

2021

# TEACH IN VICTORIA

GUIDE TO VICTORIAN PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

GRASSLANDS, WITH  
GRAMPIANS NATIONAL  
PARK (GARIWERD) IN  
THE DISTANCE



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Teach For Australia places Associates in the four DET regional areas, as well as the Melbourne Metro area

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Associates may be placed in regional cities, regional towns or metro Melbourne.

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Incorporates the Murray River region, deserts and the historic Goldfields area

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High country and farm country destinations spanning the Hume Highway

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Covers a huge area of the state from Geelong to the South Australia border

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## SOUTH-EAST REGION

Takes in from Phillip Island along the Gippsland coast and hinterland to the NSW border

The state offers excellent opportunities to make a difference in the classroom from day one, while you enjoy connecting to your community, working alongside new colleagues and enjoying a lifestyle change the envy of many.

Teach For Australia partners with schools right across Victoria. So whether you're after a tree change or a sea change, want to raise your family on a big block of flat land, have a hunkering for the hills, or you're keen to really connect with a small (or large) community, then choosing a Victorian placement with Teach For Australia is the key to unlocking a satisfying career and a great standard of living.

Associates are often co-located at the same school, or work close to other members of the TFA family, meaning car-pooling is frequently an option. That means you can connect with your TFA colleagues, go over the day, chat about what worked and didn't work in the classroom, and of course plan epic weekend getaways.

While car-pooling with TFA colleagues has many benefits, country commutes

are often shorter than in the big smoke, so thank goodness Victorian country town cafes and bakeries often offer great coffee and big brekkies because you'll have time for both before the school day starts.

In school, you might be inspired to start programs for the performing arts, or support student groups to enhance opportunities for their learning and leadership. You could find yourself helping out or heading up environmental programs, coaching sports teams or learning about Country, while on Country.

Victoria might be one of the smaller of Australia's states and territories but it is bursting with opportunities. Make your choice.

VICTORIA

# WELCOME

## VICTORIA IS A GREAT PLACE TO TEACH, TO LEAD, AND TO LIVE



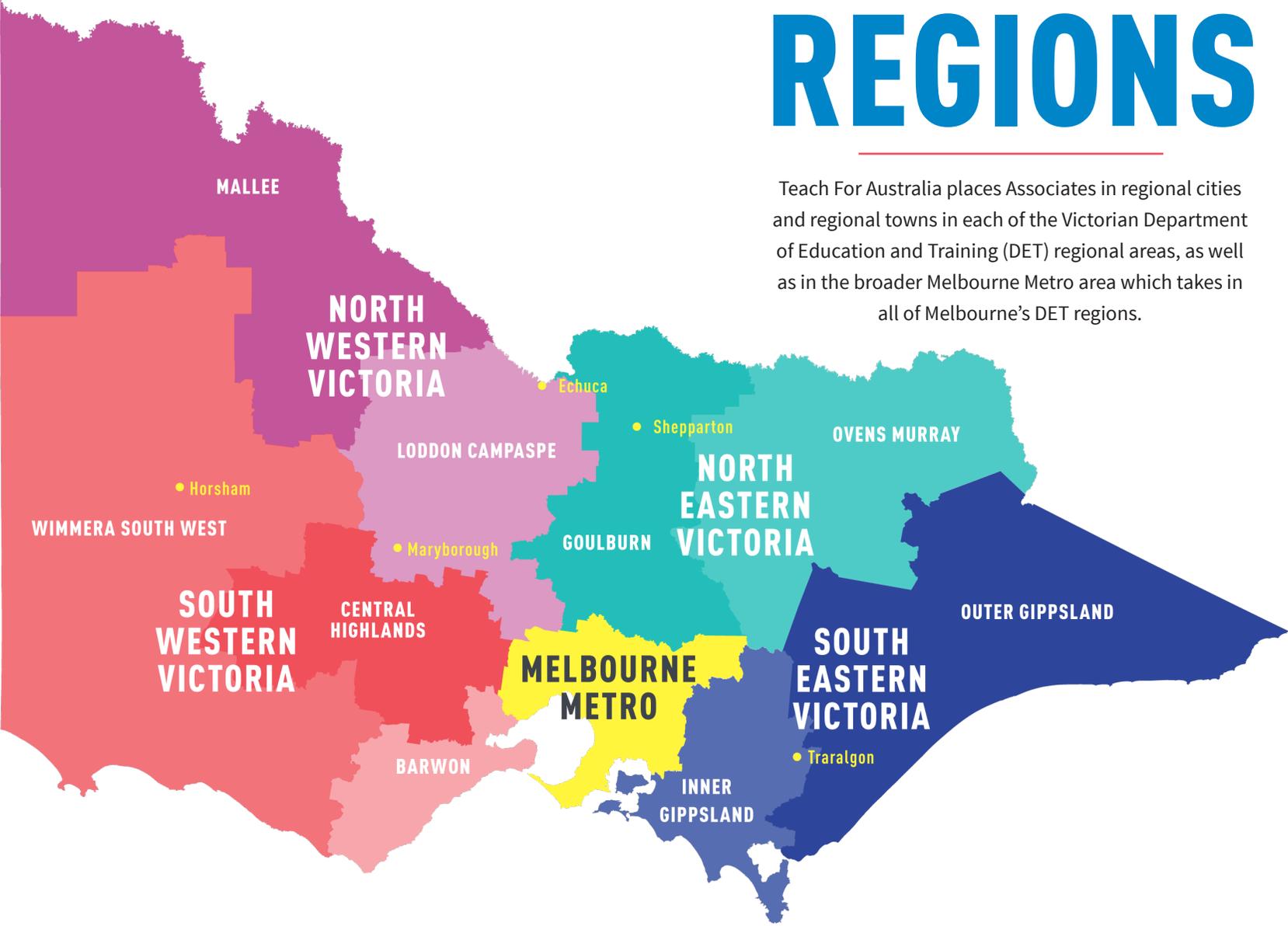
COASTAL WARRNAMBOOL,  
IN VICTORIA'S SOUTH-WESTERN  
DET REGION IS A BEAUTIFUL  
TOWNSHIP WHERE TFA  
CURRENTLY PLACES ASSOCIATES

