

Conference travel and visa information for INAP 2015 delegates

This information is particularly aimed at overseas visitors

Visa information for travel to Australia

Do I require a visa?

You will need a visa to enter Australia. The country of your passport which you hold determines the sort of visa that you need. For some, you can apply online at www.immi.gov.au, or you may need to lodge a paper-based application. The 'Visa Options for Events' factsheet and The 'Visa Application Requirements Factsheet' provide more detailed information, and we will send them to you on request.

You will need to apply for your visa well in advance of your intended date of travel to Australia. At least two months prior to your intended date of departure is recommended.

If you need an invitation letter for your visa application

In some cases, it will be necessary for you to obtain a letter from us stating that you will be attending the INAP 2015 conference. If you require a conference invitation letter, please contact the INAP 2015 Conference Secretariat via INAP2015@federation.edu.au and include your full name, position, affiliation, date of birth and passport number. Please note we are only able to issue an invitation letter for paid attendees, so it is important that you register for the conference before requesting a letter. Registration will be available shortly via www.federation.edu.au/inap

How to get to Ballarat

If travelling from overseas, Melbourne Airport is the nearest to Ballarat.

From Melbourne Airport (Tullamarine)

By Shuttle Bus

The Ballarat Airport Shuttle Bus runs a number of services daily between Melbourne Airport and the Ballarat city centre. More information on timetables, pick-up points, fare prices and on-line bookings is available at www.airportshuttlebus.com.au. The airport bus stop in Ballarat is at the Ballarat train station.

By Road

Ballarat is about 75 minutes' drive from Tullamarine Airport in good traffic.

From Melbourne (City Centre)

By Train

V/Line runs a number of trains daily to Ballarat from Melbourne's Southern Cross Station. For further information see V/Line train timetables (Ballarat line, Western Victoria) at www.vline.com.au

The train takes between 75 and 90 minutes depending on the time of day.

By Road

Ballarat is 110 km from Melbourne via the Tullamarine Freeway and M8 (Western Freeway), a 90 minute drive from the Melbourne city centre in good traffic.

Melbourne (Avalon) airport is about 75 minutes' drive from Ballarat and you can get discount airline flights to a limited range of destinations from here with Jetstar. It is west of Melbourne and there is a shuttle bus from Melbourne: see <http://www.avalonairport.com.au/>

What will the weather be like?

Early September is very early Spring in Australia. As Ballarat is situated fairly high up, the weather is unlikely to be very warm. If you are seeking a sunshine break before or after the conference, you would need to head north to Queensland, Alice Springs or Darwin, or northern Western Australia.

What is there to see in and around Ballarat?

We have prepared a document summarising the local attractions that you can easily access by walking, bus or taxi. As Ballarat is an 1840s Gold Rush town there are many historic buildings and attractions. The Grampians Mountains are about two hours' drive away with many walks. There is also the Pyrenees wine growing area centred on Avoca; and spa towns at Daylesford/Hepburn Springs.

We are proving a tourist trip to the Great Ocean Road leaving from the centre of Ballarat, which you can book on-line with your registration. This will be a full-day trip on Thursday 3rd September arriving back between 5.00pm and 6.00pm.

Where should I stay in Ballarat?

We will be providing some hotel suggestions. The social events are in central Ballarat, so that area is a good choice if you do not have transport with you. We will be providing some options for transport to the Mt Helen campus of Federation University Australia, which is the location for the two days of the conference on September 1st and 2nd (at the Caro Convention Centre). It is about 15 minutes' drive from the city centre.

Registration is now available via www.federation.edu.au/inap

Remember-you can make any enquiries about the conference via the conference secretariat at INAP2015@federation.edu.au

May 27th 2015