

CASE FOR SUPPORT
YHA TRAVEL
TO LEARN





YHA Australia is a for-purpose, membership-based organisation that's been providing curious travellers with low-cost, quality accommodation for more than 80 years. With 40 properties across the country, from thriving city destinations to locations in National Parks, we have something for everyone - and we believe no one should miss out.

Our foundation, YHA Travel to Learn, empowers disadvantaged young people to unlock their potential through travel. By removing the financial, geographic or logistical barriers they face, we can not only help them explore the world but also find their place within it.



Travel is a core part of a young person's development, providing opportunities to grow personally, professionally, and as a citizen of the world.

Though it's easy to overlook if you've always had the freedom to travel, exposure to new places, cultures and ideas expands a person's horizons, contributes to the development of identity and imparts a sense of place in the world.

Travel can teach young people crucial life skills, maturity, independence, resilience, and the tools with which to thrive and ultimately contribute to society. Travel also promotes tolerance, understanding and the cultural exchange of ideas. It can be a catalyst for life-changing connections, lessons, opportunities and new beginnings.

For a young person who has never experienced all this and may never have left their hometown, travel can profoundly alter the trajectory of their life story.

Why travel is important

BY THE NUMBERS

A global study conducted by Columbia Business School psychologist Adam Galinsky found:

Australian travellers are:

50%

more likely to achieve goals that they set for themselves than non-travellers.

50%

more likely to be comfortable with change, new environments and new people.

Travellers are

21%

more likely to prefer challenging goals that they can learn from, rather than taking the easy route.

71%

of travellers report that travel has helped them learn to adapt and be more resourceful in certain situations.



74%

of US travellers indicated that travel has shaped their perspective on global politics. They are 34% more likely to be politically engaged than non-travellers, with 12% more travellers voting in the last presidential election.

In a South African sample,

90%

of travellers say that travel has helped them develop an awareness of other cultures that has led to increased tolerance and compassion for others (compared to 69% of non-travellers).

Compared to non-travellers in a US sample, travellers are 40% more likely to prioritise learning about other cultures, and they're also looking to challenge themselves, grow their skills and be more accepting of differing beliefs.

Smith Family research

4 IN 10

(40.6%) think their children will miss out on educational activities outside of school.

1 IN 3

(32%) think their children will miss out on school excursions.



How YHA Travel to Learn creates change

OUR PRIORITIES

To bring our vision to life, YHA Travel to Learn is drawing on YHA's assets and partnerships to make a difference through the following initiatives:

Removing barriers to travel

We passionately support young people who encounter geographic, financial or other obstacles when it comes to travelling. By subsidising their journeys, we enable disadvantaged young people to participate in travel and learning experiences, ensuring that everyone has an opportunity.

Support can include travel and meal expenses, accommodation, and the cost of education and social development activities. Examples of partners include local schools, respite organisations, clubs and community organisations such as Scouts and Girl Guides, as well as other charities.

Empowering career pathways

YHA Travel to Learn facilitates career pathways for young people facing barriers to employment who are interested in working in the tourism and hospitality sectors. Through partnerships with registered training organisations, YHA can assist with education and training, as well as directly extend employment opportunities to participants at YHA properties and aligned partners around the country.

The Foundation can also fund tertiary or vocational education for young people in remote and regional communities, especially those wishing to study in major cities. By assisting with transport and travel costs, accommodation, education fees and other expenses, YHA is able to open doors for young individuals to embark on exciting, fulfilling careers.

Forging reciprocal benefit through social enterprise

In partnership with local purpose-aligned groups and organisations, YHA Travel to Learn's social enterprise offers tours, events, workshops and activities to disadvantaged young people, providing authentic cultural experiences as well as opportunities to learn about and engage with important environmental and social causes.

Alongside educating and enriching participants, the social enterprise seeks to uplift and support small enterprises and not-for-profits (with a particular focus on First Nations-owned and operated organisations), while engendering respect and understanding between cultures, a sense of social contextuality and a deep connection to the natural world.