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VICTORIA'S PLACEMENT

# REGIONS

Teach For Australia places Associates in regional cities and regional towns in each of the Victorian Department of Education and Training (DET) regional areas, as well as in the broader Melbourne Metro area which takes in all of Melbourne's DET regions.



# VICTORIA'S PLACEMENT REGIONS

## REGIONAL CITY, TOWN, OR METRO?

### Regional City Placements

Every year we place Associates in regional cities and nearby towns right across Victoria. These placements provide a great mix of country living, access to beautiful natural settings and outdoor recreational pursuits. A number of these regional cities have thriving Alumni communities as Associates have chosen to remain after completing the Leadership Development Program and as more Alumni have moved to the region. We also place in a number of schools in towns surrounding each regional city.

Many Associates choose to live in these towns so they can become part of their local community; others choose to base themselves in the regional city, with a daily commute of up to two hours

(return). Examples of regional cities and their surrounds where Associates could be placed include Bendigo, Geelong, Horsham, Mildura, Shepparton and Warrnambool. Working and living in these regional communities provides you with the opportunity to see what educational inequity looks like first-hand.

### Regional Town Placements

We work with a number of schools that are more than 60 minutes away from a regional city. These schools are spread right across Victoria in towns of all sizes (populations range from less than 100 up to 10,000). Examples of the regions of Victoria where you

could be placed include the South-West Coast, the Mallee, High Country and East Gippsland.

Schools in these regions vary greatly in their size and community need, with lack of access to opportunities being a significant common issue for all students. Associates placed in these schools become part of the local community, joining local recreation clubs and groups. They get to know their students and their parents as wider community members, beyond the walls of their classrooms. While these placements can be challenging due to their isolated locations, the opportunity to have impact and to develop as a teacher and leader is significant.

### Metro Melbourne Placements

We partner with a number of schools in the Melbourne metropolitan area, and surrounding suburbs. With a population of five million, long commutes are to be expected in Melbourne, with many schools not easily accessible via public transport. A placement in Melbourne could see you teaching out towards Hoppers Crossing and Melton in the west, Craigieburn and Whittlesea in the north, Narre Warren in the south-east or along the Mornington Peninsula to the south.

Many Associates placed in Melbourne work in multi-cultural schools with a high proportion of students from recent migrant families. Working in these schools gives Associates the opportunity to access everything Melbourne has to offer.

## REGIONAL CASE STUDIES

# NORTH-WEST

## ECHUCA

**A**ssociates living in river cities, rural townships and agricultural centres right around Victoria have traded in their 'big city' commutes for easy living.

Echuca, located in the Loddon Campaspe area, sits on the NSW border opposite its twin city, Moama, and is symbolic of the sort of lifestyle change that Victorian regional living affords TFA Associates.

