

STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

AFTRS

Accommodation

When you are studying, it is important to have a good home base where you feel safe and comfortable. There are many accommodation options to choose from and it's important to choose the one that's right for you. It is a good idea to research all your options before making a decision.

Disclaimer

The information, contacts and links provided on this page are intended as a guide that may assist you in your search for external accommodation. In addition to our Website [Terms and Conditions](#), by accessing the links you acknowledge and agree that the following terms apply to your access to such information, contacts and links.

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Campus Location

The Australian Film Television and Radio School would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners, the Bidjigal people and Gadigal people of the Eora Nation, on whose land we meet, work, study and teach. We pay our respects to Elders past and present, and extend our respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from all nations of this land.

Located within the Entertainment Quarter, amidst the lively screen and broadcast production studios, and close to Sydney's central business district and the Eastern suburbs, the AFTRS campus is well-served by public transport. Reaching the campus is easy—there are plenty of parking options for drivers in and around the Entertainment Quarter precinct, however, if you prefer more environmentally friendly means of travel, the area is friendly to cyclists.

The iconic Bondi Beach is just 2kms to the east of AFTRS and the Sydney CBD a mere 2kms in the other direction where you'll find Chinatown, Darling Harbour, the Rocks and Circular Quay. The inner city suburbs of Darlinghurst, Redfern, Paddington and Surry Hills are in close proximity to the AFTRS campus and the inner west suburbs of Newtown and Marrickville just beyond. The sprawling Centennial Parklands surround the Entertainment Quarter and the EQ itself is home to food markets and cinemas. A world-class city, Sydney is home to a multitude of festivals and events throughout the year.

Renting tips

TIPS TO HELP YOU FIND A PLACE TO CALL HOME

1. Get in quick

Don't leave it until the last minute. Competition for rental accommodation in Sydney is very strong, so make sure that you take the appropriate documents with you (proof of income, identification, the names and phone numbers of three referees) when viewing properties – you may well need to place an application to rent a property on the spot, and provide a deposit. This may not be refundable – check with the landlord or real estate person before you commit.

2. Decide on a location

Key points to consider with location include proximity to campus, public transport options and costs are and safety concerns, for example, crime rate or distance to public transport.

Suburbs near AFTRS include:

Redfern, Surry Hills, Alexandria, Chippendale, Darlinghurst, Randwick, Darlinghurst, Paddington, Centennial Park, Woollahra, Queens' Park and Bondi Junction.

Rent in these areas can be very expensive, but affordable options can sometimes be found by searching widely. Less expensive share housing is often available in the Inner-West suburbs popular with students, including Newtown, Erskineville, Enmore, Stanmore, Glebe and Petersham, and these areas can be reached by bus from Moore Park.

Public transport information, such as bus, light rail and train times, route maps, and fare prices can be found at [transportnsw.info](#)

3. Decide on a budget

Work out what you can afford. Keep in mind that most places are advertised excluding any bills. You'll usually have to add gas, electricity and internet to the rate. Remember to budget for utilities, food and transport, as well as rent. Most share situations will also require at least two weeks' rent in advance, as well as a bond (usually the equivalent of four weeks' rent), which is refundable when you leave.

4. Don't be afraid to ask questions.

5. Know your legal rights and responsibilities.

It's a good idea to make sure that you are familiar with your rights and responsibilities as a tenant. You can find more information about this at: [fairtrading.nsw.gov.au/housing-and-property/renting](#)

6. Look before you pay

Inspect the place before you pay any money and document any damage prior to moving in.

7. Read contract before you sign

8. Pay your rent on time and get receipts

Try to arrange rent payments to be paid direct to the agent (if one is involved) or, alternatively, paid directly into the leaseholders account via internet banking so you have a record of your payments. Always avoid paying in cash. If cash is absolutely necessary, then ensure a receipt is provided every payment.

Rental and Share Housing

If you prefer more independence, renting on your own or sharing with others is a great choice. It's important to remember that furniture, utilities (water, electricity, gas) and food are usually not included in rental fees. Try to choose reputable real estate agents and ensure that you read all the documents provided to you carefully.

