a small hostel and the staff and people are very friendly.
Geraldton weather

Temperature
Summer: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 24°C to an average maximum of 45°C
Winter: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 10°C to an average maximum of 24°C

Climate
The majority of the state is fairly arid, particularly in the inland areas, and can be very hot throughout the year (although the winter nights can bring very low temperatures). The climate as described by the Geraldton Visitors Centre website: “You’ll find mild winters, balmy autumn evenings, summers cooled by regular sea breezes and spring bursting with the freshness of wildflowers blooming under perfect blue skies.”

Geraldton tourist information

Tourist office
Geraldton Visitors Centre
Chapman Road, Geraldton
Phone: 08 9921 3999
Website: www.geraldtonvisitorcentre.com.au

Geraldton medical information

Medical services
Geraldton Regional Hospital
Shenton Street, Geraldton
Phone: 08 9956 2222
Website: www.mmhr.org.au

Geraldton transport

Bus
Geraldton Bus Service runs eight routes around the local suburbs. It’s very cheap – an all-day ticket is around $3. You should be able to pick up a ticket from the tourist office.

Bike
Biking is probably the easiest way to get around Geraldton. You can ask around at the NTRB if they know of anyone with a spare you could borrow, or alternatively you could hire one from Bike Force (54 Marine Terrace): fairly expensive, although the prices tend to be cheaper when you’re hiring the bike for a long period of time.

Taxi
Associated Taxi Inc.: 08 9921 3800
Food and shopping in Geraldton

Shopping
There are a few supermarkets in Geraldton, so you shouldn’t have any problem finding places to stock up. Here’s a couple of the bigger ones:

- Woolworths (Stirlings Centre, Chapman Road) and Rules Supermarket (Marine Terrace).
- Geraldton Fish Market (365 Marine Terrace): Okay, so technically not a supermarket, but it’s a great place to buy fresh fish. Make sure that your accommodation has cooking facilities before you buy the fish, or else plan on making sashimi.
- Supermarkets are open all day on Saturday (until about 5 or 6pm), and the small IGA on Durlacher Street is open on Sunday.
- Late night shopping is on Thursday night. Other days all shops (including supermarkets) are closed by 6pm.

Dining out in Geraldton

Cheap meals

- Food halls are always a good bet if you want something quick and cheap food-wise. Check out the Sun City Food Hall (56 Durlacher Street). There’s a lot of fast food places scattered around town, but if you want something classier take a wander down Marine Terrace.
- Bella Vista (Shop 1, 205 Marine Terrace): Run by a woman from Northcote, Melbourne. Best coffee in Geraldton – if you are a Melbournian! However, a double shot is recommended. They have great food too, though it’s a little pricey.
- Café Tuscany (Post Office Complex, 50-52 Durlacher Street): For a touch of Italian.
- Go Health Lunch Bar (122 Marine Terrace): Self-proclaimed best coffee in town, plus a fairly large variety of sandwiches, juices and general healthy stuff.
- L’Italiano (204 Marine Terrace): Employees are Italian, it’s close to the cinema and the Gorgonzola Gnoci is fantastic! A pizza will set you back about $18.
- Olive Grove (a short drive south of Geraldton down the Brand Hwy toward the Greenough River): Great food.
- Skeeta’s Restaurant & Café (101 Foreshore Drive): Laid-back place across the road from the beach. Lunch is good value ($6 to $14), although it becomes a bit classier (and more expensive) for dinner. http://skeetas.com.au
- Topolini’s Café (158 Marine Terrace): Italian café with outdoor seating (pizza $11 to $18). Come here on Monday for the half-price pasta deal. It also does dinner-and-movie nights for a flat rate of $25.

Entertainment in Geraldton

Sights and activities

- Check out the Regional Gallery and the Museum, both are excellent. www.cgga.wa.gov.au/artgallery
- Land marks of Geraldton are the Lighthouse, which is painted with red and white stripes – shipped in from Birmingham in 1878, and the silos next to the port – they are the biggest structure in town and can be seen miles away. A clear reminder of the industrial side of Geraldton.
- The beaches are gorgeous.

Music and theatre

- Camel Bar (20 Chapman Street): A pub with great wood-fired pizza, can get a bit wild later at night.
• There are lots of lovely spots to walk along the coast – e.g. the little hidden beach across the road from the Chapman Road and Phelps Streets roundabout; the boardwalk near the marina and museum, Champion Bay – especially at sunset when the clouds and colours are spectacular.

• The Drylands Permaculture Farm is great if you feel like getting dirty and helping out around the farm on the weekend. Have fun hanging out with the WWOOF-ers! www.permaculturenursery.com.au

• A weekend trip to Kalbarri is a great idea. There are markets at the old railway station every Sunday morning.

• Houtman Abrolhos Islands (The Indian Ocean): Located around 60km off the coast of Geraldton, these encompass over 100 coral islands (apparently better than the Great Barrier Reef). They’re a great place to see some amazing wildlife – you can see sea lions, carpet pythons, dragons (the dwarf, bearded kind) and small wallabies. They’re also one of the biggest sites for breeding seabirds. You can’t stay overnight on the Abrolhos, but you can also do day trips either by boat or air (boat is cheaper and usually includes diving or snorkelling). Ask at the tourist office for details, or contact a tour company such as: Shine Aviation: 08 9923 3600; Abrolhos Escape Charters: 08 9965 4128; or Geraldton Air Charter: 08 9923 3434 or www.geraldtonaircharter.com.au

• Sunset tour to Oakabee with Unique Creek Eco Tours is an absolute must – it’s only $20 and you get a 4-wheel drive bus ride and nibbles while watching the sunset from a huge dune 1½ hours north of Geraldton. It’s also potentially the site of a future port, so get there while you can!

• St Francis Xavier Cathedral (7 Maitland St): A fairly grandiose church for its setting, designed by a guy whose career path went: priest, architect, hermit. www.geraldtondiocese.org.au

• Western Australian Museum (Museum Place): Includes exhibits on the Aboriginal history of the area. Make sure you check out the Shipwreck Gallery, which goes into the story of the Batavia Shipwreck and the subsequent mutiny (tip - don’t go straight after lunch). www.museum.wa.gov.au

• Hire a bike and cycle to Sunset Beach and to Point Moore, both are stunning.

• Kalbarri, about 160kms north of Geraldton, is lovely. Make sure you get to Nature’s Window!

• Sand dunes in Wandina (clearly visible in Google Maps) are a really cool, surreal place to take a walk. At the weekend (particularly Sunday afternoon) they are swarming with quad bikers and 4 wheel drives.

Festivals and Events
• January: Geraldton Windsurfing Classic.

• March: The Sea-Jazz Festival (with special guest appearance from Sebastian the Lobster).

• June: The Batavia Celebrations.

• October: The Sunshine Festival. www.sunshinefestival.com.au

Nightlife in Geraldton

Cinema
• Geraldton 4 Cinemas (corner Marine Terrace and Fitzgerald Street): Four-screen complex showing mainstream movies.

• Freemasons Hotel (79 Marine Terrace): Known as ‘The Freo’, a live music venue in the main street with lots of gigs worth checking out. www.freemasonshotel.com.au

• Queens Park Theatre (corner Cathedral Avenue and Maitland Street): Put on concerts, plays and comedy nights. Once a month they host an arthouse movie marathon. For listings: www.midwestevents.com.au

• The Priory Inn (Dongara): About 40 minutes south of Geraldton, this pub is definitely worth a visit, especially when a band is playing. Also a great place to visit for lunch.
Tips from past interns

General

- Even in winter, Geraldton is sunny and quite warm – some days you will be in a t-shirt.
- You can easily drive to Geraldton from Perth. It might be easier and cheaper to take the coach or drive than take a plane if as there is no cheap option from the airport to anywhere else.
- Go to church, volunteer at the seaman’s mission, talk to the stallholders at the markets. You never know who you might meet and what they might invite you to do.

Aboriginal Legal Service WA (ALSWA), Geraldton

- The work at ALSWA Geraldton varies day-by-day.
- Ask lots of questions and take initiative in following up any work or asking if any work needs to be done.

Yamatji Marlipa Aboriginal Corporation (YMCA)

- The only half-reasonable coffee is at Topolini’s just near YMAC.
- Dress code is smart casual at most. People generally wear jeans or a skirt and a nice (but non-collared) shirt or knit top. Don’t bring a suit – it will sit in your cupboard and grow mould.
- Try to see as much of the surrounding area as possible. The area around Geraldton is beautiful and there are a number of activities, particularly if you can find a bike to get around the area.
- Try to find time to work with and talk with as many different people in the office as possible. Everyone comes from different backgrounds and they can offer interesting perspectives on the work that is being done.
Pilbara organisations

Karratha

Karratha weather

Temperature
Summer: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 24°C to an average maximum of 43°C
Winter: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 9°C to an average maximum of 30°C

Climate
The climate as described by the Shire of Roebourne Visitors Centre website is “blessed with a great climate, and although it does get warm during summer this is more than compensated by a glorious winter where daytime temperatures average around 30°C. The Pilbara region, incorporating Karratha has a tropical, semi-desert climate with temperatures ranging from 0°C to 45°C. As the Shire of Roebourne is located in the cyclone belt of Northern WA, conditions can change quite dramatically from day to day, particularly in the summer, so if travelling, keep an eye on the weather. The average rainfall for the area is 254mm to 305mm per year.”

Cyclone Information
Phone: 1300 659 210 or go to the Shire of Roebourne Visitors Centre’s cyclone information page at: www.roebourne.wa.gov.au/emerg_main.aspx

Karratha tourist information

Tourist office
Karratha Road, Karratha
(look for the windmill before the turnoff into the town centre) Phone: 08 9144 4600
Website: www.roebourne.wa.gov.au/Visitor%20Centres.aspx

Karratha medical information

Karratha Medical Centre Sharpe Ave, Karratha
Phone: 08 9185 3555

Karratha transport

Road Condition Reports – Phone: 1800 013 314 (Main Roads Recorded Message) or alternatively other Main Road Departments in the Pilbara/Gascoyne areas. www.roebourne.wa.gov.au/emerg_main.aspx

Transport is problematic unless you are able to get a car. As Karratha is covered in bike paths, a bike is also very useful.

Food and shopping in Karratha
Karratha is well serviced due to the mining boom. As such it has shopping facilities such as Coles and Safeway supermarkets, book and music shops, cafés, Kmart and surf shops. It also has personal care facilities such as optometrists, doctors, beauty salons etc.

Keep in mind however that the prices here are higher than in the cities.

Dining out in Karratha

A lot of the restaurants are of poor quality, and quite expensive. The vegetarian options are sparse.

- The Icon (located in the Karratha Village shopping precinct) is good for going out to dinner.
- Point Sampson has a good restaurant and a no frills café and bar which is famous for its fish.
- You can also get a decent pub meal at the Tambrey as well as the informal eating places (Montebellos and Geckos) at the Karratha International Hotel.

Entertainment in Karratha

Sights and activities

- There's a charter boat that you can take to go out snorkelling ($50 for the day). In Karratha, most families are more likely to have a boat than a second car, so it is also worth inquiring whether anyone is going fishing during your placement.
- In winter there is an outdoor cinema and a theatrical group with performances regularly.
- The Rock Art is fantastic on the Burrup Peninsula, which is about a 5 minute drive away.
- Cossack is a historic town which won't take more than a day or so to look around. The beach is gorgeous. The highly acclaimed Cossack Art Awards are held in August and worth seeing as well.
- Try and get on a boat to explore the Dampier Archipelago – the islands are beautiful and the water is crystal clear. Red Dog is there, the Burrup Peninsula is near and Hearson's Cove is gorgeous especially at sunset.
- Karijini National Park is great for camping and swimming in the gorges.
- The Roebourne Races are held in June and July every year by the Nor'west Jockey Club. The club was established in 1867 and is the oldest in WA. There are several race days, including a Family Day and a Ladies Day. Local bands provide musical entertainment and there are games of two-up to finish off the day. The races are a good opportunity to see a bit of ‘local colour’ and well as a bit of fun.
- The FeNa CING Festival is held each year over the first weekend of August, with the following Monday a public holiday. Iron ore (Fe), salt (NaCl) and natural gas (NG) are the resources mined in the area. It is the local version of the Royal Show, with a sideshow alley and rides, as well as community stalls and displays.
- On the weekend, check out the Karratha Visitor Centre (a short walk from the office) for things to do.
- The Millstream-Chichester National Park, two hours’ drive from Karratha, is also worth a visit.
- Nearby Cossack is Settlers Beach, where you can watch the “stairway to the moon” when the full moon coincides with a very low tide (the visitor centre recommends Hearson's Cove, but Settlers Beach is better).

Tips from past interns

General
• Be aware that Karratha is more expensive than the city. I don’t think it is devastatingly expensive as some people seem to have said but you do need to be aware of it.

• Make the most of it- get out and see the area on the weekends, talk to members after meetings, get to know your co-workers and take every opportunity that comes your way. Most of the learning happens outside of the office doors.

• There are maps in the local phone book which show beaches and places of interest if you just want to go exploring. www.pilbara.coast.com

• Karratha is a great place to go, but be sure to pack your oldest togs as the swimming areas aren’t always clean!

• 50+ sunscreen, hat, sunnies and bug spray are all a must. Bring a light rain jacket no matter what season you go as down pours seem to come whenever they feel like it. Be careful where and when you swim- swimming in low tide and walking over coral is not fun!

• Remember to always be careful of snakes etc.

• Be prepared to camp and explore places in the bush, because it is definitely worth doing and most places are a few hours’ drive away.

• Having a manual drivers license is recommended.

**Kuruma Marthudunera Aboriginal Corporation (KMAC)**

• Come in with an open mind and do as much background reading on the industry and Aboriginal Australia in general to really maximise your understanding of the context.

• Highly recommended having a manual drivers license, and bring beach gear, including fishing equipment if you like. It’s always beautiful and sunny here so outdoor activities are the go!

• Maybe do a little background research on the history of that region (Roebourne area) as it helps to provide context and better understanding of the TO’s situations and the relationships between mining companies, anthropologists, even learning about the stations years and how the removal from country, theft of land, various policies and either very low or no pay at all for many of the old people still has ripple effects today. It is good to understand the history to help make sense of what the situation is now.

**Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC)**

• For summer interns, the frequency of meetings usually slows down over Christmas and doesn’t begin again until February so the office is usually quiet in January.

• Casual clothing is worn by the staff – t-shirts, knee length shorts and thongs are all commonly worn in the office. However, some office clothes such as a short sleeve shirt and black skirt/shorts/lightweight pants are necessary for meetings.

• Read the organisational diary to keep abreast of activities happening in the organisation.

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**Port Hedland, South Hedland and Tom Price**

**Weather**

Temperature
Summer: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 21°C to an average maximum of 36°C Winter: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 12°C to an average maximum of 27°C
Climate
The north of the state is monsoonal, and only really has the Wet (October to March) and Dry (April to September) seasons. It can be very humid, and is subject to frequent thunderstorms (Port Hedland, on average, gets at least one cyclone every two years), as well as the occasional lightning storm.

Port Hedland tourist information
Tourist Office
Port Hedland Visitors Centre
13 Wedge Street
Phone: 08 9173 1711

Port Hedland medical information
Edgar Street Medical Centre
Edgar Street
Phone: 08 9173 3733

Port Hedland Regional Hospital
Sutherland Street/Esplanade
Phone: 08 9158 1666

Port Hedland transport
If possible, bring a bike with you, as public transport options are fairly limited. Having said that, Port Hedland itself is not particularly big, so you will probably be able to walk to most destinations.

Bus
Hedland Bus Lines operate a service between Port Hedland and South Hedland via Cooke Point. It only operates on weekdays, and costs around $3 each way.

Mc Cafferty’s/Greyhound (13 20 30) also has buses operating between the Visitors Centre and the South Hedland shopping centre. Ask at the Visitors Centre for timetables and fares.

Taxi
From the airport, a taxi will cost you around $20 to $25.
South Hedland Taxis: 08 9172 1010

Food and shopping in Port Hedland

Shopping
• Check out the Boulevard Shopping Centre (corner Wilson and McGregor Streets) for the local supermarket. There’s also a good café close by, and a variety of takeaway places on Wedge and Richardson Streets if you’re feeling too lazy to cook.

• Alternatively, you can head down to the South Hedland Shopping Centre, which will be a good bicep workout because you’ll have to carry your groceries further.

Dining out in Port Hedland
Cheap meals

- Bruno’s Pizzeria & Ristorante (7 Richardson Street): Standard Italian pizzas and pastas.
- Bernie’s Place (Edgar Street, Hedland Arcade): Cosy café for afternoon coffee and cakes.
- Esplanade Hotel (Anderson Street): A good place to go if you’re hungry because the meals are a tad on the enormous side. Pretty good value too, between $10 and $20 for dinner.
- Kath’s Kitchen (8 Wedge Street).
- Sushi Bar (Harbour Lodge Backpackers, 11 Edgar Street): Dishes $3 to $7.
- Yummy Noodle (at the Boulevard Shopping Centre, Port Hedland): As the name suggests, this place sells yummy noodles and other Asian food.

If you’re feeling rich…

- Port Hedland Yacht Club (Sutherland Street): does relatively cheap, delicious Thai food, al fresco. It is always fairly busy, but very relaxing with the sea breeze and ocean views. They have a specials night on Friday for cheaper options. The Yacht Club is in the process of constructing a new club house so things might change once the new place opens. It looks a lot more flashy than the current set-up. www.phyc.com.au

Pier Hotel, (Lot 25, The Esplanade): Also does over-the-counter meals, and has a well stocked bar. Hosts the annual ‘Pimps ‘n’ Pro’s’ fundraiser in February, which is a bit of a laugh. They have karaoke on a Thursday night and cheesy music most other nights.

Bars

- The Walkabout (Port Hedland – near the Airport): Another pub, with huge meals and pool tables. A good place for a Sunday session.

Entertainment in Port Hedland

Sights and activities

- The Blackrock Stakes: A 122km race occurring every June from the Whim Creek Pub to Port Hedland. The racers all have to push wheelbarrows full of iron ore.

- Eighty Mile Beach: A great opportunity for a morning (or week-long) walk. This beach is absolutely beautiful – eighty miles of white sand, without the plethora of multi-coloured towels and umbrellas that ruin the city beaches. If you’re a shell enthusiast, there are some colourful specimens here.

- Marapikurrinya Park (towards the end of Wedge Street): A great place to watch the huge tankers arriving at the port.

- Pretty Pool (Port Hedland) – a nice place to go swimming.

- Six-Mile Creek (in between South and Port Hedland): This is a nice spot to watch the sun set, and have a barbecue or fire. Once the sun goes down there are hundreds of hermit crabs to watch on the sand.

- Staircase to the Moon: There are a few ‘staircases’ between Karratha and Derby. Their name is a result of the red-gold staircase effect created by the reflections of the moon hitting the ripples on the mud flats. The best time to see this is two days after a full moon between March and October. Port Hedland’s ‘staircase’ is around Goode Street.

- Turtle watching: The flatback turtles nest on some of the nearby beaches (such as Cooke Point, Cemetery and Pretty Pool) every year between October and March. Ask at the Visitors Centre for locations and the best times to see them. Volunteer monitors are around at Cemetery Beach in the early mornings to point out any hatchlings present on the beach.
• Whale watching: The best time for this is from July to October, as the whales make their way south. There are several companies offering whale watching tours (although they can be fairly pricey). Ask at the Visitors Centre.

• Hedland is also a great base for amazing weekend trips to destinations like Karijini National Park (3.5 hours approx), the Yule River (40 mins approx), Point Samson (near Karratha, 3 hours approx) and Broome.

South Hedland medical information
Gemini Medical Services
Colebatch Way
Phone: 08 9172 5911

Food and shopping in South Hedland

Shopping
• South Hedland Shopping Centre – this is a short walk from the YMAC office, and contains a Coles, K-mart and a pharmacy. There are also some clothing stores, a Muffin Break, sandwich shop and greasy take-away place. The sandwich shop is a good spot for lunch, but it is closed in the evenings and on weekends.

Dining out in South Hedland

Cheap meals
• Komayaka Oriental Restaurant (Shop 13, 22-26 Throssell St) does sushi and other Japanese food. They have a lunch special on weekdays which is pretty reasonable. It is also open on some evenings if you feel like dining out or getting take-away.

Bars
• Last Chance Tavern (South Hedland) – The local pub in South Hedland. Check out the signs out the front for information on live music and competitions.

Tips from past interns

General
• Food and drink are quite expensive in Hedland, so make sure you bring enough money!
• Wangka Maya in Lotteries House, Centenary Park has books, CDs and DVDs about the people and languages of the Pilbara, and runs cultural awareness sessions.
• Be aware of your personal safety.
• The lack of accommodation options would be the main issue facing interns placed at South Hedland. Due to the heavy mining activity in the area there is a shortage of accommodation and prices are at a premium.

Yamatji Marlpa Aboriginal Corporation (YMAC)
• The intranet announcements page is a good way to keep up with what is happening at YMAC.
• Read the organisational diary to keep abreast of activities happening in the organisation – and to ensure you are ready when the CEO drops by.
• Casual clothing is worn by lawyers, however some staff do wear office clothes. Office clothes are
necessary for meetings.

- The aquatic centre in South Hedland is only a short distance from work and fun to swim in. The town itself does not have that much on, so I would encourage interns to travel when possible to the beautiful surrounding areas including Karijini National Park, Tom Price and Karratha.

**Tom Price Weather**

**Temperature**

Summer: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 21°C to an average maximum of 36°C

Winter: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 12°C to an average maximum of 27°C

**Climate**

Weather in the area can be extreme, ranging from 0 degrees on a winter’s night to 48 degrees on a summer’s day. During the summer, hot clear days are experienced, with an average temperature of approximately 35 degrees. Winter months prove to be very pleasant with daytime temperatures varying from the low to mid 20s. The majority of rainfall is experienced during the summer months (wet season) and is dependent upon the cyclone activity off the coast. On average, Tom Price receives approximately 330mm of rainfall each year. Tom Price Visitor Centre

**Tom Price Visitor Centre**

Tourist Office
Central Road
Tom Price
Phone: 08 9189 1101
Website: http://tomprice.org.au/visitor-centre
Kimberley organisations

Broome

Broome weather

Temperature
Summer: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 26°C to an average maximum of 40°C
Winter: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 13°C to an average maximum of 30°C

Climate
Like most parts of northern Australia, Broome has two main seasons – the ‘wet’ (October to March) and the ‘dry’ (April to September). Most of the annual rainfall occurs within the first three months of the year, and can come in the form of thunderstorms or tropical cyclones.

One past intern commented: “Wet season isn’t all that wet. It didn’t rain for my first weeks on placement. Then it only really rained for 15-30 minutes at a time every few afternoons. The main thing is the heat and the humidity. If it hasn’t rained for a while people will go crazy. The rain makes it cooler so everyone looks forward to it.”

Meanwhile, Broome’s weather is incredible during the winter if you’re coming from the east coast. Be sure to pack some bathers and a couple of beach towels so you won’t have to buy any while you’re visiting.

Broome tourist information

Tourist office
Broome Visitor Centre
Corner Broome Road and Short Street, Broome, WA 6725
Phone: 08 9192 2222
Email: enquiries@broomevisitorcentre.com.au
Website: www.broomevisitorcentre.com.au

Broome medical information

Medical services
Broome Medical Clinic
26 Robinson Street, Broome, WA, 6725
Phone: 08 9192 2022
Email: enquiries@broomemedical.com.au
Web: www.broomemedical.com.au

Broome transport

Bus
Broome’s Town Bus Service operates on an hourly basis (with extra buses on the half hour between May and October), seven days per week. Single and multi-ride tickets are available (pay onboard the bus). www.broomebus.com.au/foares.html
Taxi
Broome Taxis: 08 9192 1133
Pearl Town Taxis: 08 9192 1870 or (08) 9192 7448
Roebuck Bay Taxis 1800 880 330

Bike
Broome Cycles: 2/22 Hammersley Street Broome, 08 9192 1871
Bicycle Recycle Broome: 14 Pembrooke Road Broome, open Saturday 7am-12noon
https://www.facebook.com/Bicyclerecyclebroome/

Car hire
If you can get a small group together, it’s quite affordable to hire a 4WD for the weekend and drive out to Cape Leveque, Tunnel Creek, etc. There are lots of the regular car-hire companies at the airport, or local aptly-named company ‘Broome Broome’.

Food and shopping in Broome

Shopping
• Boulevard Shopping Centre (Frederick Street): Contains a Woolworths supermarket, Target, health food store (The Pandanus Pantry), pharmacy, newsagent, and a small selection of clothing stores.
• Paspaley Plaza in Chinatown: contains a Coles, pharmacy, Brumbies bakery, and a couple of clothes stores.
• A smaller Coles is also situated off Herbert Street near Town Beach.
• Fong’s Store: Iconic Asian supermarket at 29 Saville Street Broome.
• Courthouse markets: There are one or two fruit and veg stalls at the markets each week with a small range of good quality fresh produce in Chinatown has a Coles. A smaller Coles is also situated off Herbert Street near Town Beach.
• The Broome markets or on every Saturday and Sunday at the courthouse. They have awesome food available and a lot of local artists selling their collections.

Dining out in Broome

Cheap/mid-range meals
• Café D’Amore (Jones Street): Come here for an Italian meal – has your typical range of pastas, wood-fired pizzas and homemade desserts. Closed during the wet season.
• Divers Tavern (12 Cable Beach Road): Bistro restaurant, outdoor beach bar, indoor tavern bar, and hosts live performances by big-name artists. Very popular with both tourists and locals. www.diverstavern.com.au
• Matso’s Broome Brewery (corner Carnarvon and Hammersley Streets): Features the logical combination of bar snacks and curry as an accompaniment to the various types of beer available (keep an eye out for the Chilli Beer, Mango Beer, Ginger Beer and the Mocha Stout). Very popular, particularly on a Sunday afternoon when there are live performances from local musicians from 3-6pm in the courtyard. www.matsos.com.au
Open 7 days - 7am til late.
• Mid-range cafés include Zanders (on top over-looking Cable Beach).
• The Roebuck Hotel (Carnarvon Street): Known as ‘The Roey’, has roasts every Sunday. www.roey.com.au

• Takeaway pizzas are pretty good at Sunset Bar, Cable Beach, and a cocktail there is always good at sunset. www.cablebeachclub.com

• Green Mango Café (Carnarvon Street): Good coffee and great ready-made falafel wraps if you need a quick lunch.
• Good Cartel (Napier Terrace/Sun Cinemas): Best coffee in town, plus good eat-in breakfast/lunch options.
• Cairo Café (Hamersley Street): Good value kebab wraps and other middle eastern style fare.
• The Lockup (Carnarvon Street): Caravan parked next to the old Broome lockup site, with good coffee and a nice courtyard.
• The Zookeepers Store (Sanctuary Road, Cable Beach): Delicious brunch-style fare and nice atmosphere.
• Market stalls: There are cheap food options (e.g. noodles, laksa, Mexican, crepes, curries) available at the weekly night markets (Thursdays at Town Beach) and the Courthouse Markets (Saturday & Sunday mornings on Frederick Street)

If you’re feeling rich…
• The Mangrove Hotel is pretty fancy and very nice for a Friday afternoon drink. It also has excellent views for Staircase to the Moon. www.mangrovehotel.com.au
• Cable Beach Club Resort (Cable Beach Road): Pretty swanky, with a great view of the beach. Prides itself on serving ‘delicacies’ such as pearl meat. www.cablebeachclub.com
• 18 Degrees is a tapas/wine bar that overlooks the mangroves and is lovely.

Entertainment in Broome

Sights and activities
• Gantheaume Point: Check out the 130-million-year-old dinosaur footprints (make sure you’re there at low tide – ask at the Visitors Centre).
• The speedway is a rich cultural experience if you are able to attend one! It is a little drive out of town. Try to recruit someone with a ute, enjoy time sitting on the tray and the spray of pindan across your face as locals race beat-up cars.
• Chinatown: To see some ultra-classy pearls, wander around the pearl showrooms in this area. If you’re hungry, it’s also a great place for some cheap Chinese food.
• Camel Rides: These are run by several companies around Broome, and mostly take place around Cable Beach and the Hidden Valley. Check out the tourist office for bookings, or try one of these companies: Ships of the Desert: 08 9192 6383 www.shipsofthedesert.com.au and Red Sun Camels: 08 9193 7423 www.redsuncamels.com.au
• Fishing and mud-crabbing: The areas around Broome are very good for fishing. Once again, there are several companies that run boat trips, but be aware that these can be
fairly pricey. Also, if you go fishing in the estuaries, watch out for the crocodiles.

- Have drinks and a BBQ at sunset at Gantheaume Point.

- The Kimberley Book Shop (4 Napier Terrace) has a great selection of books specific to the Kimberley region – art, history, local stories etc.

- Check out the Broome Public Library and the University of Notre Dame Library if you need any info for research. With an Australian Library card you should be ok to get some good local films/dvds/books on loan. Both the Notre Dame and Broome Libraries have restricted opening hours during wet season - from memory they close around 4 daily, but the public library has two late night sessions.

- Life and Soul gym is located 100m from the KLC Pembroke office. Going to the gym is not only a fun way to pass the evenings, but it also helps you become familiar with the locals and get a feel for the community. A lot of KLC staff attend this gym so you should not be short of a gym buddy. You can buy an 11-session pass for $150 or a one-month membership for the same price.  
  www.lifeandsoul.com.au

- Malcolm Douglas Crocodile Park and Animal Refuge: This is a research centre and crocodile park where you can take a guided feeding tour and see a range of crocodiles.
  www.malcolmdouglas.com.au

- Minyirr Park: Learn about how Aboriginal people are maintaining their strong connection with the sea. Minyirr Park is a dreamtime birthplace, and you can learn about major song cycles, native plants and animals and bush medicines, which are still being used today.

- Skydiving: A guaranteed adrenalin rush. Morning, afternoon and sunset tandem dives are available over Cable Beach.  
  www.skydivebroome.com.au

- Staircase to the Moon (the tidal flats at Roebuck Bay): There are a few ‘staircases’ between Karratha and Derby. Their name is a result of the red-gold staircase effect created by the reflections of the moon hitting the ripples on the mud flats. The best time to see this is two days after a full moon between March and October.

- The Willie Creek Pearl Farm: An award-winning tour which offers an amazing insight into the world of modern pearling.

- Go fishing on the Port Jetty, or if you are lucky enough the Dampier Peninsula.

- If you are in Broome between May and August the Broome races will be on.

- Volunteering with the turtle monitoring program: A great way to meet people outside work and help save the environment at the same time. Address: 6a/15 Dampier Terrace,  
  Broome, 08 9192 6198.  
  www. conservationvolunteers.com.au

- Sun Pictures is the COOLEST cinema in the world. If you get a chance, see Bran Nue Dae there (it plays most weeks). Fantastic film with lots of Broome scenes and references.

- Another fun thing to do is to drive to Gantheame Point or north of the tourist Cable Beach carpark for a picnic. Be warned if you drive north of the carpark, though, as this is a nude beach!

- Magabala Books (Bagot Street): Small but great bookshop selling books by lots of local and Indigenous authors.

- Cable Beach.

- Town Beach: Sheltered beach with lots of families. Nice spot for a swim, bbq, a spot of reading, or watching the sunrise or moonrise.

- Try the Broome Adventure Company kayaking tour. You get to paddle around Gantheaume Point, and there are some spectacular views. It is a really relaxing and
memorable way to see the area, and fantastic at sunset.

- West Kimberley Football League AFL: keep an eye out for local games on Saturdays during the dry season. Go for the atmosphere even if you’re not into football!
- Annual festivals: keep an eye out for the Shinju Matsuri Festival (September).
- Broome Writers Festival (August), Broome Races (August).
- There are lots of great events in Broome - keep on top of what’s going on by checking the websites and facebook pages of things like the University of Notre Dame, the Broome Community Noticeboard, Magabala Books, Goolarri Media, Taste of Broome, Broome Visitors Centre, Shinju Matsuri Festival, Broome Writers Festival, etc.
- Try the Broome Adventure Company kayaking tour. You get to paddle around Gantheaume Point, and there are some spectacular views. It is a really relaxing and memorable way to see the area, and fantastic at sunset.

Nightlife in Broome

- Aarli Bar (Shop 2, No. 6 Hamersley Street): Fairly casual, also does food and coffee.
- Beer and Satay Hut great Sunday night roast and fund-raising hermit crab racing. Lots of fun.
- Mangrove Resort: Aim for the ‘Wind Up Wednesdays’ jam session (from 8.30pm in the Palms Bar) and Friday nights (free bar snacks from 5.30-6.30pm). The beer garden is a great place to sip some cocktails whilst watching the sunset.
- Oasis Bar at the Roebuck Hotel always has someone playing a gig if you like to listen to live music.
- Sunset Bar and Café (Cable Beach Club Resort): Outdoor seating available. A great place to celebrate beer o’clock.
- Tokyo Joe’s (115 Marine Terrace): If you feel like having a dance (located in Chinatown).
- Zee Bar (4 Sanctuary Road, Cable Beach): Best cocktails in Broome. Stylish, swanky crowd. Free trivia on Tuesday nights.

Cinemas

- Sun Cinemas (Weld Street, next to McDonalds): Indoor twin cinema. For session details ring (08) 9192 1077 or check out the website: http://broomemovies.com.au/contact.html
- Sun Pictures (Carnarvon Street): Described as ‘the southern hemisphere’s oldest picture garden’. http://broomemovies.com.au/contact.html

Tips from past interns

General

- Accommodation in Broome is ridiculously expensive, so if you don’t have a generous benefactor, try and find a distant relative or an organisation that will let you shack with them and provide you with a car! Although everything in Broome is a 5 minute
drive away, it is really handy to have a car to get around town (for groceries and at night time, etc.) – basically, you’ll need a car or bike unless you live close enough to a grocery store. Staying close to your org helps when it is hot or raining.

• Staying at the Notre Dame campus meant that I met other young people outside of the office who became a great friend- and support-base during my time in Broome. There was good air conditioning, as well as my own bathroom, and some other students around for company.

• Only Telstra has steady coverage, and all other carriers lose reception within 5kms of leaving Broome.

• Stay away from a landlord named "Anne McCosh" or "Anne McIntosh" (same person), she has numerous houses in Broome and takes advantage of her tenants, is very aggressive, and does not repay bonds (she was also in court proceedings for tenancy issues whilst I was there). Cable Beach and Roebuck Estate are much safer suburbs to stay in.

• If you’re from Perth/Darwin or somewhere nearby and are able to - drive! Having a car in Broome for weekend trips and the drive to and from Broome make the whole experience an adventure!

• It is good to get around on a bike (especially if you’re there in the dry season) so bring a bike helmet in case you are able to borrow a bike from somebody. Often once you’re here a kind local will offer you a bike to borrow. This is invaluable but it’s best to email your organisation before to double check whether there may be one available. otherwise, there is a man on Pembroke Street who rents/sells bikes for a reasonable price, as well as doing repairs. He’s open on Saturday mornings. Even if you’re used to walking around, a bicycle is definitely necessary to get around Broome. People ride on the footpaths.

• In the wet season, because it is very hot or raining a lot, riding around on a pushbike might be a little too hot or too inconvenient- so it’s worth considering the option of hiring a scooter or looking for find a car you can borrow (obviously this can add further cost to the time in Broome but I found that once I was offered a car to borrow, my time spent there became much more enjoyable). At this place: http://www.broomescooters.com.au/, you can hire a scooter for 6 weeks at $12 per day or if you go for 2 weeks at a time it will cost $20 per day. Otherwise they are $40 per day.

• You can walk from one end of Broome to another without any trouble. It doesn’t really matter where you stay (Cable Beach/Town Beach/Broome), so long as you know your way around. Get a map (available at some cafes) on your first day, so you can orientate yourself. Most of the smaller streets here are really curved and loopy, so it can be difficult to judge the shortest route without a map.

• Be very generous with your money allowance for the period. Broome is not very student-friendly, and expect to pay an extraordinary amount for basic items. Prepare your own lunches if you can – food is expensive.

• Going to Broome in the wet season (hot) will mean you feel more like a local (the tourists disappear at this time) but there is often less opportunity to go out on country, especially in Jan/Feb/March as the roads may be flooded. Don’t expect to do much during the middle of the day on the weekends. Most locals rise at dawn (about 5am) to walk along the beach, and nap or rest in the middle of the day, before returning to the beach or becoming more active at sunset.

• In the wet season, there might be serious flooding and cyclones. This is fine, but you need to be prepared for the mosquitoes that come after. There are serious blood-borne diseases that can be transmitted in this part of WA through mosquitoes,
brush up on mosquito season if coming in the wet! If you’re going up the Dampier Peninsula TAKE MOSQUITO REPELLENT.

- Weekend newspapers don’t arrive until between 2-4.30pm on a Saturday afternoon.
- Mangos are everywhere in November and December so you don’t need to buy them.
- Watch Goolarri TV. It’s a great way to learn about the local area and current events.
- Take water with you everywhere, particularly in the wet season. Electrolyte drinks are also good to have a few times a week.
- The White Divers of Broome is a fantastic background reading on the history of Broome. It is not native title focused, contains an interesting (often saddening) history of Broome including Indigenous people of the Kimberley. It is very well written, and if you read it before you arrive you’ll understand all the pearl references throughout Broome.
- For a really good short history of Broome, Sarah Yu’s article ‘Broome Criole - Aboriginal and Asian Partnerships along the Kimberley coast’.
- If you are in Broome during the summer, don’t swim at Cable Beach without checking with the tourist info office due to stingers, irukanjii jellyfish, and crocodiles in the water!
- Other regular activities are trivia every Tuesday night at Zoo Bar, bingo every Tuesday at the RSL club, local football every Friday/Saturday (check the paper for when Cable Beach is playing, they’re the local team KLC barracks/plays for), the Courthouse Markets every Saturday and crab racing every Sunday at the Town Beach Village Bar (very silly and very fun!).
- Broome is a very sporty place, so pack your runners and sporting attire! Ultimate Frisbee on Sundays and Tuesdays, HASH (running group) on Mondays, soccer on Wednesdays, touch football on Thursdays, plus netball and kickboxing classes on various other nights.
- Keep an eye out for the polo at Cable Beach, bands playing at Divers Tavern, the Taste of Broome, the speedway (usually on Saturday nights), Staircase to the Moon (and the Staircase night markets), openings of new art exhibitions and housewarming parties.
- General tourist attractions are the Sun Pictures outdoor cinema, the museum, sunset sail on the Intombi pearlling lugger, the Broome Bird Observatory (4WD required), the Mango Place (need a car, live music on Sundays), the dinosaur footprints at Gantheaume Point and day tours with Kimberley Wild.
- Try to go camping at least once.
- There are an abundance of tourist destinations that I would highly recommend - e.g Gantheaume Point, Cable Beach, Riddell Beach, Malcolm Douglas Crocodile Park. I also did a road trip to Cape Leveque which is insanely beautiful, and it is fine to stay in the non-air-conditioned cabins ($50 each for 4 people) for the night.

**Kimberley Community Legal Service (KCLS), Broome**

- If you have your own laptop it might be helpful to bring it - KCLS laptops and computers are quite old/slow and if there are several interns, there may not be enough to go around. If you do use your own laptop, bring a USB for easy transfer of documents.
- Dress is smart casual, and heat appropriate. There is always air-conditioning set to 24 degrees, but if you go to visit clients you will soon be sweltering in sleeves and long pants. Neat casual is fine in the office. Suits and heels are definitely NOT required! Short sleeve
• Put your hand up for everything, especially outreach trips. There is always something going on, e.g. submissions being drafted and events being organised, so let the person responsible know if you're interested in helping out. Interns can attend Halls Creek outreach trips but will need to fund their own accommodation for the trip. This could be around $750-800 for four nights.

• Read KCLS’s submissions to the Royal Commission into Institutional Child Sexual Abuse and media on the WA Stolen Wages and Redress schemes to get an idea of what KCLS’s clients faced in the past and continue to face today.

• If possible, find accommodation with off-road parking. KCLS has two vehicles that need to be taken home nights and weekends, and you may be able to use them for day trips to waterholes on the weekend (no 4WDing or overnight trips though).

• Ask for work and demonstrate your capacity to do it, and you will never be bored.

• Don’t be afraid to ask for a little time off if you need it. I was studying GDLP full time and Tom was always happy for me to leave early for a test or something if needed. But keep in mind if you’re collecting PLT days, whole days off won’t count.

Kimberley Land Council (KLC), Broome

• It will be useful to read a history of the KLC beforehand to have a bit of background information about the history of land rights in the Kimberley www.klc.org.au/about/history

• Decolonizing Solidarity by Clare Land gives an excellent historical overview to the Indigenous rights movement across Australia.

• Remember you are working in an Indigenous organisation where you will be respected as an individual and given the freedom to find your place in the working environment. Understand the value of just being in the office and observing how the organisation runs. You will learn a great deal through just watching and listening to the work staff members are undertaking.

• Do not underestimate the value of the work you might complete on placement. While you may feel as though you are given tedious administrative tasks, due to time and resource constraints within many of these organisations, such tasks are often left undone. Your assistance in doing these jobs will make a big difference to other staff members and they will appreciate your input.

• A laptop might be provided. So when you get in contact with your supervisor ask if this will be the case. You might not need to bring your own.

• Acceptable clothing for work is smart casual clothing (no revealing tops, short shorts or skirts). It is a relatively casual workplace, however do take a long sleeved shirt as there may be times you will need to attend formal occasions such as going to court (though long sleeve shirt with shorts was sufficiently formal). Towards the end of my placement, all staff were told not to wear thongs in the office and on country, so this is something to keep in mind. Bring some culturally appropriate clothing in case you go on a trip to a PBC meeting. For women this would be long trousers (or shorts to the knee) and a non-singlet style shirt.

• KLC and its staff are used to having interns, if you show that you are engaged and enthusiastic, they will try their hardest to help you have a good experience.
• Be sure to carry a notebook with you so that you can take down instructions from lawyers.

• It helps to carry some extra pens, clipboards and even a stapler when attending authorisation meetings in case the lawyers need claim group members to sign affidavits.

• When you are given a task, ask when the deadline is as soon as you get it - even if the task is pitched to you as non-urgent. It will make it easier to manage your time and to know what your work capacity is, especially if you’re getting different tasks from different people.

• Take a packed lunch most days. There is nowhere close to purchase lunch. You can ride about 10-15 minutes away to buy something, but sometimes this is a bit time consuming and buying food in Broome is typically expensive.

• People love air conditioning so regardless of the weather bring a jumper.

• Different people have different preferences for how the minutes should be taken - some like verbatim/comprehensive, whereas some like only the main points of the discussion (though well-structured is always appreciated). Understand how your supervisor wants the minutes taken before the meeting. For the latter, for each agenda item, record a brief summary of the topic discussed and any concerns raised by the Directors/PBC members, the outcome of the discussion (i.e. the decision made), any actions that need to be taken and the full text of any resolution made, plus the mover and the seconder of the resolution.

• Make it known that you are interested in going out on country but don’t nag about it. When you are on country you are required to wear suitable clothing. Pants, a shirt and some closed shoes are advisable.

• On Broome time things just happen. It is impossible to plan ahead - the rain, the tides, the weather all will change your plans. Often at 5pm the night before I would be told that I was going to be coming across the Kimberley for a meeting in the wee hours of the next morning - you never know what will happen next so just be patient.

• I’d encourage all interns to take up any offer of lunch/coffee/dinner/drinks with other staff, as these informal occasions are a great way to meet people and to become more comfortable settling in. Professional and personal aren’t really separate realms and you’ll find that people judge you just as much on your social performance as your professional, and that the benefits will carry over both ways too. Due to the nature of their work and remote location, KLC staff members tend to be very supportive of each other and often socialise outside of work. If you take the time to talk to people and share your interests with them, they will typically take the time to share their knowledge and experiences with you. This stands for staff members outside your unit, don’t be afraid to talk to people and ask questions, you can learn through casual conversations.

• Once I’d talked with a few people outside of the work environment, they were incredibly generous and welcoming, and great opportunities to get out of Broome and go camping or see the surrounding areas would come up.

