

The Southern Cross Group

Promoting Mobility in the Global Community



Working Holidays in Countries other than the UK for Australians and New Zealanders

Many Australians and New Zealanders coming to the end of their two-year working holidaymaker visa in the UK don't realise that they may be able to subsequently undertake a working holiday in one or more of a number of other countries. Both Australia and New Zealand have negotiated bilateral working holidaymaker arrangements with various countries. In general, working holidays to other countries are available for people up to the age of 30 years, and for one year. But you should check the specific requirements for the country you are contemplating.

The London embassies of some, but not all, of these countries will issue Australians and New Zealanders with WH visas. For some countries, however, WH visas have to be applied for from the consulate or embassy of that country in Australia or New Zealand respectively, either in person, or by sending one's passport to the embassy/consulate by post. Check with the embassy or consulate of the country concerned.

Information for Australians

Australia has reciprocal arrangements on working holidays currently in force with **Canada, the Republic of Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Ireland, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom.**

A new agreement with **Belgium** signed in November 2002 is expected to come into force any day once ratification procedures are complete. Further, a new working holiday arrangement between Australia and **Taiwan** agreed in July 2004 will take effect on 1 November 2004.

On 5 July 2004 an agreement was signed with **Thailand**, and will come into effect when legal procedures on both sides have been completed. The special Thailand "work and holiday visa" is different to a traditional working holiday visa, in that it will require an applicant to have the support of their government, and hold tertiary qualifications as well meet as other conditions.

Australia is currently negotiating further working holiday arrangements with these countries: Andorra, Austria, Estonia, Greece, Iceland, Malaysia, Singapore, Spain, Switzerland, and the United States. Whenever a new working holiday arrangement is finalised, the Minister for Immigration puts out a media release, so keep an eye on www.immi.gov.au for updates.

The specific conditions for working holidays for Australians going to each of the countries varies, and changes from time to time. Further information can be found at www.southern-cross-group.org and on the embassy/consulate websites for the individual countries in Australia.

Information for New Zealanders

New Zealand has reciprocal arrangements on working holiday visas with **Argentina, Canada, Chile, Denmark, France, Germany, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the Republic of China, the Republic of Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Malta, the Netherlands, Singapore, Sweden, Taiwan, the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Uruguay.**

The specific conditions for working holidays for New Zealanders going to each of the countries varies, and changes from time to time. Further information can be found at www.southern-cross-group.org and on the embassy/consulate websites for the individual countries in New Zealand.