

Rugby Union: Play the season in Australia

Duration: 23 weeks



Overview

If you're mad about rugby, why not go to rugby mad Oz? With our Play the Season programme you'll play, train and party all season long with an Aussie rugby club. Plus, you'll enjoy 4-star accommodation at the heart of a great city and make friends for life along the way.

Recommended for:

- Living like an Aussie, all season long
- Improving your game in a club environment
- Exploring Oz with your new mates
- Boosting your CV with a part-time job

At a glance:

- Hand-picked Aussie rugby club
- Regular matches, training & social events
- 4-star fully furnished accommodation
- Mentor support 24/7 throughout your stay

Sporting adventures

The Season allows you to spend 6 months living, working and playing rugby in Australia. You'll have loads of time to make strong friendships and become fully integrated into Aussie life. You have the choice of amazing cities across Australia where you'll be placed with a rugby club that suits your sporting ability and personality! Our centrally located 4-star accommodation puts you at the heart of the city, so get ready to enjoy the freedom and excitement of life in Australia with a group of new mates.

Prices and dates...

Location	Duration	From	To	Price

Sydney	23 weeks	14/03/2011	21/08/2011	£ 7295
Brisbane	23 weeks	21/03/2011	28/08/2011	£ 7295

Working overseas

You'll have plenty of spare time between training and competing if you'd like to get a job. As well as enhancing your CV and boosting your bank balance, working overseas will help you meet new people and provide more structure to your time away.

Top tips for getting work:

- Plan the type of work you'd like to obtain
- Try to gain relevant work experience
- Prepare a CV and have two references
- Be proactive & persistent in job hunting

Employment options:

- Café/bar work: sociable environment
- Office work: good rates of pay
- Coaching: fulfilling and well paid
- Work experience: boost your CV

Working in Australia

You'll be living close to lots of employment options like offices, shops, bars and restaurants. Contacts at your sport club might also help you to find coaching work.

In addition, your mentor will provide guidance on working in Australia but you should ensure you're well prepared as the job market can be as competitive as the sports arena!

Your pad

Accommodation is key to the Sport Lived experience. You'll live in 4-star centrally located apartments. Your club will be easily accessible by public transport and with lots of bars, clubs, restaurants and shops close by there are plenty places to work, rest or play!

At a glance:

- 4-star apartments all fully furnished
- Located close to transport and nightlife

- Shared with other Sport Lived participants
- Stress free as the price includes most bills

Home from home...

Apartments are shared with other Sport Lived participants and include many mod-cons. Each complex has a 24-hour reception and many have an in-house swimming pool and gym. Apartments are fully furnished including a TV, linen, kitchen appliances, washing machines, etc. They are also serviced weekly (but you will have to wash your own undies!)
NB: Illustrative accommodation pictures.

FAQs

1. What type of visa do I need and what are the restrictions?

UK citizens aged 18-30 are normally eligible for an Australian Working Holiday Visa which enables holders to live and work in Australia for up to 12 months. It costs around £150 and can take up to 4 weeks to process so we recommend getting the paperwork sorted well in advance of your departure. For more information see the [Travel & Visa](#) section in the Need to Know area of our site.

2. What's included in the price of my programme and how much spending money will I require?

The cost of all Sport Lived programmes includes the following:

- 4-star accommodation including most household bills (telephone and internet charges are **NOT covered**)
- membership of your rugby club
- airport pick-up at the start of your programme
- mentor support throughout your stay
- a handbook with useful information

The programme cost does **NOT** include the following:

- flights, insurance, visas, return airport transfer, local transport or food

Your main costs whilst overseas will be transport, match/competition fees plus food and beer money. A [cost of living guide](#) for each Sport Lived destination is provided in the Need to Know section. This should help you plan and budget for your time away.

3. Do I need to be an elite player?

Absolutely not! We cater for players of all abilities. We will obtain further information on your sporting ability once you have submitted your booking form. This will allow us to match you with a

suitable club. If you're an elite player, we'll ensure you're matched with a top-class club who know you're serious about sport!

4. When will I find out full details of my programme e.g. what club I will join and where I will live?

Once you have sent in a booking form, we'll start working behind the scenes to put everything in place for the perfect programme. 3-4 weeks later you'll receive a confirmation document outlining details of your club, key dates and an overview of your specific programme details.

Final payment for all programmes is due 12 weeks before to departure which allows us to finalise accommodation arrangements and send you details of your flatmates and your new address in Oz!

The pre-departure briefing takes place around 8 weeks before you join us and provides a chance for you and your parents to meet up with the Sport Lived team and fellow participants and ask any remaining questions you may have.

5. How can I find out more general information?

Hopefully, most key pieces of information are available on the website where you can download programme notes, prices and dates. Our [Need to Know](#) section also contains lots of useful information. If you have other questions or just want to have a chat, we're always available either on the phone or via email.

We know that planning a trip overseas can be scary at times and there's loads to think about. So don't hesitate to get in touch if you need to discuss anything at all.

Playing rugby in Australia

We have links with a wide range of fantastic Australian rugby clubs who'll welcome you as a new member. Get ready for plenty of banter - the Aussies love to have a laugh with their new Pommey team mates!

Club structure

Australian rugby clubs have lots of teams. You can expect:

- 5-7 senior men's teams
- 2-3 women's teams
- 3-4 Colts teams (U21 in Sydney; U19 in Brisbane)

In addition, there are active junior sections. Top teams play in the highest state leagues, giving you the chance to play and train alongside Super 14 and international players.

Matches and training

You'll train 2-3 times a week with matches played at the weekends.

Most Sport Lived participants play Colts rugby in Australia. The Colts competition is very strong and taken seriously by clubs. Youngsters at Australian international level and Super 14 academy

members all play First Grade Colts rugby so, if you're an elite player, you'll have the chance to compete at a very high level.

The senior and Colts sections also have lower level teams, so don't panic if you're not planning a career in rugby, our clubs cater for players of all abilities.

Additional gym and fitness sessions during the week are optional and your club might also offer a gym pass as a perk of membership.

Off the pitch

With so many members, your club will be a hive of social activity. There'll be drinks after training and matches plus social events throughout the season - new players' night, pub crawls and an end-of-season dinner. Some clubs also arrange pre-season tours - a great chance to get to know your teammates whilst exploring a new part of Oz.

Rugby development

Our clubs are selected for their high quality coaching and facilities, helping you to return home as a much-improved player. If your performances are noted, you could also find yourself selected for a State representative squad - highly prestigious!

...and finally

What are you waiting for? Get out there and show the Aussies how it's done!

Social life

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Through your rugby club...

Aussie rugby clubs enjoy an unrivalled reputation for their social activities! Get ready to play hard and party harder. Regular pub crawls, fancy dress parties and BBQs ensure there's never a dull moment.

With Sport Lived...

You'll live alongside other Sport Lived participants who are playing and coaching a wide variety of sports. This provides a ready made group of friends for you to get together with and explore life in your chosen Aussie city.

Your programme will begin with introductory drinks during the first week, co-ordinated by your mentor who will also organise monthly social events. These might include a day out at a seasonal sporting event, a traditional Aussie barbie, pub golf, etc.