



# Arrivals in Australia

## ARRIVALS – Points to remember

- Commonwealth of Australia took control of immigration from 1923 – earlier it was the responsibility of the states or colonies so records are held in the relevant (state or national) government archives. **Start with an idea of when (and hopefully where) your ancestor arrived so you will know where to look.**
- Eastern Australia was originally all NSW, so early shipping records are held in NSW State Archives & Records, even for areas that later became separate colonies or states.
- Arrivals were generally recorded at first port of call. Most sailing ships stopped first in Melbourne or Sydney. From 1881 some steamers approached Qld from north. From 1898 ships maybe stopped first at Fremantle.
- Unassisted passengers paid all their own costs – or at least were not government-assisted. Assisted emigrants presented evidence that they were desirable migrants and had some or all of their passage paid by government or others – or were offered an incentive, such as a land grant. Generally there is more information about government-assisted migrants.
- If assisted by other than government, may not appear in government lists of assisted immigrants.
- Bounty schemes (usually): government paid someone to bring out suitable migrant.
- Cheaper for Europeans to migrate to North America, so incentives needed to encourage them to Australia.
- Most surviving records relate to international passengers (generally on ships from UK or Germany). Fewer lists available for others, especially those who travelled between colonies on domestic shipping.
- UK government paid fares of paupers, convicts, military and civil servants. See The National Archives UK. Some schemes cost-shared between UK and Australian governments.
- Naturalisation was for non-British who wanted to vote or own land. Each colony offered its own (separate) naturalisation. Commonwealth government controlled naturalisations from 1903. Australian citizens from 1949.

## NEW SOUTH WALES

- NSW State Archives & Records – <http://bit.ly/NSWSARimmigration> (*Indexes online*)
- Assisted and unassisted passengers, officers & crew – <http://marinersandships.com.au>
- Bounty Immigrants to NSW – [www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1542665](http://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1542665) (1828-1842)
- Female migration to Australia in the 1830s – [www.rushen.com.au](http://www.rushen.com.au)
- Irish Famine Memorial Sydney – [www.irishfaminememorial.org](http://www.irishfaminememorial.org) (*database of orphan girls sent to Sydney, Hobart, Melbourne & Adelaide*)
- Migration Heritage Centre – [www.migrationheritage.nsw.gov.au/homepage/index.html](http://www.migrationheritage.nsw.gov.au/homepage/index.html)

## QUEENSLAND (*was NSW until 1859*)

- Qld State Archives immigration indexes – [www.qld.gov.au/recreation/arts/heritage/archives/immigration](http://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/arts/heritage/archives/immigration)
- Assisted Immigrants to Moreton Bay (Brisbane) (1848-1859) – <http://bit.ly/NSWSARimmigration>

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA (*was NSW until 1836, founded on Wakefield model*)

- Assisted Immigrants to South Australia from UK (1847-1886) – [www.theshipslist.com/ships/australia/SAassistedindex.shtml](http://www.theshipslist.com/ships/australia/SAassistedindex.shtml)
- Family History South Australia's searchable database of passenger lists – [www.familyhistorysa.info](http://www.familyhistorysa.info)
- German Emigrants to South Australia (1837-1866) – [www.theshipslist.com/ships/australia/SAgermanindex.shtml](http://www.theshipslist.com/ships/australia/SAgermanindex.shtml)
- Immigration to South Australia – <http://guides.slsa.sa.gov.au/immigration> (*guides & indexes*)
- South Australian Naturalizations – [www.familyhistorysa.info/sahistory/naturalizations.html](http://www.familyhistorysa.info/sahistory/naturalizations.html)  
see also [www.familyhistorysa.info/sahistory/naturalization.html](http://www.familyhistorysa.info/sahistory/naturalization.html)
- State Records of South Australia – [www.archives.sa.gov.au/content/index-official-assisted-passenger-lists](http://www.archives.sa.gov.au/content/index-official-assisted-passenger-lists)

## TASMANIA (*was NSW until 1825, often ships to Tasmania stopped at Melbourne or Sydney first*)

- Tasmanian 19th century arrivals, immigration and departure records – [www.linc.tas.gov.au/family-history/Pages/Arrival-departure.aspx](http://www.linc.tas.gov.au/family-history/Pages/Arrival-departure.aspx)
- Tasmanian GenWeb – [www.australiagenweb.org/tas/immigrants.htm](http://www.australiagenweb.org/tas/immigrants.htm)
- The Journey by Sailing Ship – <http://bit.ly/MMTasJourney>

## **VICTORIA** *(was NSW until 1851, often first port of call, so also see outward passengers to other colonies/states)*

