



A Guide to **Regional Nursing** in Australia






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A scenic view of a white lighthouse on a cliff overlooking the ocean. The lighthouse is a tall, white, cylindrical tower with a glass-enclosed lantern room at the top. It sits on a grassy cliffside. The ocean is a deep blue-green color, and the sky is clear and blue. The foreground is filled with lush green vegetation.

Have you always wanted to travel around Australia but never quite managed to find the time? Well, why not fulfil that dream while working as a locum nurse across stunning regional and remote locations? With a locum placement, you'll not only see different parts of the country, you'll also gain invaluable experience across different clinical settings. So, what are you waiting for?

The Benefits of Rural Nursing Careers

Living and working in regional Australia offers a number of both personal and professional benefits, so it's no wonder that locuming in rural areas is fast becoming a popular choice for many nurses. No two days are the same for rural nurses, and with the opportunity to live in unique natural environments as well as build up your CV, regional nursing could be the ideal next step in your career.

Other key benefits of nursing in rural and remote areas include:



Diverse contracts – Our locum placements can range anywhere from three weeks to several months depending on where you are placed.



Great rates of pay – We value our locum nurses, which is why we pay them competitively and above the market rate.



Travel and accommodation – We cover the costs of your accommodation and subsidise travel costs depending on where you're relocating from.



Explore while you work – Spend your time off discovering the rich and varied tapestry of Australia's regional hubs, from red dirt Outback to lush rainforests.



Escape the city – Our regional network takes you out of the big smoke, where you can enjoy natural landscapes and friendly communities.



Enhance your clinical skills, knowledge and experience – Gain exposure to different clinical settings, and work with experienced staff and specialists in areas such as Indigenous health.

A person wearing a yellow top and a teal skirt is packing a suitcase. The suitcase is open, and the person is placing items inside. In the foreground, there is a hand sanitizer bottle and a water bottle. The background is blurred, showing a room with a bed and a window.

Things to Know Before You Go

Once you've made your decision, you'll need to start drilling down into the details. Here are some of the key things to consider before taking on your first regional nursing placement.

Things to Know Before You Go

Travel

Depending on where your placement is and where you're relocating from, Evolve Talent will cover or subsidise your return travel costs.

Accommodation

We also provide you with accommodation throughout your placement. Again, depending on where your placement is, we will either cover the costs entirely or subsidise it for you.



Types of Roles Available

There are a diverse range of roles available to locum nurses across regional and rural sites, so you're sure to find a position that matches your specialism. Below is a list of some of the opportunities we regularly have on offer.

Hospital Roles

- Emergency
- General Medical Surgical
- Critical Care - HDU / ICU
- Theatre
- Midwives
- Paediatrics
- Palliative Care
- Management
- Nurse Practitioner
- Chemotherapy Nurse
- Renal/Dialysis Nurse

Aged Care Roles

- Cleaners
- Assistant in Nursing
- Personal Care Assistants
- Enrolled Nurses / Endorsed Enrolled Nurses
- Registered Nurses
- Clinical Nurses
- Nurse Managers

Primary Healthcare Roles

- Community Nurses / Clinic Nurses
- Chronic Disease Nurses
- Primary Healthcare
- Child Health
- Community Midwives
- Remote Area Nurses
- COVID-19 Immunisation Nurse
- Diabetes Educator

Mental Health Roles

- Community Nurses
- Inpatient Nurses
- CAMHS Nurses
- AOD Nurses



Location

So, where do you want to go? Here are just some of the exciting destinations you could soon be living and working in.



New South Wales



Far West

Covering an area of just under 200,000 kilometres, Far West New South Wales shares a border with Queensland and South Australia. This remote region has around 30,000 residents, with most choosing to live in the frontier mining town of Broken Hill. Others are based in historic towns along the Murray River or in remote communities. You can explore the region by paddle-steam boat or hit the road to find a remote camping spot under the stars.

Western

This is the heart of Country NSW; home to an award-winning food and wine scene, World Heritage-listed natural scenery and important Aboriginal sites. Spend your weekends visiting one of the nine wine regions, craft beer distilleries and farmers' markets for the best in local produce. Or, make the most of the great outdoors with a hike through one of 70 national parks, before relaxing in a thermal spring. After visiting heritage towns such as Tamworth, Glenn Innes or Cowra, you might even decide to stay a little longer.

