

MELBOURNE

AND VICTORIA

AUTUMN 2023

MELBOURNE

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A Luxury
Ballarat
Escape

WIN

WIN

A Luxury Ballarat Escape



OFFICIAL GUIDE

Competition

WIN

Experience the Goldfields region and discover the very best of Ballarat on this weekend away.

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valued at \$2,720**

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 - Daily breakfast for two
- Chef's tasting menu with matched beverages at acclaimed restaurant Underbar
- Master a historical skill at one of the featured Rare Trades Centre workshops

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OF:
BALLARAT**

*Terms and conditions apply



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chance
to win



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Opposite: N'arweet Dr Carolyn Briggs AM and Sarah Lynn Rees. Gathering Space: Ngargee Djeembana 2021, installation view, *Who's Afraid of Public Space?* 2021–22 Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, Melbourne.
Courtesy the artists, Photograph: Andrew Curtis

Message from the Minister



Steve Dimopoulos MP
*Minister for Tourism,
Sport and Major Events*

Welcome to Victoria. At this time of year, the city's calendar is packed with events, all set to a thrilling soundtrack. There's the roar from the Formula 1 racetrack, the clinking of glasses at Melbourne Food and Wine Festival, audiences erupting in laughter at the Melbourne

International Comedy Festival, and the murmurs of admiration from the city's fashion lovers at the PayPal Melbourne Fashion Festival.

There's culture to be explored too. *& Juliet*, a musical twist on one of Shakespeare's best-known plays, is one of the hottest tickets in town. Melbourne Now at NGV Australia is an unmissable collection from some of Victoria's finest artists and designers.

In our regions, our Surf Coast will be buzzing as the world's best surfers compete in the Rip Curl Pro Bells Beach. In the High Country, the changing autumn leaves put on a dramatic show of natural beauty. Right across regional Victoria you'll find cellar doors, restaurants, cafes and Victorian experiences ready to welcome you.

This guide will take you through the events, food, attractions and tours taking place across this great state. I hope you find plenty of inspiration in these pages and enjoy every moment you spend in Victoria.



Melbourne Now at NGV



Wominjeka

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the First Peoples throughout Melbourne and Victoria and recognise their continuing connection to the land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to Elders, past and present. We ask that, during your travels, you respect the cultures, peoples and land.

Aunty Joy Wandin Murphy
Senior Wurundjeri Elder
of the Kulin Nation



Cover image:
Illustration by Alex Hotchin.
Read the story on page 30.

Aunty Joy image:
Caitlin Mills

A full-page photograph of a man and a woman jumping into shallow, golden-brown water at Wilsons Promontory National Park. The woman is in mid-air on the left, wearing a white t-shirt and blue jeans. The man is on the right, wearing a plaid shirt over a white t-shirt and shorts, with his arms outstretched. Large, dark, rounded boulders are scattered in the background, and dense green vegetation covers the hillside. The scene is brightly lit, casting long shadows on the sand.

Leap into Victoria

**By Brendan McClements,
CEO Visit Victoria**

Wilsons Promontory National Park Mark Watson

Autumn is here, and there is a packed calendar of events and things to see and do right across Victoria.



Wominjeka! In Narmm (Melbourne), that's how we say welcome in the local Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung language.

Get your diary out because autumn brings so many events you won't want to miss. For those who love sport, both the Toyota AFL Premiership and Suncorp Super Netball seasons have begun. Over the Easter long weekend, the world's best surfers take part in the

longest running event in competitive surfing, the Rip Curl Pro Bells Beach.

There's plenty on the cultural calendar with the opening of *Goddess*, an exhibition examining the global influence and history of women on screen, at ACMI. Both the Melbourne Theatre Company and Melbourne Symphony Orchestra are back with exciting new seasons. There's also the chance to immerse yourself in the art of the French impressionists at The LUME's Monet & Friends.

If you're looking for new attractions, head to the Dome Promenade at the World Heritage-listed Royal Exhibition Building or find out about the city's hidden, sometimes dark, history on a Pentridge Prison tour.

All around the city there's more to explore. During a night out, check out some of the CBD's hidden bars or enjoy the updated restaurant offerings at upmarket hotels. Discover the Indigenous culture and history of the region by joining a guided walk or viewing the exhibitions at museums and galleries.

Regional Victoria will shine a light on autumn festivals and events, as well as the best of the season. View the changing colours across the state, go hiking or cycling to discover the natural beauty, and enjoy the finest seasonal produce at eateries across the state. Explore Geelong and the Bellarine Peninsula, which blends the best of the city and the beach. Fun lovers might like to check out the new roller coasters at Gumbuya World theme park.

Plan an itinerary to explore regions like the Murray or book a night at Stella the Stargazer, a luxury tiny house that makes its move to the Great Ocean Road this season.

Wherever you travel in Victoria this autumn, you're sure to discover the season's finest.

Brendan McClements

What's On



Alexander McQueen: Mind, Mythos, Muse
NGV International
The Widows of Culloden Collection
Robert Fairer

On Now

Harry Potter and the Cursed Child

Princess Theatre
+ harrypottertheplay.com

THE LUME Melbourne

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre
+ thelume.com

Mary Poppins

Her Majesty's Theatre
+ marypoppinsmusical.com.au

Until 6 Apr

MPavilion

Queen Victoria Gardens
+ mpavilion.org

Until 16 Apr

Alexander McQueen: Mind, Mythos, Muse

NGV International
+ ngv.melbourne

Until 23 Apr

Time • Rone

Flinders Street Station
+ rone.art

Until 28 Apr

Live at the Bowl

Sidney Myer Music Bowl
+ artscentremelbourne.com.au

Until 14 May

& Juliet

Regent Theatre
+ andjuliet.com.au

March

3–5 Mar

Australian International Airshow

Avalon Airport, Geelong
+ airshow.com.au

3–5 Mar

Super Round Melbourne

AAMI Park
+ super.rugby

3–11 Mar

PayPal Melbourne Fashion Festival

Various locations
+ melbournefashionfestival.com.au

9–12 Mar

Moomba

Alexandra Gardens
+ moomba.melbourne.vic.gov.au

11–12 Mar

Lost Trades Fair

Bendigo Racecourse
+ losttradesfair.com.au

From 16 Mar

AFL Premiership Season

Various locations
+ afl.com.au

From 18 Mar

Suncorp Super Netball

Various locations
+ supernetball.com.au

From 24 Mar

Melbourne Now

National Gallery of Victoria
+ ngv.melbourne

24 Mar – 2 Apr

Melbourne Food & Wine Festival

Various locations

24 Mar

World's Longest Lunch, presented by La Trobe Financial

Treasury Gardens

25 Mar

World's Longest Brunch, presented by JAZZ apples

Treasury Gardens
+ mfwf.com.au

29 Mar – 23 Apr

Melbourne International Comedy Festival

Various locations
+ comedyfestival.com.au

29 Mar – 2 Apr

Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show

Royal Exhibition Building & Carlton Gardens
+ melbflowershow.com.au

30 Mar – 2 Apr

FORMULA 1 ROLEX AUSTRALIAN GRAND PRIX 2023

Albert Park
+ grandprix.com.au

April

4–14 Apr

Rip Curl Pro Bells Beach

Torquay
+ worldsurfleague.com/events

5 Apr – 1 Oct

Melbourne Winter Masterpieces exhibition, Goddess

ACMI
+ acmi.net.au

28–30 Apr

DreamHack Melbourne

Melbourne Park
+ dreamhack.com/melbourne

May

5–7 May

Grampians Grape Escape

Halls Gap
+ grampiansgrapeescape.com.au

18–28 May

Melbourne Design Week

Various locations
+ designweek.melbourne

From 18 May

Rocky Horror Show

Athenaeum Theatre
+ athenaeumtheatre.com.au

20–27 May

Good Beer Week

Various locations
+ goodbeerweek.com.au

20 May

AFL Dreamtime at the 'G

Melbourne Cricket Ground
+ afl.com.au

20–21 May

Great Ocean Road Running Festival

Lorne
+ greatoceanroadrunfest.com.au



Goddess Margot Robbie in *Birds of Prey* © Warner Bros.
LANDMARK MEDIA / Alamy Stock Photo

Coming Soon

9 Jun – 8 Oct
**Melbourne Winter
 Masterpieces® Pierre
 Bonnard, designed by India
 Mahdavi**

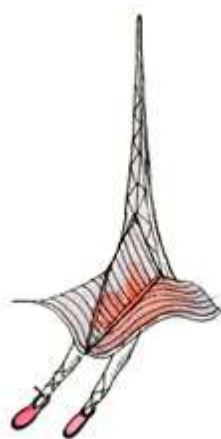
NGV International
 + ngv.melbourne

20 Jul – 20 Aug
**FIFA Women's World Cup
 Australia & New Zealand
 2023™**
 + fifa.com

29 Jul
Bledisloe Cup
 Melbourne Cricket Ground
 + rugby.com.au

03–20 Aug
**Melbourne International
 Film Festival**
 Various locations
 + miff.com.au

From Aug
Moulin Rouge! The Musical
 Regent Theatre
 + moulinrougemusical.com



Laugh Out Loud

One of the city's favourite festivals is back and you won't be able to contain your giggles.

Get ready to split your sides with mirth as the one of the most popular events on the city calendar returns for another blockbuster season.

Comedy legends Peter Cook and Barry Humphries launched the first **Melbourne International Comedy Festival** (29 March – 23 April) in 1987 and, 36 years later, it just continues to

get bigger and better. In fact, it's one of the three biggest comedy festivals in the world.

See much-loved comedians like Ross Noble, Geraldine Hickey and Rove McManus in their new shows, plus there's Deadly Funny, featuring hilarious First Nations comics. If you've got the kids with you, check out the free (Very) Big Laugh Out shows at Fed Square.

The Melbourne Town Hall is the hub of the festival. Shows by both international stars and local up-and-

comers happen in its rooms every night. It hosts some of the festival's biggest names, as well as the popular Great Debate. Other big names – Akmal, Danny Bhoj, Stephen K Amos, Kitty Flanagan and more – can be seen at the Athenaeum Theatre. But there are venues right across the city in theatres, pubs and clubs.

Best of all, the entire city is caught up in the atmosphere, with restaurants and bars packed with people enjoying a fun night out.
+ comedyfestival.com.au



Melbourne International Comedy Festival Jim Lee

From runway-ready looks to outdoor dance parties, there's something for everyone in the city's calendar of thrilling events this season.



What's On This Autumn

Festival of Design

Local and international designers respond to the theme 'Design the world you want' for **Melbourne Design Week** (18–28 May) at NGV International. There'll be exhibitions, talks, tours and workshops, all created to make us think about the role of design in our lives. Also part of the program is Melbourne Art Book Fair and Open House Melbourne.
+ ngv.melbourne

Ready, Player One

Gamers, rejoice. **DreamHack Melbourne 2023** (28–30 April) returns this season with even more action. This immersive gaming experience brings the entire community together for professional esports tournaments, amateur and high school gaming tournaments, a bring-your-own computer LAN party, cosplay, art, activities, an expo and screenings.
+ dreamhack.com

Star-Crossed Love

What would have happened if the heroine of Shakespeare's most loved play had lived? That's the premise of new musical **& Juliet**, on the stage at the Regent Theatre. This coming-of-age story uses pop music from the Backstreet Boys, Katy Perry, Britney Spears and more to help convey this funny, poignant story.
+ andjuliet.com.au

Hey, Good Looking

If you want to know what's coming up in this season and the next, get your tickets to **PayPal Melbourne Fashion Festival** (3–11 March). This celebration of Australian fashion, arts, ideas and creativity is one everyone can enjoy. There's a full program of world-class runway shows, beauty and styling workshops, shopping experiences, parties, exhibitions and more.

+ melbournefashionfestival.com.au

Live Music Moments

Whether you're into pop, rock or dance music, you'll hear it all during **Live at the Bowl**. See some of the world's biggest acts under open skies, including the mesmerising Bon Iver (4–5 March), while one of the biggest DJs of all time, Fatboy Slim (28 April) closes out the season.

+ artscentremelbourne.com.au



Live at the Bowl Ian Laidlaw



Suncorp Super Netball Daniel Pockett

Score a Seat

Autumn brings with it some of the most exciting sporting events on the calendar. Whether you love fast cars or big marks, get ready to cheer.

Have a Ball

The **Suncorp Super Netball** begins its exciting new season on 18 March with an epic game, when the Collingwood Magpies play the NSW Swifts. Victoria has two teams in the comp, with the Magpies meeting last year's finalists Melbourne Vixens on 26 March. For the first time, a game will be played on Anzac Day (25 April). All games in Melbourne are played at Olympic Park's John Cain Arena. Get there and cheer on your team.

The **Toyota AFL Premiership** season is also returning mid-March. Games take place at two Melbourne venues, the MCG and Marvel Stadium, so wrap yourself in your team colours, grab a pie and get ready for absolute excitement.

+ supernetball.com.au

+ afl.com.au

Ride the Wave

Tell the Easter bunny to meet you at Bells Beach. Take your spot on the famous sand for the **Rip Curl Pro Bells Beach** (4–14 April) and check out the world's best surfers as they compete on the big Southern Ocean swell, each one hoping to be able to ring the bell on the coveted trophy.

+ worldsurfleague.com/events



Toyota AFL Premiership AFL Media



Australian International Airshow Intown Entertainment



Rip Curl Pro Bells Beach Brisa Hennessy



FORMULA 1 ROLEX AUSTRALIAN
GRAND PRIX 2023

Start Your Engines

It's the fastest weekend of the year when the **FORMULA 1 ROLEX AUSTRALIAN GRAND PRIX 2023** (30 March – 2 April) arrives in the city. Find your spot in the grandstand to see the world's best drivers take on the Albert Park circuit. And while the focus is on the fast cars there'll be plenty of entertainment off the track too.

There's more high-speed action to be seen at the **Australian International Airshow** (3–5 March). Head to Avalon Airport to get up close to aircraft on the ground and see hundreds of military and civilian planes in flight across the entire weekend.

+ grandprix.com.au

+ airshow.com.au

Melbourne Food & Wine Festival is back, taking over Fed Square and beyond as it celebrates the very best in local produce and the world's most incredible chefs.

A Festival of Food

All day and into the night, Fed Square will be a magnet for lovers of food and fun. This will be the hub for this year's Melbourne Food & Wine Festival (24 March – 2 April). There'll be pop-ups, bars, entertainment, talks and free events for the whole family. Some of Victoria's best-loved personalities, entertainers and cooks will take part in the Celebrity Sausage, putting a fun spin on the Aussie tradition of barbecued snags on a slice of bread. There'll also be the Festival Bar shaking up some of the city's best drinks and serving great snacks packed with flavour.





Sweet Something

If sugar, spice and all things nice is your thing, prepare yourself for Baker's Dozen. Think old-fashioned bake sale, except replace Todd's mum's fairy cakes with sweet treats from some of Melbourne's finest bakers and chefs. Baker's Dozen will showcase cakes, pastries and much more from Melbourne's best purveyors, including neighbourhood favourites Tarts Anon and To Be Frank. This is going to be one carb-loaded weekend extravaganza, but arrive early to get your sweet delights before they're sold out.

On the Move

Uncover the best of Melbourne's hidden laneways and eat streets when you join other food lovers on a guided Crawl and Bite. Each event is a carefully curated itinerary showcasing a style of cuisine like coffee, cocktails or vegan food, or a neighbourhood such as Gertrude Street. This is a festival feature you won't want to miss.

The festival's favourite event is back for 2023, with renowned chef Alla Wolf-Tasker from Daylesford's Lake House taking the reins for the World's Longest Lunch in Treasury Gardens. Don't forget to check out the website for the entire program.

+ mfwf.com.au



**MELBOURNE
FOOD 20
& WINE 23
FESTIVAL**

Where Art is Now

Ground-breaking exhibition Melbourne Now returns with more than 200 of Victoria's best artists showing their finest works and new commissions.

Get ready for one of the most important exhibitions to open in the city. The second edition of Melbourne Now (from 24 March), at The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia, will highlight the diversity and creativity that shapes the culture of Victoria. The exhibition will feature more than 200 artists, designers, studios and firms all at different points in their careers, many of them showing at the NGV Australia for the first time.

First Nations Features

Visitors entering Melbourne Now will be welcomed by Lee Darroch's 10-metre-long installation *Duta Ganha Woka* (Save Mother Earth). It's comprised of driftwood collected on Country, and represents men

and women from the 38 Indigenous language groups of Victoria.

For her piece *Balarr* (To Become Light), Larrakia/Wardaman/Karajarri artist Jenna Lee has collaborated with Kyoto-based lantern studio Kojima Shōten. A series of hand-painted paper lanterns in the shape of Gulumerridjin dilly bags, a traditional woven bag designed and used by First Nations women, will illuminate the gallery.

Outside the Box

Other areas of the exhibition include an overview called *Fashion Now*, highlighting the work of 18 local designers, and *Slippery Images*, which challenges the use of photography through the work of 12 artists whose

exciting images reveal the loose, fluid and slippery aspects of the medium. Returning is the *Design Wall*, a large-scale installation celebrating consumer products designed in Melbourne over the past decade, including guitars, ladders, pillows, luggage, motorbikes and more.

World-First Pieces

Among the 200 thought-provoking pieces are more than 60 that have been commissioned especially for Melbourne Now. One of them is a room-sized 'temple' constructed from thousands of computer fans by emerging artist Rel Pham, which draws on the artist's Vietnamese heritage and interest in gaming culture.