Many AFTRS students will find that living in shared accommodation, either with other students or with the general public, is the cheapest accommodation option in Sydney. Students who share in the inner city suburbs can expect to spend \$200–\$300 per week, depending on the condition of the house or flat, the number of people sharing, and the suburb or location. While accommodation can be more affordable in the outer suburbs of Sydney, you should take public transport accessibility and cost into account when comparing areas.

The Redfern Legal Centre (rlc.org.au) offers advice on tenancy and share housing to residents of the City of Sydney, Leichhardt and Botany Bay local government areas. For tenancy services in other catchment areas, use the Find Your Local Service function at www.tenants.org.au.

WHERE TO FIND PRIVATE RENTALS

You might find the following sites useful in your search for private rentals (links open external sites):

[Domain](#)
[Realestate.com.au](#)

WHERE TO FIND SHARE ACCOMMODATION

If you would like to share with current AFTRS students or alumni you can join the [AFTRS Accommodation Group](#) on Facebook.

Other sites you may find useful in your search for share accommodation:

[Domain.com.au](#)
[Realestate.com.au](#)
[Flatmatefinders.com.au](#)
[Flatmates.com.au](#)
[Gayshare.com.au](#)

INSPECT THE PROPERTY AND ASK QUESTIONS

It is important to inspect the property, meet the other people who reside in the house or apartment and ask questions about the property.

Some possible questions include:

- What is the length of the agreement?
- Is the room furnished?
- How much is the rental bond? How is this managed? (Bonds should be lodged by the landlord or agent with the NSW Department of Fair Trading.)
- Is the flat noisy? Is it near a flight path or busy road?
- Is there parking available, and at what cost? Does street parking require a council permit?
- Is the flat safe and secure?
- What happens when there are repairs to be done? Does the leaseholder or the owners take care of repairs, or is there an agent involved?
- Is the rent paid weekly, fortnightly or monthly?
- How is a receipt provided?

- Are there any services provided with the accommodation (Foxtel, Internet, fixed phone line, etc.)? What is the average cost of the service(s)?
- Is there a cleaning schedule? Or do you have a cleaner, if so at what cost?
- Will the leaseholder or owner inspect the room prior to the new occupant moving in? How will this be documented?
- What are the other occupants' interests? How are they employed? What kind of hours do they keep?
- What are the rules about visitors?
- Is the house quite social or do you generally keep to yourself?
- What are the body corporate rules you need to be aware of (mainly in apartment buildings)?

MOVING IN

While share accommodation is commonly an informal arrangement between occupants of a property and the leaseholders or landlord, there are certain steps you can take to cover yourself.

CHANGE OF SHARED TENANCY ARRANGEMENT

Having your name added to the bond gives you no claim on the lease but does give you part ownership of the bond. This is as simple as having the occupants complete the [Change of Shared Tenancy Arrangement form](#). This isn't mandatory however, and some leaseholders may choose to keep the bond in the same name as the lease.

BOND PAYMENT

Ensure you are given a receipt for the deposit of the bond in the leaseholder's account. An electronic transfer or cheque is good evidence of payment in case any disputes arise.

RENT PAYMENTS

Try to arrange rent payments to be paid direct to the agent (if one is involved) or, alternatively, paid directly into the leaseholders account via internet banking so you have a record of your payments. Always avoid paying in cash. If cash is absolutely necessary, then ensure a receipt is provided every payment.

CONDITION REPORT

The Condition Report is essential, as this is how agents determine that your bond should be refunded. If there is not a formal entry condition report it is recommended that you take the time to document and photograph the condition of the room prior to you moving in.

This can prevent any disputes arising when you move out. If there are any issues and there is nothing documenting they were there prior to you moving in, it could result in the loss of a portion- or even the entire- bond. Make sure to sign and date any log you create and get the leaseholder to counter-sign to avoid any discrepancy upon moving out.

Private student accommodation

There are also a number of private providers of accommodation for tertiary students in Sydney. These are privately-owned, fully-furnished student accommodation complexes which include a range of shared and self-contained room options.

