Muslim students’ guide to
ADELAIDE
Read! In the name of thy Lord and Cherisher, Who created – Created man, out of a clot: Proclaim! And thy Lord is Most Bountiful, He Who taught (the use of) the pen, – Taught man that which he knew not.

The Clot 96 1-5

THRIVING IN ADELAIDE
This booklet – an initiative of StudyAdelaide – is designed to welcome you to Adelaide and reassure you that services do exist for Muslim students.

It is an accompaniment to the more general International Students’ Survival Guide to Adelaide, which aims to help all new overseas students. The larger survival guide provides information on everything from accommodation, finding part-time work, shopping, entertainment and personal safety. You should find a copy in your StudyAdelaide Welcome Bag, but please ask on campus if you do not receive one.

We encourage you to get to know the contents of the two guides as soon as possible, and keep them on hand for quick reference in the months and years ahead.

Get more out of Adelaide:
For details about free activities and competitions for all new international students to South Australia, visit www.studyadelaide.com
Welcome to South Australia

Welcome to Adelaide – a dynamic, diverse and welcoming city that’s a great place for your studies.

The first settlers came to this city to found a place of diversity, opportunity and religious tolerance - and Muslim people have been part of the South Australian community from the beginning. Amongst the earliest to arrive following the Proclamation of South Australia in 1836 were Muslim people, seeking to build a new life while being free to practice their religion.

Over the 175 years that have been passed since then, we’ve become renowned for our arts and culture, our fine academic institutions, and our wonderful lifestyle.

Now, more than 34,000 international students enjoy everything that Adelaide has to offer, from our festivals and sporting events to the natural beauty of our city and our famously diverse food culture.

We’re very proud to be hosting a growing number of Muslim students in Adelaide, and I wish you all the best for your time here, your studies, and your future.

Jay Weatherill

Jay Weatherill, Premier of South Australia

Imam Khalid Yousuf

My dear brothers and sisters,

It is my great pleasure as the Imam of the Adelaide City Mosque to welcome you to Adelaide.

Adelaide has a thriving Islamic community. We have come together from many countries around the world to share our faith and, as Adelaide is our home, we look forward to welcoming you to it.

Our city has a growing number of services and facilities that specifically cater for our beliefs. This guide is an introduction to them, along with the members of our community who may be able to help with the needs of Muslim students settling into Adelaide.

I look forward to meeting you and I wish you well in your studies.

Imam Khalid Yousuf

Adelaide City Mosque
Islam in South Australia dates back to 1865, when 31 camel handlers arrived in Adelaide from several countries including Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran. Their pioneering endeavours helped to open up remote areas of the new colony.

Today, South Australia’s Muslim community is vibrant and thriving. South Australia’s Muslim community numbers more than 7000 (based on the 2001 census) from around 60 countries – although one third of Australian Muslims were born here.

Adelaide is proud to host the oldest mosque in the southern hemisphere. It was built in 1888 and still serves the community today. To many, it is a symbol of the tolerance that Adelaide is rightly famous for: when the city was built, the founding fathers said people of all religions should be allowed to worship here.

Our city remains amazingly multicultural, with its citizens coming from over 200 nations.

More recently, Adelaide has become famous as one of Australia’s fastest growing cities for international students.

The quality of our education is first-class. Our institutions rank among the oldest in Australia and they continue to sit high on international listings. We have also produced more than 100 Rhodes scholars and three Nobel Laureates.

But Adelaide also matches the quality of education with a quality of lifestyle. Our city’s size means you can enjoy all the facilities of a large metropolis with the added benefits of a smaller, friendlier place to live. Importantly for students, Adelaide is also Australia’s most affordable city: 18 per cent cheaper than Sydney and 17 per cent cheaper than Melbourne.

Adelaide has a big future ahead of it: yours.
At first I was shocked with the culture difference, as Australia is very different to Saudi Arabia. But now I understand more about the Australian culture.

There are a lot of religions here and you can practice your own religion without the interference from other people. There are prayer rooms so you can pray at university and they have allowed me to change my studies for my prayers and for fasting in Ramadan. They sat down with me and said ‘organise your classes to meet your religious needs’.

