

Bundoora Weekend Survival Guide for Newly Arrived Students

If you arrive in Melbourne on a Saturday, Sunday or during a University holiday period (see www.latrobe.edu.au/acadserv/current/acadcalendar for University dates), you will find almost all University services are closed!

To help you settle in, here are some important things to know for your first weekend here:

- **Cash**
- **Contacting family and friends**
- **Getting to La Trobe University (LTU) and La Trobe International (LTI) office**
- **Taxis / airport buses**
- **Where to stay**
- **Using Public Transport**
- **Feeding yourself**
- **Entertainment**

CASH

Most banks are not open on weekends, but Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) at shopping centres and shopping strips, the airport and in the Agora at La Trobe University's Bundoora campus can be accessed 24 hours a day.

If you have a debit or credit card from home, you will probably be able to use it at any ATM with Cirrus, Maestro, or Plus facilities. Many supermarkets offer cash withdrawal options if you pay by debit card (but not credit card).

Currency conversion and traveller's cheques at the airport:

Travelex Worldwide Money operates three currency exchange facilities. In addition, ANZ bank offers three foreign exchange outlets, along with regular branch banking.

CONTACTING FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Phoning home:

Public telephones (also known as payphones) take coins and/or phone cards. You can also reverse charges to the United States and United Kingdom (call 1800 REVERSE). Public phones can be found at shopping centres, train stations, or various locations on La Trobe University's Bundoora campus, eg. the Agora, outside Chisholm College and at the bus stops. You can buy international phone cards in many shops off-campus, including milk bars, newsagents, post offices and some pharmacies. Note that for some phone cards you need to insert coins (usually 50 cents) into the phone before you can make a call.

Internet access:

Internet access is available at most temporary accommodation facilities (see list later in this guide).

On campus you can access the Internet, even before you enrol, at the Borchardt Library, open Fridays till 6pm, and Saturdays and Sundays from 1pm to 5pm during semester. Check 'Opening Hours' at www.lib.latrobe.edu.au for more detail.

Internet cafes can be found in many shopping strips including:

Station St, Fairfield (246 or 250 bus to Station St, corner Darebin Road);

corner Murray Rd & High St, Northcote (Tram 86 to corner Plenty Rd and Murray Rd);
Smith St, Fitzroy (86 tram);

Brunswick St, Fitzroy (walk from 86 tramline in Smith St);

Rathdowne St, Carlton North (250 bus).

Also, look in any large shopping centre or library in the city centre.

GETTING TO LA TROBE UNIVERSITY AND THE LA TROBE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

The La Trobe International Office (LTI), like most other University offices and services, is open Monday-Friday 9am to 5pm. Using the map in the back of your Pre-departure Guide, you can find us on Level 2 of the Peribolos East Building once you are on the Bundoora campus.

If you are staying off-campus, you can access La Trobe University on weekends via the Number 86 tram, and many buses. But be aware some public transport do not run on week-ends.

La Trobe University is at tram stop 60 on the Number 86 tram.

(See the 'Using Public Transport' section of this guide for more information)

Taxis from the Airport

Taxis are available from the taxi rank on the ground floor, outside the International Arrivals hall of Melbourne International Airport.

Expect to pay approximately \$50-\$55 for the 30 minute trip into the centre of Melbourne, or to La Trobe University. Taxis from midnight to 5am have a 20% surcharge.

Airport Buses

SkyBus (www.skybus.com.au) shuttle service from the airport to Southern Cross Station in Melbourne city centre, runs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The buses run every 10-15mins during the day and every 30-60mins overnight.

It is a 20-minute journey into the city and costs \$15 one way. Buy tickets and catch the bus outside:

Terminal 3 (the Virgin Blue terminal – turn right when coming out of the International Arrivals hall) or

Terminal 1 (the Qantas terminal – turn left when coming out of the International Arrivals hall).

Airport Bus Eastside (www.airportbus.com.au) runs to suburbs near La Trobe University. It stops at:

Heidelberg train station (a 10min drive from LTU), and the corner of Bell and High Streets in Preston (near LeStudent8, about a 10min drive from LTU).

It runs 10 services a day during the week, four on Saturdays and two on Sundays.

It is a 30-40 minute journey to suburbs near LTU and costs \$19 one way. Buy tickets directly from the driver and catch the bus on the ground level outside the International Arrivals hall (near the Qantas terminal).

WHERE TO STAY

Arriving when the University and LTI are open

If you will arrive in Melbourne and get to campus when La Trobe International is open (Mon-Fri 9am to 5pm), please come straight in and let our reception staff know. We will do our best to help you find temporary accommodation at least for your first night.

Arriving when the University and LTI are closed

If you will arrive in Melbourne when La Trobe International is closed and have not already organised temporary accommodation, phone one of the providers listed below AS SOON AS POSSIBLE - even from an airport when you're in transit!

The following temporary accommodation providers are all within 20 minutes drive of La Trobe University, and some are within walking distance.