➤ [UniLodge Wattle Lane](#)
28 Wattle Ln, Ultimo 2007

➤ [UniLodge on Broadway](#)
185-211 Broadway, Ultimo 2007
From \$199pw

➤ [UniLodge at UNSW](#)
1 Lorne Ave, Kensington 2033
From \$309pw

➤ [Urbanest Cleveland Street Student Accommodation](#)
142 Abercrombie Street, Redfern 2016
From \$385pw

➤ [Urbanest Glebe Student Accommodation](#)
25 Arundel Street, Glebe 2037
From \$385pw

➤ [Urbanest Sydney Central Student Accommodation](#)
483 Wattle St, Ultimo 2007
From \$385pw

➤ [Urbanest Darling Square Student Accommodation](#)
41 Darling Drive, Sydney 2000
From \$389pw

➤ [Urbanest Darlington @ The University of Sydney Student Accommodation](#)
152 City Road, Darlington 2008
From \$399pw

➤ [Iglu Chatswood](#)
73 Albert Avenue, Chatswood 2067
From \$405pw

➤ [Iglu Central Park](#)
6 Central Park Avenue, Chippendale 2008
From \$423pw

➤ [Iglu Central](#)
1 Regent Street, Chippendale 2008
From \$473pw

➤ [Urbanest Quay Street Student Accommodation](#)
83 Quay Street, Haymarket 2000
From \$489pw

➤ [Scape Abercrombie](#)
267-269 Abercrombie St, Darlington 2008
From \$489pw

➤ [Iglu Broadway](#)
9 Kensington Street, Chippendale 2008
From \$493pw

➤ [Iglu Redfern](#)
66 Regent Street, Redfern 2016
From \$499pw

Residential colleges

Several residential colleges affiliated with the University of New South Wales accept applications from AFTRS students.

Contract dates at the below residential colleges are typically based on the UNSW calendar, but students may be able to negotiate AFTRS term dates. Be aware that space in these facilities is limited, so prospective residents should aim to apply as early as possible to avoid disappointment. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students eligible for ABSTUDY may be able to use the Residential Cost Option to pay their college fees (which may include meals) through Centrelink.

Many of these colleges offer scholarships and bursaries. Further information about eligibility criteria and the application process can be found on their websites.

➤ [New College](#)
A fully-catered residential college for undergraduate students under the age of 21. New College is founded on Christian faith and values, but accepts residents of any or no faith and welcomes applications from students from all cultural backgrounds.
From \$465pw

➤ [New College Postgraduate Village](#)
Self-catered residential college for students over the age of 21. New College Village is founded on Christian faith and values but accepts residents of any or no faith.
From \$403pw

➤ [Shalom College](#)
Shalom College is a fully-catered, non-denominational, culturally diverse residential college located on the grounds of the University of New South Wales. Shalom was founded by the Jewish community, but prides itself on being an independent and inclusive institution welcoming applications from students irrespective of race, religion, class, national or ethnic origin, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability.
From \$487pw

➤ [Warrane College](#)
Fully-catered residential college for male undergraduate students. Warrane College is affiliated with the Catholic Church, but does not require residents to participate in faith-based activities.
From \$399pw

Short term accommodation

This is useful if you need a temporary place to stay before looking at your long-term housing options.

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER TERTIARY STUDENTS

The Tony Mundine Hostel is located in Leichhardt and is available for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Tertiary students who require accommodation for the short term or long term. Call the office on 02 9043 9520 for further information. The daily rate is \$29 per night.

BUDGET

- [↗ Australian Sunrise Lodge](#)
- [↗ Base Sydney](#)
- [↗ Glebe Village Backpackers](#)
- [↗ Maze Backpackers](#)
- [↗ Summer House](#)
- [↗ Sydney Backpackers](#)
- [↗ Wake Up](#)
- [↗ YHA Railway Square](#)
- [↗ YHA Sydney Central](#)

STANDARD

- [↗ Aspire Hotel](#)
- [↗ BreakFree on George](#)
- [↗ Holiday Inn Darling Harbour](#)
- [↗ Ibis World Square](#)
- [↗ Leisure Inn Sydney Central](#)
- [↗ Metro Hotel Marlow Sydney Central](#)
- [↗ Metro Aspire Hotel, Sydney](#)
- [↗ Oaks Hyde Park Plaza, Sydney](#)
- [↗ Rendezvous Studio Hotel Sydney – Central](#)
- [↗ The Mercure Sydney Hotel](#)
- [↗ The Ultimo](#)
- [↗ Vulcan Hotel](#)