• Your best chance of getting out to country is during the dry season, meaning during the Winter intake. Because the weather isn’t suitable during the wet season, almost all of KLC’s camping meetings occur during the dry season.

• If you go in the wet season, (before Christmas), there are still opportunities to go on country and the wet season truly begins mid-late December. If you want to visit places in the Kimberley such as Geikie Gorge and Wyndana Gorge, you can still get to them. However, a lot of the tourist operators have already closed shop, so it is best to find a friendly local or to hire a car. Apparently, much of the visits to country stop late December to March, and even main roads in the Kimberley can be flooded.
• Be prepared to deal with frayed tempers if you are arriving in summer especially after meetings on country which exposes everyone to the elements.

• If you are vegetarian and going out to country for a meeting, be sure to bring some pre-prepared meals. Most of the meals have meat in them and you might end up stuck with white rice and bread for most dinners.

**KRED Enterprises (KRED)**

• Work was prepared for me when I arrived but don’t be shy about putting up your hand to do more or if you hear something that sounds interesting. The team were willing to let you have a go.

**Nyamba Buru Yawuru Pty Ltd (YAWURU)**

• The work day starts around 8 and finishes at 4:30 (although people are very flexible). Don’t make my mistake and turn up at 9 on your first day!

• Breaks last an hour - just enough time to cycle into town if you’d like.

• Jeans, casual shirts and relatively casual attire is acceptable in the office.

• It is very cheap to travel with a bike as unaccompanied luggage if you are flying. I really recommend it for Broome and Alice Springs.

• Make an effort to learn about Yawuru seasons and aspects of the landscape, and visit the Language Centre - even though it’s a separate building from the main office amazing things are happening there!

• Try to organise camping trips on the weekend.

• Bring packed lunches to work to spend time in the kitchen area getting to know colleagues working in different sections. It is also really rewarding to participate in staff events outside of work and any community events for Yawuru people.

• Talk to people from your placement place! The more open and friendly and interested you are, the more of Broome you will get to see. If you have something specific you’d like to do, ask your co-workers - they’ll probably know somebody who will help make it happen for you.

**Office of Senator Patrick Dodson (DODSON)**

• It is a small office and you may be required to complete self-directed, highly autonomous work.
Fitzroy Crossing

Fitzroy Crossing weather

Temperature
Summer: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 26°C to an average maximum of 40°C
Winter: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 13°C to an average maximum of 30°C

Climate
From May to October days are warm and dry and nights are cool whilst from December to March, in most years, tropical storms transform the surrounding countryside into a waving sea of green.

Fitzroy tourist information

Tourist office
Fitzroy Crossing Visitor Centre
Flynn Drive, Fitzroy Crossing, WA 6765
Phone: 08 9191 5355
Fax: 08 9191 5085
Website: www.sdwk.wa.gov.au/business/fitzroycrossingvisitorcentre.html

Fitzroy Crossing medical information

Medical services
Fitzroy Crossing Health Centre
Fallon Road, Fitzroy Crossing, WA 6765
Phone: 08 9191 5034
Fax: 08 9191 5359
*GP is Dr Anthea Henwood

Tips from past interns

General
• The visitors centre is a central booking agency for all Kimberley accommodation and tours. The centre is also an agent for photo processing, bus freight and retail shop.
• The centre is also home to a public library with over 300 items available for short and long term borrowing including books, DVDs, videos, audio tapes and local newspapers and magazines. The building also acts as the Council’s office, providing ratepayers with all municipal services.
• Fitzroy Crossing is a small town in the middle of nowhere. Be prepared for that. Food is expensive but you can buy stuff in Broome cheaper and people are always driving between Fitzroy and Broome and Fitzroy and Derby.
• Getting access to a car would greatly improve the experience. Fitzroy Crossing is so remote and small; if you don't have access to a car your options are really limited in what you can do - even going swimming in the river requires a car.
• If going there in the wet season (summer), take repellent, sunscreen and shorts. Avoid walking on a sunny day for more than 30 minutes.
• It's important to be as outgoing and friendly with people as possible - this helps to meet people and break up the isolation (as it is likely that you will be the only intern in the entire town).
• Go out and explore the town and surroundings. Bring lots of reading material and other things to keep yourself occupied.
• Spending time at the old crossing is wonderful! Go swimming and walking.
• I heard a lot of negative things about Fitzroy Crossing before I left and people were providing a lot of 'warnings'. However, I found a lot of this unfounded and just stereotyping. It's a really lovely place, very beautiful, and not nearly as intimidating as people make it out to be. You need to have a level of caution, but that can be said for any place.
• Marninwarntikura Fitzroy Women’s Resource Centre (Marnin) have created a practical guide to living in Fitzroy Crossing. A link to the guide is provided in the Marnin section below.

Bunuba Dawangarri Aboriginal Corporation (BDAC)

• BDAC is a very small organisation (they have one permanent staff member, who just had a child! And very limited resources) – be sure to read the PBC factsheet section of the Handbook for Interns, and proactive in researching about the organisation before your placement. It's also a good idea to get familiar with the CATSI Act (http://www.oric.gov.au/catsi-act/about-catsi-act)
• Work will likely involve a lot of administrative tasks including, but not limited to, preparing for meetings; taking and distributing minutes; printing, filing and scanning documents; attending meetings; corresponding with accountants, lawyers and auditors.

Kimberley Aboriginal Law and Culture Centre (KALACC)

• KALACC was an interesting organisation to intern at. They provide a wide range of services to the community and as such there is a lot of time spent going to visit the local Indigenous communities.
• They have a great internet connection which makes it very easy to keep in contact with everyone back home. I found the clothing to be very relaxed in the office, so when packing just bring casual stuff.
• Be flexible and just go with the flow. Everything here operates on Kimberley time and there is lots of talk and no action, so don't get offended if things don’t follow through.
• Telstra 3G is the only carrier that gets reception in Fitzroy Crossing, but if you don't have it you can get prepaid sim card at the post office.
• Derby has alcohol limitations which means that alcohol cannot be sold in Fitzroy Crossing and only consumed in the pubs. There are two pubs, the Crossing Inn (where more of the locals go) and the Lodge (nicer and more touristy). On some nights you will need enclosed shoes to get into the Lodge. There is a restaurant at each of the pubs, they are great and
the price of food ranges.

• Driving a manual car makes life easier, KALACC only has manual cars so if you want to borrow a troopy for the weekend you need to be able to drive. Also make friends with the locals, that way you get to experience more and get discounts on the local sites.

• If you are staying in the KALACC Caravan, be prepared to rough it out a bit. Limited toilet, cooking and shower facilities.

• If you go out on country with the staff, be prepared to sleep in a swag, and have limited access to power and water.

• The work is not particularly heavy, so you’ll have plenty of opportunity to jump on to trips all around the Kimberley.

• Fitzroy Crossing is a tiny town, with only one (small) supermarket, two petrol stations and two pubs, so get a car and explore the Kimberley.

• Pretty much everything is closed on Sunday.

• Be prepared for lots of long car trips out bush. The nearest town of any size is Derby which is 3 hours away.

• Meet lots of people. There are heaps of interesting characters in Fitzroy.

Marninwarntikura Fitzroy Women’s Resource Centre (Marnin)

• Telstra sim cards are recommended to enable independent communication and maintain your usual support networks.

• Ask your supervisor to show you around Marnin’s diverse services and programs to make the experience more enriching.

• Ask questions if you are unsure of things – people will assume you have prior knowledge so be open about your range of knowledge. Ask questions, talk to people, be open and outgoing.

• Marnin has provided a practical guide to living in Fitzroy Crossing, which can be view on our website: https://auroraproject.com.au/sites/default/files/A%20practical%20guide%20to%20living%20in%20FX.pdf
Kununurra weather

Temperature
Summer: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 23°C to an average maximum of 40°C
Winter: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 19°C to an average maximum of 35°C

Climate
The year is essentially divided into two seasons: the Wet (October to March) and the Dry (April to September). Most of the rain falls during the first three months of the year, and the air can be quite humid and sticky. As the Visitors Centre website puts it: “From about November onwards the weather changes dramatically, the temperature rises to around the 40°C mark and the nights remain warm. The humidity also rises at this time. This is locally referred to as the “build-up” – a time of the year that sees the build-up of storm clouds and threatening skies but little rain. The wettest months are in January and February and although not the ideal time to be travelling, these months offer some of the most spectacular sights of raging waterfalls, roaring rivers and a land replenished by the rains.”

Kununurra tourist information

Visitor Centre
Lot 75, Coolibah Drive, Kununurra, WA
Phone: 08 9168 1177
Website: www.visitkununurra.com

Kununurra medical information

Kununurra Community Health Centre
Corner Messmate Way and Konkerberry Street, Kununurra
Phone: 08 9168 2280

Kununurra Hospital
96 Coolibah Drive, Kununurra
Phone: 08 9166 4222

Kununurra transport

Bus
There is no public transport service in Kununurra.

Taxi
Alex Taxis: 131 008
Mobile Taxi: 08 9168 2356
Spud’s Taxi Service: 0408 938 888

Rental cars
Avis Kimberley: 08 9169 1258
Budget Rent-a-Car Kununurra: 08 9168 2033
Food and shopping in Kununurra

Groceries
• Coles Supermarket (Konkerberry Road).

• Farmers Fruit and Vege Mart (Corner Konkerberry Drive and Ebony Street); Supplies meat from the Ord River Meat Supply.

• Tucker box Supermarket (Konkerberry Road); Slightly more expensive than Coles, but has better quality fruit and vegetables and more variety in general.

Other
• Kununurra Telecentre Tourist Centre (Coolibah Drive): Internet facilities.
• Kununurra Newsagency (Messmate Way).
• Kununurra Post Office (Coolibah Drive).
• Kununurra Target (Messmate Drives).

Dining out in Kununurra

Cheap meals
• Gulliver’s Tavern (7 Cotton Tree Ave) has decent $10 lunch specials

• Foodwise there is Ivanhoe Farm on Ivanhoe Road which does great food, fresh ice-cream and smoothies, as well as having pretty cheap fresh fruit and veg.

• Tuckerbox Coffee Lounge (Coolibah Drive).

• Zebra Rock Café (Packsaddle Road).

• Gigi’s crepes and pizzas (Konkerberry Dr).

• Wild Mango Café (Konkerberry Dr)

• Kimberley Café (Papuana St)

• The Barra Shak is a reasonably priced, fish and chip shop out the front of the Lodge. The barramundi burger and crocodile rolls are worth trying.

Mid-range meals
• Chopsticks Chinese Restaurant (off Konkerberry Road, Coolibah Drive).

• George Room Restaurant (Gulliver’s Tavern, Cottontree Avenue).

• Hotel Kununurra: Zebra Rock Bar and Restaurant (Messmate Way).

• Kelly’s Bar and Grill (Country Club Hotel, Coolibah Drive).

• The Pumphouse Restaurant (Lakehouse Drive): More expensive and a little way out of town but good food set in an old pump-house on the edge of Lake Kununurra. Open 8am til late on Tuesday - Sunday www.thepumphouserestaurant.com
Outdoors

• Note for summer interns - many of the cafes and sights are closed in the wet season, such as El Questro, farmers markets, and picture gardens. But don’t despair, there are lots of waterholes within an hour’s drive - you can go to a different one every weekend if you have access to a vehicle.

• For the wet season - waterholes are generally signposted on the highway – be careful if it has rained or will rain as most roads off the highway are dirt. Molly Springs is lovely, Packsaddle is a long and difficult walk with no path. Even during the wet season, which everyone will tell you is boring, there’s so much to do! In the wet, enjoy exploring some waterfalls and swimming spots. In both seasons, check out the Ord River and make a trip to Lake Argyle (more info below).

• If you go out bush make sure you always take water and have the phone numbers of a few people in town to call if anything goes wrong (you probably shouldn’t go out 4WD by yourself anyway).

• There are lots of fishing spots within easy access of Kununurra. If you can organise to go out with the local Aboriginal people, not only will you be taken to the best spots, you might also be lucky enough to feast on fish cooked the traditional way, over a fire by the water.

• The Grotto, Victoria Highway (between Kununurra and Wyndham): Not far from Wyndham, the Grotto is a favourite swimming hole amongst locals. Picturesque cliffs surround a safe swimming hole that is fed by a stunning waterfall that is particularly powerful during the ‘wet’ season. There is a swinging rope into the water if you’re feeling brave!

• Ivanhoe Crossing: This is where the salt- and fresh-water rivers meet, so be careful not to go in (although you will see some locals do it) as there are plenty of salt-water crocodiles here. It is quite beautiful and floods in the ‘wet’ season, making the road impassable.

• Lake Argyle: About 40 minutes' drive south of Kununurra, Lake Argyle is one of the ‘must do’s if staying in Kununurra. You will see the Ord River Dam, which is 18 times the size of Sydney Harbour. You can even swim near the Dam wall – but be warned, after swimming in there, we saw a freshwater crocodile glide by 10 minutes later!

• While Lake Kununurra is usually safe for swimming, a saltwater croc was sighted in the lake during June ’16. It’s safest to check with the local before going in.

• Kelly’s Knob is right next to the MG office and provides great views of Kununurra and the surrounding area. The lookout halfway up is a popular spot to watch spectacular sunsets – and passing electrical storms in summer.

• Mirim National Park: Easy walking distance from the centre of Kununurra, the Mirima National Park (Hidden Valley) features sandstone cliffs similar to that of the famous Bungle Bungles. The age of the formations is said to be around 300 million years old and are particularly eye catching at sunrise and sunset.

• Valentine Springs (Valentine Springs Road): 20 minutes out of Kununurra Valentine Springs is a very safe and picturesque swimming hole, fed by some springs that are particularly powerful during the ‘wet’ season. It is also a favourite amongst locals.


• Going to ‘El Questro’ for a camping and bushwalking/hiking weekend away
• The Kununurra Hash House Harriers go for bushwalks every weekend; meet at 'the Boab' (on the Victoria Hwy between Weaber Plain Rd & Messmate Way) 3pm Sundays. Be prepared to scull a beer afterwards.

• Explore the area as much as you can. Even if you only have access to a bicycle, it’s sufficient to go to areas such as Kelly’s Knob, Mirima National Park and Swim Beach. Go to Kelly’s Knob for sunrise, it’s a beautiful space to reflect.

Other sights/activities
• Check the leisure centre pin-board where there are lots of clubs and social events that you can join and check out the swimming pool in town—it’s the best way to exercise without getting heat exhaustion.

• Visit Kimberley Fine Diamonds in Konkerberry Drive, it holds one of Australia’s largest selection of coloured diamonds.

• Kununurra Leisure Centre (Coolibah Drive): Swimming pool ($5 entry), gymnasium ($7 entry) and squash courts ($6.50 for half an hour; $11.50 for one hour). Squash equipment available for hire.

• Visiting ‘Rockalang Stoneworks’ (2 Dianella Way) to see some of the unique stones (and stone creations) of the area.

• Taking a walk to the Kununurra markets at the showground each Saturday morning.

• Watching a movie at the outdoor Kununurra Picture Gardens.

• Listening (or participating in) Karaoke at the ‘Hotel Kununurra’ on Wednesday nights
  www.hotelkununurra.com.au

• Going along to any local events that may be on during your stay (such as the ‘Kununurra Show,’ the ‘Kimberley Moon’ or a wide range of NAIDOC Week activities.

• Go to the Community Gardens on Sunday mornings, 7:30-10am, located on Coolibah Dr opposite the hospital (go down the dentist’s driveway). Visit the ‘Kununurra Community Gardens’ Facebook page for info. The gardens are an oasis of sustainability in a town that has no recycling or vegetarian restaurants, and you might bag yourself some organic sweet potato, papaya, spinach etc etc if you help out with a bit of weeding.

• The language centre does Miriwoong classes on Tuesday afternoons - sign up early so you don’t miss out.

• See Facebook page ‘ADDICTED.studio - dance, gym and fitness’ for another gym that has fitness classes such as yoga and spin.

• A lady called Wendy does yoga classes about 15 minutes’ drive out of town - ask around for her phone number.

• Home Valley, a ranch 90 minutes’ drive outside of Kununurra. Really quiet, 150kms from anywhere. It is beautiful, and everything you need is there: bore water, solar power, and two swimming pools. The views out over the river and from the lookouts over the surrounding valley were absolutely stunning.

Art galleries
• Artlandish (Papuana Street): Indigenous Art.
• Artopia (Konkerberry Drive): contemporary non-Indigenous Art.
• Diversion Gallery (Konkerberry Drive).
• Our Land Gallery (Coolibah Drive).
• Red Rock Art (Coolibah Drive).
• Warragarringi Aboriginal Arts (Speargrass Road). Sometimes Warragarringi Arts will be open to the public when a corroboree is held and this would certainly be worthwhile attending.

• Zebra Rock Gallery (Packsaddle Road): This cafe is situated amongst beautifully maintained gardens. You can go and feed the fish and turtles whilst wandering around the gardens. Have a look at the local zebra rock, which is made of fossilised algae that gives it a stripy pattern. It is the only place in the world where this unique rock has been found. When you have finished, cap it off by walking amongst the peacocks and drinking one of the famous mango smoothies and talking to the talking cockatoos!

• The gallery at Warmun 200kms south is 100% owned by the local Aboriginal community and has an extensive range of beautiful traditional local Aboriginal art.

Nightlife in Kununurra

• Gulliver’s Tavern is a bar on Cottontree Avenue, phone number 08 9168 1666.

• Hotel Kununurra: Has a very relaxed atmosphere with pool and outside tables. There is karaoke on Wednesday nights and everyone is encouraged to participate! Trivia on Tuesday nights is also lots of fun.

• Visit the local pub in Wyndam Town Hotel (34 O’Donnell Street, Wydham) and walk up Kelly’s Nob for a great view of the town.

Tips from past interns

General

• Kununurra generally has a higher cost of living than capital cities and larger regional centres (this is mainly due to the cost of freight required to ship things to this remote part of the Kimberley). Food is considerably more expensive, especially fruit, vegetables and dairy. Petrol is about 30% more than capital city prices.

• Look on the Kununurra Community Board on Facebook for opportunities for house-sitting or couchsurfing to save on accommodation costs. Everything’s more expensive up here so be prepared and have a budget from day one.

• Everything is pretty much in walking distance. Try to source accommodation in town as opposed to ‘Lakeside’ unless you have access to vehicle or bicycle.

• Join the ‘Kununurra Community Notice Board’ and ‘Kununurra Trading Place’ to keep up with events and buy and sell items. Use the Kununurra Facebook community notice board and the town’s Facebook accommodation page. Seek out other interns and graduates in the town (nurses, med+law students, teachers), as there a lot of people interested in exploring the East Kimberley on weekends, especially if they are in the town short term. There is so much to do on the weekends and after work, so get involved socially in town if you can.

• Most Sim cards work in town, but only Telstra will work more than 20km out of town - it’s possible to get by without Telstra but be prepared to have no reception on outreach trips or when visiting waterholes. It might be worth getting a prepaid sim to use for the week if you want to be able to contact friends and families.

• The Hotels and Motels in Halls Creek don’t have wifi access so if you are doing uni courses at the same time as your internship it would be helpful to have access to a
Telstra internet dongle. They can be purchased from the post office, and possibly Coles as well.

- In winter the sun is up around 5:00am and sets at around 5:30pm. Getting up early there are lots of things you can do, like kayaking on Lake Kununurra.

- Kununurra isn’t too difficult to get around, most places are within walking distance, but for weekends or afternoons having access to a 4WD is beneficial as a lot of the rivers are accessed along tracks. Automatic cars are very uncommon in the area. Having a manual license would definitely be a help, although I did manage fine without one.

- Hiring a vehicle was an absolute must in Kununurra over the wet season due to the extreme heat and humidity.

- Fainting is very common amongst visitors to Kununurra so I would emphasis that any future interns ensure that they are kept hydrated. Most of the roads are closed over the wet season due to the rain.

- Every building is air-conditioned and if you dress for outside temperatures, there are times when you'll be too cold inside.

- Listen to Warringarri Radio, a great way to hear local news.

- Once in Kununurra, MDMg also run occasional public lectures, that present some of the work they are involved in. They are informative, and the intern can contact them in advance to see if they are running any during their placement.

- The Kununurra Library (located at the local high school) has some great, and hard to find resources on the Indigenous communities in the East Kimberley. Their ‘local interest’ section is fantastic and I would thoroughly recommend interns go check it out and do some further reading on the history of the people of the East Kimberley.

- If you will be in Kununurra during the dry season (winter), remember to take at least a couple of warm jumpers with you. Although I was able to enjoy almost a constant 30 degrees during the day, and although most nights were pretty mild, temperatures could still get down to only around 11 degrees at night.

- If you can, save up some extra money and take home some spectacular Indigenous art. There’s quite a few local galleries. About $300 will get you an original approx. 45cmx45cm size.

- Read ‘Kartiya are like Toyotas’ by Kim Mahood:
  https://griffithreview.com/articles/kartiya-are-like-toyotas/

Aboriginal Legal Service WA (ALSWA), Kununurra

- Tasks undertaken by past interns has included:
  - Client interviews
  - Courtroom attendance
  - Research
  - Circuit court trips
  - Front desk and telephone reception.

- Express your interest to go on circuit – you’ll enjoy the travel and will get to meet a lot of people.

Kimberley Community Legal Service (KCLS)
• Hours are flexible but people are usually there from 8:30 to 4:30. Lunch is also flexible, generally people go for about an hour at about 12. Email the office so that everyone knows where you are.

• If you have your own laptop it might be helpful to bring it - KCLS laptops and computers are quite old/slow and if there are several interns, there may not be enough to go around. If you do use your own laptop, bring a USB for easy transfer of documents.

• Dress is smart casual, and heat appropriate. There is always air conditioning set to 24 degrees, but if you go to visit clients you will soon be sweltering in sleeves and long pants. Fridays are casual. Thongs can be okay but not all the time – not in the dry season. Sandals are fine, although most of the males wore closed shoes. I would say that the dress code is "business casual". Suits and heels are definitely NOT required!

• Put your hand up for everything, especially outreach trips. There is always something going on, e.g. submissions being drafted and events being organised, so let the person responsible know if you're interested in helping out. Interns can attend Halls Creek outreach trips but will need to fund their own accommodation for the trip. This could be around $750-800 for four nights.

• KCLS are very accustomed to having interns, and will invite you to various social things in town (trivia night, hiking on the weekend) - get involved early if you can. Also try to seek out previous interns (e.g. through the Facebook group) to ask for feedback and preparation tips.

• Read KCLS's submissions to the Royal Commission into Institutional Child Sexual Abuse and media on the WA Stolen Wages and Redress schemes to get an idea of what KCLS's clients faced in the past and continue to face today.

• If possible, find accommodation with off-road parking. KCLS has two vehicles that need to be taken home nights and weekends, and you may be able to use them for day trips to waterholes on the weekend (no 4WDing or overnight trips though).

• Ask for work and demonstrate your capacity to do it, and you will never be bored.

• Don't be afraid to ask for a little time off if you need it. I was studying GDLP full time and Tom was always happy for me to leave early for a test or something if needed. But keep in mind if you're collecting PLT days, whole days off won't count.

• Get involved in the community. Whether it's the community gardens, the Sunday Hash walks, gym classes or just eating at the local cafes, it makes for a much better experience than watching movies on your laptop in your room. People are really friendly and you'll start to get to know faces around town, and strike up connections that will last long after you leave.

• Interns may be able to attend court to observe the proceedings in the Magistrate's Court, or, if it is sitting, the District Court.

• Every second Thursday is staff pot luck, there's always tonnes of food and it's been fun to bake things to contribute.

• There is a Subway located close to KCLS.

• KCLS have a sleeping bag and a swag that interns can borrow if you go camping on the weekends.
• I brought my laptop but I didn’t end up using it at all. KCLS has plenty of computers you can use, and it’s apparently quite difficult to set up a private laptop onto the staff server anyway.

Yawoorroong Miriuwung Gajerrong Yirrgeb Noong Dawang
Aboriginal Corp (MG CORP)

• Generally, work starts at 8:00am.
• Dress is smart casual to semi-formal, on hot days thongs are okay.
• If you’re at the camp and don’t like to wake up at 4:30am then pack your lunch and breakfast the night before and store in the mini fridge provided. This will make you much happier.
• The learning doesn’t stop as soon as you step out of the workplace. Take any opportunity to engage in the local area and community as much as possible.
• I would encourage interns to get out and about and explore the Kimberley but to be careful, especially talking about places you’ve been with Traditional Owners in case it is a sensitive area for them or they do not like tourists going to certain sites even if well known in the community.
• If you don’t have friends or contacts within Kununurra you will be extremely limited without your own transport as MG Corp does not give out vehicles on the weekends and a vehicle is vital to accessing most interesting places in the region.
• (Appropriate) humour seemed to be a really effective way to establish rapport and positive relationships with many of the local people. It also helps both yourself and the people you are working with to continue to smile and stay strong/positive even if you are dealing with some fairly serious issues.
• Another good resource for MG Corp interns would be to ask their supervisor about the opportunity to get in touch with the Mirima Dawang Woorlab-gerring Language and Culture Centre, where there is an opportunity to participate in Miriwoong language and culture training.
• Stay close to the building if you do not have a car. Stay at a backpackers if you don’t know anyone so that you can travel with others. Hiring a car is really expensive.
• If you feel like you don’t have enough to do, say something! Don’t hesitate to ask to be involved. Voice your thoughts, wants and needs otherwise your supervisor won’t know - they want your experience to be rewarding just as much as you do.

Aboriginal Legal Service WA (ALSWA)

• Make sure to try and go on circuit, you’ll enjoy the travel and will get to meet different local people and diversify your experiences in the region.
Darwin weather

Temperature
Summer: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 25°C to an average maximum of 35°C
Winter: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 15°C to an average maximum of 28°C

Climate
The top part of the state, around the Kakadu National Park area, is very tropical. The year is essentially divided into two seasons: the Wet (October to March) and the Dry (April to September). Most of the rain falls during the first three months of the year, and the air can be quite humid and sticky.

From www.tourismtopend.com.au:
“The indigenous people of the Top End recognise five to seven seasons. January and February make up the bulk of Top End’s tropical summer, considered by many as its most beautiful time of year. A predictable daily ritual of sunshine and afternoon storms refreshes the landscape and encourages an explosion in animal and plant life. Rivers flow, plains flood and waterfalls roar; particularly dazzling sights from above in a light aircraft or helicopter.

“As the heavy rains begin to ease in March and April, rivers subside and the transition from wet to dry begins. Fish, a main food source for the Indigenous people, are plentiful in the rivers and billabongs as they feed frenetically in the run-off from the floodplains. This is considered the prime fishing time for anglers, who flock to huge tidal rivers around Darwin, Kakadu and Katherine to catch barramundi, many over a metre long.

“Relatively cool weather arrives in May, and until July, nights are crisp and the mornings are misty with temperatures ranging from 17-23 degrees C during the night and a very pleasant 29-32 degrees C during the day. The early fires typical of this time of year stir the animals, marking the beginning of hunting season for the Aboriginal people. The clear skies of this dry season herald the onset of outdoor activity and festivity in the Top End, where celebrations like the Darwin Festival feature performances staged in parks, under canopies of palm trees and the clear night sky.

“Birds in their millions converge on waterholes and rivers during August and September as the reduction in rainfall forces waterholes to contract. This makes observing them easy for birdwatchers who come to witness up to a third of Australia’s bird species congregate in one place. Hunting for animals that flock to the scattered water sources is a traditional Aboriginal activity at this time.

“From October to December, dark, threatening clouds roll across the sky, but rarely deliver rain. This is the season of spectacular electrical storms, a phenomenon that is eagerly anticipated by locals who watch the show from beachside restaurants and outdoor pubs. This is the time that termites begin building their nests; rare and unusual formations that spring from the landscape at places like Litchfield National Park.”
Darwin tourist information

Tourist office
Visitors Centre
Corner Knuckey and Mitchell Streets
Phone: 08 8936 2499
Website: www.tourismtopend.com.au

Darwin medical information

Night and Day Medical and Dental Surgery
Shop 31, Casuarina Shopping Centre
Phone: 08 8927 1899

Royal Darwin Hospital Rocklands Drive, Casuarina Phone: 08 8922 8888

Darwin transport

Bus
Darwin bus runs the local services, and is based around the depot near the corner of Smith Street. Fares will vary according to the number of zones you travel through. If you find you are using the bus a lot, it may be a good idea to get an unlimited all-zones daily or weekly pass. For routes, maps and timetables see:

Be aware that buses will often take long and short routes to get to a destination. Ask the driver if the bus you are on is going the quickest route or you may be in for a longish ride. Past interns recommend not relying on buses to ever be on time — they’re often early or very late. Also, the services tend to finish up quite early on weeknights (and some on weekends), so consider taking a cab home if you’re out late.

Bring your student card. Past interns have advised us that travel on some buses in Darwin is free for students. There are particular buses which have a set fare. $2 permits three hours of unlimited travel in and around the metropolitan area. You can buy a student travel ten with your student ID card (any state) — it is $7 for 10 trips!

Tour Tub: A minibus touring Darwin’s sights which allows you to hop on or off anywhere along its circuit from 9am to 4pm. Departs from Knuckey Street, and you’ll be charged a set fare for the day.

Taxi
City Radio Taxis: 08 8981 3777
Darwin Radio Taxis: 131 008
Tropical Taxis: 08 8947 3333

In addition to the normal taxi service, Darwin has two taxi bus services that will take you anywhere within the area for a flat rate of $2: Arafura Shuttle: 08 8981 3300 and Unique Minibus: 08 8928 1100.

Bike
Darwin is a very bike-friendly city, and past interns have commented that they found bikes the most convenient means of getting around. Having a bicycle is extremely useful in getting around and makes it much easier to see the local surrounds. It is inexpensive and easy to take a bicycle on the plane. A lot of the backpacker hostels also rent out bikes, as do a couple of shops like those below:

• Kakadu Dreams (Mitchell Street): 08 8941 0655.
• Darwin Tennis Centre (corner Bagot and Old McMillans Roads): 0418 891 111.
• You can also hire a motor scooter for around $65 per day and they are a great way to get around as Darwin is relatively flat. (Not a good idea in the wet season).
• E-Summer (corner Mitchell and Peel Streets): 08 8941 2434, email: chloe@esummer.com.au.

From the airport
Airport Shuttle Bus: This will pick you up and drop you off practically anywhere in the city for around $15. Taxi: A taxi from the airport will probably cost you around $25 to $30.

Food and shopping in Darwin

Groceries
• Coles: In the Mitchell Centre, a few blocks down from the NLC.
• Parap Fine Foods (40 Parap Road, Parap): Gourmet food, including lots of organic and health foods.
• Woolworths: On the corner of Smith and Cavenagh Streets.

Markets
• Nightcliff Markets are good for authentic, cheap, Asian food on Saturday and Sunday mornings. www.nightcliffmarkets.com.au
• Parap Markets are held weekly on Saturday mornings from about 8.00am to 1.30pm. They offer great Asian food, cheap fruit and vegetables, and some art and crafts. parapvillage.com.au
• Rapid Creek Market is a good place for fresh fruit and vegetables. www.rapidcreekshoppingcentre.com.au/rapid-creek-sunday-markets
• Mindil Beach Markets: Thursday and Sunday nights (dry season only). Take the bus from outside Woolworths to the first stop after the casino. Loads of fantastic stall food. www.mindil.com.au

Dining out in Darwin

Cheap food
• If you want to save money, ask other interns, staff at the organisation and accommodation hosts about markets and places to eat which are not tourist spots. Darwin can be quite expensive and having local knowledge proves invaluable.
• For cheap seafood and a beautiful sunset, head to Stokes Hill Wharf.
• The Beachfront Hotel (close to the University): Great for an occasional meal or snack. A game of pool in the back bar can be good, but beware it can be a bit rough.
• There are heaps of great cafes to explore (Rabbit Hole, AlleyCats, Lucky Bat, Sweet Brew Café, Laneway Café, the Foreshore Café, the Sailing Club, the Trailer Boat Club). Grab a decent coffee at either Four Birds Cafe or Ducks Nuts Cafe - both in the city. Simply Foods in Star Arcade (off the Smith Street Mall) is a great vegetarian cafe.
• Dolce Espresso Bar (Shop 18A, Paspalis Centrepoint): Coffee bar and bistro, mains under $20.
• Groovy Gropers: Fresh burgers and chips, sold in a tram at the wharf – mains around $8.
• Roma Bar (Cavenagh Street): Famously immortalised in a Midnight Oil song, the Roma Bar is a favourite hangout for visiting celebrities like Nicole Kidman. The food is plentiful and best of all, there is free wireless internet.
• Thai Noodlebox (Mitchell Street): Fresh noodles and stir-fries – mains $6 to $12.
• There are a variety of restaurants at Cullen Bay, just take your pick. Yot's Greek restaurant is one of the most popular.

• Magic Wok (West Lane Arcade, off Bennett Street) is a place where you pick out all the veggies you want stir-fried and the chef cooks it in a little glass-walled room while you watch! An entertaining experience as well as delicious. www.magicwok.com.au

• Rendez Vous (near Parliament House): best laksa in Darwin

• Go check out Frilly's one weekend, it's a good experience – combined café / op shop, pay by donation.

• Spice Garden in Nightcliff: incredible Sri Lankan food

If you're feeling rich…

• Cornucopia Museum Café (Conacher Street, adjacent to the Museum in Fannie Bay): Has great breakfasts, good coffee, and a view over the harbour. Check out the Museum while you're there.

• Hanuman (Mitchell Street – next to the Entertainment Centre) is a restaurant in town. Delish food, a bit on the expensive side but worth it – mains $16 to $25.

• Any of the pubs on Mitchell Street – be aware prices in these pubs can be up around $25 for a steak.

**Entertainment in Darwin**

**Sights**

• Aquascene (28 Doctors Gully Road): Bring your stale bread here for feeding the mullet and catfish – the fish have trained the locals and tourists to feed them every day at high tide (smart fish). aquascene.com.au

• Crocodylus Park (McMillans Road, Berrimah): A breeding complex for crocodiles (amongst other things), and there's an opportunity for you to cuddle a baby croc (not as fluffy as a koala, but way more exciting). www.crocodyluspark.com.au

• Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (Conacher Street, Fannie Bay): Includes the NT Aboriginal art collection, plus a big exhibition devoted to Cyclone Tracy. Better yet, it's free!

• Spend time at the Hot Springs and Bucking Bull definite highlight outside of work www.arounddarwin.com.au/darwin_swimming.html

• The Territory Wildlife Park is a 45-minute drive south of Darwin to Berry Springs (Cox Peninsula Rd, Berry Springs, NT 0838), opens every day (except Christmas Day) from 8.30am to 6.00pm www.territorywildlifepark.com.au

**Cultural**

• There is a lot of art, and galleries to boot. There is always a show opening if you want something to do in town of an evening. Pick up a copy of the free Darwin entertainment magazine ‘Off the Leash’ for listings of openings, gigs, screenings, readings, and other fun stuff.

• If you are there in July, the Darwin Fringe Festival is a hoot.

• If you're lucky enough to be in Darwin during August, the Darwin Festival is on. It has an incredible line up of gigs, art shows, large concerts and activities.

• There is also Territory Day, the craft market, the Darwin show – the list goes on!

• Don’t miss out on the Art Gallery (the collection is amazing).

• The Browns Mart theatre is great, check out if any shows are on.
Outdoors

- Always have water and sunscreen with you when moving around outside, and be prepared to sweat exorbitantly.

- Darwin Harbour is a great place for diving, mainly because of all the shipwrecks from WWII and Cyclone Tracy. Diving trips and courses are available from places like Cullen Bay Dive (66 Marina Boulevard, Cullen Bay) www.divedarwin.com or Coral Divers (42 Stewart Highway, Stuart Park) 08 8981 2686. You will need to check the tides before you dive because diving is restricted to mid tide. It's a good idea to ring and check very early. Despite what the locals tell you, you will need a wreck-diving certification and you need to be reasonably experienced.

- Fishing is probably the most popular sport in the NT. You don't need a boat, just go to the wharf or anywhere along the fore shore at high tide. Try and fish where you see other people fishing as croc and jellyfish can be a problem.

- Regarding safety, I would ask locals/fellow co-workers about best practices regarding beach walking, crocodiles etc: the rule I observed was that beach walking during daylight hours is alright, but be observant and don't actually walk near/in the water. Once it starts getting dark, stay away.

- There are pools in Darwin but they are located out of the CBD. A fantastic outdoor saltwater pool is located at Nightcliff, on the cliffs overlooking the beach.

- If in need of exercise, it is possible to purchase casual visits, or a one-month membership at the Darwin Gym. It's a barn (literally) but the cardio equipment is great, and often much more practical than going jogging in the sweltering heat!

- There is a Darwin Runners/Walkers club that puts on 5km/2km runs each Wednesday night in different locations, and a ParkRun operates Saturday mornings at 7am along the esplanade.

- The coastal reserve bike and walking track is just behind the University, and is very pleasant. It is a 5-minute walk to the beach, 10 minutes to the Beachfront Hotel, and 20 minutes to the lovely Nightcliff pool. Please note: it is not safe to walk along this track at night.

- Nothing to do on Sundays, Swing Time NT runs free outdoor swing dance classes every Sunday from 4.30-6pm on the Nightcliff Foreshore (just near the Nightcliff Jetty). The swing crowd is friendly, the view is fantastic, the music is awesome and you’ll have a wonderful time. No experience needed, no partner needed, no co-ordination needed!

- East point is a great place for a walk - there is a bike/walking path all along the coast line.

- It can be really hard to stay fit in Darwin during the wet, as it’s so hot and humid that exercise is tough. Playing tennis in the evening after work when it starts to cool down is a good way to keep fit and socialise. There are a number of free courts around Darwin. Public tennis courts can be found in Ross Smith Avenue in Parap, Aralia St in Nightcliffs and Chrisp St in Rapid Creek. http://www.darwin.nt.gov.au/live/your-community/recreation-and-sport/tennis-and-netball-courts

- Barefoot bowls at Fannie Bay

Day and weekend trips

- Kakadu National Park: You’ll probably need to set aside a few days to explore this one. It consists mostly of woodlands (both eucalypt bush and monsoon rainforest), with long patches of mangrove swamps along the coast. It’s an incredible area, and is home to a huge variety of birds and other wildlife. It also has a large number of Aboriginal rock art sites (many of which are not accessible to the public – check with NLC). Watch out for snakes. Entry fee is around $25. This will allow you to stay in the park for seven days.

- Litchfield National Park: Includes a big chunk of the Tabletop Range, with features such as the magnetic termite mounds, swimming holes (Buley Rockhole and Florence Falls), waterfalls (Wangi Falls and Towner Falls), and lots of bushwalking possibilities. If you go to Litchfield in the wet make sure you wear covered shoes as there are lots of leeches on some of the walking tracks, especially when it has been raining.
  - If you are taking a trip to Litchfield or Katherine, make sure you stop at the Adelaide Hotel. It’s a
quintessentially Territory pub with great food. Highly recommend the Barra burger. About an hour from Darwin, it’s a good pit stop location.

- The tourist mecca of Mitchell Street offers plenty of opportunities to book tours to Litchfield, Kakadu and other places.
- In Darwin, during wet season, a lot of roads get closed. Don’t plan to visit any of the National Parks until you get to Darwin and see what the weather is doing as you may get disappointed.
- Mataranka Hot Springs
- Katherine Gorge and Edith Falls are definitely worth a trip to- it’s worth splurging on the sunset dinner cruise. A motorboat tour is a spectacular way to see the Gorge. Kayaking through Katherine Gorge is also recommended.

Nightlife in Darwin

Cinemas
- Darwin City Cinema (Mitchell Street): The city’s largest cinema complex, features mainstream movies.
- Darwin Film Society (Conacher Street, Fannie Bay): Arthouse flicks.
- Deckchair Cinema: Only open during the dry season, an outdoor cinema showing a variety of new and older flicks.

Bars and nightclubs
- If drunken revelry is not your thing, avoid going to Mitchell Street pubs on a Friday or Saturday night. Drinking culture massive, the rumours are true.
- Lizard Bar (one of the bars at the Top End Hotel – see above): Has a horseshoe-shaped beer garden and live bands on Friday and Saturday nights.
- Nirvana (138 Smith Street): A cool bar not far from the city centre. Tuesday is open-mic night.
- Top End Hotel (Corner Mitchell and Daly Streets): An entertainment complex including three bars and a sports bar (almost entirely filled with British football fans).
- For a more alternative night out, go to cosy Happy Yess Bar (12 Smith St, Darwin), a not-for-profit venue that stages local bands and comedians. It is open from 9pm Thursday through Sunday.
- The Darwin Railway Club (Somerville Gardens, Parap) is a good place for live entertainment and they do swing dancing classes on Wednesday nights. They have a beautiful beer garden and put on a great quiz night.
- The Ski Club and The Sail Club located on the beach front in Fannie Bay and is a great place to take friends on a Sunday afternoon enjoying the live entertainment. They also have weekly trivia.
- There are gigs on at the Old Railway Hotel and Happy Yess.
- Stone House is a really nice wine bar, and Six Tanks is also nice, but for a real Darwin pub vibe try the Tap.
- The Beachfront Hotel in Rapid Creek was recent renovated from grungy old pub to hip new venue, which was Darwin’s best trivia on Wednesday nights

Tips from past interns

General

- Getting to know other Aurora interns in Darwin is a great idea and easy, as most are located within the city and can provide some much-appreciated social interaction on the weekends. Use the list emailed out at the beginning of the round to do this, or the Aurora Alumni Network on facebook.
• Try to get accommodation in Darwin away from the main tourist drag. Elkes is located in the quieter end of town, which is much nicer. Some interns have suggested finding accommodation further from the city centre (e.g. Fannie Bay, Nightcliff) as this is where most interns and lawyers live. As one intern put it, 'everywhere that’s not the CBD is that much more tropical-paradise-ish, and the proximity of beaches and palm trees and gorgeous sunsets is so worth the 20 minute commute.'

• Another intern notes 'In Darwin while things look close on a map it is actually difficult to get around if you live on the border of the city. Recommend staying closer to the centre so that you are not restricted by public transport as it finishes very early in the day.' Darwin has limited public transport.

• CDU is a good accommodation suggestion for interns at Darwin. It is a really great place to make friends. www.cdu.edu.au/nfih If you are staying at Charles Darwin University’s International House familiarise yourself with events on offer as you may be able to join trips to places like Litchfield National Park and Adelaide River Crocodile Cruise for little to no cost.

• If you stay in a share house, your housemates can help introduce you to the Darwin lifestyle.

• Check that the place you are staying in has a fan or air-conditioning.

• IDH accommodation provides sheets, towel and you can hire a kitchen set. You can also hire bikes and camping gear from them for free.

• Bring an eye mask and ear plugs if you want to sleep in longer than 7:30am. Or, if you’re a light sleeper bring earplugs - Darwin is loud at night.

• Be prepared to go with the flow. Things don’t move as fast in the Territory as they do in other states. Especially when you’re out on country, be prepared for things to take a while to get going.

• Budget! Darwin is an expensive city to live in. A coffee will set you back at least $4. Fresh food is expensive – particularly fruit and vegetables. It can be cheaper to shop at markets rather than Coles or Woolworths for groceries.

• This is also the case when going out bush, where at times your only meal option will cost $30.

• Bring a jumper/jacket if you are placed in Darwin, even in summer, as the air conditioning is always turned up incredibly high in all buildings and shops.

• You can’t order home delivery during a storm. It is considered an OH&S hazard for drivers to go out at this time.

• Investigate internet access and transport options before you leave, if you are stationed in a remote area it allows you to work and travel independently.

• If hiring a car, book as soon as your placement is confirmed as they can be booked out weeks or months in advance.

• In the wet season, things in Darwin can get mouldy, I would recommend buying something from the supermarket to prevent mould.

• You need a heavy duty umbrella not just a cheap one as the winds can be very strong when it rains.

• In wet season a lot of things are not open such as the Deckchair Cinema, the Mindil Markets and Kakadu is hard to access.

• If you don’t have a car, it’s best to find somewhere to live close to a bus stop. Stay close to a bus line! Not just the bus line required to get to work, but also to busses that can get you around Fannie Bay/Nightcliff/Casuarina etc. Also the bus services stop early...

