2021 Study Abroad and Exchange Guide

A guide for study abroad and exchange students
At RMIT we focus on giving everyone the chance to be their best, shape their future and belong. That’s what our Ready for Life and Work strategy is all about and thanks to the passion of our extraordinary people we’re making it a reality. We exist to prepare our students for workplaces that are rapidly evolving and we play a part in shaping a changing world.

**Martin Bean CBE**
Vice-Chancellor and President
RMIT University

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**RMIT prepares students for life and work**

Readi for a change, but don’t want to commit to a full program? Why not join RMIT as a study abroad or exchange student! Immerse yourself in a new and exciting culture by studying at RMIT in Melbourne - one of the world’s most liveable cities - or Vietnam - RMIT’s Asian hub - for a semester or two. Take advantage of the University’s strong connections with industry, work-relevant courses and practical learning.

RMIT hosts more than 1,000 study abroad and exchange students from more than 100 countries each year.
Our international reputation with employers, industry-based learning, state-of-the-art facilities, and student support are just some of the reasons why over 97,000 students, including 40,000 international students from 230 countries and territories, choose to study with us. We are one of the top universities in Melbourne, and one of Australia’s oldest tertiary institutions.
Top 1% of universities globally

2000+ scholarships awarded to our students in 2019

$1.5M+ in funding allocated to student start-ups since 2015

Excellence in Innovation
Winner of the 2018 Victorian International Education Awards for Excellence in Innovation in Partnership and International Engagement

Committed to sustainability
Winner of the Green Gown Award for Continuous Improvement: Institutional Change. The only university in Australasia to have received this award twice

Champion of inclusion
Winner of three separate awards at the 2019 Australian LGBTI Inclusion Awards, which recognise organisations around the country that foster and support diverse communities

Exemplar of good design
RMIT’s Swanston Academic Building has been awarded a 5-star green rating and was shortlisted for the World Building of the Year Award in 2013. More recently, RMIT’s New Academic Street won the Victorian Architecture Medal in 2018, along with five other prizes

#22 in the world out of all universities under 50 years old

#1 of 6 dual-sector universities in Australia

#12 art and design university in the world

#5 graduate employment rate in Australia

#1 Victorian university for student engagement

11,698 student work-integrated learning placements with 3749 industry partners in 2019

97,000 students from 230+ different countries

450,000 alumni living in 130 different countries

1,500,000 in funding allocated to student start-ups since 2015

1 of 6 dual-sector universities in Australia
Choose from five campuses in two countries

Study in a location that inspires you:

AUSTRALIA
- Melbourne City
- Brunswick
- Bundoora

VIETNAM
- Ho Chi Minh City
- Hanoi
Melbourne

Situated in the very heart of the CBD, the City campus has been an iconic part of the Melbourne skyline for more than 130 years.

Bundoora

Situated in the north of Melbourne, the leafy Bundoora campus is home to many of RMIT’s education, biomedical, health and science courses.

Brunswick

Our Brunswick campus is a creative and multicultural hub. It is home to many of RMIT’s design courses, including fashion, textiles, graphic and industrial design.

Saigon South Campus

Study abroad at RMIT Vietnam and experience an unforgettable semester in Asia. Our beautiful Hanoi and Saigon South campuses offer clean, green environments and expansive study spaces.

Hanoi City Campus

Although not a student campus, RMIT’s European hub in Barcelona acts as a gateway for European research, industry, government and enterprise to connect with innovative talent in Australia. Opportunities exist for students to engage with our European centre through study tours, mentoring, internships and research.
Life in Melbourne

Melbourne is a welcoming multicultural city where diversity is celebrated. The city is internationally recognised for its vibrant food and coffee culture. Melbourne features beautifully maintained public spaces, a network of bustling, creative laneways, iconic galleries and museums, as well as a lively year-round calendar of cultural, entertainment, fashion, food and sports activities and events.

Things to do in Melbourne

- Wander the laneways of the world’s most liveable city.
- Head to the Melbourne Cricket Ground to watch a game of cricket or Aussie Rules football.
- Watch a movie in the Royal Botanic Gardens with Moonlight Cinema.
- Explore the CBD on iconic Melbourne trams.
- Shop at the bustling Queen Victoria Market.
Life in Vietnam

Living and studying in Vietnam will you give an opportunity to explore a unique, historic, exotic, and rapidly developing country.

For culture, food, and dramatic scenery Vietnam has it all. You will be coming to a country rich with history and culture. From the ancient town of Hoi An, to the historical ruins of the Cham dynasty, the beaches of central Vietnam, and UNESCO world heritage site Ha Long Bay. Vietnam will surprise you with its diversity.

