

Sydney International Storytelling Conference June 2ndst-4th 2023

Information for interstate and international conference attendees:

Important contacts:

Christine Carlton (President, Australian Storytellers, NSW): +61 415 430 485

Kiran Shah (Vice President, Australian Storytellers, NSW): +61 409 392 881

Getting to Conference venue and accommodation

St Joseph's Baulkham Hill

www.stjosephscentre.org.au

Address: 33 Barina Downs Road, Baulkham Hills, NSW 2153.

Phone: + 61 2 9634 2317

Fax: + 61 2 9899 4249

Email: FrontDesk@stjosephscentre.org.au

Please make sure you have secured your accommodation at this venue. There are several options available. Contact us if you would like to share a room with another participant (more cost effective).

The easiest, most comfortable way is via Uber/taxi/shuttle, about 37km from airports.

Here are some estimates (all prices in AUD):

From Sydney International Airport to venue

Uber X-seats 4 is about \$122

From Sydney Domestic -UberX - \$144

From Sydney CBD -UberX - \$90.

Direct airport shuttle: +61 2 9614 1444, mobile 0403 005 249

Email info@directshuttlebus.com.au, website: www.directairportshuttle.com.au

The fare for one passenger is \$85, \$95 FOR 2. Add \$10 for each subsequent passenger, Extra surcharges may apply.

Car Hire: www.discovery-carhire.com.au allows comparisons in prices. Tel: 1300454911

If you're hiring a car, do check re: GPS and e-tags for motorway tolls and read the fine print!

The cheapest way is by train and bus- Download the App-Trip Planner NSW <https://transportnsw.info> for information on travel via train, bus. Also, check out <https://rome2rio.com>

Train and bus -you will need to purchase an Opal card

From International/Domestic Airport to Sydney Central Station: 10-12 minutes \$15.97 -\$19. Range of fares varies -seniors-adults. Airports stations are owned by private contractors so a higher fee applies for this short trip. Overseas visitors are not eligible for senior rates.

Australian interstate visitors have to apply for a seniors Opal card before they arrive in NSW.

www.opal.com.au/ordercard

From Sydney Central Station to the venue- several options - another train to Chatswood and switch to a Northwest Metro Line, alighting at Norwest Station. Then a bus (3 stops) or get an Uber.

Transport on Sunday 4 June to city/airport

We expect there will be a number of conference attendees needing transport from the conference venue. A shuttle/cab can be arranged at your own expense to take you to your destination.

Conference Book Store

There will be a couple of vendors offering storytelling resources. They will not have facilities to accept credit cards payments so do bring cash.

Electronic Equipment

Remember to bring all your chargers with whatever electronic equipment you bring (mobile, laptop, etc).

Conference venue facilities

* WiFi in every room. If weather or closed doors interfere, get a cable from reception.

* Lounge rooms on every floor, some larger with a well-equipped kitchenette.

Friday Night food – There will be a variety of finger food available at the soiree on Friday 2 June at 7pm.

Weather: check this website for the forecast: www.bom.gov.au

Sightseeing

Check out: www.sydney.com.au <https://www.timeout.com/Sydney>
www.visitnsw.com.au/blue-mountains

VIVID Sydney will be on from Friday 26 May 2023-Sat 17 June 2023 –a spectacular display of light, music and more. <https://www.vividsydney.com>

Free walking tours

Jo Henwood, a storytelling guild member, workshop presenter and accredited tour guide (Institute of Australian Tour Guides), has volunteered to offer pre and post conference tours in the Sydney CBD area and surrounds on Thursday 1st June and Tuesday 6 June from 10.30am-1pm. Please contact Jo Henwood at jo7hanna@tpg.com.au

International visitors

Visa

Please ensure you have obtained a valid tourist visa before departure.

Immigration Card

Please put in 33 Barina Downs Road, Baulkham Hills NSW, as the address and any one of the above contact numbers if you are coming straight to the venue. If not, please put down the address of where you'll be staying when you first arrive. You can put any one of our names and numbers as the emergency contact.

Fill in the card carefully. Do declare ALL food items and anything of plant and animal origin. No fresh fruit/meat is allowed. Australia is very very strict so if you're unsure declare it anyway-you don't want to be slapped with a \$200 fine.

Travel SIM Card

Vodafone and Optus are 2 mobile providers that have counters at the airport.

Here's a recommendation: <https://landinglastminute.com/sydney-sim-card/>

Car Hire

If you plan to hire a car, please have your driving licence with you. Visit www.rms.nsw.gov.au for more information for international, interstate and NZ visitors.

Currency

We advise you to bring cash with you although you can use a credit/debit card for most of your purchases.

Electricity/Adaptors

Appliances work on 220-240V. Plugs have 2 flat metal pins shaped like a "V" and some have a third pin in the centre.

Please also bring an international travel adaptor for all your electrical and electronic equipment.

Prepared by

Christine Carlton and Kiran Shah

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