• Sit down with one of your supervisors or someone you are working with and a map and ask them to point out the good places for you to visit. They will have a lot of information on what is happening on the weekends and the ‘must dos’ of Darwin.
• If you are going to do fieldwork it is a good idea to bring a number of long-sleeved cotton tops, as they are comfortable, appropriate and will keep you from getting sunburnt. Past interns tell us it's good to wear items that are loose and comfortable as you may spend a good deal of time sitting on the ground.

• If you are doing a summer internship in Darwin you will be there during the wet season, which means it is very warm and sticky. You should bring lots of changes of clothing, especially t-shirts or singlets, as it is likely you will want to get changed a few times a day. Light clothes are ideal for the humid weather.

• Never underestimate the NT sun. You will burn easily and quickly especially when out on the water.

• If going in dry season swimmers are a must.

• After a while you get used to being covered in sweat all the time, which is an important skill to have in the wet season!

• Darwin is really flat and everything is really close to the city, so if you are a cyclist, it's heaven! (Maybe not in the build-up, but it's excellent in the dry.)

• Be sure to take insect repellent to Darwin. At the full moon, midgies are at their worst. It is not when the midgies bite it is after they bite, when they urinate on the bite, that causes the itch. And the itch is VERY itchy.

• If you have spare time on the weekend, the water park at Leanyer is free.

• Most of your entertainment like the cinemas, restaurants a gym and bars and even a crocodile park are all located on the one street, Mitchell Street.

• A good thing to do on the weekend is visit the Darwin Waterfront, there are lots of restaurants and you can swim at the wave pool.

• Read any information you can get about the organisation you are going to, particularly if it is a non-NTRB, see if you can find out the kind of work they do and do a bit of a refresher before you go there so you have an idea before you walk in the door. You can't be prepared for everything, but a little bit of prior knowledge goes a long way.

• There is an express bus into Darwin city from Palmerston Bus Interchange in the morning and afternoon that is only $1 for students, $3 without a student card. It is super easy, and probably quicker than driving! You can get a weekly pass for $7 with your student card. Buy it from the bus driver.

• Research into the bus routes in Darwin before you arrive. Remember to take your student ID card - (NOT concession cards). The buses are not as bad as everyone says, particularly if you download the app 'NT Bus tracker’. The buses do stop early in the night though (around 8pm on weekdays, and even earlier on weekends and public holidays), so I found that factoring taxi money into my budget was the best way to go.

• Hiring cars with other interns and going into the NT bush like Kakadu cannot be missed! You can rent a car even on your Provisional licence if you don’t go to the mainstream car rental places. Just look into the one on Mitchell street in the city.

• Be croc wise – be cautious walking down the beach or near a creek (even if other people are not).

• The Nightlife pool is beautiful and worth a visit, you can also ride along the foreshore bike path and go to the foreshore café

• When booking for theatres and travelling film festivals in Darwin, you should try to book the Fri/Sat night in advance as it is usually packed out - cyclone rains or not!

• Future interns may want to investigate mobile internet data options prior to coming, as internet was not available at the accommodation so phone data use can become expensive. Every other possible amenity or practical requirement, however, is available and accessible once in the town.

• Get involved in the community. There is a massive number of twenty-something ex-pats living in Katherine
for a few years and willing to explore and meet people. If you make a little effort to make friends, people will include you on their camping trips and adventures and you’ll get to see a little bit of the beauty the Northern Territory has to offer.

- Join Facebook groups for your hobbies (e.g. look up "X Sport Darwin" and you’ll likely find a group of people looking to meet up and do that hobby). This was very useful for rock climbing, swing dancing, art classes etc.

Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA)
- The work is mostly anthropological and not legal.

Aboriginal Justice Unit – Department of Attorney General and Justice
- Be prepared for a steep learning curve and give yourself adequate time to adjusted. It’s OK to feel a bit overwhelmed during the first week, it all settles down pretty quick.

Aboriginal Medical Services Alliance Northern Territory (AMSANT)
- An understanding of community development principles is useful, and the ability to question your own perspectives. Make sure you have a good understanding of all the things they do at AMSANT, it’s a pretty big operation that covers lots of ground, and it can feel overwhelming!
- The office dress code is relaxed. No ties or heels required for regular office work, though may be needed for formal events like court days.
- You will most likely have to bring your own laptop.
- Definitely speak up about your skills (or areas of weakness), and interests, as places like AMSANT may be able to tailor some of the work you do to suit both you and the organisation.
- The staff are incredibly friendly, don’t be afraid to ask questions and accept social invitations.
- The pub next door has a nice beer garden and is often an unofficial meeting room. You can also access the office wifi from there and it’s not unheard of for staff to take their laptops over and do a bit of work there.
- It’s a short walk from the office to the local park and the waterfront, it’s worth getting out at lunch time.
- Try and get accommodation as close to town as possible though, as walking any great distance in the heat and humidity, or the rain whilst carrying a laptop etc isn’t that much fun!
- The closest place to buy lunch is Smith Street Mall, and staff coffee favourites are The Milkbar and The Three Birds.
- APONT is downstairs, but don’t feel shy about also getting to know the APONT staff and asking them for advice.

Aboriginal Peak Organisations Northern Territory (APO NT)
- APO NT Darwin is a small office with less than 10 staff members, but they share a building with AMSANT so there is a lot of involvement with the staff at AMSANT - AMSANT has a social club so get involved in as many activities/events as you can. If the office is quiet, bring your headphones to listen to your own music as you work.
- There is a bus stop located right outside office building on Mitchell Street.
- When working at APO NT, have a look at their website to see what issues they have been dealing with lately to get an idea of the work you will be doing. The work is mostly research and advocacy: APO NT deals with issues of high-level policy, and liaises directly with Government. The work can involve
researching a particular topic, drafting submissions for inquiries, drafting newspaper articles or press releases, as well as administrative tasks such as taking meetings at officers’ meetings, etc. Examples of issues APO NT deals with:
- housing policy
- constitutional reform
- reforms to the CDP program
- the Royal Commission
- law reform in general

• Be proactive with communicating interests such as speaking directly to community representatives. Be aware this may not be possible unless relevant to the project.

• Dress code: neat casual - sandals and casual shoes acceptable. The office is very cold from aircon so bring a jumper.

• Be prepared to work independently and be entrusted with complete responsibility for certain tasks.

• Be willing to self-guide, take the opportunity to get to know people - through chatting lots of other opportunities become available and there are chances for learning.

**Danila Dilba Health Services (DDHS)**

• You will be located in the corporate office part of Danila Dilba. It’s pretty big but everyone is really friendly. Introduce yourself as there are a lot of people coming and going so not everyone knows who is new/who isn’t.

• Ask for a tour of one of the health service centres - it’s really interesting to see how Danila Dilba do it differently to ensure that their service is accessible and appropriate for Aboriginal people. The team are really great and will often prioritise you getting experience rather than you doing a particular task for them. So if an opportunity to attend something comes up - just ask to go!

• There is a uniform and they’ll probably provide you with a shirt once you get there. Otherwise it’s just casual (no thongs or short shorts, but jeans/skirts/runners/sandals are fine).

• Check with your supervisor prior to your placement if you will require a working with an Ochre Card, children’s check (SafeNT) and police clearance. DDHS has programs running in Don Dale Youth Detention Centre and there is an opportunity for you to visit with the social work staff on some occasions - however the checks can take up to two weeks which significantly reduces that opportunity if it was to arise.

• Tasks undertaken by past interns include research, and designing program content.

• Keep an open mind, and try to do a bit of research and background reading before starting your placement. That way when you walk into your first meeting you won’t feel quite so out of place.

**Environmental Defenders Office NT Inc. (EDONT)**

• The EDO has a pretty basic setup. Bring your own laptop, or ask before you go whether you’ll need one. Don’t be scared to ask for clarification/assistance, but try to also be self-sufficient.

• The EDO NT website is a really useful place to start researching the organisation and familiarising yourself with environmental law. In particular the ‘fact sheets’ section of the website is a very helpful resource.

• I would recommend getting in touch with your supervisor and asking them what issues you will be working on during your time as an intern, and then doing some background research on the internet before you arrive.

• It’s a good idea to familiarise yourself with the political climate and history in the Northern Territory, as this can help you gain an insight into how things work in the Territory, and will help you better understand the work you are doing.
Local Court of the Northern Territory (LCNT) - formerly Magistrates Court

- In emails and in person, always address the Chief Judge as Dr Lowndes. The Chief Judge is very busy and sometimes won’t have a chance to talk to you or assign you something to do.
- The Local Court is very central in the city, and very close to the Darwin bus terminal.
- There is general SMART Court information available on the website www.nt.gov.au/justice/ntmc/index.
- Its important to note the weather, particularly during the wet season. I found the ABC weather and Darwin Airport websites useful.
- It will be much easier to do your research and other work from your own laptop than to log in to the desktop computer provided.
- Be prepared to work on a variety of projects at a time and to prioritise accordingly. You may be researching finer points of the law for a Magistrate who has a case on that day or a long-term research project for a conference paper or journal article.
- Utilise the experience to talk to Magistrates as they are often willing to discuss issues. Introduce yourself to all the judges and court staff when you first arrive. There are so many interns that come and go so if you don’t assert yourself at the start, you may not get to know them during your internship.
- Don’t be afraid to ask the librarians for help! They’re so lovely and super accommodating, and it’s their job to help you find useful resources.
- Make the most of being able to sit and observe in court, particularly if you haven’t got that much litigation experience. It’s such a good way to gain insight into court procedure, and the operation of courts more generally.
- Enquire with your supervisor about attending a Circuit Court, they won’t just assume you are interested in attending one.
- Spend as much time in Court as you can, they expect you to observe different lists and arrange to go on a Circuit Court early in your placement because they might need to book flights for you. Be aware that not all the Circuit Courts are appropriate for an intern, they will help you select which Circuit to go on when you get there.
- Take any camping gear if you have any. There are things to do in Darwin but you’ll find yourself planning camping trips to Kakadu, Litchfield, Katherine etc. Don’t worry about staying far out of the city, the further out you are, the more accessible the beaches are (especially Nightcliff area).
- Although it may be warm outside the court buildings are highly airconditioned so be sure to bring a jacket.
- The library near the court is really good for reading magazines and borrowing books or printing/photocopying.

Northern Land Council (NLC)

- The NLC is a fast paced and very relaxed environment with a range of work.
- The NLC does more than just native title applications. The bulk of its work is negotiating and drafting Indigenous Land Use Agreements. This involves consulting with traditional land owners and others with an interest in the land and drafting license documents. A lot of the work is not native title specific, but more on Aboriginal Land Rights Act NT cases and projects that deal with land use and management (licenses, leases, fishing, businesses, building, mining exploration etc).
- If working in the NLC’s legal team it is highly recommended that you familiarise yourself with the structure
of the organisation as well as any cases they have recently been involved in. This information is usually available in a nice summary from their end of year report available on their website. When working at the NLC, it is likely that most of your work will be under the Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1976 so you should familiarise yourself with some of the key provisions particularly relating to the functions and powers of the Land Councils and s19 Agreements.

- Dress appropriately when on country (i.e. long pants/shirts [not tight and cover shoulders]/flat shoes; no singlets/v-line shirts or heels). Dress code at the NLC is fairly casual and you will stand out if you are in corporate dress.

- Make sure you have a backpack or overnight bag for trips on country. Try and have a pad and pen with you at all times, as you never know when you are going to be given instructions or have to take a message.

- A visit to Litchfield National Park and Kakadu National Park is vital. They are both stunning. If you want to hire a car, ask if you may do so through the NLC (currently they use Thrifty). You may be able to obtain a cheaper rate (which employees of the NLC are eligible for when hiring a car for personal use). This doesn't cost the NLC anything, and is considerably cheaper than hiring independently.

- If you get an opportunity to go on a field trip - say yes! Carry cash for buying things at community stores.

- If you are going out bush via aircraft, make sure you have motion sickness tablets as the flights can be very rocky.

- When going on country, wear cotton clothing as it can get very hot.

- Always pack sunscreen and insect repellant.

- Take as many opportunities to go to meetings/consultations on country as you can. Make sure to chat with as many people in your organisation as possible - I found most people very friendly and willing to share their experiences/insight.

- Be aware of the limitations of the seasons (wet/dry), especially if interns are hoping for field trips. NLC is much 'quieter' during the wet seasons.

- When going to the NLC you need to be flexible with changes and be proactive with getting work to do. Be prepared to have numerous tasks to complete for different lawyers and to juggle competing responsibilities. It can sometimes be hard to try and get everything done, but the NLC lawyers and staff generally are really great and aren't there to pressure you or anything like that, so keep communication open with whoever you're doing work for and they'll be completely accommodating if things are getting too difficult.

- NLC is a very big organisation and there are a lot of things going on at the same time. Because of this you are going to need to show initiative and find things to do without your supervisor telling you so. Everybody is really friendly and will willingly accept your help if offered. It's up to you what you take from this experience, talk to people, network, meet the consultants and accept any invitation to go on country.

- Seek early advice if unsure about what to do. Do not be afraid to approach people to ask for clarification or more work, they can forget about you because of their workload and need a reminder. At the same time, keep in mind that you will need to be independent and confident in that independence. The NLC lawyers were very supportive but also gave me quite a lot of space to take ownership over tasks. It took me a little while to build up the confidence that the work I was doing was quality work and I didn't need to check in every step of the way.

- If you are non-Indigenous, you need to remain reflexive and ensure that in every capacity of work you maintain an awareness of your appropriate place and input as a non-Indigenous person and intern. This is such an important life skill that can (and should) always be improved on. The NLC is a great environment to actively improve it.
General

• NAAJA is a large organisation with many lawyers, and many interns. In order to provide the best possible legal services to their clients, this all rounder is split into three sections: criminal law, civil law, and the advocacy section. A Chinese Wall policy runs between the civil section and the criminal section, which essentially divides NAAJA into two legal practices. This is to avoid conflicts between clients and maintain confidentiality even for clients with competing interests. Thus, the criminal section can represent an offender, while it is still possible for the civil section to represent his victim in a compensation claim for the crime. The Chinese Wall policy does not apply to the relationship of either the criminal section or the civil section towards the advocacy department. However, due to this setup, volunteers can only work in either the criminal or the civil section, and must not rotate between these two. The exchange into Advocacy from either of the other two divisions is, however, possible. It is therefore helpful to make clear which of the divisions you will want to work in prior to the commencement of your placement. Otherwise volunteers seem to end up in crime by default.

• The Civil unit gave me such a variety of work, exposure and responsibility that I’m not sure I would have otherwise. I was able to do really interesting research tasks on a range of law topics, from torts to Australian Consumer Law to the Royal Commission into deaths in custody. The casework I was involved in included claims under the anti-discrimination act, police complaints, compensation claims and child protection matters. I think I gained an appreciation for the scope of this kind of work.

• If you are in the Criminal or Civil section and you are not given an induction, ask your manager if you can join the Law & Justice team induction. It is done very well and gives you insight into the history and

• Contact NAAJA about accommodation before your placement. In a number of cases they were able to assist people in finding accommodation.

• Get in touch with the intern previous to your placement if you can – their handover tips will be incredibly helpful.

• Highly recommend bringing a camera because the beaches are beautiful and many will take your breath away and it is worth venturing out bush to see the beauty of the place.

• Understand the wet/dry season cycles. It is cool to know what activities you can do in the area on the weekends and even in the afternoons after work. I was lucky enough (even though it was the middle of the wet season) to go fishing, boating, hiking, looking at waterfalls and creeks and rivers.

• Be prepared to hit the ground running. NAAJA is extremely under-resourced and relies heavily on interns to help the lawyers with their massive workload, but also be prepared for quiet times and research. Filing to some people is meaningless but it is a great way to get to know where to find files and how the system works.

• Take resources like books based on legal topics (criminology, property, contracts, torts, evidence) that may help you during your placement.

• NAAJA interns in the criminal section should be prepared to be exposed to sensitive facts and be pushed outside your comfort zone. Knowing the work may be pretty challenging emotionally is important, in order to be prepared. Know your state of mental health and what you can do to manage it while you’re up there. The work has massively high rewards, but there are definitely some low points too.

• If you run out of work make sure you let everyone know by sending a general email around and you will be flooded with tasks. Don’t be alarmed at the (lack of) supervision at NAAJA. It’s actually a really great way to ensure you work with different solicitors and see more of what NAAJA does, at least, this is what I found. But you need to be willing to take initiative and actively search for tasks to do!

• I would suggest any intern try and organize (through their placement organization or elsewhere) the lend of a bike for transport before their arrival.

• Read up on child protection legislation and domestic violence/violence in Aboriginal communities.

• Believe that you are making a difference. Sometimes the disparity of the situation regarding Indigenous individuals and the associated issues of alcohol abuse, domestic violence, child abuse, child custody battles, police behaving badly, can seem really overwhelming. It’s really important to gain perspective
on the purpose of NAAJA - that even if we are only bettering a few people and the clients that know of our services (despite the promotion of legal aid), we are at least making some lives better.

- Become actively involved within the firm, get friendly with the lawyers you work with and do not be afraid to ask for work to do or go out with lawyers if they are going out to visit clients/to the courthouse.
- Doing a short journal entry at the end of each day makes writing the weekly report much easier.
- Be friendly with staff and talk about general things rather than barraging them with a million questions about their work every time you see them. On field trips stick with your supervisor as much as possible to not miss out on the spontaneous opportunities – don’t lock yourself in your accommodation when you’re ‘done for the day’ - opportunities to learn and do cool things happen constantly and anytime.
- Be willing to do variety of things, go and ask the various members in the team if they want anything done. Have a variety of skills such as typing in word documents and a basic understanding of excel, learn how to scan documents, be willing to do the foot work of research.
- Aurora warns you to be prepared for mundane work such as “filing”. The “filing” equivalent at NAAJA is the dreaded “EROI”, which is electronic record of interview, e.g. videos of police interviews that need to be transcribed – usually by interns! While they are important, they are also soul crushing when you do too many. Please don’t feel obligated to do EROI after EROI – limit yourself or you will never do anything else. I would recommend NOT emailing out and ask for EROI’s because you will receive more than you can ever complete. If a lawyer genuinely needs one done for a hearing they will send around a group email – wait for those.
- On your first few days you may be dumped in the deep end with lots to do without a proper introduction to the office; if that happens, try to go around and introduce yourself. Some lawyers (the younger ones and those who started out as interns) will be very receptive and may come say hi, but others are used to so many interns coming they won’t make the first effort. Even though it can be difficult, try to meet everyone properly and have a brief chat.
- NAAJA provides a useful induction pack with freebies and more importantly, their own induction folder with some great cultural articles etc. in it. If you don’t receive one, ask for it! (I didn’t get mine for 2 weeks and had no idea it existed)
- If you have some spare time, ask to borrow a duty lawyers handbook or criminal practice manual from one of the lawyers and just have a read, it’s all practical interesting stuff and gives you a good overview of criminal law process up here if you are new to the area.
- NAAJA can use a whole range of skills, not just legal! If you do have other skills that may be useful, let your colleagues know and see where that can take you.
- The civil department moves a little slower than the criminal department but you can expect to be exposed to a variety of different areas of law.
- Don’t be afraid to talk with all members of staff, solicitors and support staff, as they all have a wealth of experience.
- Be prepared to work autonomously - that doesn’t mean in isolation, but it does mean taking full responsibility for your area/task/relationships.

Dress code

The NAAJA policy on dress standards is that all staff are required to be dressed in a professional and appropriate manner at all times during working hours.

Under the NAAJA policy, the following are not acceptable: thongs, shorts (other than dress shorts) and, for anyone working at court, t-shirts.
Our clients deserve to feel that they are getting a professional service. How we look is an important part of this.

If you have an office day, you still need to dress professionally — a client may drop in, you may be called to court and, in any event, our clients see our staff come and go.

Staff working at court, including bush courts, must make a particular effort to ensure they are dressed professionally. Going to court is stressful enough without feeling like you don’t have a ‘real’ lawyer. Our clients notice and the Court notices - it is something that has been specifically raised with us by the Magistrates. It doesn’t help your client if the court is annoyed at you for dressing inappropriately. Our clients at bush courts should also feel that they are getting the same service they would get in town. For lawyers, the NT generally has a ‘jackets off’ policy in the Magistrates Court. This does not mean ‘casual’. This means that you should dress as a lawyer normally would, just without the jacket.

Some tips for female lawyers:

- You might want to reconsider wearing low cut tops, see through clothing or tight outfits. For many of our clients, this can be very embarrassing and culturally inappropriate. Sometimes we have to talk about nasty sexual things, and we need to make this as easy as possible for our clients, who may be culturally struggling with the fact you are a woman in the first place. In addition, the view from the Magistrate’s chair when you are leaning on the lectern or picking up a file may not be quite what you intended.

- At bush courts, even when not in court, you should not wear short shorts, mini skirts or be too exposed. Look at what the women in the community are wearing and take that as some sort of guide. You don’t have to go out and buy two long floral skirts and wear them both at the same time, but put some thought into what you take with you. In some places, women have been asked not to wear trousers. It’s complicated stuff, but keep it in mind.

- Think about this when you are visiting clients at the gaol as well, especially when going casual on the weekend. Many prisoner’s girlfriends or wives dress ‘sexy’ when they visit their blokes. As a professional, you may wish to distinguish yourself from those visitors (although your client, who may have been in prison for some time, may not want you to!). You might be going off to your own social event after your prison visit, but take a change of clothes.

- You may (unbeknownst to you) be having trouble being taken seriously as a ‘female’ lawyer by your client. You may not like this, but it is possibly true. The more professional and ‘like a lawyer’ you dress, the easier it will be for your client to get over this.

Going out on country

- If you go out on country as a girl, it can help for you to wear long skirts - at least knee length - and generally dress conservatively (i.e., no singlet/strapless tops, or very tight fitting tops). This is how the mature women dress, and it will help them to relate to you if you make the effort to fit in.

- Don’t be afraid to ask questions of the local people (Indigenous and non-Indigenous), if you are on country. There is no need to stick to the ‘lawyer crowd’ - if you have some spare time, go hang out at the Art Centre, or local shop/grocery store. Chat with people and learn something new. Make an effort to pick up bits and pieces of their language - it’s like any other foreign country, the more culture/language you pick up, the more people will warm to you. If you’re a girl, just be mindful that approaching Aboriginal men to chat may be inappropriate - not always, but possibly - if you want to be safe, striking up a conversation with the same sex is generally fine.

- Take cash with you on community, it can be too much hassle to find an ATM, and usually it won’t be your own bank’s ATM.

- Bring your own food if you’re going out on country for a few days, there are usually stores in community but choice is not great, and prices are high. Pack as if you’re going hiking, lightweight, easy to assemble meals, maybe even your own cutlery/bowls- talk to your supervisors/lawyers and find out about the food situation in the community you’re going to.
• If planning to travel out to community areas, travel with an emergency supply of food, fuel and it is essential to carry lots of water.

• Ask about attending bush court. Try to look up the court calendar online before you go to get an idea of when these bush courts are on (through the Local Court of the Northern Territory website).

Darwin

• Darwin is hot, there is no need to dress overly formally. No heels required, just simple and appropriate dresses, skirts and tops. Darwin courts have a “jackets off policy” and therefore do not require a full formal suit. The dress code is more smart-casual, particularly in the office.

• NAAJA’s work hours are either 8am - 4:30pm or 8:30am - 5pm. Be sure to talk to your supervisor about which hours they would like you to arrive and leave.

• A past intern has left a file on their desktop of useful hints and tips including how to use the phones, useful file locations.

• Bring a sleeping bag if you think there is any likelihood of going on country. Accommodation outside of Darwin can be very basic and it’s great to be prepared.

• Try to live as close to town as possible if you won’t have a car. It can be too hot/wet to ride and no public transport makes things very difficult.

• NAAJA is located in the city, across the road from a supermarket and the bus stop is right out the front. It is very easy to get to on the bus - which is only $1 if you have a student card. It is also close to restaurants and bars for some after work fun which is also a great way to network and get to know the other lawyers.

• Best coffee near NAAJA - Alley Cats. Also amazing sandwiches. If you need more coffee tips ask the lawyers from Brisbane and Melbourne as they are coffee snobs and will provide good recommendations.

• If you’re low on work, head down to the Local Court of the Northern Territory. Ask if you can do anything to help (e.g. take instructions), if there’s nothing for you to do (unlikely) just sit and watch it unfold.

• Feel free to invite yourself to help with things that interest you! If there is a SC trial coming up, say you want to go. The lawyers may be too busy to think of you and invite you, but they will be more than happy for you to sit in. Try to sit in on at least one full trial while you are here. If you have the opportunity to watch one of the QC’s NAAJA hires in action, go down for that (check out the roster, it will tell you what’s going on).

• Likewise, circuits. I was told I could go on circuit and then my supervisor went on leave, so I went to someone senior and said I wanted to go, and got the ball rolling myself. Be proactive if you want to go on circuit, NAAJA are appreciative of interns and happy to send you if it works, so put yourself out there.

• If you do get to go on circuit, find out exactly what facilities are available before you go! I went to Tiwi and assumed there would just be a kettle; there was a fridge, a microwave, and an electric pan, so the others were whipping up gourmet soups while I was stuck with the two minute noodles I brought (luckily they generously shared with me or I may have died from malnutrition).

• On Friday, stay after work and go to after work drinks if they are happening, it’s a good way to meet lawyers you may not have worked with yet.

• If cross cultural training happens while you are here, make sure you attend (you will probably be booked in anyway but just in case they forget you), it’s a full day and such good information with a great presenter. Really specific indigenous history and culture relating to the Darwin area.

• BYO cream for mosquito bites - for some reason I had a lot of difficulty finding it in Darwin.

• Taxis are ridiculously expensive
Gove

- For interns that are going to Gove, they should be aware that it is quite a small township. Nearby to the township are a number of communities including Yirrkala and Ski.
- Another typical feature of Gove, that they will experience almost weekly power outages. It is a result of the mine and the refinery so it should be expected a lot.
- During dry season it is beautiful in Gove, but if you are going in the wet season be prepared for the heat. It can and will reach temperatures into the 40’s. In the wet season there is a lot of rain, so be prepared for the marsh flies and the mosquitoes.
- If you like fishing and camping then it is a great place for that, but be wary of dingoes, buffaloes, crocodiles and jellyfish.
- Gove has a small selection of cafés and shops and it is generally expensive given the location. There is a Woolworths and IGA, and a service station.

Northern Australian Land and Sea Management Alliance (NAILSMA)

- Prepare to work independently most of the time. Although you do receive some guidance a lot of the work done was self-guided. Make sure you take initiative and check in with supervisors if you are feeling lost though as most of the staff are super busy with other work but will appreciate you coming to see them. It often made things a lot clearer after having a chat about where I was at with work/projects.
- NAILSMA is under-resourced and -staffed; they are constantly under pressure to get things done. This never stopped the staff from helping us and giving us tasks to work on. The staff were friendly and positive.
- The work you are doing is going to prove to be quite useful and helpful to the organisation so try to do a good job.
- Important to note that in many remote communities and when working with Indigenous people it is very important to dress very modestly, no short clothes or revealing tops.
- Read through all the material on the website, this really helped me to get started. Take the time to chat to everyone in the office, it might not seem like work but there is so much to learn from everyone there and it was really good to build connections and ask questions.

Top End Women’s Legal Service (TEWLS)

- Be prepared to be involved in a huge variety of work. TEWLS is very understaffed, so you will be working on a lot of different matters at once.
- Be willing to ask what needs to be done and work autonomously.
- Just keep an open mind and ask lots of questions. Offer to help out on whatever the lawyers are working on and encourage them to provide you with work. Be open to the feedback received and try to incorporate it into your future work at TEWLS.
- If there is something that particularly interests you, don’t be shy to ask whether you can be involved in it.
- Be willing to watch and learn and absorb everything that you can about the work that they do and more broadly the issues faced by women in the Northern Territory.
Tips from past interns

General

Katherine is a town of around 10,000 people, 4 hours southeast of Darwin. Transport in to Katherine is limited to a once-per-day Greyhound bus from Darwin passing on its way to Alice Springs, or private car. But don’t let the isolation put you off; Katherine is a fascinating place, full of interesting people and activities. Being such a small town the community is very tight. However people are incredibly friendly and always keen to meet new people and include them in what they’re doing. Try to involve yourself as much as you can in the community - swim at the local pool (you’ll run into half the town there), go to film club every second Thursday and yoga on Sunday mornings at the hospital. In the dry season people head out to Katherine Gorge, Edith Falls or Litchfield National Park on the weekend, camping in Kakadu or swimming in the Mataranka Hot Springs. These places require access to a car to get to and are great places to visit in groups. Ask around to find out who is doing what, it might seem bold if you don’t know them, but people are always keen to include others in their weekend plans. Katherine is full of expats from other parts of the country in town for work, so everyone knows what it’s like to be new and looking for people to hang out with.

Katherine is divided into two distinct sections: Katherine and East Katherine (5km from the main centre). Katherine has the essentials: Woolies, Target Country, a sports store, a Chinese takeaway, Centrelink, Eagle Boys Pizza, and a few gift shops.

But the shops are more expensive than larger cities, and you can’t always find what you need, so it’s a good idea to do your shopping before you arrive if you know you’ll need something specific. There is no public transport, so if you are staying in East Katherine make sure you have a bike or a car to get around. Walking is possible although temperatures can get fairly high and distances quite long. The centre of town can be a bit rough at night so avoid walking around alone. It’s also important to be aware of Katherine’s alcohol restrictions and of the problems surrounding alcohol consumption in NT towns. Like most places, avoid walking alone at night or in the early hours of the morning. Also be mindful in getting into a taxi alone, particularly if you are female.

Do not be apprehensive about going to Katherine because you think it is in the middle of nowhere and there will be nothing going on. Katherine is a little hub of vibrant and interesting people who are extremely friendly and welcoming. There is a film society that shows independent films fortnightly and weekend markets. There are also so many beautiful places to see (especially Edith Falls, the Gorge and Mataranka).

There is a nightly soccer kick-about near the YMCA- friendly group and a good way to keep active.

If you plan on travelling out of Katherine on the weekends, prepare in advance. Greyhound buses run on a limited schedule, and often do not run each day.

North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency (NAAJA)

- If you’re working at NAAJA, it’s likely you’ll go to Bush Court. This is a wonderful opportunity and it’s worth letting your supervisor know you would be interested in heading out bush, they are so busy that remembering to include the intern can slip their mind! Bush Court is just like going to court in Katherine, except in a community hall or council building in a remote town like Ngukurr or Yarralin. Taking instructions from clients happens outside, so the days can be hot and long. Remember sunscreen, plenty of fluids and bring all your food with you as most communities only have one general store. The best thing an intern can do at Bush Court is be as helpful as possible - it can get hectic for the lawyers and your support can really make the day run more smoothly.
- The dresscode is a little more relaxed but I recommend bringing a pair of jeans/ trousers you can wear in the heat on bushtrip or to court if need be.
- A placement in Katherine is a unique and all-consuming experience that is barely comparable to one in the city. The environment can be challenging, and the work emotionally charged, but it is rewarding, fulfilling and full of adventure.
- Get to know your colleagues. Katherine/NAAJA is such a small community, and it will really enhance your experience if you get to know the people you work with. It really is hard not to make friends because everyone is so friendly and welcoming. Katherine has a large populous of young professionals, so you won’t be alone.
- Don’t expect to be supervised 24-7. Prepare to work hard and on your own for long periods. However, remember that you are part of a team and the other lawyers will always go out of their way to help you if you ask.
- It will be advantageous for NAAJA Katherine criminal interns to have a good grasp of evidence and criminal law. These two areas form a vast majority of the work that NAAJA does and will be of great assistance to interns in their day to day work.
- Also important at NAAJA Katherine is good cross-cultural understanding. Prior to coming, it would be advantageous for interns to develop their knowledge of Indigenous issues broadly and issues regarding cross-cultural communication.
- If you are given the opportunity to go bush, to court or see clients, take them!
- In community trips it is really important to cover your knees - because of the heat I would suggest a long loose fitting skirt. It really doesn’t matter what you look like going out into community because you end up covered in dust anyway!
- It is also really relaxed at NAAJA so it is best to try and not go in there really anxious and worried about making a good impression - a better approach would be being humble and ready to have a go at anything even if you have never done it before.

Wadeye

Wadeye, formerly Port Keats, is a remote Aboriginal community of around 2,500 inhabitants, situated 400 kms south-west of Darwin. Road access is cut off for most of the year due to flooding limiting access to Wadeye, however light aircraft access is available through Murin Air, which have two scheduled flights daily which are approximately 40 minutes from Darwin General Aviation. Wadeye is situated on a river and a short drive from the coast. However permission must be sought from Traditional Owners to visit areas outside of the town boundary.

Wadeye is an identified Territory Growth Town and provides all basic services such as Police, a community post office, NT Health Clinic, schooling up to year 12. Wadeye was subject to the Northern Territory Emergency Response (NTER) and is now subject to Northern Territory Stronger Futures (NTSF) legislation. One aspect of this is that Wadeye is a designated ‘dry’ community, although alcohol permits can be obtained for residents who have “secure housing” and no criminal history (NB alcohol cannot be purchased in Wadeye and it is illegal to bring it in without a permit, or supply to anyone who does not have a permit). There are also restrictions on pornography.
Accommodation will be provided in CSSU staff housing situated next to the Safe House; the intern will have their own room and share facilities with one other staff member. All linen will be provided. Interns are covered under Aurora’s insurance if they are to drive one of their hosts’ vehicles however they are required to have 100 points of ID. So long as they can drive a 4WD and/or manual vehicle having completed 4WD training and have had a fair bit of experience driving a manual car (prior to their placement), they are permitted to drive and are covered.

Telstra is the sole provider of mobile telephone service in Wadeye. Interns will be expected to dress appropriately for the community which means covering your legs to below the knee, and your chest and shoulders.

There is a public swimming pool opposite the Safe House which is open from 5-6pm daily for adult swimming at a rate of $5 per week. There are also various sporting activities to participate in such as mixed netball, basketball, table-tennis, and women’s AFL.

Wadeye has certainly had its fair share of bad press over the years but it is a community committed to continuous improvement and a placement here can offer a rewarding challenge for the right candidate.

There is a community-run store with a limited selection of dry and frozen produce and a subsidised fruit and vegetable shop, which is generally well stocked. A barge delivers goods from Darwin once a week but this can be weather dependent.

**Childrens Services Support Unit, Wadeye Safe House (CSSU)**

The internship will be based at Wadeye Safe House and generally working hours will be 9am - 5pm from Monday to Friday. The intern will also be expected to help out at other CSSU services if required. The role will involve shadowing the Safe House Manager - assisting clients, hosting events, attending meetings, administration tasks, housekeeping - and the intern will be allocated an individual project that can be tailored to meet their interests. We encourage interns to be proactive in directing their learning and making the most of introductions to stakeholders in the community. We recommend spending time with other agencies to gain a broader perspective of how the community runs.

- All interns will be required to have an Ochre Card (can purchase a volunteer Ochre Card) – valid NT Working with Children Check.
- Buy dry food before you go - very little in the community store and it is expensive, but fruit and vegetables are cheap and plentiful at beginning of week (barge comes on Tuesday).
- Telstra 3G is the only mobile and internet network available.
- Probably not safe to go out after dark on your own. Lots of dogs. Can be noisy at night with shouting and dogs barking but is generally safe in community.
- Healthcare is free in community due to distance from nearest hospital.
- It is possible to do barge orders with Coles/Woolworths.
- Having a drivers licence is important in order to be able to fully participate and be independent in activities at this organisation.
- You need a permit to buy alcohol and it can only be bought in Darwin and shipped in.
- Clothing for interns at the Safe House needs to be modest (skirts below the knees and shoulders covered), sunscreen and insect repellant are essential, as is rain gear during the wet season.
- In Wadeye, try to get to know the local women by spending some time at the Women’s association, helping out with any upcoming projects.
- Don’t expect to fit in to the community or to be accepted within your 6 week internship - whatever small signs of friendship you receive should be valued.
- Interns must arrange their own internet for personal use, with a wifi dongle or similar.
• Interns placed at Wadeye need to make sure that they have been vaccinated for Tetanus, and Hepatitis A, B, C and Rubella.

• Background information about the language and history of the Wadeye area could also be useful.

• The research thesis: “Street, Chester S., The Language and Culture of the Murrinh-Patha, Summer Institute of Linguistics, Australian Aboriginal Branch, Darwin, 1987” is a fantastic introduction.

• Be open to whatever experiences and opportunities may come. At the same time, try to have idea of what you want because if you are lucky to be asked, the organisation can cater your experience to your interests.

• The Children and Family Centre Creche in Wadeye is also run by CSSU and is an option for a place to work.

• Take initiative and let the supervisor know of any extra activities you would like to be involved in.

• The local people are amazingly perceptive and use a lot of non-verbal communication. Even if they are not very talkative at first, look out for small smiles or signs of warmth in facial expressions.

• Dressing culturally appropriate and having the right clothes for the weather.
Alice Springs weather

Temperature
Summer: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 25°C to an average maximum of 45°C
Winter: Temperatures range from an average minimum of -0.5°C to an average maximum of 30°C

Climate
The lower part of the state (the ‘Red Centre’), which includes the Alice Springs, Tennant Creek and Uluru (Ayers Rock) regions, is semi-arid and experiences Australia’s four typical seasons: summer, autumn, winter and spring. The tropical rains generally do not extend this far south, and as it’s a desert environment, nights can be surprisingly cold during winter. (Taken from: www.tourismnt.com.au).

Alice Springs tourist information

Tourist office
Central Australian Tourism Industry Association
Gregory Terrace
08 8952 3800
www.centralaustraliantourism.com

Alice Springs medical information

Alice Springs Hospital
Gap Road
Phone: 08 8951 7777

The hours of medical centres in Alice Springs typically do not extend beyond 9:00am – 5:00pm Monday to Friday. Any secondary care has long waiting lists. However, a bulk-billed ‘After Hours Clinic’ is run out of Alice Springs Hospital’s Outpatients Department from 6:00pm – 9:00pm Monday to Friday and 2:00pm – 5:00pm on weekends.

Alice Springs transport

ASBUS
The public bus service leaves from the Yeperenye shopping centre (Hartley Street) every 1½ hours from about 8am to 6pm. Fares will be around $2.50. Timetables are available from the tourist office.

Alice Wanderer Bus
A ‘hop-on/hop-off ’ bus travelling around the major sights of Alice Springs. Runs every 70min from 9am to 4pm, leaves from the south end of Todd Mall. A day ticket costs around $40.

Taxi
The best place to hail a cab is around the corner of Gregory Terrace and Todd Street. Phone numbers for bookings are 13 10 08 or 08 8952 1877.
Bike
Interns tell us bike is by far the best way to get around Alice.

It is invaluable. Things are too far away (20 minute walk) in the plodding heat for walking. Having a bike allows you to socialise and makes shopping easier. It’s only $15 for a bike box at the airport. Alternatively, you may be able to hire one from your accommodation or you can rent them from places like Bike Hire 0407 324 697.

We have also heard reports of street violence in and around Alice so we encourage interns to exercise caution when considering personal safety and how best to travel from A to B. Taxis are advised in the evening.

From the airport
Airport Shuttle: Operates between the airport and your accommodation ($17 return). For any enquiries ring: 08 8953 0310.
Taxi: It should cost you around $26 from the airport to the city.

Food and shopping in Alice Springs

Shopping
- Food is expensive as it is trucked in from elsewhere. The takeaway is average in quality and high in price. Find out what days the supermarkets get their fruit and veg deliveries to work out when you want to go shopping. Nothing perishable survives too long in the heat.
- Woolworths and Coles is open until midnight every day.
- Afghan Traders (10/10 Smith Street, near CLC): Food store/deli catering for vegetarians and those looking for organic/healthy foods. It is a lot more expensive than normal grocers.
- Cheap organic fruit and veggies from the Sunday markets (held every second Sunday). Far better quality than the trucked in veggies from supermarkets. If you are buying from supermarkets and grocers, getting fruit and vegetables on Wednesday is often when it is the most fresh - because that’s usually when places get it trucked in.

Cafes
- A good place for coffee is on Gapp Road, near Todd Street. It is a very small shop with random gig posters on the window and inside there is little more than some bench space and a coffee machine. The location and décor is unusual, but the coffee is good.
- Page 27 Cafe (3 Fan Arcade): The food is always great and the coffees are hot! Make sure you get a smoothie. They are very busy on Saturdays so try during the week.
- Red Sands café near the Peter Appleyard Gallery on the Todd Mall makes good coffee.
- Red Rock Café (south end of Todd Mall): Does breakfast, coffee, pastries and burgers.
- Soma Cafe (58 Todd Street): offers delicious all day breakfast menu, sophisticated lunch options and great coffee. There is a focus on organic ingredients and offer a number of gluten-free options. On weekends they host local community fundraisers and private functions are held on the rooftop.
- Water tank Cafe (14 Hele Crescent): serves breakfast and lunch 7 days a week. Fabulous indoor and outdoor setting, locally made cakes and catering for vegans, vegetarians, gluten free and meat lovers alike.
- Tea Shrine (6/113 Todd Street): Great vegan/vegetarian food, to dine in or takeaway, fantastic range of teas that can also be purchased in bulk to take home, indoor and outdoor seating areas.
- Kwerralye Cafe (6 South Terrace): This cafe provides local Aboriginal folk with hospitality training. The food was really interesting and very tasty. Staff were friendly. Open Mon - Fri, 7.30 - 3.00pm.
- The Bakery- 10/10 for loaves of bread, coffee and amazing baked goods. Website is here
Dining Out

- Casa Nostra (corner Undoolya Road and Stuart Terrace): Italian pizza and pasta. Meals $10 to $16.
- Pub Café (Todd Tavern, 1 Todd Mall): Pub meals. They do Sunday evening roasts for $13, and there’s a Monday night dinner-and-movie deal.
- Sultan’s Kebab (corner Hartley Street and Gregory Terrace): Turkish food (kebabs $6 to $8), accompanied by belly dancers if you’re there on Friday or Saturday night.
- Thai takeaway and fish and chip shop in Eastside shops (just next to IGA) are very good and cheap and close to the CLC flats.
- Confucius on Todd Mall for dumplings.

If you’re feeling rich...

- Piccolo’s (Todd Mall): Mediterranean food. Open for all meals (including afternoon coffee and cake).
- Overlanders Steakhouse (72 Hartley Street): Come here if you want a chat with a truckie. Specialises in steaks (including emu, camel, crocodile and kangaroo). If you’re REALLY hungry, go for the ‘Drover’s Blowout’ (it will set you back $50, but the other meals are around $25).

Entertainment in Alice Springs

Sights and activities

- Try to do some sightseeing, in and around Alice Springs and book a tour to see Uluru, Kings Canyon, Kato Juta National Park and The Olgas, I recommend ‘Rock Tours’.
- Uluru: Various camping tours are available (allow a few days for these). Check out some of the cheaper companies: Mulga’s Adventures: 08 8952 1545, www.mulgas.com.au and Adventure Tours Australia: 08 8981 4255, www.adventuretours.com.au
- If you are hiring a car, try the Alice Springs Tourist Info Centre on Todd Mall. Most of the hire car companies only include 100km a day but you can hire a car with unlimited kilometres at the tourist centre.
- I enjoyed driving out of Alice Springs towards the West McDonald ranges - out Larapinta Drive then Namatjira Drive. It is one of the most beautiful areas and there are a number of waterholes, gorges etc.
- Alice Springs Desert Park (Larapinta Drive): Located at the base of the MacDonnell Ranges, and representative of the area’s unique environment. Includes walk-through aviaries and a nocturnal house.
- Ellery Creek Big Hole – on the way out to Glen Helen. A most beautiful permanent swimming hole. Make friends with a driver or borrow a car so you can make it to this beautiful water hole about an hour from town centre. Great place to camp, all you need is a swag.
- John Hayes rockhole/Trephina Gorge – any bushwalking is spectacular, but you need to get up early
due to the heat.

- Frontier Camel Farm (Palm Circuit, south of Heavitree Gap): The place for camel rides.

- Cycle to Simpsons Gap, or the walk up to the ridge starting at Flynn's grave if you don't have a car.