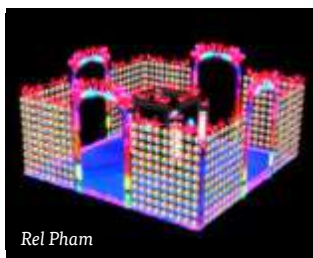
+ ngv.melbourne



Julia Ciccarone



Cox Architecture and ASPECT Studios



Rel Pham



Jessie French



Grace Wood

Opposite Page: Julia Ciccarone, *The Other World* 2021, oil on dibond, 70.5 x 60.0 cm © Julia Ciccarone and Niagara Galleries. Photo: Mark Ashkanasy.

Above: Cox Architecture and ASPECT Studios, Caulfield to Dandenong Level Crossing Removal 2019 © Peter Clarke. Image courtesy of Peter Clarke.

Left Top: Rel Pham, *TEMPLE* 2022, digital render © Rel Pham. Courtesy of artist.

Left Bottom: Jessie French, *The Myth of Nature — agaG1* 2021-2022, algae material developed by the artist, pigment, arthrospira platensis microalgae pigment © Jessie French. Photo: Jessica Maurer

Right: Grace Wood, *The hand of an armless statue*, detail 2022, artist book, 94 pages, softcover, 26.5 x 19.5 x 1.0 cm © Grace Wood and M.

The World's a Stage

When you're seeking out fun and culture, head to Melbourne's East End, where theatre, dining and after-hours fun come together.



& Juliet (UK Cast) Johan Persson



Mary Poppins

Melbourne is a city that loves being entertained. We see it every weekend when sporting venues are packed, but it also happens at the other end of the spectrum. At the east end of the CBD, in the blocks bordered by Swanston, Flinders, Spring and La Trobe streets, there's a handful of theatres bringing music, theatre, comedy and musicals to the masses.

Hot tickets at the moment include the Regent Theatre's *& Juliet*, a modern, musical reimagining of Shakespeare's famous play, and *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* at the Princess Theatre. At Her Majesty's Theatre, a new supercalifragilistic Disney and

Cameron Mackintosh production of *Mary Poppins* has arrived for a limited season that is sure to be popular with all ages.

During April, the Athenaeum Theatre becomes laugh central for the *Melbourne International Comedy Festival* (29 March – 23 April). Check out Fisk star Kitty Flanagan and Irish stand-up comic Joanne McNally in her acclaimed show, *The Prosecco Express* (30 March – 1 April). Then, in May, one of the world's favourite rock 'n' roll musicals celebrates its fiftieth birthday. Already seen around the world by 30 million people, *The Rocky Horror Show* (from 18 May) returns

with Jason Donovan as Frank-N-Furter and Myf Warhurst as the Narrator. But it's not just the productions on stages that make the allure of the East End so strong. This is an area with more than its fair share of dining and drinking experiences to top and tail a night out. Hit Chinatown for a quick bowl of noodles or enjoy the best of seasonal cuisine with produce and wines from Gippsland at Farmer's Daughters. After the show, put your heads together over a cocktail at Bar Clara or head to the rooftop at Siglo, where red wine, martinis and its famous sausage rolls fuel late-night sessions.

+ eastend.melbourne



Melbourne Skyline in Autumn Ain Raadik



**Need more tips?
Stop by one of
Melbourne's
visitor services.**

**Melbourne Visitor Hub
at Town Hall**
Swanston Street

Melbourne Visitor Booth
Bourke Street Mall

**Fitzroy Gardens Visitor
Centre and Cooks' Cottage**
Fitzroy Gardens,
Wellington Parade

City Ambassadors
Talk to our red coat volunteers
along Swanston Street and
Federation Square

Operating hours may vary.
For more details visit
[whatson.melbourne.vic.
gov.au/visitors](http://whatson.melbourne.vic.gov.au/visitors)
or call 03 9658 9658



Autumn Adventures

Melbourne's events calendar flourishes in autumn. Soak up the last of the warmer weather and head indoors to delight in our world-renowned offering of fine dining, retail, arts, entertainment and culture.

Fill Your Calendar

Autumn is no time to hibernate in Melbourne. From home-grown festivals like Moomba, to premier international events that celebrate Melbourne's love of laughter, good food and fast cars – autumn is always busy in Australia's events capital.

Meander Through Magnetic Melbourne

Only in the city can you catch a footy match at our world-class sporting arenas, explore historical arcades and laneways and stumble upon hidden stores selling bespoke wares. Fuel up along the way at some of the world's best restaurants, or grab a cup of Melbourne's celebrated coffee from your pick of 840 cafes.

Expand Your Mind

Melbourne is proud to be the first and only City of Literature in Australia. Together we consume more books, magazines and newspapers per capita than any other Australian city. Follow our lead and find a cosy spot in one of our many libraries and bookstores to escape to a far-away world. Or seek inspiration in our galleries, theatres and museums.

Search **What's On Melbourne** to curate your autumnal adventure.

By Sally Capp, Lord Mayor



Landmarks & Laneways

Hosier Lane Ain Raadik

New to the city? If you want to get a great overview of Melbourne, check out these eight favourite laneways and landmarks.



Melbourne Skydeck

City Connections

It's Melbourne's personality distilled into one pedestrian thoroughfare. Arrive at **Degraves Street** early, order coffee at one of the outdoor cafes and enjoy some people watching. Then check out the stores and order something from Little Cupcakes or Pidapipó Gelateria.

Art Street

Have your phone charged because you'll want to take plenty of photos at **Hosier Lane**. Famous for its colourful, always changing street art, it's also home to some great restaurants and bars, including MoVida and Tres a Cinco.

Rock Central

Named after one of Australia's most famous rock bands, **AC/DC Lane** is home to a great mural of the band. It joins up in a U-shape to Duckboard Place, and is home to Peruvian restaurant Pastuso, modern Indian eatery Tonka and late-night supper club Bar Bambi.

Sky High

Check out the entire city when you head to the 88th floor of **Melbourne Skydeck**. This observation deck, the highest in the southern hemisphere, offers views of the city, Port Phillip Bay and Dandenong Ranges.
+ melbourneskydeck.com.au

Market Magic

Melburnians have been shopping here since 1878. The heritage-listed **Queen Victoria Market** is still true to its origins, offering top-quality local produce, but there's also the opportunity to shop for gifts, homewares, fashion and art.
+ qvm.com.au

Green Dream

Spend a few hours strolling around **Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne**, located on the south side of the Yarra River. It's been the city's natural heart for more than 170 years and is home to more than 8,500 species of plants.
+ rbg.vic.gov.au

Culture Capital

If it's culture you're after look no further than the **Arts Precinct**, set across the Princes Bridge from Flinders Street Station. First, you'll come to Arts Centre Melbourne's two buildings, Hamer Hall and the Theatres Building. Just a few steps on is NGV International.

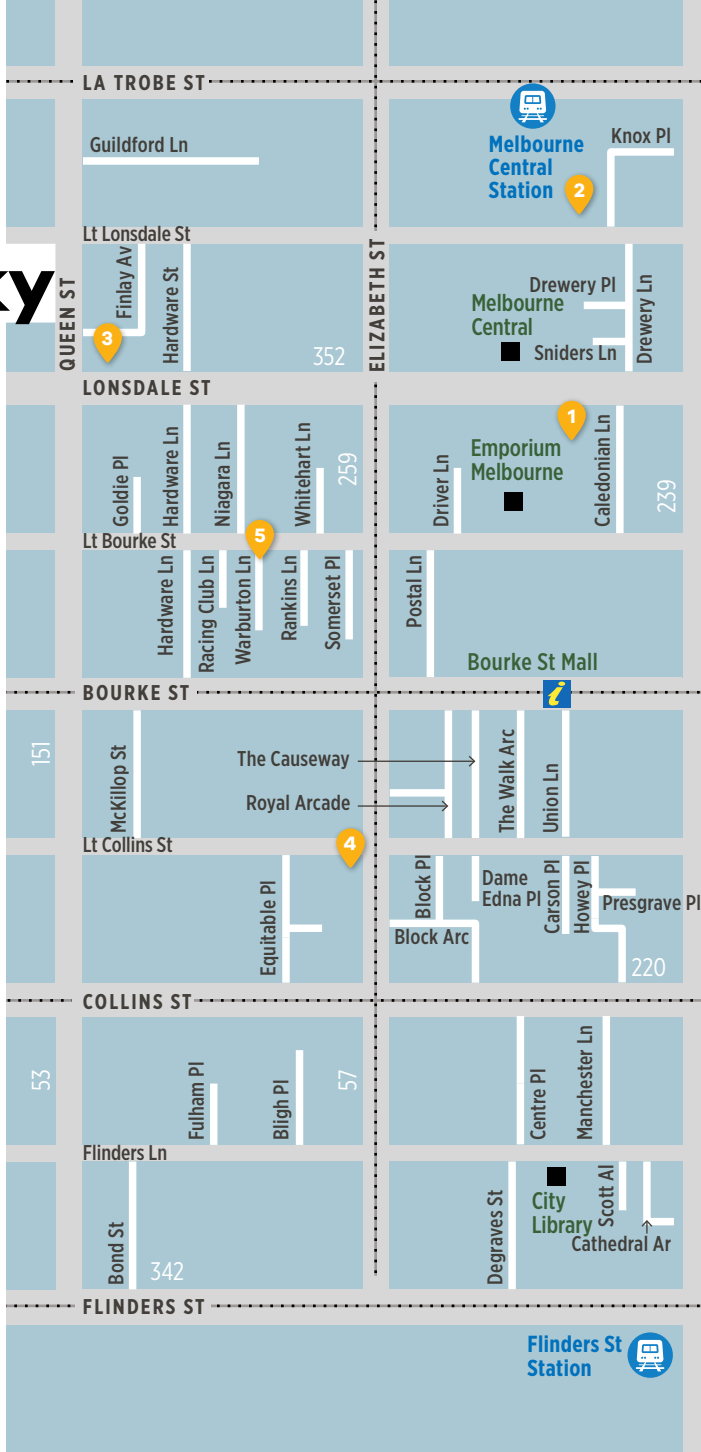
Gathering Place

The city's contemporary gathering space is **Fed Square**. There are free events every day, from morning meditation to music on the stage. Spend some time at **ACMI** or **NGV Australia** then have a meal at one of the many restaurants.
+ fedsquare.com
+ acmi.net.au
+ ngv.melbourne

5 unique and quirky places to discover

Delve beneath the surface, and there's a world of oddball delights to discover in Melbourne. Take a walk on the wild side with these offbeat attractions. Here are 5 unique and quirky places to discover.

1. **Din Tai Fung** Get served by robot kitty waiters
2. **Monster Bing** Eat the silliest dessert in Melbourne
3. **Wunderkammer** Shop for scorpions and skulls in Melbourne's wonder chamber
4. **Maniax** Go to the city's first axe-throwing bar
5. **Murmur Piano Bar** Enjoy a cocktail and gather around the baby grand piano





State Library
Victoria

Red Cape Ln

Albert Coates Ln

SWANSTON ST

180

RUSSELL ST

Bennetts Ln

EXHIBITION ST

56

SPRING ST

Greek Precinct

Parliament
Station



Tattersalls Ln

Celestial Av

Heffernan Ln

Waratah Pl

Corrs Ln

Smythe Ln

Cohen Pl

Chinese
Museum

Punch Ln

Chinatown

La Trobe Pl

Bullens Ln

180

Coverlid Pl

Paynes Pl

Croft Al

Market Ln

153

Crossley St

Liverpool St

2

Parliament
House

Rainbow Al

Russell Pl

Melbourne Pl

Meyers Pl

Windsor Pl



Melbourne
Town Hall

120

Alfred Pl

80 Collins

75

East End
Theatre District

Old Treasury
Building
Museum

Trams

Regent Pl

George Pde

Rutledge Ln

St Paul's
Cathedral

Hosier Ln

Oliver Ln

AC/DC Ln

Duckboard Pl

Malthouse Ln

3 minutes' walk per block



Federation
Square

29



It Takes Two

Drewery Lane Flash Forward Mural
Image: City of Melbourne. Artist: Jaz Mishap, Ancestral Worship, 2021

Melbourne's famous laneways have hidden charms with street art, cafes, bars and boutiques, all with their own individual character and charm. Here's our guide to the latest happenings in two unique laneways.

Niagara Lane

This cobbled laneway is lined with early nineteenth-century warehouses and colourful street art. **Tori's** is cute as a button, and so are the treats. Choose from perfectly handcrafted madeleines, burnt basque cheesecake, friands and some special

matcha-fusion delights. Think French patisserie meets Japanese flavour. Pop into **Wilkins and Kent** for furniture and kitchenware, cushions, ceramics, jewellery, hats and gloves. Its philosophy is to combine functional design with quality materials.

Drewery Lane

A variety of street art brightens this tiny lane. **Little Rogue** is a small and welcoming cafe, popular with local coffee lovers. This cosy venue is a hidden gem in Melbourne's city centre. Just look for the blue door next to the graffiti cat. The walls are lined with local artwork, and the venue is renowned for its specialty coffee and green tea lattes. Enter **Bakemono Bakers** in Drewery Lane and you'll find a surprise. The wooden shopfront is pure Kyoto, but behind those doors is a light and airy industrial kitchen. The bakery

produces superb Japanese-Korean specialities, like chocolate croffles (croissant waffles), cream-cheesy garlic bread and fluffy shokupan bread to take home for toast. Located on level one of multi-venue vertical playground **HER**, the **HER Music Room** is a beacon for audiophiles and vinyl collectors alike. Thousands of handpicked records line the walls. This soundproof listening bar is a sanctuary from the buzz of the rooftop above, with DJs and selectors spinning the soundtracks. Settle in with a whiskey and trade your favourite gig stories.



Bakemono Bakers Ain Raadik

More than a Cup

If there's something all Melburnians agree on it's the importance of a great cup of coffee. Here's a glimpse into the city's favourite beverage.



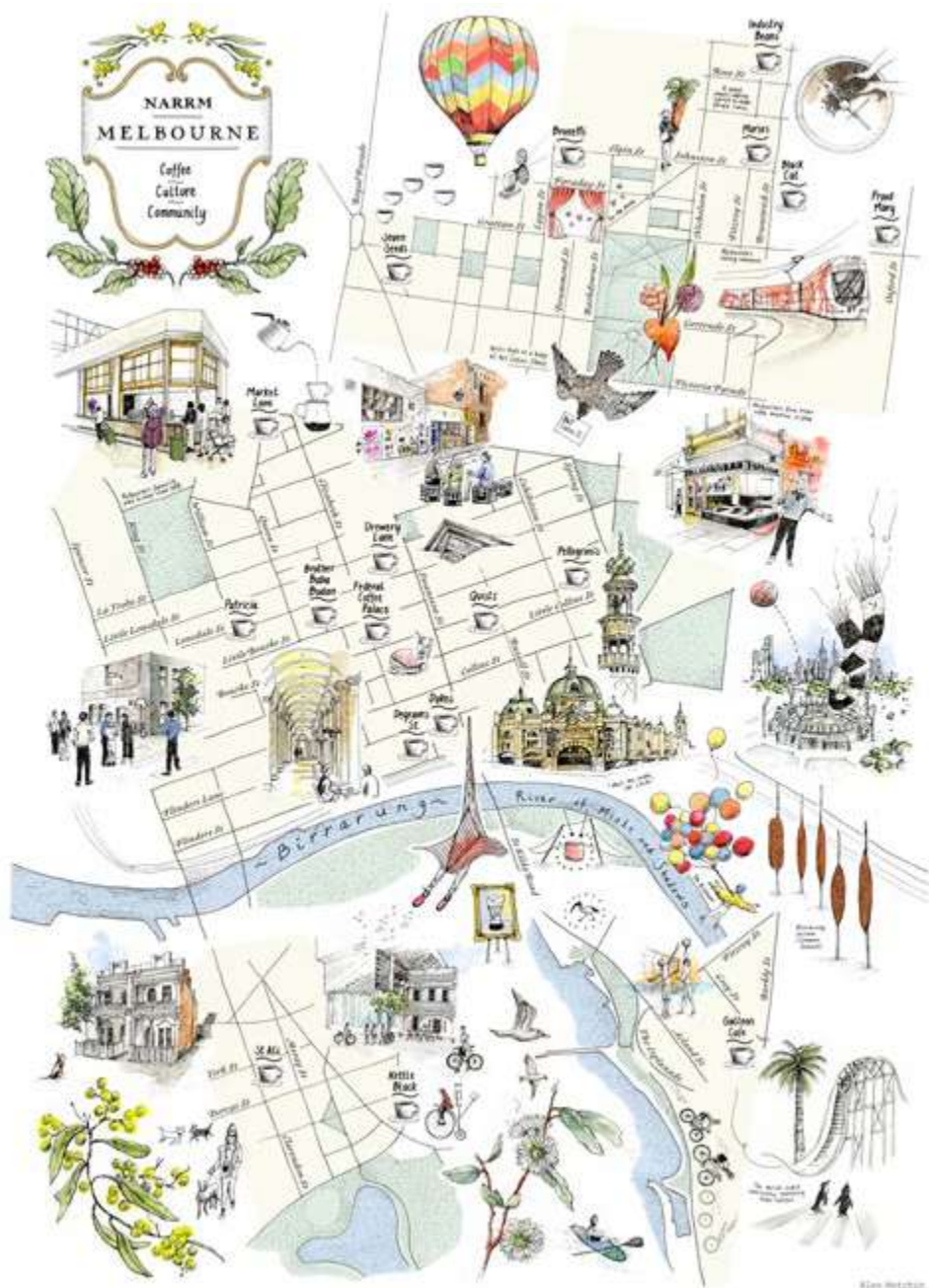
It doesn't matter whether you're up at dawn or easing yourself into the day, chances are you'll start your morning with a coffee. In Melbourne it seems everyone has their favourite cafes, from perfectly designed eateries that also serve innovative brunch dishes to tiny holes in the wall.

