

# Flight Information

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Study Australia reserves special group flights, with an estimated savings of up to \$300 off normal open-ended fares, on Qantas Airways through our recommended travel agent, VS&R Travel, located in Washington D.C.

Please note the following important notes:

- ? All group flights depart Los Angeles, but VS&R Travel can also arrange add-on fares to Los Angeles from your home city in the U.S. Please see FAQ #6 for the importance of booking your add-on fares in conjunction with your international ticket.
- ? You are **not required** to use VS&R Travel and can make your own travel arrangements, although historically 90% of our participants have used the group flights. If you book your own ticket, please read the fine print to insure you fully understand your fare restrictions, such as change fees and stopover destinations. Only VS&R Travel can book our group rates. Do not contact Qantas Airways directly as they will not be able to assist with our group booking.
- ? Flight times to Australia/New Zealand from Los Angeles are 14 hours and 11 hours respectively, but you lose a day when crossing the international date-line. Therefore, it takes two calendar days to reach Australia or New Zealand, although the in-flight time is less than 24 hours.
- ? Included with our flights is the option to “**stopover**” - this allows students to visit other destinations in Australia and the South Pacific while en-route to Australia, New Zealand and the U.S. Stopovers are permitted for a minimum of 1-day to a maximum of 60-days. Stopover options include New Zealand, Hawaii, Fiji and Los Angeles. Due to Qantas’ flight schedules, it is not possible to travel between Hawaii, Fiji or New Zealand. If you wish to visit multiple destinations, without incurring additional charges, you must visit one on the way to Australia/New Zealand and the other on the return leg. **Important Hawaii and Fiji Stopover Note:** If you are interested in visiting Hawaii or Fiji en-route to or from Australia or New Zealand please note that availability can be limited so book your tickets 3-4 months in advance as Qantas has limited flights and high demand. If you plan ahead you should be fine, but do not wait until the last few weeks of the semester and expect to get the exact flights you desire.
- ? Study Australia provides airport pickup services for when our group flights arrive in Australia and New Zealand. To qualify for an airport pickup for students not traveling on a group flight, your arrival time must be no later than 30 minutes after the group flight arrives for that day. If you arrive more than 30 minutes after the group flight, you will need to take a taxi or shuttle to our hotel for the start of the orientation. More information will be provided on airport pickups at a later date.
- ? Most tickets are valid for 12 months from the start of your travel and you can choose any return date although you must designate a return date at the time of booking. Unlimited date changes are permitted, but do incur additional fees. Review the Program Calendar as you should not plan on returning home before the last day of exams, nor should you rely on

switching exams to an earlier date. If upon receiving your exams schedule you wish to return home earlier, you may change your return date.

## How to Book Your Flight

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**Step 1:** Review the Fall 2008 Program Calendar and all the information contained in this section so you are fully aware of your program dates, travel options and flight details.

**Step 2:** For all reservations with VS&R Travel, participants are instructed to complete a “Flight Request Form” from the VS&R web site which can be accessed from the Study Australia Virtual Application Manager (VAM) – “Pre-Departure Information” section.

**Step 3:** Once VS&R Travel receives your “Flight Request Form” they will contact you by email or phone with any questions or clarifications before the seat is officially reserved. At that time, they will also assist with stopovers and/or connecting flights to Los Angeles. Your credit card will not be charged and your ticket not issued **until you confirm your itinerary** with VS&R Travel.

**Step 4:** Confirm reservation and make payment. The payment does not need to be made at the time of reservation and can be arranged within 14 days from receiving the confirmation from VS&R. **If approval for ticketing is not received within 14 days from receiving confirmation, the reservation will be cancelled.**

To insure the highest level of Customer Service, please complete the Study Australia/ VS&R “Flight Request Form” before you call the travel agency at their toll-free number (1.800.321.7173, ext. 318) with specific question.

## Flight Options

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To reserve a seat using Study Australia’s special group rates, follow the instructions below based on your university. For example, if you are attending Bond University please review flight Options A1, A2 and C, but disregard Options B.