— Saigon South Campus

Formerly known as Saigon, this fast-moving, ever-growing modern city is the economic centre of Vietnam, and is populated by almost 7.3* million people. In January 2017, Ho Chi Minh City was named as the world’s second most dynamic city.

The city is open 24-7, and is home to many cafes and restaurants serving food from all around the world. But beyond that are glimpses of history and cultural attractions including the Opera House, French colonial-style hotels, museums and galleries, Ben Thanh Market and a day tour to Mekong Delta area.

— Hanoi City Campus

Culture and history are the key aspects of this 1000 years-old city. Walk the narrow historic streets of the Old Quarter, with shops selling everything from red candlesticks to lacquerware and water puppets and take in the sights and sounds around Hoan Kiem Lake. The lake is the focal point of Hanoi life, especially on weekends. Ngoc Son Temple was built in the 18th Century and is located in the centre of the lake, on a small island.
To search for courses at RMIT Australia, visit: bit.ly/aus-study-abroad
To search for courses at RMIT Vietnam, visit: bit.ly/vn-coursesearch

* Study areas provided at RMIT Vietnam
- Australian themed courses (semester 1 only)
  - Indigenous Studies
  - Introduction to Australian Society
  - Australian Society in a Global Context
  - Public Policy
  - Introduction to Law

- Courses offered only in Vietnam
  - Tourism & Hospitality Management
  - Digital Film and Video
  - Design Studies

- Restricted courses
  **Architectural Design**
  All approved Exchange Architectural Design students will have a set Study Plan identified by the School. Architectural Design courses are not available to Study Abroad students. We recommend Study Abroad students explore the courses available in other areas such as Landscape Architecture, Urban Design, Interior and Industrial Design.

  **Media and Communication, Design and Fashion**
  Courses from the above areas are strictly open to students with a background in a related discipline.

- Recommended courses
  We encourage you to consider the Recommended Courses as they have a faster and easier approval process. The Recommended Courses are identifiable in our online course search tool.
What is a GAP year?

If you have just finished high school and would like a taste of what it is like to study in Australia, but don’t know what career path you want to take, you can join us for a one or two semester GAP year at RMIT.

Option 1
Design your own course by selecting subjects from RMIT University’s range of disciplines.

Courses are only available in:
- Accounting
- Business IT and logistics
- Economics, Finance and Marketing
- Management
- Engineering
- Global, Urban and Social Studies
- Health and Biomedical Sciences
- Property
- Construction and Project Management
- Science

Option 2
Choose a GAP Year package

- Global Studies
- Social Change
- Sustainability and Urban Planning
- Legal and Justice Studies
- Science
- Business
- Engineering

For more information on GAP Year visit: bit.ly/aus-study-abroad
Study Abroad Packages

What is a Study Abroad package?

Rather than designing your own Study Abroad program, you can choose to study one of our pre-selected Study Abroad Packages:

- Social Change
- Sustainability and Urban Planning
- Legal and Justice Studies
- Fashion and Textiles Merchandising
- Entrepreneurship
- Business, IT and Logistics
- Blockchain and Behavioural Business
- Aviation

For more information on Study Abroad Packages visit: bit.ly/aus-study-abroad
The International internship program delivers the perfect combination of academic engagement and professional experience. You will determine personalized learning objectives for skills development, and build on what you learn in the workplace and on-campus workshops. The unique experience fosters your career development by:

- Boosting your employability
- Gaining business experience in an emerging economy
- Building international networks

RMIT Vietnam has strong industry connections and will provide internships in a variety of sectors including business, information technology, advertising, engineering, and design. Internship employers include:

- Atlas Industries
- Bayer Vietnam
- CPA Australia
- Deloitte Vietnam
- DHL Vietnam
- DKS
- Ernst & Young Vietnam
- Futurity
- GBA
- HSBC Vietnam
- Intel Products
- KPMG
- L’oreal Vietnam
- Lazada
- Mirum
- Nielsen Vietnam
- Nutrition Technologies
- Park Hyatt
- PricewaterhouseCoopers
- Robert Bosch Vietnam
- Uniben
- Unilever

You will be supported every step of the way to make sure you have a meaningful experience that meets your learning needs and career goals.