**MY ADVICE?** The main reason for coming (to Adelaide) is to live in and understand a different culture. If you try to fit in and go out into the streets and meet the people and talk with them – find out about why they do things – people are friendly and helpful. You have to understand that you fit into the culture.

**TURKI RADDAH AL HUTHALI, SAUDI ARABIA**

Studying a Bachelor of Health Sciences (Paramedic) at Flinders University
Frequently Asked Questions about studying in Adelaide

Are there prayer rooms on campus? In most cases, yes. Many prayer rooms have been established with the assistance of the local mosque or Islamic student body to ensure they are correctly equipped.

What are some of Australia’s basic customs? We speak English, although with some particular Australian phrases (check out page 10). Among other things, we drive on the left-hand side of the road, shake hands (with the right hand) when we greet each other, and value a ‘fair go’ (which means treating others as we’d like ourselves to be treated). We enjoy the outdoors – sports, eating outside (we love barbecues) and going to the beach.

Will my study timetable be flexible enough to accommodate Friday prayers or religious holidays? Yes. When you are finalising your lectures and tutorials, please advise the admissions staff or your student adviser and they will assist you as best they can.

How do I respond to an invitation to a dinner where pork or alcohol would be served? Be honest with your host about your needs and they will be very pleased to provide a suitable meal for you. Many people are already aware of differing dietary requirements for religious or health reasons, such as vegetarianism or allergies to dairy or wheat products.

Can my children go to school in Adelaide? Many mature-age international students bring their families to South Australia, and hundreds of international students are enrolled in primary and secondary schools across Adelaide. You can choose from government and independent schools. For information on government schools, visit www.internationalstudents.sa.edu.au for independent schools visit www.ais.sa.edu.au and for the Islamic College of South Australia, visit www.icosa.sa.edu.au
Student services on campus

Adelaide’s universities and higher education institutions all respect a range of religious backgrounds. Services that are specific for Muslim students include:

Religious facilities
There are prayer rooms on many campuses, including the University of South Australia, The University of Adelaide and Flinders University. They have been developed in consultation with the SA Islamic community or associations so they are correctly equipped. Some campuses also have multi-faith chaplains available for student support and counselling.

The institutions are also sensitive to arranging your timetabling and lecture schedules to accommodate prayer times on Fridays.

Support services
When you arrive at your university or institution, take the time to contact the student counsellors and advisors who are there to provide professional advice and support.

Islamic student associations have also been established on many campuses. They will help you to settle in, make contact with other students and answer any religious, cultural or study-based queries you might have.

Halal food
A range of halal food products are available on many campuses – just look for the signs in the student cafeterias! If you want to go “off campus” for lunch, there are a number of halal restaurants located in the city and surrounding suburbs. Check the list in the guide (page 12).

Accommodation
Adelaide is set up for students. In bigger cities, you would often need to live far from your place of study. In Adelaide, student accommodation is excellent and affordable and often just a short walk from campus.

Some student hostels also specifically cater for Muslim students, in terms of halal food and kitchen facilities. Check with your university’s Islamic student association or the international student advisers for their recommendations.

For more information about services on a particular campus, talk to the student advisers at your chosen university or institution.

UNISA ISLAMIC SOCIETY
Phone (through the UniSA Students Association): +61 8 8302 2889

THE ISLAMIC STUDENTS SOCIETY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE (ISSUA)
Phone (through the University Union Clubs Association): +61 8 8303 3410
Website: www.auclubs.com.au/clubs/islamic.html

FLINDERS RELIGIOUS CENTRE
Phone: +61 8 8201 3911 or Email: religiouscentre@flinders.edu.au
Mosques

From the very beginning, South Australia has guaranteed freedom of religion for all. In fact, across Australia it is illegal to discriminate on the grounds of religion. Many churches still stand from the state’s earliest days, as does the Adelaide mosque, which was built in 1888.

A number of mosques are situated around Adelaide and South Australia. Prayer facilities are also available on most campuses. Some imams and their nationalities are also listed for your reference.