Excellent coffee venues are everywhere, and cartographer and illustrator Alex Hotchin has captured a handful of the best on her Melbourne Moments map, seen exclusively in this issue of the Melbourne Official Visitor Guide.

"I make art and books to tell stories about the world around me," she says. "But I'm especially interested in the art of map making and inherent subjectivity of experiencing a place."

What that means is Alex has captured a side of Melbourne that is special to her, incorporating not just the coffee shops she and her friends love, such as Proud Mary, Patricia, Market Lane and Brother Baba Budan, but also some of the quirkier elements that make this city special. (See page 34 to unravel the mysteries of the map.)

Story continues overleaf



More than a Cup

Continued



Coffee and Community

At RMIT, Professor Francis Farrelly and Associate Professor Bernardo Figueiredo study the many ways Melbourne creates its own identity. One of those ways is through its obsession with coffee.

“Coffee and cafes are a fundamental part of Melbourne’s culture,” says Francis. “There is both great variety and a steady stream of innovation in coffee taste and preparation.”

But the connection goes much further than it being simply a hot beverage we enjoy consuming.

“Coffee is a quintessential manifestation of how people from different cultures and all walks of life meet and share meaningful moments in Melbourne,” says Bernardo. “It’s how they create a sense of belonging and community.”

Bean There, Learn That

If you’re someone who has a standard coffee order, now might be the time to discover more about what goes into your cup.

“Talk to one of Melbourne’s many great baristas to broaden your knowledge,” says Francis. “They are passionate, knowledgeable, and only too willing to educate the novice coffee drinker.”



Little Collins Street Cafe, Cucina Rebecca Newman

You can also learn more by taking a class. At its Collins Street venue, Market Lane offers everything from a three-hour lesson on how to make a perfect espresso to an appreciation class where you can sip your way through different specialty coffees.

"You can also find out where the iconic coffee shops are, then get to know their history and the city through planned visits," says Bernardo.

"Coffee is a quintessential manifestation of how people from different cultures and all walks of life meet and share meaningful moments in Melbourne."



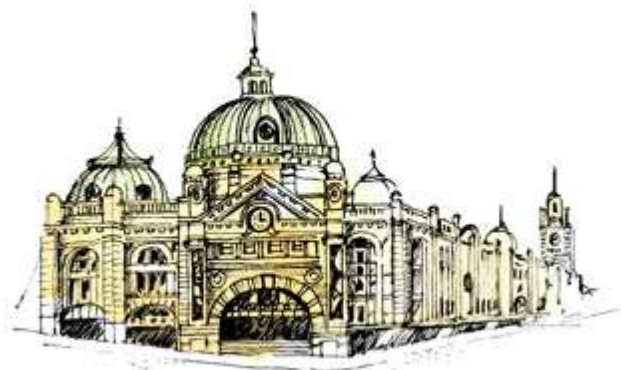
So Very Melbourne

But, for the two researchers, it wasn't the roasters' fascination with finding the perfect single-origin beans or the attention to detail in every cup poured by the city's baristas that most surprised them about Melbourne's coffee scene.

"It was just how embedded coffee is in Melbourne's cultural fabric and how it projects how we see ourselves," says Francis. "It is a key to our weekends, our rituals before work, catch-ups, what we do before and after other social activities, what it means to be part of a community, and what we do to relax with friends or by oneself. It is where you see Melburnians in their natural habitat."

Melbourne's Magic Moments

Unpack the Melbourne map. Here's what all Alex Hotchin's beautiful illustrations represent.



1 If someone says to you, "Meet me under the clocks" they mean on the steps of Flinders Street Station.



4 Since 1878, Queen Victoria Market has been Melbourne's favourite place to shop.



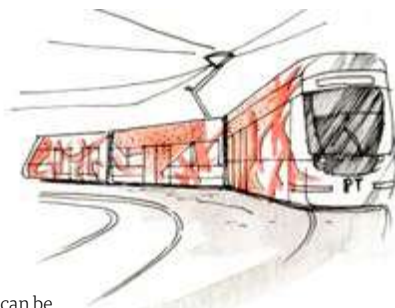
5 A man called Nathan can be seen carrying a giant papier-mâché carrot around the city. Why? To make people smile.



2 Each season, a pair of peregrine falcons nests high on a ledge at 367 Collins Street, watched closely by a legion of followers on a Facebook livestream.



3 The Birdman competition, where people try to fly over the Yarra River, is a quintessential part of the Moomba Festival in March.

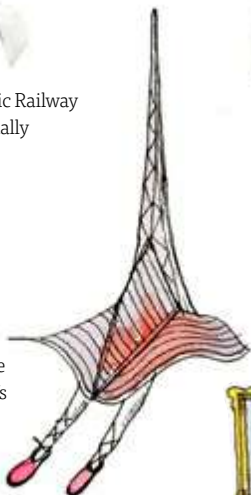


6 Designed by different creatives, Melbourne Art Trams are rolling canvases.



- 7** Luna Park's Great Scenic Railway is the world's oldest continually operating roller coaster.

- 8** The first proper espresso machine was installed at Pellegrini's in 1954.



- 9** It looks like a miniature Eiffel Tower but Melbourne's spire marks the location of the Arts Precinct.



- 10** Representing the connection between Indigenous people and place is the Birrarung Wilam (Common Ground) artwork by Vicki Couzens, Lee Darroch and Treahna Hamm.



- 11** Scattered across the inner city are Victorian-era terrace houses like those built in London and Paris at the time.



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The stadium also hosts special events and corporate functions, offering spectacular views of the arena and harbour.

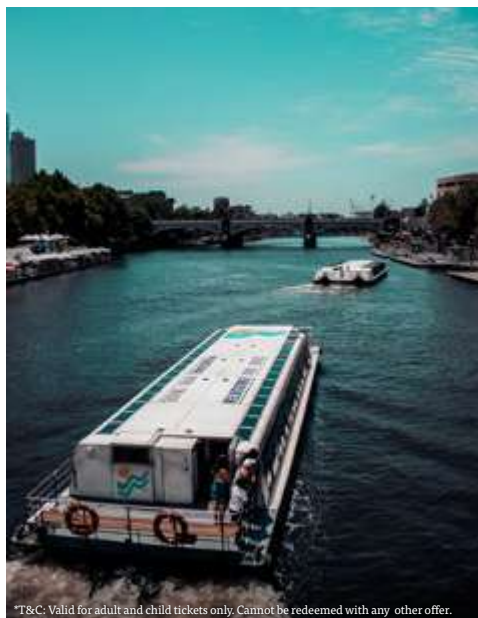
Train: Southern Cross Station

Tram: Tram 11, 48, 86 & 96 towards Southern Cross Station
Tram 30, 35 & 86 for La Trobe Street entrance.

740 Bourke Street, Docklands

w: marvelstadium.com.au

Find us on: f @



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Enjoy sightseeing or a trip to Williamstown and discover the best of what Melbourne has to offer.

Yarra Sightseeing Cruises: One or two-hour cruises daily from 10.15am to 4pm, departing every 30 minutes.

City & Williamstown Ferry: One-way or return trips daily from 10.30am to 3.30pm, departing every hour.

Open: Daily, 9am to 4pm

Special offer: 20% discount on all cruises*

Use code MRC20 when booking

Tram: Flinders Street Station Stop 4

Train: Flinders Street Station

Ticket kiosk: Southbank Lower Promenade
Berth 2 (below Southgate food court)

t: 03 8610 2600

w: melbcruises.com.au

Find us on: f @



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FEDSQ.COM





Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne

Entry is free to Australia's number one, major tourist attraction and one of the world's most beautiful gardens. Home to breathtaking landscapes and fascinating tours, it's the perfect place to reconnect with nature, in an inner-city oasis.

Venture inside to explore unusual plants from across the globe, as well as rare native species. Wander between succulents erupting from the earth at Guilfoyle's Volcano, take a moment of peace by the warbling creek in Fern Gully, or simply roll out a picnic rug by Ornamental Lake and spend your day relaxing or taking a peaceful boat ride.

Tram: Route 3, 5, 6, 16, 64, 67 or 72 to stop 19

Open: Daily, 7.30am until 5.30pm (1 April to 4 October)

Daily, 7.30am until 7.30pm (5 October to 31 March)

Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne,
Birdwood Avenue, Melbourne

t: 03 9252 2429

w: rbg.vic.gov.au

Find us on: [f](#) [@](#) [t](#)



Spirit of Melbourne Cruising Restaurants

Enjoy a relaxing three-hour Yarra River dinner cruise when you book a place on the Spirit of Melbourne cruising restaurant. Ticket includes:

- + Entrée tasting platter
- + Main course (one selection per guest)
- + Dessert platter
- + Cheese tasting platter
- + Tea, coffee and chocolates
- + Premium selection of Victorian red, white and sparkling wines, beers and spirits
- + Port or liqueur

Adult: \$175 | **Teens (13-17):** \$105 | **Child (2-13):** \$80

Operating hours:

Thu, Fri, Sat & Sun: 7.30pm to 10.30pm

Office and booking hours: Daily, 9am to 5pm

Southbank Lower Promenade Berth 1

t: 03 8610 2600

w: melbcruises.com.au



The Tea Rooms 1892

The Tea Rooms are a must-visit for anyone who comes to Melbourne. The first tenant of The Block Arcade, when it opened on 14 October 1892, the famous tea rooms have been serving cakes, sandwiches, tea and scones, all made daily at The Block Arcade, for more than 130 years. The oldest tea rooms in Australia, having changed names three times in their 130-year history, have remained in their original home since 1892. A must for any visitor.

Open: Mon – Fri 8am to 5pm,
Sat – Sun 9am to 5pm

Shops 1 & 2, The Block Arcade,
280 Collins St, Melbourne

w: thetearooms1892.com.au

Find us on: f @



Melbourne Theatre Company

At Melbourne Theatre Company, we're for stories – the ones less told, the ones told before and the ones yet to be told. From new Australian works to the most in-demand international hits, we perform all year round in the heart of the Melbourne Arts Precinct. Experience the magic of live theatre during your visit.

Tram: Route 1 to stop 17

Train: To Flinders Street Station

Southbank Theatre
140 Southbank Boulevard,
Southbank

t: 03 8688 0800

w: mtc.com.au

Find us on: f @



Parliament House

Victoria's Parliament House is one of Australia's oldest and most architecturally distinguished public buildings. It boasts a rich history and plays an active part in our democracy. You can witness this by attending a tour, dining at one of our restaurants or attending the public gallery on a sitting day. Free guided tours are provided on non-sitting weeks, Monday to Friday. Groups of six or more must book. On sitting weeks, come and see Parliament in action.

Public tours:

Check website for tour times

Spring Street, East Melbourne

t: 03 9651 8911

w: parliament.vic.gov.au/visit

Find us on: f @

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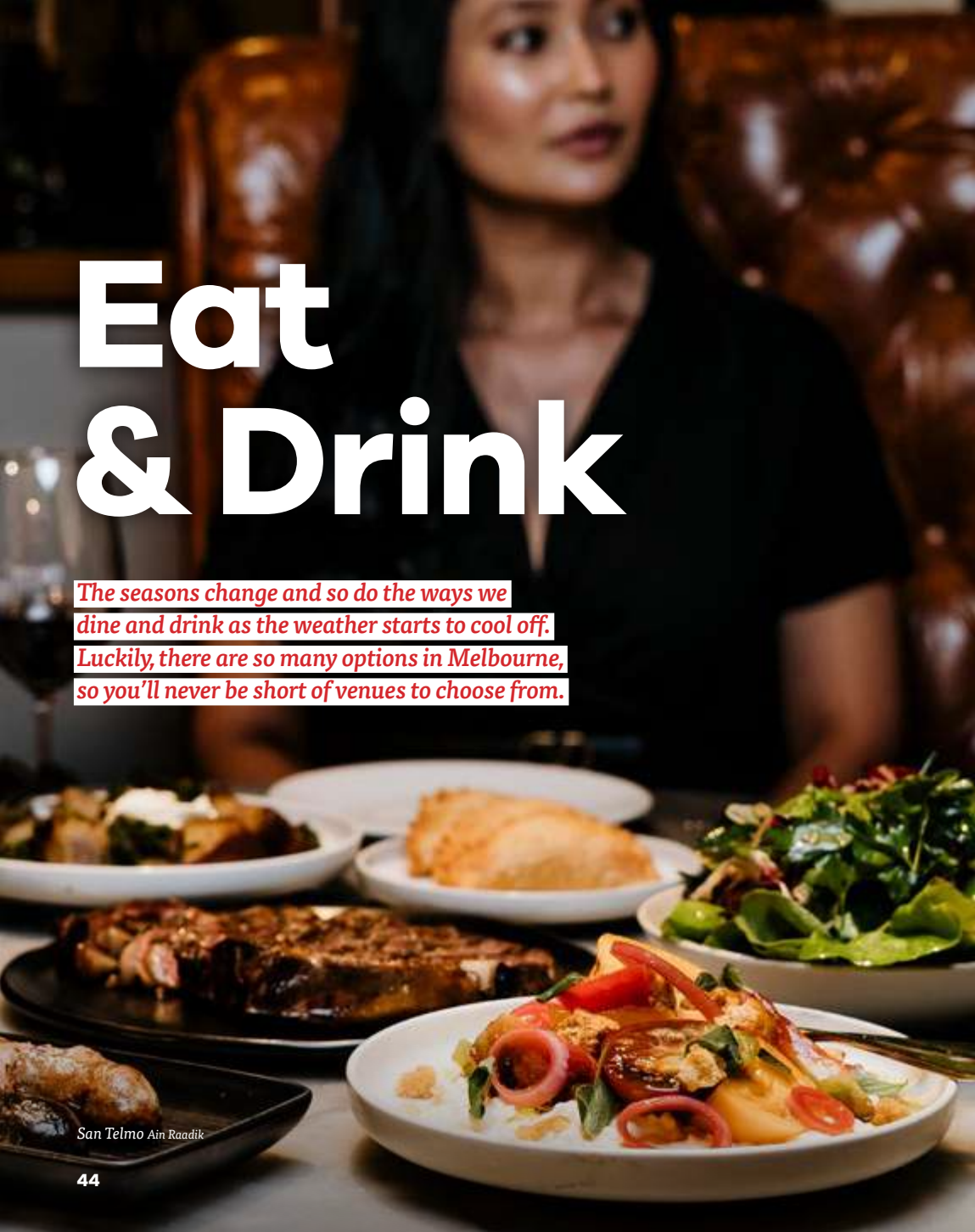
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VICTORIA

A woman with dark hair is seated at a table in a restaurant, looking towards the camera. The table is set with several dishes: a plate of roasted meat, a bowl of salad, a plate of fried food, and a plate of vegetables. The background is softly blurred, showing the interior of the restaurant.

Eat & Drink

The seasons change and so do the ways we dine and drink as the weather starts to cool off. Luckily, there are so many options in Melbourne, so you'll never be short of venues to choose from.

A Cosy Corner

Find one of Melbourne's hidden bars for a memorable night out.

Jayda is an opulent cocktail bar from chef Shane Delia. It's split into two spaces: the sophisticated front bar has high-top tables and a chandelier made of evil eyes, but head through to the lounge for something a little sultrier. Cocktail guru Orlando Marzo has designed original drinks for the venue, including a spiced highball made with fino sherry and a Mediterranean-inspired take on the espresso martini.

You'll never guess what lies beneath the surface when you arrive at **Bar Margaux**. A plain entrance leads to a late-night supper club styled like a traditional French brasserie. It serves wine, cocktails and Gallic fare until the wee-small hours. For top drinks with a touch of New Orleans, head to **Beneath Driver Lane** and try to score one of the coveted booths.

+ barjayda.com.au

+ barmargaux.com.au

+ driverlanebar.com

Seasonal Delights

With the cool change comes a whole new range of fresh produce. In Victoria, autumn means apples, pears, figs and citrus in the fruit bowl, and comforting root and cruciferous vegetables. When you want to taste the best of these on a plate, head to **Nomad**, where executive chef Jacqui Challinor and her team have mined the state to find the best farmers and producers. The menu changes regularly at this fire-powered Middle Eastern-inspired eatery, but the focus is always local.

Each season, **Victoria by Farmer's Daughters** turns its focus to the produce of one of the state's beautiful regions. Some evenings there'll be special menus, on others a local wine grower might present their wares matched to select dishes.

Another champion of local growers is restaurateur Andrew McConnell. Find the best of what's available on the chef's seasonal menu at **Cutler & Co**. Next door in the bar, there's a selection of small plates and snacks inspired by the season and matched to local and specially created drinks.

+ nomad.melbourne

+ victoriarestaurant.com.au

+ cutlerandco.com.au



Cutler & Co, Josie Withers

Melbourne's Own World Coffee Champion



Anthony Douglas James Butler

We speak to Anthony Douglas, crowned 2022 World Barista Champion last October, about his favourite beverage.