For more information and support:

Career and Industry Relations
Email: international.internship@rmit.edu.vn
Get future ready

Job Shop

RMIT’s Job Shop is your drop-in service centre for all things career related. Job Shop offers services such as:

- resumé and cover letter reviews
- help finding job opportunities
- career workshops and events
- careers consultations

rmit.edu.au/jobshop

RMIT Creds

RMIT Creds are micro-credentials that develop your skill set beyond your course study. These credentials have been co-designed with industry to ensure you’re ready for the changing world of work. They cover subjects such as digital literacy, leadership, sustainability, innovation, collaboration and communication.

Most Creds are available online and are short in duration, ranging from 60-minute snippets to several hours of learning.

rmit.edu.au/creds

RMIT Activator

Activator is RMIT’s home of entrepreneurship. Our workshops, online learning and start-up programs position students to solve the biggest problems out there and take on the future of work. At Activator, you can access mentors, attend masterclasses, request business coaching, apply for funding and learn the enterprise skills you need to support your ideas.

No matter what your future looks like, plug into our ecosystem of entrepreneurs, intrapreneurs, start-up founders and innovators and let us help you on your journey to success.

rmitactivator.edu.au

Future Edge employability program

Future Edge is a flexible, co-curricular program designed to increase the employability of all RMIT students. The program helps you to craft and build your “personal brand” in order to stand out in an incredibly competitive employment landscape. It will complement your time at RMIT and help you build industry-specific and practical skills to help you transition into your career.

rmit.edu.au/future-edge

Work-integrated learning

At RMIT, work-integrated learning (WIL) is embedded into every stage of your student experience, so you have the opportunity to put what you’ve learnt in the classroom into practice. Through industry work placements, internships, seminars, field trips, projects and mentoring, you’ll be ready to make an impact from day one of your career.

Global Leadership Programs

RMIT offers an exciting range of programs designed to grow your Leadership skills, increase your understanding of Cultural Intelligence (CQ) and equip you with the confidence to thrive in your global career. These free programs are a great way to meet RMIT students from across the globe and work together with industry on real world problems.

rmit.edu.au/globalleader
Each semester ten students from around the world are selected to be Social Media Ambassadors. If selected, you will receive a $500AUD scholarship to capture your Melbourne experience using the hashtag #exploRMIT.

Applications open during orientation week. To enter, you need to submit a video that shows your experience in Melbourne.

Join the online community to check out the Social Media Ambassadors’ experiences:

Instagram: https://instagram.com/explore/tags/exploRMIT

More information can be found at:

Ask me!
Send your questions to:
global.experience@rmit.edu.au
Discover RMIT, Melbourne and Victoria

Get set for an action-packed orientation program full of events and activities that will introduce you to the academic and social side of campus life. You’ll meet loads of new friends, get a taste of Australian culture and most importantly - have a lot of fun!

- You will be able to attend sessions that cover enrolment and timetabling, academic and support services for students, accommodation and rental advice, student visa rights and responsibilities.
- We will have guided campus tours and you will also get the chance to meet your fellow exchange and study abroad students.
- Learn everything you need to know about living in Melbourne, including health and safety, travelling around Australia, Aussie sporting culture and more.
- You will also have the opportunity to participate in a day trip to one of Victoria’s most iconic sights, such as the spectacular Great Ocean Road or Phillip Island.

Airport pick-up service

As a study abroad or exchange student you are entitled to free airport pick-up. You need to register for pick-up before you arrive in Australia.

For more information: bit.ly/exchange-studyabroad-support

Trips and tours

Looking for adventure? Take a break from the books and explore the city of Melbourne or the mountains, beaches and forests of Victoria on a student tour.

Cuddle a koala, go skiing on Mount Hotham, visit the Twelve Apostles or just find the best brunch spot in town. See and experience it all with RMIT.

Mates at RMIT

New to Melbourne? If you’re joining us from a regional, rural, interstate or international location, we’ll help you settle in to your new home. Mates at RMIT connects you with current students to help make navigating university life a little easier.

Sign up as a student mentee and you’ll get your own mentor to show you where to go and what to do around RMIT.

Sports and fitness

At RMIT we have more than 40 sports clubs, from basketball to Brazilian jiu jitsu. Join a club at RMIT and you’re not just keeping fit and doing something you love; you’ll also make lots of new friends and may even get to do some travelling.

The Redbacks are RMIT’s sports team collective. Redback teams compete at a national level in the Australian University Games.

RMIT creative clubs

No matter what you choose to study, RMIT has a creative group, activity or collective that’s open to you.