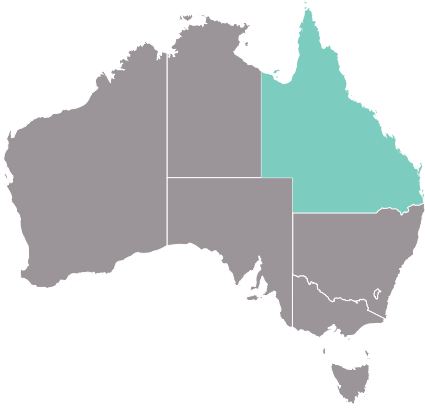
Northern

Stretching from the coastline of Tweed Heads and celeb-favourite Byron Bay, to the historic, Jacaranda-filled town of Grafton, Northern NSW is all about natural beauty. Surfers flock to Yamba for its world-class breaks and the chance to spot whales, dolphins and migrating turtles. Head inland to Lismore where you'll find a thriving arts scene and one of Australia's largest koala populations. Further south, the Clarence Valley has sleepy fishing towns ideal for discovering by kayak or canoe.





Queensland



Great Barrier Reef

North West

With sprawling Mt Isa at its centre, North West Queensland is a vast and remote part of the outback. Its area covers around 300,000 square kilometres and is made up of small towns and Indigenous communities. Mt Isa is a mining city, and has an underground hospital and the largest rodeo in the Southern Hemisphere. Just outside the city, you'll find the tranquil Lake Moondarra, or head further afield by 4x4 to see where Crocodile Dundee was filmed at Boodjamulla (Lawn Hill) National Park.

Torres and Cape

In the most northern tip of the country, you'll find the Cape York Peninsula, where just 27,000 people reside. Largely untouched and difficult to reach, this part of the world appeals to visitors looking to get off the beaten track. You'll find red dirt roads connecting bush cattle stations to small towns like Cooktown. Offshore, there are 274 tiny islands that make up the Torres Strait Islands. Mainly uninhabited, these islands have strong cultural significance to the local Indigenous population. The picturesque Thursday Island is the commercial centre of the Torres Strait.

Central QLD

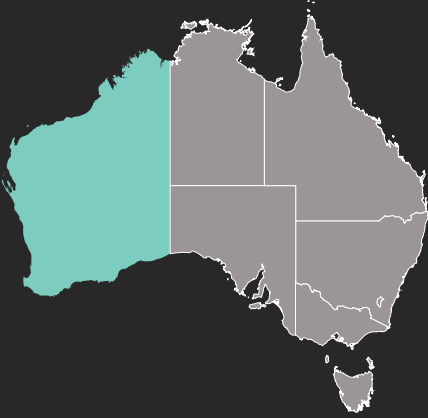
A gateway to the Great Barrier Reef, Central Queensland's cities include Rockhampton, Gladstone and Emerald. The stunning coastline is the star attraction, with opportunities to snorkel and swim pretty much year-round. Heading away from the water, the rural town of Emerald was named for its lush, green surrounds and has one of the largest sapphire fields in the Southern Hemisphere. Rockhampton is packed full of country-town charm, and is best known for its beef, beer-filled pubs and barramundi. With 300 days of sun each year, it's no wonder the locals are so friendly.

Darling Downs

The cool climate of the Granite Belt makes it the top wine producer in Queensland and it is also where you'll find Stanthorpe's rolling apple orchards. This foodie paradise offers farmhouse cheeses, locally-pressed olive oil and handmade jams. Heading north, Toowoomba is Australia's second-largest inland city and has a bustling café and arts scene housed within sandstone buildings. For a quieter pace, check out scenic border town Goondiwindi on the banks of the Macintyre River, or cast a few lines at top fishing spot Chinchilla Weir.



Western Australia



Pink Lake, Hutt Lagoon

Kimberley

This vast area covers one-sixth of the state's landmass and is home to fewer than 40,000 Australians. Half of its residents are Aboriginal peoples living in more than 100 rural and remote communities. Much of the Kimberley is wilderness, ranging from Savannah grasslands to pristine beaches and majestic gorges. Expect to see opposing weather conditions, with hot, tropical rains during the wet season and a cool dry season. The Kimberley has some incredible tourist attractions, including the Bungle Bungle rock formations, Horizontal Falls and Broome's famous Cable Beach.

Midwest

This region links the western coastline to the vast Gibson Desert, with most people choosing to live in the city of Geraldton on the Batavia Coast. From Geraldton, you can visit destinations like Hutt Lagoon (also known as Pink Lake), the inland gorges and rocky coastal cliffs of Kalbarri National Park and Wildflower Country, which is in full bloom between late July and October.

Pilbara

With a red dirt landscape, sweeping open skies and stunning coral reefs, the Pilbara region is a superb spot for a change of scenery. And you won't be alone, with nearly a third of its residents born outside Australia. History buffs will love exploring the Burrup Peninsula, which boasts 700 historic Indigenous archaeological sites and 1,000,000 rock engravings, some dating back 30,000 years. Head inland and you'll find Marble Bar, the hottest town in Australia, where temperatures reach over 40 degrees in summer.

