



Aussie babes in Brooklyn, living it up and loving it

**SATC2
IT'S HERE!**



Claire Quigley, 27, from Wagga Wagga, moved to New York in January 2009 – the first time she set foot in the city. A business consultant, she managed to lock down employment within two weeks and now lives in SoHo. She attended the New York premiere of *SATC2* and describes it as, “The most surreal celebrity sighting ever. The crowd was nuts, I didn’t know where to look. I was so excited.”

New York’s constant hustle and bustle is a stark contrast to the open spaces of rural NSW. “Prepare to be overwhelmed by the sheer size of the city,” says Claire. “It’s so big, but at the same time it can feel claustrophobic.” The best part of New York? “Stepping out of my front door and being part of the action. Plus all the secret places, like the bars and restaurants, that take a while to find.”

WE’LL TAKE MANHATTAN

AS *SATC2* DEBUTS THIS WEEK, SIX AUSTRALIAN WOMEN TELL SHANNON O’MEARA WHY THEY’VE CHOSEN TO LIVE IN NEW YORK

PHOTOGRAPHY IMOGEN BROWN

Kate Williams, 27, from Sydney, moved to NY in October 2008 just as the GFC was in full swing. Due to a hiring freeze in her chosen profession as a lawyer, she used her initiative and her relationship with Australian jewellery company Polli to set up its North American office. Kate has now moved from law into full-time fashion PR. She lives in Brooklyn. “What’s not to love about New York?” says Kate. “It’s more exciting and there are less Australians than in other places. I love the locals, the personalities and the openness to new ideas. There’s willingness and a spontaneity about the place.”



Isla Cochran, 25, from Melbourne, arrived in March this year and works in events planning. She lives in the East Village. “I just wanted to do something different,” says Isla. “While coming over without a job was daunting, it’s all part of the challenge.” ▶

Sydney-sider **Clare Clifford**, 26, married an Irishman last year and they moved together to New York in December 2009. Based in the West Village, it took Clare two-and-a-half months to secure her accountancy job. While her siblings had opted for the London experience, she was keen to do something away from the norm and was always attracted to the energy of the city. "The pulse of New York is fast, it's alive, electric and so diverse. I love it."

Despite the fast pace and glamour, Clare does point out it's not so easy relocating to the Big Apple.

"Moving here really requires patience and perseverance. You have to have confidence and not doubt yourself," she says.



Anne Tully, 28, originally from Dubbo, is an IVF nurse and moved to New York in March 2009. Currently living in the Flatiron District in Manhattan, Anne had to complete the National Council Licensure Examination to practice nursing in the States.

"The opportunities for career progression were really appealing," says Anne. "But meeting lots of new people and getting a feel for the American culture first-hand has been the most interesting."

But Anne is quick to mention that the freezing winters are challenging! ■



Amelia Pulsford, 27, a television producer from Sydney, arrived in New York in February this year and secured work within two months. Lucky!

Having visited the city several times before she arrived, Amelia always had an inkling that she would move there one day.

"I wrote my family a postcard when I was 16 and at the end of it I said, 'I can see myself living here'," she says. "It's a lot of work and if it was any less great then I would have given up. But I have daily reminders of why I want to be here."