Le Student 8, 205 Bell Street, Preston

Tel: (+61 3) 9485 0100

www.lestudent8.com/room_rates_latrobe.asp

The Parkside Inn Motel, 1045 Plenty Road, Bundoora / Kingsbury

Tel: (+61 3) 9467 3344

www.parksideinn.com.au

Greensborough Motor Inn, 245 Greensborough Highway, Macleod 3085

Tel: (+61 3) 9434 7000

www.greensboroughmotorinn.com.au

Jika International Motel, 551 Heidelberg Road, Fairfield 3073

Tel: 1800-035-650

www.jika.com.au

USING PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Melbourne’s public transport network is split into two zones:

Zone 1 is yellow and

Zone 2 is blue.

La Trobe University’s Bundoora campus is located on the border of Zones 1 and 2.

Check whether you are in Zone 1 or Zone 2 - ASK! You can change services from train to tram to bus as often as you like on the one ticket, as long as it is within the same Zone.

You can buy Metcards at train stations, on buses and trams (bus and tram machines accept coins only), at milk bars, pharmacies and newsagents.

You can buy Metcards on Bundoora Campus at the Contact Office, the Guild Services centre in the Upper Agora, above the Westpac bank or at the Campus Post Office.

Remember to validate your ticket every time you board a tram or bus or enter a train station. To validate your ticket, pass it through the little green or orange machines.

If you travel without a valid ticket, or on a concession ticket without a concession card, you can be fined by the inspectors (and the fined amount is high: over \$150). In Victoria, the only international students eligible for concession prices on public transport are exchange students (and they must buy a concession card from a local train station first).

Metcard fares: effective as of 1 January 2009

Zones		1	2	1 2	Value Metcard option
2 hour	Full fare	\$3.70	\$2.80	\$5.80	10 x 2 hour
	Concession	\$2.30	\$1.70	\$3.30	
Daily	Full fare	\$6.80	\$4.80	\$10.60	5 x Daily
	Concession	\$3.70	\$2.70	\$5.60	
10 x 2 hour	Full fare	\$29.40	\$20.20	\$49.60	
	Concession	\$14.70	\$10.10	\$24.80	
Weekly	Full fare	\$109.60	\$73.40	\$169.00	
	Concession	\$54.80	\$36.70	\$84.50	
Monthly	Full fare only	\$1173.00	\$785.00	\$1808.00	
Yearly					

Other Metcard products: effective as of 1 January 2009

	Full fare	Concession
Early Bird x 10 (this is a no cost ticket)	-	-
City Saver x 10 (within City Saver area)	\$21.80	\$10.90
Off-Peak Daily (Zones 1+2)	\$9.90	\$5.00
5 x Weekend Daily	\$15.00	-
Sunday Saver (Zones 1+2)	\$3.10	-
5 x Seniors Daily (Zones 1+2)	-	\$16.50
Seniors Daily (Zones 1+2)	-	\$3.40

(Source: metlink.com.au)

You can save money by buying a ticket for a longer period if you are a regular user of public transport or buy in bulk.

Train and tram services generally operate between 5am and midnight Monday to Saturday, and 8am to 11pm on Sundays.

Operating hours vary for local bus services.

For timetable and service information phone Metlink on 131 638, or visit the website: www.metlinkmelbourne.com.au

FEEDING YOURSELF

Shopping for groceries

The Preston Market at Murray Road, Preston is open:

Wednesdays 8.00am-3.00pm

Thursdays 8.00am-6.00pm

Fridays 8.00am-8.00pm and

Saturdays 8.00am-3.00pm.

It has a selection of cheap, quality, fresh fruit, vegetables and meat. To get there, take tram 86 to stop 49 and walk down Murray Road towards Preston train station. It also includes a Safeway supermarket which is open 7.00am-midnight every day.

Coles and Safeway Supermarkets

- Coles and Safeway at Summerhill Village (Tram 86 stop 57 and 56, open from 6.00am-midnight)
- Coles and Safeway at Bundoora Square (Tram 86 stop 66, open from 6.00am-midnight)
- Coles and Safeway at Northland (Bus 550, open from 6.00am-midnight)

Cafes, restaurants, fast food

Within walking distance of LTU:

There is a McDonalds on Plenty Road, next to Tram stop 60.

There are also two petrol stations on Plenty Road: one next to tram stop 59 (BP) and the other next to tram stop 61 (Metro Fuel), where you can buy 'emergency' food and toiletries.

Along the Tram 86 route:

Summerhill Village shopping centre is 5 minutes from the University, at tram stop 56. There you can find Go-Lo, Debab's Fish 'n' Chips, Food Star (an all-you-can-eat restaurant), Johnny's Pizza and Red Rooster. If you continue travelling on the tram towards the city for about 15 minutes you will find a range of nice restaurants on High Street (including Italian, Malaysian, Vietnamese, Thai and African food). There are Coles and Safeway supermarkets as well.

Bundoora Square is 10 minutes from the University, at tram stop 66. There you can find Café Lucio, Nando's, Fine Fruits, Noodle Bar, Baker's Delight, the Pizzeria, two Chinese restaurants and much more. There is also the Bundoora pub and Coles and Safeway supermarkets!