Goldfields

Also known as the Golden Outback, Goldfields is a community created by gold diggers in the 1890s. Now better known for its mining industry, it also attracts visitors from around the world to its striking coastline and traditional outback settlements. Kalgoorlie-Boulder is the largest outback city in Western Australia, with friendly pubs and historic buildings lining its streets. Down the coast, you'll find the whitest sand beach in the country at Lucky Bay, some of Australia's biggest breaks at Wave Rock and fields of colourful wildflowers.

Ngaanyatjarra Lands

The Ngaanyatjarra lands are made up of 11 Indigenous communities and are home to around 2,000 Ngaanyatjarra, Pintupi and Pitjantjara peoples. Some communities have very few permanent residents, with the population mainly made up of itinerant residents. Most of the communities are located in a remote area close to the South Australian and Northern Territory border, while Kiwirrkurra has been called the most remote community in Australia. Warburton is the largest and most established community, having been set up in the 1930s.



Victoria



Paddle boarding on Lake Boga

Bairnsdale

With a population of 12,000 people, Bairnsdale is the commercial hub of the Gippsland region in south-eastern Victoria. It's ideal for outdoor adventurers, with plenty of opportunities to get out on the Gippsland Lakes with your fishing tackle. Or, stay in town and grab a shady spot by the river to cook up a feast for the family on one of the public BBQs.

Swan Hill

Perched on the banks of the Murray River, Swan Hill is an agricultural community three-and-a-half hours' drive from Melbourne. Its sunny, temperate climate encourages an outdoors lifestyle, with an array of activities on offer, such as fishing for the famous Murray Cod, paddle boarding on Lake Boga or cycling through parks and wetlands.

Shepperton

Nicknamed Australia's food bowl, Shepperton in northern Victoria's Goulbourn Valley has a thriving dairy and agricultural industry with numerous orchards, vineyards and dairies. It's also known as one of the most culturally diverse towns in regional Victoria, with a large Indigenous population as well as immigrant communities from around the world.

Seymour

Seymour is located on the Goulbourn River, not far from the Army base at Puckapunyal. Visitors and locals can take a reflective amble along the Vietnam Veterans Commemorative Walk or set up a picnic blanket on Light Horse Memorial Park's 150 hectares of bushland. The Tallarook State Forest has trails perfect for bushwalking, mountain bike riding or horse-riding.

Cohuna

Home to Cohuna Weir and the stunning wetlands of Gunbower Creek, this rural township has roughly 2,000 inhabitants. With major regional hubs just an hour's drive away, this quiet community enjoys year-round recreation activities such as water skiing, swimming and native bird-spotting. Top attractions include Gunbower Island, Australia's largest inland island with a water frontage of 130 kilometres



Victoria



Wimmera

Spanning 30,000 square kilometres, Wimmera is a region that borders South Australia and skirts around the Grampians National Park. The Wimmera River is the state's largest inland river, leading to lakes such as Lake Hindmarsh and Lake Albacutya. Visit small farming communities by following the Silo Art Trail, a series of murals painted on wheat silos that is considered Australia's biggest outdoor art gallery.

Ballarat

Best known as the home of outdoor goldrush museum Sovereign Hill, Ballarat is Victoria's largest inland city. Pan for gold and tour mines at the award-winning tourist attraction, or wander through Ballarat's tree-lined city streets dotted with Victorian and Edwardian buildings. You'll find an impressive food and wine scene, with ingredients sourced from surrounding wineries and farms.

Warracknabeal

Warracknabeal has mild winters and warm summers, making it an ideal region for growing crops including wheat, barley, canola and beans. Located in northwest Victoria, the town sits on the shady banks of the Yarriambiack Creek and has around 2,400 residents and abundant local wildlife. Historical Scott Street has charming Tudor-style buildings dating back to the early 1900s.

Horsham

The capital of the Wimmera region, Horsham is a bustling regional city and a gateway to the Grampians National Park and Wartook Valley. Set out for a day of rock climbing, bushwalking and kangaroo spotting, or soak up the town's cultural highlights at Horsham Regional Art Gallery or the Heritage Art Trail. You can also follow the Public Art & Heritage Trail that winds through the city's historic sights.

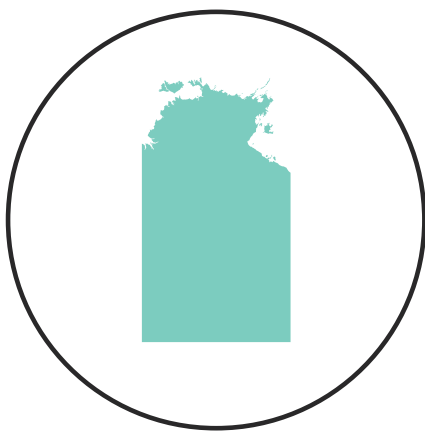


Pan for gold and tour mines , Ballarat





Northern Territory



Tennant Creek

Tennant Creek

Tennant Creek is a traditional outback town 500km north of Alice Springs. It was once the third-largest gold producer in Australia and has a large number of cattle ranches. The town itself has around 3,000 residents, many of whom are Indigenous. Tennant Creek's preservation of its rich cultural heritage has made it one of the country's top places to learn about Aboriginal history. Visitors can also explore the area's stunning natural attractions, from the Devil's Marbles boulder formations to four-wheel driving through the Davenport Ranges to find secluded waterholes.