<b>Group Flights</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Option A1 to A2</b> – Bond University	Bond University – August to December semester only
<b>Option B</b> – Sydney Orientation	For participants attending our July 8 – July 12 Orientation based in Sydney, Australia. Add-ons for the East Coast Tour available.
<b>Non - Group Flights</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Option C</b> – Alternate Departure Date	Any ticket other than our standard group flights listed above

## Which Flight Option Should I Choose?

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### Group Flight A1 - Bond University/August

#### **Group Flight – A1: Bond University**

**Book this flight if you meet all three criteria below:**

1. Attending Bond University
2. Attending our 5-Day Fiji Island pre-semester trip from August 23 – August 27, 2008
3. Attending our 5-day Sydney Orientation Trip for Bond University from August 27 – August 31, 2008

#### **Flights Included:**

August 21, 2008 - Los Angeles to Fiji

August 27, 2008 – Fiji to Sydney, Australia

August 31, 2008 - Sydney, Australia to Gold Coast/Coolangatta

Choose Return Date – Australia to Los Angeles or choose stopover

#### **Optional Add-On Flights from VSR Travel:**

- ? Our group flights originate from Los Angeles. VSR Travel can arrange optional add-on flights from your home city to Los Angeles. See the FAQ's #6 for the importance of booking your flight to Los Angeles in conjunction with your international ticket.
- ? VSR Travel can arrange add-on flights for **post-semester trip to the Cairns and the Great Barrier Reef from December 14 – 16, 2008**

### Group Flight A2 - Bond University/August

#### **Group Flight – A2: Bond University**

**Book this flight if you meet all three criteria below:**

1. Attending Bond University
2. Not participating in the 5-Day Fiji Island pre-semester trip
3. Attending our 5-day Sydney Orientation Trip for Bond University from August 27 – August 31, 2008

#### **Flights Included:**

August 27, 2008 – Los Angeles to Sydney, Australia

August 31, 2008 - Sydney, Australia to Gold Coast/Coolangatta

Choose Return Date – Australia to Los Angeles or choose stopover

#### **Optional Add-On Flights from VSR Travel:**

- ? Our group flights originate from Los Angeles. VSR Travel can arrange optional add-on flights from your home city to Los Angeles. See the FAQ's #6 for the importance of booking your

flight to Los Angeles in conjunction with your international ticket.

- ? VSR Travel can arrange add-on flights for **post-semester trip to the Cairns and the Great Barrier Reef from December 14 – 16, 2008**

## Group Flights B – July Semester

### Group Flight – B: July Semester

**Book this flight if you meet all three criteria below:**

1. Want to be on a Group Flight
2. Attending an Australian University or the University of Auckland (excluding Bond University)
3. Want to attend our 5-Day orientation based in Sydney, Australia from July 8 -12, 2008. Please be sure to check the Fall 2008 Program Calendar for eligibility.

### Flights Included in Group Flight (for Australia Programs):

July 6, 2008 – Los Angeles to Sydney, Australia

July 12, 2008 – Sydney to your final destination in Australia

Choose Return Date – Australia to Los Angeles or choose stopover

### Flights Included in Group Flight (for University of Auckland):

July 6, 2008 – Los Angeles to Sydney, Australia

July 12, 2008 – Sydney to Auckland, New Zealand

Choose Return Date – New Zealand to Los Angeles

### Optional Add-On Flights from VSR Travel:

- ? Our group flights originate from Los Angeles. VSR Travel can arrange optional add-on flights from your home city to Los Angeles. See page our FAQ's #6 for the importance of booking your flight to Los Angeles in conjunction with your international ticket.
- ? VSR Travel also offers add-on the flights necessary for the **East Coast Tour**, which departs July 12<sup>th</sup> and returns July 19<sup>th</sup>. All participants of this trip will need to purchase a flight from Sydney to Brisbane and then from Cairns to your host city.