- Try to get out to the waterholes if you can: Ellery Big Hole and Ormiston Gorge (the Pound walk, if you have a car) are beautiful and taking a lilo through Redbank Gorge is a great adventure! There’s free camping nearby on the sand of the Finke River at Two Mile.

- Climbing up Mount Gillen at sunrise is a must do for pretty spectacular views. The track starts from the carpark at Flynn's Grave, which is just past the Desert Park just out of town on Larapinta Drive. It's worth going very early to beat the heat, as the climb is pretty strenuous. It takes about 45 min/1 hour to get up. Keep an eye out for rock wallabies, particularly before the last part of the climb.

- Also, the walk out to Telegraph Station - which takes 30/40 minutes if you follow the path north along the Todd River, is a good early morning activity.

- The Olive Pink Botanic Gardens are worth a look, the onsite café is excellent and meals are around $13 – $20.

- The swimming pool next to Traeger Park on Gap Road is great and usually fairly empty, so if you like swimming laps or just want to cool down it's a good place. They do a discount price if you buy 10 entries, or else 1 entry is $6.

- You can get a temporary library membership - the library is nicely air-conditioned, there is movie screenings and a wide variety of books, dvds and music to keep you entertained.

- Royal Flying Doctor Service Base (Stuart Terrace): Still in operation, but does regular half-hour tours. [www.flyingdoctor.net](http://www.flyingdoctor.net)

- Red Hot Arts (Cnr Bath Street and Stott Tce): find out upcoming community events.

- The local Independent Totem Theatre has some great events on. Spoken word poetry on Friday nights, cabaret on Saturday nights.

- See the Araluen Arts Centre for arthouse films/exhibitions

- The Mount Gillen walk is something that you've got to do at least once - you can go after work and make it to see the sunset! The Telegraph Station track is also a great walk/run to do in the afternoon or on a weekend morning.

Festivals

- Beanie Festival: Arts and crafts festival held in June and July, celebrating the work of Indigenous artists.

- The Camel Cup: A series of camel races held in mid-July.

- The Finke Desert Race: A three-day event over Queen’s Birthday long weekend, with lots of fully sick vamped up cars revving their way along the Old South Road.

- For winter interns, get along to the festivals on offer like Desert Song and Desert Mob (save up money for the art market!)

Nightlife in Alice Springs

Cinema

- Alice Springs Cinemas (Todd Mall): Screens mainstream movies every day.

- Araluen Arts Centre (Larapinta Drive): Screens art house cinema every Sunday, and various live theatre, music and dance throughout the week.
• Go to the Deckchair Cinema!

Bars/Music
• Bojangles (80 Todd Street): Very Aussie, with live music and entertainment most nights.
• Firkin & Hound (Hartley Street): Not as touristy as some other places in town, and has live bands from Wednesday to Sunday.
• Montes Lounge (Corner Todd St and Stott Tce): It has a great cosmopolitan and bohemian vibe that provides the perfect setting with food and beverage to match. Open Wednesday through to Sunday 3pm to late (except at 11am on the weekends). Trivia on Thursday nights.
• Epilogue (on Todd Mall) - great cafe downstairs and has fun things/live music on the rooftop. Special mention goes to Open Mic night on Thursday nights - quite the experience.
• Undies - Friday night karaoke is fantastic.

Tips from past interns

General
• Prepare your accommodation well in advance, if possible. Accommodation (and living costs) can be quite expensive. Some interns have recommended staying in East side, which is close to the town and a lovely suburb. Check/post on the Alice Springs rental property facebook group.
• Whilst everyone promotes the East side for accommodation, the Northside suburbs are equally well located i.e. close to Town and to CLC (which is located in Ciccone, north of Town), and well-resourced by bike paths!
• You may wish to keep your return date open and stay back in Alice for a while – once you are comfortable, familiar and have made good friends and connections in the town, it is hard to leave immediately after your placement!
• People are very friendly and tend to be social friends with selected workmates. Invite yourself along to some gatherings, as the more interesting stuff is at people’s houses. The pubs and bars are often backpacker-oriented.
• There are a lot of amazing walks and camping around the area, as well as a number of easily accessible tourist activities.
• Bring comfortable walking shoes or boots.
• If someone (e.g. the landlord) from your accommodation can’t lend you one, purchase a bicycle in Alice.
There are very good bike paths in Alice - use them well during the day but take care riding at night. Make sure you have a good bike lock.
• Probably not safe to go out after dark on your own. Lots of dogs. Can be noisy at night with shouting and dogs barking but is generally safe in community. I was skeptical about people saying ‘it is not safe after dark’. But believe it. I made friends with a detective while in Alice, and the stories confirm 100% that you should not go out after dark by yourself.
• The staff at your host organisation can probably point you towards the best place to buy art if you’ve saved up some money to do so. Papunya Tula Artists and Gallery Gondwana are the most reputable and apparently (according to the locals) the most ethical.
• YMCA Olympic Swimming Pool is a great and cheap way to keep fit and stay cool when in Alice. Just out past the hospital. Buy a ten-visit pass for even cheaper entry.
• Mid Merry Yoga, No Lights No Lycra and Pound classes at East-Side Pilates are a lot of fun and mean you don't feel as sedentary during your desk-based placement.

• Health care is free in community due to distance from nearest hospital. Some doctors do not accept Medicare Card to bulk bill.

• Make sure to pack a warm jacket as it can get very cold at night and early morning, especially in winter.

• You can buy alcohol in Alice (except on Sunday).

• Be prepared for expensive groceries. Buy as you need them, every few days, to minimise waste and cost – food goes off quickly, even in the fridge. Reduce the time from buying fresh food in the supermarket to cooking and eating as much as possible. Or if you want to store food, freeze it instead of putting it in the fridge.

• The supermarkets in town (Woollies and Coles) have everything you would get at a typical supermarket in the capital cities. No need to bring specific things from home.

• Optus, Telstra, and Vodafone networks are all available in Alice Springs but some of the communities have only Telstra, or no coverage at all.

• Don't go to Alice without sunglasses and moisturiser. It is also a good idea to bring a swimming costume because there are lots of watering holes just outside of town. Invest in heavy duty moisturiser - Alice is very dry. Seriously- this was a big problem for so many people living there including myself! Be prepared for all the moisture to be sucked out of your skin, and for having to put in eye drops to stop your eyes drying out, and for getting electric shocks from cars. Also, the water is very hard, so if you have sensitive skin invest in micellar water or something before you arrive.

• Keep a journal, this helps you to process your internship experience.

• Bring books, music, dvds, deck of cards and any other entertainment you might like. It is a remote area and you really have to have something to keep yourself occupied.

• Having a car is highly recommended, as it is difficult to sightsee without transport out of town.

• Go visit the waterholes and Uluru/Kata Tjuta, King's Canyon, Palm Valley -- there's plenty of great weekend trips to do. Ellery Creek Waterhole is also recommended. Ormiston Gorge is similar but further away. Hike Mt Gillen (make sure you take a friend). Climb Mt Gilleen, but get up at about 4:30am to avoid the heat! Try to get out to the East and West MacDonnell Ranges to explore the beautiful country around Alice.

• Alice Springs Desert Park is worth the entry free. Don't forget to take your student ID if you have one so you can get discounted entry.

• The Art Museum and the Natural History Museum are fantastic. If you say you live in Alice you will get free entry into both.

• The walks around Telegraph Station are really beautiful and you will see a lot of kangaroos and rock wallabies at sunset.

• Mid Merry Yoga on Hele Crescent is wonderful, set in an Aboriginal art gallery. I bought a 1 month unlimited pass for $120, or you can pay each class.

• Red Kangaroo Books in the Todd Mall is a great place for resources, particularly those of a Central Australian Aboriginal nature (such as language and culture dictionaries and information). Well worth a visit if you are interested in learning more about this area and its people.

• Todd Mall markets are on Sundays, however it is best to check the Alice Springs Town Council website as the dates change throughout the year. Also the ‘Events’ section of the website has local community events listed, so that is worth having a look at before you go to suss out what is on while you are there.
• In terms of Aboriginal art, Tangentyere Artists (Fogarty St) and Tjanpi Desert Weavers (Wilkinson St) are both amazing places to source work. Both are ethical organisations and have knowledgeable, friendly staff.

• There is no such thing as a weekend, every night is party night for many locals, there are a lot of intoxicated people most nights so don’t go out after dark by yourself.

• https://griffithreview.com/articles/kartiya-are-like-toyotas/ - 'Kartiya are like Toyotas'. This article was recommended to me by my AirBnB host. It is about work in remote communities and the relationship between such workers and the community members that they are there to serve; and the systemic challenges that arise in that context.

Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA)

• The AAPA regional office in Alice Springs is quite small. Be proactive in seeking out and asking for work and also try to take time to build relationships with your supervisor and others in the office. I found that having a quick chat early in the morning or just before leaving in the afternoon went a long way.

• Be proactive in asking to go on field trips or consultations. There are many sacred sites in town and the consultations regarding these sites are very interesting – you gain an entirely new appreciation for Alice once you realise that the Yeperinye dreaming runs right through it.

Aboriginal Peak Organisations Northern Territory (APO NT)

• Be aware that it is a small team so be willing to give anything a go. Also realise that it may not always be immediately obvious how what you’re doing contributes to/assists the team as a whole, but persistence and a positive attitude are really important. At times you might have to do slightly self-directed work especially as there isn’t anyone else in the team to ask for help/extra work. But generally with some creative suggestions of ways you can help out pitched to the supervisor, there’s no shortage of useful things to do.

• The placement is town-based, so if being out bush is one of your Aurora internship goals it would be best to broach this early and perhaps even ask what field trips, if any, might be happening over the course of the placement. Otherwise lots of opportunities to do a variety of different work.

• The AGMP branch of APONT doesn’t deal directly with policy but rather with governance and management issues in Indigenous organisations.

Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY)

• APY is in Umuwa, South Australia, not in Alice Springs. It is most likely that future interns will fly to Alice Springs, but Umuwa is a 5 hour drive from Alice Springs. It’s important note Umuwa is very remote and nowhere near any major cities.

• I was lucky enough to be supplied with a 4X4 vehicle for use which was essential for my work with the organization. I was lucky enough to conduct a SA TAFE 4x4 driving course in driving in remote contexts and often difficult contexts. It was vital to take these things seriously in the very remote area. Carrying water was essential as well as maintenance of vehicle- oil, fuel etc and always letting someone know where you were when traveling.

• There is no shop in Umuwa, so make sure that you get everything you need when you are in Alice Springs. Also, bring books, music, dvds, deck of cards and any other entertainment you might like. It is a remote area and you really have to have something to keep yourself occupied.

• Familiarise yourself with the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Land Rights Act 1981 for background.
• Bring your own sleeping bag for camping.
• Bring clothing for both warm and cooler weather - the desert can be unpredictable.
• If you’re a photographer/painter bring your tools as there is plenty of inspiration!
• Familiarise yourselves with basic phrases and learning more about Pitjantjatjara language [www.ngapartji.org](http://www.ngapartji.org)

**Central Land Council (CLC)**

• Make sure you have a solid understanding of native title, and prepare yourself to get involved as much as possible. A quick read about Aboriginal Land Rights would be useful, maybe one or two journal articles on “s19 leasing”. I was able to pick up most things whilst on placement though.
• Before heading out on my internship I did some reading, watched a couple of documentaries and movies based in Central Australia and spoke to people who lived or had been there. I think this really helped me prepare mentally for my internship and I recommend that other interns do the same.
• Read up on genealogies, i.e. steps in how to do them and have a practice by drawing up your own family.
• If staying at the council flats, you will find that they are stocked with basic kitchen appliances (and crockery, pots, cutlery, ladles and tin openers), essential furniture, TV, washing machine, towels and bedding. There is no phone connection, but a line is available, if you wish to connect for yourself. (Mobile bills can get high!).
• There is a TV in the accommodation, but if you need music and/or DVDs, bring a laptop.
• CLC Flats are centrally located, close to work (10 -15 mins bike ride) and 5mins bike ride to town centre.
• There is a policy that you can’t stay at work after dark (it is a safety issue as people can see inside the tinted windows after dark).
• Dress smart casual for guys, so pants/shoes/collared shirt whilst in Alice. Then have a set of clothes exclusively for the bush as they will most likely get filthy and never return to their original state. Bring clothes that cover your arms and legs, but you wouldn’t mind getting wrecked. If you go out bush, the central desert is dirty, sandy and sun protection is a necessity.
• You may need to be proactive in going on field trips - don’t be shy to ask.
• CLC has a great staff who are always willing to help you out, e.g. with lending bikes, swags, tents sleeping bags etc., so anything you’re worried about not having, don’t stress out about it, just be friendly and ask around once you get there.
• Bring a sleeping bag (pretty handy when borrowing someone else’s swag during the colder months).
• Make connections with employees in other departments! They’ll provide a more holistic overview of CLC’s work, and provide further insight into the exceptional projects being implemented in communities.
• Ask lots of questions whenever appropriate – all the people in the legal section are generally very happy to discuss their work, and to get interns involved where possible. Also, try to tag along on field trips, even if it’s with a mining or policy officer as opposed to the lawyers. It still helps to give you an understanding of many of the issues facing Indigenous people, and it’s a great opportunity to see some amazing parts of Australia.
• As an intern, you are able to borrow resources from the CLC library. In addition to lots of legal resources, they also have a fairly good selection of Indigenous language resources (e.g. “teach yourself Pitjantjatjara” books and CDs).
• The ‘CLC Staff Chat’ on the shared computer drive is a really good way of contacting people to borrow bikes, share photos, etc.

• There is a lunchtime "swim club" - staff go to the town pool in a CLC car every day to swim laps (12pm - 1pm)

• You may need to be proactive in going on field trips - don’t be shy to ask

**Institute for Aboriginal Development (IAD)**

• The only available car is manual.

**North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency (NAAJA) – formerly CAALAS**

• Consider asking your supervisor first about accommodation or cars, because they are often the most generous and are not offended to be cold-called by an incoming Aurora Intern.

• Try and get out on one of the bush circuits if you can. It's worth suggesting to your supervisor when you first start that this is something you are interested in as this will give them time to try and find a spot in a car for an upcoming trip.

• The staff normally go to Monte's Lounge on Friday night for drinks. The criminal lawyers think that the sushi bar in the Woolworths shopping centre is the best place for coffee, and they probably are right.

• There is a gym just near the office which is a good place to keep fit during your lunch break.

• Generally, just ask the different teams if they have anything interesting you can assist with or any meetings coming up you could sit in on. Everyone is friendly and they are all very busy so they will welcome any help at all. Staff are really grateful for the help they just don’t always have time to find you to allocate it.

• Take appropriate clothing for bush trips – long pants and high tops.

• If travelling in Winter, take warm clothes as it can be very cold in the evenings and mornings.

• NAAJA has a rich history of interns, so don’t be worries that you won't be invited anywhere or won't be welcomed with open arms. Everyone is absurdly inviting! Get ready for Thursday night trivia and Friday night drinks at Monte’s!

**Ninti One**

• The nature of Ninti One as an organisation is very interesting as they are involved in many projects. Ask to try and be involved in one task from each project or see if you are able to be briefed on each project as they are all very interesting.

• Do a good amount of research on the organisation before you arrive to acquaint yourself with where they are now as well as what they have done in the past. Read up on the history of the NT intervention and familiarise yourself with the map of Aboriginal language groups and communities – it might prove useful, but you will learn it along the way anyway.

• Have an idea of the kind of work you want to do there before you arrive - they are flexible. Be ready to take initiative at any opportunity and be self directed from day one. While there may not be much supervision available, this is essentially Ninti One giving you the agency to make tasks your own and to really show them your skills and ability.

• Ask lots of questions where appropriate to staff members and colleagues, but go in with the knowledge of how much funding can affect an organisation. Be humble, be curious. Ask for work when you have finished your set tasks.

• Invest a lot of time into connecting with the staff. Make sure you go to karaoke!

• Ask staff members to take you on a tour of the town and where the good coffee is - they’ll take you straight away!
• Take advantage of the things that are around you but remember to give yourself an outlet for support, too, because you will need to do a lot of processing and reflecting. This might mean getting in touch with other interns early, to establish some sort of support network, or joining different groups, or having regular meet-ups with your supervisor. Checking in with yourself is important.
• If possible, have a manual drivers’ license as you may be required to drive the work vehicles on bush trips or around town.
• Bring a sleeping bag in case of bush trips. You’ll probably be able to borrow a tent from someone at the office.
• Sometimes the work can be repetitive and dull, but the ‘extra-curricular’ activities such as talking to staff, weekend travel, meeting other interns, being independent and in a challenging and confronting new space is where you learn just as much.

NPY Women’s Council (NPYW
C)

• Go with an open mind and a willingness to help out in different areas that may be required of you. Don’t be shy to take initiative and offer yourself in ways that were not set out by your supervisor.
• The NPYWC objectives are to relieve the suffering and poverty of Aboriginal people on the NPY lands. The main areas focused on within the organisation are nutrition, domestic violence, youth, Ngangkari traditional healers and Tjungu (care for the elderly).

Olive Pink Botanic Gardens (OPBG)

• Have other things that you can work on in the down-time when there is not much to do.
• Be prepared to set your own workload and tasks and also to think ahead in terms of what you want to do within the organisation while you are there and what work you can go on with when you finish the current task.

Regional Anangu Services Aboriginal Corporation (RASAC)

• The language on the APY lands is Pitjantjatjara and this is spoken widely. English is a second language. Any language that can be picked up will be valuable. www.ngapartji.org
• Engage with as much music, art, language, getting out into the land, events etc as possible.
• Driving is a major part of the APY lands. If you will be driving it is vital to take safety seriously, if possible take a 4x4 course in driving in remote contexts and difficult conditions. Carrying water is essential, as well as maintenance of vehicle - oil, fuel etc. and always letting someone know where you are when travelling.

St John Ambulance Northern Territory

• Be ready for 12 hour shifts with minimal to no down time, regional overnight shifts often allow for sleep but this is not common in Alice Springs.
Living and working on Thursday Island

The TSRA Native Title office is located on Thursday Island. Interns are mostly housed on Horn Island. Horn Island is a 20-minute ferry ride away from Thursday Island and is larger but less populated that Thursday Island.

Thursday Island and Horn Island weather

Temperature
Summer: Ranges from 25°C to 40°C during the day (usually in the low 20s during the night)
Winter: Between 20°C to 26°C during the day (12°C to 20°C overnight)

If you’re thinking of taking a trip to the various islands and reefs off the Queensland coast and are interested in swimming, the sea water temperature is quite warm, between 23°C to 29°C for most of the year. www.tropicalexperience.com.au/guide.php#Weather

Climate
The Torres Strait has two main seasons: The wet (November to April) and the dry (May to October). Most of the rainfall occurs from January to March, however the rain periods are generally intermittent (it’s probably a good idea to bring a raincoat or some kind of stylish poncho). Cyclones, although rare, can result in flooding of major roads.

Thursday Island tourist information

Tourist office
Peddells’ Ferry Island Tourist Bureau, Engineers Wharf, Thursday Island
Opening hours: 8.30am to 5pm, Mon to Fri, 8.30am to noon Sat
Phone: 07 4069 1551
Website: www.peddellsferry.com.au

Thursday Island medical information

As a lot of Queensland is fairly tropical, it is a good idea to be aware of some of the tropical diseases that you may be exposed to (this is particularly relevant for those travelling to the northern parts of the region). Some things to watch out for are listed below, as well as some basic precautions you can take. If you would like further details, we suggest you have a look at the following website
The Queensland Government Health Department’s website: www.health.qld.gov.au

Dengue Fever
A mosquito-borne disease common in the Torres Strait Islands from November to April. There is no immunisation
against it, so the best precaution is to wear long-sleeved shirts and pants, and to use mosquito repellent with DEET in it. It is also a good idea to bring a mosquito net to sleep under.

Japanese Encephalitis

Hepatitis A
This is a virus, and is spread by unsanitary food preparation or dirty drinking water. There is a vaccination against it, and the Queensland Health Department recommends that you get this if you are travelling to the outer Torres Strait Islands. Otherwise, just be careful with food preparation!

Mosquitoes
Okay, so these don’t technically fall into the ‘diseases’ category, but they can be EXTREMELY annoying (particularly if you are in any way allergic). Therefore, wherever you are in Queensland, it is STRONGLY suggested that you bring some mosquito spray!

Other
Due to the warm temperature of the sea water in the Torres Strait, any cuts or wounds can get infected due to the higher levels of bacteria that can breed in warmer waters. Ensure all cuts, particularly those from coral, are cleaned and treated with antiseptic. Other than that, watch out for the jellyfish and crocs when you’re swimming. It is strongly advisable to check before swimming anywhere, local people can advise on the safest places to swim.

Medical services
Thursday Island Hospital
(Provides general and emergency services) Victoria Parade 07 4069 1109

Thursday Island Primary Health Care Clinic
Open 8:00am to 5:00pm
Douglas Street 07 4069 0400

Thursday Island and Horn Island transport

Air
The connecting airport from the mainland to the Torres Strait is the Horn Island Airport. There is no airport on Thursday Island. QantasLink has a few daily flights between Cairns and Horn Island, and then you can catch a ferry (McDonald Charter Boats) or water taxi across to Thursday Island (approximately 20 minute trip).
Alternatively, Aero-Tropics and Regional Pacific have a service between Cairns and Bamaga (on Cape York). From Bamaga you can catch a ferry across to Thursday Island (Peddell’s Island Tours).

Boat
McDonald Charter Boats operates a service between Horn Island and Thursday Island seven days a week. See the current timetable at: www.tiferry.com.au or enquire on 07 4034 2907.
Peddell’s Ferries also operates a service between Seisia (Cape York) and Thursday Island. Alternatively, Seaswift operates a cargo barge (so you can bring your bike, 4WD, etc. if you want to) with passenger cabins between Cairns, Seisia and Thursday Island.

Getting around
Once you’re on Horn Island you can catch the McDonald bus to your accommodation or to the wharf to get the ferry to Thursday Island. The township of Wasaga contains all the other services and most of the housing on Horn Island and everything is within walking distance. Once you’ve arrived on Thursday Island, it’s quite

Food and shopping on Thursday Island

Food
• Thursday Island is home to some restaurants, cafés, a bakery, a supermarket, a butcher and a seafood store.
• Recommended for lunch is the Gab Titui Café on Thursday Island. It is also the Cultural Centre and Art Gallery. Souvenirs from the Torres Strait can be purchased from the gift shop.

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• Food shopping is best done at the IBIS on Thursday Island, as the South Pacific Store on Horn Island has limited stock. It might be good to bring up some cooler bags to transport your items from Thursday Island back to Horn Island should you be located there.

• Monday is ‘barge day’ on Thursday Island, so you'll be able to get the freshest vegetables at the Sea Hop supermarket then. On Horn Island, the slightly better supermarket is the Tin Shed - the food is fresher, and the prices somewhat lower. However the IBIS store does now have fresh meat. There's a butcher on Thursday Island which has relatively good quality fresh meat.

• Fresh fruit and vegetable supplies can be limited, so ask at the Native Title Office about the possibility of joining in on a delivery from Cairns which is ordered online at www.fruitandvegathome.com.au and is delivered either to your home, or to the NTO.

Shopping
The following shops and services are also available:
• Newsagent (also houses a Retravision store)
• Pharmacy
• National Australia Bank
• Hospital
• Dentist
• Post Office
• TAB
• Camping and tackle store

Dining Out
The options are very limited and expensive.
• The cafe at Gab Titui is a nice place for a meal
• The ‘Kai Kai’ bar down on the water front at TI specialises in cray fish pies
• The Federal Hotel on TI does a slightly cheaper meal
• The Chinese R and F store near the Sea Hop supermarket has stir-fry noodles at a reasonable price
• Wednesday night is ‘Wongai Wednesday’ at the Horn Island Wongai Hotel and there is usually a cheaper meal.
• The best (and only) place for coffee is Uncle Frankies on Thursday Island.
• The Grand Hotel has relatively cheap pub meals.

Entertainment on Thursday Island and Horn Island
• Go to Ukulele Club with Cessa Mills form the Mills sisters on the beach on Sunday at 4:30pm (the pagoda in front of the Federal Hotel). Bring up a ukulele if you have one, otherwise someone should have a spare or it's just nice to watch and sing along. Everyone is welcome, even talent-less beginners.
• Keep your ears tuned for any community events.
• There is yoga outside in front of the Bowls Club at 6 twice a week and markets on Saturdays mornings. I'd really recommend Yoga TI - a woman runs yoga classes in her beautiful garden and they were honestly a huge highlight in my week. I'm not even a huge yoga person but they were a really great way to meet other people. Search YOGA TI' on Facebook for the days and times, usually Monday/Tuesday and Thursday at 6pm https://www.facebook.com/pages/YOGA-TI/151643418334233?fref=ts
They are $12 a session of $50 for 5 sessions. Cecile is a fantastic teacher and the spot is absolutely
beautiful at sunset. Bring a yoga mat with you or you can buy one from Col Jones.

- I’d recommend the TI Deadly Runners - a running group run by locals. It’s free and everyone there was incredibly friendly.
- There are quite a few running tracks around Horn Island. The road out to the airport and back is about 10km and there is also a dirt road out to the sewerage treatment plant (not as bad as it sounds and actually quite pleasant) leading from Savage St. which is about 3.4km.
- Getting to know people who can take you out around the Islands swimming, fishing and camping is a great way of making the most out of your time in the TS. Don’t be too shy to just ask if you can go along on different adventures, but also make sure that the person you are going with knows what they are doing and has the right equipment.
- Horn Island has touch football, volleyball and table tennis rosters: check at the IBIS regarding what days and times each are on.
- There is a gym on Thursday Island (which is still a viable option if you’re staying on Horn - catching the 6:30am ferry over leaves plenty of time before work). A month’s membership is $80 so pricy but definitely worth it for a good swim and work-out. People are very friendly at the gym so it can also be a good way of getting to know some people.
- Go down to the Horn Island school oval at around 5:30-6pm every weekday for touch rugby with the local boys, and if you meet any pilots on Horn ask about table-tennis and volleyball on Sundays!
- The Bowls Club is an excellent place to hang out, either for social bowls, bingo or Sunday sessions. Social bowls is on Thursday, and if you hang around you can join a team for a night if someone hasn’t shown up. All beers at the Bowls Club are $5 (as opposed to about $8 at the other pubs!) and they often have cheap burgers and curries.

Attractions
- All Souls Memorial Church: Also built in 1893 to commemorate the 1890 Quetta shipwreck.
- Gab Titui Cultural Centre, Art Gallery and Café on Thursday Island . www.gabtitui.com.au
- Green Hill Fort: Built in 1893 to stave off the (apparently imminent) Russian invasion (which never occurred).
- Horn Island: Only 5km away, but bigger and more populated. There are regular ferry services operating between the two islands, and water taxis are available if you miss the last ferry.
- Japanese Pearl Memorial: Dedicated to all the pearl divers who died from decompression sickness.
- Thursday Island mini-market: Generally held on the second Saturday of the month.
- You can hire DVDs on TI from Video 2000 or on Horn Island from the South Pacific Store.
- Seaman Dan (who has won multiple Aria awards) has retired from his Horn Island Wongai Hotel playing days, but often sits out the front of Mona’s Bazaar on the TI main street and will happily bring his guitar for a jam session if you ask him. Uncle Seaman has a number of CDs on iTunes, you can buy his biography from Mona’s and NITV sometimes shows a documentary about him. He is pushing 85 and is still a fantastic performer as well as a really lovely man. Ask him to sing you his famous ‘welcome to the Torres Strait’ song, ‘Pearly Shells’ and a number of other island songs that he has changes for a TI audience.
- Lunch at the Friday Island Pearl Farm is a highlight. For $100 you will be picked up from Horn or Thursday Island, be shown a pearlling demonstration, and then be treated to an amazing 6 course Japanese lunch. Bookings can be made with Kazu Takami on 07 4069 1268. Takami is a lovely man, ask him about the beautiful garden and he may gift you a plant or two.

Outdoors
- If you’re going on a trip to an outer island, let family know you may be uncontactable as some islands (notably Poruma) do not have mobile coverage.
• There are several boat and air tours operating around the Torres Strait Islands. Ask at the airport or have a look in the Torres Strait and NPA Community and Business Directory for contact details. You can also check out the Torres Strait Islands website for more information. www.queenslandholidays.com.au/destinations/tropical-north-queensland/places-to-visit/thursday-island/

• Swimming: Due to the crocs and sharks swimming in the ocean is very limited. Its best to go with a local and in a bigger group of people. Even then ‘swimming’ mostly involves just sitting in the shallows. The Wongai hotel sometimes allows people to use their pool and here is a public swimming pool available on Thursday Island. Most people do not wear swimmers in public, but prefer to swim in shorts and a shirt. Perhaps bring a shirt and some shorts that are ok to go in the water occasionally to wear over your swimmers. You can buy a 10-pass to the public swimming pool for $35. Doing laps in a one-piece is no problem.

• Camping and waterfalls on Prince of Wales Island: If you can find someone with a dinghy to take you over to Prince of Wales Island there are a couple of beautiful walks and waterfalls to see.

Special events

• Coming of the Light Ceremony: Celebrates the arrival of Christianity in the Torres Strait on 1st July, 1871. The occasion is marked with a street parade, ceremonial singing, dancing and feasting.

• Island of Origin Rugby League Match: Held every year on either Thursday or Badu Island over the Queen’s Birthday long weekend.

• Torres Strait Cultural Festival: Held biannually on Thursday Island during September.

• Torres Strait Music Festival: Held in alternate years to the cultural festival.

Tips from past interns

General

• When you go to the Torres Strait bring a smile and a sense of adventure. You are about to embark on one of the most unique experiences of your life. It will be challenging but you will have so many unforgettable memories. The scenery is amazing, the wildlife is amazing but most of all, the people are amazing. Talk to everyone, be friendly, be interested and show a willingness to learn about Islander culture and then you will be welcomed into the community.

• Torres Strait Islanders like to maintain their independence from the mainland Aboriginal groups. The Torres Strait Islanders have a very different culture to the mainland Indigenous populations. Don’t compare them as this can be deemed offensive. Torres Strait Islanders are originally Melanesian and have stronger links with Papua New Guineans.

• Telstra Next G is the only carrier which operates in the Torres Strait. To use a mobile phone you will need to have a Next G phone (preferably a regional use recommended phone) and a Telstra account (prepaid or plan). It is best to organise this before you arrive, otherwise phones and credit can be purchased from the Retravision store in the Col Jones Newsagent. Phones and credit can be purchased from the Col Jones Newsagent.

• Cairns Airport usually enforces the luggage restrictions strictly, and any luggage over the limit must be packed in a separate bag and put on standby. Check the regulations before you leave.

• While singlets are OK on Thursday Island, they are not appropriate, especially those with spaghetti straps, when visiting the outer islands.

• Buy a hand reel with a strong line and a $5 fish jig which locals use to catch bait fish to use as bait for the big fish - then fish at dusk off the Horne Island Jetty!

• Interns travelling to the Torres Strait should be aware that the daily cost of living, as well as food costs,
is significantly higher than most other metropolitan areas of Australia. If you have any spare room in your luggage, fill it with nonperishable items of food. Also be aware that the main IBIS Supermarket on Thursday Island may only receive a barge supply once a week - interns should be mentally prepared for far less choice, especially when it comes to fresh fruit and vegetables.

- While bringing non-perishable food is useful, it may be impractical for most people travelling up. Further, the things that are expensive aren't necessarily staples like rice, pasta and tinned goods, but more everyday items such as milk etc. Bringing spices and sauces is a priority over dried goods like pasta and rice. I think paying a lot for food is relatively unavoidable, so interns should simply prepare themselves (financially and otherwise) for that fact. If you can cook, it's a lot easier to curb your expenditure than if you're having to rely on eating meals at the pub (eating out is super expensive - usually between $25 - $30 a meal)

- A lot of Asian food is available, especially on Thursday Island at the Sea Hop and the Chinese store next to it. Fresh fruit and veg is very limited so I ended up buying fresh herbs and fruit in Cairns and bringing that up with me which was fantastic. You can bring anything with you from the mainland but you can't take fresh fruit/veg or meat back from the Torres Strait. If you can try and buy the produce (mostly lettuce and herbs) from the hydroponics farm on TI which is really fresh and delicious and is available in the Tin Shed on Horn Island but more regularly in the big IBIS supermarket on Thursday Island.

- If staying in TSRA accommodation the utensils are fairly limited - one pot, one fry pan and two plates, 2 bowls, 2 mugs and 2 cups, one sharp knife, a chopping board, a peeler and a can opener, two sets of cutlery. The accommodation has no TV or microwave, and limited cutlery so learn to cook in only an oven/cocktop if you're the lazy microwave type!

- If you're staying at Sue's, there is no oven.

- I would think about bringing a baking tray or tin if you like to cook - food and entertaining is a great way of getting to know people on the Island and apple crumble is a local favourite which is easy to make. You can also buy limited cooking utensils at the IBIS on TI.

- The TSRA provides sheets and pillow cases but no blanket. Most of the year this is not a problem at all but as I arrived in winter I slept the first two weeks with my hoodie on.

- It is good to be proactive about safety on Horn Island, especially as a woman. Don't walk alone around the town after dark as there have been rapes and other assaults. Also, there is a bit of petty theft - mostly local kids who have tough family situations and often don't have enough to eat. Crime increases during school holidays and is mostly opportunistic - i.e. if valuables are clearly visible. The advice for me from the police was to keep valuables with you in the room as you sleep, preferably store all valuables out of sight during the day and night, check the locks on windows and doors, close blinds on the windows, keep a light on at night and make sure you have the right number for the Horn Island Police Station (when I arrived the number on the fridge no longer worked). At the moment the direct line is 0477 349 779. On my first weekend up there two young women I got to know were attacked when they were respectively out exercising and walking home. The island has such a friendly atmosphere it feels quite safe, but it's definitely worth being cautious.

- Keep in mind that virtually everything on TI and Horn closes on Sundays (except the gym and pool).

- If you're planning on receiving packages, it takes about 2 weeks if you don't use an express package, with express taking about 5 days.

- When people offer you food, eat it whether you're hungry or not.

- During my internship (May) there was football on every Saturday, which was a great way to meet people and a really fun time.

- I highly recommend taking the morning Peddells ferry to the mainland and back to watch the sunrise - it is a great chance to see some of the closer islands and one of the most spectacular views I've ever seen.
Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA)

- The TSRA office is on Thursday Island and if you are staying on Horn Island, you will need to commute each day by ferry:
  - TSRA will pay for ferry transfers, but this is not something the Native Title Office organises. It will be sorted out at Head Office when you organise administrative access.
  - This will probably take a while so be ready to pay up front for the first week, but KEEP THE RECEIPT and they will reimburse you.
  - Once you are part of the Blue Folder, when you catch the ferry you just need to find your name in the TSRA section and sign next to it.
  - The cheapest option is a five-trip pass (which you buy on the boat) for $25, so a return trip is $10.
  - You can sign for any genuinely work-related weekend trips, but otherwise you’ll have to self-fund.
  - Ferry transfer McDonald Ferry Service (1300 664 875, 07-4058 1344) operates between Thursday Island and Horn Island. The ferries run roughly hourly between 6am and 6pm ($9 one way, 15 minutes). Ferry and airport transfers are $16. Rebel Marine (07-4069 1586) operates a water taxi and bus service between TI and the Horn Island Airport connecting with all QantasLink flights ($20). The TSRA has a corporate structure that differs from other NTRBs. Read up about it on their website before you leave. www.tsra.gov.au

- As at Summer 2014/15, the NTO is seeking an extension on the handover to GBK as the rep body. It is a weird sort of working situation: Peter Krebs (the Principal Legal Officer) is based in Cairns, and Gilkerson Legal provide one lawyer every week which travel up - so any sort of constant supervision is provided by the other staff.

- The office is very casually dressed. Sandals are appropriate female footwear, and a lot of the non-legal staff will just wear thongs.

- During my internship (May) it was very, very windy. Long skirts or pants that will not fly up are preferable.

- Flights to outer islands are by very small planes or helicopters. On these flights it is best to wear pants rather than a skirt as there is a bit of clambering to be done to get into the aircraft. It is also useful to wear sneakers or closed in shoes. You are able to purchase a TSRA uniform from HR which is the recommended attire for on-country trips.

- All web use at TSRA (being a government organisation) is controlled by Surf Control which restricts web access. You will not be able to access your normal email accounts including university email. It is suggested that you ensure that anything you need is not in these accounts as you will not be able to access it.

- The legal challenges and work are all related to post-determination issues. This means processing future acts notices, developing ILUAs with native title holders and formulating plans for addressing underlying socio-cultural issues within the community. Community consultation naturally forms a large part of these activities, and as such interns will be involved in facilitating and preparing for community consultation meetings - either in situ at outer islands, or on Thursday Island.

- It would be useful to have a look at a map to familiarise yourself with the names of the outer islands, read some of the Sea Claim (Akiiba) case, appreciate the history of local activism and leadership, and have a broad understanding of the native title system and an awareness that there are complex tenures such as DOGIT in the region.

- Legal interns really need to do their research about the legal landscape before they get out there if they expect to hit the ground running. The Torres Strait has many complex and unique legal features that require some considerable background reading to understand. These features include DOGIT land and the Mer Reserve and their relationships with granted native title, the Regional Seas Claim, the Treaty with PNG etc.
• This is an amazing opportunity to ask questions and get clarification and a unique perspective on things that are unclear about the native title system. Take advantage of it. Read enough to know the right questions, and listen more than you talk. A humble attitude, a sense of humour, and a willingness to connect and learn from those in the office will get you a long way.

• Be sure to ask for work but be flexible, as sometimes organising for an intern to take on a task also takes up a supervisor’s already limited time.

• TSRA is unique in its institutional makeup. It’s NTRB function is only one of many roles which it performs; it is also a Commonwealth agency, but with a locally-elected Indigenous board.

• Possibly the most useful thing to do before arriving is to get in contact with past interns and get a heads up about any difficulties they faced e.g. with workplace conflict and tension, and what tactics were helpful to avoid conflict in that particular workplace.

• You’ll likely be the only legal intern there but there are a lot of uni-aged med students that you should try meet up with if you want company.

Things to bring
  o small, personal First Aid Kit (make sure it has antiseptic in it)
  o tropical strength mosquito repellent with DEET (Rid or Bushman’s)
  o mosquito net (to sleep under)
  o mosquito zappers and refills available from supermarkets – they plug into any electricity socket. Sometimes these are available in the IBIS Supermarket on Thursday Island
  o wide-brimmed hat
  o 30+ sunscreen
  o camera
  o long-sleeved light cotton shirts/short-sleeved light cotton shirts, light cotton pants
  o comfortable walking shoes (hiking/bushwalking type shoes – make sure they are breathable, waterproof (or quick drying) and preferably not in a light colour as they will get very dirty!)
  o thongs (a Torres Strait essential)
  o backpack that can fit 3 days’ worth of clothing, work documents, toiletries and food for trips to the outer islands.

TSRA have their own ‘kits’ which have an iron, toaster, kettle, pots, electric fry pan, plates, cups, crockery, roast tray, a sheet set and two pillow cases. You will be provided with one of these with your accommodation (Please note: these kits are only provided if you stay at TSRA accommodation). You may wish to bring additional equipment. Recommendations include:
  o 1 x sharp knife
  o 2 x Tupperware containers to store leftovers for lunch
  o chopping board
  o 1 x frying pan [an electric fry pan is generally standard in the kit] (stir fried vegetables – easy and tasty)
  o cake tins/baking tins, sieve/colander

Non-essential things to bring (but may come in handy)
  o Laptop – if you have one – that way you can take minutes if required and also you can do some work at home or watch a DVD, play music.
  o Antiseptic hand wipes.
  o Packs of pasta/rice/nuts/muesli bars/other dry food – food is expensive in the Torres Strait so if you can buy some before you leave home it will save you money.
  o Spices for cooking, Fishing hand reels, hooks, sinkers and a fish knife.
  o Shampoo, conditioner and deodorant: personal toiletries are quite expensive to purchase.

• After you’ve arrived buy a Torres Strait Creole Dictionary (these are available from the Col Jones Newsagency on the main street for about $40). Most Torres Strait Islanders will use Creole or ‘Broken’ words while speaking English. A few common ones are:
  Wis wei = standard greeting/how you going
  Esso = thankyou
Mena Esso = very much thank you
Yawo = goodbye
Usabi = do you understand?
Wa = Yes (used a lot!)

- Small Island Big Fight (DVD)
Far-North Queensland Organisations

Cairns

Cairns weather

Temperature
Summer: Ranges from 25°C to 40°C during the day (usually in the low 20s during the night) Winter: Between 20°C to 26°C during the day (12°C to 20°C overnight)
For those of you staying further inland, it will be a bit cooler, particularly during the winter evenings. If you’re thinking of taking a trip to the various islands and reefs off the Queensland coast and are interested in swimming, the sea water temperature is quite warm, between 23°C to 29°C for most of the year.


Climate
Queensland essentially has two main seasons: the wet (November to April) and the dry (May to October). Most of the rainfall occurs from January to March, particularly in the northern coastal areas (it’s probably a good idea to bring an umbrella, a raincoat or some kind of poncho).


Just to make life really exciting, this same period is also the cyclone season, which can result in the flooding of major roads.

Cairns tourist information

Tourist office
Tourism Tropical North Queensland (near the Pier)
51 The Esplanade (Corner Shields Street), Cairns 4870
Phone: 07 4051 3588
Email: info@tropicalaustralia.com.au

Cairns medical information

As a lot of Queensland is fairly tropical, it is a good idea to be aware of some of the tropical diseases that you may be exposed to (this is particularly relevant for those of you travelling to Thursday Island, as well as those around the Cairns area). Some things to watch out for are listed below, as well as some basic precautions you can take. If you would like further details, we suggest you have a look at the following website:
The Queensland Government’s Health Department website: www.health.qld.gov.au

Dengue Fever
A mosquito-borne disease common in North Queensland and the Torres Strait Islands from November to April. There is no immunisation against it, so the best precaution is to wear long-sleeved shirts and pants, and to use mosquito repellent with DEET in it. It is also a good idea to bring a mosquito net to sleep under.

Japanese Encephalitis
Another mosquito-borne disease, but far less common than Dengue Fever, and usually only found on the outer Torres Strait Islands. Once again, the best precaution is not to get bitten by wearing long clothing and using mosquito repellent. There is an immunisation available, but it is expensive and can have side effects, therefore it is only really recommended if you’re spending long periods of time on the outer islands, or if there is an outbreak.

Hepatitis A
This is a virus, and is spread by unsanitary food preparation or dirty drinking water. There is a vaccination against it, and the Queensland Health Department recommends that you get this if you are travelling to the outer Torres Strait Islands. Otherwise, just be careful with food preparation!

Mosquitoes
Okay, so these don’t technically fall into the ‘diseases’ category, but they can be EXTREMELY annoying (particularly if you are in any way allergic). Therefore, wherever you are in Queensland, it is STRONGLY suggested that you bring some mosquito spray!

Other
Other than that, just watch out for the jellyfish and crocs when you’re swimming. The beaches are usually fine, particularly those with nets around the swimming areas, but DEFINITELY avoid random rivers if you can help it. If you need a swim that badly, go and stand in a bucket of water or something.

Medical Services
Cairns City 24-hour Medical Centre
Corner Florence Street and Grafton Street
Phone: 07 4052 1119

Cairns transport

Bus
‘Hail and Ride’ operates along the Cairns bus services. If you want to get on a bus between stops, find a place anywhere along the route where the driver can see you and stop safely and conveniently. Signal the driver as the bus approaches. If you would like to exit between stops, tell the driver where you would like to get off. A ‘Zone 1’ ticket will cover the city centre. We are told that buses in Cairns can be irregular so keep this in mind when choosing your accommodation. [www.sunbus.com.au/sit_cairns.htm](http://www.sunbus.com.au/sit_cairns.htm)

Train
Cairns Railway Station: Bunda Street, Cairns
Freshwater Railway Station: Kamerunga Road, Freshwater.