Darwin

The capital of the Northern Territory, Darwin is located on the waterfront and has a tropical climate. In a short 25-minute drive, you'll be outside the city and able to explore local farmland, rural communities and the bush. In the city, you'll find everything you'd expect in a thriving, multicultural hub. The traditional owners of the land, around 2,000 Larrakia people, contribute to the thriving cultural scene with their music, dance and art.

Katherine

Katherine is the NT's third-largest town and has a sub-tropical climate. Around 60% of the 24,000 population identify as Aboriginal. The town is part outback, part tropics with its world-famous gorge accessible by boat cruise, canoe or helicopter. You'll find sandy-bottomed hot springs throughout the region, from Eley National Park to the small town of Mataranka. Other popular attractions include the award-winning Katherine Outback Experience with horse training and working dog demonstrations.

Top End

The Top End region of the NT covers the capital city Darwin, the Katherine region to the south, the remote Arnhem Land reserve to the northeast and Kakadu National Park. It's the tropical part of the NT and enjoys a year-round sunny climate which is split into the dry and wet seasons. There are breathtaking landscapes to explore from natural gorges and waterfalls to hot springs and rainforests. You'll be able to spend your weekends fishing for barramundi, going on a river cruise or soaking up the local culture at an outdoor festival.

Central

To the south of the Top End, you'll find the Red Centre. This is home to the world-renowned Uluru and the city of Alice Springs. Considered the spiritual heart of Australia, this arid landscape experiences weather extremes – from blistering hot summer days to sub-zero winter nights. Expect to find plenty of tourists in this area, including Grey Nomads and young backpackers soaking up the vast landscapes, along with cultural heritage that dates back more than 30,000 years. Alice Springs itself has around 29,000 permanent residents.





South Australia

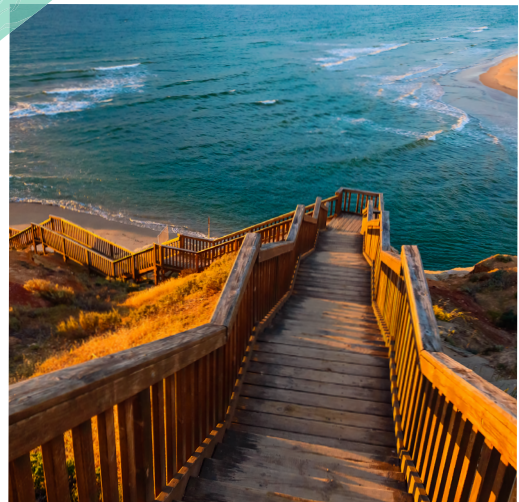


APY Lands

The Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands are situated in the far northern tip of South Australia and comprise several remote Aboriginal communities. The arid lands stretch across more than 103,000 square kilometres. The APY administration centre of the Lands is located at Umuwa, and the larger communities include Indulkana, Mimili, Kaltjiti, Pukatja, Amata, Pipalyatjara, and Watarru. The traditional owners of this land are known for their artworks, and have seven art centres showcasing the work of more than 500 artists.

Adelaide

Just a short drive from one of Australia's top wine regions, Adelaide is a food and wine lovers paradise, with laneway bars, high-end restaurants and historic pubs. It also has a thriving arts and culture scene, with year-round festivals covering performing arts, comedy and music. White sand beaches are just moments away from the city centre where you can soak up some sunshine, cool off with a swim or eat fish and chips as the sunsets.







Tasmania



North West

Tasmania's scenic north-west will take you on a journey through relaxed coastal towns, wild national parks and agricultural farmlands. The Tarkine boasts Australia's largest patch of temperate rainforest as well as sand dunes and coastal heathland. The quaint port town of Stanley juts out onto the Bass Strait and is known as the home of The Nut – a 150-metre-tall volcanic plug that rises out of the sea. But the most iconic attraction in Tasmania's North West is Cradle Mountain, a World-Heritage site with spectacular walking trails, isolated myrtle forests and native wildlife like wombats and pademelons roaming free.



Find Out More

Our team of nursing recruitment specialists have significant experience placing locum nurses into regional and rural nursing positions and are here to answer any of your questions.

So, if you're ready for an adventure and new opportunities or are keen to discuss your options with one of our recruiters, get in touch today.

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