## Non-Group Flights - Option C

### Flight Option – C: July Semester/Choose own Departure Date

**Book this flight if you meet the criteria below:**

1. Want to choose own departure date as opposed to being on a Group Flight
2. Want to take advantage of discounted VS&R flights with Qantas

### Optional Add-On Flights from VSR Travel:

- ? Our group flights originate from Los Angeles. VSR Travel can arrange optional add-on flights from your home city to Los Angeles. See page our FAQ's #6 for the importance of booking

your flight to Los Angeles in conjunction with your international ticket.

- ? VSR Travel also offers add-on the flights necessary for the **East Coast Tour**, which departs July 12<sup>th</sup> and returns July 19<sup>th</sup>. All participants of this trip will need to purchase a flight from Sydney to Brisbane and then from Cairns to your host city.

If you will not be attending the 5-day orientation trip in Sydney (although 98% of past participants have) please make plans to arrive in Australia or New Zealand before your mandatory university orientation (see Program Calendar for dates). If you would like an Airport Pick-up for Study Australia Orientation please arrive by:

- ? Bond Pre-Semester Trip to Fiji – arrive by 6:30 am on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at Fiji Nadi International Airport
- ? Sydney, Australia Orientation (January Bond Group) – arrive by 8:00 am on August 27<sup>th</sup> at the Sydney Kingsford Smith Airport (international terminal).
- ? Sydney, Australia Orientation (July Group) – arrive by 7:00 am on July 8<sup>th</sup> at the Sydney Kingsford Smith Airport (international terminal).

## Contract Details – Group Flights A, B & C

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<b>Airline</b>	<p>Qantas Airways (and American Airlines code share flights) is widely regarded as the world's leading long distance airline and one of the strongest brands in Australia. All of their Boeing 747-400 aircraft and Airbus A330-300 aircraft are fitted with a state-of-the-art on demand entertainment system. This puts the control in your hands and allows you to choose when to start, pause, fast forward and stop any of the 400 audio and video programs whenever you like. Choose from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>? 60 Movies and 200 TV programs, including destination guides</li> <li>? 20 Q Radio Channels and 150 CDs</li> <li>? Moving Map</li> <li>? 10 Games</li> </ul>
<b>Travel Agent</b>	All flights using our contract/group rates must be booked by VS&R Travel (located in Washington D.C.) via their web site or toll free number on 1.800.321.7173 ext 318.
<b>Pricing</b>	Average airfare from Los Angeles to Sydney for July departures will be \$1094 + taxes and fees. Approximate airfare from Los Angeles to Sydney and Gold Coast for August departures will be \$1850 + taxes and fees. Fares vary based on season, number of stopovers, and departure date. VS&R Travel can also add on domestic flights to Los Angeles for an additional fee. Complete details can be found on VSR's web site: <a href="http://www.vsrtravel.com/studyaustralia">http://www.vsrtravel.com/studyaustralia</a>
<b>Change Fees</b>	<p>Prior to ticketing, students may change their itinerary at will, without charge, but are subject to availability at time of request.</p> <p>After tickets have been issued, changes to routing and dates are subject to availability. Paper tickets will incur a \$100 change fee and electronic tickets will incur a \$50 change</p>

	<p>fee.</p> <p>If you intend to make any flight changes to your tickets while overseas do not wait until the last minute. Flights from the South Pacific region to the U.S. are very limited and many students are surprised to find out that seats fill quickly. To avoid disappointment please plan ahead. Also keep in mind that student reservations are heavily discounted so fewer seats are available for passengers flying on these tickets. All changes must be booked in the same fare class which also restricts availability.</p>
<p><b>Stopovers</b></p>	<p>Stopovers can be added prior to ticketing and are subject to a stopover fee of US\$150 per stop if arranged by VS&amp;R Travel. A stopover in Auckland is the exception; there is no fee.</p> <p>Qantas stops include Nadi (Fiji), Auckland (New Zealand), Honolulu, Los Angeles, Sydney and Brisbane (Australia).</p> <p>If you wish to add a stopover after your original tickets have been issued the change fees above will be incurred.</p> <p>Only one stopover can be used in each direction due to Qantas flight routes (e.g. you cannot stop in both Auckland and Fiji on the way home, but you can stop in both if you do one on the way to Australia and one on the way home).</p>