The Murray River town is located near the edge of the north-east DET region, and boasts activities such as paddlesteamers, golf courses, wineries, world-class water skiing and major skiing events such as the Southern 80; the biggest water ski race in the world. The Murray River is central to life in Echuca, helping to turn the city into a powerhouse of regional commerce following white settlement.

### EAT & DRINK

*Stock your cellar at the many wineries of the Goulburn Valley wine region, which is the oldest continuously producing Victorian wine region, with Shiraz plantings dating from 1860. Big bold Marsanne, Cabernet Sauvignon and Chardonnay are also widely planted, while the region is also famed for its fortified wines.*

### DO & SEE

*Paddle the mighty Murray River*

*Enjoy the Port of Echuca's Discovery Centre & Heritage Walk, Billabong Ranch, silo art at nearby Rochester and more*

*Explore Aussie automotive history at the National Holden Museum, which boasts vehicles from the car giant's every era*



**ECHUCA, LOCATED ON THE MURRAY IN NORTHERN VICTORIA**

## REGIONAL CASE STUDIES

# NORTH-WEST

## MARYBOROUGH

**D**esert landscapes, big skies and friendly country towns top the list of reasons Associates have chosen to call the Mallee home. Significant population centres include Mildura, Ouyen, Robinvale, Swan Hill and Kerang.

The Loddon Campaspe area takes in townships on the Murray River including Echuca, south to the goldfields area on the northern fringe of Melbourne. Ever-popular Kyneton around an hour north

of Melbourne offers a thriving arts and dining scene with abundant day spas and festivals. The goldfields township of Maryborough, with a population of nearly 8000, punches well above its weight in terms of 1800s era history and things to see and do. The Maryborough Education Centre has been hosting Associates for the last several years, allowing for the development of a thriving network of dedicated educators.

### READ MORE

[Click here](#) | *Partner school Maryborough Education Centre: welcoming Associates into the community – 14 May, 2019*

### EAT & DRINK

*Maryborough offers an abundance of dining options, including cafes, hotels and restaurants, many showcasing local produce*

### DO & SEE

*Gold Rush era architecture including Maryborough's fire station, which now serves as the Central Goldfields Art Gallery*

*Bull Gully Rock Wells, arguably the best example of Aboriginal rock wells in Victoria, are a hand-crafted catchment for falling rain*

*Do a lap of beautiful **Lake Victoria***



## REGIONAL CASE STUDIES

# NORTH-EAST

## SHEPPARTON



*It is very cheap and fun to live with other people here. There are a lot of student teachers and younger teachers in the area. This makes for a good social netball team.*

VICTORIA PARK LAKE,  
SHEPPARTON

The north-eastern region's mountains, valleys, rivers and national parks provide endless scope for enjoying life when the school day ends. Population centres such as Seymour, Euroa and Wangaratta are dotted along the Hume Highway, while Wodonga and a number of other centres sit along the banks of the Murray River. High Country centres such as Bright and Mansfield offer the ultimate in tree-

change opportunities.

The Goulburn region is one of Victoria's main food bowls. The heart of the district is the rural centre of Shepparton, where Teach For Australia has been working for several years. A newly merged 'mega' school promises significant educational change for the young people of Greater Shepparton. Associates have the opportunity to make big impacts in this evolving environment.

### READ MORE

[Click here](#) | *Shepparton students inspired by 1.5km trek, a 20kg weight and Double Denim – 8 September 2016*

### EAT & DRINK

*Shepparton is food growing country! Local markets, farm gate sales and country fairs abound. Plus, you can buy direct from SPC.*

### DO & SEE

*Tour the **Aboriginal Street Art Project** which showcases local Aboriginal leaders*

***Cycle and walk** the many trails that run throughout the Goulburn Valley and mean that a safe cycle commute is on the cards*

***Kidstown** is Australia's largest adventure playground*

## REGIONAL CASE STUDIES

# SOUTH-WEST

## HORSHAM

The south-western Victoria placement region takes in a huge part of the state and includes cities and towns as far afield as Geelong in the east and Warracknabeal in the Wimmera.

Along the coast, the regional cities of Warrnambool and Portland offer plenty of recreation including surfing, fishing, camping, hiking and more. Further north, you'll find plenty to do and see in Ballarat, Ararat, Stawell and Horsham.

