



CITY GUIDE
EA INTERNATIONAL - SYDNEY

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LEGAL MARKET

The depth and breadth of the legal market in Sydney is impressive. To start with, the national offices of Australia's top tier firms are all located in Sydney. These vast offices do internationally renowned legal work of the highest quality and pay top dollar. Add to this a wide array of impressive second tier firms and targeted boutiques doing top level work, and you can understand why there is rarely a shortage of opportunities on offer. Recent times have also seen the entrance of large Magic Circle and White Shoe firms into the market, indicative of the volume and quality of legal work available.

Relative to the rest of Australia, Sydney salaries can be up to 20% higher than in other cities like Brisbane and Melbourne.

As a result of the large volume of banks and financial institutions in Sydney, there is consistent flow of high quality opportunities in the areas of banking & finance and mergers & acquisitions. Infrastructure and project markets are also flourishing with firms in Sydney handling large volumes of Asia-Pacific work. There has also been consistent growth in property funds and insurance markets across the city.

Sydney has also along with Perth become the epicenter of bases for international firms that have established a new presence in the Australian market most notably Allen & Overy and Clifford Chance have established their Australian offices with Sydney being the main offering.

SALARIES

Below is a guide to the average salaries for solicitors in top and mid tier firms in Sydney:

Experience	Average Annual Salary (\$10 000)
Graduate Lawyer	70 – 80
1 Year PQE	75 – 95
2 Year PQE	80 – 110
3 Year PQE	85 – 135
4 Year PQE	95 – 140
5 Year PQE	105 – 145
Senior Associate 1 Year	135 – 165
Senior Associate 2 Year	145 – 180
Senior Associate 3 Year	160 – 205
Senior Associate 4 Year	175 – 350
Senior Associate 5 Year	180 – 300

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LIVING COST

The cost of living in Sydney is substantially higher than in other major cities and by world standards it is right up there. However, it is notable that this is generally reflected in high salaries. Rent is one of the most substantial costs due to a notable undersupply of properties available in the central areas of the city. As a guide a smaller one bedroom apartment in within a 4 kilometer radius of the central business district will cost between \$A400-500 and two bedroom units moving closer to the \$A600 mark depending on location.

On the city fringes, two bedroom apartments will cost upwards of A\$450 with three bedroom apartments costing upwards of A\$600 per week.

For those seeking houses the range will move up to the \$A650 per week mark for a small two bedroom home and move upwards from there. Location is the most determinative factor of rental price, with rent close to the CBD or beaches and surrounding suburbs being most expensive.

LIFESTYLE & CULTURE

The capital city of New South Wales is the biggest city in Australia with a population of more than 4.5 million. It is a bustling, vibrant, multicultural city that spreads across more than 12 000 km².

Like most parts of Australia, the lifestyle in Sydney is dictated by the moderate climate. The many beautiful beaches, waterways and parks mean that outdoor living is the norm, particularly during the spring and summer months. Sydney also boasts a wonderful restaurant scene, lively nightlife and a vast array of sporting and community clubs.

For families with children, Sydney has an excellent schooling system and several of Australia's top universities are located within the city. There is also plenty to do to entertain the kids, with cinemas, playgrounds, zoos, attraction parks and much more.