

Hosting via IRE



IRE is a work experience - cultural exchange training opportunity for people 19 to 28 with appropriate experience in rural industries and ready to broaden their horizons.

1.04

About the IRE program ~

all prices quoted are in A\$ & include GST

- IRE serves 220+ who come to Aus each year. Average age 21 to 25 60+ Aussies go out
- most applicants apply via home country organization, a few come direct
- **most trainees IN pay \$1020 IRE service fee + a partner fee plus own visa, airfare & insurance**
- **intakes are mid March, July, September & October**
- 3 day orientation seminar after arrival about ~ tax, visa's, travel, Aus Ag, lifestyle/culture
- an "on site" supervision visit a month later to see all is OK, about 7% are replaced

About IRE trainees ~

- most are from rural backgrounds, about 35% are female, most speak adequate English
- required to have MDL, a minimum of a years hands on practical experience & be healthy
- screened by references, autobiography, copies of qualifications and face to face interview
- most trainees use IRE to work, learn & travel as part of their life & career development
- many take over family business & go on to become community & industry leaders
- applications, CV, references etc available to prospective hosts in selecting "your" trainee

About the mechanics of hosting an IRE trainee ~

- Hosting an IRE trainee is different to a normal employer/employee relationship – it is closer
- **minimum weekly allowance of \$225 for 45 hour week plus board & keep + \$7.50/hr overtime in horticulture this is often around \$13/hour with trainee providing own food & room**
- **the ATO see IRE trainees as Australian residents for tax purposes ie get most tax back**
- normal workers compensation insurance and superannuation arrangements apply so for all the routine "payroll" management issues it's the same as employing a local.
- all trainees have a normal travel & medical insurance for any "off the job" sickness or accident
- visa up to 1 year, sub class 416 special program - "work experience, cultural exchange" so **trainees are fully legal to have paid employment** in Australia with an IRE host

About IRE placements ~

- **normal length of placement is 24 weeks** but flexible depending on seasons/climate etc
- trainee normally lives as a family member although not always in some industries
- 75% of places are in farming with others in horticulture, wine & horses *
- 3 placement types ~ industry experience (*in any of these), agri-home or home management
- **host membership is \$22 / year with a 1st time nomination of \$55 plus a placement service levy of \$275 / 24 week trainee placement (less if less) ie new hosts for 6mth placement = \$352**
- IRE has a nationwide network of over 220 hosts in many regions, climates & placement types

About the IRE organization ~

- the exchange was started in 1986 & run by an incorporated community non profit association
- it's members are in all states & are hosts or past trainees
- a Board of 9 is elected at the Annual Meeting & appoints a full time National Coordinator
- the present Coordinator has 30 years experience in Aus & OS in rural exchange activity, education/training, rural lobby & community leadership and as a farmer, father & activist
- IRE has nationwide network of hosts & alumni to assist screen host & trainee applicants
- Partnerships with 26+ similar groups in N & S America, UK, Central & W Europe, S Africa, NZ

For an application ~ call IRE toll-free on; 1300 730 737 or email; hosts@ire.org.au