PREMIUM

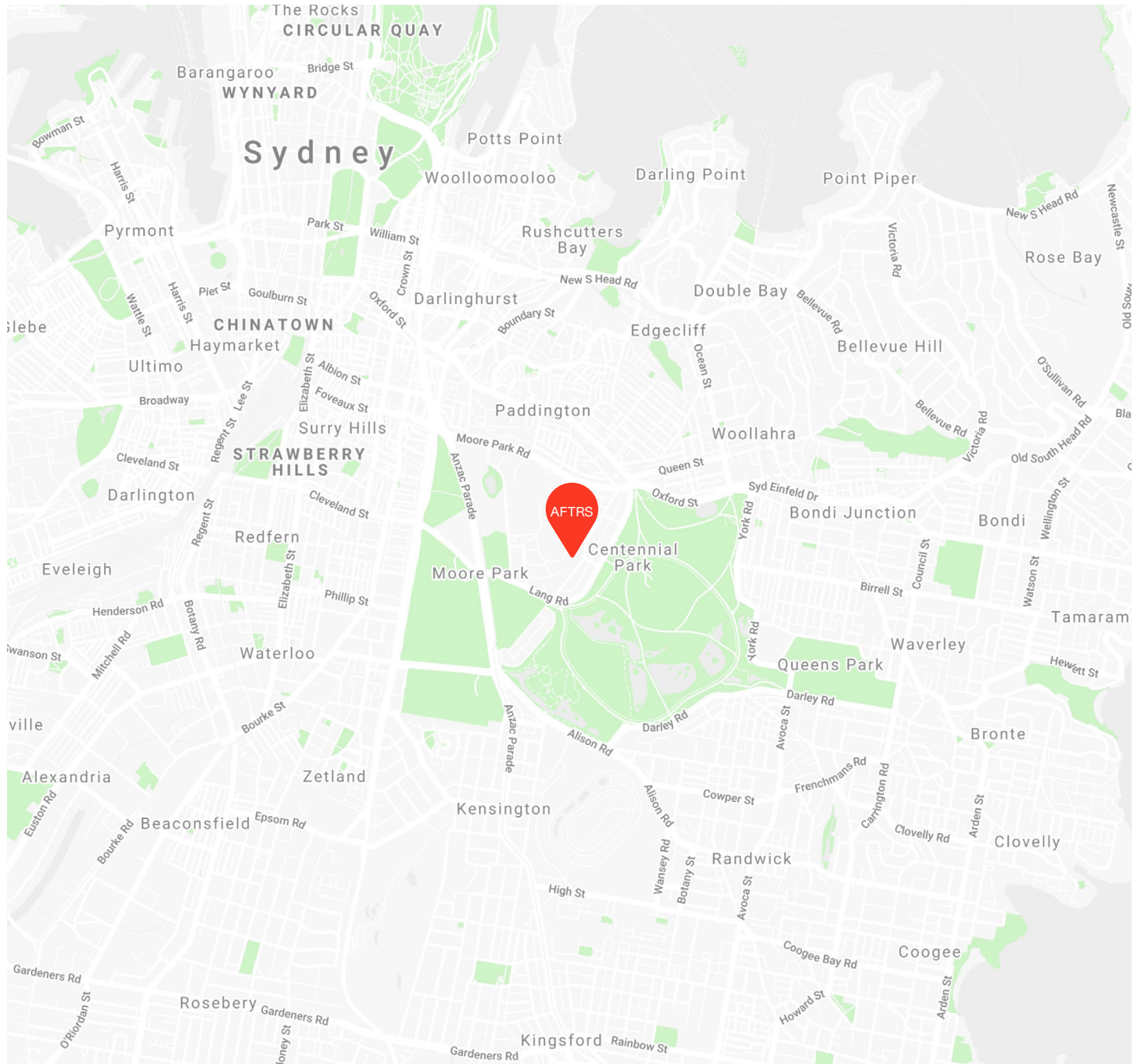
- [↗ Adina Classic, Chippendale](#)
- [↗ Atlas Apartments](#)
- [↗ Four Seasons Hotel](#)
- [↗ Novotel Sydney Central](#)
- [↗ Quality Hotel CKS Sydney Airport](#)
- [↗ Rydges Hotel, World Square](#)
- [↗ Sofitel Sydney Wentworth Hotel](#)
- [↗ Waldorf Sydney Central Serviced Apartments](#)
- [↗ Nesuto Chippendale Sydney Apartment Hotel](#)
- [↗ Waldorf Sydney CBD Serviced Apartments](#)