### READ MORE

[Click here](#) | *Impact Case Study: Horsham College, Northwest Victoria – 12 April, 2016*

### EAT & DRINK

*Horsham is home to 17 restaurants and 16 cafes. You won't go hungry, even if its at the end of a long day exploring the south-west of the state's many attractions.*

Horsham is a particularly strong centre for Teach For Australia, with Horsham College hosting Associates yearly since the Leadership Development Program commenced in 2010. A number of the school's mentors came through the program. This, plus great support from school leadership and the wider Teach For Australia community makes Horsham a smart choice for those looking for a lifestyle change in Victoria's west.

### DO & SEE

*Visit the **Botanic Gardens**, designed by William Guilfoyle, who designed Melbourne's Royal Botanic Gardens*

***Horsham Golf Course** is rated in the top 100 in Australia, with a pro shop and dining available*

*Swim in the new **Horsham Aquatic Centre***



## REGIONAL CASE STUDIES

# SOUTH-EAST

## TRARALGON

LAKE NARRACAN  
AND YALLOURN



The Gippsland coast, growing regional cities and rural hamlets provide plenty of scope for moving to the country for a lifestyle the envy of many. Population centres such as Warragul, Wonthaggi, Sale, Bairnsdale and Orbost offer the benefits of larger townships with easy access to the coast and mountains that define the region's southern and northern borders.

Traralgon sits at the heart of Gippsland's

### READ MORE

[Click here](#) | *Top of the class: accolades for Latrobe Valley educators – 31 May, 2021*

### EAT & DRINK

*Traralgon boasts a thriving pub and club scene, plenty of outdoor dining options, while country drives often reveal farm-fresh produce being sold at farm gates.*

Teach For Australia community. The regional city has a population of nearly 26,000 and is the fastest growing city in the Latrobe Valley. The region's transition from coal production will have significant effects on the area's community so Associates and Alumni have the capacity to play a leading role in supporting the community and its young people through this period of change.

### DO & SEE

*Walk the wide tree-lined streets and explore the city's attractive gardens*

*Take in many of the region's scenic tourist drive routes*

*Pedal the Gippsland Plains Rail Trail from Traralgon to Stratford via a series of beautiful country towns*

# MOVING TO REGIONAL VICTORIA? TIPS & ADVICE

## ASSOCIATE & ALUMNI INSIGHTS

**T**hinking of moving to regional Victoria to join Teach For Australia? Here's some handy tips and advice.



It's been fairly easy to get to know the area and other Associates. I wish I had moved down sooner to give myself more time to get set up before diving into TFA and school commitments.



Finding a preferred doctor, dentist and other allied health professionals can be tougher than in the city.



Get involved with local sporting groups to make friends outside school. You could play, or if playing is not your thing there's not a country club that doesn't need

volunteers to do the score keeping, run water for the players, volunteer in the canteen or do a million other tasks.



You will run into students, their families and your colleagues at the shops!



Consider whether you'll need a car. Public transport in regional areas is not as frequent as in major cities.



Expecting visitors? Australia's states and territories can have different school holiday periods. [Check the dates](#) if you're planning to have interstate family/friends visit you during your breaks from school.



Be prepared for a big change. Change always comes with challenges. Be prepared and "want to" become a part of the community. It won't work for you if you return home every weekend, especially considering the work load of the TFA program.



Look into the area as much as you can, reach out to any Teaching and Leadership Advisers and Alumni that you can; we are all here to give advice.



Find at least one hobby within the community outside of school to give yourself a break from all the teacher talk. Get involved with the school as much as possible, but ensure weekends are for you.

## RESEARCH LINKS

**ABORIGINAL VICTORIA** – Want to learn more about language groups in Victoria. [ANTaR's website](#) is a great place to start.

**VICROADS** – If you're moving from interstate, information on registering an interstate vehicle in Victoria can be found [here](#), with additional info on changing to a Victorian Drivers Licence [here](#).

**DISCOVER** - Here's [the official Tourism guide](#) to Victoria's amazing regions.

**OUTDOOR OPPORTUNITIES** – Love the great outdoors? [Here's your Parks Victoria guide](#) to getting out and about.

**PUBLIC TRANSPORT** – [Public Transport Victoria has information](#) on public transport across Victoria, including route maps, planning and schedules for local, intrastate and interstate transport.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN

# VICTORIA

CONTACT TEACH FOR AUSTRALIA  
TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT  
TEACHING IN VICTORIA

WIMMERA RIVER, HORSHAM

Teach For Australia acknowledges the traditional custodians of the lands across Australia and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

[TEACHFORAUSTRALIA.ORG](https://teachforaustralia.org)



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