



City of Perth

# City of Perth Sister Cities



The City of Perth acknowledges the Whadjuk Nyoongar people as the Traditional Owners of the lands and waters on which the City is situated today, and pay our respect to Elders past and present. The City is committed to honouring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people’s unique cultural and spiritual connections to the land and waters and their rich contribution to the City’s community.

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## INTRODUCTION TO THE CITY OF PERTH

**Perth is the capital city of Australia's largest state, Western Australia. Western Australia forms one third of the Australian continent, with 13,000 kilometres of coastline. We are the nation's only capital city located on the Indian Ocean and share our region with 60 per cent of the world's population.**

Over 80 per cent of Western Australia's 2.5 million people live in the greater metropolitan area of Perth. Located on the northern banks of the Swan River and over 19 square kilometres in size, the city of Perth forms the nucleus.

The Perth CBD is home to international consulates, the Parliament of Western Australia and key Federal and State judicial institutions. It has the largest concentration of jobs and services as well as educational, cultural and leisure activities in Greater Perth.

Perth is a globally connected city and maintains an active network of global partnerships. Perth has nine Sister Cities, two Friendship Cities and is a founding member of the World Energy Cities Partnership, a network of 19 major energy producing cities from around the world.

As a gateway between Australia, Asia and the Indian Ocean region, Perth can continue to play a significant role in city-to-city relationships and contribute to the economic and social development of both the local and international community.

# CITY OF PERTH SISTER CITIES



**PERTH, SCOTLAND**

**VASTO**

**KASTELLORIZO** Καστελλόριζο

**RHODES** Ρόδος

**CHENGDU** 成都

**NANJING** 南京

**SEOCHO CITY**

**KAGOSHIMA**

**TAIPEI** 臺北

**PERTH**



Y 서초구청

IA 鹿児島市

SAN DIEGO

HOUSTON



## **PERTH'S INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS**

**The City of Perth is committed to being an active member of the international community and as such maintains involvement in a variety of international organisations and programs. Central to our commitment is the City of Perth Sister City Program.**

The concept of a Sister City relationship originated in the United States shortly after World War II, when then-President Dwight Eisenhower created a citizen diplomacy program to encourage international peace and prosperity through the creation of partnerships between different cities across the world.

Sister City Agreements encourage people-to-people interaction by providing citizens with the opportunity to participate in cultural, informational, educational, trade and knowledge-sharing exchange programs across cities.

Since the establishment of our first Sister City Agreement with Kagoshima in 1974, the City has long embraced the Sister City program, enabling the people of Perth to build relationships and foster cultural understanding with cities across the globe. The City's exchange programs allow participants to come together, exchange ideas and share a common experience. Furthermore, program participation serves to develop future leaders who appreciate the value of international collaboration and cross-cultural understanding.

More recently our Sister City relationships have evolved to become a framework to support economic growth across a variety of business and industry sectors. With established government and business contacts, in a variety of cities, the Sister City program acts as a gateway to new markets providing trade, investment and knowledge-sharing opportunities. Through the Sister city program, many Perth-based organisations have already developed international economic partnerships.

A great example of this is the World Energy Cities Partnership of which Perth, along with Sister City Houston, was a founding member in 1995. The economic and industry synergies that both Perth and Houston share have facilitated the establishment of an industry advocacy body that currently provides opportunity and benefit for our Perth-based energy businesses.