Our dance classes, performing arts troupes and media makers are always looking for new members and they’re open to extroverts and introverts alike.
Orientation and support

Buddy Program

Prior to your arrival, RMIT will assign a buddy to you via email with full details of contact information. The Buddies will support you during your stay in Vietnam from the first day of arrival until the end of the semester.

Airport pick up service

RMIT Vietnam provides a free airport pick-up service for all new international students, you need to complete the registration form to let us know when you will arrive in Ho Chi Minh or Ha Noi.

Orientation Day

Orientation Day is often organised one week prior to the semester commencement, exclusively for new students to explore RMIT campus, services, resources as well as meet and get connected to senior students, lecturers and staffs, that includes:
- Collect student ID card and orientation kit;
- Learn about support services (housing advice, bank information, insurance; etc)
- Networking with other students
- Overview of RMIT online system and on-campus resources (Email, Intranet, Canvas, Online Enrolment system, Library, Safezone, etc)

Welcome dinner, city tour and cooking class

- An exclusive one-day trip around City center and surrounding districts
- Form a team of international master chefs, learn how to make traditional dishes and win the best taste of Vietnamese cuisine
- Welcome dinner with all fellow international students, buddies and RMIT staffs to make friends and networking

rmit.edu.vn/student-life/international-student-resources
Accommodation and living costs
Melbourne

Purpose-built Student Accommodation (PBSA)

RMIT has carefully selected a number of PBSA properties, which meet RMIT’s high quality standards. RMIT’s preferred providers of student accommodation provide a supportive and engaging student experience, conveniently located close to campuses and transportation.

These properties typically include:
- a variety of furnished room types (studios, twin share, shared apartments).
- all inclusive rates, which means utilities, high-speed internet/Wi-Fi and other services are covered by the rent.
- secure access to building and room.
- excellent communal facilities.
- clear, transparent rental rates and agreements.
- a respectful, inclusive and safe culture.
- friendly community with strong links to RMIT to support students.

rmit.edu.au/pbsa

Shared accommodation

Shared accommodation is a popular choice for students looking for reduced living expenses and the opportunity to meet new people.

Students looking for an existing household can find advertisements on shared accommodation websites, but it is important to inspect rooms and meet all the people you may be sharing with before moving in.

- flatmates.com.au
- flatmatefinders.com.au
- melbourneexchange.com.au
- realestate.com.au
- sharehouses.com.au

Cost of living

To help you understand the costs of relocating to Melbourne, we have developed some helpful student budget guidelines for you. The following estimates are based on a single student living in shared accommodation.

Average weekly expenses in Melbourne

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXPENSE</th>
<th>$AU</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rent (shared)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ City</td>
<td>AU$200 - 300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Brunswick</td>
<td>AU$150 - 250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>■ Bundoora</td>
<td>AU$120 - 200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity and gas</td>
<td>AU$15 - 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>AU$80 - 150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone and Internet</td>
<td>AU$15-30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Transport</td>
<td>up to AU$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entertainment</td>
<td>AU$30 - 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated weekly total</td>
<td>AU$310 – 660</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Vietnam is an affordable place to live and the cost of rent, food, transport and utilities is a fraction of what you’d pay in most countries.

The following estimates are based on a single student living in shared accommodation.

### Your accommodation options

Study abroad and exchange students coming to RMIT Vietnam have a range of accommodation options:

- **On campus**
  - There is a beautiful on-campus dormitory on RMIT Vietnam SGS Campus. Students can contact the residential centre and apply for on-campus service.
  - Contact: residentialcentre@rmit.edu.vn
  - Website: rmit.edu.vn/student-life/support-services/accommodation

- **Off campus**
  - Students who want to live off campus will need to arrange their own accommodation. RMIT International Student Support is more than happy to give you advice and assistance so you can find the right housing to suit you.

### Cost of living

Vietnam is an affordable place to live and the cost of rent, food, transport and utilities is a fraction of what you’d pay in most countries.

The following estimates are based on a single student living in shared accommodation.