Taxi
There are Taxi Ranks on McLeod and Lake Streets
Black and White Taxis: 131 008
Pyramid Maxi Taxis (Based in Gordonvale): 07 4056 1777

Bike
Bikes are the most convenient way to get around Cairns (there are bike tracks everywhere). Bike rentals are usually better value the longer you keep the bike. One recommendation:

- Bandicoot Bicycles – 153 Sheridan Street, 07 4041 0100.

With a steady stream of backpackers and working travelers in Cairns, there’s always cheap bikes advertised for sale on Gumtree. Facebook and other community noticeboards.

From Cairns domestic airport
Taxi: Outside arrivals hall — $20 to the city.
Bus: Australia Coach meets incoming flights and runs a shuttle bus to the city 07 4048 8355.
Sun Palm Express Coaches: Offers city transfers (1 every hour) — $10 adult fare.

Car
If you’re wanting to hire a car, there is a fairly cheap and decent place on the corner of Shield/ Sheridan St. About $65 (including insurance) per day. It’s generally quite cheap to hire cars in Cairns (even if the driver is under 25), especially if the cost can be split between a few people. This is by far the best way of seeing various attractions around Cairns as it offers infinitely more freedom and flexibility than tour groups can.
Food and shopping in Cairns

Groceries
• Asian Foods Australia (Grafton Street).
• Central Shopping Centre (McLeod Street and Spence Street): Myer, Coles, 180 specialty shops, cinema, and the train station. Open 9am to 5.30pm most days. Late night shopping Thursday and reduced hours on Sunday.
• Neils Organics (corner McLeod and James Streets): Organic fruit and vegetables.
• Rusty’s Bazaar (Grafton Street, between Shields and Spence Streets): The place to go for fruit, vegetables and fresh seafood (usually locally grown and often sold for a fraction of the supermarket price). Open weekends. Markets on the weekend here are excellent. At Rusty’s there’s a stall called Govindas – do yourself a favour and get a mint lemon drink and a vegetable samosa – vegetarian paradise! Also – about Rusty’s and Cairns in general – buy LIMES. They’re delicious in Cairns and not only add flavour to water, drinks and food, but when added to food or salad they act as a natural disinfectant. Their fresh coconuts are also highly recommended.
• Willows Rotary Market open every Sunday (7-11 am) - Willows Shopping Centre carpark
• Cotters Markets open every Sunday (8.30am-1pm) - Flinders Street Mall
• Strand Night Markets [May - December] open first Friday of the month (except July) (5-9.30 pm) - Strand Park www.willowsrotarymarkets.com.au

Dining out
• The major ‘eating streets’ are Shields Street and the Esplanade (the latter is more touristy, but the cafes along it are more likely to be open late at night).
• Coffee: I would recommend Caffeind off Grafton Street, Candy on Grafton Street and ReHab on Lake Street. Blackbird Espresso has the best coffee in Cairns, but Caffiend and Cruze are nipping at its heels! Coffeeworks also has great coffee.
• If you’re after restaurants, try South Townsville (Palmer St), there are a number of good restaurants to choose from www.tablesonline.com.au/suburb/QLD/South-Townsville/restaurants.html

Cheap food
• Beethoven Café (105 Grafton Street): Sandwiches, cakes, coffee. Ranging from $4 to $7.
• The Green Ant Cantina (183 Bundy Street) has great food and provides 2 for 1 meals on Sundays to students. The vegetarian Quesadilla is amazing! www.greenantcantina.com
• Lillipad (72 Grafton Street): Open Mon-Sat. Breakfast and lunch available till 3 pm; coffee and cake till 4 pm. Our highly reliable source informs us that the breakfasts are awesome, and great value ranging from $4 to $8. Weekend brunch is a must.
• Orchid Plaza food courts (on Abbott Street).
• Night Markets (on the Esplanade).
• Sushi Zipang (39 Shields Street): We’ll let you guess what type of food is sold here. Ranging from $2 to $5 per plate.
• Tiny’s Juice Bar (45 Grafton Street): Rolls, wraps and smoothies. Ranging from $4 to $8.
• Billy’s Vietnamese – good and cheap.
• Devine Gillato (3/5 Aplin St), best icecream in Cairns $3 to $6
• Almond croissants at Rusty’s Market are a must.

If you’re feeling rich...
• Bay leaf Balinese Restaurant (corner Lake and Gatton Streets): Awesome food – expensive, but amazing.
• Charlie’s, The Acacia Court Hotel (The Esplanade): Fantastic seafood buffet, look out for discount vouchers in
Entertainment in Cairns

Outdoor

There’s a huge variety of things to do, so it’s worth planning ahead. There are a lot of adventure experiences on offer, so make sure you have sufficient spending money if you’re interested in these activities. Make the most of the beautiful scenery in and around Cairns, and do a trip out to the islands (Green and Fitzroy are favourites) and the Great Barrier Reef, the rainforest and the tablelands if you can. The outer reef and Fitzroy Island are apparently the best places to see the Great Barrier Reef.

It can be very expensive if you want to do some or all of the tourist attractions/activities. If someone is this way inclined, I would suggest that they budget at least $1-200 more than they would expect as a general ‘recreation’ cost.

If you’re interested in snorkelling and diving, Cairns is a great base from which to see the Great Barrier Reef, and to get your scuba-diving certification if you’re interested – courses range from $300 to $600. It’s probably not such a good thing to go for the cheapest ones in case they’re cutting costs in areas like oxygen provision, shark monitoring, etc. If you can’t swim, you can do some reef trips aboard the safety of a boat, or alternatively do some of the quieter options like sky-diving, bungee-jumping and white-water rafting.

- Deep Sea Divers Den gave me a 20% off ‘local discount’ on a four-day dive course. If you are looking for somewhere close to go swimming, I highly recommend Stony Creek. Lots of fantastic pools and waterfalls.
- Rum Runner offer a 2 day diving course comprising of around 7 dives, which is exceptionally good value. But the reefs they go to are not as beautiful as some other companies.
- Passions of Paradise is the only reef company that is carbon neutral.
- Coral Sea Diving is for experienced divers. They also offer shark-feeding.

I would recommend taking advantage of the mornings, as they are beautiful temperature wise. If you enjoy swimming, the Tobruk Memorial pool on Sheridon Street is great for doing laps, otherwise a bike ride to the esplanade or to the Botanic gardens is great.

Crystal Cascades, located at the end of Redlynch Valley, is the best swimming hole (or series of swimming holes). Please don’t jump off any rocks where the water below hasn’t been thoroughly vetted though, as people have been seriously injured and worse doing this. Don’t jump off No Fear either as it claims regular casualties.

There are inland tours available from Cairns to the Daintree Rainforest, Cape Tribulation, Cape York, the Atherton Tableland and the Undara Lava Tubes, as well as sailing, diving, fishing, skydiving and hot-air ballooning expeditions. If you are a sole intern or one of only two, it might be a good idea to plan a trip in order to meet young travellers or locals. This will extend your friendship base while away in Cairns and make the experience even more enjoyable.

There are also numerous bike paths to check out, and a sunbake at the lagoon (after you’ve slip, slop and slapped of course) is certainly something that should be on the cards. I would suggest Uncle Brian’s “cape tribbin’” tour to see the Daintree.

- Whitewater rafting: www.ragingthunder.com.au
- Skydiving: www.skydivecairns.com.au
Swimming: If you want to learn how to swim, the Cairns Pool (Florence Street) has reasonable rates for swimming lessons.

Hartley’s Crocodile Farm: a 20-minute drive north of Cairns on the Port Douglas Road.

Make the time to go to the Atherton tablelands; especially Babinda Boulders, Crystal Creek and the various waterfalls.

The arrow walks near the botanic gardens are beautiful and a great way to finish the day after work.

There are many great hikes that should easily fit into a day starting in Stoney Creek. Take a map and stick to the paths and it should be pretty hard to get lost. The view of Cairns from Glacier Rock is particularly stunning. Be sure to start early and take multiple large bottles of water though, as the days are very hot and humid, even in ‘winter’.

**Cultural activities**

- Cinemas: Cairns City Cinemas (108 Grafton Street) and Central Cinemas (Cairns Central).
- Theatre: Tjupakai Aboriginal Cultural Park – combines education and dance theatre.
- Cairns Civic Theatre (Corner Sheridan and Florence Street): Amateur and professional comedy, dance and drama.
- Music: Centre of Contemporary Arts (Abbots Street) and the Tank Arts Centre, home of the Cairns Concert Orchestra.
- Check out www.ticketlink.com.au for ticket availability and prices; also look out for Barfly magazine (free in newsagents).
- If you are in Cairns in August, try to go to the Underwater Film Festival. It’s a good local festival and a great way to meet some people from the area.
- If you are in Cairns in March, check out the Cairns Coalescence Festival. This involves community kitchen nights, arts/music events and conservation activities.

**Nightlife in Cairns**

- There are HEAPS of pubs in Cairns. Most of them serve food as well, so you don’t even have to brave the outside heat if you’re approaching a hungry time of day.
- Cairns Yacht Club (4 Wharf Street): Really cheap drinks.
- Cock & Bull (6 Grove Street): Essentially a sports bar – beer, dart boards and a grill available if you’re hungry (meals $5 – $12). Meals are huge, and the ‘Death by Chocolate’ pudding really could cause death.
- Gilligans (Spence Street): Large backpackers hotel, which does drinks most nights of the week.
- The Green Ant (Bunda Street): Quaint bar/pub behind the Cairns Central Shopping Centre which attracts the locals. Big meals, cheap drinks and a great place for conversation.
- The Reef Casino: This is the Cairns casino, and the place to go if you’re after a bit of a flutter, also has shows and acts coming there. Although unlikely in summer, you could see some good DJs come through.
- Shenonigans (48 Spence Street): Irish pub with an outdoor beer garden. Also has a dance floor and (inevitably) Monday night karaoke. Great fun for dancing.
- The Wool Shed (24 Shields Street): Stacked with a combination of locals and backpackers having a drink or two. If you’re the type of person who’s into dancing on tables after you’ve had a few, this is the place to go. Also known as the local ‘meat market’.
- For brilliant food, live acoustic music and $10 happy hour cocktails, check out Noa in Edge Hill, and Three
Wolves in the CBD is a little gem of a cocktail bar tucked away in a laneway.

- Salt House is the best spot for a cocktail.
- Check out the music venues here, some are quite good. I went to the Tanks Art Center for the Unplugged night and that was great. 12 dollars for 3 bands.

**Tips from past interns**

**General**

- Past interns have recommended staying at Cairns Sharehouse if your accommodation is not already organized. You can stay with other people you are, for the most part, also completing placements in Cairns.
- Cairns locals are so friendly, and striking up conversation with your barista, Uber driver, or shop assistant always pays off with plenty of local recommendations.
- Between November and April it is deadly stinger season, also, not to cause any alarm, but the occasional croc has been sighted in the stinger nets!
- Meetings in the community are not formal, and it is sometimes appropriate to dress down for these. Always ask your supervisor about best protocol in advance.
- Be careful about using language that may be offensive – it is a good idea to check any communications you are sending externally with a supervisor to make sure that you’re not inadvertently offending someone. A good introduction is NSW health’s communicating positively. www.health.nsw.gov.au/pubs/2004/aboriginal_terms.html
- Be sure to take a jumper with you – everywhere is air conditioned and it is usually freezing.
- Cairns is beautiful, but tropical - it gets hot, humid, sticky, and is a regional city. It may surprise people that it’s not a huge city. It’s a laidback regional city, with a slow-paced attitude.
- It’s extremely hot in Cairns during the summer so if you are not particularly inclined to hot/humid weather consider a winter internship. Cairns has the best weather in winter.
- Even if you have a weekly ticket in Cairns, bus drivers like you to tell them the location where you are going when you get on the bus. If you don’t do this some get very grumpy.
- There are free fitness classes at the Esplanade. www.cairnesplanade.com/activities.html The Active Living classes on the Esplanade before and after work are fantastic and include: boxing, pilates, yoga, Zumba, bootcamp, aqua aerobics and VIPR. I would also suggest and recommend to future interns to make the most of the outdoors active lifestyle in Cairns and the seaside exercise path and outdoor gym equipment along the Esplanade, which is a short walk from the Cairns Sharehouse accommodation.
- The www.meetup.com website can be a great aid in making new connections in the new city.
- If you do not like the heat, or do not like exerting yourself too much, it may be good to arrange to have a vehicle or access to a vehicle in Cairns. Having only a bike might mean you’re stuck in heavy rain after work whilst riding home with groceries etc. This can be frustrating once as almost every day, around 3.30 -4.30 for about 1-2 hours or more it could rain heavily. If you’re on placement with a number of other people renting a car each weekend might be worthwhile to explore the surrounding Daintree rainforest, waterfalls, lakes, etc.
- Read about the place you are going, be informed. For instance, in Cairns you have to be aware of the heat and humidity, dengue mosquito, jelly fish in the water, snakes, spiders and stinging trees in the rainforests. Being aware of the presence of all of these things is very important, especially if exploring unknown landscapes.
• Interns should definitely visit the Atherton Tablelands as they are really beautiful. It is best to hire a car (especially if there is more than 1 intern) to get around as taking day trips on buses works out more expensive than hiring a car. Other places to visit: The Great Barrier Reef, Fitzroy Island, Port Douglas and Cape Tribulation.

• Interns should bring insect repellent (sandflies can be very bad!), a raincoat/poncho, umbrella. Jumpers/jackets aren’t really necessary as it doesn’t get cold at night.

• Definitely make contact with the other interns in your area as it is great if you are away from home and it is fantastic to be able to do things together.

• If you are not used to the heat, arrive a few days early so that you can settle in and start to adjust. It took me about a week to adjust and the heat can be very tiring. Expect to get tired for no other reason except for the fact your body is working overtime to keep you cool. Also, if travelling in the wet season, it may be useful to read up on cyclone preparedness.

• Go in with no or little expectations, that way you don’t get disappointed if they are not met or if they are they will be greatly exceeded and therefore more worthwhile than if you set the bar too high.

Cape York Balkanu Development Corporation (CYBD)

• CYBD is located close to lunch options (ie bakery, deli, red rooster, take away shop & IGA). Staff at CYBD will either bring lunch or buy it from one of the other options. If interning in Cairns, the Cairns Sharehouse is an excellent place to stay - great atmosphere and within walking distance to several intern organisations, shops, esplanade, nightlife etc.

• Do not be afraid to ask anything, people who work at Balkanu are more than willing to help with your work or explain anything.

• Try to get to know everyone in your organisation, you never know who will be useful to turn to for help or assistance, even if they don’t immediately appear to be in your exact same line of work.

• Bring a smallish travel bad and a good camera for if you get to go on trips to the Cape.

Cape York Institute for Policy and Leadership (CYI)

• Be mindful of being too outspoken: Be aware of when it is appropriate to speak up and when you should simply listen to what is going on. CYI works on the basis of good relations with the Cape York communities and you should take care to maintain the mutual respect that exists.

• Before you arrive you should familiarise yourself with the work that the various organs of the Institute are undertaking. You can find this on their website. You should also read the 2005 Annual Report, which has a good overview of the structure and the different programs they run.

• The Royal Palm Villas is a perfect place for interns to stay. It is within walking distance of CYI and Cairns itself. The apartments are comfortable and spacious, the kitchen is ideal for cooking and the owners are helpful and welcoming. The air-conditioning and the pool are also a definite plus, making the weather bearable.

• The dress policy at CYI differs from individual to individual (given the prevalence of secondees), but there is a general policy of smart casual, short-sleeved shirts, the occasional polo and smart work shorts are more than adequate. Long pants are rarely, if ever needed.

• Venture out around the office to see what projects other employees are working on the get a wider view of the organisation’s work. CYI was policy development but the Leadership Academy, CYPAAA and CYP actually implemented projects.

• Everything is walking distance. Buy a shopping trolley (the bag on two wheels one) so you can go to the markets or cairns central.

• Get on board with ‘catching up’ - short informal meetings where you can clarify tasks you are working on and get quick feedback and input from those with the knowledge and experience in the area. These were
very useful as there was little in the way of formal structure or deadlines amongst the group and larger project.

- Bagus Café – Cheap and tasty Indonesian food

Cape York Land Council (CYLC)

- Past interns have developed a CYLC specific handbook that will be used as a working document for future interns. It includes information such as the restricted materials policy and filing system. It is available on the W drive on the CYLC system.

- Make every effort to have a license to drive a manual car before your placement.

- You may be required to travel to the Cape. Take a sleeping bag and day bag with you.

- Prepare (i.e. read relevant literature, look online at NNIT website resources etc.) as much as you can, to invest in your own experience and thereby the work you do at CYLC. Past interns advise future interns to read up on the current socio-political climate of the region, and subscribe to the CYLC newsletter when they hear of their placement location so they can stay up to date with changes in the region and relevant legislation and case law.

- Check office hours with your supervisor before you start. They are generally discussed as 9am to 5pm but most CYLC staff start at 8.30am.

- Dress code varies from casual (jeans) to smart casual (work dresses and collared shirts). If you get a chance to go to court the lawyers will wear suits but smart casual should be fine as an intern.

- The Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Mines published a detailed guide to the future act regime. It very clearly sets out the complex requirements of the Native Title Act. The PDF document is titled ‘Chapter 5 - Future Acts’ (8 October 2015). The Guide indicates which provisions are appropriate for different categories of future acts.

- Keep up-to-date with current events and issues in native title, law reform and what’s happening in the region.

- Once you get there, just go with the flow (lower expectation IS the key!). Be prepared to have periods of time where you won’t have a lot of tasks to complete and won’t be super busy. Accept that it’s not due to your lack of initiative but simply how the internship is sometimes. Interns recommend sending out a brief introductory email mentioning that you’re there and keen to help out or similar emails if you find that you have nothing to work on. The response is likely to be swift and substantial!

- Ask for annual reports and information sheets to get a feel for the organisation.

- The lawyers do really interesting research and are generally available to answer questions. At the CYLC you need to ask for research by email.

- Legal interns: CYLC also gets anthropological interns, so they may not always know straight away that you are a legal intern.

- Make the effort to engage with the staff to find out about the individual work that they are doing. This may be a good opportunity to politely ask whether you can attend meetings. You must be mindful and considerate of the fact that some meetings feature sensitive topics and it will not always be possible to attend. Show an interest in the organization and attend social events/meetings/lunches.

- There is no harm in asking, I was aware that there would be two determinations going on while I was in Cairns. When I found out that some of the staff were going to one of them, I let them know that I would also be interested in attending if anyone had any spare seats ... even though it was a Sunday. My supervisor
checked with the local land council to see if it was alright if I attended — it was the highlight of my trip!

- If you come across work that really interests you, let the lawyer know and they will keep you in mind for future work that pops up in that area. For example, I expressed my interest in law reform and was later invited to sit in on a meeting with the Australian Law Reform Commission and do some research on proposed amendments to Queensland legislation.


- Be sure to visit Hasham’s, which is just down the road from CYLC in the complex on the corner of McLeod and Florence. It’s great for Lebanese wraps etc. for lunch. They also sell fantastic dips and pasties at Rusty’s markets.

- Interns can rent affordable beach side accommodation in Yorkeys Knob, about 15 min car ride. It is beach side, beautiful, relaxing and most importantly, cheap! Very affordable bus services connect the two.

- The office has shower facilities so if you choose to ride to work this is quite useful.

- Bikes can be stored in a locked bike cage located at the rear of the office building.

- You can get to most places you will need to go from CYLC by walking. From CYLC it is only a 20-25 minute walk to the lagoon, and the main part of the town is in between. So even though bike riding may make travel quicker, it is not necessarily needed.

- Be sure to read over the acronyms which are listed at the beginning of the Handbook for Interns. These are frequently used in emails and conversations with lawyers and staff. They are relatively easy to get your head around and extremely important to understanding what may be asked of you in relation to research or other tasks.

- The office is located in a central location, without being right in the middle of town. It is about a 5 minute walk to Cairns Central, which is the major shopping centre in Cairns. It has a good variety of stores and lunch options.

- It may be more useful to do the internship post your 3rd year after you’ve covered civil procedure, administrative law.

- During the internship and if you intend to work for the NTRB after, network extensively, ensure that everyone (or the important people at lease) get to know you and you get to know them. Express your desire to work with them formally/informally if that’s what you intend to do in the long term.

- Do your best to meet and introduce yourself to as many of the staff at the CYLC in the first week and remember names and positions. This will make the remaining weeks more comfortable and easier when you may need something and will know who the appropriate person to go to is.

- A coffee van comes right to the CYLC most days, and an email is sent from reception to all employees when it has arrived (it comes at different times of the morning).

- My supervisor was great and provided some relevant readings before I commenced my placement. If your supervisor doesn’t do this make sure you read up on the current socio-political climate of the region as this can be very helpful throughout the duration of the internship.

**Cape York Partnership (CYP)**

- Before you start, take the time to familiarise yourself with the Cape York Agenda and the many different entities and initiatives; do some research into the main Cape York communities in which CYP operates (being Aurukun, Coen, Hope Vale and Mossman Gorge); and read some of the speeches and articles written by Noel Pearson to gain as much context about CYP and its work before you get stuck in!

- The office is a bustling hive of activity with some incredibly talented staff. Smile and greet staff members, but
recognise that many won’t take the time to get to know short-term interns because the office is a busy place with many secondees also moving through the doors. You will likely undertake your work autonomously.

- Utilise the CYP library for interesting literature.

**Carpentaria Land Council Aboriginal Corporation (CLCAC)**

- CLCAC now has a website with all their newsletters, reports and general information. [www.clcac.com.au](http://www.clcac.com.au)
- Travelling is exhausting, try organise accommodation near your host organisation!
- Perhaps undertake some background research on environmental problems in the area! Acacia is a ‘good’ species in Tassie but in FNQ ‘prickly acacia’ is a HUGE pest! So it took a bit to get my head around the issues relevant to that region.
- It is recommend taking any opportunity to visit, or work from, the Burketown or Normanton offices. Both are situated within the Gulf of Carpentaria and so you will get a stronger idea of the context you are working in. The Burketown office is the actual headquarters, so any chance to get to know it and the people there will be invaluable as if gives such a greater sense of the organisation and the work they do.

**Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (EHP)**

- Be flexible and open minded. Embrace any opportunities to visit Indigenous communities as this is the best and most insightful means by which to understand the program and the realities of Indigenous Communities.

**North Queensland Land Council (NQLC)**

- Research the organization before your placement.
- Plan to arrive at 8:30am and leave at 5pm.
- NQLC has a very casual dress code – e.g. no stockings, heels or blazers.
- Tasks for the legal unit may include: research, drafting letters, assisting with meetings.
- Be prepared for other members of NQLC, beyond your immediate supervisor, to provide you with tasks and involve you in their own claims or work. However, be ready to defer to your supervisor and ask for permission before accepting certain tasks i.e. being asked to attend out-of-office meetings with other staff.
- Past interns suggest getting acquainted with Microsoft Excel if you are not already familiar with it – Excel seemed to be a very prominent part of life at NQLC.

**National Native Title Tribunal (NNTT)**

- Past interns recommend reading the following article “Getting the most out of the future act process”, which is written by Deputy President Sumner, and discusses the whole process. [www.ntt.gov.au/News-and-Communications/Speeches-and-Papers/Pages/Getting_the_most_out_of_the_future_act_process.aspx](http://www.ntt.gov.au/News-and-Communications/Speeches-and-Papers/Pages/Getting_the_most_out_of_the_future_act_process.aspx)
- Ask as many questions as you can - the staff are eager to assist you with understanding something or to talk about the work they do, and you might have an opportunity come up that you weren’t expecting.
- Be prepared for individual work – given the nature of the organization you may not meet your supervisor, or may have an ‘informal’ supervisor.
- The Cairns office is a small one – it is staffed by 6 people.
• Try to find accommodation close to the office. If you have to walk for a significant distance, you will probably need to pack a change of clothes each day.

**Wet Tropics Management Authority (WTMA)**

• Be prepared to go on field trips in the rainforest.

• Most of the office is open so your conversations can carry across the room. This means that other conversations and your conversations can be heard by everyone.

• The organisations dress code is business casual, you do not need to wear business suits.

• If your office is in the city make sure you know where you can park, most parking has to be paid for so make sure you keep gold coins on hand.

• Be proactive and show initiative. Do not wait for work to come your way. If you have spare time in the office, look for tasks within broader organisation - it can be a very interesting and rewarding experience. Get involved outside of the team you have been assigned to. Every part of the organisation is interconnected and you can achieve the broadest impact by involving the skills of people from different disciplines.

• Be prepared to work without supervision.

• Let the staff know of your interests as they seem very willing to help or direct you, be enthusiastic and engaged.

• Often you will be given a general statement of how you can help. It is both a blessing and a curse. You get to decide entirely how you can interpret that request and produce helpful outcomes.

• Be open, socialise and do not limit your experience solely to working at the host organisation.

• Bring an umbrella!

• Dress code is smart casual (tending towards the more casual side of this). People wear jeans or chinos with the Wet Tropics polo shirt or a casual collared shirt. If you are planning on going out into the field, you should bring long-sleeve shirt and pants and some steel-capped boots (or at least boots that look like work boots).

• Be open and accept invites to attend different things on offer, as not only do you meet new people, but your experiences and learning will broaden considerable. On top of the project I was working on, I got to partake in a 3-day sustainable tourism guide course, attend workshops, attend meetings with government officials, undertake fieldwork, and go camping with traditional owners on their land.
Cooktown

Cooktown is a beautiful, unspoilt, small historic coastal town surrounded by stunning countryside. It is also Australia’s closest town to the Great Barrier Reef. With its laid-back atmosphere and friendly people, this is the perfect base to explore the rugged beauty of the Lower Cape, noted for its pristine environment and Aboriginal culture.

Climate

Cooktown has a tropical savanna climate. The wet season from December to April, is typically hot and humid but sea breezes and rainfall keep temperatures at bay. The dry season from May to November is less hot and humid, though unlike most of tropical Australia onshore winds still produce some light showers.

Cooktown tourist information

Tourist office
Cooktown and Cape York Peninsula Visitor Information Centre
Sheridan Street, Cairns QLD 4870, Australia
Phone: (07) 4042 4200

Entertainment in Cooktown

Cultural activities
• The Saturday markets are a great place to experience the diversity of the Cooktown community - from fresh food to local art and craft, it's a nice place to spend the morning.

Outdoor
• The walk through the mangroves to the cemetery is really lovely, as well as the bush walks to Finch's bay and Cherry Tree Bay. The saying always went - be alert but not alarmed of crocs!
• The Lion's Den is a nice local pub just south of Cooktown, with a beautiful (and safe) swimming spot by the river.
• If you have the opportunity to go to the Homerule waterfalls then definitely do!
• Keatings Lagoon is also a great place for bird watching.

Tips from past interns

General
• Be prepared for the heat, and the potential for serious rain (in the right season). The mosquitos can be pretty troublesome, but not too much of an issue.
• There are many dogs around at night, so try not to walk around much after dark by yourself.

Yuku Baja Muliku Landowner & Reserves Ltd (YBM)
• Be proactive, genuine and above all else, relaxed and kind. Be kind and smart about your actions and you will have a great time. Try not to crowd your expectations before arriving. Learn to fish!!
• Just be open to anything, and take any opportunity to get out on country with the rangers - they’ll always teach you something new!
• Make yourself familiar with the website and the work that YBM does, it’s difficult to imagine it all before
you are there but it's a useful starting point. I'd also make sure you're a bit aware of the indigenous rangers and working on country program, which is the primary source of most of their funding. Understanding a bit about the different indigenous land use arrangements and relevant legislation is also useful - it took me a while to teach myself when I was there.
Townsville

Geography
The Townsville Region in North Queensland, Australia, offers diverse experiences from the awe-inspiring Great Barrier Reef, World Heritage Wet Tropics rainforest to the dirt and dust of the Australian outback. Take the time to meet the locals and experience the lifestyle, culture and heritage that make the region so unique.

The options are endless and rest assured it is both the journey and the destination that make the Townsville region so spectacular. Make sure you pack your bathers, sunscreen and a sense of adventure - they are essential for your Townsville region discovery.

Townsville is located about halfway between the tip of Cape York and Brisbane. The Ross River flows from the foothills of the Hervey and Mount Stuart ranges to its outlet in Cleveland Bay, where the CBD’s skyline is dominated by the distinctive Castle Hill and Magnetic Island lies just eight kilometres offshore.

Our local government area covers 3,736 square kilometres (0.2% of the total area of the State of Queensland), and is currently experiencing rapid residential development through the Northern Beaches growth corridor.

Climate
Townsville has a tropical savannah climate and very unpredictable rain patterns from year to year. Although close to the tropics, Townsville gets less rain than other areas in the tropics. Winter is dominated by south-east winds and mostly fine weather. Townsville city sits on a coastline the runs east to west, which is different from other tropical towns on the coast that run north to south that get much more rain. Heavy downpours can occur at any time but are usually brief. The winter season mainly consists of warm days and cool nights. [http://www.townsvilleholidays.net/townsville-weather.html](http://www.townsvilleholidays.net/townsville-weather.html)

Townsville tourist information
Tourist office
Tourism Information
280 Flinders Street, Townsville, QLD 4810
Phone: 07 4721 3660
Email: tel@tel.com.au

Townsville transport
Sunbus runs a regular service to the most populated areas of Townsville, including special services for major events, such as football games at Dairy Farmers Stadium. For more information, please visit the Sunbus website or phone (07) 4771 9800, [www.sunbus.com.au/sit_cairns.htm](http://www.sunbus.com.au/sit_cairns.htm).

Taxi
Townsville Taxi provides taxi services for the Townsville region. Taxis can be booked online or by calling 131 008 or 13 TAXI (13 8294).

From Townsville domestic airport
Taxis are available from the arrivals end of the terminal. There you will find a Taxi Marshall/rank
Food and shopping in Townsville

Groceries

• Coles Supermarket (26-28 Mitchell Street)
• Northtown Shopping Centre (280 Flinders Street)

Tips from past interns

General

• I found the buses were reliable around the Strand area, however sometimes it was simply too hot to be standing at a bus stop for ages waiting to get to the big shopping centre on the weekend and sometimes they could be unreliable when travelling further away.

• Townsville is a fairly transient place with lots of students / army / hospitality workers moving there all the time due to the growing economy, so a lot of people advertised short stay accommodation on Gumtree which is perfect for doing an internship. However, make sure you look on a map where your possible accommodation is, because the university / army barracks are very far away from the CBD even if it is cheaper it may not be worthwhile. Similarly there was plenty of options closer to where the NQLC office is depending on your budget.

• For car rental, East Coast Car Rentals offer lower prices.

• The Crystal Cascades is a nice day trip on a bike from Cairns.

North Queensland Land Council Aboriginal Corporation (NQLC)

• If placed at the NQLC Townsville office try to find accommodation within walking distance or along the major bus routes, otherwise travel time may be difficult. Cairns sharehouse is a good option as it is easy to organize and is close to the NQLC office. Accommodation along the Strand is very close to NQLC office.

• Bring cool clothing, and lots of sunscreen - the Townsville sun can be brutal. Also an umbrella is a must during the wet season over the summer.

• The NQLC office is 5 minutes from town with the bus service going past the office regularly, there is a cafe next door, a leagues club up the road and two ’Op’ shops close by also for those who like vintage finds and collectables.
• Apparently the rockpool gets stingers in it! Even though it says it is stinger free, learning this after I had been swimming in there was a little unnerving!

• If placed at Cairns I would recommend staying in Cairns City, as the NQLC is almost in the centre of the city. I would recommend venturing out to Cairns Central Shopping Centre (5 minute drive) to get lunch/other necessities.

• Be mindful that the native title process places much strain and stress on communities and try not to be disheartened if you experience this first hand.

• There is a Woolworth’s right in the city centre near NQLC where I did all my grocery shopping/lunches. It’s a lot more economical to purchase lunches at Woolworths then go sit in the lunch room. It’s also a great way to get to know the fantastic team at NQLC as it is quite a social place.

• Do some reading before beginning the internship, try and learn the acronyms and the obligations and duties of the organisation that you are at.

• Recommend bringing a bike or hiring one.

• I did a few trips to Charters Towers with various members of the team at NQLC, make sure you pack your own lunch because there is no stopping along the way.

• To get the most out of your time during an Aurora internship at NQLC, ask as many questions possible. Even as a legal intern, I found talking to various anthropologists I met during my time is a great way to understand more about Native Title from a legal perspective.

• Belgian Gardens is within a half hour walking distance to the NQLC. Bear in mind that it is incredibly hot to walk to work in the morning, so buses are a better option to get to work.

• Join the dots between the names of anthropologists that you have heard while studying Anthropology and how their knowledge is being used as a method of research for Aboriginal people’s connection to country reports. It was eye opening to see just how important anthropology is in valuing Aboriginal culture through acknowledgment of traditional family connections to country.
Far-west Queensland organisations

Mt Isa, Camooweal

Mount Isa/Camooweal weather

Temperature
Summer: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 23°C to an average maximum of 38°C
Winter: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 8°C to an average maximum of 25°C

Climate
The climate as described by the Mount Isa Chamber of Commerce website:

“Mount Isa has a great climate with an average of 9.5 hours of sunshine a day and only 50 wet days per year. There are two distinct seasons – the wet season from November to March and the dry season centred on June, July and August.”

Mount Isa/Camooweal tourist information

Outback at Isa – Riversleigh Fossils Interpretive Centre and Mount Isa Tourist Information
19 Marian Street, Mount Isa
Phone: 07 4749 1555 or 1300 659 660
Website: www.outbackatisa.com.au Queensland Tourism website

Mount Isa/Camooweal medical information

Camooweal Health Centre
Nowranie Street, Camooweal
Phone: 07 4748 2159

Mount Isa Hospital
30 Camooweal Street, Mount Isa
Phone: 07 4744 4444

Mount Isa/Camooweal transport

Bus
Greyhound Australia runs a daily service between Camooweal and Mount Isa. Check their website for details and bookings. www.greyhound.com.au

Entertainment in Mount Isa/Camooweal

Sights and activities
• What’s on in Mount Isa: www.outbackatisa.com.au
• What’s on in the outback: www.outbacknow.com.au
• Camooweal Caves National Park: Located about 20kms from the township of Camooweal and covers an area of 13,800 hectares of the Barkly Tableland. www.mountisa.qld.gov.au/camooweal
Tips from past interns

General

• Don’t be overwhelmed at the beginning if you feel your knowledge of native title is inadequate. The point of the internship is to learn as much as possible, so listen, read and ask questions and soon you’ll be helping out your organisation and reeling off terms like Future Acts and connection reports like an expert!

• The real experts however, are the traditional owners. Try and speak with a traditional owner if you can. Lots can also be learned from speaking with the head of the Aboriginal Corporation. Rights over traditional lands is a topic close to the hearts of most Indigenous people (especially those mounting a native title claim) so most are quite happy to talk and let you listen and learn.

• Don’t be afraid you will be resented for being some know-it-all city whitefella by the locals (though occasionally this can happen). Most people in the community are welcoming and friendly and you’ll never make any friends or get a real perspective on life in the communities if you’re too shy or scared to talk to people.

• You need a Telstra dongle/USB for internet and a Telstra Sim because there is only a Telstra network out in Camooweal. Bring books, a laptop with movies or things to keep you entertained, it is 2 hours or so into town! However the work camp does have its own library.

• The heat is a dry heat, so you find that you need to use a moisturiser more often to prevent your skin from drying out, and a good sunscreen and hat if you are doing things outside. It is very hot, so make sure you have light but covering clothing.

• Also, from around the end of May onwards into June, July, August it can be quite cold at night time, so bring a good coat or jacket.

• A pair of work boots are recommended if you are going out for a walk on country as there are quite a few bindis about, as well as the occasional snake.

• Do not expect great restaurants in Mount Isa. Eating out is generally limited to fast food items. The food at the camp is however sensational.

• Bring bottled water if you don’t like the taste of bore water.

• Bring a mosquito or fly net to wear around you head if you feel like going on a walk or a jog.

• Take a compass (if you enjoy bush walking) - for exercise and enjoyment in the bush adjacent to the camp site. A bird book for northern Australia would be an interesting reference. Local plant life is interesting too. There is a lot of natural beauty in the region but a lot of it can only be accessed by a 4WD.

Dugalunji Aboriginal Corporation (DAC)

• Dugalunji Aboriginal Corporation camp is situated 6.5km east of the town of Camooweal (population approx. 310 – so it says on the sign as you drive into town) on the Barkly Highway and around 188kms. The camp at Dugalunji is very remote, with nothing more than a tiny town between it and Mount Isa. Stock up on books, music, and chocolate – anything you need for entertainment – as these things are hard to get or very expensive once you’re there.

• There is a common area with a large screen TV and DVD player.

• Dress code - informal office wear. Boots and jeans for fieldwork.

• Whilst in the ‘office’ you have access to the web (and, hence, web-based mail etc), but for communication in your own time, it’s essential to have a Telstra 3G USB (pre-paid) modem for your laptop, or Telstra 3G enabled iPad, or equivalent. Skype works well and is an invaluable direct connection to home.

• A bit incongruous in the setting, but is necessary to present an appropriate professional example to the
prevocational trainees, and also to random suppliers, visitors to the camp, and etc.

• Celebration and respect for Aboriginal culture is very strong within the organisation but there is a lot of racism and ignorance about Aboriginal culture in the region. Be prepared for that.

• It is very hot, so make sure to come prepared with light but covering clothing.

• It is also a good idea to take plenty of books as there isn’t a huge amount to do in the evenings (the work camp does have its own library however).
South Queensland organisations

Brisbane

Brisbane weather

Temperature
Summer: Ranges from 25°C to 40°C during the day (usually in the low 20s during the night) Winter: Between 20°C to 26°C during the day (12°C to 20°C overnight)

For those of you staying further inland, it will be a bit cooler, particularly during the winter evenings. If you're thinking of taking a trip to the various islands and reefs off the Queensland coast and are interested in swimming, the sea water temperature is quite warm – between 23°C to 29°C for most of the year. www.tropicalexperience.com.au/guide.php

Climate
Queensland essentially has two main seasons: the wet (November to April) and the dry (May to October). Most of the rainfall occurs from January to March, particularly in the northern coastal areas (it's probably a good idea to bring a raincoat or some kind of stylish poncho). www.tropicalexperience.com.au/guide.php

Brisbane tourist information

Tourist office
Brisbane Tourism Visitors Centre Queen Street Mall (near the middle) Phone: 1300 134 199
Website: www.ourbrisbane.com

Brisbane medical information

As a lot of Queensland is fairly tropical it's a good idea to be aware of some of the tropical diseases that you may be exposed to. This is probably more relevant for those travelling to the more northerly regions. If you would like further details, we suggest you have a look at the following website:
The Queensland Government Health Department's website: www.health.qld.gov.au

Travellers’ Medical Service (24hr) Level 1, 245 Albert Street
Phone: 07 3211 3611

Travellers’ Medical & Vaccination Centre
Level 5, 247 Adelaide Street
Phone: 07 3221 9066

Brisbane transport

TransLink
For all general bus, train and ferry information, contact the Trans-Info Service: 13 12 30.
www.translink.com.au
Fares are calculated based on the number of zones you travel through (most of the inner suburbs fall into Zone 1). All tickets are valid on TransLink trains, buses and ferries. A single ticket is valid for two hours. Daily, weekly and monthly tickets are also available, and a student concession ticket is half the price of an adult ticket. Public transport in Brisbane is reportedly very expensive and not particularly reliable. We are told that if you need to catch public transport in Brisbane, particularly at night, bus is the best way.

Bus
The main bus station is the underground station in the Myer Centre. There’s also several colour-coded stops along Adelaide Street.

The Loop
A free bus circling the city area, and stopping at Queensland University of Technology, Queen Street Mall, City Hall, Central Station and Riverside. It runs every 10 minutes, Monday to Friday, 7am to 6pm.

Taxi
Black & White Taxis: 13 10 08 or Yellow Cab Co: 13 19 24

Boat
The City Cat runs along and across the Brisbane River every 20 to 30 minutes between the University of Queensland and Bretts Wharf (5.50am to 10.30pm).

Inner City Ferries
These zigzag across the river between North Quay and Mowbray Park, and operate until around 9pm.

From the Airport
The Airtrain runs every 30 minutes to the Roma St and Central Stations ($9, 5am-8pm). www.airtrain.com.au
The Skytrans shuttle bus service runs between the airport and Roma Street ($9, although for $11 you can get a hotel drop-off). Contact number: 07 3238 4700
A Taxi will probably be around $30.

Food and shopping in Brisbane

Groceries
- McWhirters Marketplace (corner Brunswick and Wickham Streets, Fortitude Valley): Good place for fresh fruit and vegetables.
- Woolworths: There is a store in Macarthur (259 Queens Street) and another in Spring Hill (365 Turbot Street).

Cheap meals
- Food Courts: In Queen Street Mall (inside the shopping centres), the Wintergarden Centre (includes a sushi bar and noodle kiosk).
- Artisans on the Yard (Queensland University of Technology Campus, George Street, City Centre): Set in a courtyard and very popular with students. Big range of lunch options at starving art student prices.
- Express Croissants sell the best croissants in town!
- Fatboys Café (323 Brunswick Street, Fortitude Valley): Modern café with the usual lunch and coffee options. 6am-midnight Mon-Wed, 24hr Thu-Sun.
- Govinda’s (Upstairs, 99 Elizabeth Street, City Centre): Vegetarian meals (Hare-Krishna run). All you can eat for $8 on Sunday after 5pm.
- The Jazzy Cat Café (56 Mollison Street, West End): Bohemian café, chill music, books and
magazines lying around to peruse with your afternoon coffee. (Next door is the Three Monkeys Coffee House, which also does good coffee and cake, so you’re totally justified in doing a comparative study. It’s all in the name of research).

- **Merlo Café**: Between 2pm and 3pm every day, the Merlo cafe downstairs gives you the chance to get your coffee for free if you guess the correct coloured card (red or black).

- There is cheap food located down Queen Street with a sushi store that offers $2 sushi rolls and many more Asian food stores offering lunch time meal deals.

- Need to eat strictly gluten-free? Some good places I discovered were Nodo on Elizabeth Street, Pando Cafe on Adelaide Street, and the G-free doughnut van that can be found in various locations.

- **West End Markets** (every Saturday): Go down, grab a coffee, some fresh veg and listen to some local music.

- **Lefkas Taverna** – Hardgrave Road, West End. Does AMAZING takeaway Greek food for really cheap. If you eat in, it’s three times the price! My recommendation – the Halloumi Yiros!

- Love Child Market place – for the best vegan food on the Gold Coast

If you’re feeling rich…

- **Garuva Hidden Tranquility Restaurant and Bar** (324 Wickham Street, Fortitude Valley): Slightly more expensive (meals around $20), BUT it has a rainforest under its roof!

- **Jakarta Indonesian Restaurant** (2/702 Brunswick Street, New Farm): Mains $10–$16, does a variety of Indonesian dishes. It describes itself as having “evocative bamboo décor” – we’re intrigued, so make sure you take a photo if you drop in there.

**Entertainment in Brisbane**

**Cinemas**

- **Hoyts Regent Theatre** (107 Queen Street Mall): Mainstream cinema in a beautiful building (there’s another Hoyts at the bottom of the Myer Centre, but it’s much seedier).

- **Dendy** (346 George Street): Art house movies.

**Theatre**

- **Performing Arts Centre** (Queensland Cultural Centre, Stanley Street, Southbank): Venue for classical music concerts, plays, dance and film. They also handle bookings for the other South Bank theatres. [www.qpac.com.au](http://www.qpac.com.au)

**Music**

- **Family** (8 McLachlan Street): 4 levels, 4 bars, 2 dance floors. Voted Australia’s top club in 2002.

- **Jazz & Blues Bar** (Ground Floor, Holiday Inn, Roma Street): Brisbane’s main jazz venue, has live acts Wednesday to Saturday.

- **Monastery** (621 Ann Street): Mainly techno and house music.

- **Zoo** (711 Ann Street): Variety of live bands and DJS.

- **Brisbane Powerhouse** – Checker their website regularly for different shows (free and at cost) like the free QLD poetry slam final.