## PERTH'S SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIPS

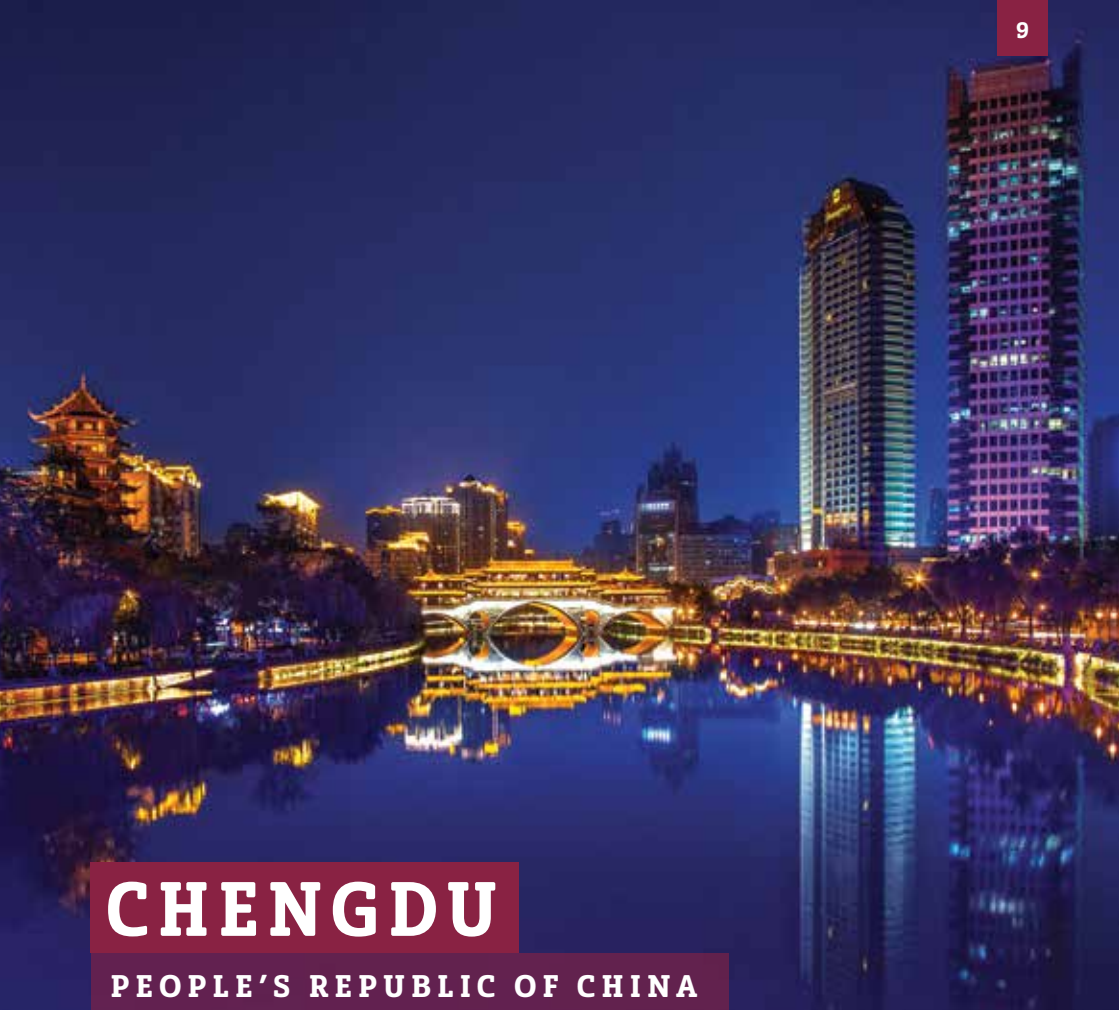
The City of Perth shares relationships with 11 cities across the world, through a series of Sister City Agreements and Charters of Mutual Friendship. The City maintains a number of different programs to ensure we contribute to and strengthen our relationships with the cities, and the wider international community.

The City of Perth shares international relationships with the following countries:

- Chengdu, People's Republic of China
- Houston, United States of America
- Kagoshima, Japan
- Megisti-Kastellorizo, Greece
- Nanjing, People's Republic of China
- Rhodes, Greece
- Perth, Scotland
- San Diego, United States of America
- Seocho, Republic of Korea
- Taipei, Taiwan
- Vasto, Italy







# CHENGDU

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

*Image courtesy of Chengdu Municipal People's Government.*

The City of Perth has shared a Sister City relationship with the Chengdu Municipal Government since 2012. Prior to this, all City of Perth interactions with the City of Chengdu were conducted under a Charter of Mutual Friendship, which was established in 2010.

The Sister City relationship Perth shares with Chengdu is based on economic development objectives, specifically within the areas of partnership, international students, business migration, tourism and investment.

## BACKGROUND

Chengdu is the capital of the Sichuan Province of Western China and has a population of over 14 million people, almost 17.5 per cent of the entire provincial population. Chengdu is located at the western edge of the Sichuan Basin, in South-Western China and covers a land area of 14,378 square kilometres.

*Images courtesy of Chengdu Municipal People's Government.*



## ECONOMICS

Chengdu is one of China's top cities in terms of economic performance; in 2015 Chengdu's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was valued at 1,080 billion RMB. Chengdu's economic strength lies in the development of varied and high value-added industries along with high-quality labour and lower costs than some of China's larger cities. Over 96 per cent of Chengdu's GDP is comprised of tertiary and secondary industry.

Moving forward, the Belt and Road Initiative accompanied with the development of regional economic clusters, such as the Chengdu Economic and Technological Development Zone and the Chengdu High-Level Industrial Development Zone, will provide further economic growth of specific industry sectors. The Chengdu Municipal Government will develop a further six economic clusters for industries with a high annual output value including sectors such as: biomedicine, intelligent manufacturing and energy saving.

## FUN FACT

Chengdu is home to the Giant Panda. Approximately 1,864 remain in the wild and most of these reside in three provinces throughout China, including the Sichuan Province. A key location within the Sichuan Province for wild Pandas is the Minshan mountain range, ideal due to their isolated sources of bamboo forests.

Additionally, Chengdu is home to the Chengdu Research Base of Giant Panda Breeding. This research and breeding institute has developed the world's largest artificial breeding population of captive giant pandas, recording 113 in existence, over 20 years of conservation.



## KEY PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

### *Picture Yourself in Perth Program*

The Picture Yourself in Perth Program (PYP) is an annual education-based Sister City exchange, facilitated by the City of Perth in partnership with StudyPerth. The PYP Program is a competition providing secondary students the opportunity to win a 'Study Experience in Perth Scholarship' including travel to Perth. The City began this program with Chengdu in 2012 and since then has welcomed study groups to Perth on an annual basis.