How YHA Travel to Learn creates change

OUR MODEL

Activities: Subsidise travel for those with geographic, financial or logistical barriers; facilitate work experience and employment pathways within the travel and hospitality industry; offer cultural and environmental experiences via our social enterprise

Remove barriers and provide access to travel experiences so young people can experience environments, cultures and opportunities that would otherwise not be available to them

Young people feel empowered, encouraged and supported to personally develop through travel experiences

Opportunities for a journey of self-discovery to develop cultural, social and environmental awareness and the skills essential to navigate the complexities of the modern world

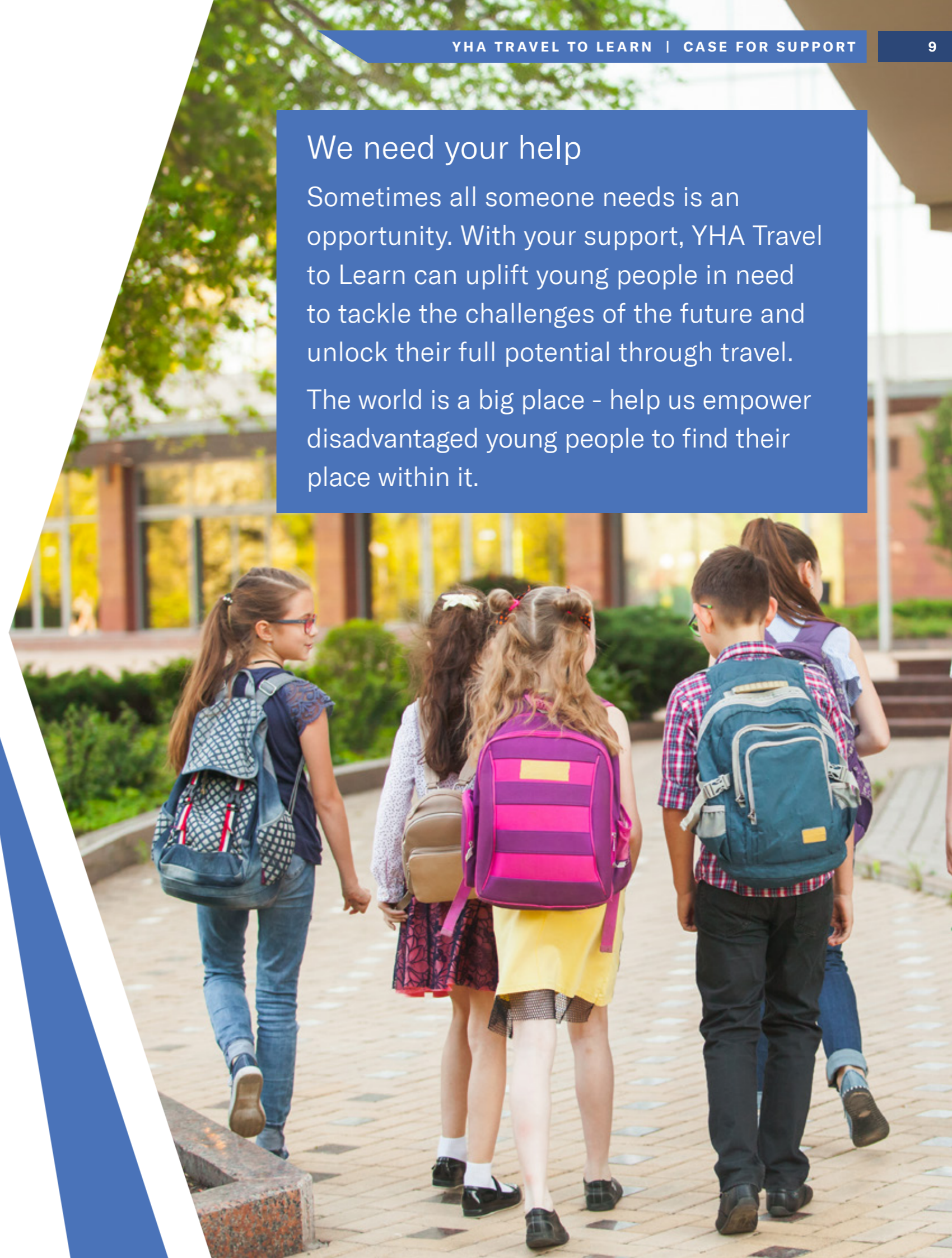
FINAL GOAL Young people with mature, empathetic, growth-oriented mindset who are well equipped to contribute to the community

INTERMEDIATE OUTCOMES

We need your help

Sometimes all someone needs is an opportunity. With your support, YHA Travel to Learn can uplift young people in need to tackle the challenges of the future and unlock their full potential through travel.

The world is a big place - help us empower disadvantaged young people to find their place within it.





For more information, contact
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