**Adelaide Mosque**
20 Little Gilbert St, Adelaide
Phone: +61 8 8231 6443
Imam Khalid Yousuf

**Islamic Arabic Centre & Masjid Al-Khalil**
Corner Audley St and Torrens Rd, Woodville North 5011
Phone: +61 8 8268 1944
Imam Amin (Egyptian)
Sheikh Soulaiman (Lebanese)

**Islamic Centre of SA & Parkholme Mosque**
658 Marion Rd, Parkholme
Phone: +61 8 8277 8725
Imam Sharif (Tunisian)

**Gilles Plains Mosque**
52-56 Wandana Ave, Gilles Plains 5086
Phone: +61 8 8396 0781
Imam: Brother Abdul Hadi

**Regional Mosques**

**Murray Bridge Islamic Society**
Lot 53 Old Swanport Rd, Murray Bridge
Phone: +61 8 8532 1970

**Renmark Mosque**
230 Fourteenth St, Renmark 5341
Phone: +61 8 8586 1229
Imam Adnan (Turkish)

**Whyalla Mosque**
5 Morris Crescent, Whyalla Norrie SA 5608
The best part of my studies is that you get a well-rounded experience studying in another country. You can work with others and you can learn from them. You can change your opinion, find what other students think so when you go back home you can apply it.

Adelaide is quite good in terms of its lifestyle and cost of living compared to other cities like Sydney. And I’m studying at one of the best facilities in the world that I can get for my field.

**MY ADVICE?** Adelaide is one of the best cities you can choose to study. There is halal food and the people here are very friendly. I have found no discrimination and people are very understanding.

**NURSYAHIDATUL AIN MUHAMMAD, MALAYSIA**
Both studying a Bachelor of Engineering (Petroleum) at The University of Adelaide

I heard Adelaide is great for studying, it’s quite a small city and it’s a good life. It’s a great place to learn, with a lot of outdoor activities – you can have a barbecue in the park, which we don’t have in Malaysia. I see the people here are very relaxed and enjoy their weekends very well and enjoy their activities.

The student advisers and Muslim Student Association were very helpful for me when I first came over here. They provided me with all the information on halal food and helped me in getting around Adelaide.

**MY ADVICE?** You shouldn’t be afraid to come to South Australia, people are very welcoming and are happy to help with the problems you may face when you’re here.

**WAN ZURAI DAH AHMAD, MALAYSIA**
Understanding Australian culture

Australia is a very multicultural country – our culture has been shaped by people from all over the world. Some things are particularly Australian, and here we explain a few:

G’day... and other Australian things to say
Although Australians speak English, there are some particular phrases which are used by Australians (or Aussies, if you are a local). You may have heard the phrase G’day, which is Australian for hello (it’s short for good day). Another typical Australian phrase is mate: a term we sometimes call our friends. Fair dinkum? means ‘really?’, and some people say no worries instead of ‘you’re welcome’.

Barbecues
Australians love to eat outside, mostly because of our warm climate. Generally, the food is cooked on a barbecue (also known as a barbie). You might be invited to attend a barbecue, so don’t be afraid to tell your host about your dietary requirements. Generally, the food cooked on a barbecue is meat, although there are many vegetarian options available in Australia today. Sausages (or snags) are also popular at barbecues.

The beach
Australians love to spend time at the beach, especially during summer when the weather is at its warmest. Adelaide is lined by about 30km of beaches. Popular beachside suburbs include Glenelg, Henley Beach, Grange and Semaphore. We love to swim, surf and laze around on the golden sands; it’s a big part of our relaxed nature. Always take care in the water, as strong under-currents can sometimes be dangerous. Surf lifesavers work to protect people at the beach, so be sure to swim between the lifesaving flags. If in doubt, ask others on the beach about the safety of the water.

Also remember to avoid getting sunburnt. Try to stay in the shade when you go outside in summer, and always wear a hat, sunglasses and sunscreen when you are out in the sun.

The ‘fair go’
Australians are very fair and highly value the ‘fair go’, which means giving people a fair chance to say what they want or live the way they choose.