He's worked in hospitality all his adult life, but Anthony Douglas's interest in coffee was first piqued when a restaurant he worked in had a coffee machine. He'd occasionally make a coffee, and from there life changed. "I don't know why it was," he says, "but I fell in love with the process of making coffee during that time. Once I left that job, the only thing I wanted to do was make coffee."

Moving On Up

It took four years of working in commercial cafes to build his resumé before applying for a job with Axil Coffee Roasters. That was nine years ago. At the time, staff members were

involved in coffee competitions, and Anthony quickly became interested in the preparation that went into them. "I got involved myself in 2015 then proceeded to compete in the ASCA (Australian Specialty Coffee Association) Barista Championships each year for the next seven years," he says. "Finally, I took out the Australian title in 2022, granting me the opportunity to compete and win at the 2022 World Barista Championships."

The Big Event

The actual competition involves baristas preparing three courses of coffee – espresso, milk and a



Anthony's Top 5 Coffee Spots

Axil Melbourne Central would be my top spot. The quality of coffee is great, of course, but the brunch is some of the best you'll find around the city and elsewhere.

+ axilcoffee.com.au

Seven Seeds has always been a staple when it comes to specialty coffee, and serves all-round good coffee and food.

+ sevenseeds.com.au

Udom House is a cute little cafe with a Thai-inspired drinks and food menu. The owner and team are extremely passionate and there are some very interesting drinks and dishes.

+ [instagram.com/udom.house](https://www.instagram.com/udom.house)

Similar to Udom House is **279 Victoria St**, a Japanese-inspired cafe where you'll find a series of interesting drink and food options.

+ 279victoriast.co

ACOFFEE is a boutique roastery and cafe in Collingwood. The coffee is very clean, light and sweet, and the cafe itself has a really bright ambience.

+ acoffee.com.au

signature drink – over 15 minutes and presenting them to a panel of four judges. “During that time, I delivered a speech including my concept, information about the coffee I’d used and how I served it for each course,” Anthony explains. The judges taste each coffee and score each on quality and how well it matches the competitor’s description.

“It was an incredible experience for me to finally win,” he says. “This is something I’ve dedicated a large chunk of my life to obsessing over and preparing for, so it was amazing for it to finally come into fruition.”

Next Steps

The benefits of competing, says Anthony, are many. Skills are perfected, contestants get to meet people in the industry, and it sets the winner up for the future. “Now that I’m World Champion, a series of opportunities have come my way, and when I start my own venture one day having this title and reputation will help it be more of a success.”



Tiny Treasures

The Mill Brewery

Head to these petite places where your drinks often come from a single vineyard, brewer or distillery. It's the best way to discover the magic of the maker.

Raise a Glass

Experience a Melbourne first when you choose from a selection of wines at **Handpicked Cellar Door**. Founder William Dong purchased his first vineyard on Victoria's Mornington Peninsula and now has six vineyards, there and at other sites around Australia. The winemakers also work with exceptional growers around the world to create site-specific

varieties. Enjoy them with a paired cheese platter or charcuterie board. A tiny ticket booth in a Melbourne car park has been transformed into a miniscule wine store that specialises in natural wines. **La Cave Garage** is a standalone shop and the bar for neighbouring Thai eatery Soi 38.
+ handpickedwines.com.au
+ lacavegarage.shop

In the Spirit

In what is the last remaining single-storey terrace house in Melbourne's CBD you'll find **Little Lon Distilling Co.** The building was once a sly grog shop and brothel, and all the gins distilled here commemorate the stories of the people who roamed these streets in the 1850s. Join a masterclass or head there at the end of the day to enjoy a cocktail in the garden. They might also make beer and wine, but the real star of Collingwood's **The Craft & Co** is its small-batch spirits. There's an award-winning array of gins to sample, as well as rum, limoncello, vodka and other spirits and liqueurs.

+ littlelondistillingco.com

+ thecraftandco.com.au



The Craft & Co Rebekah Halls

Brilliant Brews

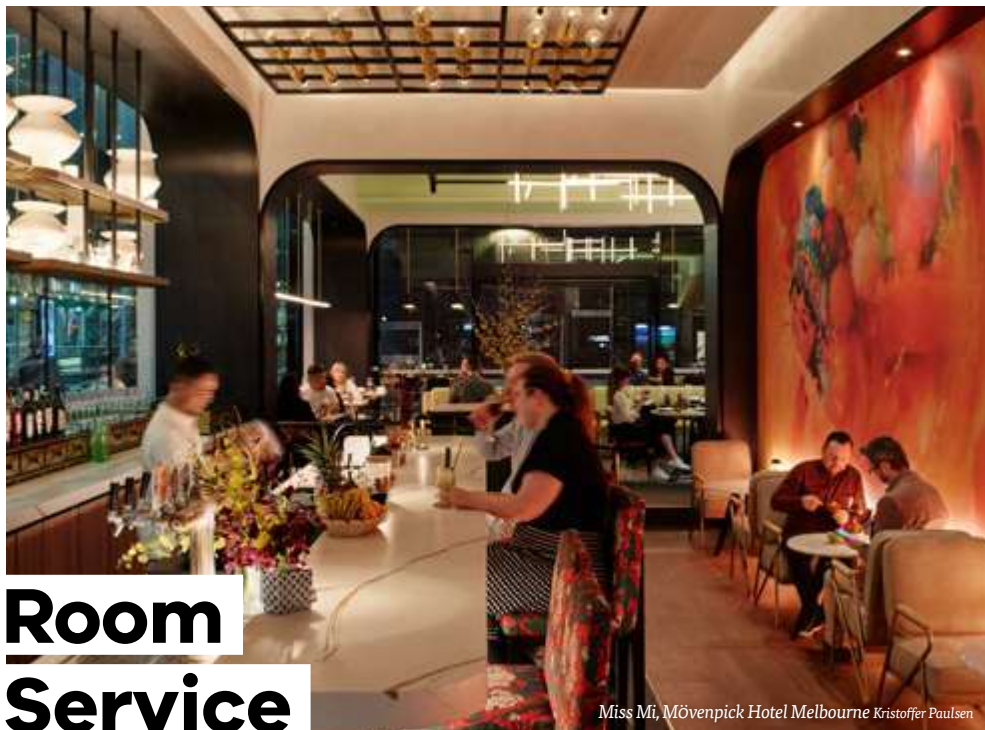
Head just out of the city to Collingwood and you'll discover **Molly Rose Brewing Co.** Take a seat at the front of the brewery, named after founder Nic Sandery's grandmothers, and order a guided tasting of six of the best beers being made there. Just off Smith Street, is **The Mill Brewery**, set in a former mechanic's workshop, with an inviting outdoor area and cosy spots by the fireplace. Each of the breweries serves up excellent small-batch beers, with seasonal offerings making for interesting drinking.

+ mollyrosebrewing.com

+ themillbrewery.com.au



The Mill Brewery



Room Service

Miss Mi, Mövenpick Hotel Melbourne Kristoffer Paulsen

Need a place to stay? Looking for somewhere to raise a glass or have some dinner? Look no further than Melbourne's hottest hotels.

Order Up

Hotel dining has come a long way. Located on level 25 of **Hyatt Centric**, Langlands all-day casual eatery has a menu inspired by the Mediterranean and designed to be shared. And the views are incredible. At **Next Hotel**, chefs Danny Natoli and Adrian Li are creating magic on a plate at La Madonna. Here, classic Italian dishes are given a contemporary update

with Asian flavours. There's more innovation at Miss Mi, the restaurant at **Mövenpick Hotel Melbourne on Spencer**. Indulge in a multicourse menu that explores some of the lesser-known Asian cuisines, as well as everyone's favourites.

+ hyatt.com

+ nexthotelmelbourne.com

+ movenpick.com



Amphlett House

Rock 'n' Roll Roots

Memphis comes to Melbourne with the re-imagining of **Laneways by Ovolo**. Its 42 rooms are sophisticated and stylish with a touch of 1980s nostalgia. Part of the hotel is an exciting new venue, with Maybe Sammy co-founder Andrea Gualdi and much-loved Melbourne chef Ian Curley helming Amphlett House. Expect elevated pub dining with a classic menu highlighting top quality Victorian produce.

+ ovolohotels.com

Bar Moves

Looking for a spot to enjoy a nightcap? **Melbourne Marriott Hotel** has refurbished its M Bar to create a sophisticated welcoming space within walking distance of many of Melbourne's theatres. Behind the bar is a range of 40 top-shelf whiskeys and a list of more than 70 wines. Craft distiller Little Lon has also created three signature cocktails to reflect the locale. Try The Exhibitionist, a blend of tequila, mango, mint and lime. Another great option is the Travellers Bar on the ground floor of **Rendezvous Melbourne**, where a recent refurbishment pays homage to the stunning heritage space and the drinks are handcrafted using Australian spirits and liqueurs.

+ marriott.com

+ rendezvousmelbourne.com.au



Laneways by Ovolo

Up All Night

Dress up – or down, if that’s your thing – and find a spot where you can have dinner and linger till late at one of Melbourne’s casual yet sophisticated venues.



Juliet Melbourne Rebecca Newman

A Great Match

It's rustic, but still smart. It keeps most of its tables for walk-ins. The wine list is heavy on natural varieties, with bottles coming from local and international producers. **Embla** is one of the city's favourite wine bars, where you can relax, enjoy a couple of glasses of interesting vino and order some food cooked in the wood oven. If you want to explore the work of female winemakers and distillers, head to **Juliet**. The kitchen is inspired by local farmers, foragers and fishermen and creates a menu to match the season and the wine list.

+ embla.com.au

+ julietmelbourne.com.au

All Night Long

It's a long-time favourite, but if you want amazing Thai food and cocktails in a cool venue, try **The Toff**, with its booths that resemble private train cars. When you're done, check out what's on in the neighbouring band room. It could be comedy, an album launch or electronica party. Within a five-storey building, you'll find different venues at **HER**. Start with a cocktail at the rooftop bar, move to BKK for a meal of barbecued Thai dishes then head to level one. Here you'll find the Music Room, which is a mix of cocktail bar and listening room.

+ thetoff.com.au

+ her.melbourne

Night Moves

Everything about **Arlechin** tells you the owners know plenty about hospitality. This bar, serving comfort-style Italian dishes until late, is owned by the Grossi family, Melbourne restaurant royalty. It's a great place to come after a show to enjoy a nightcap and bar snacks that include bolognaise jaffles and its famous midnight spaghetti (it's made from all the things you'd find in your pantry, like olive oil, anchovies and chilli flakes).

+ arlechin.com.au

Market Fresh

Make it a Queen Vic Market day and explore the market for everything you need, from delicious fresh produce to art and gifts.

Explore the Sheds

Whatever you're looking for, you're sure to find it at Queen Vic Market. Best known for its huge selection of fresh and specialty produce, you'll also find cafes and street food that are sure to cure hunger pangs. Discover books, clothing, toys, souvenirs and so much more as you wander the stalls and explore the works of local makers and creators.

One for the Foodies

Take a culinary journey on the Ultimate Foodie Tour. Uncover the market's rich history through the unique stories of traders and awaken your tastebuds as you sample excellent produce. On the menu is the freshest seafood, char-grilled kangaroo, delicious artisan cheese, exquisite chocolate, melt-in-your-mouth pastries, boutique wine and more. As your small group explores the stalls led by an expert guide, you'll also pick up tips and tricks for shopping and cooking. Tours are held every Friday and Saturday at 10am.



Fill Your Basket

Think a picnic is a great way to spend an autumn day? Head to the Dairy Produce Hall to stock up on everything you need. Hit the delis for cured meats, cheese, olives and fresh baguettes, then grab a bottle of chilled rosé for the perfect picnic.

+ qvm.com.au



Aboriginal Victoria



Royal Botanic Gardens: Aboriginal Heritage Walk Lynton Crabb

Narrm has been home to the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong Boon Wurrung peoples for 60,000 years. Here's how to discover more about their culture.

Take a Walk

Every Thursday and Sunday at 11am, guides take groups on the Aboriginal Heritage Walk through **Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne**, explaining the rich history of the First Peoples of Australia and identifying significant native plants along the way. You can also join the **Koorie Heritage Trust's** Birrarung Wilam Walk and head through Fed Square and along the river to some Aboriginal art installations. You'll learn about the significance of the Yarra River to the local Kulin people and come away with a deeper understanding of this city landmark.

+ rbg.vic.gov.au

+ koorieheritagetrust.com.au



Culture on a Plate

Nornie Bero is a Komet woman from Mer Island in the Torres Strait. In her people's language, **mabu mabu** means 'help yourself' and **big esso** translates to the 'biggest thank you'. When you head to Nornie's restaurant, **Big Esso by Mabu Mabu** in Fed Square, you'll see the culinary embodiment of these ideas. She creates share plates of super-tasty food incorporating native ingredients. Some dishes, like **namas** (coconut-cured kingfish with chilli, coriander and taro crisps), are what her family would eat at home. There's plenty of seafood on the menu, as well as seasonal dishes like kangaroo tail and pepperberry bourguignon.

+ mabumabu.com.au

Learn Even More

At Melbourne Museum, the **Bunjilaka Aboriginal Cultural Centre** celebrates the survival of Victoria's First Peoples through storytelling, artwork and performances. Take a walk through the Indigenous forest on the Milarri Garden trail. If you're there at 1.45pm, head to Milarri Pond to see the short-finned eels being fed. See one of the most important collections of Aboriginal art and artefacts in the country at **The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia**. During autumn, the extensive **Melbourne Now** exhibition (from 24 March) will be incorporated throughout all the gallery spaces and includes many new pieces by Indigenous artists.

+ museumsvictoria.com.au

+ ngv.melbourne



Big Esso by Mabu Mabu Jesse Hisco



Connect to Country

A new Indigenous enterprise takes visitors camping on Taungurung land, not far from Melbourne, to help them connect with nature.

In the Taungurung language, the word *yilam* means home, and that's exactly what Kaley and Joanne Nicholson want to show visitors. When the mother and daughter duo were camping on Country in mid 2021, it troubled Kaley that she couldn't buy a good, sustainable tent. That turned into a conversation about the overall lack of representation for Aboriginal people in the camping industry.

Now, their company Yilam supplies ethically and sustainably sourced camping equipment and, after discussions with friends and family, offers bespoke experiences on Taungurung Country, near Broadford.

"What they were saying is they would be keen to understand more about Aboriginal philosophies," Kaley told the local newspaper. "We have quite a light footprint when we go camping; we don't take a lot of gear. It's more about being on Country and connecting with the land and taking some time out from the hectic day-to-day life. "We are teaching the basics of camping, but also helping people to foster that connection with Country and thinking about things through that Aboriginal lens."



Experiences start with an overnight beginners' 'guide' that empowers new campers to feel confident in the bush and teaches them the basics about cultivating a connection to the land. There's also a family option, a women's business camp, and an elevated experience that includes guided 'listening to Country' bushwalks.

+ yilam.com.au

Piece of the Art

First Nations artist Tashara Roberts is showing her new work in a very special place.

When the RACV Goldfields Resort decided to add **ArtHouse**, a new exhibition space and artists' residence, to the property last year, this is exactly the type of artist they would have liked to attract.

Tashara Roberts is a conceptual artist who was born on Wurundjeri country, grew up in Narrm and is now settled on the homelands of her Dja Dja Wurrung ancestors in the Goldfields city of Bendigo.

Working across a variety of mediums, she uses visual culture to explore cultural and societal issues. Tashara has created installation pieces that explore traditional Indigenous practice, her people's relationship to the land, and the perceptions of family. She's captured photographs



Artwork by Tashara Roberts City of Greater Bendigo Image: Bill Conroy

of people living on the streets of Melbourne. Once, she collected litter at Lake Eppalock, near Bendigo, and documented what she found in photographic prints. She's used the moving image, mixed media, sculpture and jewellery making to explore her heritage and the world around her.

For her ArtHouse debut (6 March – 21 May) as the artist in residence, Tashara is creating entirely new work.
+ racv.com.au



Arts & Culture

A man and a woman are holding hands and looking at each other in front of a large digital art installation. The woman on the left has curly hair and is wearing a green jacket over a blue top. The man on the right is wearing a dark hoodie. The background is a large wall covered in a dense, pixelated pattern of blue and white dots, with a horizontal band of orange and yellow dots. A bright blue laser beam is visible in the upper right corner.

Right across the city,
you'll find experiences
and exhibitions to inspire
and admire, whether
you're looking to fill
a couple of hours or
an entire evening.