## ***Global Innovation and Entrepreneurship Fair (GIEF)***

Held annually in Chengdu since 2014, the GIEF is an international event bringing together government leaders, academics, entrepreneurs and investors to discuss issues relating to the use of technology and innovation by governments and businesses. Having first attended in 2015, the City has grown its participation in the event, providing opportunities for Perth-based tech companies to promote their companies and develop important industry connections within a key innovation centre.

## ***Chengdu Civil Servant Exchange Scholarship Program***

The Chengdu Civil Servant Exchange Program invites participants from Chengdu's 31 Sister Cities to increase their familiarisation with Chengdu. During the program, participants learn about Chengdu's history and culture, economic and social development and advantageous industries through a series of workshops, field visits and experience sharing. The City endeavours to participate each year in order to strengthen relations with Chengdu and increase cultural understanding.

## ***Chengdu International Sister Cities Youth Music Festival***

Held annually in Chengdu, the Sister Cities Youth Music Festival provides an opportunity for the international community and Chengdu to engage in an exchange of music and culture. In recent years, the City of Perth has provided an opportunity for Perth schools to perform at this large-scale music event.

**FIND OUT MORE**



[chengdu.gov.cn/english/](http://chengdu.gov.cn/english/)

A long-exposure photograph of the Houston skyline at dusk. The city's skyscrapers are illuminated with various colors, including blue, yellow, and red. In the foreground, a multi-lane highway is shown with long, bright white and yellow light trails from moving vehicles, curving through the frame. The sky is a clear, deep blue.

# HOUSTON

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The City of Houston and the City of Perth established a Sister City relationship in 1984, initially motivated by the development of people-to-people links and the encouragement of mutual participation in the program.

More recently, the City's relationship with Houston has grown based on shared membership in the World Energy Cities Partnership (WECP) and increased collaboration in the resources and energy, and medical industry sectors.

## BACKGROUND

Houston is the most populous city in the state of Texas and the fourth most populous city in the United States, with approximately 2.3 million residents.

The City of Houston is a large city that covers over 1,696 square kilometres. It is situated in the south of the US continent, on the coastal plains of east Texas and near the Gulf of Mexico.

## ECONOMICS

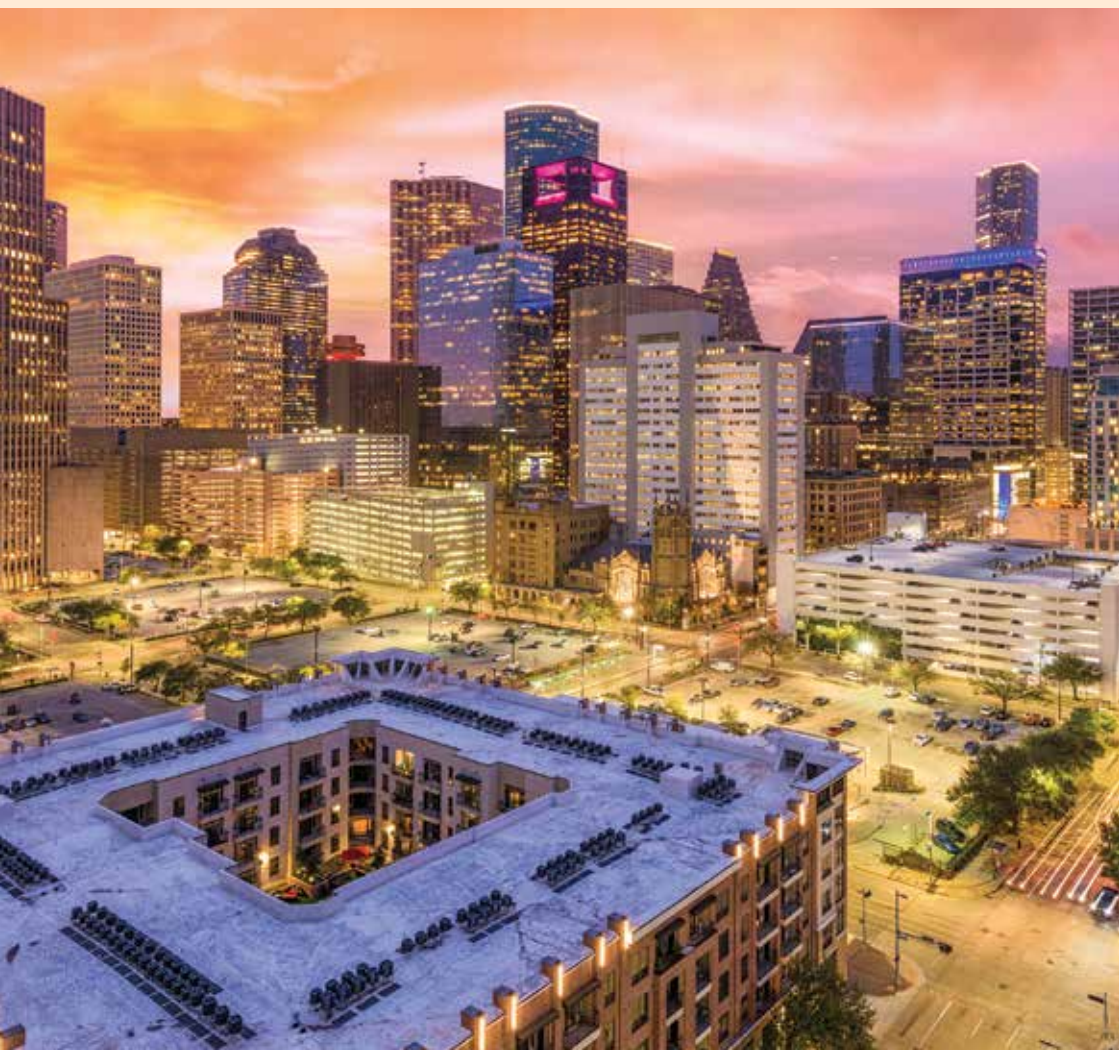
Houston has the second largest concentration of Fortune 1000 companies in the United States, after New York.