By bus:

Bus 550 will take you from the University to Northland Shopping Centre (open Fri 9.00am-9.00pm, Sat 9.00am-5.00pm, and Sun 10.00am-5.00pm). The trip takes about 20 minutes and the buses leave from LTU on Fridays until 6.20pm & Saturdays until 5.10pm. This is the biggest shopping centre in the area and you should be able to find nearly everything you need.

Halal food & Muslim prayer facilities

Campus food outlets are closed on weekends.

Halal foods are available at a range of off-campus locations including some supermarkets and the Preston market (see above). For a comprehensive halal food guide visit: www.latrobe.edu.au/international/predeparture/muslim_students

Both female and male Muslim prayer facilities are available on campus. The facilities are kept locked, so before your first visit, email the La Trobe University Islamic Society to get the security code. (ltu_is@yahoo.com.au)

There are also two mosques located close to the Bundoora campus in:

Heidelberg (Corner Lloyd & Elliot Streets, Heidelberg, Tel: 9457 4624) and

Preston (90 Cramer Street, Preston, Tel: 9470 5936)

ENTERTAINMENT

There is not a lot of nightlife in Bundoora, but there's plenty to do in the suburbs nearby and in the Melbourne city centre.

The nearest **cinemas** are:

- Hoyts Cinema at Northland Shopping Centre (the Northland Food Court includes cafes and takeaway)
- The Westgarth, tram 86 stop 28, High Street, Westgarth (surrounded by cafes and bars)

Nightlife:

High Street, Northcote (Tram 86): at stop 32, visit the Northcote Social Club, a great pub with a good menu and excellent live music. It is surrounded by several charming little bars and pubs, all within walking distance.

Smith Street (Tram 86): there are numerous bars/clubs on Smith Street, with an interesting alternative atmosphere. Get off at stop 17 and explore some of the bars. At the corner of Smith and Gertrude Street (stop 15) you will find 'A Bar Called Barry's', a fun and funky venue in which you can boogie (dance) the night away.

Brunswick Street (Parallel to Smith Street, Tram 86): Get off at the corner of Smith Street and Johnston Street and walk up Johnston Street towards Brunswick Street. Take a break from the short hike by stopping for a beer in the pub/club 'Purple Turtle'. Once you reach Brunswick Street you can choose from many different pubs, bars and clubs. Have fun!

Lygon Street (Bus 250): Lygon Street is famous for its Italian Restaurants and atmosphere. Let the bus driver know that you want to go to Lygon Street and he/she will let you out at the appropriate stop on Rathdowne Street (near the corner of Elgin Street). You just need to walk for one minute west to Lygon Street, which is parallel to Rathdowne Street.

City Centre (Tram 86, Bus 350): Wander the city's broad boulevards and narrow lanes and you'll discover a wealth of places in which to eat, drink, meet people or dance until dawn. You can get to the city on either Tram 86 or Bus 350. It's a good idea to pick up a free street magazine (eg. Beat) from any pub or bar in the above-mentioned streets and head into the city with a destination in mind.

Getting Home: Last trams run at around 12:30am, but from 12:30am till 4:30am Saturdays and 5.30am Sundays, the Nightrider bus (Etham Line) will take you back to the University.

A taxi is the alternative, costing approximately \$50.

www.metlinkmelbourne.com.au/timetables/after_midnight_buses_nightrider

Cheap and free:

Queen Victoria Market www.qvm.com.au/home.php

Queen Victoria Market is a thriving and vital place pulsating with life. The market is only a few minutes walk from the city centre. Buy some provisions to cook for the week, eat a delicious lunch or just observe.

It is made up of two blocks; the lower market lies to the east of Queen Street, and the upper market lies west of Queen Street.

Opening hours are:

Saturday from 6.00am-3.00pm and Sunday from 9.00am-4.00pm

In summer, it is also open on Tues, Thurs and Fri, with the Suzuki Night Market on Wednesday nights.

Bundoora Park

Escape for an hour or a day and enjoy a wide range of activities in Cooper's Settlement, Bundoora. It is open every day between 10am and 4pm. Play a round of golf, relax in the many picnic areas, view the Melbourne skyline from Mt. Cooper, stroll through the ancient red gums, admire our great wetlands and even see emus. (Tram 86, stop 61)

Wildlife Reserve, Bundoora www.latrobe.edu.au/wildlife

The Melbourne Wildlife Sanctuary (next to LTU) enables visitors to step into 28 hectares of 'living theatre' where animal populations are managed to ensure an inspiring, educational and memorable experience for all visitors.

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday (9.00 am to 3.00pm).

Guided Tours (daytime): \$12 for adults (bookings required)

Guided Tours (nocturnal/spotlighting at night): \$20 for adults (bookings required)

Self guided walk: gold coin donation.

All inquiries and bookings: telephone: (+61 3) 9479 1206

Find the Wildlife Reserve in the back of your Arrivals guide (map reference J 1).

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