



# Living & working overseas guide

7th edition

A guide for UK qualified lawyers

## Contents

Introduction	3
Australia and New Zealand	4
Middle East	14
Asia	
Hong Kong	22
Singapore	28
Tokyo	34
China	38
Offshore	
Cayman Islands	48
British Virgin Islands	54
Bermuda	60
Channel Islands	66
USA	72
Europe	
Paris	75
Brussels	78
Amsterdam	81
Rest of the world	84
Contact Us	85

## Australia and New Zealand

#### Why go there?

The sun, the beach and the renowned surfare all synonymous with Australia. But for lawyers with more career-led ambitions, the attractions extend further than these somewhat superficial enticements. Australia has long been the destination of choice for UK lawyers looking to take on a broader range of work within their chosen practice specialism, without forfeiting the quality or scale of the work.

The training made available by Aussie law firms is excellent, while the nature of the role of an Associate in Australia allows you to take on more autonomy and responsibility than you may be accustomed to in the UK.

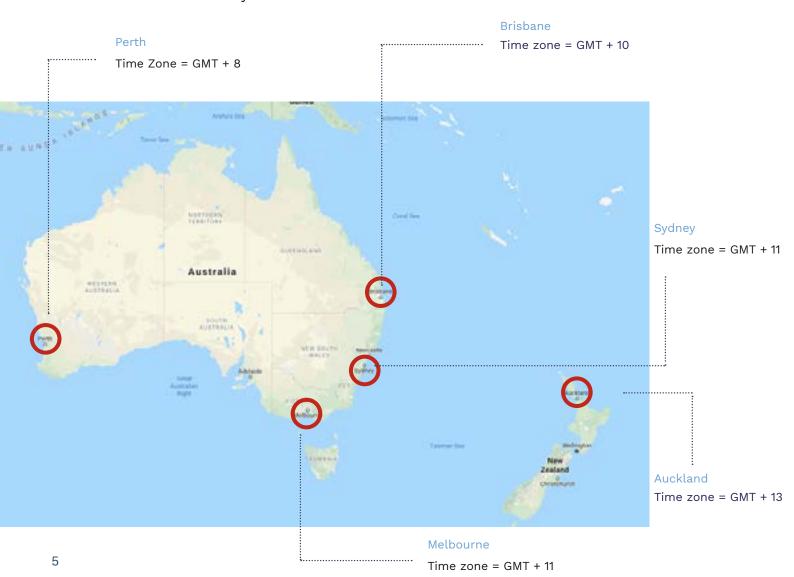
The legal system is highly sophisticated but very similar to the UK, making for an easy transition and short bedding-in period upon arrival. And, the fact that there is such high traffic of lawyers between the UK and Australian firms means that the path back to the UK is relatively straight forward if/when the time comes.

city in Australia has its own unique character (and they'll also probably want to tell you the reasons why their home city is the best).

While Sydney is the largest legal hub, has the most lenient requalification criteria and has long been the destination of choice amongst international lawyers, Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth all have their own inimitable lures and warrant consideration.

#### The cities

As most Australians you meet will be keen to tell you, each



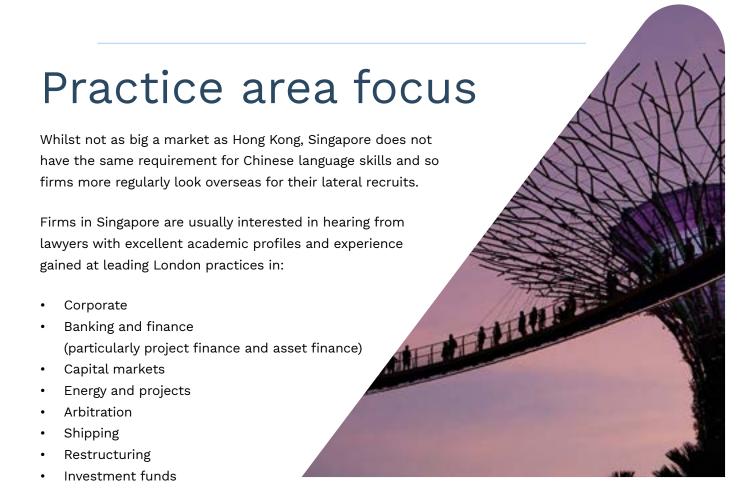
## Wider package and relocation

With the exception of a (very) small handful of US firms, salaries in Asia have moved away from the traditional 'expat package'. So, housing costs, travel costs, educational allowances etc are all things of the past. With regards to relocation, each firm has their own policy. However as standard, you can expect:

- · Flights to the location for you and your family as required
- · Reimbursement of 'reasonable shipping costs' or a lump sum to assist with costs
- Short term accommodation upon arrival (usually 2-4 weeks)
- · Almost all firms will secure and sponsor your visa

In relation to the wider package, you can expect:

- Admission to the firm's bonus scheme (most have some sort of scheme in place)
- · Comprehensive private medical insurance
- · Life insurance
- · Private pension scheme
- · Several firms also offer subsidised gym membership (or similar)



# Offshore: The Cayman Islands

#### CAYMAN ISLANDS | BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS | BERMUDA | JERSEY | GUERNSEY

The high salaries, 0% income tax, glorious beaches, an unrivalled lifestyle, ground-breaking work and accelerated career progression are all reasons why lawyers gravitate to the cayman islands. On the face of it, Cayman does seem to offer it all.

66

My life in the Cayman Islands has exceeded my already-high expectations.

Insolvency Litigator that moved from Herbert Smith Freehills to Carey Olsen in the Cayman Islands

### Contact us

We have an ever-growing team of legal search consultants dedicated to working with clients around the world and helping candidates make a move across the globe, wherever that may be. Please contact a member of our team for more information.



Matt Hall-Turner

Head of Singapore and Offshore

matt.hall-turner@mrasearch.sg

+65 8157 9904



Stephen Adams
Head of Hong Kong
stephen.adams@mrasearch.hk
+852 9464 3940



Ally Tabaqchali
Head of Middle East
ally.tabaqchali@mrasearch.sg
+65 8118 6965



Ben Myers
Head of Australia
ben.myers@mrasearch.hk
+61 (0) 477 416 452



Kay Khan
Head of Europe
kay.khan@mrasearch.co.uk
+44 (07947 860482