Victoria University
Melbourne, Australia

About:
Victoria University campuses are located across Melbourne's western suburbs and the city center. We have purpose-built learning environments, the latest technology, state-of-the-art laboratories and equipment, a full range of sports and recreation facilities plus plenty of space to relax and enjoy campus life. VU currently has 10 campuses – City Flinders, City King, City Queen, Footscray Nicholson, Footscray Park, Melton, Newport, St Albans, Sunshine and Werribee. The Footscray Park campus is the University's primary campus, with 13,700 students in 2010. Located one kilometer from the Footscray railway station, this campus occupies a seven-hectare site next to parklands along the Maribyrnong River. Features include: full gym and indoor 25m heated pool, cafes and restaurants, a student bar and a childcare center.

Quick Facts:
- Established in 1916
- Public University
- 28,567 students (2010)
- Students from more than 90 countries

Program Levels Available:
- English language program
- Course at TAFE (certificate, diploma)
- Undergraduate (associate or bachelor degree)
- Postgraduate (graduate certificate, graduate diploma, masters or PhD)

Choose from courses in:
- Arts
- Business
- Engineering and Science
- Human Development

Estimated Costs:
1 Australian Dollar = USD 1.02
- Accommodation= AUD 4,000-5,000
- Food= AUD 1,620-1,830
- Textbooks= AUD 400
- Personal= AUD 1,200-1,400
- Visa= 550 AUD
Major Areas of Study for International Students

Arts
Creative Arts
English Language (ELICOS)
Advanced English for Speakers of Other Languages (AESOL)
Asian Studies
Communication Studies
Gender Studies
History
Literary Studies
Media Studies
Performance Studies
Political Science
Professional Writing
Psychology
Social Research Methods
Sociology
Visual Arts
Vietnamese

Business and Law
Accounting
Economics and Finance
Hospitality Tourism
Marketing
Law
Management
Information Systems

Engineering and Science
Biology
Bio-Medical
Chemistry
Engineering
Health Sciences
Human physiology
Mathematics for science
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Nursing
Physics

Human Development
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Types of Accommodation

Residential Housing

VU owns and operates a range of accommodation for students, staff and guests of the University. If you have never lived out of home or wish to live in a University environment, choosing to live in one of the VU owned student residences may be a great option for you.

Student Village
The Student Village is located in Maribyrnong and provides accommodation for 510 students. It is close to public transport and Highpoint shopping center.

Sunbury Hall
Sunbury Hall is located on the historic Sunbury Campus and provides accommodation for 120 students.

Victoria Place
Victoria Place is a purpose built apartment complex with 41 fully furnished self-contained apartments and two deluxe 3 bedroom units. Located in Footscray, it is a short walk to the Footscray Park campus.

Finding private rental and student apartments

Use the VU Student Housing Database, contact a real estate agent in the suburb in which you want to live, or search online to find private rental accommodation.
www.property.com.au  
www.realestate.com.au  
www.domain.com.au  
www.realestateview.com.au

Homestay accommodation

Homestay accommodation involves boarding with a family, couple or single person/s in their home. Living in a homestay arrangement provides an opportunity to live in a family environment without the need to manage a household. Choosing this option also eases the transition to University life.

There are two types of homestay, 'rent only' and 'full board'. Both homestay options include shared access to common areas such as the kitchen, lounge/family room and bathroom.

Rent only homestay: generally includes a furnished room and linen, as well as electricity, gas, water but excludes internet and telephone charges.

Full-board homestay: generally includes a furnished room, meals and as well as electricity, gas, water but excludes internet and telephone charges. Additional services such as laundry may also be included. You may also be asked to contribute to household duties but you are not expected to clean the whole house or provide childcare.
Cost of homestay

Costs of both homestays will vary from approximately $A145 to $A200 per person per week depending on whether your bedroom is single or shared, the type of accommodation (house / unit) and the location. The host must charge less for a shared room than a private room and cannot put additional people in your room without your consent.

It is always a good idea to discuss and agree in writing on living arrangements prior to moving into a home.

Dealing with issues during your homestay

If you have any concerns or issues with your homestay try to raise them early, as the longer a problem is left the more difficult it becomes to resolve! If you find it difficult to speak directly with the homestay host contact the homestay agent or the VU housing officer on 9919 8661. The Dispute Settlement Centre of Victoria (DSCV) also provides a meditation service to help you resolve the issue.

Homestay agents

Homestay agents charge a placement fee of $A88-$A150 for arranging the placement. There are several organizations that can arrange the placement.

- **Australian Homestay Network**
  Phone: 1300 697 829
  Web: www.homestaynetwork.org

- **Homestay Victoria**
  Phone: + 61 3 9974 1078
  E-mail: homestay@homestay-australia.com
  Web: www.homestay-australia.com

- **Familystay Australia**
  Phone: + 61 3 9574 7473
  E-mail: familystay@bigpond.com.au
  Web: www.familystayaustralia.com

- **Student Accommodation Services**
  Phone: + 61 3 9486 1916
  E-mail: saccomm@bigpond.net.au
  Web: www.student-accommodation.com.au

Hotels and motels

Hotels and motels may be a suitable alternative for short-term accommodation. The Victorian Tourism Information Service should be able to provide information on hotels and in Melbourne.
International Student Care Service
International students can obtain support and information on accommodation and providers, legal or health issues and social isolation by contacting International Student Care Service.
   Level 1, 19-21 Argyle Place
   South Carlton 3053
   Free call*: 1800 056449 (*except from mobiles)

Contact VU:
VU provides independent, confidential advice on a range of housing issues.
   ASKVU Find answers and ask questions
   Phone +61 3 9919 8801, 9919 4418 or 9919 2399
   Email housing@vu.edu.au
   Disclaimer: The Homestay agents, hotels and motels referred to on this site are not owned or operated by VU, and VU does not endorse any of these providers. The contact details are provided for students' convenience only. Any arrangements, financial or otherwise, are strictly between the student and the provider.
**Fun Facts about Melbourne**

- Melbourne is the capital and most populous city in the state of Victoria, and the second most populous city in Australia.

- Inhabitants of Melbourne are called Melburnians.

- Melbourne was founded in 1835 (47 years after the European settlement of Australia) by settlers from Van Diemen's Land. It was named by Governor Richard Bourke in 1837, in honor of William Lamb—the 2nd Viscount Melbourne. Melbourne was officially declared a city by Queen Victoria in 1847.

- During the Victorian gold rush of the 1850s, it was transformed into one of the world's largest and wealthiest cities.

- It is often referred to as the "cultural capital of Australia".

- Melbourne was ranked as the world's most livable city in the “World's Most Livable Cities” ratings by the Economist Group's Intelligence Unit in August, 2011.

- The metropolis is home to the largest tram network in the world.