RISING Shannyn Higgins



Monet & Friends

The Lume

Ever wanted to dance near a Degas? Featuring more than 800 individual artworks, **Monet & Friends** is a multisensory, immersive experience that transports the viewer to the time of the French Impressionists.
+ thelumemelbourne.com

State Library Victoria

See the highlights of this incredible space when you explore the galleries. Be awed by the incredible Dome sitting above the historical La Trobe Reading Room then join a free tour to find out more.
+ slv.vic.gov.au

Arts Centre Melbourne

Double, double toil and trouble... Fans of the Bard of Avalon should book seats for the Bell Shakespeare production of **Macbeth** (27 April – 14 May), the playwright's most haunting thriller.
+ artscentremelbourne.com.au

Melbourne Museum

Enter a world that ended thousands of years ago at **Triceratops: Fate of the Dinosaurs**. Explore the re-created Cretaceous landscapes and meet Horridus, the most complete real dinosaur in Australia.
+ museumsvictoria.com.au

ACMI

Use the Lens when viewing the **Story of the Moving Image** exhibition. When you hold this free device up against a logo, information is saved so you delve deeper into your favourite pieces at home.
+ acmi.net.au

NGV International

Don't miss your last chance to view **Alexander McQueen: Mind, Mythos, Muse** (until 16 April). This retrospective of more than 70 garments charts the career of one of the most significant fashion designers of the modern era.
+ ngv.melbourne

The Shrine

Tours de Force looks at the entertainers who travel to the front lines of war to lift the spirits of defence force personnel. This exhibition features photos, videos and memorabilia from performers, including Normie Rowe and Kylie Minogue.
+ shrine.org.au

Koorie Heritage Trust

Through its exhibition spaces, this important organisation supports, promotes and celebrates contemporary Victorian Aboriginal art and artists. Check out what's showing or join one of the walking tours.
+ koorieheritagetrust.com.au



L-R: Laverne Cox © Joshua Kissi, Marilyn Monroe © Archive on behalf of Milton H. Greene and Anna May Wong, image courtesy of CPA Media Ptd Ltd/Alamy Stock Photo



Visions on Screen

We know their faces, we love the characters they play and sometimes we're obsessed with their private lives. A new exhibition examines women in the movies.

Sometimes they can seem as though they come from another realm. Who can forget Elizabeth Taylor in *Cleopatra*, Marilyn Monroe in *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* or even Julia Roberts in *Pretty Woman*? Now, 120 years of moving image history is coming to ACMI in an exhibition entitled *Goddess* (from 5 April).

This glamorous and thought-provoking collection of immersive digital experiences, objects, artworks, props and behind-the-scenes photography examines the actors who defy expectations, shape ideas of femininity and overcome stereotypes, all while dazzling us at the cinema.

There will also be 25 unforgettable costumes on display, as well as a soundscape that submerges visitors in the voice of these cinema icons. With a global focus that includes Hollywood, Hong Kong, Japan, Australia, Europe and Bollywood, many of the items on display have never before been seen by audiences in Australia.

Michelle Yeoh, Pam Grier, Tilda Swinton and Geena Davis are all ambassadors for the exhibition, with the Geena Davis Institute partnering with ACMI on a public program that will explore diversity on screen, representation of older women and representations of disability. There'll also be special cinema screenings for the duration of the exhibition.

After its world premiere in Melbourne, ACMI's *Goddess* will tour internationally.

+ acmi.net.au

The City's Finest

It's always been thought of as Australia's culture capital, and when you see the quality of the performing arts organisations based in Melbourne, you'll know why.



Happy Days Jo Duck

Eight Decades Strong

In 2023, the **Melbourne Theatre Company** is celebrating its seventieth birthday and the arrival of a new artistic director, Anne-Louise Sarkis. Her inaugural season will celebrate new stories and different perspectives. She'll also be directing the exuberant backstage comedy **Bernhardt/Hamlet** (4 March – 15 April), with Kate Mulvany playing the role of French stage actor Sarah Bernhardt as she sets her sights on playing Hamlet. Feisty and funny, this is a celebration of the art of the stage and people who make it. Then the inimitable Judith Lucy takes on the role of Winnie in Samuel Beckett's **Happy Days** (from 1 May).

+ mtc.com.au

Life's Symphony

The **Melbourne Symphony Orchestra** is one of the country's finest ensembles, and its 2023 season has something for everyone. Hear the orchestra play Alexandre Desplat's score live as you watch **Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2** (30 March – 1 April). If you're classically curious and wondering if orchestral music is for you, book a ticket for **Imagination Ignited** (5 April), where conductor Ingrid Martin explains the stories behind the music. Finally, the MSO welcomes the London Symphony Orchestra (5–6 May) to its stage at Hamer Hall for two nights of incredible works, including Mahler's Seventh.

+ mso.com.au

Melbourne's Cultural Heart



Bell Shakespeare's *Macbeth* Pierre Toussaint

The culture and entertainment never stops at Arts Centre Melbourne, which plays host to music, theatre, dance and more.

With three incredible venues, the Theatres Building, Hamer Hall and the Sidney Myer Music Bowl, there's always something happening at Arts Centre Melbourne.

On With the Show

Break out the bunny suit, RockWiz's *Really Really Good Friday* returns for a night of great music, comedy, and

trivia. Catch co-hosts Julia Zemiro and Brian Nankervis, the legendary RockWiz Orchestra and cracker special guests at the gang's annual Easter show (7 April). Also on stage is The Australian Ballet's production of *Don Quixote* (15–25 March), a re-creation of Rudolf Nureyev and Robert Helpmann's 1973 film.

More to See

If you love contemporary music, head to the free Australian Music Vault. This exhibition is an immersive digital experience featuring rare archival footage and incredible memorabilia. Ready to shop? On the weekend, check out the works of local artists and makers at the Sunday Market along St Kilda Road.

Dining Time

Arts Centre Melbourne hosts a number of dining venues. On the forecourt, Protagonist is the place for coffee, breakfast or a snack. Later in the day, The Barre is a stylish space wrapped around the Theatres Building offering a seasonal, modern Australian menu.

+ artscentremelbourne.com.au



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State Library Victoria

The Library is your culture, creativity and learning playground in the heart of the city, with heritage reading rooms, the iconic Dome, family programming, free daily tours and exhibitions.

On now: Autumn at the Library is packed with fun for kids young and old; and launching in March, the new *World of the Book* exhibition charts the history of book design and production.

Tram: Route 1, 3, 3a, 5, 6, 16, 64, 67 or 72 to stop 8; and 30 or 35 (free City Circle) to stop 7

Train: Melbourne Central Station

Open: 10am to 6pm, seven days a week.
Closed Good Friday, 25-26 Dec & 1 Jan

328 Swanston Street, Melbourne

t: 03 8664 7000

w: slv.vic.gov.au

Find us on: f @ 🐦



Shrine of Remembrance

Built in 1934, the Shrine of Remembrance is the war memorial of Victoria and one of Melbourne's most recognisable landmarks. We share the stories of ordinary people in extraordinary times whose efforts and experiences helped shape our nation.

Explore the expansive Galleries of Remembrance, find peaceful reflection in the Sanctuary and ascend to the Balcony for spectacular views of the Reserve and Melbourne.

Ticketed tours depart hourly from the Visitor Centre (except midday).

Current exhibitions include *Tours de Force: Entertainers on the frontline*, *Defending with Pride: Stories of LGBTQ+ service*, and *For Kin and Country: First Peoples in the Australian Defence Force*. Free entry (donations welcome).

Open: Daily, 10am to 5pm (last entry 4.30pm)
Closed Christmas Day and Good Friday

Birdwood Ave, Melbourne

t: 03 9661 8100

w: shrine.org.au

Find us on: f @ 📺



A photograph of a penguin swimming in an aquarium tank. The penguin is white on the bottom and dark on top, with a distinctive black stripe through its eye. It is swimming towards the left. In the foreground, the back of a child's head and shoulders are visible; the child is holding a smartphone up to take a picture of the penguin. The background shows the blue water of the tank and a textured, light-colored wall or rock formation.

Family Fun

Keep the kids entertained and perhaps even teach them a thing or two with all the incredible sights and activities to be found around Melbourne.



Melbourne Zoo Paul Philipson

Things to See

Move through a prehistoric forest encountering long-gone megafauna as well as ecosystems that can still be found today when you enter the new Gandel Gondwana Garden at **Melbourne Museum**. Explore Victoria's biodiversity in this new immersive and sensory outdoor gallery that's part of the expansion of the Pauline Gandel Children's Gallery.

Discover what lives below the ocean's surface at **SEA LIFE Melbourne Aquarium**. As well as checking out the fish, sharks and rays, you can play at the Interactive World Wall and create your own jellyfish.

+ museumsvictoria.com.au
+ visitsealife.com

Things to Do

Catch the latest movie at **Village Cinemas Crown** then fill the rest of the day at **Kingpin at Crown**, where there's plenty of action. Given the name, it should come as no surprise that frames of tenpin bowling are on the itinerary, but there's also laser tag and arcade games.

Get a closer look at what happens at **Melbourne Zoo** when you book an exciting animal encounter. There's the chance to meet a lemur or a seal, or go behind the scenes with the meerkats to learn about how the keepers keep them healthy and happy.

+ villagecinemas.com.au
+ crownmelbourne.com.au
+ zoo.org.au

Free Things

If your kids are into food, head to **Fed Square** for the **Little Food Festival** (19–20 April). Aimed to connect the dots for kids between food, its supply chain and its relationship to the health of our bodies and the planet, the festival brings a packed program of free workshops, performances and food-themed activities to the city.

At **NGV International**, **Julian Opie: Studio for Kids** (until 10 April) lets them create portraits in the style of this British artist. Head to the visitor centre at the **Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne** and ask for a Seek and Find Nature Card. The kids then go off into the different landscapes and living collections and search for things big and small.

+ ngv.melbourne
+ rbg.vic.gov.au
+ fedsquare.com/LFF



High Times

In 1888, this was the hottest view in all of Melbourne. Now, after 135 years, it's open again for everyone to enjoy.

It's always stood at the edge of the city as a beacon of another era in Melbourne. The Royal Exhibition Building was built to host the Melbourne International Exhibition in 1880. Designed by Joseph Reed and built by David Mitchell, father of Dame Nellie Melba, it's capped by a soaring dome based on the design of Brunelleschi's Duomo in Florence.

Part of the building's design was the Dome Promenade, which offered access to the rooftop. In 1888, a lift was installed and adults would pay six pence to take it to the roof.

These days, with its UNESCO World Heritage listing, the Royal Exhibition Building is the oldest surviving Great

Hall in the world still operating as an exhibition venue. Last year, thanks to the addition of a new deck 21 metres above the ground, the Dome Promenade reopened and has become Melbourne's newest 'oldest' attraction.

Take the kids up to the Dome Promenade and help them find different Melbourne landmarks from this heightened perspective. Then check out the grand interior of the building and visit the gallery, where there's an exhibition of more than 200 objects bought by wool merchant John Twycross at the 1880 Melbourne International Exhibition.

+ museumsvictoria.com.au

That's Entertainment



IMAX Melbourne

Take your kids to see music, movies and more this autumn.

Whole Lotta Laughs

When the **Melbourne International Comedy Festival** (29 March – 23 April) rolls into town, the youngest members of the family can also get chuckling. Look out for Comedy Club for Kids, The (Very) Big Laugh Out at Fed Square, and lots of other family-friendly shows.
+ comedyfestival.com.au

Musical Moments

The **Melbourne Symphony Orchestra** knows the benefits of an early start when it comes to classical music. Its regular Jams for Juniors (25 March and 6 May) are designed to introduce kids, up to five years old, to the magic of music. Teens will enjoy *The Lord of the Rings & The Hobbit: The Concert*

(18 May) at Arts Centre Melbourne. The symphonic orchestra, choir and star guests will perform the popular songs from Peter Jackson's movies, 20 years after they were made.
+ mso.com.au
+ artscentremelbourne.com.au

The Biggest Screen

Feel the thrill watching a movie at **IMAX Melbourne**, where the screen is a whopping seven storeys high. Follow the adventures of Luigi, Mario, Bowser and Donkey Kong in *The Super Mario Bros. Movie* (from 5 April). Those interested in nature will want to witness the remarkable migration captured in *Flight of the Butterflies 3D* (from 1 April).
+ imaxmelbourne.com.au



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e: info@aroundandabout.com.au

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w: portphillipferries.com.au

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MCG and Australian Sports Museum

Step on the hallowed turf of the Melbourne Cricket Ground and discover a world-class stadium where sporting history is created.

Follow in the footsteps of greatness at the MCG

Ever wanted to see behind the scenes at the mighty MCG? Experience an unforgettable MCG Tour with an access-all-areas walk-through following the steps of great sporting legends. Follow your tour guide and soak up the atmosphere of the player change rooms, the Ron Casey Media Centre and members-only areas of the

Melbourne Cricket Club, such as the Long Room, then walk along the sidelines of the hallowed arena. Come to the inner sanctum of the Melbourne Cricket Ground and discover what makes Australia such a great sporting country.

Discover more at the Australian Sports Museum

The Australian Sports Museum is no ordinary museum. It's an exciting, interactive and ever-changing experience where the latest technology has been used to create immersive exhibits and galleries. Take in historic and quirky facts and tales about cricket, Australian football, the Olympics, Sport Australia Hall of Fame and the Victorian Racing Gallery. Visitors are invited

Tram: Route 48 or 75 to stop 12 or 70 to stop 7C

Train: To Richmond or Jolimont Station

MCG Tours: Daily, every 30 minutes between 10am and 3pm

Australian Sports Museum: Daily from 10am to 5pm

Alternative trading hours apply on event days. Please visit our website for information.

Gate 3, MCG, Yarra Park, Jolimont

t: 03 9657 8879

w: mcg.org.au

w: australiansportsmuseum.org.au

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thedistrictdocklands.com.au

Drape yourself in warm autumn fashion essentials. Here's the ultimate guide to shopping in Melbourne's diverse retail precincts.

Shop

Block Arcade Jesse Hisco



Emporium Melbourne Rodney Dekker

Surrounded by world-class architecture, **Emporium Melbourne** features a mix of Australian and international designers as well as innovative concept and flagship stores featuring some of the best names in fashion, beauty and lifestyle, including **Bassike**, **Muji** and **T2**. Cross the airbridge into **Melbourne Central**, a large shopping, dining, and entertainment destination with more than 300 retailers over five levels, as well as a cinema. Take a break from shopping and visit the giant gold pocket watch hanging in Shot Tower Square. Every hour, a secret compartment drops down from inside, revealing two marionettes and Australian galahs and cockatoos performing a rendition of 'Waltzing Matilda'.

If you're a lover of high fashion, then Collins Street is the place for you. Shop high end fashion and accessories from some of the world's most recognisable brands like **Dior**, **Prada** and **Louis Vuitton**, as well as Australian brands **Aēsop** and **Paspaley**. Or find curated designer fashion at **Christine on Collins**. If that's not your style, Bourke Street Mall has something for everyone. Check out large department stores **David Jones** and **Myer**, the heritage-listed **Melbourne's GPO**, and the oldest surviving arcade in Australia, **Royal Arcade**. While you're visiting the mall, drop by the **Melbourne Visitor Booth**, a free information service in the heart of the city's retail district. Drop by for advice and more ideas on where to explore.

Discover Melbourne's most unique shops. Go retro at **Vintage Sole** and **Reina**, or make it super local and ethical at **Collective Closets** and Queen Victoria Women's Centre's **SHOP!** Cathedral Arcade gems include sustainable and Melbourne-made **Lumi's** threads, which are the antidote to fast fashion, while **Kuwaii** creates timeless designs right here in Melbourne.

+ emporiummelbourne.com.au

+ melbournecentral.com.au

+ royalarcade.com.au

Style Queen

Each of her appearances on Masterchef has fans hitting social media to discover where she bought her colourful dresses and bold earrings. Here, host Melissa Leong reveals how she shops Melbourne style.



Describe your perfect day out shopping.

If I am after something specific, it's satisfying to find it, but an ideal day involves not being in a hurry, finding something cool and, obviously, having lunch somewhere delightful.

Who are your favourite Australian designers?

Right now, Oroton, Camilla & Marc, Scanlan Theodore, Viktoria & Woods, Bassike, Jac & Jack, St Agni, Collective Closets, Venroy, Gary Bigeni, Kitx, and Leo Lin.

Where would you shop for elegant eveningwear?

I usually divert to my stylist for eveningwear, but David Jones is beautifully curated for eveningwear, as are Marais and Harrolds.

Your hidden gem?

I love Lore Perfumery. My partner Rob and I are both fragrance obsessed and this is one of our favourite places to nerd out on niche fragrances from here and around the world.

Do you have a favourite shopping street?

I have a few, depending on my mood. Collins Street for luxury fanciness, Brunswick Street for an eclectic mix of plants, fashion, books and fragrance, and High Street Armadale for high-end Aussie brands.

Where do you hunt for bargains?

I love Hope Street Space for random gift items, bric a brac, quirky pots and other random things I don't need but definitely want.

Other favourites?

I would head to Pieces of Eight for interesting jewellery. There is nothing like a piece from William Llewellyn Griffiths, who makes tiny cathedrals and castles into intricate rings and other heirloom pieces.

What are your favourite ethical brands?

My partner's brand, Morris Motley, makes amazing hair products, but also the best handwash you've ever experienced that comes in glass pumps with recyclable refills available. I'm so proud to see a cool Melbourne brand knocking it out of the park when it comes to formulation, form and environmental consideration.

+ visitvictoria.com/melissaleong

“I’m so proud to see a cool Melbourne brand knocking it out of the park when it comes to formulation, form and environmental consideration.”