### Weekly expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>WEEK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rent (shared)</td>
<td>AU$50 - AU$90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>AU$25 - AU$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone and internet</td>
<td>AU$7 - AU$9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public transport</td>
<td>Up to AU $0.80/km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entertainment</td>
<td>AU$10 - AU$30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Key dates

## Academic calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Orientation</th>
<th>AUSTRALIA</th>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Orientation</th>
<th>VIETNAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February - June</td>
<td>Mid February</td>
<td></td>
<td>February – May</td>
<td>2nd week of February</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Orientation</td>
<td>July - November</td>
<td>Mid July</td>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester 3</td>
<td>Orientation</td>
<td>Semester 3</td>
<td>Orientation</td>
<td>Semester 3</td>
<td>Orientation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester 3</td>
<td>Orientation</td>
<td>October – January</td>
<td>1st week of October</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Application deadlines

The deadlines below refer to Exchange (EX) and Study Abroad (SA) applications for RMIT Australia and RMIT Vietnam.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1</th>
<th>Semester 2</th>
<th>Semester 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31 October previous year (EX)</td>
<td>31 March current year (EX)</td>
<td>31 March current year (EX)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 November previous year (SA)</td>
<td>15 April current year (SA)</td>
<td>10 August current year (SA)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the most up to date information visit the following:

Australia: [rmit.edu.au/students/student-essentials/important-dates/higher-education-important-dates](http://rmit.edu.au/students/student-essentials/important-dates/higher-education-important-dates)

Vietnam: [rmit.edu.vn/study-at-rmit/important-dates-for-students](http://rmit.edu.vn/study-at-rmit/important-dates-for-students)
How to apply

1. Check you meet the entry requirements
   
   You must:
   - have completed at least one full year of studies at your home institution.
   - have completed at least one full year of studies at your home institution. (GAP Year applicants are not required to have previous higher education studies)
   - have a minimum cumulative Grade Point Average of 2.0 out of 4 or 60% average (or equivalent).
   - meet RMIT’s English language requirements bit.ly/englishrequirement
   - be 18 years of age or over at time of application.

2. Design your program
   
   Select RMIT courses using the course search tool. Make sure you take into consideration the course restrictions, Vocational and Higher Education calendars and campus location.
   - Australia: bit.ly/aus-study-abroad

3. Submit your application
   
   Are you a Study Abroad or a Exchange student?

   **SA: Study abroad (fee paying)**

   If your home institution does not have an exchange agreement with RMIT or you do not receive an exchange nomination, you can still join us for one or two semesters. Tuition fees are paid directly to RMIT.

   Find out about fees and how to apply:
   - Study Abroad to Australia: bit.ly/aus-study-abroad
   - Study Abroad to Vietnam: bit.ly/vn-study-abroad

   **EX: Exchange (fee waiver)**

   Exchange students are officially nominated by their home institution to study for one or two semesters at RMIT, under a reciprocal student exchange agreement. Tuition fees are paid to the home institution, not RMIT.

   Exchange to Australia (*): bit.ly/exchangeaustralia
   Exchange to Vietnam (*): rmit.edu.vn/study-at-rmit/international-students/exchange-at-rmit-vietnam

   (*) Your home institution will inform us of your nomination. We will then provide your institution with all the information and materials you will need to submit an application.

4. Receive and accept your offer
   
   You will receive an offer letter that you need to accept in order to secure your place in the program. We encourage to do this as soon as you can.

5. Receive your Confirmation of Enrolment and apply for visa
   
   Find out what to expect when you arrive:
   - Australia: rmit.edu.au/students/new-student-guide
   - Vietnam: rmit.edu.vn/student-life/international-student-resources

6. Receive your course selection outcome

7. Travel to Australia/Vietnam
Testimonials

Riccardo Petrachi

For me RMIT has not been simply my exchange destination, just a university, but it became my second home and big family. RMIT has been the perfect choice. It has given me so much experience and joy in a year of exchange more than I expected. I worked for RMIT, I became a social media ambassador, a trip leader and a mentor. My network has doubled and the fantastic balance between studies and social life on campus made my time here one of the happiest in my life.

What else could have I asked for? I will never regret my choice and will never forget this experience. RMIT now feels home.

Lena Korostylova

At my home university in Berlin, I gained important theoretical knowledge in electrical engineering. A semester abroad at the RMIT helped me to expand this knowledge and get a broader, international insight into this field. By choosing interdisciplinary courses I was able to learn important skills which contribute to my studies.

Yasemin Ozcelik

I chose RMIT because of their top-ranked media and communication program. I had heard a lot of positive things about it and wanted to experience it myself. It was the best decision of my life.

My time at RMIT was so different than being at home and studying. Everything was bigger and better.

I especially loved the study space at RMIT, there were so many different places to study, both inside and outside when the weather was nice.

I will never forget my time at RMIT.
This guide provides information about RMIT’s Melbourne and Vietnam based programs for prospective Exchange and Study Abroad students. Prepared July 2020. Every effort has been made to ensure the information contained in this publication is accurate and current at the date of production. For the most up-to-date information, please refer to the RMIT University website before lodging your application.

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