Sport
Australians love to watch and participate in sport. Living in Adelaide, you’ll notice that Australian Rules football, cricket, soccer, basketball and netball are very popular. Many universities offer a range of sports, and uni clubs are always looking for new members.
Halal food

Adelaide’s cafés and restaurants are world-class and reflect the diversity of our multicultural communities. The city also boasts an increasing number of Halal outlets, ranging from butchers to restaurants and takeaway food.

Rainbow Halal Poultry and Meats
52-58 South Rd, West Hindmarsh
Ph: +61 8 8241 7802

Adelaide Central Market Meat – Metro Meat Shop
46 Victoria Square Arcade
Central Market, Adelaide
Ph: +61 8 8211 7728

Eve’s Bakery & Patisserie
3/524 Anzac Highway, Glenelg East
Ph: +61 8 8376 6399

Five Star Bakery
61 Hyde St, Adelaide
Ph: +61 8 8223 2877

Adelaide Lebanese Bakery
7 Ann St, Thebarton
Ph: +61 8 8234 9545

Flat Bread Bakery
16 Manchester St, Mile End South
Ph: +61 8 8351 7812

Two Brothers Butcher
164 Ridley Grove, Woodville Gardens
Ph: +61 8 8345 3920

Lawash Bakery
115 South Rd, Thebarton
Ph: +61 8 8354 0707

Budget Meats Pty Ltd
85-87 South Rd, Thebarton
(near Brickworks Markets)
Ph: +61 8 8354 4786

Halal Butchers & Grocery Store
376 Prospect Rd, Kilburn
Ph: +61 8 8262 2660

Haliloff Halal Quality Fresh Meats
101 Flinders Rd, Waterloo Corner
Ph: +61 417 877 543
Halal restaurants

Taste of Kashmir
117/119 Melbourne St, North Adelaide
Ph: +61 8 8239 2828

Birdland Restaurant
(Chicken and vegetarian meals only are Halal)
219 Henley Beach Rd, Torrensville
Ph: +61 8 8354 2020

Quiet Waters Lebanese Restaurant
75 Hindley St, Adelaide
Ph: +61 8 8231 3637

Al-Raya Grocery and Cafe Shop
2/175 Henley Beach Rd, Mile End
Ph: +61 8 8234 0733

Mekong Thai Restaurant
68 Hindley St, Adelaide
Ph: +61 8 8231 2914

Vilis
Corner South Rd and
Manchester St, Mile End
Ph: +61 8 8234 5711

Roshan Spices
22 Rundle Mall, Adelaide
Ph: +61 8 8211 8588

Roshan Curry and Noodle Bar
Shop 16, David Jones Centre
Rundle Mall, Adelaide
Ph: +61 8 8232 7741

Flavours of India Shop
511/529 North East Rd, Gilles Plains
Ph: +61 8 8261 2224

Maskaashi Café
52 King William St, Adelaide
Ph: +61 404 883 108

Maldives Naan Tandoori
12b Southern Cross Arcade
52 King William St, Adelaide
Ph: +61 421 6000 251

Lawash Bakery
115 South Rd, Thebarton
Ph: +61 8 8354 0707

Knoodle Junction
Shop 21 Pulteney St, Adelaide
Ph: +61 8 8223 5759

Highway Pizza
565 Anzac Highway, Glenelg North
(pick-up and delivery)
Ph: +61 8 8295 7788

Babylon Restaurant
2/140 Marion Rd, West Richmond
Ph: +61 8 8234 5322

Jerusalem Sheshkabab House
(Chicken is Halal)
131 Hindley St, Adelaide
Ph: +61 8 8212 6185

Moroccan Casbah Restaurant
40 Unley Rd, Unley
Ph: +61 8 8357 3199

Pondok Bali
310 Pulteney St, Adelaide
Ph: +61 8 8232 0588

Nonya Kitchen – Bradford Lodge
46 Watson Ave, Rose Park
(catering also available)
Ph: +61 8 8331 0866

Australia’s Pizza House
(seafood and vegetarian meals only are Halal)
259 Hutt St, Adelaide. Ph: +61 8 8223 6288
2/60 West Tce, Adelaide. Ph: +61 8 8410 4911
26 Bank St, Adelaide. Ph: +61 8 8231 8811
122 Hindley St, Adelaide. Ph: +61 8 8410 2966

More information is available from:
Halal Helpline: +61 2 9232 6731
or visit www.halalhelpline.org
What people find comforting when they come from overseas is that there is a community here that they can feel close to.

