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DELIVERING HarvestTrail
AN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE

HARVEST WORKER INFOR-MATION

MADEC AUSTRALIA

Mid Murray Area

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About Us

About MADEC

MADEC's purpose is to improve people's lives through education, opportunity and guidance.

As a not-for-profit, it helps people find meaningful work through the provision of specialised employment services to Australia's burgeoning horticulture sector.

From Queensland to Tasmania, MADEC works closely with growers, workers, labour-hire providers, educators, grower organisations, job service providers and government agencies to fill harvest jobs and help bring in Australia's crops.

Harvest Worker Information Booklet

This booklet contains all the details you need to support your harvest work in Mid Murray: a seasonal crop calendar, frequently asked questions, information on accommodation, public transport, things to do in the region and more.

About Harvest Trail Services

Whether growing vegetables, fruits, grains, seeds, nuts or flowers, Australian farms need workers all year round. For more than 20 years, MADEC has been connecting people with harvest work.

MADEC Australia operates Australian Government Harvest Trail Offices in 11 regions across Australia and has strong links with growers in each region.

Our support helps employers meet legal requirements, take advantage of Harvest Trail-related government schemes, and provides opportunity, education and training for workers.

Seasonal Crop Calendar

As farm labour requirements are seasonal, if you are travelling to the Mid Murray region to complete harvest work, we recommend that you do some research beforehand to determine what work is available and if it is suitable for you.

A great place to start is to contact Harvest Trail Information Services on 1800 062 332 or visit www.harvesttrail.gov.au. These will provide you with up-to-date information and list jobs available in specific regions.

Our crop calendar below can give you a great understanding of what work may be available and when.

Crop	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Almond												
Apricot												
Asparagus												
Barley												
Beetroot												
Brocollini												
Canola												
Carrot												
Celery												
Cotton												
Garlic												
Grain												
Grapes												
Legume												
Lettuce												
Mandarin												
Nectarine												
Olive												
Orange												
Peach												
Pistachio												
Plum												
Rice												
Sunflower												
Tomato												
Wheat												

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FAQs

How much will I get paid?

Rates will vary depending on the type of work. Some employers will pay by the hour, whereas others may choose to pay a piece rate. A piece rate can give workers picking above the average quantity a higher rate of pay than they may otherwise receive on an hourly rate, though this is only determined by the quantity you are picking. Working holiday makers are entitled to the same pay and working conditions as Australian workers.

When do I get paid?

Pay day is usually on a Thursday or Friday and can be either weekly or fortnightly depending on the employer. Employers will not pay in advance so you must ensure you have enough money to last until your next pay.

What hours/day do I work?

A typical day is 8 hours long and usually starts between 5am—7am and finishes between 2pm—5pm. Usually, you will work between 4—7 days a week. These hours can be affected by the weather conditions.

Where will I stay?

There are many backpacker hostels and accommodation facilities in the area. Some may offer transport to and from work, and some farms may even provide on-site accommodation however this may not be offered at all accommodation providers. If you are concerned about your accessibility please check this before deciding where to stay.

Is transport provided?

If you are not staying at an accommodation provider that provides transport, you will need to arrange alternate transportation. You may need to make your own decision and ensure that costs of transport can be covered.

What equipment do I need?

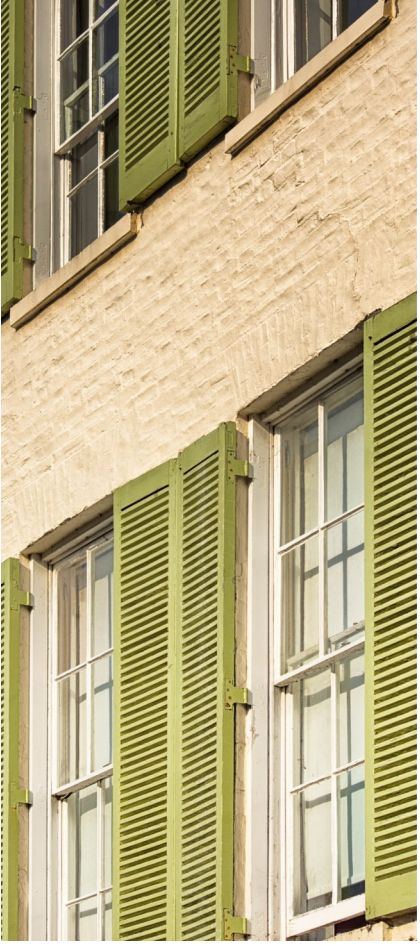
You will need a wide brim hat that protects your head and neck. Farm personal protective equipment (PPE) requirements can vary, however typically you will need a long sleeve shirt, hard wearing pants, solid boots or shoes, sunscreen, water bottle, food and insect repellent. Farms may also issue you specific PPE gear when you start, which usually must be handed back before the end of your employment.

Concerned about your placement?

We want to hear if you are not happy in your placement. Come back to us if the work is unsuitable – don't just give up. We may be able to assist to resolve issues or find a more suitable workplace.

Stay updated: subscribe to our newsletter

https://madec.edu.au/harvest-services/harvest-trail-services/



Accommodation

The Harvest Office will help you find an accommodation option that has a good reputation – please do your research before choosing where to stay.

It is not unusual for a working hostel to ask for a copy of your passport. It is to check that your visa permits you to work in Australia. Be careful though—it is **not** okay for accommodation provider to demand that you hand over your passport, ask you to pay a large security deposit (bond) or charge more than one week's rent in advance.

