

Fact sheet 6 Interstate comparison of taxi fares in Australia

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How do taxi fares differ across Australian capital cities?

Across Australian capital cities, different tariffs apply during the day and late at night. The timing when each tariff applies differs widely. For all capital cities, the key components of the tariff structure are the flagfall, distance and waiting time rates. Table 1 shows a comparison of tariff rates and the time each tariff applies across Australian capital cities.

	Tariff	Time	Flagfall (\$)	Distance (\$/km)	Time (\$/min)	Booking fee (\$)	Night surcharge (\$)
Melbourne	Tariff 1	9am–5pm	\$4.20	\$1.622	\$0.568	\$2.00	
	Tariff 2	5pm–9am	\$5.20	\$1.804	\$0.631	\$2.00	
	Tariff 3	10pm–4am Fri&Sat	\$6.20	\$1.986	\$0.695	\$2.00	
Sydney	Tariff 1	6am–10pm	\$3.50	\$2.14	\$0.921	\$2.40	
	Tariff 2	10pm–6am	\$3.50	\$2.57	\$0.921	\$2.40	\$2.50
Brisbane	Tariff 1	7am–7pm weekdays	\$2.90	\$2.14	\$0.79	\$1.50	
	Tariff 2	All other times including public holidays	\$4.30	\$2.14	\$0.79	\$1.50	
	Tariff 3	Midnight–5am excluding ANZAC day	\$6.30	\$2.14	\$0.79	\$1.50	
Adelaide	Tariff 1	6am–7pm weekdays	\$3.70	\$1.84	\$0.655		
	Tariff 2	All other times	\$4.90	\$2.03	\$0.655		
Canberra	Tariff 1	6am–9pm weekdays	\$4.85	\$1.99	\$0.867		
	Tariff 2	All other times	\$4.85	\$2.29	\$0.867		
Perth	Tariff 1	6am–6pm weekdays	\$4.10	\$1.69	\$0.802	\$1.50	
	Tariff 2	All other times	\$6.00	\$1.69	\$0.802	\$1.50	\$3.50
Hobart	Tariff 1	6am–8pm weekdays	\$3.60	\$1.94	\$0.64		
	Tariff 2	All other times	\$3.60	\$2.32	\$0.64		

Table 1. Interstate comparison of taxi fare structures in Australia

Table 2 shows a comparison of the average fare for a passenger travelling 9.5km (the average trip distance in Melbourne for a standard taxi) across Australian capital cities. The first row shows the average fare for a passenger travelling at the lowest tariff while the second row shows the average fare for a passenger travelling at the highest tariff in that city.

Table 2. Interstate fare comparison for an average taxi trip (9.5km)

	Melbourne	Sydney	Brisbane	Adelaide	Canberra	Perth	Hobart
Lowest tariff	\$22.90	\$29.17	\$27.81	\$24.98	\$28.78	\$24.81	\$25.74
Highest tariff	\$29.10	\$35.76	\$31.21	\$27.98	\$31.63	\$30.21	\$29.35

Note: These approximate fares are based on 2 minutes of stationary time per trip and 0.4 minutes waiting time per kilometre travelled. This formula is consistent with the one applied in the TSC's fare estimator.