

# Fiji



Capital City: Suva  
 Area: 18,300 sq km  
 Population: 840,000  
 Time Zone: GMT/UTC +12  
 Languages: Fijian (Official)  
                   English; Hindi  
                   Dialects and other variations  
 Religion: Christian, Hindus,  
                   Muslims, Sikhs  
 Currency: Fiji dollar (FJD)  
 Exchange Rate: AUD \$1 = FJD \$1.3  
 Dialling Code: 679  
 Cost: AUD\$650 /c to Nadi



I am Anna and I live in the capital city of Fiji, Suva. I have seen a lot of Australians here as they come as tourists and it is a big part of our income as a country. My mum is the family wage earner and she cleans part time in a hotel here. I had to leave school last year as I turned 14. This happens to over half of the kids in Fiji as we don't have many schools and it is government policy. I am lucky that I was accepted into the Champagnat Institute run by the Marists.

This is what the Brothers call "a second chance education centre" for 122 kids as many of us did not have a good school experience and struggle with Maths and the two languages we use - Fijian and English. The program gives us a chance to catch up on these subjects with interesting units and I really enjoy being in the computer room.

Another part of the program here that I enjoy is the practical programs. I am learning gardening and we are learning to market our produce such as vegetables, plant seedlings and eggs. I also enjoy tailoring and sewing and I think I will look for work in this area when I finish my three years here but I am worried as there are not many jobs in the factories for those of us who are young. These factories make many of the school uniforms for Australia as the wages are much lower than Australia.




---



---



---



---

# Fiji