

# THINKING OF RETURNING HOME?

Is the familiarity of home and the unrivalled lifestyle drawing you to return? The Australia and New Zealand job markets are buoyant and with recent immigration changes, employers across the region are heavily focused on hiring local talent. As a result there is high demand across several sectors for experienced Aussie and Kiwi professionals. Essentially, there has never been a better time to come home to ANZ.



## THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

### UPDATING YOUR CV

Make sure you update your CV prior to moving home with your most recent work history and achievements. This will mean you can start applying for roles before you make the move and will be in a good position for accepting interviews once you land on local soil. You should be careful to tailor your CV and/or covering letter to the different job roles that you are applying for.

### LINKEDIN

Let your professional network know that you are planning a move home by updating your LinkedIn profile. This can include updating your location to reflect Australia/New Zealand, or editing your strapline to highlight that you are moving home and are looking for new opportunities. Don't be afraid to reach out to old colleagues or managers for their help with your job search, particularly if they are still working within the organisation or industry you are hoping to return to.

### DO YOUR RESEARCH

As a returning expat you can be a real asset to an employer. This is not only because of the international experience you will have gained but also due to the business networks you will have undoubtedly forged. Make sure you take the time to research the Australia or New Zealand job markets long before returning and be brave in the job opportunities you are seeking. Researching and considering companies and/or industries that may be specifically sourcing international talent could minimise the time it will take for you to find your next role.

### RELOCATION COSTS

International moves can be extremely expensive. Think about minimising your costs by significantly reducing the number of items you want to send home and use the most cost-effective method of transportation (most likely a shipping container).

You should also consider the costs you will incur once properly moved – both Australia and New Zealand are probably more expensive now than when you left. Make sure you have enough money saved before returning home so that if you have not secured a job already then you have financial security and do not have to stress about not working.

### TRANSFERRING MONEY BACK HOME

If you have savings in an overseas bank account, you may need to consider transferring it back to a local bank when you return. If this is the case, you should consider your options (online currency broker or through your UK bank) to ensure you are getting the best possible exchange rate and are subject to the lowest fee.

### REINSTATING YOUR HEALTH INSURANCE

If you put your private health insurance on hold when leaving your home country, you may only have a 30-60 day period in which you should reinstate your insurance once you return, before you are subject to penalties. As various health funds have different policies, make sure you contact your private healthcare provider directly to check what applies to you.



## TOP TIPS

### Start preparing as early as possible

Whether it's for personal reasons or work related, moving home after a period overseas is a big deal so you need to plan your move early. Not only will the change affect you, but also any immediate family you may have, so ensuring you have enough time, energy and money is imperative to making the move as simple as possible.

### Reach out to a recruitment specialist

Getting yourself re-established in the Australia or New Zealand job markets can be difficult, so definitely monitor the industry and organisations you'd ideally like to work with prior to moving. Contacting an international recruitment specialist and explaining your situation can be beneficial as they can then try to connect you with the right people and employers in the industry you want to work in.

### Enjoy the transition

For many, the thought of returning home can be extremely daunting. However, you must try and think of the exciting times ahead. Returning to a culture of outdoor living, great food and even better coffee is not something you should be afraid of. Remember the familiarity and comfort of your home that you are returning to and enjoy the ride.

If you'd like to know more or would like any information on the Australia or New Zealand job markets, please reach out to our International Career Managers, Kate Williams and Dugald Locke.



**KATE WILLIAMS** | International Career Manager  
T: +44 20 7509 8526  
E: k.williams@robertwalters.com



**DUGALD LOCKE** | International Career Manager  
T: +44 20 7509 8258  
E: dugald.locke@robertwalters.com