- Immigration & other genealogy indexes in Victoria – <http://bit.ly/PROVpassengers>
- Assisted Immigrants to Port Phillip 1839-1851 – <http://bit.ly/NSWSARimmigration>
- Immigration History – <https://collections.museumvictoria.com.au/search?query=immigration>
- Naturalisations for Victoria from 1848 at National Archives of Australia – [www.naa.gov.au](http://www.naa.gov.au)
- *The Somerset Years (Immigrants to Victoria 1839-1854)* – book by Florence Chuk

## **WESTERN AUSTRALIA** *(from 1898 Fremantle often first port of call)*

- Fremantle ports – [www.fremantleports.com.au/About/History/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.fremantleports.com.au/About/History/Pages/default.aspx)
- Passenger lists and immigration records – <http://bit.ly/SRWApassengers>
- Passengers arriving Fremantle & Perth (1898-1966) – [www.naa.gov.au](http://www.naa.gov.au)
- WA Shipping 1829-1889 – <http://members.iinet.net.au/~perthdps/shipping/>
- Welcome Walls database – [www.museum.wa.gov.au/welcomewalls/](http://www.museum.wa.gov.au/welcomewalls/)

## **ALL AUSTRALIA**

- National Archives of Australia for shipping & immigration records from 1923 – [www.naa.gov.au](http://www.naa.gov.au)  
*(also 'Arrivals to Fremantle from 1898', naturalisations (from 1904), SA & VIC naturalisations from 1848)*
- National Archives of Australia Research Guides – <http://guides.naa.gov.au>
- Ancestry.com Immigration and Convict records – [www.ancestry.com.au](http://www.ancestry.com.au) *(use free at libraries)*
- Australia's Red Coat Regiments 1788-1870 – <http://freepages.history.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~garter1/tobegin.htm>
- Australian National Maritime Museum – [www.anmm.gov.au](http://www.anmm.gov.au)  
*also Comparison of vessels and journey times – <http://bit.ly/ANMMTimesToOz>*
- Bremen Passenger Lists – [www.passengerlists.de](http://www.passengerlists.de)
- British newspapers (*The Times* & *Gale*) – *see the eResources of your state library*
- Cora Num's Shipping and Migration – <http://coraweb.com.au/categories/shipping-and-migration>
- Cyndi's list Ships & Passenger Lists – [www.cyndislist.com/ships](http://www.cyndislist.com/ships)
- Danish Emigration Archives – [www.udvandrarkivet.dk/forside/](http://www.udvandrarkivet.dk/forside/)
- Fifth Fleet – [www.fifthfleet.net](http://www.fifthfleet.net) *(displaced persons brought to Australia 1947-51)*
- findmypast immigration records & British newspapers – [www.findmypast.com.au](http://www.findmypast.com.au) *(Use free at libraries)*
- Highland & Island Emigration Society (HIES) records – [www.scan.org.uk/researchrtools/emigration.htm](http://www.scan.org.uk/researchrtools/emigration.htm)
- Immigrant's Guide to Australia (1853) – [www.slsa.sa.gov.au/BSA/1853ImmigrantsGuide.htm](http://www.slsa.sa.gov.au/BSA/1853ImmigrantsGuide.htm)
- Lloyd's Register of Ships – <http://users.xplornet.com/~shipping/Lloyds.htm>
- *Log of Logs: A Catalogue of logs, journals, shipboard diaries, letters, and all forms of voyage narratives, 1788 to 1988 for Australia and New Zealand* – <https://zenodo.org/record/6901#.VXjR2M-qpBe>
- Nationaal Archief – [www.gahetna.nl/en/node/5064](http://www.gahetna.nl/en/node/5064) *(Emigrants from Netherlands 1946-91)*
- National Maritime Museum, Greenwich UK – [www.rmg.co.uk](http://www.rmg.co.uk)  
*also Picture Library, Royal Museums Greenwich – <http://bit.ly/NMMUKpictures>*
- Passenger & emigrant ships' pictures – [www.findboatpics.com](http://www.findboatpics.com)
- Pauper Emigration from UK – [www.workhouses.org.uk/emigration/](http://www.workhouses.org.uk/emigration/)
- Routes to Australia – <http://tenpoundpom.com/routes/>
- Surgeons at Sea (Royal Navy Medical Officers' journals) – [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/surgeonsatsea/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/surgeonsatsea/)
- Ten Pound Pom – <http://tenpoundpom.com/ten-pound-poms/>
- The National Archives UK Emigration guide – <http://bit.ly/UKemigration>
- The National Archives UK 'Looking for a Person' – <http://bit.ly/TNAperson>
- The Ships List: Passenger lists, ship descriptions & pictures, shipwrecks – [www.theshipslist.com](http://www.theshipslist.com)
- Trove – <http://trove.nla.gov.au> *(digitised newspapers, including The Shipping Gazette)*
- World War 2 Refugees to Australia – [http://immigrantships.net/ww2\\_au.html](http://immigrantships.net/ww2_au.html)