Australia is far compared to most other countries and it’s quite hard to just go back home, so having an Islamic community here is quite profound for students as they can feel the closeness, attend prayers and take part in multicultural events relating to Islam.

If you require help, you can get it from this community.

**MY ADVICE?** The sky’s the limit in Australia compared to what I’ve had in Lebanon. You have to come here with an open mind and a clear objective of what you would like to get out of Australia – what rewards you want to get out of it and be a positive influence Islamically. There are a lot of things that can benefit you and you can benefit the community as well.

**HOUSSAM ABIAD, AUSTRALIAN LEBANESE**
Studying Bachelor of Biomedical Engineering and Bachelor of Science at Flinders University
Clothing and dress

In Adelaide, you are free to wear anything you like, from casual clothing to national and religious dress. Just walk down Rundle Mall and you’ll see fashions of every style and custom.

Houssam, a Muslim student, explains the differences in cultural dress: “To some extent, your average Australian guy or girl dresses quite well and they’re quite discreet about how they wear their clothes. You’ve got to appreciate the culture – it’s about mutual respect.”

Sahara Moroccan Casbah
187 Sturt St, Adelaide
Ph: +61 8 8211 6993

Islamic Bookshop, Al-Farooq Islamic Centre
658 Marion Rd, Parkholme
Ph: +61 8 8277 8725

Hida Designs
WahidaShaka
Ph: +61 8 8132 0542
M: +61 405 631 735
Medical and health services

Adelaide has many general hospitals, health services, doctors and specialists, and also offers a number of services specifically for Muslim residents and visitors.

**Dr Omar Lum**
Adelaide Medical Centre
297 Waymouth St, Adelaide
Ph: +61 8 8410 0202

**Female Muslim doctors**

**Dr Fatiha Arhbal**
Hindmarsh Family and Musculoskeletal Practice
500 Port Road, Hindmarsh
Ph: +61 8 8340 0088

**Dr R El-Masri**
1140 South Rd, Clovelly Park
Ph: +61 8 8276 9855

**Dr Soraya Martin**
539 Glynburn Rd, Hazelwood Park
Ph: +61 8 8431 2799

**Dr Rokaya Tawi**
SA Natural Therapies Medical Centre
297 Waymouth St, Adelaide
Ph: +61 8 8410 0202

**Dr Shehzadi Salman**
Mawson Lakes Medical Centre
Shop 12 The Promenade Shopping Centre
The Promenade, Mawson Lakes SA 5095

**Dr Nasreen Taj Wilson**
54 Grand Junction Rd, Rosewater
Ph: +61 8 8447 7117
News and media outlets in Adelaide

Adelaide is home to a number of news and media outlets catering for non-English speaking groups, and you will also find Muslim media outlets. These are complemented by community newsletters distributed by the Islamic Society and various mosques.

**Australian Muslim News**  
(Australian Federation of Islamic Councils)  

**Australian Islamic Review**  
(Major Islamic community newspaper)  
297 Waymouth St, Adelaide  
Ph: +61 8 8410 5344

**SBS Television**  
(free to air)  
Various news services in a range of languages are broadcast throughout the day.

**Radio 5EBI.FM**  
Multicultural radio station, broadcasting programs in a range of languages. You will find the radio station at 103.1 on the FM band.

**Radio 5RPH**  
Radio station for the print handicapped, with newspapers read for people who have difficulty reading for themselves. You will find it at 1197 on the AM band. (Listening to this station is a great way to improve your English.)  
251 Morphett Rd, Adelaide  
[www.rphadelaide.org.au](http://www.rphadelaide.org.au)
I’ve enjoyed Adelaide. It’s not very crowded and the people are very friendly. The lecturers and tutors are very helpful – they like to help their students.