Houston is the US energy headquarters and a world centre for segments of the oil and gas industry including exploration, production, transmission, marketing, supply and technology. Approximately 4,800 energy-related firms are located within the Houston area, including more than 500 exploration and production firms, nearly 800 oilfield service companies, more than 150 pipeline transportation firms and hundreds of manufacturers and wholesalers of energy-sector products.

Medical sciences is one of the largest industries in Houston, and the city is renowned for the Texas Medical Centre (TMC), the largest medical complex in the world. Within the TMC you can find 21 hospitals, 13 support organisations, eight academic and research institutes, six nursing programs, three public health organisations, three medical schools, two universities, two pharmacy schools and a dental school. The centre is staffed by almost 106,000 employees who facilitate 10 million patient encounters each year.

## FUN FACT

Houston is the most racially and ethnically diverse major metropolis in the United States. The people of Houston speak more than 145 languages - the third largest number of languages spoken in any one city, behind New York and Los Angeles. More than one third of Houston residents over the age of five speak a language other than English.



## KEY PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

### ***World Energy Cities Partnership (WECP)***

Nineteen cities worldwide, including founding member Perth, form the WECP, promoting the exchange of industry knowledge, economic development strategies and expertise. As an active member of the WECP, the City travels to Houston, where the WECP secretariat is based, to attend annual WECP working meetings and engage with Houston stakeholders.

### ***Offshore Technology Conference (OTC)***

OTC is the largest global event for the oil and gas sector and showcases leading technology for offshore drilling, production and environmental protection. As a leading energy city, the City of Perth frequently sends representation to OTC to participate in and enable future engagement opportunities, both within this sector and within Houston. The City also supports the trade delegation led by the American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham) which travels to Houston to attend OTC and meet with major industry stakeholders.

### ***Texas Medical Centre (TMC)***

Organisations based at the Queen Elizabeth II Medical Centre (QEII) maintain relationships with Texas Medical Centre (TMC). QEII, located in Nedlands, is one of the largest medical life sciences precincts in the southern hemisphere, housing approximately 40 not-for-profit, public and private organisations working in the fields of medical research, healthcare, bio/medical technology and clinical trials. The strong relationship between TMC and QEII facilitates and permits mutual travel opportunities and networking between staff at the two centres.

**FIND OUT MORE**



**houstontx.gov**





# KAGOSHIMA

JAPAN

*Image Courtesy of Kagoshima City Government*

**Kagoshima is the City of Perth's oldest Sister City, with the relationship established in 1974. Initial progression of the relationship was due to Perth and Kagoshima sharing the same 32 degrees of latitude.**

Aside from this unique connection, the Sister City relationship was formalised on the basis of shared cultural, educational and government-to-government based activities.

## BACKGROUND

Kagoshima is the capital city of the Kagoshima prefecture in the Kyushu region of Japan, and has an estimated population of approximately 600,000 residents. Kagoshima is located on the south-western tip of Kyushu, the most southern of Japan's four main islands and occupies a land area of 547 square kilometres. Due to Kagoshima's proximity to the active volcano, Sakurajima, surrounding land is mostly comprised of ash, volcanic sand and light volcanic debris.



*Images Courtesy of Kagoshima City Government.*

## ECONOMICS

A large number of food-related companies are located in Kagoshima, due to the city's role as a major food supply depot for Japan and the availability of high-quality agricultural and marine products. Additionally, many of Kyushu's semiconductor and automotive industries choose to locate their facilities within Kagoshima. Technology leaders such as Kyocera, Sony, Ulvac, Toyota Auto Body and NGK Spark Plug all maintain facilities in Kagoshima and are a driving force of the city's economy.



## FUN FACT

Kagoshima is the second largest producer of tea in Japan. Due to the surrounding volcanic activity, the region has soil that is perfect for producing tea. The Matsumoto region within Kagoshima is particularly famous for tea production.



## KEY PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

### *Picture Yourself in Perth Program*

The Picture Yourself in Perth Program (PYP) is an annual education-based Sister City exchange, facilitated by the City of Perth in partnership with StudyPerth. The PYP Program is a competition providing secondary students the opportunity to win a 'Study Experience in Perth Scholarship' including travel to Perth. The City of Perth launched this program with Kagoshima in 2015 and since then has welcomed study groups to Perth on an annual basis.

