



Leisure

NEW ARRIVALS SURVIVAL GUIDE



This guide has been made possible by the following young people from the Multifaith Multicultural Youth Network: Cintia Chen (Education and Leisure), Annto Hassen (Budgeting), David Sibenaler (Youth Support Services), Celia Tran (Transport) and Nafisa Yussf (Employment).

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LEISURE

FACILITIES

PUBLIC LIBRARIES

There are many public libraries in Victoria from which you can borrow items such as books, DVDs and CDs. You can also use their facilities including computers, internet, study areas and meeting rooms. Library membership is free and open to Victorian residents. There may be fees for accessing some services.

The State Library of Victoria offers library services but does not loan out items. It is located in Melbourne city. Visit here for more information: www.slv.vic.gov.au

Each local government has their own library services.

Once you have membership to your local library, you will be able to freely use resources across all the libraries in the same local government area. More information can be found at your local library or on their website.



SPORTS CLUBS AND CENTRES

You may have noticed that Australia loves Aussie Rules, also known as the Australian Football League (AFL). The AFL (national level) and AFL Victoria, together with the Department for Victorian Communities, created the Multicultural Schools Program. This program helps young people from migrant and refugee communities access football and encourages a sense of community and social inclusion within the Australian community. You can check their website for more details about the program here: www.aflvic.com.au/index.php?id=121.

AFL Victoria also holds the Unity Cup to strengthen ties between police, Muslim and other culturally and linguistically diverse communities (CALD) through a mutual appreciation of Australian Rules football.

Many sports centres managed by universities and local governments provide access to sports, fitness and recreation facilities such as swimming pool, gym, sports courts and so on. They may also offer activities and classes such as fitness class and swimming lessons. For more information about membership and fees, check your local government or university websites.

MULTICULTURAL HUB

506 ELIZABETH STREET (OPPOSITE QUEEN VICTORIA MARKET)

The Multicultural Hub is a friendly place, where people from Melbourne's many different cultures can get together to work, share and learn in a safe and supportive environment.

There are free English conversation classes and workshops to help you with your pronunciation. There are other fun activities like Capoeira Angola workshops that teach you the traditional Brazilian martial arts. There are also facilities (such as computer labs, meeting rooms) that you can use for a low fee.

Visit here for more information:

www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/communityservices/multiculturalservices/multiculturalhub/pages/multiculturalhub.aspx

ANNUAL EVENTS

CULTURAL DIVERSITY WEEK

This is an annual celebration of multiculturalism held in March, where residents of Victoria of all backgrounds come together to participate in exciting activities and events as well as share their culture, faith and language.

Visit here for more information: www.multicultural.vic.gov.au/projects-and-initiatives/cultural-diversity-week

MOSAIC FESTIVAL

This festival is organised by the Victorian Immigrant Refugee Women's Coalition, and it is all about celebrating women in multicultural Victoria and fostering cross-cultural exchanges and collaboration. The festival is an opportunity for women from culturally diverse backgrounds to share their unique talents and experiences with the public.

Visit here for more information: www.virwc.org.au/index.php/events

EMERGE FESTIVAL

This festival celebrates United Nations World Refugee Day and celebrates Refugee Week in Victoria. It's an annual music and arts festival presenting amazing new refugee and emerging artists who have recently settled in Australia.

Visit <http://multiculturalarts.com.au/emerge.shtml> for more information.

VISIBLE EVENTS

African communities develop and showcase their musical talents at Visible events. Visible has some unique cross cultural collaborations and allows the public to celebrate with them the vibrant and diverse arts and culture newly arrived African musicians bring to Australia.

Visit here for more information: www.multiculturalarts.com.au/visible.shtml

STAYING UP TO DATE

Where can I get up to date information?	What's the website?
The Victorian Multicultural Commission news relevant to residents in Victoria from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.	www.multicultural.vic.gov.au/resources/news
The Centre for Multicultural Youth (CMY) offers a free bi-monthly e-newsletter called The Mix.	www.cmy.net.au/CMYeNews
The City of Melbourne offers a free monthly e-newsletter to keep you up to date with news and activities at the Multicultural Hub.	www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/CommunityServices/MulticulturalServices/multiculturalhub/Pages/Connecting.aspx
The Australian Federation of International Students (AFIS) promotes multicultural awareness and plans cultural events for the public.	www.afis.org.au
This Study Melbourne website is where you can find out about events and news (among other information) for international students.	www.studymelbourne.vic.gov.au/entertainment/events www.studymelbourne.vic.gov.au/entertainment/news
Multicultural Arts Victoria Folio newsletter is a guide to multicultural arts that talks about music, dance, theatre, visual arts, film and new media.	www.multiculturalarts.com.au/folio.shtml