

Passenger records held in Sydney

Passenger records provide a valuable source of genealogical (family history) information. Most of the records are arranged by the date, name of the ship, and the port of arrival or departure. Unless you know these details your search may be very time-consuming.

Passenger lists

Port of Sydney

The National Archives Sydney Office holds inwards and outwards ships passenger lists for the port of Sydney from 1923 onwards. Inwards passenger lists for 1923 to 1966 are available on microfilm in the Sydney Office research centre at Chester Hill and the Western Sydney Records Centre at Kingswood, NSW (see *Fact sheet 2 - Addresses of Australian archival institutions*).

An alphabetical card index by ship name, also available on microfilm, is held for inwards ships passenger lists for the years 1923 to 1951. We also hold an incomplete set of passenger lists for the period 1915 to 1922 created by the Customs Service. These records have not been microfilmed but are all listed on RecordSearch at an item level. The complete set of passenger lists prior to 1923 is held by State Records New South Wales.

Inwards aircraft passenger lists are also held for Sydney from 1936 to August 1974 (microfilm copies are available for the years 1936 to 1951). We hold outwards aircraft passenger lists for Sydney from 1941 to August 1974.

Ships and aircraft

Title or description of record	Date range	Series number
<u>Inwards crew and passenger lists for Australian ports</u>	1915–23	SP83/11
<u>Alphabetical index to ships carrying passengers arriving at Sydney</u>	1923–51	C3109
<u>Passenger lists, inwards ships, Sydney</u>	1923–	C1115
<u>Passenger lists, outwards ships, Sydney</u>	1923–64	SP1148/2
<u>Passenger lists, outwards ships, Sydney</u>	1965–	C1116
<u>Passenger lists, inwards aircraft, Sydney (Rose Bay and Mascot)</u>	1936–64	C3458
<u>Passenger lists, outwards aircraft, Sydney</u>	1941–64	SP1148/2

Passenger lists, inwards aircraft, Sydney (series finishes on 10 August 1974)	1965–74	SP1150/1
Passenger lists, outwards aircraft, Sydney (series finishes in August 1974)	1965–74	SP1150/3

Port of Newcastle

Title or description of record	Date range	Series number
Crew and passenger lists, inwards and outwards ships, Newcastle	1865–1935	C667
Passenger lists, inwards ships, Newcastle	1949–72	SP1151/1
Passenger lists, outwards ships, Newcastle	1950–72	SP1151/2

International Refugee Organisation

The Sydney office also holds copies of nominal rolls for immigrants arriving in Australia during the period 1947–55 under resettlement schemes sponsored by the International Refugee Organisation. These are held in the record series [C1492](#). If you are unable to locate a passenger list for a ship likely to be conveying refugees in the main series of ships arriving in Sydney (series [C1115](#)), you may find a nominal roll of passengers included in C1492.

Other ships passenger lists

We also hold microfilm copies of the following passenger lists

Northern Territory

Title or description of record	Date range	Series number
Darwin – inwards and outwards lists	1898–1949	E1019

Queensland

Title or description of record	Date range	Series number
Bowen – ships lists inwards	1897–1962	J723
Brisbane – ships lists inwards	Aug 1852–Dec 1964	J715
Bundaberg – ships lists inwards	Feb 1948–June 1950	J733
Cairns – ships lists inwards	1897–Oct 1969	J725
Gladstone – ships lists inwards	Apr 1924–Sep 1964	J717
Mackay – Ships lists inwards	Oct 1924–Oct 1962	J729
Urangan (Maryborough) – ships lists inwards	Apr 1929–Mar 1950	J731
Rockhampton – ships lists inwards	1898–Oct 1962	J727
Thursday Island – ships lists inwards	Apr 1924–Jan 1964	J719
Townsville – ships lists inwards	Jan 1895–Dec 1964	J721

South Australia

Title or description of record	Date range	Series number
<u>Adelaide – ships lists inwards</u>	1941–64	D5077

Victoria

Title or description of record	Date range	Series number
<u>Melbourne – ships lists inwards</u>	Apr 1924–Dec 1964	B4397

Western Australia

Title or description of record	Date range	Series number
<u>Fremantle/Perth – inwards ships and aircraft</u>	1897–1978	K269
<u>Fremantle – shipping registers – arrivals and departures</u>	1898–1959	K737
<u>Fremantle – shipping registers – arrivals and departures</u>	1924–56	K737

Sources in other offices of the National Archives

National Archives offices in each capital city hold collections of passenger lists, both originals and copies on microfilm, with the exception of the Melbourne office. In addition, the lists and registers in the table above are available on microfilm in each of these offices, with the exception of the Melbourne office.

Further information on passenger lists held the National Archives is available in the following fact sheets:

- *Fact sheet 38 - Passenger records held in Canberra*
- *Fact sheet 56 - Passenger records held in Perth*
- *Fact sheet 172 - Passenger records held in Melbourne*
- *Fact sheet 184 - Passenger records held in Hobart*
- *Fact sheet 190 - Passenger records held in Brisbane*
- *Fact sheet 256 - Passenger records held in Adelaide*

Earlier passenger records

Passenger records for the Port of Sydney prior to 1923 are held by State Records New South Wales.

Earlier passenger records for other states are generally held by the relevant state archives. Please see *Fact sheet 2 – Addresses of Australian Archival institutions* for further information.