**Tips from past interns**
General

- Brisbane is a fairly relaxed and small city, and the corporate area is fairly central, with a range of food options available close by. If coming in summer, be prepared for the humidity. Public transport is fairly limited within the city itself, and so walking is the only option if you want to get from one side of the city to the other.
- Most venues in Brisbane still have a lockout on clubs and pubs which starts at 3am – you need to be somewhere by that time, or you can't get in anywhere, and once you leave there's no getting back in.
- Check out the busways which run into town when choosing accommodation. They make a heck of a difference when getting into the city.
- Free WiFi can be used at Brisbane City Council.
- Jade Buddha, Brisbane City! The best Friday happy hour in town - $5 drinks until 8pm and the balcony overlooks the Brisbane River
- Tallebudgera Creek – escape the waves and head to Tally creek to swim, frolic and relax under the trees

First Peoples Health Unit, Griffith University (FPHU)

- Try to find accommodation close to the Unit, which is on the Gold Coast. Otherwise the drive is pretty busy on the freeway. Griffith University is placed in a very busy area on the Gold Coast, so ensure you give yourself extra time to get there in the morning.
- Your tasks will likely contain a mixture of research and administrative work, and you will learn so much about this space during your internship.

Indigenous Business Australia (IBA)

- You will likely work across different teams at IBA – rotating from the business start-up department, to the accounts team, to the investments team. This allows a broad understanding of the organisation's functions.
- Understanding that the sort of work involved at IBA is what you see in the private financial sector, but for an entirely different application and purpose

Indigenous Schooling Support Unit (QLD Department of Education and Training) (ISSU) - No longer hosting

- The office at Springfield is a little isolated. The Orion shopping centre is about 5 minutes drive by car.
- Become involved as much as possible. Accept all invitations and offers of assistance. Talk to everybody about what you are doing.
- Public transit until 2015 to Springfield is not so wonderful. Be prepared to put in a longer day because of commuting.
- If you have your own transportation know that it does cost to park for extended periods of time.
- The University of QLD is also located in the area (an outpost of the main campus).
- The people are great, the supervisors are easy going, but be prepared to take initiative to get the work done you need to. Get to know the staff and their stories. They are wonderful, diverse people with more knowledge than you will have the opportunity to learn. Pick their brains. They are more than glad to share, even on a busy day.
- Resources surrounding government departments involvement in projects other than native title, such as those being worked on by the QLD DET ISSU. Links to their program websites (dependent on areas) but helpful to understand what other resources exist beyond the scope of native title claims.
- A more specific description could be made of the ISSU in particular. This particular link would be
Queensland South Native Title Services (QSNTS)

- QSNTS is located right near Central train station, so if anyone is looking for accommodation, somewhere near a train station would be convenient.

- Closely located to many shopping centres and restaurants, nice French patisserie across the road from placement, Hanaichi is a great Japanese/sushi train restaurant located in Winter Garden food court, Brisbane.

- There’s plenty of time to buy your lunch and sit by the Brisbane river.

- QSNTS uses a resource management system called TRIM. This is quite a complicated system to use and as an intern I had no exposure to this system prior to my placement. It may be useful to know this prior to placement.

- Interns should be made aware that a smart casual look will suffice.

- Try to understand the law of native title, this is helpful in the work, meetings and with your own education.

- Be prepared to work independently; you will not be constantly supervised on placement.

- Expect to have to interrupt people often for guidance or to obtain new tasks, the staff were helpful and understanding of it being necessary for an intern. Having said that, you may be expected to work your way through projects autonomously and learn how to use new software yourself.

- Make sure you are prepared to take on lots of different tasks of varying levels of difficulty. These can range from administrative tasks, to difficult drafting and research tasks. Each day can be different, so be open to new experiences, and make sure you let your team know what interests you, as they will often give you work related to that area, or take you to meetings that interest you.

- There are good opportunities to visit the State Archives and the Queensland Genealogical Society.

- Ride a bike to and from work if you can because you will save a lot of money. The Bicentennial Bike trail is a good way to get into the city.

Youth Justice, Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney-General (YJ)

- Work may include writing government reports, observing and facilitating cultural awareness training.

- Be ready to work in a fast pace and rewarding workplace. You will be doing lots of hands on activities and given many responsibilities. You will have to learn quickly and follow instructions to carry out tasks independently. All of the staff are very kind and approachable so don't be afraid to ask questions if your unsure on how to do something.
New South Wales

New South Wales organisations

Sydney

Sydney weather

Temperature
Summer: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 18°C to an average maximum of 28°C
Winter: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 10°C to an average maximum of 25°C

Climate
Sydney’s climate is fairly moderate, although it can get very sticky and humid in summer. Layered clothing is usually a better idea than big overcoats, which are only used for around the three freezing cold days in the average Sydney year. There are a couple of rainy seasons around April and November, so it’s a good idea to have an umbrella or raincoat. If you’re travelling to Sydney in summer, make sure you bring a swimming costume, hat and plenty of sunscreen.

Sydney tourist information

Tourist information
Sydney Visitors Centre
106 George Street, The Rocks
Phone: 02 9240 8786
Website: www.sydneyvisitorcentre.com

Sydney medical information

Sydney is not really prone to any major diseases. However, sunburn can be an issue, especially during the summer, so sunscreen is a must (at least SPF 30+). There are of course numerous (famous) beaches in Sydney. We recommend you swim between the flags – some beaches can become treacherous in a matter of minutes. If swimming at the beach, watch out for blue bottles (these look like jellyfish with a long blue tail). They can cause very painful stings. If stung, apply some ice as soon as possible (the fish and chip shops around the beaches are good places to ask – they’re used to it!). A lot of the chemists also sell various types of creams to minimise the pain.

Travellers Medical and Vaccination Centre
Level 7, 428 George St, City, Phone: (02) 9221 7133

Sydney transport

To get information on Sydney buses, ferries and trains visit www.131500.com or call 13 15 00.
Sydney’s public transport has been split into “zones”, with the amount you have to pay in fares scaled accordingly to how many “zones” you have to pass through to get from A to B. You can buy MyFerry, MyBus, and MyTrain tickets, or, if you use multiple modes of transport, buy a MyMulti pass. These are available as weeklies or single trip. They can be purchased at train stations and newsagencies.

Train
Sydney trains rarely turn up in accordance with the timetable, but they’re still fairly frequent, particularly around the inner city area. You can pick up a timetable (just for fun) for the lines you need from most of the train stations on that line, although Central Station is probably the most likely to have them all in stock. The cheapest way to travel is with an Opal card, available from newsagents and most large stations.
Bus
The buses cover most of the suburban areas not included in the train system. You will require an Opal card, available from newsagents and most large stations.

Car
Probably not a good idea if you’re working in the city, as parking is scarce and very expensive. Also, be aware that there are a lot of toll roads/bridges/tunnels going into and out of the city. If you don’t have an e-tag on your car, make sure you get in a lane that accepts cash, otherwise you’re stuck as a queue of angry drivers banks up behind you. Note: there are a lot of tolls around Sydney that some do not accept cash, if you are hiring a car check if they include an e-tag in the deal.

Taxis
Taxis Combined: 02 8332 8888
Legion 13 14 51
Premier Cabs: 13 10 17
RSL Cabs: 13 15 81

Food and shopping in Sydney

General
• There’s a supermarket in practically every suburb, so you shouldn’t have any problems finding one. If you’re really stuck, there’s a large Woolworths across the road from Town Hall (corner George and Park Streets).

Department stores
• Pitt Street Mall (walking distance from Town Hall Station): Huge collection of shops, mainly selling clothing, shoes, books and accessories, including a huge Myer Store. Can be quite pricey, but there’s often some good busking going on (including one guy who plays music on a collection of beer bottles).
• Queen Victoria Building (George Street, next to Town Hall): VERY expensive, but it’s worth seeing this gorgeous building.
• Westfield: These big shopping malls are located at a few places in and around Sydney (including Bondi Junction, Chatswood, Warringah, Parramatta). Usually near a train station.
• Birkenhead Point (Drummoyne): Over 100 factory outlets, quite close to the city.

Markets
• Glebe Markets (Glebe Public School, Glebe Point Road): Open Saturdays, sells clothes, books and ‘artistic’ homewares.
• Paddy’s Markets (corner Hay and Thomas Streets, Haymarket): Has a good variety of fresh fruit and vegetables, seafood and wigs (amongst other things). There’s also another Paddy’s in Flemington (near Olympic Park).
• Paddington Markets (395 Oxford Street, Paddington): A really awesome market operating on Saturdays with a big range of vintage clothing, jewellery, and some food (mostly in the form of kebabs or bags of various spices).
• Sydney Fish Market (corner Pyrmont Bridge Road and Bank Street, Pyrmont): Huge range of fish (including some very good bulk deals on oysters). It’s also fun watching the fish auctions, and there’s cooking classes available so that you don’t have to eat the fish raw. Usually opens early (around 6am) and closes around 3pm.
• Addison Rd community/farmers markets, offers a range of local fresh produce. every Sunday from 8:00am till 3:00 pm are located at The Addison Rd Community Centre, 142 Addison Rd Marrickville.
• Carriageworks Saturday morning farmers markets 8am – 1pm. Seasonal produce including organic and bio-dynamic foods from farmers and artisans from across NSW.
• Bondi Farmers Market located at Bondi Beach Public School on Campbell Parade open every Saturday from 9am – 1pm.

Dining out in Sydney

Cheap food
• There are heaps of food courts scattered around Sydney, usually inside Shopping Centres (such as beneath Myer in Pitt Street Mall) or around the larger train stations. Also, some good areas to walk around are Chinatown (between Town Hall and Central Stations), the Spanish Quarter in Liverpool Street (near Town Hall), Victoria Street (Darlinghurst), King Street (Newtown) and Crown Street (Surry Hills). These are all lined with cafes, pubs and restaurants targeted at various price ranges, so you can let your eyes and stomach consult and decide.
• Badde Manors (37 Francis Street, on the corner of Glebe Point Rd, Glebe): Great place for an afternoon or evening coffee and cake. A popular venue with Sydney Uni students.
• Bar Italia (169 Norton Street, Leichhardt): Located in the middle of the Italian district, this place serves classic pizza, pasta, gelato and coffee.
• Chinese Noodle Restaurant (Shop 7, Prince Centre, 8 Quay Street): Handmade Chinese noodles, mains $5 to $9.
• Harry’s Café de Wheels (Cowper Wharf Road, Woolloomooloo): A pie cart that also doubles as a tourist attraction. It’s been open 18 hours a day since 1945.
• Mint Café (10 Macquarie Street, inside the old Mint): Salads, sandwiches, cakes and coffee in a classy, relaxed atmosphere. Mains range from $5 to $15.
• Eddy’s Bakery in Redfern has the BEST Vietnamese bread rolls. Only $3 too.
• Messina ice-cream is a must eat.

If you’re feeling rich…
• Bushari (Darlinghurst Road, Kings Cross): Gorgeous room for romantic meal or dinner with a small group of friends. Fresh Japanese with brilliant wine and sake list. Be sure to book though.
• Wine Banc (53 Martin Place, Sydney): A relaxed, stylish venue with great tasting dishes, an extensive wine list (just so you know, they do wine better than they do cocktails), and live jazz Thursday to Saturday.
• Longrain (85 Commonwealth Street, Sydney): Extremely tasty Asian-inspired food (especially the fish dishes), and really good cocktails to go with it. Mains $25 to $40.
• The Patagonian Toothfish, (Chalmers St, Redfern). Very tasty fare including steak, seafood, salads etc.
• Scout’s Honour in Redfern for lunch – great sandwiches, soups and coffee. New menu every fortnight.

Open Late
• City Extra (Circular Quay): Quite pricey and the quality of the food varies, but it’s open 24 hours.
• Dean’s Café (Kellett Street, Kings Cross). Midnight nachos never tasted so good.
• Hernandez café (Kings Cross Road, Kings Cross): 24 hour coffee and sandwich bar frequented by locals and cabbies.
• Pancakes on the Rocks (Hickson Road, The Rocks): Open 24 hours.

Entertainment in Sydney

Sights
• There’s so much to do in Sydney. If you’ve never been before, take a walk around Circular Quay and the Rocks area because that will give you a great view of the Opera House and Harbour Bridge. The
beaches (check out Bondi, Coogee and Manly) are a big attraction in summer, and there’s always a festival to go to.

- **Sydney Harbour Bridge**: You probably won’t need directions to this one. Find the water, and then look up. The bridge is the big black coat hanger-like thing suspended above the water. You can pay (around $150-$200) to walk across the arc of the bridge (whilst wearing a stylish grey jumpsuit), or you can just walk across the pedestrian part next to the road for free. Or you can catch the train between Milsons Point and Wynyard if you’re feeling REALLY lazy.

- **Darling Harbour/King Street Wharf**: Traditionally quite touristy with its Aquarium and the Chinese Gardens, but has become increasingly popular with locals due to the refurbishing of the bars and restaurants along the foreshore. You can catch a ferry from Circular Quay, or just walk down from Town Hall.

- **Domain and Hyde Park**: Two of the big inner city parks up towards the Macquarie Street and Elizabeth Street end of town. There are often performances going on at the Domain during summer, and Hyde Park is home to food and wine markets during the various festivals.

- **Taronga Zoo (Bradley’s Head Road, Mosman)**: These animals totally get the best view in Sydney (particularly the elephants). The best way to get there is by ferry from Circular Quay, although there are also bus options available.

- **Check out www.broadsheet.com.au** for some fun things to do and places to go in Sydney.

- **Check out the concrete playground website to know about latest events, restaurants, bars in Sydney** www.sydney.concreteplayground.com.au

- **The Museum of Contemporary Art and Art Gallery of NSW** are both located centrally and are open until late on Wednesday nights.

**Outdoor**

- **Surfing**: ‘the northern beaches’ have a lot of good surfing spots – check out Manly, Curl Curl, Dee Why, Avalon and Palm Beach. South of the bridge, the best places are probably Bondi, Tamarama, Bronte, Coogee and Maroubra. The train line also goes directly to Cronulla beach in the city’s south. There are usually places around these beaches that will rent out surfing gear if you don’t have your own.

- **Swimming**: Obviously, the beaches are great places for swimming. Try to stay between the red and yellow flags, and keep an eye out for blue bottles. If you prefer pools, there are a couple of really good ones like the North Sydney Olympic Pool (Alfred Street, Milsons Point) and the Sydney Aquatic Centre (Sydney Olympic Park, Homebush Bay). The Aquatic Centre has waterslides and fun stuff in case you get bored with doing laps. Cook and Phillip Park, near Hyde Park, (next to St Mary’s Church) is also a good pool.

- **Botanical Gardens**: If you want to see some of the most unique and colorful range of plants www.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au

**Festivals**

- **Keep checking the Metro section of Friday’s Sydney Morning Herald** for details of upcoming events.

- **The Sydney Festival (January)**: Includes lots of free outdoor concerts in the Domain, the moonlight cinemas at Mrs Macquarie’s Point and Centennial Park, and lots of food markets.

- **Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras (February)**: The main event is the parade down Oxford Street.

- **Sydney Writers’ Festival (May)**: Includes talks from authors, interviews and various discussion forums.

- **Sydney Film Festival (June)**: 2 weeks of (mainly art house) film screenings.

- **Sculpture by the Sea (November)**: The walkway between Bondi and Bronte becomes an outdoor sculpture show.
• New Year’s Eve: Sydney always puts on a great fireworks show. Some good spots to watch it from are Circular Quay (usually very crowded), McMahons Point and Mrs Macquarie’s Point.

• Sydney is beautiful, there are so many fantastic events held regularly in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and history, so be aware of these - exhibitions, panel discussions, art, Blak Markets etc.

Nightlife in Sydney

Cinema
• Check the papers for cinema schedules.
• Hoyts/Greater Union: Mainstream movies in various locations.
• Dendy (Circular Quay and King Street, Newtown): Mainstream and art house.
• Palace Cinemas (Oxford Street, Darlinghurst and Norton St, Leichhardt): Mainstream and art house.
• Chauvel (Qatley Road, Paddington): Plays lots of Australian movies, as well as foreign art house. They also hold themed festivals and often run a ‘vintage’ back-to-back on a Saturday or Sunday.

Music and theatre
• The Basement (29 Reiby Place, Circular Quay): Mainly jazz and blues, can be quite pricey if you purchase a meal and show ticket. It’s best to book ahead for most shows. www.thebasement.com.au
• Belvoir Street Theatre. www.belvoir.com.au
• Enmore Theatre (130 Enmore Road, Enmore): Venue for most major live Australian and overseas rock/pop acts.
• Opera House: A venue for classical music concerts, opera and theatre. Student rush tickets are usually available 1 hour before a performance ($35 for symphony, $50 for opera).
• Sydney Theatre Company. www.sydneytheatre.com.au
• The Vanguard (42 King Street, Newtown). Jazz, Blues and Roots venue. www.thevanguard.com.au
• 505 on Cleveland St live music venue almost every day of the week. www.venue505.com

Nightclubs
• The Gaelic (64 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills): Various genres of music, late license. www.thegaelic.com
• Home (Cockle Bay Wharf, Darling Harbour): HUGE three-storey club with loud dance music.
• Slip In (111 Sussex Street, Sydney): Mainly funk and techno, and apparently the place where ‘our Mary’ met the Prince of Denmark.
• There are plenty of nightclubs on George St: www.barsandnightclubs.com.au/sydney/george-street
• Another good area worth exploring, if you feel like having a big night out is Oxford St.

Bars and pubs
• Establishment (252 George Street, Sydney): You’ll probably have to dress up if you want to get in here, although they’re far more lenient on ladies than guys. Lots of office types drinking cocktails, and you may have trouble finding seating.
• Hero of Waterloo (81 Lower Fort Street, Millers Point): Lots of drinking and live music (frequently Irish traditional music).
• The Tilbury Hotel (12-18 Nicholson Street, Woolloomooloo): Room for lots of people, with a good bar and live music.
• Kuletos (King Street, Newtown): They have a two-for-the-price-of-one cocktail hour.
• Cuervo Cantina on Enmore Rd, Mexican bar and restaurant: http://elcuervocantina.weebly.com
• There are a lot of cool little bars opening up all the time on Enmore Rd, so go and explore that area.

**Tips from past interns**

**General**

• Take advantage of any meeting, discussion or event and put your hand up for anything. Be proactive and seek out the projects that interest you.
• If you are coming to Sydney from a more rural area with minimal public transport, make sure you purchase an Opal card and top it up with sufficient funds.
• NSW public transport operators do not recognise interstate student cards.
• Sydney Rail and Sydney Buses websites are good sources of ticket/train line/timetable info. Even better, the TripView app is really good as it gives you real time updates.
• The internship program literally prepares you to go out and get a job. From experiencing the application and interview structure- to professional workplace experience, that builds your confidence, skills and contacts to take the next step towards a career.
• When checking out accommodation, pay attention to what is provided - do you need blanket heater etc can be very expensive buying them
• My suggestion would be to try and find family or friends who are willing to have you stay at their house during your internship. Accommodation in Sydney is outrageously expensive and if you can avoid that cost it will make a big difference.

**Aboriginal Child, Family and Community State Secretariat (AbSec)**

• AbSec is an easy walk from Marrickville train station. Street parking is usually available.
• AbSec is a great organisation, however, your supervisor may not be able to spend much time with you (due to their hectic agenda). Be prepared to work independently and without supervision.
• If you aren't already, familiarize yourself with the key terms and practices for out-of-home-care. Have a basic knowledge of the past and current standard of out-of-home care, specifically for Aboriginal children.
• It is a laid-back office. The staff are very friendly and welcoming, but do not expect lots of interactions or an energetic workplace.
• There aren't many cafes and restaurants around the office, so you may like to bring your own lunch.
• The air-conditioning can be a bit strong so you may wish to bring a jacket/jumper to the office.
• You'll find great coffee at the Old Garage Espresso down the street at 3 Ruby St.

**Aboriginal Employment Strategy Ltd (AES)**

• The AES is split into two parts, the AES and the AES foundation, and the interns work in both parts. I was based at the head office, and that meant most of my work was based in what they called a 'sanitised' environment.
• I got to develop skills in an area I enjoy, namely research and writing, and I was able to develop my
understanding of Indigenous issues, and the implementation of specific programs. I got to know the other members of staff and was able to see that the work I was doing was helpful for those people and the organisation as a whole.

**Aboriginal Legal Service NSW (ALS)**

- From my experience, the Aboriginal Legal Service is very flexible in arranging its workload for you, so if you have other obligations either in terms of study or other employment, do bring it up with your supervisor. Provided Aurora assents to the changes, ALS staff are immensely accommodating and supportive people.

- If you are completing a research style task, be sure to talk to your supervisor about what topic you wish to do it on. Although it may be tempting to choose a topic that you are personally interested in it is important to makes sure that it is research that the ALS can benefit from and use to improve their service to their clients.

- Discuss any questions you might have about the work you are doing, or the organisation you are placed at, with your supervisor. Initially I was apprehensive about approaching my supervisor, as I was concerned I would interrupt him during his working day. However I realised that he was completely open to having very helpful and very interesting discussions. I learnt the most as a result of approaching him for advice concerning difficulties I was experiencing, or information I wanted to find out more about.

- Be prepared to undertake independent research which can be isolating, however it is a flexible working environment that allows you to conduct research at your own pace.

- Be prepared to be patient with the process and the pace of things.

- Take the time to get to know those in the office, they’re all wonderfully friendly and are willing to chat to you about what sort of work they’re involved with. The legal service is above the head office, you may want to enquire about buddying with a solicitor for a day and attending court with them. Although my supervisor works tirelessly, she was always willing to make sure I was tracking well and if I had any questions, don’t hesitate to chat and debrief with your supervisor.

- There is a poster on a wall in the office that features an important and valuable message. The poster features the following quote: "If you have come to help me, you are wasting your time. If you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together."

- It will be helpful for future interns to understand that the ALS is under-resourced, and the solicitors have significant caseloads. Interns need to be proactive, asking the solicitors for work, to attend court and for any advice or insights.

**Sydney (Head office)**

- The new Head Office is located at Suite 460, 311-315 Castlereagh Street.

- In the Head Office, expect a lot of the work you do to be policy/research related, where there are a variety of policy driven tasks in circulation at any given time. There is the potential to work specifically on certain submissions, reports etc which gives the opportunity to get a good sense of a particular area.

- Supervisors and staff often engage with external stakeholders in regards to these projects, so definitely go along to meetings if they are occurring!

- A background in Indigenous Studies rather than Law is not a disadvantage in any way, but I recommend reading from the NSW law handbook and to be broadly familiar with legal terminology and processes.

- Express interest in areas/topics/projects of interest to you!

- The ALS staff are very friendly and welcoming, and there are a variety of policy driven tasks in circulation at any given time. There is the potential to work specifically on certain submissions, reports etc which gives the opportunity to get a good sense of a particular area. Supervisors and staff often engage with
external stakeholders in regards to these projects, so definitely go along to meetings if they are occurring! I also really enjoyed spending time at the courts. For those less interested in policy driven work, the Redfern office engages in more legal practice than ALS's head office.

Redfern

- The Sydney Crime office is a short walking distance from Redfern Station, Redfern Park and Woolworths.

- Being close to the heart of Sydney's CBD, it is better to use public transport to and from the office as there is extremely limited parking in the area (assuming you have or use a car as your primary means of transport). Public buses travel along Elizabeth Street and the bus stop is close by. If you're catching the train into Redfern, the easiest way to the ALS office is to take the Gibbons St exit and make your way up Redfern St right until you reach Elizabeth St which is where the office is located.

- The office is just across the road from Redfern Park, which is a lovely place to go on lunch.

- Good coffee can be bought on Redfern St at the Purple Goanna.

- Good walking shoes are a must if you are catching the train.

- The ALS office is conveniently neighboured by Three Williams, which as well as having great coffee, also serves delicious custard and jam filled doughnuts.

- Food: You can't go wrong with Danny’s Rice Bar which is just on the corner. They serve sushi, udon, ramen, rice paper rolls and fresh juices.

Dubbo

- Communication between the intern and their host supervisor prior to beginning your placement is strongly encouraged – they are a very busy practice.

- Take a set of casual clothes and a set of more formal clothes, many of the solicitors change out of formal clothes in the early morning once court is finished.

- Tasks undertaken by past interns have included:
  - Filing and admin duties
  - Attending court
  - Legal research
  - Contacting clients
  - Liaising with courts.

Lismore

- The ALS in Lismore is a small and extremely friendly office. The staff work very closely together in preparing to represent clients and utilize the many community resources available to them to encourage positive steps towards change for their clients. The lawyers are in court almost every day of every week - so it is important to dress appropriately for such occasions.

- Lismore is a cute rural town and close to both the countryside and the coast! If you have the opportunity to travel on weekends, there are many places to visit such as Byron Bay, the Gold Coast and Brisbane (All within a 2 hour drive). There are many great weekend markets in surrounding suburbs that offer many handmade crafts/specialties.

- The Southern Cross University has a gym/pool if fitness if your thing. The local Sports and Aquatic Centre also has great fitness training facilities.

- Don't get put off by the office politics.
Moree

- The Moree local paper, "The Moree Champion", is a good way of seeing what events are on, such as plays and fundraisers.
- The Uaama-Ganu Centre has a wonderful Aboriginal Art Gallery and Café
- If you get a chance to visit Toomelag as part of your internship (don't go by yourself), take it!

Newcastle

- Walk into the office open minded, enthusiastic and ready to give anything a go - you will fit right in and have an amazing experience.
- There isn't a great deal of parking and it can be expensive. There are several public transport options available.
- Pack your own lunch, as it can get very expensive if you don't.

Parramatta (Care & Protection)

- ALS is really easy to get to from Parramatta Station (only a 5 minute walk from the main road). The train only takes half an hour from the city (from Town Hall Station).
- Be proactive, and go ask solicitors if you can assist them in any way. They will not generally come to you.
- Tasks undertaken by past interns have included:
  - Case summaries of the child and protection sector
  - Attending and shadowing solicitors at the children’s court in Parramatta and Surry Hills
  - Sitting in on client meetings
  - Case law research tasks in family law and care and protection law
  - Subpoena inspections at the Family Court
- The Level 5 food court at Westfield (take the left on Marsden St) has numerous cafes and restaurants.
- Request the Internship Manual. It provides background information in the care and protection sector and family law. It also provides details on what to do if you are attending court, how you should conduct yourself and what is expected of you at ALS.
- Friday markets at Parramatta Square are definitely recommended

Wollongong

- The address is 65A Market St, Wollongong.
- Take the time to speak to the office staff (non-solicitors) and other student volunteers. They are very knowledgeable, not to mention warm and friendly people. You can learn a lot from them all.
- The cases of R v Fernando (1992) 76 A Crim R 58 and Bugmy v The Queen (2013) 302 ALR 192 would make helpful general reading.
- The office is centrally located about a 30 second walk from Wollongong Central and 2 minutes from the mall. It’s also just a couple of minutes walk from the Police Station and Courthouse so you pretty much have everything you could want at your disposal within easy walking distance.
- The train station is about 10-15min walk away from the office.
• Parking within the centre of Wollongong (unpaid and all day) is difficult to come by - there is free on street parking three blocks north of the Police Station on Church St and also between Smith/Campbell/Kembla Streets. It's about a 10min walk from the office. Besides public transport, getting to work early and walking from your parking spot (which may be a few blocks away) is the best option. Two early bird parking stations where you can get all day parking if you're in before approximately 9.30am and out after approximately 4pm (check website for specifics):
  - P3 of Wollongong Central (shopping centre) car park - Kenny St entrance only: $6 (other shopping centre car parks will be $20+ per day)
  - Secure Parking 37 Market St: $10 all day early bird
Both of these are a 5-10min walk from the office.

**Aurora Education Foundation (AEF)**

• The work you will undertake at Aurora will mostly be administrative and research-based – for example:
  - Summarising scholarship applications for interview panels
  - Fundraising and marketing research
  - Data entry
  - Assisting with event preparations.

• There are four potential teams you may be placed with at Aurora – the Websites/Marketing team, the Fundraising team, The Aspiration Initiative (high school program) or the International Scholarships team. If you find yourself with not much work to do, make it known to staff around the office that you are available to help and work will be found!

• Alexandria Park is less than a 5-minute walk from the office – a great place to have lunch or take a walk on sunnier days.

• Scout’s Honour is a ten minute walk from Aurora and does THE BEST sandwiches and soups. Their menu changes fortnightly so there is lots to try, and they can adjust any item on their menu to vegetarian. Meet Gerard on the corner of Gerard and Henderson streets is also pretty good, but quite pricey.

• The mushroom Tom Yum at the Thai restaurant next door, Yum Yai, is really yummy! And there are cheap and delicious Vietnamese rolls on Regent St, next to the IGA. The nearby fruit shop also does freshly squeezed juices for a great price. The White Cockatoo bakery on Regent St is also fantastic – try their potato rosemary loaf, or one of their pies!

• Take interest in what is going on around you. Where appropriate, ask questions about the work of others. The more you know, the more rewarding your placement will be, and the more initiative you will be able to take.

• Office attire is largely smart casual.

**Australian Human Rights Commission (formerly HREOC) (AHRC)**

• Get to know everyone - they all have interesting backgrounds, and have a good insight into different legal careers i.e. research/academic or practicing. Also don’t be afraid to ask them Q’s and recommendation for going out on the weekends

**Australian Human Rights Commission (formerly HREOC) (AHRC)**

• AHRC may able to reimburse costs of travelling to and from their offices in the city so make sure you keep all your receipts and discuss with Aurora’s placements team if you’re unsure.

• You may be able to attend conferences/seminars/report launches that are being held, provided they’re related to your area of research.

• The specific nature of the work you are doing will depend upon current developments in native title and land rights legislation. It is a good idea to read over the past native title reports to get an update on recent issues and the approach of the current Commissioner.

• Don’t be afraid to talk to people – AHRC is full of passionate, interesting people committed to a range
of fascinating projects, and most of them are happy to talk to you about these.

- You may not be doing native title work exclusively. Some of the work outside of the native title unit includes policy-based work such as strategic partnerships, public affairs and social justice, more generally.

- Information about international law and how to find it may be useful for those who haven't been exposed to it before. A lot of the work you do at AHRC will involve UN documents etc.

- The Commission is located a block from beautiful Hyde Park and in the middle of city. There is a food court in the building as well as hairdressers, boot makers and pretty much anything you could possibly need. A block away is Myers and the international food court which is huge and chaotic. There is plenty of shopping and some fantastic restaurants around the area and Town Hall train station is only a couple of blocks away.

- AHRC is a bit more casual than normal corporate dress code, no need for heels or suits every day.

- If you get placed in Sydney CBD, take your lunch to Hyde Park for a break from the Sydney city madness

- For placements in Sydney in general, check out National Centre for Indigenous Excellence in Redfern if you want to go the gym while on placement. If you're doing the summer placement check out Yabun festival on January 26.

- Worth spending an afternoon listening in on the complaints phonelines.

- Best coffee near AHRC is at Mecca Espresso, (67 King St).

- The writing style the Commission espouse is a great tool for interns going into any organisation surrounding Indigenous rights.

- For ARHC interns, the Commission’s ‘Agenda’ and ‘Strategic Plan’ are required reading in order to gain more of an idea about the organisation generally.

- The Commission hosts a lot of internal and staff/community events, such as strategy overviews, hot-topic discussion forums and industry movie screenings. Interns should try their best to make time for these activities.

- The Chrysler coffee shop in the arcade on King St makes a decent cup of coffee and Martin Place (just up the road from the AHRC office) is a nice spot to have lunch, read a book or just watch the hustle and bustle of the city.

- The best coffee in the CBD is right next door - it’s called Three Penny Blue! The Hunter Connection food court is great for cheap lunches.

- Remember to ask questions when being given a task and always ask when it should be completed and if it is urgent, so you can plan your day and week if needed.

- Look up the organisational structures prior to commencing. This will ensure you are familiar with important staff members and are able to put names to faces. Reading annual reports or strategic plans will give you some background knowledge of pertinent issues facing the organisation.

**Australian Literacy & Numeracy Foundation (ALNF)**

- Use your initiative and offer to help others in the office if you run out of work. Work is done quite independently so make the most of lunch times and mornings to get to know your colleagues.

- Sometimes/often the work may not be challenging but being able to see the value in what is being done and what is trying to be achieved makes a big difference to one’s perspective.

- Tasks undertaken by past interns have included:
  - Data entry
  - Lexicon and systems analysis
  - Administrative assistance.

- The office is directly across from Edgecliff Station. Living near a train line therefore makes it an easier trip to work. Above the station there are a group of shops. Harris Farm Markets has discounted food in the mornings including fruit, vegetables and yoghurts which are perfect for lunch.

**Arts Law Centre of Australia (ALCA)**

- It would be useful to read some information related to Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property. Copyright Australia’s website (www.copyright.org.au) has general introductory information sheets which I found helpful at the start of my placement.
• If travelling to Woolloomooloo via the CBD, you can take the 311 bus. It is also a short and pleasant walk through the Botanical Gardens/Domain area if you get off the bus or train near Hyde Park or Martin Place. If you walk down the path to on the right-hand side of the NSW Art Gallery, it will lead you on a footbridge across all the motorways, and easily to the office in Woolloomooloo. An alternative is to catch the train to Kings Cross, exit the station on Victoria Street and cut down the stairs to Woolloomooloo (though this is NOT recommended too early in the morning or late in the evening).

• There are only a few food places around Woolloomooloo, so it is advisable to take lunch on some days.

Barrister – Susan Phillips

• Susan is an amazing, welcoming, challenging (in a great way!) and supportive barrister.

• You may need to discuss what working hours are expected of you as an intern. There is sometimes an expectation of ‘working until the task requiring completion is done’, however requesting 9-5 may be more suitable.

• You will be required to work independently and whilst the barrister provides some supervision, you must be comfortable working autonomously. The work is mostly research-based.

• You will be expected to do research on case search engines such as JADE.

• Tasks undertaken by part interns include:
  o Reviewing and consolidating evidence
  o Research and writing a submission
  o Attending court and conferences with other barristers and solicitors
  o Note-taking and transcribing audio files
  o Administrative assistance.

Chalk & Behrendt (C&B) – formerly Chalk & Fitzgerald

• Chalk & Fitzgerald is in an excellent Sydney CBD location. On the corner of Hunter and Pitt Street, a 5-minute walk from Wynyard station, 10-15 minute walk to the Harbour. It is surrounded by several food courts - Australia Square, MLC centre, Hunter Arcade, Met Centre - options for lunch are never scarce.

• Be open minded, be friendly, ask questions, don’t be afraid of approaching staff in the office, do everything to the best of your ability, don’t worry if you don’t know much about native title, you learn very quickly! Ask for as much and as much a range of work/roles as possible whilst interning. Everyone is very welcoming and warm. Despite their brilliance, people are so humble. Some of the lawyers at C&B are the best legal minds in this area, yet they make you feel you are an equal. Be prepared to work hard, don’t be afraid to make mistakes and learn.

• It is ok to take time on your tasks when given by the lawyers, unless they ask you that it is urgent.

• Work is mainly self-directed but a lot of support is provided by the lawyers at the firm. Past interns have undertaken the following tasks:
  o Legal research
  o Drafting memorandums
  o Writing case summaries
  o Proofreading letters of advice
  o Compiling state and federal legislation for comparative analysis.

• You do not need to bring your laptop, a notebook or stationary with you as C&B will supply you with all of these resources.
• Great vegetarian cafe in a little arcade further up Hunter St. Uncle Mings is good for after work beverages (if you so desire). The saladworks next door is also a great place to quickly eat.

• The best coffee in close proximity to the office is at Marlowe’s Way.

• C&B is a short walk from the MCA and AGNSW which are both open until late on Wednesday nights.

Community Legal Centres NSW (CLCNSW)

• CLCNSW is not a legal organisation.
• The CLCNSW offices are less than 3 minutes from Central Station, so interns don’t have to worry about buses or arriving excessively early.
• The ‘our people’ section of the CLCNSW website gives a good overview of who is working there.
• I would strongly recommend to successful applicants at CLC NSW placements that they engage with their supervisor as early as possible to develop a work plan.
• While it is always prudent to go into an internship with lower, rather than higher, expectations, the Community Legal Centre sector (like many other public legal service providers) has a heavy workload and are very willing to make good use of willing contributors.
• Do as much background reading and research as you can.
• Genuinely engaging and challenging work. Good preparation will make for a more enjoyable and rewarding experience.
• CLCNSW uses Apple computers and software. If you’re unfamiliar with Apple computers, then you might want to get familiar before starting your internship.
• The office is located on Foveaux Street, Surry Hills which is a really interesting area to work. There are lots of great cafes and places to eat within walking distance.

Environmental Defenders Office NSW (EDONSW)

• Where appropriate, try to make yourself available to work across as many areas of EDONSW’s practice as you can. EDONSW offers a great diversity of legal experience from policy development on a plethora of environmental issues, to litigation, outreach programs and publications. Be willing to put your hand up for going to the Land and Environment Court of NSW, helping solicitors work with clients, taking minutes for meetings, and simply going or coffee breaks with the employees and getting a sense of what makes them passionate about what they do.

• Always carry a notebook and be willing to assist with other teams.

• Prepare for court by adhering to the dress code

Food Ladder (FL)

• While the Food Ladder head office is located in Sydney, they are based Australia-wide. You will likely work from home for this placement, undertaking research in food policy. There are a lot of advantages to working from home: you get to set your own schedule, and this will allow you to minimize any conflict with things like work, studies, sport etc. However, because you will not be working in an office, you have to be self-motivated and disciplined.

• Before your placement, ask for FL’s reading list and any relevant existing publications.

• FL is a small organisation, your supervisors are likely to be very busy. So while supervisors are generally responsive to emails, be prepared to work independently. Always take initiative and ask questions.

• If assigned a large research project for the entirety of your placement, plan out what you will complete each week (e.g. background research, draft one, etc), breaking down these tasks into a daily checklist.
• If you feel as though something regarding your assigned tasks can be done better, speak up. They want to hear your opinions!

• Set yourself clear goals to achieve each day/week.

**Indigenous Business Australia (IBA)**

• It is a very small legal team, only two people in Sydney, and a lot of work is done over videoconference with other IBA offices.
• It’s important to be able to work in an undirected manner. If it’s quiet, take the initiative in requesting more work and communicate with the team if you don’t understand what has been asked of you.
• Surry Hills is nice and central, IBA overlooks Central Station so it is easy to get to work on public transport. There are benches and things outside and it is a nice place to sit and eat lunch when the weather is good.

**Indigenous Law Centre UNSW (ILCUNSW)**

• There are a few examples of the types of projects that the centre has worked on and the publications it produces. These can be accessed on the ILC website [www.ilc.unsw.edu.au](http://www.ilc.unsw.edu.au).
• Come with an open mind and be prepared to do jobs that might seem boring but are actually helping out in the long run.

**Jumbunna**

• Jumbunna is located at UTS in Sydney. The UTS building is close to Victoria Park; great for a lunchtime stroll. Down the road is Broadway Shopping Centre, which has lots of food options, and Central Station is on the other side. If you’re looking to splurge, Spice Alley is just across the road.
• I would suggest that future interns prepare for an internship at Jumbunna by familiarising themselves with navigating relevant legal research databases and perfecting their ability to draft a concise case note and memorandum of research findings.
• For future interns, it would be worthwhile to research not only the work of your supervisor, but also that of other researchers at the Centre. This will help in knowing what other people are working on, and what is a priority of the Centre.
• Come to Jumbunna with an open mind: even if you feel you are not experience in a particular subject or area of the law, the fact that Craig would trust you enough to assign you a task in that subject means that it is well within your abilities to accomplish. Don’t be afraid to challenge yourself. While you are on placement, ask as many questions as you can about the field, the challenges, court process etc so you come out of it with a better understanding of the system.
• Be prepared for your internship to fly past; so, be as proactive as possible and do as much as you can - you will get a lot more out of your time at Jumbunna that way. There is always a ton of work to be done, so there will certainly be no shortage.
• The White Rabbit art gallery is just behind Central Park, and is the perfect size to go and see over a few luncheons.

**Just Reinvest NSW**

• The structure of Just Reinvest and its links with Maranguka can be a bit hard to get your head around. I found it really useful to read a bit before I started. Jo and Nicole are really lovely though so ask as many questions as you can as they have such a wealth of knowledge.
• Just Reinvest NSW is auspiced by the Aboriginal Legal Service NSW/ACT, so the 2 part time staff members
work from the ALS Head Office. It provides a great opportunity to have a chat to some of the ALS staff while working for Just Reinvest.

National Aboriginal Sporting Chance Academy (NASCA)

- The intern placed at NASCA during the winter 2010 round drafted a NASCA intern handbook for future interns’ reference.
- Be prepared to ask for stuff to do, make your own work or go straight to Trent to be involved in a program.
- All day parking is only available in some select places on Phillip and Raglan Streets in Redfern, however there is usually a spot available somewhere before 9am. Otherwise it is a short walk from Redfern station.
- The Purple Goanna Café is a must-visit café for all interns! Crocodile/Kangaroo/Emu based items and fully Aboriginal run. Scouts Honours is also nearby – great for tasty sandwiches and good coffee.
- Make sure you give your supervisor as much notice about any issues asap. Never be afraid to ask for help and make sure that you send your weekly report by Monday.
- Dress code is often just neat casual, no need to dress overly formal.
- NASCA staff are very welcoming and happy to have you. Don’t be afraid to ask for help, ask for more work or ask if they want to get coffee or lunch with you.
- If you have the opportunity, try to get involved in a program or community event. Meeting some of the kids is great because you get to see who all your hard work is for.

National Centre of Indigenous Excellence (NCIE)

- If you aren’t already familiar with the area, read up on issues faced by Indigenous communities relating to intergenerational physical and mental health, and the importance of arts and culture.
- Be prepared to jump in and engage with participants in the Afterschool Program.
- There are three programs at NCIE. You may have the option to focus on one program or work across all of them.
- Ask if there are other Aurora interns in your organisation or in other organisations with offices in your building.
- Take up social opportunities with colleagues, it is a great way to get to know your fellow workmates and enjoy placement. Some staff members go to lunchtime classes together.
- NCIE is in the same building as AIME and NASCA. I think it is worth having a chat/getting to know some of these employees as they are really friendly and it is interesting to hear about what they are involved in.
- You can join the gym for free whilst on placement and it is of very high quality.
- There is a really nice bakery on Chalmers St called Tapeo. NCIE is also a short walk to Alexandria where there is a really nice cafe/wholefoods store called Bread and Circus.
- Visit Scouts Honour – great café nearby with great coffee

National Native Title Tribunal

- The museum is nearby and so is the state library and botanical gardens.
Native Title Barristers – Tina Jowett, Vance Hughston, John Waters, Craig Evans

- Touch base as soon as internship offer is received, as (depending on the work they are doing), they may recommend a relatively large volume of reading material before commencement of your internship. This will also help to set some expectations for the internship prior to commencement.

- Clarify expected working hours, entry and exit hours of the building and note after 6pm the lift can only be taken directly to the ground floor. Also clarify as to the whereabouts of the office so the door can be opened if an early start is required, don’t assume floor staff will provide this level of detail in regard to logistics.

- Start reading native title cases early and go with as much background knowledge as possible. Stay on top of what is occurring in native title in the news.


- Go in with the expectation that you will be afforded a considerable degree of autonomy at work and will need to be self-motivated. Be prepared to be adaptable to what the barristers have on their agenda.

- Ask questions and clarify tasks if you don’t understand them. It can be hard to not feel embarrassed when confirming the expectations of your tasks, but this guidance will assist you in producing higher quality work and will facilitate your understanding of concepts and the law.

- Tasks undertaken by past interns include:
  - Research
  - Attending court
  - Editing and formatting submissions
  - Filing
  - Creating file notes from hearing and meetings
  - Reviewing affidavits and transcripts.

- Barristers work independently. Build up your connections with each to get assigned more work.

- A lot of work Tina and Vance do is for clients in Western Australia, so future interns would be well advised that due to the time difference between Sydney and WA, their working hours typically start and finish later in the day.

New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council (NSWALC)

- The NSWALC office is an easy 10min walk from Parramatta train station. For a more adventurous way of travelling to work, ferries run hourly from Parramatta Wharf (pleasant 30minute stroll from the NSWALC office) to Circular Quay.

