

Open Letter to Sydney

- Thai Food: All Australians visiting NY should avoid Thai restaurants, it will only lead to disappointment.
- Social attitudes: When in NY never just show up at a friend's or colleague' apartment unannounced. Never! You must make a date which will most likely be differed to a bar or café.
- Coffee: American coffee is still in a post war condition. A flat white is an upper East Sider hit by the M10 bus. Friends don't let friends go to Starbucks.
- Rent: The average Manhattan studio apartment rents for US \$2,000 a month. Move to Brooklyn
- Smoking No more smoking in bars or restaurants or anywhere for that matter. Smoking has been relegated to the streets, even in the dead of winter.
- Work ethic: Protestant based. Only artists and bums make it to the park or beach on a Tuesday afternoon.
- Sports: No one has heard of or cares about cricket. Do not bother to explain the game, baseball is too close to the American heart. New York has two teams, the Yankees and the Mets. I defer all questions to Michael Zahn.
- Abstraction: The last private club in NY. Its very exclusivity keeps it out of the press. Most New Yorkers are members of the neo-realists, relational aesthetics and post-conceptualists crowd.