Melissa Leong



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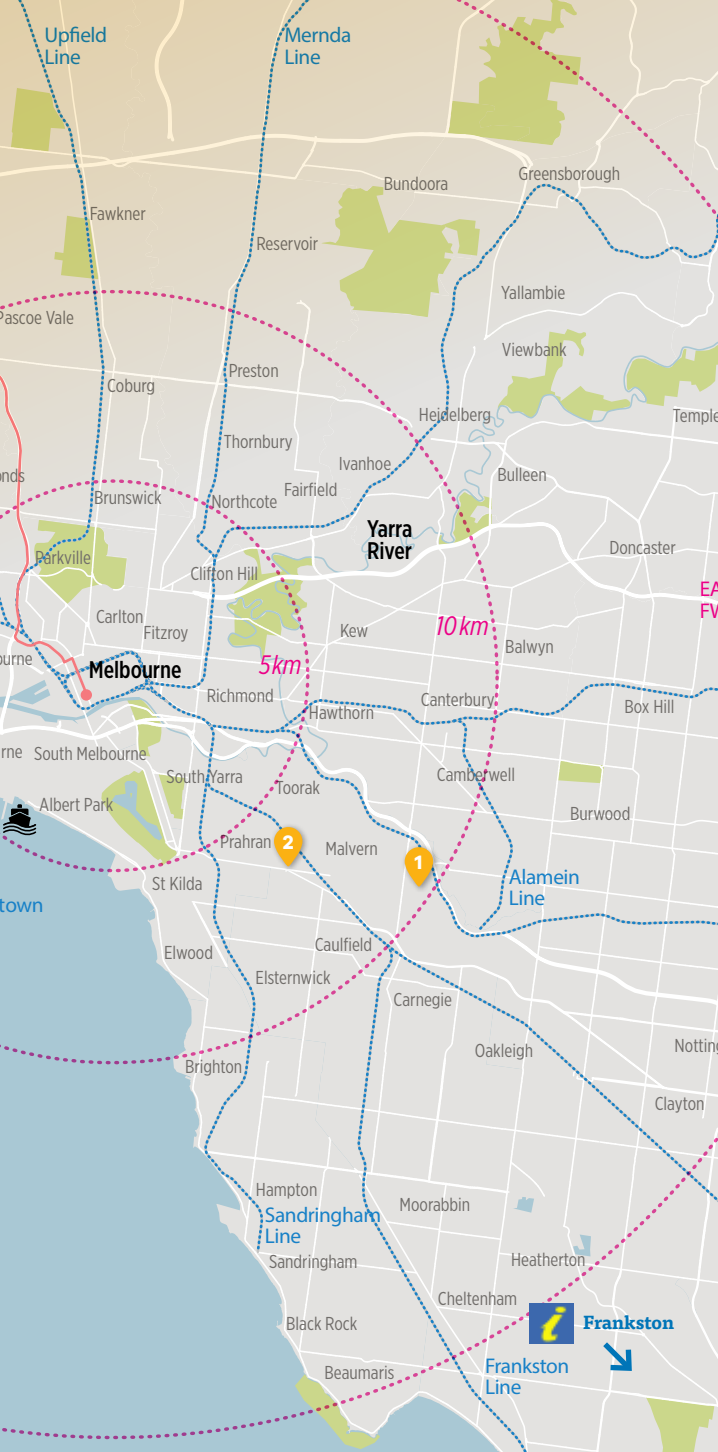


For more information within Victoria, visit the local Visitor Information Centres.

+ visitvictoria.com/vic

Neighbourhoods





Explore Further

Glen Iris ¹

Grab your myki card and head to Glen Iris on the Glen Waverley train line. This residential suburb has welcomed a large-scale craft beer hall, the home to **Deeds Brewing**. Conveniently located adjacent to the station, this striking venue offers a restaurant-stand menu, local wines and spirits, and of course Deeds beers.

Prahran East ²

Take the number 6 tram towards Glen Iris and hop off at Stop 35 Williams Road/High St, where you'll find **Small Print Pizza Bar** in the Prahran East village. Place your order, pick up your numbered flag, a picnic blanket, and the Finnish game of Finska, and head across the road to the picturesque Victoria Gardens. Relax and wait for your pizza to be delivered.



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Buy Into It



Head out of the city centre to discover shopping destinations with unique village vibes, tempting boutiques and excellent eateries.

High Street Armadale Rebecca Newman

If your idea of a good walk is one that includes browsing for designer fashion and gorgeous homewares, jump on a number 6 tram from Bourke Street in the city to **High Street Armadale**. With its Victorian streetscape and the heritage-listed Kings Arcade, it has a true village charm.

Check out the wares of Australian leisurewear label Venroy, which chose Armadale as the location for its first Melbourne store. Designed to emulate the feel of a

hotel lobby, the store showcases relaxed, timeless pieces for men and women. One of the newer arrivals in the neighbourhood is the third Melbourne outlet of the cult Lune Croissanterie. The chic setting includes a stand-up espresso bar where you can refuel for more shopping.

This four-kilometre stretch of **Chapel Street** cuts through three suburbs, each with its own personality. Start at the South Yarra end, where there are distinct boutiques like Scanlan

Theodore, Mister Zimi and Gorman. Hit Prahran and there's a little edge to the surroundings, more vintage stores and some excellent diversions, including Greville Street and Commercial Road, home of Prahran Market. Then stroll on to Windsor, where Chapel Street becomes foodie heaven: try Hawker Hall for Asian street food and beers, European-inspired Ines Wine Bar or the excellent pub fare at the Railway Hotel.

+ highstreetarmadale.com.au
+ chapelstreet.com.au

There's a new way to play, with Chadstone unveiling a dining and entertainment precinct that has everything from bowling to baos.



Melbourne's Neighbourhoods

Social Status

Archie Brothers

For years **Chadstone** has been Melbourne's fashion capital. With more than 500 local and international designer stores, it is the sort of place where you could spend all day browsing stores like RM Williams, Celine, Prada and Marimekko.

Now there's even more reason to visit with the launch of the Social Quarter. Adding to its already quality offering that includes LEGOLAND Discovery Centre and Hoyts cinemas, comes a huge expansion with 18

new entertainment and dining experiences. Whether you're looking for the perfect date night option or a way to keep the kids entertained, it's all under one roof.

Get competitive at Strike Bowling and Holey Moley indoor mini golf, master classic arcade games at Archie Brothers Cirque Electriq, or take on loved ones in the challenge rooms at Hijinx Hotel. Catering for an all-ages crowd during the day, it also offers cocktails, drinks and food in the evening for a more adult clientele.

The range of new restaurants and dining options includes Italian eatery Cinque Terre, Cityfields for wood-fired Euro-inspired cuisine, Piccolina Gelateria, Asian fusion outlet White & Wong's, Sardine Bar, and UA Brewing Co. with its onsite brewery producing sustainable craft beer exclusively for The Social Quarter. + chadstone.com.au

All About Fun

Head out of the city centre to
discover a world of opportunities
for kids to be entertained.



Scienceworks Tiny Empire Collective

Toot Toot

Jump aboard **Puffing Billy** to explore the rainforest, rolling hills and farmland in the heart of the Dandenong Ranges. A day out on this fully preserved steam train will be one to remember for the whole family.

+ puffingbilly.com.au

Horse Power

Meet some of Australia's greatest racehorses as they relax in retirement at **Living Legends**. Take a guided tour and get to pat and feed Melbourne Cup winners like Efficient and Prince of Penzance at this beautiful property near Melbourne Airport.

+ livinglegends.org.au

Dingo Days

Get to know more about native dogs at the **Dingo Discovery Sanctuary**. More than 40 dingoes live here, so researchers can preserve a pure bloodline and find out more about the species. Book a Dingo Discovery Tour to learn about them.

+ dingofoundation.org

Colour Their World

Imagine being at a festival when you visit the latest exhibition at **Scienceworks**, *Illuminate: How Science Comes to Light*. Kids can move through six zones, where they'll explore sight, light and colour in fun and interactive ways.

+ museumsvictoria.com.au/scienceworks

Play Right

Book a spot at **MoPA** (Museum of Play and Art), where every exhibit and activity is designed to provide an opportunity for play-based learning and creative exploration. They'll happily have fun and you'll feel better knowing it's helping their development.

+ museumofplayandart.com.au

The Big Build

They can create something incredible at **LEGOLAND Discovery Centre**, but there are also rides, games, the chance to build and race Lego cars and a 4D cinema. There's even the opportunity to book an awesome Lego class.

+ legodiscoverycentre.com

Adventure World

If they've got an adventurous spirit, head to **Funtopia**, where there are climbing walls, an indoor adventure playground, 'messy' studio, and an arena for toddlers with soft slides and sensory activities. Parents can join in or relax in the cafe.

+ funtopiaworld.com.au



Living Legends



LEGOLAND Discovery Centre Kit Haselden

The Finest Drops



Craft breweries and small-batch distilleries are popping up right across Melbourne's west. Find a new favourite gin or IPA when you plan a visit to Hobsons Bay.

Brew Days

It's a little like a classic pub crawl, except the Hobsons Bay Brewery Hop visits the spots where the beer is made. Start at **Two Birds Brewery**, Australia's first female-owned brewery, in Spotswood, where you can taste Jayne Lewis and Danielle Allen's core range as well as limited-edition brewery-only bevies. At **Black Arts Brewers and Blenders** in Williamstown, the specialty is barrel-aged wild ales inspired by Belgian beer-making traditions. The next stop is **Brew Works**, a microbrewery where they'll help you create your own fresh beer in about an hour. Cheers to that!

A Gin Thing

Want to try handmade small-batch gins? At **Bathtub Gin Co Distillery**, botanicals and fruits are sourced from the best organic growers then put through a process called the fractional method, where each component is distilled separately. Drop by its Distiller's Bar in Williamstown to sample the Angry Duck Gin, a contemporary play on a traditional London Dry; Best Day Ever Gin, which is pink from resting on fresh cherries; and Mighty Apollo Gin, which is a smooth cross between a classic gin and a whisky.



Autonomy Distillery



Hudsons Road Wine and Beer

Serious Samples

Taste beer, wine and spirits from independent creators, including local micro-gin makers Autonomy Distillers, at Spotswood's **Hudsons Road Wine and Beer**. You can pick something to have later or sit at the bar and order a drink, as well as some cheese or charcuterie from the deli, and have it there. It's all about beer at **Hopheads**, where there are 12 rotating taps and a vast selection of local and international brews in the fridges from which to choose. Find your new favourite sour or a seasonal run from a small Melbourne brewer when you stop by.

+ experiencehobsonsbay.com

Now Eat This

*Want to check out a new spot?
These bars and eateries are attracting
attention for all the right reasons.*

Cafe Comfort

In the heart of Albert Park's residential neighbourhood, you'll find daytime diner **Halcyon Days**. The light, bright space with plenty of outdoor tables to catch the sun serves European-inspired dishes, including plenty of weekend specials. For its sheer simplicity, we love the sourdough toast served with cream cheese and carrot jam.

+ [instagram.com/halcyon_days.cafe](https://www.instagram.com/halcyon_days.cafe)

Whole Loti Love

Right on St Kilda's Esplanade, **LOTI** is the perfect spot for a cocktail overlooking the bay as the sun goes down or a long, relaxed lunch with friends. The menu has a focus on vegetables and seafood, with dishes like red emperor ceviche with native citrus and hand-picked Pyrenees olives designed to be shared.

+ lotistkilda.com.au



Halcyon Days *Tori Gill*

Wine Time

Explore the offerings from young and emerging makers, as well as terroir-driven varietals from around the globe, at **East End Wine Bar**. Alongside the excellent selection of drinks, there are wood-fired pizzas and snacks to cure any hunger pangs. Right across the street from Rivoli Cinema in Hawthorn East, it's a great spot to end the night after a movie.

+ eastendwinebar.com.au





Bayside Brilliance

Head to Werribee in Melbourne's west for a full dose of nature and family fun, including mini golf, by the water's edge.

The Elements Coastal Activity Park

Fun and Games

If it's a sunny day and you're looking for something new, head to **The Elements Coastal Activity Park**, the latest addition to Wyndham Harbour in Werribee South. Set on the coastline, it offers a world of fun for the whole family. There's an 18-hole mini golf course where you can test your putting skills. Pack a basket before you head out there because there's a picnic lawn where you can spread out a blanket by the bay. Don't worry if you forget supplies though, because there's drinks and takeaway

at Coffee Corner or you can head next door to **3030 Boulevard** for wood-fired pizza and cocktails.

+ theelementsactivitypark.com.au
+ 3030boulevard.com

For the Birds

The wetlands around Werribee are havens for our avian friends, attracting thousands of migratory birds from as far away as Siberia, Japan and Alaska each year. Located in the Point Cook Coastal Park, **Cheetham Wetlands** includes a string of ponds and lakes that

attracts a variety of species. Head to The Tower, located at the wetlands' southern end, for uninterrupted views of the landscape and our feathered friends. One of Australia's best birdwatching locations is the **Western Treatment Plant**. Around 300 species of birdlife have been recorded at the site, but you need to apply for a permit from the Melbourne Water website to watch them here.

+ visitwerribee.com.au
+ melbournewater.com.au



EXPLORE BEYOND THE BLUESTONE



Tours open 7 days a week
Bookings essential
pentridgeprison tours.com.au





St Kilda Esplanade Market

Discover handmade crafts and local food products at Melbourne's only outdoor market by the bay. Set against the backdrop of St Kilda Beach, this vibrant makers' market features unique artwork, jewellery, fashion and accessories, beauty products, delicious food and so much more.

The market is a great day out with family, friends and fur babies.

Start right here when you're exploring St Kilda!

Handmade, unique, local... That's your Esplanade Market.

Tram: Route 3a, 16 or 96 to stop 138

Open: Every Sunday from 10am to 5pm

Upper Esplanade, St Kilda

t: 03 9209 6777

w: stkildaesplanademarket.com.au

Find us on: [f](#) [@](#)



South Melbourne Market

Since 1867, South Melbourne Market has been a much-loved destination for locals and visitors.

The market has more than 150 stalls offering specialty food, fresh produce, artisan goods, fashion and gifts, plus a vibrant restaurant precinct, gourmet food hall and popular oyster bars.

Just five minutes from the city centre, catch the 96 tram to South Melbourne.

Open: Wed, Sat and Sun, 8am to 4pm and Fri, 8am to 5pm. Restaurants open 'til late

322-326 Coventry St, South Melbourne

t: 03 9209 6295

w: southmelbournemarket.com.au

Find us on: [f](#) [@](#) [v](#)





Melbourne's
Neighbourhoods

Market Driven

*Jump on a train or tram to check out
Melbourne's finest places for farm-fresh
produce and the creations of the city's
craftspeople and makers.*

Prahran Market Josie Withers



Fresh is Best

Ready to pack a picnic basket?

South Melbourne Market has a huge selection of excellent produce. Buy a block of artisanal cheese from K-SEIN Fromagerie, olives and serrano ham from Spanish deli La Central, oysters from Gem Pier Seafood and sourdough from Cobb Lane Bakery and you've made yourself a feast – no cooking required. Another great spot for exploring is **Prahran Market**. Sure, you can stock up on tasty deli items and produce, but be sure to stop by Market Lane Coffee and Maker & Monger, for incredible cheese toasties, and fuel up for a shopping blitz on Chapel Street.

+ southmelbournemarket.com.au
+ prahranmarket.com.au

Northern Gems

Each weekend, the **Rose Street Market** features stalls laden with all the things you'll want to take home with you. A piece of art, some new earrings and carefully crafted homewares are all on offer, and if you can't find exactly what you want, speak to a maker and commission something special. There's a real community spirit on show at **Preston Market**. There's all sorts of fresh fruit and vegetables, meat and fish, cheese, bread and more at the stalls, but there's also incredible street food from all around the world. Try PAM Lane for local makers, coffee roasters and artists.

+ roosestmarket.com.au
+ prestonmarket.com.au

Finders Keepers

Every Sunday, the waterfront is taken over by stalls for the **St Kilda Esplanade Market**. Since 1970, it has been serving up high-quality creations by some of Melbourne's best artists and craftspeople. If you're looking for innovative fashion, a unique gift or handmade candles and soaps, you'll find it all here. Arrive early at **Camberwell Sunday Market** to find a treasure among the stalls of old records, vintage fashions and other ephemera, much of it from another era.

+ stkildaesplanademarket.com.au
+ camberwellsundaymarket.org

Head to the PTV website, or download the app, to plan your trip to any of Melbourne's amazing markets.
+ ptv.vic.gov.au

Plan your journey
+ ptv.vic.gov.au



Get Away to Hume

Just 25 kilometres north of the
centre of Melbourne is Hume City,
the ideal destination for a break
from the hustle and bustle.



Arundel Farm Estate

A Little Taste

Hume City is home to the closest wineries to the city centre, so plan a tasting to go with your retreat. Overlooking the Macedon Ranges, **Marnong Estate**, at Mickleham is the perfect place to raise a glass. Shiraz, chardonnay, pinot gris and pinot noir vines have been joined by several Italian varietals, including fiano, monetpulsiano and sangiovese. Its new restaurant La Vèta is the perfect spot to indulge in fine Italian cuisine, prepared using traditional techniques combined with modern flavours.

Surrounded by Keilor Valley farmland is **Arundel Farm Estate**. From Friday to Sunday, taste shiraz, viognier, marsanne and sauvignon blanc at the cellar door. The restaurant serves Italian-inspired fare matched to your favourite drops.

Fun Times

If you've ever wanted to try hanging 10, head to Tullamarine and **URBNSURF**, Australia's first surf park. There are different wave settings and experiences to suit all abilities. When you're done, stop for a bite to eat at Three Blue Ducks and enjoy the spectacular lagoon views.

Meet equine royalty at **Living Legends**, where the residents are some of the world's champion racehorses. Take a tour of this Greenvale property, meet Melbourne cup winners and enjoy high tea in the historic homestead.

During your stay in Hume City, be sure to explore the charming markets at Sunbury, Bulla and Marnong Estate.