### *Minami IBS Academy*

The City of Perth has developed a strong association with the Minami IBS Academy located in Kagoshima, Japan. The City hosts an annual delegation, led by College President Mr Toru Minami, of approximately 20 students at Council House during their Perth Study Tour. Mr Toru Minami has been bringing students to Perth for over 30 years and it is estimated that during this time almost 700 Kagoshima students would have travelled to Perth to participate in the program.

## COMMEMORATIVE GARDENS

### *Kagoshima Park*

Located within Burswood Park on the Swan River, Kagoshima Park is a living symbol of the Kagoshima-Perth relationship and the international peace, cultural understanding and goodwill it fosters. Over the course of the Kagoshima-Perth relationship, and on the occasion of Sister City anniversaries, tree planting and sculpture dedications have been conducted by representatives of both cities. Each tree and sculpture has a commemorative plaque outlining the significant occasion it represents.

**FIND OUT MORE**



[www.city.kagoshima.lg.jp/gaikokugo/english](http://www.city.kagoshima.lg.jp/gaikokugo/english)





# MEGISTI

(KASTELLORIZO), GREECE

**The City of Perth and the City of Megisti, Greece signed a Sister City Agreement in 1984.**

The agreement was based on the shared desire for international peace and goodwill and the development of an understanding of each

city's community, people, customs and traditions. Both cities agreed to support national and international events, with similar aims and objectives, and to encourage community engagement in cross-cultural activities.

## BACKGROUND

Kastellorizo is one of the islands and municipalities that form the Dodecanese Islands in Greece with a population of about 400 residents.

Kastellorizo is located 1.3 kilometres off the coast of Turkey, in the South-eastern Mediterranean and the municipality covers a land area of just over nine square kilometres.

## ECONOMICS

A major industry and source of income for the island of Kastellorizo is the tourism sector. In the mid-1980's passenger ferries began to frequent the island. With the addition of an airstrip, the summer tourist trade grew and many expatriates returned to the island. At the start of the 2000's the Greek Islands, including Kastellorizo, experienced a boom in tourism. During this time, Kastellorizo recorded a 200 per cent increase in the number of hotel beds available, one of the largest increases across the Greek Islands.

To support the island's tourism sector, Kastellorizo is the recipient of several scheduled ferry and fast catamaran services and services between four to six flights per week. A more recent tourist attraction on the island is the Beyond the Borders International Documentary Festival, which was launched in 2016 and has been held on Kastellorizo each year since.



## FUN FACT

Despite olive farming not occurring on Kastellorizo for more than a century, in 2015 the island produced over 180 litres of olive oil. Financed by the Friends of Kastellorizo, many of whom reside in Perth, it is hoped that the project will stimulate a micro-industry and lead to benefits for the island's economy.

Friends of Kastellorizo works with a local not-for-profit organisation on the island Drasi Kastellorizou, to identify important projects that will deliver returns to the island. The collaboration has already achieved success by turning a waste recycling project into a small operation which now employs two people. With a small island population and a limited summer tourist season, the creation and diversification of jobs is vital to the people of Kastellorizo.

## KEY PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

### *Friends of Kastellorizo Exchange Program*

Established in 2008, the City of Perth provides annual support to the Friends of Kastellorizo Exchange Program. Each year one to three students travel overseas to experience a city's culture and history. The destination and students who partake rotate annually; students from Kastellorizo travel to Perth one year, with Perth students travelling to Kastellorizo in the next.

**FIND OUT MORE**



<http://kastellorizo.com/>



# NANJING

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

The City of Nanjing and the City of Perth established a Sister City relationship in 1998, based on mutual understanding and friendship between the Chinese and Australian people.

The agreement aims to develop exchange and cooperation opportunities across the sectors of economy, trade, science and technology, culture, education and health that promote common prosperity and development.

*Image by Mr SHEN Min.*



## BACKGROUND

Nanjing is the capital of Jiangsu Province and the second largest city in the East China region, with a population of over eight million residents.

The city of Nanjing is located within the Yangtze River Delta, at the intersection of the Yangtze River which serves as an east-west transport avenue. Nanjing covers an area of approximately 6,600 square kilometres.

## ECONOMICS

Nanjing is a port city and important industrial base in East China. Nanjing's strong industrial sector is traditionally based around electronics, cars, petrochemicals, iron and steel. Growth within these sectors is due to Nanjing's abundance of resources and proximity to Shanghai.

To ensure continued economic growth, Nanjing has established several state-owned economic development zones across varying industries, including Jiangning Economic Technological Zone, Nanjing Chemical Industrial Park, Nanjing High and New Technology

Industrial Development Zone and Nanjing Economic and Technological Development Zone.

In 2016 Nanjing City announced the 'Nanjing Entrepreneurship Plan' to increase Nanjing's capacity in the innovation and service economies, with a keen focus on openness and environmental friendliness. Under this plan Nanjing will implement a startup program to attract leading technology experts and innovative entrepreneurs to Nanjing and establish an innovation incubator ecosystem.

## FUN FACT

Nanjing is one of the 'Four Great Ancient Capitals of China' and previously served as the capital of China, during ten political regimes throughout the past 1,800 years. The Ming Great Wall of Nanjing is an important relic of 14th century architecture and is a key historical and cultural representation of the Ming Dynasty. When constructed in 1386, the wall, comprised of over 300 million bricks, was 35 kilometres long with 13 fortified gates. Currently under state protection as a monument of national importance, 25 kilometres of the wall remain with six sections open to the public.