Other

[↗ Holdsworth HomeShare](#)

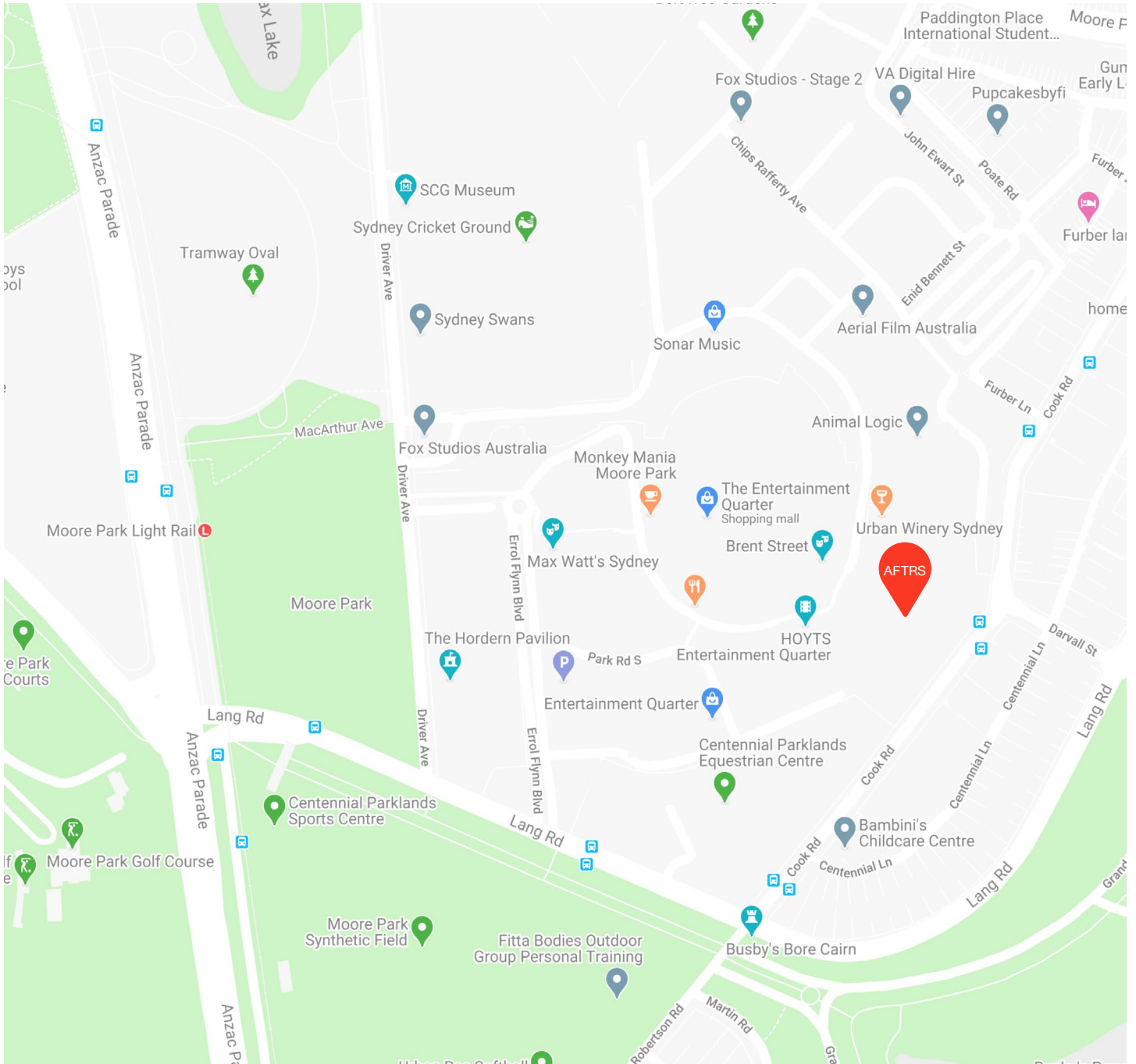
Holdsworth HomeShare matches older people who are living alone in a comfortable home with a younger person who is happy to provide companionship in return for affordable accommodation.

Sydney Map



[↗ AFTRS Location via Google Maps](#)

Local Amenities



➤ AFTRS Location via Google Maps