- Check with NSWALC before commencing your placement to see if they can refund your transport costs to and from work. This can make a big difference to the cost of your internship, especially if you’ve travelled from interstate and your concession card is not valid for travel on public transport.

- I found that my host organisation was very organised and were very good with ensuring that interns were adequately prepared. Upon arrival on my first day, I was given a number of information booklets explaining the work that NSWALC undertakes and then a PDF specifically made for interns which set out how the legal services operate. This guide also included a directory which listed all NSWALC Legal Services Unit staff, restaurant guides for places near the office, links to the most relevant cases and legislation relating to land rights and more administrative matters.

- Make the most of the wide variety of opportunities you are given, particularly visiting local Aboriginal Land Councils if possible, as well as the chance to attend court.
• Don’t be nervous about taking up offers to join them for lunch or after work drinks. Attending such gatherings will only strengthen your relationship with the people you are working with.

• Keep your text books close! I was amazed at how much of my law study I was drawing on during the placement! Be prepared to be challenged and confronted but it is also important to trust in the education and training you have already received. Therefore, tackle your tasks head on.

• This organisation can provide you with the opportunity to really get a feel for legal work, utilising several fields of law. While there I engaged with the law of equity and trusts, media law, statutory interpretation, the NSW land rights regime and corporations law.

• It’s a good placement for people interested in property law and Aboriginal development in NSW through investments in land. You will be working with the Aboriginal Land Rights Act a lot, especially s36, so it is good to be familiar with this before you start.

• NSWALC is a top tier organisation and has many networking opportunities so ask questions and use them.

• Be prepared to be work autonomously on research projects and to be able to conduct independent work given that the office environment is quite busy.

• It is recommended you do background reading on the history of Aboriginal land rights movements to contextualise native title and understand the difference between the two. Reading the Aboriginal Land Rights Act (NSW) is crucial.

• There is no major sign outside the building as there are various levels, and it is on level 4. It is very close to the train station and Westfield (to find food during the lunch break).

• The NSWALC is on level 4 but you need a tag to get there. So go to level 5 on the first day and ask reception to try and get someone for you. They should then give you a tag on the first day.

Food and surrounds
• ‘Lady Lattee’ is right near the office – great coffee.

• Neelam Indian Restaurant (79 Macquarie Street, Parramatta) is great.

• Temasek, Istana, Pho Pasteur and Max Brenners – all within walking distance with lunches and treats under $10.

• Vietnamese rolls from the bakery next to Coles in Westfield Parramatta are $4 of absolute goodness!

• There is a great cafe on Valentine Ave that makes excellent sandwiches (gluten free no extra charge).

• There is a great second hand clothing store called La Secona with some gems, and is also conveniently located near an excellent independent record store in the pedestrian mall part of Church Street.

• Make sure you get and see some of Parramatta. It’s a surprisingly interesting place. Australia’s oldest cemetery is in walking distance from the office, and Parramatta park is lovely (if a bit hot during summer).

• The placement is right next to Parramatta park, which is lovely for lunchtime walks. Food is easy to find in cafes or food courts in Westfield next door. Transport is very close by. If you’re not from this area of the city, it is an interesting area to get to know.

**NTSCORP**

• The office is in an incredibly convenient location – a 5 minute walk from Redfern station. It is also within walking distance from Surry Hills, Redfern, Darlington, Alexandria and Newtown.

• Email your supervisor before you start so that they can direct you to relevant reading/information.

• Brush up on your research skills and ability to use databases like Austlii! Have a look around the NNTT website so you can get an idea of how the site works and where the claims are over different areas. Also
read some relevant Aboriginal publications in the area so you can see what are topical issues.

- A lot of time is spent summarising documents and reading about submissions etc, so it might be a good idea to read up on changes in native title law and try to get a broad understanding of the role of NTSCORP before beginning the internship, so that you have a better grasp of what is relevant in the documents you're analysing.

- If placed in the Strategic Development Unit, try to do some prior reading on the Future Acts regime, particularly Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) s 31. The SDU team will explain the legislation in more depth, but it helps to know the context and basic structure of the Act before beginning.

- A good article to read is Sarah Burnside, ‘Negotiation in Good Faith under the Native Title Act: A Critical Analysis’ (October 2009) 4(3) Land Rights, Laws: Issues of Native Title (Native Title Research Unit Issues Paper series).

- This is a very friendly and accommodating office. The work varies so be prepared to swap from legal to policy work. If you are interested in a particular area let them know. Also, take advantage of any opportunities to go on country.

- Sydney is an expensive place to live and you will be invited to heaps of social functions at NTSCORP, so have some money saved for the experience.

- Take a professional attitude and be a help not a hindrance. Be prepared to drop a task to help out on another that may be more urgent.

- Be sure to try and grasp as much knowledge as you can while you’re there and don’t be afraid to discuss matters with other staff members. If something doesn’t make sense to you, ask for an explanation.

- No matter how much you read beforehand the various native title processes will probably still seem overwhelming when you first arrive, but things become a lot clearer as you go.

- Be proactive about asking for work! Because it’s a very casual workplace something I should have done was to make closer deadlines for myself than what was given to me. I don’t think I worked to my greatest capacity because I was given such long deadlines for tasks.

- Just try to get the best of the experience, ask for guidance all the time and try to get as much information as possible if you really are interested in the field, such as bibliography, recommended research studies, etc.

- Don’t be afraid to approach lawyers/staff from other departments. In the SDU I never had to ask for additional tasks as there was so much to do. The legal interns would regularly send emails stating that they were free and would gladly accept tasks.

- Try and involve yourself as much as possible with all the sections of the office. This gives you a greater understanding of how an NTRB functions and helps in completion of tasks. I would suggest that a future intern take the time to talk to everyone in the office - each person has a unique story and unique experiences that are an absolute treasure chest.

- Do some side reading of some material put out by the senior anthropologists and historians, they are usually happy for you to read their reports. Also, take some time to go out for lunch/drinks with the people working there, it’s a good way to get a deeper insight into how people work in the system and what they think of it.
• NTSCORP is close to many great places to eat including Thai, Vietnamese, bakeries, cafes and the channel 7 food court. Recommended cafes around the office: the Shortlist, Café Ella, Purple Goanna, Appetite. There is a Thai restaurant across from Redfern Train Station that has amazing ten dollar lunch deals. Ask the people at NTSCORP what they would recommend. Every day the team gave me new recommendations of things to do and places to eat.

• It is a good location generally although the parking situation is a little tricky. It is street parking and there are only a few all day spots. Most of the parking is for 2 hour blocks.

• Redfern is a suburb with a lot of Aboriginal history, thus I recommend the interns to get to know the suburb not only as the place where the office is but as part of the history they are working with.

• I stayed in Summern Hill during my placement. Summern Hill was a great base and close to an IGA, restaurants and coffee shops. It was only 16 mins to the Redfern office. I would also suggest going for a walk during your lunch break as Redfern has a lot of restaurants and coffee shops in the area.

• I would reiterate what it says in the Handbook, that interns being placed in the SDU should get acquainted with the Future Acts regime before starting the internship. The SDU team will explain the legislation in more depth, but it helps to know the context and basic structure of the Act before beginning.

• A general tip I would give future interns is to take advantage of the amazing opportunity working in the SDU of NTSCORP provides, and always ask for work and push hard. I got to work on a really interesting spread of work, and the team were always wanting to provide me with new opportunities.

• NTSCORP is in an incredibly convenient location, being a 5-minute walk from Redfern station. When I was on my internship there was a great cheap Thai restaurant across from the train station where there was a good lunch deal.

Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC)

• The solicitors at PIAC have a diverse range of experiences and come from a variety of legal backgrounds, and I would encourage future interns to start as many conversations as possible!

• There is a carpark downstairs with a huge, caged bicycle parking area, and you can arrange access to the shower rooms/lockers. I cycled to PIAC every day and the facilities for cyclists are the best I’ve seen at a workplace, I highly recommend it! Otherwise, there is (very expensive) car parking, and $5 motorbike parking in the workplace carpark.

Supply Nation (SN)

• Be genuine, offer help and enjoy the experience because the people are wonderful! Make the most of the opportunities they provide. Bring a jumper because the aircon is freezing!

Sydney Story Factory (SSF)

• Interns will likely be working alongside other volunteers in a workshop environment. I did not think that I would be working with children initially. Although I was nervous about this at first - I quickly found that it was nothing to be nervous about.

• Have patience with the kids and it will greatly pay off. Don’t be scared of the Jarjum workshops, instead volunteer for them and work on days when Helen is working as she will show you around everywhere!

Tranby National Indigenous Adult Education and Training (TRANBY)

• Tranby is located in Glebe. There are heaps of great places to eat on Glebe Point Rd just around the corner.
• Tranby is an incredibly small organization but one that always has lots going on – get involved in everything you can!

• Be prepared to take initiative on the project you are working on, but always ask for help if you need it. Everyone will do anything they can to help.

• There are often different organisations and people working in the office or passing through. Take time to meet everyone that you can and take up the opportunities that they offer.

• If you get the opportunity to attend the CSWP morning boxing class at the NCIE on Monday, Wednesday or Friday, go! It may be early (6:00am!) but it will be worth it.

• Be prepared for anything - Tranby has a lot of different things going on so you may be involved in any one or more of its projects (i.e in the library/archives, grant writing, Indigenous Business Hub, art gallery, oral histories).

• Tranby also has students who go to Tranby for their classes on a block system (that is, they are at Tranby five-days a week for one week out of every 6 - 8 weeks) so you should be respectful that there may be classes being taught. You are also encouraged to interact with the students when they are on their morning tea and lunch breaks.

• Spend some time forming relationships with Tranby’s staff as they are very welcoming and you will make some truly valuable connections if you put in the effort. Also just be willing to help out in whatever capacity you can, whether that’s painting a wall on your lunch break, buying flowers for an event, wiping spider webs off chairs … anything you can offer will be greatly appreciated!

• We often walked back to Glebe Point Road and went to Bakers Delight or the cafe next door to it (Glebe Deli Cafe) during our lunch break. There is also a Friendly Grocer a few doors along. You can also walk down Mansfield Street in the other direction (turn left when walking out of Tranby) and follow the road all the way down to Jubilee Park and sit by the harbour (there are views of ANZAC Bridge and Sydney Harbour Bridge).

Terri Janke & Company Pty Ltd

• Do some background reading on Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property – this concept underpins most of the work you will be doing. Terri Janke’s “Our Culture Our Future” is a good place to start.

• You will work with a wonderful team at this small firm.

• Try to find accommodation close to the office (located in Rosebery) or in the city as public transport to the office is inconsistent and unreliable.

• It is a very friendly and supportive environment so don’t stress limited legal knowledge on this area of law as you will learn quickly
Grafton weather

Temperature
Summer: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 19°C to an average maximum of 44°C
Winter: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 7°C to an average maximum of 21°C

Climate
Grafton has a humid subtropical climate with significantly more rainfall in summer than in winter.

Grafton medical information
Grafton GP Super Clinic
4 Clarence St, Grafton NSW Phone: (02) 6640 3600

Grafton Base Hospital
184 Arthur St, Grafton NSW Phone: (02) 6640 2222

Grafton transport
Bus
The Clarence Valley public bus service/busways covers Grafton. For information about services and routes, see https://transportnsw.info/travel-info/places-to-visit/grafton

Taxis
Grafton Radio Cabs 131 008

Gurehlgam Corp

• Gurehlgam is located on Victoria St, which is on several bus routes.

• Be prepared to be self-directed in your work

• A car is essential for transport to Yarrawarra Aboriginal Cultural Centre at Corindi Beach – it is a very small town.

• If placed at Yarrawarra, it is important to understand that Yarrawarra is a cultural centre/art gallery/conference centre/ cafe, so it is a lot more retail focused than Gurehlgam’s Aboriginal community service focus.
Canberra weather

Temperature
Summer: 20°C to 40°C (average in January is around the high 20s)
Winter: 5°C to 20°C (can be colder during the night)

Climate
Canberra’s climate is fairly moderate, although it can get very cold during the winter. Past interns say you shouldn’t despair about the weather in winter because despite being cold, it’s often sunny. They have suggested just wearing a thermal layer under everything (even work clothes), and to take a good coat. The air is fairly dry (you may want tostock up on lip balm and moisturiser), and as a result the regions around Canberra can be prone to bush fires during the summer months. Between Dec-Feb, it can get very hot and you are likely to get sunburnt if you do not take precautions. There are a couple of rainy seasons around April and November, so it’s a good idea to have an umbrella or raincoat, and there is the occasional snowfall during the winter months.

Canberra tourist information

Tourist office
Canberra Visitors Centre
330 Northbourne Ave, Dickson
Phone: 1300 554 114
Website: www.visitcanberra.com.au

Canberra medical information

Travellers’ Medical and Vaccination Centre
Canberra Hospital
8-10 Hobart Place, Civic
Phone: 02 6257 715 (Appointments essential)

Canberra Hospital Yamba Drive, Garran Phone: 02 6244 2222
Website: www.tmvc.com.au

Canberra transport

In Canberra it is definitely preferable to have either car or a bike, as the public transport is very circuitous and can take a long time. Public transport can also be scarce at night.

Driving is very easy in Canberra – there’s virtually no traffic, even during ‘peak hour’.

Bus
You can use the app NXTbus to check accurate bus arrival times – if travelling to the city from outer suburbs, this will be especially useful.

The main bus interchange is on East Row, Civic. You can get free route maps and timetables from the information kiosk there, or you can buy the Canberra Bus Map (all routes) from newsagents for around $2. You have the option of purchasing a single-trip ticket or a daily ticket (good value if you plan on taking more than two bus trips in a day). Tickets can be pre-purchased from newsagents, or you can buy them from the bus
driver. If using a MyWay card, you will need to upload money at newsagents (there are no pay stations at major bus areas!). Concession fares are only available for Canberra residents.

To find out about buses in Canberra before you leave go to www.action.act.gov.au. If you bus to work, keep in mind that daily bus tickets for full fare if you bus during peak hours (on weekdays before 9:00am, and between 4:30pm-6:00pm) is $7.40, but off-peak is only $4.50 (the rest of the time). BUT if you buy a Faresaver 10 pass, it is $24.50, which comes to $4.90 for 2 trips/day, and that can be used at any time.

You can get a return bus ticket to Sydney for $30 from Murrays if you book a few weeks in advance. This is a very good way to spend a weekend.

**Taxi**
Canberra Cabs: 13 22 27
From the airport
AirLiner Bus: Runs hourly between the airport and the city interchange ($5).
Taxi: Around $18 to the city.

**Bike**
Past interns have stated that it is useful and convenient to bring a bike to Canberra. There is also a great bike path from Lyneham to ANU or the city. Go to www.canberracyclingclub.org.au and select Canberra Bike Path Map Online at bottom left for a good bike path map.

**Food and shopping in Canberra**

**Shopping**
- There are a few Woolworths and Coles supermarkets around, so you shouldn’t have any problems stocking up on groceries. Be mindful that food can be expensive in Canberra.
- The fruit and vegetable markets in Fyshwick and Belconnen are good for cheap fruit and vegetables.
- Canberra Centre (Bunda Street, Civic): The city’s biggest shopping centre, with a range of grocery and department stores. The Canberra Centre has an ALDI on the bottom floor which is the cheapest shop for nonperishable items in Canberra. Just along from ALDI there’s then a Supabarn for better quality fruit/ veg and meat, as well as a dedicated fruit and veg shop which is often chucking out stuff for cheap after 5pm.
- Civic Video is on Lonsdale Street, Braddon (on Civic end): Rent DVDs to non-Canberra residents – you just need a credit card as a deposit.
- If you are a shopper check out the DFO (Designer Fashion Outlet) in Fyshwick. You can pick up some real bargains as buses are fairly frequent both on weekends.
- Electric Shadows bookstore (Mort Street): great and is also next to a very good bakery.
- Make sure you visit Kingston shops at least once while you are in Canberra.
- Landspeed Records (in Civic): one of very few good record stores in Canberra.
- Old Bus Depot Markets (Wentworth Avenue, Kingston): 10am to 4pm Sunday, with lots of arts and crafts in addition to the local foods and wines.
- Silo Bakery (36 Giles Street) in Kingston- amazing bakery! www.silobakery.com.au

**Dining out in Canberra**

Cheap meals
- Fyshwick markets on the weekend to buy food for the week and just for a lovely experience.
• Keep in mind that general living expenses in Canberra, particularly eating out, can be quite expensive. Civic is a good area to wander around if you’re looking for a cheap eatery, and Woolley Street in Dickson has a great range of Asian restaurants. Food Hall, Canberra Centre (Bunda Street, Civic): Easy, quick and cheap.

• If you are sick of the city the Kingston square is the place to be on Friday and Saturday night for dinner and drinks.

• Brodburger (Bowen Park Carpark, Bowen Drive /Wentworth Av, Barton ACT 2604): Incredible burgers that aren’t too pricey. Be wary – VERY popular after about 6:30pm. Lines can be very long after that! www.brodburger.com.au

• Essen Café (opposite the Canberra Centre on Bunda St, Civic): big teapots of good tea for not very much money. The café is also a Canberra icon, being the place where all fresco dining and the café culture was introduced to the capital.

• Kingsland Vegetarian Restaurant (Shop 5, Dickson Plaza, Dickson): We’ll let you guess what type of food they have here. Mains $7.50 to $13.

• Koko Black (Canberra Centre, Civic): Amazing chocolate and hot chocolate – a must for any chocolate lover – ALL interns in Canberra MUST try the hot chocolate affogatos!

• Lemon Grass Thai Restaurant (65 London Circuit, Canberra City).

• Little Saigon (Alinga Street, Civic): Vietnamese food.

• My Café (Franklin Street, Manuka): Popular place for breakfast, and does good lunchtime foccacias and bagels. Mains $8 to $15.

• Old Parliament House also holds an event called ‘Double Happiness’ at Café in the House on a Friday night where they have wood-fired pizzas for $10, chips or wedges for $5, beer $5, glass of wine $5 and spirits are $10. A lot of graduates and interns go straight after work and it has a laid-back atmosphere.

• Portia’s Place in Kingston is the place to go if you want to do some judge/pollie spotting (although, they may be thin on the ground in November/December).

• The Noodle House (Dickson or Northborne Ave, Civic): Well-priced Asian food, amazing laksa and noodles.

• Sammy’s Kitchen (North Quarter, Shop FG09, Canberra Centre, Bunda Street).

• Yum Cha restaurant above the Croatian Club in Deakin. The food is amazing and given it is all you can eat it is fantastic value.

• Croissant D’Or - 33 E Row, the almond croissants are just incredible. They also have a huge range of really cheap pastries and biscuits. A must for macaron lovers.

• The best coffee in Canberra can be had at The Cupping Room on London Circuit.

• Bentspoke Brewing Co is an excellent craft brewery and pub in Braddon. Also, around the corner is Frugii dessert lab which makes intriguing ice cream and sorbet flavours.

• The food co-op in the city is a great place to get cheap and cheerful lunch and coffee.

• Kinn Thai on Bunda street is delicious if you have a moderate budget for the night.

• Penny University is a great spot for brunch in Kingston.

If you’re feeling rich…

• Fringe Benefits Avec Jean-Pierre (54 Marcus Clarke Street, Civic): an award-winning restaurant.
Entertainment in Canberra

Sights

• Canberra Glassworks is a fun place to visit. They have a program called Off the Street where you can pay to do your own bit of creative glasswork with the help of a professional, of course. Prices range from $25–$65, depending on the piece you would like to create. It is located at 11 Wentworth Avenue.

• The High Court of Australia (Parkes Place, Parkes): Another ‘must’ for budding barristers – “It’s Mabo, it’s the Constitution, it’s the vibe”. Free admission. www.hcourt.gov.au

• National Carillon: A 50m high tower in the middle of Aspen Island, housing 53 bronze bells. You can do tours of the tower, and listen to carillon recitals (although you can probably hear these from outside) throughout the week.

• National Gallery of Australia (Parkes Place, Parkes): Houses an extensive collection of Australian art, ranging from traditional Aboriginal art to more recent works by artists such as Arthur Boyd.

• National Library of Australia (Parkes Place, Parkes): Fantastic place to go check out to see the amazing resources you have available at your fingertips. It would probably come in handy during your placement as well. The café at the National Library has great food (the sandwiches are REALLY filling).

• National Sound and Film Archive (McCoy Ct, Acton). The Arc cinema, at the National Film & Sound Archive is cheap ($8 for students) and has a great variety of vintage, foreign and art house films on its programme, which changes regularly. The Arc programming director also gets up before most sessions and does a little spiel on the film you’re about to see, which is entertaining. The archive is also a lovely place for a coffee. www.nfsa.gov.au

• National Portrait Gallery (King Edward Terrace, Parkes). www.portrait.gov.au

• Parliament House www.aph.gov.au is also worth a visit, but don’t go there in a rush because the security lines can be very long.

• If you’re in Canberra at the right time, check out the Multicultural Festival (February) – great fun and lots of people get involved.

• The War Memorial is a must see!

• If you like antiques and Devonshire tea, take a leisurely drive out to Braidwood (about 1.5hrs from Canberra).

• The markets near Canberra Centre are open on Saturdays from 10–4pm. Stalls selling clothes, art, craft and jewellery, but it is also a great place for cheap takeaway (Ethiopian, Hungarian, Chinese, Peruvian, Salvadorian). There are street markets (trash and treasure in Macquarie, old bus depot markes, Kingston markets) where locals sell arts, jewelry, food and other goodies.

• Gorman House and Ainslie Arts Centre host many performances and the restaurant at Gorman House is great for a fancy night (they have a degustation) www.gormanhouse.com.au

• The Canberra Balloon Spectacular! An annual event that occurs every March in Canberra. http://balloonspectacular.com.au

Outdoor

• Australian Institute of Sport (Leverrier Crescent, Bruce): Tours are given by resident athletes where you can learn about the rigorous training regimes and all the chocolate they’re not allowed to eat. The public can swim here when the pool is not being used for training.

• The Botanical Gardens are lovely, lots of native vegetation, you might even see a kangaroo if you’re
lucky (like I was)! There’s a great Eucalyptus Lawn that is perfect for a picnic. Past interns have advised against eating at the café – apparently the food is not great and can be quite expensive.

- **Dickson Aquatic Centre (Cowper St, Dickson).** [www.dicksonaquaticcentre.com.au](http://www.dicksonaquaticcentre.com.au)

- **Lake Burley Griffin:** Located in the centre of Canberra with a 35km shoreline, it’s kind of hard to miss. The Captain Cook Memorial Jet spouts water erratically throughout the day.

- **Climb Mt Ainslie:** Go to the Arboretum and hike up My Ainslie. It’s a good walk and the view is amazing over Canberra (looking straight down to Parliament house). Do it on a clear day for a great view. [https://www.beyondtracks.com/walks/mount-ainslie-nature-reserve/mount-ainslie-summit-walk/](https://www.beyondtracks.com/walks/mount-ainslie-nature-reserve/mount-ainslie-summit-walk/)

- There are plenty of nature reserves to walk through and mountains to walk up. The Cotter and its neighbouring outlets are great places to spend weekends. Gibraltar Falls is also great.

- In the summer buses run to the coast, which is only a couple of hours away, and in the winter the snow fields are open, and again, only a couple of hours away by bus, and I believe packages there can be cheap.


- There are also great swimming spots nearby at Kambah Pools and Casuarina Sands. If swimming in any of these places be careful and take a friend because there are often objects under the water that you can't see.

### Night life in Canberra

#### Cinemas

- **Mainstream:** Various multiplex cinemas are located throughout the suburbs (usually inside the shopping malls).

- **Dendy Canberra Centre (Level 2, North Quarter, Canberra Centre, 148 Bunda Street, Canberra City):** Art house and foreign-language films. Tuesday nights are cheap ticket nights. It is advisable to pre-book your seats on the Dendy website rather than just turning up for a session. Often, especially during the hot summer months, the cinema is sold out, even for a relatively obscure session.

- **Manuka Cinema - $10 tickets regardless of movie, age or day.**

#### Music

- **ANU Union Bar (Union Court, Acton):** Has live bands around 3 days per week, and is a popular venue for big-name touring groups.

- **Canberra Theatre Centre (Civic Square, London Circuit, Civic):** A range of drama and dance productions. [www.canberratheatre.org.au](http://www.canberratheatre.org.au)

- **Front Gallery (2 Wattle St Lyneham) is good for local musicians, art and relaxed drinks.**

- **Tilley's Devine Café Gallery (corner Wattle Street and Brigalow Street, Lyneham):** Great relaxed atmosphere, and offers a range of music, comedy and poetry readings.

- **Transit Bar (7 Akuna St Civic) has some good gigs.**

- The food co-op at ANU often hosts small acoustic gigs which are a great way to meet people.
• Mulgara organises inclusive acoustic, punk and folk gigs and back-yard festivals around Canberra. You can find them on Facebook. [https://www.facebook.com/mulgara/?ref=ts](https://www.facebook.com/mulgara/?ref=ts)

• Smiths Alternative hosts gigs, and has a great selection of books. [http://www.smithsalternative.com/](http://www.smithsalternative.com/)

Bars and nightclubs

• B Bar (Kingston): Chilled bar in Kingston, for a more sophisticated night out.

• Cream (Shop FG10, Bunda Street, Canberra). [www.creamcafebar.com.au](http://www.creamcafebar.com.au)

• Cube (in Petrie Plaza) is probably the best place to go for dancing- it's the local gay club; it plays the best music and doesn't have the sleazy feel of some of the other clubs.

• Debacle (Lonsdale Street, Braddon): A gentrified pub which has good breakfasts and pizzas. Really nice on a Sunday afternoon with some friends.

• Holy Grail (Kingston): The Holy Grail at Kingston (as opposed to Civic) on a Wednesday night, during Parliamentary sitting weeks is where you'll find all the politicians and staffers.

• The Durham (Green Square, Kingston): An English pub, trivia nights on Tuesday, it is fun and a good way to make new friends. (Coming 7th gets better prizes than 1st or 2nd).

• Hippo Bar (17 Garema Place, Canberra City). Chill in the lounge bar where you can listen to jazz and sip your cocktails. [www.hippobar.com.au](http://www.hippobar.com.au)

• The Knightsbridge Hotel (Mort St, Braddon): A cool little bar, interesting artwork and a popular place with the younger crowd. Well worth a visit and a good wine list.

• Lot 33: Nightclub in Kingston.

• Mecca Bah (Manuka Terrace, Shop 25-29, Flinders Way, Manuka).

• Monkey Bar (128 Bunda Street, Civic): A great place for dancing to African and Latin music – mostly reggae and funk, but some other styles thrown in too. This is the place to be if you’re a salsa-lover. Another good venue for Latin is the Holy Grail in Civic (on Friday nights).

• Mooseheads (City Walk, Civic): Rather seedy nightclub, which repeats its music, but is good for what it’s worth (especially if you like older music – e.g. Billy Jean). Similar venues in the area include: ICBM Bar, South Pac (though, this may be closed), Holy Grail and Academy.

• Old Parliament House Drinks: Every Friday after work, in the summer months. This is the place where you'll find all the public service grads.

• The Phoenix (Civic Centre): A little, quirky Irish pub that has regular quiz nights, karaoke and slam poetry nights. Great live music, relaxed atmosphere, chess-playing etc.


• Trinity Bar (28 Challis Street, Dickson): Beer pulled from ceiling-high taps, and a variety of stools and couches to accommodate the various states of inebriation.

• Turner Bowls Club: Often has karaoke nights on Fridays. An ‘interesting’ crowd and a good spot for a lowkey bowl and beer on a Sunday.

• Wig & Pen (corner Alinga Street and West Row, Civic): Lively brewery pub with genuine English ale.

• Ha Ha Bar (102 Emu Bank, Belconnen) has great breakfasts and good after work drinks [www.hahabar.com.au](http://www.hahabar.com.au)

• Check out the Canberra ‘institution’ of Tilleys in Reid (a wonderful wine bar) as well as Parlour in the city (another wonderful wine bar).

• If you like dancing check out Monkey Bar (128 Bunda Street) on a Friday night for latino/salsa night [www.monkeybar.net.au](http://www.monkeybar.net.au)

• The Wig and Pen (Canberra House Arcade, Alinga Street). This is an English-style pub and micro-
Tips from past interns

General

- People in Canberra are really welcoming, so just get in there and make friends. If coming in winter take a good coat (if possible a down jacket) and thermals, as well as a scarf, beanie and gloves. In summer, Canberra can get very hot - it usually cools down at night but staying in a place with a ceiling fan or air conditioning is a great idea.

- Canberra is a great city full of like-minded young people. If coming from a big city it might look quiet and empty, but try and explore and scratch the surface and meet as many people as possible. Try and live in a share house - because that way you will meet others and hopefully be invited to the things they are doing.

- The Facebook page Canberra Sharehousing and Rent is a good place to look for accommodation. You should also check flatmates.com and other facebook groups.

- During the uni breaks, there are a lot of students who go away temporarily, which may provide rooms for accommodation. Try and get in touch through Canberra’s student population.

- One intern noted that they would not recommend staying in Deakin – it’s very quiet and the shops are a fair way away; walking at night isn’t really an option due to poor lighting in the area.

- Canberra is an excellent city for cycling. If you can bring, borrow or cheaply buy a bike, do it. There are plenty of bike paths that don’t involve having to ride on the road and it’s a great way to wake up in the morning and spend some time outside before you’re in an office all day.

- Buses aren’t very frequent in Canberra – they operate twice hourly depending on where you live. Purchase a MyWay travel card from a newsagency. There aren’t any top up machines at bus stations, and the only retailer where you can top up is at a newsagency.

- I was advised not to walk through parks (specifically Haig Park and Glebe Park) at night. The advice came from three separate sources, including one employee of ACTCS who was a former ACT policeman.

- The Australian Institute of Sport has a 50m pool that is a delight to swim in and is relatively close to the city. The problem is it is only open to the public when the AIS swimmers aren’t using it for training – which does lead to some very strange opening times. The AIS website updates the timetable daily.

- If you come in winter the NAIDOC festival will be on and there are lots of celebrations and interesting things to get involved in.

- Thursday night is the cheapest and best night to go out – it’s uni night, so everyone is out from all the campuses and the drinks are cheap. On Saturday nights most places have a cover charge.

- The ANU pop up village is a good spot to meet other students and find cheaper food/drink options.

- Keep an eye out for a free magazine called Canberra Guide (which can be found at some supermarkets - like Woolworths in Dickson) its full of great activities and ideas for evenings and weekends.

- ANU hold a range of public lectures and seminars, most of which are free to attend. Most of them are run during lunch or after 5. Keep an eye out for some fascinating speakers in all subject fields.

- There are many fascinating research institutions, museums and libraries around very relevant to the work you undertake in Aurora Internships that are more than happy to chat to visitors.
• If you like walking and nature at all, bring walking shoes as there is a myriad of lovely parks and mountains in and around Canberra that are very accessible.

• Canberra is within a comfortable bus ride of Sydney, where I spent more than one weekend of my placement.

• Bring thermals and a good coat! It can get quite chilly in Canberra especially in the mornings.

**Aboriginal Justice Centre (AJC)**

• Aboriginal Justice Centre is a small not for profit organisation that comprises of a CEO, three case workers and a secretary. They do not provide a legal service but provide paralegal services to the local community such as Front Up bail programs and interview friends.

• Every day at AJC is casual Friday!

**Australian Indigenous Doctors Association (AIDA)**

• Have a look at the website and past publications so you can understand what the organisation is about, particularly understanding the importance of increasing Indigenous representation in the healthcare workforce and the implications for improving Indigenous health. But it’s not just about training more doctors – AIDA has a really broad range of policy interests.

• Some of the offices are shared between two people, so be prepared for that. I didn't find it too disruptive but was a little surprised when I first arrived.

• The hours at AIDA are very flexible (the office is open 7:00am to 7:00pm) so don’t feel expected to work 9:00am to 5:00pm if you would prefer to come in later or earlier – discuss it with your supervisor.

• You will likely undertake research tasks during your internship. Get involved and ask lots of questions, it is a really nice work environment!

• It’s a really great work environment and everyone is keen to support and help you in learning and also in daily activities so I would just say to really get involved and ask a lot of questions.

**Australian Indigenous Governance Institute (AIGI)**

• Tasks undertaken by past communication interns have included:
  
  o Designed a communication and digital engagement strategy
  o Designed surveys, workshop evaluation forms, stakeholder engagement feedback forms, toolkit survey
  o Designed a flyer
  o Assisted with event prep and management.

• Take initiative to help out other employees when possible – you may need to work on other tasks while your supervisor goes over your drafts so it’s good to keep busy. You'll usually be working on one main project so try to take opportunities to go to events and seminars hosted by ANU that can give you a bit of time off.

• Don’t get involved in the office politics!

• Most of your time will be sitting in front of a computer screen so try to stretch and take breaks. The AIGI staff love to go for coffee breaks when they can so join in and get to know everyone. They’re all really friendly!

**Australian Indigenous Leadership Centre (AILC)**
• The AILC is very inaccessible without a car, but they provide a travel allowance. Past interns recommend ensuring you have access to a car or make personal lift arrangements to get to the AILC prior to your placement commencing. Aside from the inaccessibility of the AILC by public transport/bike/bus, the location of the Centre is completely picturesque.

• Fairly relaxed dress code (but no jeans).

• Expect to undertake research tasks at AILC, and assist with events.

• The office is located by the lake, which is beautiful, however, there is no bus route and it’s difficult to ride to, so best to have your own transport.

Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS)

• Check which office you will be working at before you start - there is one in Acton and one in Civic. An easy way to figure out which one is to look at your supervisor’s email signature, otherwise simply confirm which office you will be based in with your supervisor. Be aware that (as of August 2018) they’re currently completing renovations at the Acton site.

• The Childers St office is close to many food options and supermarkets. You will be placed here if you’re in the Native Title Research Unit or Intangible Cultural Heritage Unit. The office is social and welcoming so be prepared to get involved with things like social club lunches and prep your brain for lunchtime trivia.

• Sometimes interns have access to AIATSIS’ free parking.

• Workplace dress code is smart casual.

• Interns at AIATSIS can get a staff discount at Cuiseum (the National Museum’s café) by presenting their AIATSIS staff card, however the food is still quite expensive and there are not many healthy options. Ask your supervisor about the library tour and the “snack shack” for a sugar hit when you get 3.30-itis.

• Show an interest in the people you are working with – you’ll be amazed by their experiences and knowledge. Get involved in as much as you can and be pro-active about attending events hosted by AIATSIS.

• Be prepared to hit the ground running. Be ready to work hard. AIATSIS is basically run by self-motivated, autonomous staff members. They expect you to be the same.

• There is no ATM near the AIATSIS office in Acton or at the museum so you will need cash or bring your own lunch – there’s not much accessible without a car. Mocan and Green Grout is a great little café close by.

• You can’t download uni databases on the office computers, but there are facilities for you if you bring your laptop. Also, it may be a good idea to bring your property law notes on native title for reference.

• Canberra is fairly easy to get around, but make sure you check out the buses before you choose where to stay, as there is only one bus that comes to AIATSIS (#3) and you may find yourself catching three buses to work.

• Consider bringing a bike as it may be quicker to ride. There are spots around the office where you can leave your bike. AIATSIS staff use electric bikes to travel between the two offices.

• In Acton: at lunch you could go for a walk or run around the lake (there are showers in the office) or go to the museum.
• Brush up on your research and IT skills as a lot of the legal work is research based. You will do a lot of reading on this placement.

• AIATSIS may give you the opportunity to attend retreats or workshops. It is highly recommended to take these opportunities if presented to you.

**Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW)**

• You will likely undertake research- and data-based tasks during your placement. Expect to do a lot of research, reading and writing.

• Be prepared to work independently.

• Speak to your supervisor about getting involved in all aspects of your placement, including attending conferences, group meetings etc, quite early in your placement. Ask about other unit areas and the work they do, individually and collectively.

• Always seek feedback. Schedule weekly meetings with your supervisor to talk about weekly progress, if they are available. Don’t be shame to ask questions! See if you can shadow them to learn more about the work they are doing and how they are contributing to AIHW.

• It helps to know where you sit in the organisation – request an organisational chart to help to remember names and roles. It’s also a good idea to send an introductory email to the team you will be working with so they know who you are.

• Definitely branch out to other units and with the approval of your supervisor try to spend a day with that unit and gain experience of how their position plays an important role in the organization.

**Australian Capital Territory Corrective Services (ACTCS)**

• Be flexible, approachable, professional, polite, and ready to help with anything. You can never prepare yourself entirely for some situations so ‘going with the flow’ might be the best advice.

• There is actually a YHA Backpackers on the same block as ACTCS so if you are from out of town this may be the cheapest and closest option.

• Interns will need to bring lunch with them or if they have a car, they are able to drive into the city or surrounding suburbs for lunch.

• Parking is available near the offices of ACTCS - Eclipse House, 197 London Circuit, Canberra. Currently $13.50 for all day, or $11 in Canberra Centre (Shopping Centre), or you can park for free near the War Memorial and enjoy a 20 minute walk to the offices.

• Organise to visit the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) and the Court Transport Unit (CTU) and get full tours as early as possible in your internship. Things take a little while to get organised and seeing the AMC is really essential to fully grasping what your role entails if you are working anywhere in Corrective Services.

• Tasks undertaken by past interns include:
  - Writing case notes and drafting documents
  - Speaking to detainees and collating contact information for family invites
  - Administrative assistance and event prep
  - Data entry.

• Branch out to other units and with the approval of your supervisor, try to spend a day with that unit and gain experience of how their position plays an important role in the organisation.

• Reach out to other interns placed in Canberra, as you will likely be the only intern placed at ACTCS!
Australian Indigenous Governance Institute (AIGI)

• The Australian Indigenous Governance Institute (AIGI) sits within the National Centre of Indigenous Studies (NCIS).

Centre for Aboriginal Economic Policy Research (CAEPR)

• Do try and talk to the different staff at the Centre about what they are working on. Being a multi-disciplinary centre, the scope of the work which is performed is amazing. Everyone is really easy going and happy to have a chat over a cup of coffee.

• The weekly morning teas are invaluable to learn about the incredibly talented staff members around you, and you can hear many interesting conversations. Also, definitely take advantage of all the amazing talks and seminars going on!

• They generally receive social and anthropology interns but it is also an great placement for legal interns as well. It is an excellent opportunity to gain experience outside of a law firm. Further, it showed me the ways in which law can apply in the real world outside of problem solving and litigation. The opportunities you are afforded at CAEPR are invaluable, especially for legal students uncertain about their future career.

• Expect to undertake research tasks.

• Engage with the staff at CAEPR - they are lovely and have broad experience and research into many different areas (particularly the PhD students)

National Centre for Indigenous Genomics (NCIG)

• Be prepared to ask questions as well as work independently. The staff are wonderful and really happy to help.

• Being placed at NCIG means being placed in ANU. It is worth checking if there are any interesting public lectures or other uni events on during your placement.

• There is often also student or visitor accommodation at ANU or around Canberra, especially in the summer when many college students go home.

National Centre for Indigenous Studies (NCIS)

• Good cafés at ANU are Vanilla Bean, located at the John Curtin School of Medical Research (in a very cool looking building), and the Gods Café at Hedley Bull Centre (both close to NCIS). Both are a bit on the expensive side though.

• Be prepared to work individually and to self-motivate. Arrive with no expectations, and be prepared to do a number of different tasks.

• Parking at ANU is a serious issue – the easiest thing to do is catch the bus.

• The Australian Indigenous Governance Institute (AIGI) sits within the National Centre of Indigenous Studies (NCIS). While I was formally placed as an intern within the NCIS, my internship involved working primarily for the AIGI.

• The staff at the NCIS are welcoming and supportive, it’s like joining a family for a month. There are lots of research opportunities in this space as well. Get to know everyone in the office, especially the PhD candidates (who you will most likely be working near). Say yes to every social opportunity that is offered.
The work is mainly research-focused and much of your project will be self-determined and motivated. The Centre often has visiting scholars and researchers, so take any and all opportunities to broaden your networks. The NCIS is also a friendly and welcoming organisation.

The NCIS is a diverse, multidisciplinary organisation that is particularly suited to students with interests in the Indigenous sector.

**National Science and Technology Centre (Questacon)**

- A student’s dream placement.
- Previous intern’s tasks included: preparation and planning for future shows, Indigenous engagement strategies/timeline, and many other smaller tasks.
- There are two offices – one in Deakin and one in Parkes. If you don’t have a car, it can be challenging travelling between the two as buses do not run often. You may need to rely on your co-workers.

**Reconciliation Australia (RA)**

- There are 4 different outreach branches of RA:
  1. The RAPs program establishes accountability programs with Australian businesses to increase their engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures
  2. The Narragunnawali program establishes accountability programs within Australian schools and early learning services to increase their engagement (curricular and otherwise) with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, and with the local indigenous communities
  3. The IGAs run an awards program to incentivise and reward businesses with Indigenous leadership and workforces that do positive work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities
  4. The Policy program commissions and reports on a wide range of research regarding the state of reconciliation within Australia

- The front entrance is downstairs, below the entrance to the Museum of Australian Democracy, with a doorbell you need to ring to be let in.

- Be prepared for other roles that might come up in the middle of your current project.

- The Café in House (Old Parliament House café) offers a discount to staff in the building, so make sure you mention you work there when getting a coffee.

- Recommend learning as much as possible about the organisation before starting, and to contact your supervisor and ask for readings to do before you start. This might include learning more about reports they have recently released, what kind of activities they are currently involved in and any information they need to know beforehand.

- When arriving it really helps to pay close attention to peoples and names and importantly their roles within the organisations because these people will be your lifeline in the following weeks. Often you will need to talk to others about contacts or to learn more information about projects they are working on.

- It is a good idea to pack lunches as it is a great way to socialise when eating in the common room and the food courts are very expensive. There are limited options for buying food around, so most staff members bring their own lunch.

- Be sure to say yes to every opportunity placed your way. This can include attending meetings, going to morning tea meet and greets, going to museum exhibitions with your supervisor or other cultural events.

- Working with Reconciliation Australia is as much about gaining a greater cultural understanding of
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures as it is about learning about policies and papers. Building relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians is what Reconciliation Australia does.

- Though the majority of RA staff drive to work at Old Parliament House, it is easily accessible by public transport. Buy a MyWay card (like a Go Card) as soon as possible because bus fares are significantly more expensive without one. As the office is so accessible by public transport, past interns have recommended finding accommodation further away from the office (perhaps in Civic, New Acton etc.) so that the food and social options are vastly improved whilst still making it easy to get to and from work. Parking is expensive and not really necessary.

- It’s very easy to get to because it’s in the inner south. There are a lot of buses that go past there and you can even walk there from the city if you want to.
Victoria

Victoria organisations

Melbourne

Temperature
Summer: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 20°C to an average maximum of 35°C
Winter: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 5°C to an average maximum of 20°C
The weather in Victoria is fairly moderate, although it can get quite cold during the winter (particularly in the more alpine areas). It tends to be unpredictable, and you may experience all four seasons over the course of one day, so it is a good idea to bring a range of clothing with you!

Melbourne tourist information

Tourist office
Melbourne Visitor Centre
Federation Square, corner Swanston and Flinders Streets
Phone: 03 9658 9658
Website: www.thatsmelbourne.com.au

Melbourne medical information

Alfred Hospital
Commercial Road, Prahran
Phone: 03 9276 2000

Royal Melbourne Hospital
Grattan Street, Parkville
Phone: 03 9342 7000

Melbourne transport

Trams
Melbourne has a fairly extensive tram system within the city. You can buy tickets from the machines on the trams (warning: they only take coins!). The ‘normal’ ticket is the two-hour one, which can be used for multiple trips within two hours of the point of initial validation (although your ticket needs to be validated for each trip). All-day tickets are also available. Tickets can also be purchased from newspaper stands, train stations and buses (although some of these won’t sell short-trip tickets). The prices of tickets vary depending on the number of zones you travel through, and tickets can be used on trams, buses and trains. For timetables and fare information, visit the Met Shop (Town Hall, Swanston Street). www.metlinkmelbourne.com.au

Trains
For timetables, routes and fare information visit www.connexmelbourne.com.au

Bus
These generally cover areas not covered by trams – hospitals, universities, and the outer suburbs.
Taxi

The main taxi ranks are outside Flinders Street and Spencer Street Train Stations.
Embassy: 13 17 55
Silver Top: 13 10 08

From the airport

SkyBus: Runs a 24-hour shuttle service between the airport and the Spencer Street coach terminal. You can buy tickets from the driver or at the bus stop (around $16 one-way or $26 return concessions). Check website for more details - www.skybus.com.au

Taxi: Will cost you around $50 (depending on traffic).