## KEY PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

### *Picture Yourself in Perth Program*

The Picture Yourself in Perth Program (PYP) is an annual education-based Sister City exchange, facilitated by the City of Perth in partnership with StudyPerth. The PYP Program is a competition providing secondary students the opportunity to win a Study Experience in Perth Scholarship including travel to Perth. The City of Perth began this program with Nanjing in 2012 and since then has welcomed study groups to Perth on an annual basis.

### *Nanjing Young Envoy Program*

In 2018, as part of 20th anniversary celebrations of the Perth-Nanjing Sister City relationship, Nanjing invited Perth students to experience their city and culture. Following an application process, Nanjing selected a music band from Perth Modern School to attend the 2018 Nanjing International Youth Music Concert in China and participate in the Young Envoy Program.

**FIND OUT MORE**



[english.nanjing.gov.cn](http://english.nanjing.gov.cn)



# RHODES

GREECE

**The City of Perth and the City of Rhodes signed a Sister City Agreement in 1984.**

The agreement was based on the shared desire for international peace and goodwill and the development

of an understanding of each city's community, people, customs and traditions. Both cities agreed to foster this understanding through people-to-people links and engagement in cross-cultural activities.

## BACKGROUND

Rhodes is the largest of the Dodecanese Islands of Greece and has a permanent population of approximately 100,000 inhabitants.

The island of Rhodes is located in the south Aegean Sea, 18 kilometres south-west of Turkey and covers an area of approximately 1,400 square kilometres, with 253 kilometres of coastline.



## ECONOMICS

The Port of Rhodes has the functionality to perform as a home port for cruise liners. As such, Rhodes is often used as an entry or exit point to the Mediterranean and has established the tourism industry as a main pillar of the Rhodes economy. Rhodes welcomes over two million tourists each year, across the small island's two airport terminals and marina.

Additionally, the Rhodes economy relies on farming, shipbuilding and light industry, as well as locally made wines and fishing, to generate income.

## FUN FACT

Rhodes' history stretches back 2,400 years and is embodied in the artefacts of the island. The Medieval City of Rhodes is included in the UNESCO World Heritage List in recognition of the unique architecture, primary building materials and urban organisation it represents.

Many of the monuments in Rhodes are representative of the many civilisations which have occupied the island throughout history. These include the Ancient Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, the Order of the Knights of St John, the Ottomans, and Italians. The Acropolis of Rhodes is still observable today and consists of the Hellenistic Temple of Apollo and the Ancient Stadium.

Built on the island of Rhodes around 280 BC, the Colossus of Rhodes is a massive statue of a male figure and one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. Some accounts note that the statue was built to honour the sun god Helios, however specific details are limited due to the destruction of the monument during an earthquake in 226 BC.





# PERTH

SCOTLAND

In 2006, the City of Perth and the Perth and Kinross Council in Scotland established a Charter of Mutual Friendship. The objective of this

friendship was to encourage and assist social, cultural, educational, recreational and economic exchanges between the two cities.

## BACKGROUND

The shire of Perth and Kinross is one of 32 councils in Scotland with a population of just over 150,000 residents.

Covering a land area of 5,285 square kilometres, the shire is in central Scotland with the city centre specifically located to the west of the banks of the River Tay.



## ECONOMICS

Perth and Kinross Council has a relatively diversified economy, with specific interests in several key sectors.

The financial services sector and in particular the insurance industry, provides employment for around 13 per cent of the shire's working age population. This sector's local economic output is valued at £135 million per annum.

Food and beverage is another important sector to the shire's economy. An estimated 130 companies operate in the processing/value add sector and contribute to the sector's estimated annual turnover of £310 million.

The tourism sector contributes £17 million annually to the shire's economy, through local event programs. An estimated 515 accommodation and food service businesses participate in the shire's tourism sector.

*(Left) Image courtesy of Perth and Kinross Council.*

## FUN FACT

Perth, Scotland and Perth, Western Australia share a long association and a unique history. In 1829, the Swan River colony's first Governor, Captain James Stirling, decided to name the new colony Perth in recognition of Perthshire Scotland, the electorate of the then-British Secretary of State for the Colonies, Sir George Murray.

On the 150th anniversary of the founding of Western Australia, the Perth and Kinross Council donated two decorative lamps to the City of Perth. The lamps were restored and have taken pride of place at the front of Council House since 1999.

Following the initiation of a Charter of Mutual Friendship between the two cities, the Perth Concert Hall, Western Australia, and the Perth Concert Hall, Scotland signed a twinning arrangement in Scotland on 27 September 2006.

*(Below) Image courtesy of Perth and Kinross Council.*



**FIND OUT MORE**  [pkc.gov.uk](http://pkc.gov.uk)





# SAN DIEGO

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**The City of Perth and the City of San Diego signed a Sister City Agreement in 1987. The inauguration of this relationship occurred in 1987 to coincide with an America's Cup event held in Western Australia.**

The Sister City agreement is centred around developing an understanding of each City's respective community life, customs and traditions. In support of this initiative both cities agreed to encourage participation by individuals and groups throughout the communities of Perth and San Diego.