Stay a While

Relax for more than a day when you stay overnight at one of the accommodation options in the area. On its 16-hectare winery and working farm, complete with roaming cattle and alpacas, **Marnong Estate** has a number of luxurious cabins. Sleek, contemporary interiors are a feature of the spacious rooms at **Mantra Tullamarine**. There's also a heated indoor pool and on-site dining at Woodlands Restaurant & Bar. **Quest Melbourne Airport** has apartments ranging in size from studios to three bedrooms, each with plenty of space to stay and play.

For more inspiration on things to do, places to see and foods to eat, follow Hume City's Instagram page. + [instagram.com/discoverhume](https://www.instagram.com/discoverhume)



URBNSURF Ed Sloane



Marnong Estate

Jailhouse Shock

Pentridge Prison Tours Brent Lukey

The doors of a notorious Melbourne prison are once again open, leading visitors on tours of history and horror.

It locked up its first criminals in 1851 and held some of Victoria's most dangerous until 1997. Now, parts of Pentridge Prison are reopening, but no one's getting locked up for life anymore.

The National Trust of Victoria and local company Art Processors have created an immersive experience that takes visitors into the prison's dark past. Hear accounts of those who were incarcerated and witness the grim details of what went on behind the bluestone walls.

To cater to a broad audience, several tours are on offer. Visit B Division to

discover the prison's history and the evolution of justice in Australia. If you want to hear stories of some of the most brutal aspects of Pentridge, sign up to explore H Division, also known as Hell Division.

The confronting history of this former lock-up has long been hidden, but the grim details have now been revealed for everyone to witness. When you're done, head to another part of Pentridge redevelopment to visit the recently opened craft beer brewery BrewDog for a more relaxed vibe.

+ pentridgeprisonstours.com.au
+ brewdog.com

In the Air

For 30 years, one company has been getting people high over Melbourne and the Yarra Valley for views they'll never forget.

When Kiff Saunders was younger, he flew in places like China, New Zealand and Nepal. That's where he came up with the name Global Ballooning. Now, it's a company where he and his three children, Paterson, Edward and Scarlett, raise the basket on high-altitude thrills. Together the family has flown in the Himalayas, put up a balloon at the North Pole, and taken Patricia Piccinini's Skywhale on a world tour. Perhaps more importantly though, they've introduced more than 100,000 people to the beauty of hot-air ballooning.



Global Ballooning Australia Tourism Australia

For visitors and locals who want a different perspective on their hometown, the Saunders run dawn balloon flights across Melbourne. Look down at the city as it comes to life, perhaps passing close by the MCG or over some of the inner-city villages like Brunswick and Fitzroy. There's also the opportunity to sail above the lush vineyards and rolling farmland of the Yarra Valley.

The good news is ballooning is now available to everyone. After a motorcycle accident left him incapacitated for more than a year, Kiff developed a way to make ballooning accessible. The result is the award-winning easy access basket – the first and only one of its kind in Australia – that allows everyone to share his family's love of flying. + globalballooning.com.au



WORLD-RENOWNED FASHION, DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT DESTINATION

Chadstone – The Fashion Capital is home to over 500 stores, including 35 luxury boutiques, over 95 of the best local and international dining options, and entertainment for the whole family to enjoy.

Visit chadstone.com.au to learn more.

Travel to Chadstone with the free Chadstone Tourist Shuttle, offering multiple daily trips from Federation Square to Chadstone and return.

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THE FASHION CAPITAL



Marnong Estate

Book the Autumn Escape Package today for just \$370 a couple and spend the night with us.

Included is one night in a Studio Room, a bottle of Marnong Estate Wine and a \$150 dining voucher for use across the estate.

This offer is available until 31 May 2023.

Marnong Estate is right on Melbourne's doorstep, just 35 minutes from the CBD and 15 minutes from the airport.

Book the Autumn Escape today.

**2335 Mickleham Rd, Mickleham
VIC 3064, Australia**

t: 03 9216 3300

w: marnongestate.com.au



Moonlit Sanctuary Wildlife Conservation Park

Melbourne's award-winning wildlife park invites you to visit and get an up-close look at Australia's amazing animals.

Explore our bushland while feeding kangaroos and wallabies, petting friendly koalas and enjoying experiences with colourful birds, dingoes, wombats and many other animals including endangered species. There are animal encounters, keeper presentations and wildlife shows at Moonlit Sanctuary every day.

With more than 60 Australian species on display, and located just 50 minutes from central Melbourne, Moonlit Sanctuary is the ideal place to learn more about the fascinating animals that call Australia home.

Open: Daily, 9:30am to 4:00pm

550 Tyabb-Tooradin Road, Pearcedale

t: 03 5978 7935

w: moonlitsanctuary.com.au

Find us on: f @



Victoria

The map displays the state of Victoria, Australia, with its coastline and major inland areas. Key cities and towns are marked with black squares and labels, including Mildura, Ouyen, Swan Hill, Kerang, Echuca, Shepparton, Yarrawonga, Ruthven, Wangaratta, Benalla, Mansfield, Alexandra, Seymour, Bendigo, St Arnaud, Horsham, Warracknabeal, Maryborough, Castlemaine, The Goldfields, Daylesford, Ballarat, Hamilton, Stawell, Halls Gap, Ararat, Geelong, Torquay, Lorne, Apollo Bay, Port Campbell, Warrnambool, Port Fairy, Portland, Camperdown, Colac, Geelong and The Bellarine, Mornington Peninsula, Phillip Island, Inverloch, Leongatha, Loch, Warragul, Traralgon, and Mansfield. Major highways are shown as red lines, with labels for SUNRAYSIA HWY, WIMMERA HWY, GLENELG HWY, WESTERN FWY, CALDER FWY, NORTHERN HWY, GOULBURN VALLEY FWY, and HUME FWY. National parks and reserves are indicated by green areas and labels, including Murray Sunset National Park, Hattah-Kulkyne National Park, Wyperfeld National Park, Grampians National Park, Alpine National Park, Great Otway National Park, and Wilsons Promontory National Park. The Great Ocean Road is highlighted as a prominent coastal route. The map also shows the location of the Great Ocean Road and the Great Ocean Road National Park.

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For more information within
Victoria, visit the local Visitor
Information Centre.

+ visitvictoria.com/vic



Gippsland

Head for family fun in Gippsland. Make a stop at wildlife and theme park **Gumbuya World**, where there are two new rollercoasters. Take a step back in time when you board the **Rubeena** for a Port of Sale Heritage Cruise to explore the wildlife and wonders of the Gippsland Lakes. You'll get to meet the locals at the **Metung Hotel**, a great spot for a relaxed waterfront lunch, when the pelicans arrive to be fed at midday.
+ visitgippsland.com.au



Plan your journey



Use the free PTV app or visit
the website below to plan your
journey and get travel updates.
+ ptv.vic.gov.au

Time of Your Life

Head out of the city to experience the best of the regions. From the grand sounds of opera by the lake to art exhibitions celebrating Australian greats, you'll find it all.

Drag to Duets

The rainbow flag will fly when pride comes to Daylesford's **ChillOut Festival** (9–13 March). There'll be a concert from Kate Miller-Heidke, appearances by Drag Race Down Under's Art Simone, parties, parades and more. Some of the country's best voices will appear in East Gippsland for **Opera by the Lakes** (19 March).

At the **Wimmera Steampunk Festival** (21–23 April), Dimboola transforms into a fantastical Victorian-era setting. Explore the world of a cherished Australian artist at Geelong Gallery's **Clarice Beckett – Atmosphere** (from 1 April).

+ chilloutfestival.com.au

+ gippslandopera.org.au

+ [instagram.com/
wimmerasteampunkfestival](https://www.instagram.com/wimmerasteampunkfestival)

+ geelonggallery.org.au

Tasty Days

Jump aboard shuttle buses to sample the wines at more than 17 cellar doors during **Tastes of Rutherglen** (11–12 March). Connect with the winemakers, take part in masterclasses and more. Spice things up at the Yarra Valley's **Herb and Chilli Festival** (18–19 March). There'll be music, kids' activities, market stalls, food and Hot Sauce Alley. Pack up the family and head to Beechworth for **The High Country Hop** (25 March). This open-air festival will be showcasing the country's finest brewers with a diverse music line-up.

+ explorerutherglen.com.au

+ herbchillifestival.com.au

+ thehighcountryhop.com.au



ChillOut Festival Michelle Donnelly



Bendigo Easter Festival

Island Flavour

Check out the best of local produce grown and made around Phillip Island and the Gippsland region when you visit the **Churchill Island Farmers' Market**, held on the first Saturday of each month. Explore Churchill Island Heritage Farm then choose the best seasonal produce, from seafood to honey, for a picnic lunch.

+ visitbasscoast.com.au

Farm Fresh

Given its reputation as having some of the best local produce in Victoria, it's not surprising farmers' markets pop up across the Mornington Peninsula each weekend. At **Red Hill Market**, you'll find more than 300 stalls, while it's all about home-grown, homemade and home-baked at **Mornington Racecourse Market**. If art and craft is more your style, try **Point Nepean Portsea Market**.

+ visitmorningtonpeninsula.org

Bendigo Boom

Get ready for family fun, including a huge egg hunt, at the **Bendigo Easter Festival** (7–10 April). Enjoy parades, a celebration of Chinese heritage, live music and much more over the weekend. Discover the gold rush-era skills that were needed to mine and survive in those days at the **Lost Trades Fair** (11–12 March). An exciting production is coming to Ulumbarra Theatre, with Melbourne Opera performing Wagner's epic **Ring Cycle** (24 March – 30 April).

+ bendigoeasterfestival.org.au

+ losttradesfair.com.au

+ bendigoringcycle.com.au

Colour Your World

We're not the only ones who feel the cool change. Here's where to see Victoria's deciduous trees turning autumnal shades of red, orange and gold.



Walhalla Rob Blackburn

Golden Years

Historic Walhalla, which has barely changed in more than a century, is one of the prettiest towns in the Gippsland region. It's set in a deep valley, surrounded by rugged hills, and it only gets better with this change of season. While the days are still warm and bright, the trees that hang over the bandstand and line the main street turn burgundy and gold. When you're there, ride the historical **Walhalla Goldfields Railway** or tour the **Long Tunnel Extended Gold Mine**, which helped prospectors pull 50 tonnes of the precious metal from Cohen's Reef in the 1860s.

+ visitwalhalla.com

Seaside Special

Take a stroll along the picturesque waterfront and enjoy everything that Eastern Beach has to offer before heading towards **Geelong Botanic Gardens**, a peaceful spot to enjoy the heritage flora. Spread across 80 hectares, the gardens offer a stunning variety of themed gardens and lawns. There are many majestic mature trees, most of which sport a full array of glorious colours at this time of year. Bring a picnic and make the most of a day by the waterfront.

+ visitgeelongbellarine.com.au

Autumn Oaks

The gates to **Castlemaine Botanical Gardens** opened in 1860, making this one of the oldest regional botanical gardens in Victoria. While there are many indigenous flora species throughout the garden, you'll also find elms and oaks, including an English oak planted in 1863, which have leaves that change colour as the weather cools. For an even brighter display of autumnal hues head to **La Larr Ba Gauwa Park** in Harcourt, home to the dense and postcard-perfect Oak Forest. It's only a few minutes out of town, but it feels otherworldly. Bring your bike to ride along the trails.

+ bendigoregion.com.au



Autumn oak trees in Heathcote Rob Blackburn



Bountiful Ballarat

Ballarat Begonia Festival

Autumn is the season to indulge, discovering the region's seasonal festivals and finest food and drink experiences.

Pour a Glass

Discover the best of the region's bounty at **Wayward Winery**, located in the Pyrenees Ranges, about half an hour from Ballarat. Taste a glass or two in the newly opened cellar door or book a table at the restaurant and enjoy dishes from a grazing menu made using seasonal ingredients, including those from the kitchen garden. Nearby is **Eastern Peake**, where 2018's Gourmet Traveller Young Winemaker of the Year, Owen Latta, produces wines with a philosophy of

minimal intervention. The cellar door is open Tuesday – Saturday offering seated wine tastings served with local artisan produce boards. If you prefer apples to grapes, taste some craft ciders alongside hearty brunch and lunch dishes at **Café Sidra**.

Seasonal Sensations

See a spectacular floral display of hundreds of rare blooms during the **Ballarat Begonia Festival** (11–13 March). Enjoy markets, live music, family activities and roving

entertainment in the Ballarat Botanical Gardens. After the festival, the vibrant floral displays continue at Robert Clark Conservatory until late April. Take a step back in time at the **Ballarat Heritage Festival** (19–28 May), where you can check out vintage car displays, walking tours, theatrical performances and so much more. At the **Pyrenees Unearthed Festival** (22 April), on the banks of the Avoca River, get set for a day of sensational food, wine, local produce, and live entertainment. + visitballarat.com.au

REVEL IN your curious side

Discover what Ballarat is made of.

Capture brick-lined backstreets on film. Go full Picasso with a glass of wine in hand. Explore a new series of creative experiences led by local makers or learn alongside artisans at the new Australian Centre for Rare Arts & Forgotten Trades.

After all, the best weekends aren't made of moments spent at home; they're *Made of Ballarat*.

Craft your own adventure at madeofballarat.com

**MADE
OF:
BALLARAT**



Taste of the Regions

Autumn sees a whole new crop of seasonal produce appear on menus across Victoria. Here is where to sample some of the finest.

Ballarat Bound

A seat at his tiny **underbar** was always one of the hottest tickets in town, and that's not going to change now that chef Derek Boath has moved his restaurant to the newly opened Hotel Vera. The exquisite tasting menu, which changes regularly, relies heavily on the region's farmers and growers. Victoria's best produce is given an Asian twist at **Mr Jones**, where chef Damien Jones serves a Thai fine-dining banquet. Head out of town to Buninyong and **The Shared Table**. Chef Dianne Ray creates a menu blending the best of Northern Europe and Asia using what is fresh, available and at its peak.

+ visitballarat.com.au

Vintage Vibes

It's harvest time, or what the wine industry calls 'vintage'. You can be a part of that at **Shiraz Republic** in Cornella, where Stomping Parties are held during March. Pick, stomp and crush the grapes then celebrate with pizza, drinks and live music. This entire area around Bendigo became a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy in 2019, with its producers, growers and restaurants serving up the state's finest. Swing by the **Little Red Apple** in Harcourt to pick up apple cider, pear cider, cider vinegars and juice.

On the second Saturday of each month, just a 10 minute walk from Bendigo Station, **Bendigo Community Farmers Market** features the best seasonal produce, as well as freshly baked bread, cheese, eggs and more.
+ bendigogastronomy.com.au
+ bendigoregion.com.au

Apple Days

When the Gurnett family emigrated from Somerset in 2001, they settled in Gippsland's Fish Creek. Here, they planted acres of wild and heritage apple trees to see which ones were

suitable for making into the sort of cider they drank back in England. Stop by the cellar door at **Gurneys Cider** and you can taste what they've been bottling. You might find they're serving a collaboration with a local winery or delicious scrumpy that's been made from foraged apples.
+ gurneyscider.com.au



Head to the PTV website, or download the app, to plan your trip to any of Victoria's culinary regions.
+ ptv.vic.gov.au

Plan your journey
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Go the Grampians Way



Follow The Grampians Way touring route linking the towns surrounding the spectacular Grampians(Gariwerd) National Park.

Wickens at Royal Mail Hotel Emily Weaving

This extraordinary landscape was millions of years in the making, with sandstone being more than 415 million years old. Now it offers the best of both worlds: a chance to feed your soul in nature and stave off hunger with gourmet offerings.

Take Your Wine

Some of Victoria's oldest and most respected wineries are located within the Grampians. At Great Western, you have a choice of three local legends: tour heritage-listed underground cellars at Seppelt Wines, book a tasting at Best's Wines and check out the original Nursery Block plantings, or sample award-winning sparkling shiraz from Grampians Estate. Elsewhere in the Grampians, taste

the offerings of dozens of wineries, from the stunning Mount Langi Ghiran to the respected Pomonal Estate, and from Clayfield Wines to the spectacular mountain backdrop of Fallen Giants. Discover the best of the region when the Grampians Great Escape (5-7 May) arrives in Halls Gap.

Gourmet Genius

It's long been a destination dining experience, so every trip should include a stop at Wickens at Royal Mail Hotel, where chef Robin Wickens creates degustation menus utilising produce from the hotel's kitchen garden. And it's not only grapes growing in the region, visit Grampians Olive Co to learn about the process of creating oil from the tree.

Natural High

For hikers, there are many trails to explore in the National Park, but one of the best takes you to the top of Duwul (Mount William). It's two kilometres long with a steep climb ending at the highest point in the Grampians, offering 360-degree views of mountain ranges and open plains. For those who prefer water, there are numerous nearby lakes. Bring your kayak and go paddling along the meandering arms of Rocklands Reservoir, located in woodland north of Hamilton. + visitgrampians.com.au

ACROSS, AROUND, UP OR DOWN **WHICHEVER WAY** YOU WANT TO GO



Once you start, there's no telling where your Grampians road trip may take you. From awe-inspiring peaks and lookouts to award-winning wineries and artisan eateries, a breathtaking getaway is just up the road. All you need is a free spirit.

THE
Grampians
Way

Swing by, we'd love to see you. www.visitgrampians.com.au





Grampians Peaks Trail Ben Savage

Step It Up

Make the most of the cooler days by hitting the trails and exploring the state on foot. From gentle strolls to scenic hikes, you'll find a walk to suit.