Some good habits to get into:

⇒ Always ask for a receipt of payment and hold onto it

⇒ Look for the accommodation houses certificate of registration

⇒ Seek assistance if you think something is wrong

Swan Hill

Swan Hill Holiday Park

⌂: 5587 Murray Valley Highway, VIC 3585

☏: 03 5032 4112

💻: www.swanhillholidaypark.com.au

Big4 Swan Hill

⌂: 196 Murray Valley Highway, VIC 3585

☏: 03 5032 4372

💻: www.big4.com.au/caravan-parks/vic/murray/swan-hill-holiday-park

Hill Top Resort

⌂: 659 Murray Valley Highway, VIC 3585

☏: 03 5033 1515

💻: www.hilltopresort.com.au

Pental Island Caravan Park

⌂: 519 Pental Island, Swan Hill QLD 3585

☏: 03 5032 2071

💻: www.pentalislandholidaypark.com.au

Robinvale

Robinvale Bridge Motel

⌂: 112 Bromley Road, VIC 3549

☏: 03 5026 4907

💻: www.robinvalebridgemotel.com.au

Euston Motel

⌂: 2 Sturt Highway, NSW 2737

☏: 03 5026 1133

💻: www.eustonmotel.com.au

Robinvale Riverside Caravan Park

⌂: 25 McLennan Drive, VIC 3549

☏: 03 5026 4646

Robinvale Accommodation Village

⌂: 5 Adcock Road, VIC 3549

☏: 03 5026 1696

Boundary Bend Caravan Park

⌂: 27 Murray Valley Highway , VIC 3599

☏: 03 5026 8201

Boort

Boort Lakes Holiday Park

⌂: 186-192 Godfrey Street, Boort VIC 3537

☏: 03 5455 2064

💻: www.boortlakesholidaypark.com.au

Other Areas

Grand Hotel Nyah West

⌂: 12 Station Road, Nywah West VIC 3595

☏: 03 5032 2071

💻: www.facebook.com/NyahWestPub/

Transport

Public Transport

Swan Hill Taxi Service

☏: 03 5032 2288

💻: www.131008.com

Swan Hill Bus Lines

☏: 03 5032 1068

💻: www.shbl.com.au

Bottroff's Bus Service

☏: 08 8569 2072

Link SA

☏: 08 8532 2633

💻: www.linksa.com.au

Des's Murray Bridge Taxis

☏: 13 33 77

💻: www.murraybridgetaxis.com.au

Murray Transport Connections

☏: 1300 190 869

Roinvale Euston Taxis

☏: 03 5026 3999

VLine

☏: 1800 800 007

💻: www.vline.com.au

Zaffina Bus Lines

☏: 03 5026 1253

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Emergency, feedback and complaints contact numbers

EMERGENCY

Police, Ambulance & Fire

☏: **000**

Health Direct Australia

☏: **1800 022 222**

Chemist and Pharmacy

Robinvale: Amcal+ Pharmacy

⌂: 21 Perrin Street, Robinvale VIC 3549

☏: 03 5026 3253

Swan Hill: Priceline Pharmacy

⌂: 202/206 Campbell Street, Swan Hill VIC 3585

☏: 03 5032 2838

Payment, Termination, Minimum Conditions and Employer Problems

Fair Work Ombudsman

☏: 13 13 94

💻: www.fairwork.gov.au

Australian Taxation Office

☏: 1800 060 062

💻: www.ato.gov.au

Work Safety

WorkSafe Victoria

☏: 1800 136 086

💻: www.workcover.vic.gov.au

Criminal Issues

Victoria Police

☏: 131 444

💻: www.police.vic.gov.au

Discrimination

Australian Human Rights Commission

☏: 1300 369 711

💻: www.humanrights.gov.au

Hospital and Emergency

Swan Hill: Swan Hill District Health

⌂: 48 Splatt Street, Swan Hill VIC 3583

☏: 03 5033 9300

Robinvale: Robinvale District Health Services

⌂: 128-132 Latje Road, Robinvale VIC 3549

☏: 03 5051 8111

Feedback, Advice and Complaints

1. Please contact your local harvest office to discuss your concerns,
2. If they are unable to resolve them, please call the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations directly on their National Customer Service Line (NCSL) on 1800 805 260.

Local information & things to do

Tourist Information Centres

Swan Hill Region Information Centre

⌂: Curelewis Street & McCrae Street, Swan Hill VIC 3585

☏: 03 5032 3033

Gateway to Gannawarra Visitor Information Centre

⌂: 90 King George Street, Cohuna

☏: 03 5456 2047

Sir John Gorton Library & Visitor Information Centre

⌂: 2 Shadforth Street, Kerang

☏: 03 5452 1546

Robinvale Information Centre

⌂: Bromley Road, Robinvale

☏: 03 5026 1388

Mid Murray

Main attractions

Pioneer Settlement

Catalina Flying Boat Museum

Murray Downs Golf & Country Club

Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery

Rural Life Museum

Yanga National Park

Belsar Island

Lake Benanee

Mungo National Park

Kulkyne National Park

Robinvale Euston War Memorial Park

Robinvale Golf Club Resort

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CONTACT US

186-188 Beveridge Street, Swan Hill VIC 3585
(03) 5033 0025
harvestswanhill@madec.edu.au
www.madec.edu.au/harvest-services

176 Bromley Road, Robinvale VIC 3549
(03) 5026 5000
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@MADECHTS