## BACKGROUND

San Diego is located within the San Diego County of California and is the State's second largest city, with an estimated population of 1.37 million residents.

San Diego is located on the coast of the Pacific Ocean, near to the Mexican-United States border and 190km south of Los Angeles. The City of San Diego covers a land area of approximately 842 square kilometres.

## ECONOMICS

San Diego has four key sectors that serve the local economy: international trade, military, manufacturing and tourism.

Key to the city's international trade focus is the San Diego Foreign Trade Zone (San Diego FTZ). Authorised by Congress and administered by the City of San Diego, the San Diego FTZ program encourages value-added activities to take place in US facilities through the delay or reduction in duty payments on foreign merchandise.

Within the San Diego regional economy, the military sector accounts for 1-in-5 jobs and generates almost \$45 billion annually in Gross Regional Product

(GRP). Annual Defense funds equivalent to \$23.3 billion flow into the San Diego economy through three main channels. These are compensation for military personnel based in the region, contract outlays for materials, construction and research, and payments to military retirees.

San Diego's manufacturing sector spans almost 300 industries, including Defense, shipbuilding, biotechnology, medical devices, breweries and even musical instruments. As a sector, manufacturing provides employment for 107,000 workers and contributes \$23 billion annually to GRP.



*Image courtesy of City of San Diego.*

With key attractions such as the San Diego Zoo and conventions such as BIO International and the annual Comic Con event, it is easy to see how San Diego hosts 34.3 million visitors each year. These business and leisure travellers provide a boost to the local economy, by providing employment for over 158,000 workers in San Diego.

**FIND OUT MORE** 

***sandiego.gov***

## **FUN FACT**

San Diego is a hub for the life sciences industry and is a major component of the city's innovation economy. San Diego is home to 1,225 life sciences companies and a total of 80 research institutions, both independent and university-affiliated.

San Diego's life sciences cluster is advantaged by the number of great universities and access to a highly educated talent pool within the district. Additionally, the area is home to a number of research institutes, such as the Scripps Research Institute and Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute, which provides organisations with access to advanced technology, product development and commercialisation experience.

San Diego leads California in the number of new jobs created by life science startups and the sector receives almost a quarter of all venture capital investment in California - almost \$1.1 billion in 2016 alone.



# SEOCHO

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

The City of Perth and the City of Seocho signed a Charter of Mutual Friendship in 2008. The Charter was based on the exchange of City delegations

and citizens to facilitate better cross-cultural understanding, long-lasting friendships and inter-city opportunities.

## BACKGROUND

Seocho is one of 25 districts located within Seoul, the capital of the Republic of Korea, with a population of approximately 449,678 people.

Seocho is in the north-west region of the Republic of Korea, however is situated in the southern area of Seoul. Seocho is the largest autonomous district in Seoul and covers a total area of 47.15 square kilometres.

## ECONOMICS

Seocho is one of the wealthiest cities in Korea. Many well-known Korean companies, such as Samsung, Hyundai and KIA Motors have an established presence in Seocho. Additionally, the city is home to thousands of hi-tech venture capital firms, as well as Research and Development Centres for LG and Korea Telecom (KT).

Seocho is also home to the KT Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tech Centre, established in 2017. The centre has facilities for the company and collaborative partners to research, develop and test AI technologies. Additionally, the facilities offer access to a super-computing system that processes massive amounts of data for AI and deep-learning technology.

More than 65 public institutions, including the Supreme Court and the Supreme Prosecutor's Office, are also located within Seocho.

*Image courtesy of Seocho-gu.*



## FUN FACT

Seocho is home to Seoul Arts Centre, the foremost arts complex in Korea. Over five million people visit Seoul Arts Centre each year.

Within the centre visitors can find the Opera House, which is constructed in the shape of a gat - a traditional Korean hat made of bamboo. Opened in 1993, the Opera House has three separate theatres catering to all performance types. Additional to the Opera House is the Music Hall, which is well-known among professional musicians for its perfect acoustic architecture.

Also included within the complex are three separate museums Hangaram Art Museum, Seoul Calligraphy Art Museum and the Hangaram Design Museum - and an array of outdoor public facilities such as the World Music Fountain, Shinsegae Outdoor Stage and Culture Plaza.



## KEY PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

### *Picture Yourself in Perth Program*

The Picture Yourself in Perth Program (PYP) is an annual education-based Sister City exchange, facilitated by the City of Perth. The PYP Program is a competition providing secondary students the opportunity to win a 'Study Experience in Perth Scholarship' including travel to Perth. The City of Perth began this program with Seocho in 2012 and since then has welcomed study groups to Perth on an annual basis.

### *Seocho Study Tour*

In 2017 Seocho created an annual program offering five university students from Perth, studying Korean language, the opportunity to travel to the Republic of Korea to undertake a Korean language and Seocho familiarisation program.