Ocean Tracks

The Great Ocean Walk covers 110 kilometres of the most stunning coastline in the country. But there's no need to commit to a full eight days of hiking, since you can tackle short sections of the trail in just a few hours to discover some of this rugged region's best kept secrets. Near Gellibrand Lower, head down the stairs to Wreck Beach to find the anchors of the *Marie Gabrielle* and *Fiji*. There are waterfalls, too. In the Great Otway National Park, near Lorne, follow the gentle trails to *Won Wondah Falls* and *Henderson Falls*. After your walk, have lunch at Lorne's Salty Dog Fish & Chippery.

+ visitgreatoceanroad.org.au

Mountain Magic

Hit one of the highlights of the Grampians region, **Pinnacle Lookout**. Set out from Sundial car park and



The Great Ocean Walk Belinda VanZanen

follow the uphill trail – you'll need sturdy shoes because it's rocky – to arrive at one of the best spots in the region for scenic views over western Victoria. The Pinnacle is above Halls Gap, where there's plenty of accommodation and dining options. Try Paper Scissors Rock Brew Co for craft beers and a short menu of brew-friendly bites. Closer to Dunkeld, take the trail to **Mount Abrupt** for amazing vistas in all directions. Afterwards, Dunkeld's Royal Mail Hotel hosts the casual dining spot Park Street Project.

+ visitgrampians.com.au

Peninsula Perfection

The 35-kilometre **Bellarine Rail Trail** starts in South Geelong, but for walkers, there are plenty of places to jump in. Enjoy some of the lush landscape and excellent places to stop for coffee, lunch or a glass of local wine. Start near Point Lonsdale and stroll beside Victoria Lake before heading across the isthmus to Queenscliff. Here, you can visit boutiques and galleries, have lunch on the water at 360Q, or even go on a cruise to see dolphins and seals with Sea All Dolphin Swims.

+ visitgeelongbellarine.com.au



Get Into Geelong

With its unbeatable blend of casual coastal style and urban sophistication, Victoria's second largest city is an unbeatable spot for relaxation and revelling.

Felix Matt Dunne

Big Night Out

The party spills onto the footpath in Little Malop Street, where you'll find Geelong's best after-dark fun. First, feast on tapas at MoVida, slurp on noodles at Sober Ramen or enjoy a refined seafood experience at Felix. Then grab a glass of local wine at Geelong Cellar Door or get your fill of live music at Pistol Pete's.

Back to Nature

Just north of Geelong discover the spectacular You Yangs Regional Park. Climb Flinders Peak and you'll have views of Melbourne

and Geelong. But you don't have to be that adventurous, as following any of the walking trails here will reveal beautiful landscapes and native wildlife, including kangaroos, wallabies and echidnas.

Fun For Everyone

Little kids will love the enchanting wonderland on display at Fairy Park, with its castles, dragons and adventure playgrounds. Take them to the Geelong Waterfront or ride the historical carousel, built in 1892 and now one of only 200 of its kind in operation around the world.

Take It Further

Use Geelong as your starting point for a road trip and head to the Bellarine Peninsula. This stunning region offers the best of everything: fine wine and seasonal produce, pristine beaches and beautiful bushland, and a string of villages – Portarlington, Queenscliff, Barwon Heads and Ocean Grove – each with its own personality.

+ visitgeelongbellarine.com.au

GEELONG AND
THE BELLARINE
**GREATER
> THAN**
SITTING ON THE
COUCH.



📍 AUSTIN'S WINES

From warm days to crisp evenings, you'll fall for autumn in Geelong and The Bellarine.

From the beaches and bays, views and vino to family fun and fresh foodie finds, there's plenty to keep you busy.

Check out visitgeelongbellarine.com.au to make your plan.

GEELONG AND
THE BELLARINE
**GREATER
> THAN**
THE SUM OF
ITS PARTS.

Take It Outside

The weather is perfect during autumn for enjoying the best of Victoria's great outdoors. Here are a few suggestions of where to go and what to do.



Lake Elizabeth, Otways

Wildlife Wonders

It can be chilly in the water, but when you're on a kayak that doesn't matter. Along the Great Ocean Road, try a wildlife adventure with a paddle. Book with the folks at **Apollo Bay Surf & Kayak** for a guided tour to the seal colony at Marengo Marine Sanctuary. You can watch the fur seals sunning themselves on the rocks, while some will come into the water and play around the kayaks. Lake Elizabeth in the Great Otway National Park is home to shy platypuses, but the crew at **Otway Eco Tours** will show you the best way to see them in their natural surroundings. Hint: It involves a dawn start.

+ visitgreatoceanroad.org.au

By the Lake

See **Lake Wendouree** in a different light, and discover the magic of the turning leaves in its vicinity, when you cycle the lake's shoreline. Don't worry if you haven't got your own set of wheels, you can hire an e-bike opposite Ballarat Station, where the trail begins. It's a 10-kilometre return pedal, with six of those taking you in a loop around the lake. Take your time, explore the adjacent **Ballarat Botanical Gardens** or do an added lap of Victoria Park – in both locations you'll discover more autumnal hues – and stop for a coffee or lunch at Pipers by the Lake, which is right on the water.

+ visitballarat.com.au

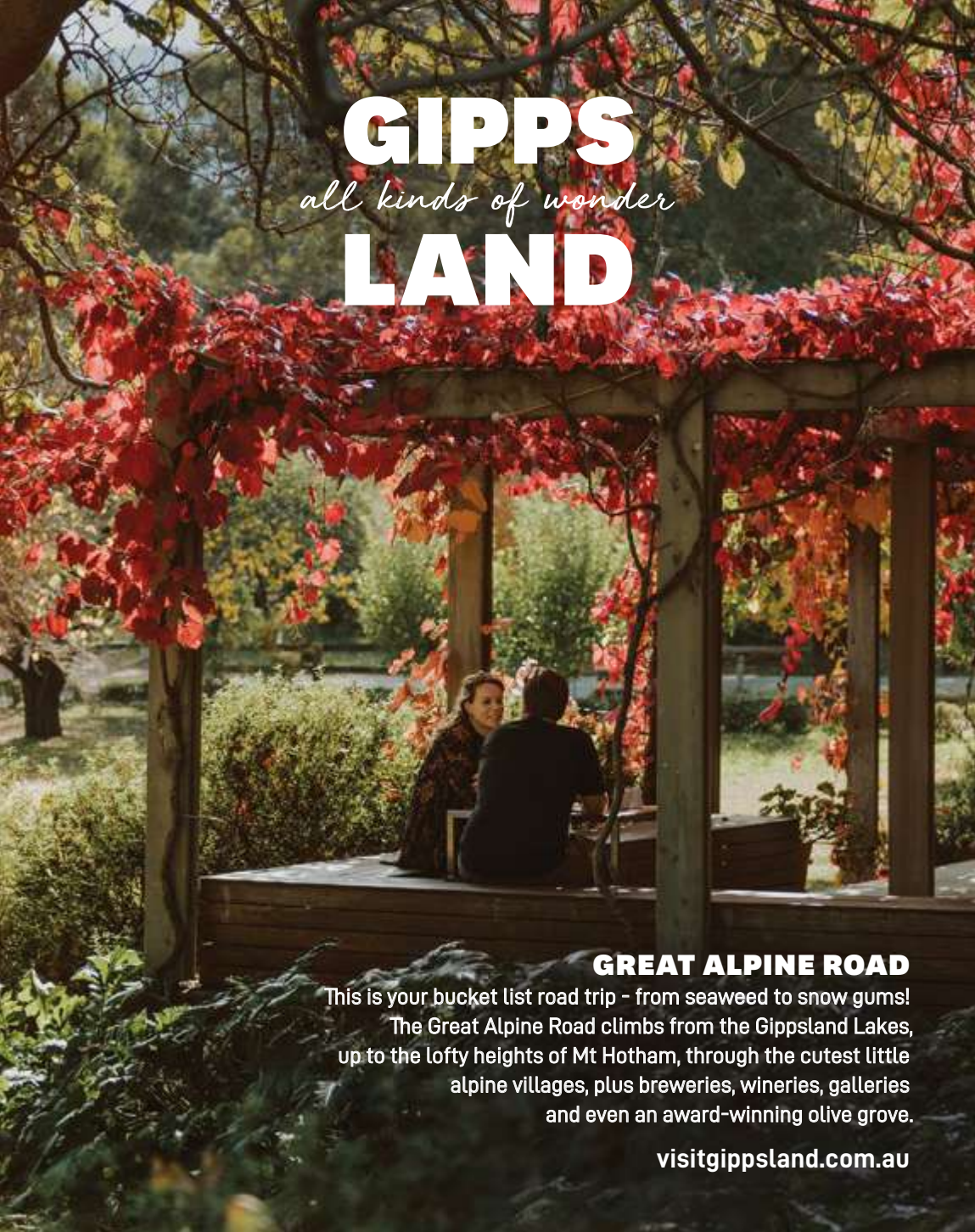
Luxury Awaits

The Grampians is well known as a magnet for hikers and rock climbers, but there are gentler ways to enjoy its splendours. Join **Grampians Wine Tours** to go on a tasting tour of the finest vineyards in the region, including Best's Great Western. Home to some of the oldest vines in Australia, it's renowned for its award-winning shiraz, so leave room in your luggage to take a bottle home. If hiking to a viewpoint sounds, well, hard, book a scenic flight with **Grampians Helicopters** instead. It will give you a true understanding of the vast and rugged beauty of this wild region.

+ visitgrampians.com.au



Lake Wendouree Matt Dunne



GIPPS

all kinds of wonder

LAND

GREAT ALPINE ROAD

This is your bucket list road trip - from seaweed to snow gums!

The Great Alpine Road climbs from the Gippsland Lakes, up to the lofty heights of Mt Hotham, through the cutest little alpine villages, plus breweries, wineries, galleries and even an award-winning olive grove.

visitgippsland.com.au

Gippsland by Car

See the best of the region, from epic mountains to coastal lakes, when you take on one of these incredible road trip itineraries.



Walhalla Nicky Cawood

High on Life

Pack your hiking boots, skis, fishing rod and mountain bikes for a journey you'll never forget along the **Great Alpine Road**. Stretching for more than 300 kilometres from the Gippsland Lakes to Victoria's High Country, this road trip offers grand mountain vistas interspersed with a brewery, winery, olive grove, galleries and honey shop.

Village Voices

Explore lush landscapes and beautiful villages when you travel the **West Gippsland Hinterland Drive**. Be sure to stop at Walhalla, a beautifully

preserved mining town set deep in a valley. Stretch your legs at Mt Baw Baw or Mushroom Rocks, or explore the Noojee Trestle Bridge, Toorong Falls and artistic Neerim South.

Water Views

Be awed by Gippsland's front cover splash on the **Lakes & Coastal Discovery Drive**. The Gippsland Lakes is Australia's largest inland waterway, home to an array of wildlife. Visit Raymond Island's koala colony, followed by a seafood feast in Paynesville. Then SUP, kayak or fish in Lakes Entrance, and soak in the Metung Hot Springs.

Short and Sweet

Embark on the star-studded **Penguins to Prom Drive** between two of Victoria's most loved spots, Phillip Island and Wilsons Promontory. In just a couple of hours, you can enjoy wineries nestled in the Gurdies, stretch your legs on the George Bass Coastal Walk and explore the artistic village of Fish Creek. Be sure to stop at tiny Kilcunda for great food and coastal views.

+ visitgippsland.com.au

Taste for yourself

There's a world of flavour to discover when you take a break this autumn in Shepparton and Goulburn Valley.



The Chocolate Apple Factory

Heavenly Harvest

There'll be music, dancing, traditional Albanian foods, market stalls and more at the **Shepparton Albanian Harvest Festival** (19 March). This lively annual celebration, beneath the shady trees of Queens Gardens, pays homage to the Albanian migrants who played a pivotal role in the establishment of the Goulburn Valley as one of Australia's most important agricultural hubs, feeding and flavouring the nation for decades.

Chocolate Crunch

Discover the best way ever invented to consume your apple a day at **The Chocolate Apple Factory**. Hand-selected, locally grown Pink Lady apples are dipped in creamy caramel before being smothered in chocolate and decorated with a variety of sweets. There's also a vast array of house-made chocolates on sale here. Your only problem will be deciding what to take home with you.

Golden Goodness

Hand-picked on the Pogue family farm in Ardmona, The Good Dirt popcorn on the cob is bursting with flavour and available for purchase online or from the Greater Shepparton Visitor Centre. These fifth-generation farmers nurture their harvest from the ground up, embracing regenerative and sustainable farming practices. Then, using the sun to naturally dry them, the cobs become a healthy and nutritious popcorn snack.

+ sheppandgv.com.au



Phillip Island Nature Parks

Be in awe of nature's true spectacle as you watch Little Penguins waddle home every night at Phillip Island's Penguin Parade. Spot koalas, wallabies and birdlife in their bushland habitat at the Koala Conservation Reserve, and experience the heritage working farm, historical grounds and gardens at Churchill Island. Learn stories of conservation, climate resilience and what lives in the deep, with the interactive and immersive experiences at the Antarctic Journey.

Make the most of your whole day out on Phillip Island and help us protect nature for wildlife by purchasing our best value ticket, the 4 Parks Pass.

Just 90 minutes from Melbourne, Phillip Island Nature Parks is a self-funded organisation. Revenue raised through our attractions is invested in vital research, environment and education programs.

Open: Daily from 10am. Penguins arrive at sunset.

1019 Ventnor Road, Summerlands, Phillip Island

t: 03 5951 2830

w: penguins.org.au

Find us on: [f](#) [@](#) [v](#)

Phillip Island
**NATURE
PARKS**



Ballarat Wildlife Park

With over 100 free-roaming kangaroos, more than 35 koalas, wombats, emus, an exhibit of the world's smallest penguins and the chance to see 'CRUNCH' the Super-Croc, the family-owned Ballarat Wildlife Park is a must-visit destination for nature lovers young and old. You can even see Kai, the Sumatran/Siberian Tiger - in the state-of-the-art sanctuary. Be sure to book your animal encounters upon arrival!

A park for conservation and recreation.

Open Hours: Daily, 9am to 5pm (closed Christmas day)

250 Fussell Street, Ballarat East, Victoria 3350

t: 03 5333 5933

w: wildlifepark.com.au

Find us on: [f](#) [@](#)



Marvellous Murchison

Head towards the Murray region to discover a tiny town with a big heart. From endless rows of vines to fields of flowers, it's a natural beauty.

Discover More

The Goulburn River winds a path through this small village, made famous in 1969 when a meteorite fell on the town. The township of Murchison was established in 1838, making it the oldest European settlement in the lower Goulburn Valley. Get to grips with the region's past during a visit to the **Murchison Heritage Centre**, where records relating to the town and the areas that surround it are preserved and presented.

+ murchisonhistoricalsociety.wordpress.com

Everyone's Welcome

Enjoy warm country hospitality at some of the town's most popular venues. At **Longleat Wines**, Sandra and Guido Vazzoler summon the spirit of Italy when they welcome

guests to their vineyard. The focus on Italian varietals in the winery means it's only natural that antipasti, handmade pasta and wood-fired pizza come out of the kitchen. Settle in for a long lunch with views of the vines or the fabulous ceramic mural called **Zingara** by local artist Angie Russi.

With a history of providing great hospitality dating back to the late 1800s, the Golding family of Paul (Goldie), Emilia and Mitch has now brought the **Railway Hotel Murchison East** into the twenty-first century. More than just a top spot to stop and enjoy a drink and a meal, the pub now regularly draws in big crowds for its live music nights.

+ murchisonwines.com.au
+ railwaymurch.com.au

Blooming Lovely

There's nothing quite like a bunch of freshly picked flowers to brighten up your day and no one knows that better than David and Julie Wiedenbach. They've grown their business, **Avonlea Flowers**, into the largest cut flower operation in Australia. Stop at their farm gate shop to pick your own bouquet, whether you fancy bountiful bunches of lisianthus or beautifully perfumed snapdragons.

+ avonleaflowers.com.au



Murchison Bridge Rob Blackburn



Sandra and Guido Vazzoler Shae Drew

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Why wait until you've reached your destination before you start indulging in new and exciting cuisines? Our terminals are jam-packed with the finest restaurants, cafés and shops, so you can experience the best of Melbourne before you hit the skies.



BIGGIE SMALLS, T3

ELEVATED DINING EXPERIENCES

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Biggie Smalls, located after security T3

TALKING TALL ORDERS WITH AUSTRALIA'S BARISTA CHAMPION

After winning the Australian title for best barista in August of this year, Axil Coffee Roasters' own Anthony Douglas went on to claim the crown at the World Barista Championship in October. In between dishing up unbelievable brews at Axil Coffee Roasters located in Terminal 2, you'll find Anthony relaxing with his favourite and ever-evolving Axil seasonal blend.



AXIL, T2

Axil, located before security T2

A sweet moment with Terminal 2's new *dessert bar*

Handcrafted with love by Masterchef's Christy Tania, Glacé is home to whimsical desserts that look like they've been plucked from a fairytale. Offering bespoke ice cream flavours, rich cakes, flavoursome teas and irresistible desserts, a visit here will sweeten any airport visit.

Glacé, located before security T2



GLACÉ T2

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Brunetti, located after security T2 T4



BRUNETTI T2 & T4



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Melbourne City
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Library at
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APY Gallery

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Collins
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South Wharf
Promenade

WTC Wharf

Rebecca Walk

Batman Park

Yarra Promenade

Queens Square

Boyd Community Hub

Southbank Library

To St Kilda

To Toorak

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p 125

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