Food and shopping in Melbourne

Groceries

• Shopping is one of Melbourne’s major draw cards, particularly its extensive array of markets. You shouldn’t have any problem finding a Woolworths or Coles supermarket.

• Coles Express (2 Elizabeth Street, City): 24 hour groceries.

• Prahran Market (177 Commercial Road, Prahran): Open from dawn Tuesday, Thursday – Saturday. Stocks fresh fruit and vegetables, plus a range of delicatessen cheeses, meats and breads.

Dining out in Melbourne

Cheap meals

• There are so many places to eat out in Melbourne – our advice is to have a wander around and see what looks good! Check out Chinatown (Little Bourke Street, between Swanston and Spring Streets) for a huge range of Asian (and other) restaurants.

• Blue Train Café (mid-level, Southgate): Excellent pasta and wood-fired pizza, served by hot waiters (mains $6 to $18).

• Crossways (123 Swanston Street): All-you-can-eat lunch for $6, with free background chanting.

• Degraves Espresso Bar (23 Degraves Street): FANTASTIC coffee. Food also available (mains $7 to $15). Or you could just have more coffee.

• The French Quarter Patisserie (568 Queensberry Street and Fandango at 96 Errol Street): Great coffee and sandwiches.

• Gluttony, It’s a Sin (278 Smith Street, Collingwood): Come here for a huge breakfast (it’ll save you spending money on food for the rest of the day!). Breakfast: $5 to $13.

• Red Emperor (upper level, Southgate): Awesome yum-cha with great views (dishes $4 to $8).

• Yamato (28 Corrs Lane): Popular budget Japanese restaurant (mains $6 to $16). Good food with bad background music.

• Vegie Bar (380 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy): Good value and excellent vegetarian food (mains $3 to $10).

• There is a take-away sushi and rice paper roll store on Erroll st next to Baker’s Delight, it’s cheap and healthy!

• If you get the opportunity, be sure to visit CERES Environment Park in Brunswick - it is a dump that has been rejuvenated and turned into a community garden/farm/education space/multi cultural safe space and has delicious coffee.

If you’re feeling rich...

• Jimmy Watson's Wine Bar (333 Lygon Street): Extensive wine list with various types of European food. A great place for people-watching.

Entertainment in Melbourne
Sights

• There are loads of markets scattered around Melbourne. www.visitvictoria.com

• Arts Precinct (St Kilda Road, east of Southbank): The area containing most of Melbourne’s ‘high art’. Includes the National Gallery of Victoria (180 St Kilda Road) and the Melbourne Concert Hall (100 St Kilda Road). For tickets, ring Ticketmaster (13 61 00).

• Camberwell Market (Station Street, Camberwell): REALLY cheap ‘trash and treasure’ market.

• Melbourne Zoo (Elliot Avenue, Parkville): Australia’s oldest zoo, with arguably the most genuine and humane enclosures in terms of animal welfare.

• Queen Victoria Market: Definitely check this one out, even if you’re not interested in shopping. If you’ve forgotten to learn how to cook, the markets run cooking classes where you can learn how to BBQ kangaroo. If you’re there between November and February, the night markets are also open on Wednesdays (5.30pm to 10pm).

• Old Melbourne Gaol (Russell Street): Dark and spooky, and the place where Ned Kelly was hanged. If you really feel like scaring yourself, have a look at the death masks, from which phrenologists tried to work out which facial characteristics indicated that a person was ‘bad’.

• Queen Victoria Market (corner Elizabeth Street and Victoria Street): Open from 6am Tuesday, Thursday – Saturday. Stocks everything – cheap clothes, shoes, souvenirs, pet supplies, and provides endless opportunities for impulse purchasing.

Festivals and events
For information regarding upcoming events, get a ‘What’s On’ list from the Melbourne visitor centre or its website. Here are some of the annual highlights:

• January: International Jazz Festival.

• January: Australian Open.

• April: Melbourne International Comedy Festival.

• June: NAIDOC week - During winter placement take advantage of the NAIDOC week and try to get to some of the free events like movie screenings, live plays or musical performances.

• July: Melbourne International Film Festival.

• September: AFL Grand Final.

• September: Melbourne Fringe Festival.

• November: Melbourne Cup.

Check Eventbrite to see what networking or professional development workshops might be on while you’re a local.

Nightlife in Melbourne
Cinema

• Astor (corner Chapel Street and Dandenong Road, East St Kilda): Art house and cult classic. Often does cheap double-bill nights.
• Palace Cinemas also show art house and independent film. www.palacecinemas.com.au
  Hoyts/Greater Union/Village: Several screens around the city. There’s a big complex on the corner of Bourke Street and Russell Street.

Comedy
• Butterfly Club (204 Bank Street, South Melbourne): Comedy and wacky cabaret.
• Comedy Club (188 Collins Street): Melbourne’s main comedy venue, with a variety of Australian and international acts.

Music
• Check out Half-Tix (Town Hall, City): They sell half-price tickets to concerts on the day of the performance.
• Art house (corner Elizabeth and Queensbury Streets): The place to come for alternative Australian music—a popular venue for death metal bands.
• Bennetts Lane Jazz Club (25 Bennetts Lane, City): Popular with regulars in the Melbourne jazz crowd.
• The Corner (57 Swan Street, Richmond): Local and international live acts.
• Evelyn Hotel (351 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy): Live local and international indie bands.

Bars and nightclubs
• Laundry (50 Johnston Street, Fitzroy): DJs playing a range of techno and funk.
• Madame Brussells (Level 3, 59 Bourke Street): There is fake grass and a garden fence inside the bar, cocktails come in jugs!
• Metro Nightclub (20-30 Bourke Street City): HUGE 3-level club with 8 bars and 2 dance floors with music ranging from 70s to contemporary pop.
• The Order (opposite RMIT on Swanston Street): Cool and relaxed student hang out.
• Phoenix (82 Flinders Street, City): Come here to check out the safari theme (if that’s your thing).
• Standard Hotel (293 Fitzroy Street, Fitzroy): Laid-back pub with good food and live music.

Tips from past interns

General
• If you have a smartphone you can download the TramTracker app that will tell you when trams come timetable and provide maps for all of Melbourne. You can also use public transport website for other transport information and timetables: www.ptv.vic.gov.au/timetables
• Trams are the best option to travel in Melbourne (though trains are faster but often cancel and there are fewer between them).
• Download the Public Transport Victoria App on your phone. It will be a life saver! Also, apps such as Urbanspoon and Broadsheet are great for getting ideas about where to eat and things to do while in Melbourne.
• If you’re travelling five days a week, it is cheaper to invest in a Myki pass. This gives you unlimited public transport for the desired number of weeks, meaning you get cheaper fares and you don’t have to worry about insufficient funds on your myki card.
• It would be worth staying close to the organisation as public transport can become a bit expensive particularly if you need to catch two forms of transport twice a day.
Most of the old pubs also have accommodation, and if you contact them they're more like to give you a discount if you tell them you're a student. It's a lot cheaper than the other hotels/motels around the area. The Exchange Hotel was quite decent in terms of location and accommodation. For example The Royal hotel and Exchange hotel are very cheap options but you have to call them to book.

The Darlot is a great place to stay. Mention that you are a university student and on a placement and you may get a good deal for a long term stay.

Check out the Yanga track along the Wimmera River, it is a great way to spend a quite Sunday and you will learn a lot about the native bush tucker and medicines along the way as they are planted all along the track. The Wimmera River region is a gorgeous place with lots of natural wonder activities to keep you busy on the weekends, including visits to the Little Desert, Halls Gap, Gariwerd, Gulgurn Manja (little hands), Bunji’s cave rock art sites, among many others. Mt Arapilales is also very close by, as is Lake Hindmarsh, Pink Lake and Lake Tyrell.

Brunswick is a great and relatively affordable area to stay when down in Melbourne, it also features Sydney Rd which has some awesome eateries, bars, live music venues and gives a taste of Melbourne’s diversity

**Aboriginal Victoria (AV) – formerly Office of Aboriginal Affairs Victoria**

- You will likely undertake research tasks at AV.
- It can get very busy in the office. Your willingness to take on any task will help gain the trust of your supervisors to undertake more challenging work.
- The supervisors are really happy for you to ask questions and follow directions. Sometimes they will be busy and take a little moment to get back to you or give you jobs, be patient and resourceful, they are always aware and thinking up jobs for you.
- The area is really central to Melbourne and the staff will take you to their favourite haunts to help you get to know the area (so make sure you bring money to work!)

**Agreements, Treaties and Negotiated Settlements Project (ATNS)**

- The ATNS is an academic setting, so go into it with expectations of being behind a desk and not going out into remote Indigenous communities, and you will enjoy the internship a lot more. Make the most of all the valuable resources available to you while you are there. The people are lovely and willing to answer any questions you have about the project or Native Title.
- ATNS is located within the University of Melbourne, Carlton. Location is very close to the city. It is just a short tram ride from Melbourne Central Station along Swanson Street, getting off at Lincoln Square. Lincoln Square is also a great place to get a breath of fresh air on your lunch break - so if it’s a sunny day be sure to pack a lunch to eat in the park. It is also just a short walk from Lygon Street which has the best Italian food in Melbourne and also a short walk in the opposite direction to the Vic Market where you can pick up cheap fruit veg and meat. There is no shortage of good coffee in the area.
- Tasks undertaken by past have included:
  - Summarising consent determinations from the Federal Court of Australia and the National Native Title Extracts and putting them into plain language.
  - Data entry
  - Research
  - Assisting with administration.
• Try to talk to people in the organisation even if they are not in your time. Sometimes work events may not directly relate but go and see what else they offer you.

• ATNS is located within the University of Melbourne, Carlton - I think it would be a lot clearer to have this up front.

Barengi Gadjin Land Council Aboriginal Corporation (BGLC)

• The BGLC office is now in Warr, which is about a 20 min drive from Horsham and 10 min from Dimboola. It just means that you need to be a bit more organised in terms of bringing lunch and arranging lifts than when the office was in Horsham.

• Dress code is neat casual, jeans are fine.

• Be prepared to doing some pretty boring things day in and day out. Otherwise, try to keep a positive attitude and be open to connecting with your co-workers.

• If work is looking slow take your own initiative to undertake research or native title related activities, BGLC won’t mind and will be happy for suggestions. Anthropologists/archaeologists will be incredibly well looked after by RAP Manager Darren Griffin.

• We did have the opportunity to go out into the field a fair bit. I am not sure if this is normal for BGLC interns, but it would be a good idea to bring hiking boots and work clothes or similar.

• There are a few things to do in Horsham after work. It’s not a very lively place after dark, but there’s quite a strong pub culture there, and if you can get a local to show you around it’s really fun. If you don’t drive, it might be hard to explore the area. You’ll probably have to stick to staying around town, but there’s a great arts centre and there’s also a cinema. The food is quite good there also.

• Make sure you take initiative to join in and show an interest in a variety of activities. I decided to have a research day trip out to a historical society in Birchip and so took the initiative of organising it, and took a TO and another intern along with me, these ideas are welcome.

• Use flatmates.com if possible!!! this was not an option listed already in the handbook of available accom in Horsham but once I thought of it I was so glad I did!! living with other people (Horsham locals) made such a difference - I learnt so much from them and it made the general transition into a new place much easier!

• Join the gym!! I usually hate exercise but joining Horsham YMCA was honestly a highlight, I made so many friends there and it really made me feel like part of this place.

First Nations Legal & Research Services (FNLS) – formerly Native Title Services Victoria

• The 57 tram (which runs from opposite Flinders Street Station at Elizabeth Street), past the Victoria Market) runs directly outside the door of FNLS/NNTC.

• The North Melbourne train station is located quite far from the central streets of North Melbourne – but walkable distance. If you have access to a bus or tram that will take you to North Melbourne, this will generally be an easier means of getting to FNLS than walking from the train station.

• Parking is quite difficult around FNLS. There are a number of 4 hour paid parks just outside the office, so you can park there and move your car every 4 hours (which some of the staff do). There are free all day parking spots about a 10-15 minute walk away from the office on Munster Avenue. There are also free 3
hour parks on Queensberry Street.

- FNLRs has its own handbook for interns. If your supervisor doesn't offer it upon your arrival, ask to see if it's still in use and have a look through.

- Office attire is generally very casual with the only rule being no jeans. The legal team tends to dress more "smart casual". Staff generally start work at 8.30am and finish at 4.30pm or they start at 9am and finish at 5pm.

- Carefully read the information in the handbook, native title is an extremely complicated area of the law and any background knowledge is extremely helpful.

- Try to read up on relevant legislation and get your head around acronyms, etc as soon as possible, particularly if your internship is in a different jurisdiction to where you studied.

- It is important to thoroughly understand both Indigenous Land Use Agreement and Land Use Activity Agreements.

- Legal interns should consider getting a copy of Native Title in Australia, 3rd Edition by Richard Bartlett (or another leading text) well before undertaking their placement. Native title law (particularly future acts in different states) is complex. I would encourage interns to study as much as possible prior to undertaking their internship.

- Take a look at the websites for the current governance organisations/land councils who are managing their native title rights. These groups are integral to the success and continued operation of FNLRs and their legitimacy in Victoria. Check out the website and find out more information about the Federation of Traditional Owners as they have just merged with FNLRs formally (https://fvtoc.com/), and also check what's happening in the Koori News or other local VIC Aboriginal news to see what the policy team might be dealing with. The FNLRs team is relatively small and they enjoy having a chat about current issues that the community are facing.

- Other recommended readings:
  - Richard Bartlett's 'Native Title in Australia' is a good resource.
  - Nick Duff writes a lot of good stuff in the native title arena too.
  - I would also recommend that interns browse the websites of the prescribed body corporates - in Vic, the Dja Dja Wurrung Clans Aboriginal Corporation is a good one. Further, in Victoria, the Traditional Owner Settlement Act is really important, and I was completely unaware of its existence prior to my internship. I would highly recommend looking at the 2013 Dja Dja Wurrung settlement to understand what's available under it.

- It is likely you will end up completing some administrative tasks.

- Learn the names of all staff & get involved socially with the lawyers. Have conversations with various staff members at any opportunity. I gained a lot from asking staff how they came to be in the position that they were in order to gain more information as to what possible pathways I can take in the future.

- Make sure you introduce yourself to everyone, find out what they are working on and if they need help. Don't be a wallflower as people are so busy it's best not to expect that work will land on your desk. It often does but it's still best to get out there and quietly and politely let yourself be known. Chat to people in the tea room, say hi to people as you walk past them in the hall. Everyone is absolutely lovely and happy to chat so get involved. And if you're asked if you can do a piece of work say yes and figure the rest out later.

- Don't always expect to be told exactly what to do and be hand-held the whole way. You should take the lead and check with your supervisor regularly but not too much. Be proactive in seeking advice or direction as FNLRs has a very autonomous working culture. If you don't have much work to do, ask other people working in your team if there is anything you can do to help them.

- Make it known early in your placement if you are interested in attending an On Country or claim group
meeting. This allows more time and opportunity for organising a trip.

- Office is close to the Victoria Market so can always pop out for lunch.

- About two blocks from FNLRS is Errol Street, which has a wide range of cafes and restaurants, with a wide range of cuisine: sandwiches and foccacias, sushi and other Japanese food, Chinese food, fish and chips, bakeries, pasta, and so on. The range of options on Errol Street is enough to justify not bringing in lunch some days.

- Lunch time is flexible between 30 minutes and 1 hour so there is time to go to Errol Street and make it back. Taking a 5-10 minute walk before the end of lunch is a good idea, to get fresh air and stretch your legs.

- Most people bring their lunches and eat in the lunch room (which has full kitchen facilities so you can always bring a hot lunch to reheat). If you don’t bring lunch it is good to get takeaway and eat in the lunch room because the lunch room is lots of fun when everyone is there eating together. There are plenty of newspapers and most days we would do the Age/Sun Herald quiz at around 12:30/1:00pm. Having lunch in the office does allow for you to get to know other staff members that you may not work with otherwise, this helps in creating good relationships and networks.

- The coffee shop directly opposite FNLRS is the coffee “hangout” for FNLRS staff.

- If you can have a bike in the city then that’s really handy! FNLRS can basically be accessed via the Capital City bike trail! I wish I had known this at the beginning of my placement, as riding along Queensberry St can be a little scary.

- Always take your rain coat and sunscreen with you in Melbourne!

- There are usually lots of interns, seek them out for advice and share your experiences.

- During the winter months the Queen Victoria Markets (5 min walk from office) runs on a Wednesday evening from 5pm-11pm

- Eat lunch in the large kitchen upstairs - that’s how I got to know the historians and anthropologists, and the people working at the Federation of Victorian Traditional Owners.

**Foundation for Young Australians (FYA)**

- Take initiative and ask for work, but understand that slow days can happen.

- For cheap accommodation – try to stay with friends or family or in a share house. Or, if your placement is during uni holidays, check with universities for available rooms.

- Try to bulk cook a meal that will last you the full week and take a packed lunch. This can help ensure you have the weekend to yourself.

**National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heath and Wellbeing Research Ltd (Lowitja)**

- The organisation is located in Carlton (therefore near Lygon St and the University of Melbourne). Staying anywhere near Carlton and the CBD would be ideal. It is also only about a 12 minute walk from Parliament Station, otherwise the trams down Swanston St are only two blocks away.

- Be prepared to work hard, but know that you will be completely supported by everyone at the organisation. Leila and the team will treat you as any staff member, and give you the opportunity to truly thrive with varied, exciting and interesting tasks. Don’t be afraid to ask for help, everyone is more than willing to support you, and it is very much a team based organisation. You will not be simply entering data (okay, maybe once or twice) and collecting coffee for others during this internship.
• There is a very interesting book that Lowitja made called Changing the Narrative.

• Lowitja consists of four CRCs “Cooperative Research Centres that are an Australian Federal Government program” and has been funded over four rounds.

• The Carlton Gardens is a beautiful place to eat lunch, go for a walk or get some sun/peace and quiet.

**National Native Title Council (NNTC)**

• Interns at NNTC should bring their own laptop.

• Ask as many questions about native title as you can during your placement & make sure you do some pre-reading - these will maximise your learning experience.

• NNTC placements are a research-based organisation. It is a 9-5pm office-based research internship with little guidance and that it does not involve many hours outside the office. The NNTC usually only has 2 staff members, one of whom works in Western Australia – so there is only one person in the Melbourne NNTC. On my placement there was a third staff member who is there on a contract to manage a specific project. Be prepared for a lot of independent, autonomous work which doesn't involve much interaction or meetings with other people. This can become a bit lonely, but as you work in the FNLRs office there are people around to reach out to, so take advantage of that!

• Don’t be afraid to ask questions, or ask for more work, from your supervisors even if they are not in the office.

• There is going to be a lot of policy/research work and probably no time on country... although you will get to go to NAIDOC week events (during winter placement), which was amazing.

• At lunch time it is great to head up to the lunch room upstairs and involve yourself in the lunch time quiz. This will allow you to meet FNLRs staff and get involved. Doing this allowed me to make great friendships with the interns at FNLRs and be invited to FNLRs's social events, such as the Christmas party (during summer placement).

• I would encourage interns to reach out to industry experts and academics for guidance. When I found myself stuck in directing my research, it was a scholar I had emailed that ended up providing the exact information I needed to guide the rest of my study.

• Doing some reading on the NNCTC and the bodies they work with is a good idea. It can be hard to group your head around some of the terminology if you haven’t been exposed to it before.

**Secretariat of National Aboriginal and Islander Child Care (SNAICC)**

• The 112 West Preston tram will take you right to SNAICC (Stop 22) on the corner of St Georges Rd and Scotchmer St, as will Tram 11 or 9. One place to catch these trams is Macarthur St (Stop 10), a short walk from Parliament Station.

• If driving there is some free street parking near SNAICC. A few of the staff cycle to work.

• If finances are tight SNAICC has a fridge, microwave and other equipment available, so you can take your own lunch to work.

• There are well known bakeries, Loafer and Dench, along with many other cafes and a supermarket in Fitzroy North.

• Most staff wear smart casual or relaxed business attire.

• Go to Tinpot for coffee. Tinpot has an open fire which you can warm yourself up with while waiting for
coffee during winter. Loafer and Dench have great pastries to accompany your coffee. Go for a walk in Edinburgh Gardens during your lunch break (very close to the SNAICC office).

- There’s a lot of office work done in the placement. Be ready to stay in the office in front of a computer all day. Take some time to enjoy Melbourne! There are lots of Festivals in January/February you can go to and if you get a chance, go to Mornington Peninsula - it's beautiful (though you really would appreciate it best if you have access to a car). There are heaps of Groovy places to chill out in Fitzroy, Northcote and the area.

- Don’t be afraid to ask questions! As interns, we are there to learn and assist as much as possible. Be curious. We can’t be expected to know everything.

- Organisation would is key-especially if you haven’t undertaken full time work before. Getting into that routine with food and sleep is going to help you along the six weeks. Making an effort with the social side of things earlier on is also something that is going to allow for a more enjoyable and sustainable experience. And lastly, don’t be afraid to ask.

- Ask to attend training/workshops that are provided by the SNAICC training team. It was a great to see the types of services that SNAICC provides, outside of its research and policy development.

**Victoria Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO)**

- The office is just off Smith Street. The route 86 tram stops almost outside the street VACCHO is on so public transport is really easy to use when getting to work. If you do drive, finding all day parking can be tough.

- VACCHO is a very welcoming and friendly organisation, the office is buzzing with conversations and collaborative work. At times I found it hard to concentrate on my own work, easily getting distracted by the comings and goings and chatter around me, a good set of headphones easily fixed this problem, I would suggest you bring some along. It is hard to predict who will be in the office from day to day, with lots of external meetings and site visits.

- People are very friendly and will happily have a chat in the kitchen about what they do at work or even on a weekend. The staff at VACCHO are the organisation’s greatest asset. VACCHO is in a great building with amazing facilities, and most staff bring in their lunch or prepare it at work. The informal conversations I had in the lunchroom and bumping into people in the corridors gave me a lot of perspective in working in the Indigenous sector.

- It’s totally acceptable to go for a walk or lunch break. Nobody expects you to be tied to your desk 9am-5pm every day. If you are hitting a mental block, go for a walk or find some lunch. Staring at the computer screen for hours on end is counterproductive.

- Try to maintain a social life. It’s easy to want to continue the work outside of the office, and neglect your friends. This can lead to burnout. Go do something fun and social as often as you can outside of internship hours.

- If you are feeling uncomfortable working in the middle of a large open space office, bring along a pot plant to put on your desk.

- Collingwood is a great area for food, coffee and sights; however, being in the inner north it can be quite expensive. It is worth putting aside a little money and using it to explore the cafes in the area, which are generally laid back with very local traffic.

- That said, there are some cheap high-quality meal options, like sushi and banh mi rolls.

- Make the most of walking to and from the city, over to Fitzroy and Carlton, and even to Abbotsford and the Yarra Bend Park (about 2km walk).

- Try and speak to the staff. Many people at VACCHO have incredible life experiences.
Victoria Aboriginal Legal Services (VALS) - No longer hosting

- VALS is located close to Brunswick Street and Smith Street – both full of character and featuring plenty of cafes, bars and interesting shops. Public transport via trams or buses is easy to negotiate, and VALS is about 15 minutes from the city by tram.
- French Lettuce Café on Nicholson Street has nice coffee and pastries.
- Vegie Bar on Brunswick Street is a lunchtime favourite with VALS staff, with decently priced, filling meals.
- Placement there was a third staff member who is there on a contract to manage a specific project. An advise to future interns is to be prepared for a lot of independent work.
- Ask people for work, introduce yourself around the office or perhaps in a group email and tell people you are there.

Victoria University – Moondani Balluk Indigenous Academic Unit (VU)

- If you are digitizing materials for the archives, the work can be repetitive and tedious at times but it’s important to read through and appreciate the content that you are entering in the database or scanning – it’s all really fascinating and you can learn some great things throughout it all.
- The work is done in an office environment and it is handy to have prior experience using PCs and Microsoft Excel.
- There is a cafe and a few spots to get lunch at VU. Sometimes there are group staff lunches too. The Footscray park VU campus is about a 15 - 20 minute walk from Footscray station so allow a little time to get there.

Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research (WEHI)

- WEHI is located just on the outskirts of the CBD in Melbourne. Staying at Brunswick was a perfect location as it was a 20 minute bike ride to work. WEHI loan out bikes so I borrowed a bike for the 5 weeks I was there. They have great facilities at WEHI with showers, lockers, and a place to store your bike.
- There are plenty of places to get food close by or a whole level dedicated to a tea room. They supply morning tea which is quite nice.
- The vibe and people working at WEHI was something I have never experienced everyone was happy, worked hard, no whining and were just happy to be at work helping the world. It was such a positive place to be.
- Having one supervisor to shadow helps the process of active learning and what felt like deeper understanding of research area, requirements and procedures.
Temperature
Summer: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 14°C to an average maximum of 29°C
Winter: Temperatures range from an average minimum of 4°C to an average maximum of 12°C
Situated on the northern fringe of the Great Dividing Range, Bendigo enjoys a warm Mediterranean-like climate.

Bendigo tourist information
Tourist office
Bendigo Visitor Centre
51-67 Pall Mall, Bendigo VIC 3550
Phone: 03 5434 6060
Website: https://www.bendigotourism.com

Bendigo medical information
Bendigo Hospital
100 Barnard Street, Bendigo
Phone: 03 5454 6000

Bendigo Medical Centre
63-65 Bridge Street, Bendigo
Phone: 03 5454 2300

Bendigo transport
Public transport services are quite infrequent. Past interns recommend using a bike or car for transport in Bendigo.

Bus
Buses come every hour.
As in Melbourne, a V/Line ticket gets you free local Bus travel. Buses depart from Bendigo Station for the CBD and then on to connecting services to surrounding suburbs.

Taxi
Bendigo Taxis: 131 008

Food and shopping in Bendigo
Groceries
• As well as Coles and Woolies, there is Johnny’s Fruit and Veg around the corner.
• If you prefer organic produce, Bendigo Wholefoods is also available.
• There is an ‘Asian Foods Emporium’ on William St.

Cafés
• Old Green Bean
• Café El Beso – Moroccan vibe café on View Street
• Harvest café – pastries and lunch spot

• Castlemaine (30 min drive out of Bendigo): Origini (Italian café), Johnny Bakers (delicious croissants and pies and everything baked).

Dining out in Bendigo
• Borchelli – little Italian place

• Masons – more fancy

Entertainment in Bendigo
Outdoor and sights
• Aquatic centre on Banard St – get a membership: it’s pretty cheap and a beautiful pool, it’s a great way to unwind after a day at the office.

• For walking trails, there are a ton of national parks around Bendigo which are accessible by car/bike. I stayed in Kangaroo Flat and had Crusoe Reservoir nearby – there’s a nice lake to swim in with a pontoon and lots of birds and kangaroos to spot in the afternoon. Good for bike riding and jogging too. I also went camping most weekends – good spots (would need a car) my favourites were the Grampians and Gunbower National Park. I felt totally safe camping solo and did lots of big walks. The rangers will have lots of good recommendations for you too!

• Walk up the top of the poppet head for a view of the town.

• Mount Alexander regional park for a nice walk over vineyards.

• Oak Forest near Mount Alexander is a cute picnic spot.

• Woollen Mills Precinct in Castlemaine – there is a great vintage bazaar in the old factory, and winery co-op and brewery and Austrian coffee house.

Cultural
• Cinema on Queen St

• There’s a nice art gallery on View St and several theatres (Ulumburra theatre, the Capital, the Engine Room).

• Bendigo Art Gallery

• In Castlemaine there is the Theatre for Royal Music (concerts and movie screenings). A really nice place.

Nightlife in Bendigo
• Wine Bank – a bar in an old bank on View Street.

• Margot – little wine bar in Castlemaine.

Tips from past interns

General
• Strongly recommend that interns have a car.

• Stroll through Rosalind Park and check out the fernery.
• There’s lots of good op shopping and quirky country antique stores along View Street.

• Castlemaine (30 mins drive away), Maldon and Kyneton are towns worth a look! The latter two have a lot of great bookstores.

*Dja Dja Wurrung Enterprises (DJANDAK)*

• Dress code is casual (long pants and a t-shirt are fine) but it’s a good idea to have business casual clothing on hand if you get to go along to external meetings.

• If possible, try to find accommodation within reasonable walking distance to the office as public transport does not come very frequently. Otherwise consider hiring a bike or a car.

• Work at DJANDAK includes a combination of research, mapping, and field work. It’s a small, friendly team.

• Having a laptop is recommended. Previous interns worked both in the office and outdoors, so always have a water bottle, hat and enclosed shoes on standby.

• You will likely have to be self-directed in your work and take initiative. Say yes to as many work meetings, events, excursions or general opportunities to meet people as you can – it makes things a lot more interesting and gives you a chance to bond with colleagues.

• Previous interns recommend reading the *Dja Dja Wurrung Country Plan* prior to your placement.
South Australia
South Australia organisations
Adelaide

Adelaide transport

Metro
Adelaide now has metro cards (rather than tickets) which can be purchased and loaded with money at shops such as newsagents, or the Travel Centre on Currie St in the city. Check out the Adelaide Metro Information Centre website for timetables. www.adelaidemetro.com.au

The tram is free within the CBD between North Terrace and South Terrace. Tram to Glenelg and out to Entertainment Centre [free]. There are free buses that operate around the City. During the week there are two different routes and only one on the weekend.

After Midnight bus services operate Saturday night/Sunday morning only. Buses use the same route numbers as regular daytime services, with an N before the number. All buses travel along the regular bus route, with some detouring to major destinations such as Glenelg and Marion Shopping Centre. After Midnight services operate in both directions, making it safe and easy for you to get around after midnight. Runs from midnight to approximately 6am.

Taxi
Adelaide Independent Taxi Service: 13 22 11
Suburban Taxi: 131 008
Yellow Cab Co.: 13 2227

Car
RAA Emergency Roadside Assistance 13 11 11 or 08 8202 4600.

From the airport
The JetBus (a Metroticket service) operates between the airport and Adelaide city, Elizabeth, Glenelg, Greenwith, Tea Tree Plaza and Golden Grove Village every day between 4.50am and 12.05am.

Food and shopping in Adelaide

General shopping
• Supermarkets close at 5 pm on Saturday. They do not reopen until 11 am Sundays. This includes shops in the CBD such as Rundle Mall. In the City, there are two Coles’ and one Woollies. Depending on where you are staying, it can be a bit of a walk especially if you are carrying groceries. Note: Coles, Woollies, and Kmart charge for plastic bags. There may also be others that do this. It may be a good idea to pack a couple of those reusable bags that most shops give you these days. They are more durable than plastic.
• Shopping hours are generally restricted when compared to other states, ie, usually closed most public holidays, weeknights close 9pm (or earlier), Saturdays 5pm, Sundays open 11am-5pm.
In addition to the usual supermarkets scattered around the city, there’s a couple of good markets to cater to your food and random shopping needs.

- Adelaide Royal Show grounds Farmers Market – open 9am-1pm every Sunday in Goodwood.
- Central Market (between Gouger and Grote Street, open Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat): The largest undercover produce market in Australia. It offers a huge range of fresh fruit and vegetables, meat and fish, and various other gourmet specialities (go here for your marinated olives).
- Norwood Parade is also worth a look, with many cafes and food places.
- Rundle Mall (and Rundle Street) is the main retail shopping strip and Rundle Street too. At first glance it looks as though there are not many shops in the Rundle Mall. But there are lots of shops and eateries located in laneways and arcades in and around the Mall and other nearby streets.

Dining out in Adelaide

The main streets are: Rundle St, Gouger St (close to the courts precinct and the Central Markets), Hutt Street, O’Connell St and Melbourne St in North Adelaide. There are many good restaurants in these areas.

Cheap food

- Adelaide Central Market (44 Gouger Street): Good for dietary requirements and allergies, open Tues-Sat.
- China town food courts (both old and new) off Gouger and Grote Streets.
- Café Michael 2 (204 Rundle Street): Thai food, $10 daily lunch special.
- Caos Café Bar (188 Hindley Street): All-day breakfasts (plus other stuff).
- Cibos (the chain of Italian cafes selling coffee, cakes, focaccias, piadines and gelati places – it originated in Adelaide and is located on just about every street corner e.g. Rundle St, Gouger St etc).
- East Joe Continental (East Terrace) for breakfast – bit of an institution.
- Lucia’s Pizza and Spaghetti Bar (2 Western Mall, Central Market): Adelaide’s oldest (and apparently best) coffee shop. With spaghetti and pizza.
- Rigoni’s (Leigh Street) has good Italian food ($20-$35).
- Woks Happ’ning (174a Hutt Street): South East Asian/Noonya food, open Mon-Sun.
- XO Supper Club (173 Hutt Street): Tapas, open Tues-Sun from 3pm.
- Vego N Loven It (240 Rundle St) is a really popular and cheap vegetarian place only open for lunch Monday-Friday

If you’re feeling rich...

- Argo on the Square (211 Victoria Square) café is a good place if you have allergies and dietary requirements.
- Amalfi Pizzeria Restaurant (29 Frome Street): Italian restaurant with buzzy atmosphere (mains $15 to $22).
- Nu’s Thai (Gouger Street) is wonderful!

Entertainment in Adelaide

Sights and activities

- Adelaide Botanic Garden: Includes the Botanic Park, the International Rose Garden, the Bicentennial Conservatory (a tropical rainforest housed inside the largest glasshouse in the southern hemisphere).
• Adelaide Oval – Cricket is a spectacle – one of the most picturesque grounds in the world. It also hosts the Tour Down Under (Bicycle Race) in mid-late Jan.

• Adelaide Zoo (Frome Road, Adelaide) is located in shady parklands and only walking distance from the city centre. Highlights are the South East Asian rainforest and the Children's Zoo which has a petting area and nursery.

• Art Gallery of South Australia (North Terrace, Adelaide) holds one of the finest art collections in Australia, which are housed in a beautiful, historic building.

• Barossa Valley and McLaren Vale winemaking regions. They are a short drive from Adelaide (1hr and 45mins respectively) and provide magnificent scenery as well as good food and wine.

• Haigh’s Chocolates Visitors Centre (154 Greenhill Road, Parkside, Adelaide).

• Cleland Wildlife Park (Mount Lofty Summit Road, Crafers). These beautiful parklands are situated just 12km from the city centre and offer magnificent views of Mt Lofty and the scenic Waterfall Gully. Highlights are the new Ocean to Outback Interpretive Centre which is an interactive journey through South Australia’s diverse landscapes. There are daily animal feeding presentations, koala close up and handling sessions and 90 minute guided nocturnal wildlife tours.

• Festivals: Adelaide Bank Festival of the Arts, Adelaide Fringe Festival, WOMADelaide (international music festival), Clipsal 500 V8 Race.

• Mt Lofty Botanic Gardens is also magnificent – a perfect spot for a picnic.

• National Wine Centre of Australia (corner Botanic and Hackney Roads, phone: 08 8303 3355): Offers various wine education and appreciation courses.

• Swim with the dolphins! www.southaustralia.com

• Do not plan on visiting things as soon as it opens as you may be the only one there for a while or things may not open on time. I noted that on the weekends most people did not go out until about lunchtime. Some places in tourist areas do not open even though they advertise that they do; for instance Adelaide Gaol.

• Commencing mid-February each year and going for a month is the Fringe Festival. I noticed that the city got livelier once this Festival started. The Festival is a mix of free and paid events for such things as comedy, cabaret, children’s event, dance, events, music, and theatre, visual art and design, circus and physical theatre. The Adelaide Writers Week was also on during this time but wasn’t widely advertised. I found out by chance.

• For four days at the end February/beginning March, the Clipsal 500 car racing is on and the accommodation prices go up. There are road restrictions in part of the City.

• WOMAD occurs for about a week at the beginning of March. Not sure if it is at the same time each year.

• One-off Cricket World Cup was on which saw accommodation booked out.

• Can only do day trips. Tours to the Flinders Rangers weren’t possible as they went for several days.

• A tour to Kangaroo Island for one day is a long day. The bus does not return to Adelaide until 11.45 unless you get a flight back.

Nightlife in Adelaide

Cinemas
• Greater Union Megaplex Marion (Westfield Marion, Oaklands Park): 30 screens, mainstream films.
• Moonlight Cinema (Botanic Gardens). During summer only. www.moonlight.com.au
• Nova and Palace Eastend Cinemas (251 and 274 Rundle Street): Mainly independent films with a range of Australian, foreign-language and art house to choose from.

Music
• Classical music: Regular concerts at the Adelaide Festival Centre (King William Road, City) and Adelaide Town Hall. www.aso.com.au
• Governor Hindmarsh Hotel (59 Port Road, Hindmarsh): Top live music venue, hosts everything – dance music, jazz, salsa, Irish folk music, rock, etc. www.thegov.com.au
• Jazz: Live jazz at lots of bars (try the Swingcat Club, 184 Hindley Street). For a listing, check the Gig Guide in Thursday’s Advertiser. Saturday’s edition also lists the classical concerts and musicals.

Bars and nightclubs
• Belgian Beer Café (27-29 Ebenezer Place). Set up like a European drinking hall, with various imported Belgian beers.
• Botanic (corner of Nth Tce and East Tce). Classy bar. Law student hang-out serving cheap pizza.
• Casablabla (Leigh St just off Hindley St). Tapas bar with live music and great food.
• Exeter (Rundle St). Pub with cheap drinks. A student hang-out.
• First Bar (Rundle Mall – part of the Richmond Hotel). Great decor, very classy, good drinks.
• Governor Hindmarsh Hotel (59 Port Road, Hindmarsh). Live music venue, with something for everyone – dance music, jazz, salsa, Irish folk music, rock, etc. www.thegov.com.au
• Supermild (182 Hindley Street). A bar with outside area. Eclectic range of music.
• Rocket bar (Hindley St). Nightclub. Electronics and dance.
• Universal Wine Bar (285 Rundle Street): Huge selection of wines.

Tips from past interns

General
• Can catch the free tram from Central CBD down King William Road easily, get off at ‘City South’ stop.
• If coming to Adelaide in summer make sure you at least pack sunscreen, sunglasses, and a hat.
• Make sure you have a bike to get around
• For summer interns, try to find accommodation with a pool as it gets so hot in summer.
• Go and see the West MacDonnell Ranges – They are a great one or two day road trip on the weekend.
• Initially I used Uber to get from the airport to my accommodation and into the city on the first day. But I found that the Adelaide public transit system is much more affordable and I used it for the remainder of my trip. Metrocards can be purchased at information centres in the city (my supervisor helped me locate one after work).
• Airbnb was a good choice for accommodation, I managed to find a place which was only a 20 minute bus trip from the city (located Broadview), and it only cost me $1030 for the entire month. I would recommend interns consider Airbnb as an option when deciding on accommodations.

Indigenous Land Corporation (ILC)
• The ILC has set hours - 8.30/9.00 am to 5.00 pm with a one hour lunch.
• While I had read the relevant legislation before starting, I really didn’t use it that much. I spent more time reading and interpreting constitutions and trust deeds.

• Take the opportunity to go along to any staff events you are invited to e.g dinners outside of work, coffee, lunches etc - don’t be shy. It’s a great way to get to know the other staff and to feel more comfortable during your internship.

• Maybe brush up on Property and Commercial Law before starting and read the online annual ILC reports for context. It will help you to slot straight into the team.

**Johnston Withers**

• The location is a 5 minute walk from the courts/central market. There are a lot of cafes around. People in the office are more than happy to suggest somewhere to go.

• Everyone in the office really likes morning tea and people often bring in cakes.

• Possibly due to the time of year there was not a lot of native title work going on. While there was some, and I was involved in those cases, I also assisted other lawyers in the office (which I was more than happy to do), especially in defamation law.

**Selby Street Lawyers - Native Title Barrister, Andrew Collett**

• Andrew Collett works from his home that is located in the city of Adelaide, near Murray Chambers and the Courts. It is a relaxed working environment but there are normal working hours. There is also a pool at the back which is awesome in the summer.

• You can get a bus along Grote Street or Sturt Street to reach the chambers, otherwise it’s about a 10-minute walk from King William Street.

• Andrew is very approachable and a pleasure to work with.

• Familiarise yourself with legal databases and how to research specific legislation provisions effectively before you start, so you are able to respond to research inquiries quickly.

• Jump at any opportunity that Andrew or Simon give you – it will likely be an amazing experience. Be proactive and help them out in any way possible.

• Coffee runs in the morning – Mondays is Paddy’s Lantern on Gilbert Street, a few minutes’ walk from the office; Tuesday – Friday is My Kingdom for a Horse, just across the road on Wright Street.

• There are plenty of little cafes and eateries in close proximity: Vietnamese Laundry just off Whitmore Square and the Central Markets in Gouger Street are go-to locations.

• Look at art books and other resources concerning the dreaming for the particular area that you will be in. Read current news articles on mining operations in and around the state. Find out about any political issues concerning the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and related departments.

• Familiarise yourself with legal databases and how to research specific legislation provisions effectively before you start, so you are able to respond to research inquiries quickly.

• Tasks undertaken by past interns include:
  o Attending court
  o Attending negotiations
  o Researching cases, constructing chronologies
  o Writing submissions
South Australian Native Title Services (SANTS)

- SANTS is in front of the tram stop, so getting around the city is quite easy. You are very close to Victoria Square so lodging documents at the Courts or other offices is quite easy. There are eateries available next to the building but also, two streets down is the famous Gouger Street!

- There’s early bird parking on Mill St, which is $1.50 all day (valid if you arrive before 9.15am), otherwise you should catch the bus into the city and hop on the tram to City South, which is directly in front of the SANTS building.

- Always make sure you confirm with your supervisor on the first day as to your working hours, so you can effectively plan your travel and other commitments.

- Anthropology interns: It helps to have some familiarity with the Trove database, including how to change both the ‘Basic’ and ‘Advanced’ search parameters, and how to find the link to the short ‘Article Identifier URL’ address as opposed to the very long ‘general’ article identifier.

- It is a flexible learning environment, it is essential to be proactive as legal officers are very busy with their work, just remember be polite but don’t be shy when asking for tasks! Expect the first week may be a transition, so work might be light, but it will increase! You have very supportive supervisors and work colleagues so don’t be afraid to ask questions too!

- Some of the lawyers wear suits but most people are very casually dressed.

- Talk to as many people as you can, as you can not only find out valuable information but it also makes your time more enjoyable.

- When you’re at a loose end, ask the legal secretaries if they need any help! They’re always busy, and apparently are very rarely offered help by interns. But the work they do is very important, and being aware of it is so useful in understanding how the organisation works.

- It is important to view every task requested of you as important, because in the scheme of things, no matter what you do, you will be significantly helping your host organisation in progressing its work and gaining valuable learning insights into such a fascinating area of the law.

- Use the placement as a networking tool. During your placement you will meet barristers from all over Australia and it is a great opportunity to get your name out there. My supervisor was more than willing to speak to some of the lawyers on my behalf to organise further work experience.

- I recommend interns participate in the SANTS Social Club events during their internship as they are a lot of fun and a great way to get to know everyone. The staff at SANTS are very welcoming, and it is a supportive work space.

- The SANTS office is right next to Adelaide’s Central Market and is a good place for very cheap food.

- There is plenty of public transport, and the pub next door has a different $10 lunch on every day. Gouger Street is a great place to grab a cheap lunch. The tram to the Rundle Mall is free. Chinatown and Rundle Mall are both good places to find affordable lunch options.

- Take advantage of the weekly deliveries of fresh fruit to the office.

- Go to cafe Troppo.

- La Trattoria directly opposite the SANTS building is a delicious Italian restaurant with large portions and takeaway options too.

- Take advantage of the weekly fruit deliveries of fresh fruit in the office.