*Image courtesy of Seocho-gu.*

FIND OUT MORE



[seocho.go.kr/site/fe/main.do](http://seocho.go.kr/site/fe/main.do)



**TAIPEI**  
TAIWAN

The City of Perth and Taipei City signed a Charter of Mutual Friendship in 1999, encouraging each City to initiate greater public awareness of, and participation in the Taipei-Perth relationship.



## BACKGROUND

Taipei City is the capital and a special municipality of Taiwan, with a population of approximately 2.7 million people.

Taipei City is located to the north of Taiwan, on the north-eastern tip of the Taipei basin, and covers a total area of 271 square kilometres.



## ECONOMICS

Taiwan has an advanced industrial economy, with a strong export orientation. Taiwan also has an advanced Information and Communications Technology (ICT) sector and industry specialisation across computers, biotechnology and advanced machinery. This has led to the adoption of a contract manufacturing role for Taiwan. For example, Taiwan is home to chipmakers TSMC and Foxconn, both companies that are a key part of Apple's supply chain. Over 70 per cent of products exported by Taiwan are intermediate goods, and will be sold in other markets in order to be incorporated into a final product.

While industry is a large sector of the Taiwanese market, it only accounts for less than 35 per cent of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The services sector is the largest earner for the Taiwanese economy, and accounts for 63 per cent of Taiwan's GDP.

## FUN FACT

Taipei is a smart city meaning that it uses information and communication technologies to improve the quality of government services provided as well as citizen welfare. It is consistently ranked as one of the world's top smart cities.

Taipei City Government has established the Taipei Smart City Project Management Office to leverage innovations solving urban issues and increase the efficiency of citizen-oriented government services. Over the years, Taipei has won awards and praise for a number of smart city initiatives including a 24-hour library with e-book wall, the Living Lab matchmaking service which aims to develop public-private partnerships, a Connected Transport Systems initiative and the Smart Critical Infrastructures' Poles System Project.

Each year Taipei City Government co-hosts the Smart City Summit & Expo, the largest smart city tradeshow in Asia. The event attracts over 30,000 expo visitors and 16,000 conference participants each year with a growing number of these participants representing an international audience. More recently, the conference has attracted more than 1,200 attendees from 50 different countries, particularly from government, with more than 120 governors, city leaders and municipal officers in attendance at the conference.





## KEY PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

### *Perth-Taipei Art Exchange Program*

The Art Exchange Program provides the opportunity for a Western Australian professional artist to travel to Taiwan and complete a residence at the Taipei Artist Village. A reciprocal residency in Perth is offered for a Taipei-based artist. The exchange program was developed to facilitate the exchange of ideas and understanding between Taipei and Perth and to foster the creative development of artists in both cities.

**FIND OUT MORE**



[english.gov.taipei](https://english.gov.taipei)



# VASTO

ITALY

**The City of Perth and Vasto signed a Sister City Agreement in 1989. The relationship is based primarily on historic migration and cultural links within the community.**

*Image courtesy of Comune di Vasto.*

## BACKGROUND

Vasto is located within the Chieti province of the Abruzzo region of Central Italy and has a population of more than 41,000 people.

Vasto is located on the Adriatic Coast of Southern Abruzzo and covers a small area of 70 square kilometres.



*Image courtesy of Comune di Vasto.*

## ECONOMICS

The Abruzzo region recorded a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of €32,592 million in 2015. The region has one of the highest productivity rates in Southern Italy due to the large number of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) within the region.

Abruzzo's manufacturing industry is largely concentrated on a number of key sectors such as textiles, food and metal products. As such, the share of employment by the manufacturing sector is

overwhelmingly larger in Abruzzo than the remainder of Italy.

Innovation Poles which are government-sponsored initiatives focused on industries and specific value-chains, have recently been established in Abruzzo. There are currently 14 Innovation Poles in Abruzzo, specialising in industries such as artistic craftsmanship, automotive, energy, Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and electronics, internationalisation, logistics and tourism.

## FUN FACT

A key attraction in Vasto is the medieval or historic centre Centro Storico, where much of the architecture dates back to the 15th century. A focal point of Centro Storico is the Piazza Gabriele Rossetti, named after the poet and scholar. Within this Piazza you will find the Caldorese Castle, which dates back to the 14th and 15th centuries. Also overlooking the Piazza is the Cattedrale di San Giuseppe Cathedral with its Romanesque façade.

Another key historic site in Vasto is the Palazzo d'Avalos, which in a previous life was the historic residence of the marquis regent of the city. It is now home to four museums including the Museo Civico Archeologica.

## COMMEMORATIVE GARDENS

### *Lake Vasto and the Monument to Immigrants*

In 2004 the City of Perth hosted a delegation of officials from Vasto. To commemorate this visit the City of Perth dedicated a lake in honour of the long-standing Sister City relationship. Lake Vasto is located in the Ozone Reserve along the eastern foreshore of the Swan River.

In 2008, in an Australian-first, the community-based Abruzzese Emigrant Association of Australia gifted a public monument to the City of Perth. The Monument to Immigrants, an eight-metre high stone and bronze statue, located in parkland near Lake Vasto, recognises the early and ongoing contributions of Perth immigrant communities.

**FIND OUT MORE**



[www.comune.vasto.ch.it](http://www.comune.vasto.ch.it)





City of Perth

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