I chose Adelaide because the program I study is very good here. The university emphasises not only librarianship but also wider applications. And the type of study here is very different – it’s more about an experience than just theoretical learning. If you come here, you will get a well-rounded education. I also like the fact that the city is not very expensive in terms of lifestyle and the cost of living.

**MY ADVICE?** Make sure you learn a little about the city, tourism, shopping and entertainment. And your accommodation is a very critical thing, so take that into consideration before you leave home.

**ENDRO DWI HATMANTO, INDONESIA**
Studying a Master of Planning at the University of South Australia
Key contacts in Adelaide

You will find many Muslim support services in Adelaide, both on campus and around the city. People are there to help you with everything from finding accommodation and new friends, to government services and free activities.

On campus
If you are having trouble with study issues or something on campus, each institution has student advisers or a student association that can assist you. They are there for you and have dealt with most problems before, so they are a valuable resource.

UniSA Islamic Society
Phone (through the UniSA Students Association): +61 8 8302 2889

The Islamic Students Society of the University of Adelaide (ISSUA)
Phone (through the University Union Clubs Association): +61 8 8303 3410
Website: www.auclubs.com.au/clubs/islamic.html

Flinders Religious Centre
Phone: +61 8 8201 3911
Email: religiouscentre@flinders.edu.au
Website: www.flinders.edu.au/religiouscentre/index.php

Off campus
If you need help to settle in, or want to contact someone for recreation, celebration of national days or welfare advice, you will find assistance through your local mosque or one of the groups listed below:

The Adelaide Mosque
20 Little Gilbert St, Adelaide.
Phone: +61 8 8231 6443

Islamic Society of South Australia
& Parkholme Mosque
658 Marion Rd, Parkholme
Phone: +61 8 8277 8725

Muslim Women’s Association of South Australia
Torrens Building, Room 4, Ground Floor
220 Victoria Square, Adelaide
Phone: +61 8 8212 0800

Migrant Resource Centre of SA
59 King William St, Adelaide
Phone: +61 8 8217 9500
Email: admin@mrcsa.com.au

Multicultural SA
24 Flinders St, Adelaide
Ph: +61 8 226 1944
Toll Free: 1800 063 535
(calls inside Australia only)

Department of Immigration
Level 3, 55 Currie St, Adelaide
Phone: 131 881 for general enquiries
(calls inside Australia only)
Islamic websites in Australia

A number of websites will help you feel more at home in Australia. These links are offered as a starting point only, and do not include the online resources of Adelaide’s universities and institutions.

Islam – Australia
• Affinity Intercultural Foundation: www.affinity.org.au
• Al-Ghazzali Centre (Sydney): www.alghazzali.org
• Australian National Islamic Library (ANIL): www.islam-australia.org
• Australian New Muslim Association: www.anma.com.au
• Federation of Australian Muslim Students & Youth (FAMSY): www.famsy.com
• Islamic Sydney: www.islamicsydney.com
• Mission of Hope: www.missionofhope.org.au
• Muslim Village Australia: www.forums.muslimvillage.net
• Global Islamic Youth Centre www.giyc.com.au
• youthemerged – Uniting Muslim Youth (Adelaide): www.youthemerged.com

Other Islamic Websites
• DeenPort: www.deenport.com
• Harun Yahya: www.hyahya.org
• Islam Online: www.islamonline.net
• Islamic Arts & Architecture: www.islamicart.com
• Islamicity: www.islam.org
• Islamic Unity Society: www.ius.org.uk
• Living Islam – Islamic Tradition: www.livingislam.org
• Prayer Timings www.islamicfinder.org
• SunniPath Online Islamic Academy: www.sunnipath.com
• Zaytuna Institute: www.zaytuna.org
• Islamic website directory: www.islamicport.com
This guide has been produced with input from the staff, printed materials and websites of the following organisations:

- The University of Adelaide
- The University of South Australia
- Flinders University
- Carnegie Mellon University
- TAFE SA
- UniSA Islamic Society
- Muslim Women’s Association of South Australia
- Department of Education and Children’s Services
- Multicultural SA
- Australian Halal Food Directory
- University of Technology, Sydney
- Adelaide Mosque

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