

Melbourne

Victoria · Australia

TRAVEL GUIDE

Tripomatic



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Overview

Melbourne is widely seen as Australia's cultural capital. It sits on a grid of wide boulevards lined with narrow laneways. Those laneways hide some of the country's best coffee, street art, and small bars. Gold-rush wealth from the 1850s left the city with grand Victorian architecture. Decades of immigration since then gave it one of Australia's most varied food scenes.

The city is passionate about sport. Melburnians fill stadiums for Australian Rules football, cricket, and tennis with equal enthusiasm. The yearly calendar revolves around major sporting and cultural events. Melbourne suits travelers who like to explore on foot and follow their curiosity down side streets. It rewards lingering over long meals rather than racing between sights.

When to visit

Spring (September to November) and autumn (March to May) bring mild, pleasant weather and are the most comfortable times to visit. Summer (December to February) is warm and sometimes very hot, with temperatures that can swing sharply within a single day, so pack layers no matter the season. Winter (June to August) is cool and grey rather than cold.

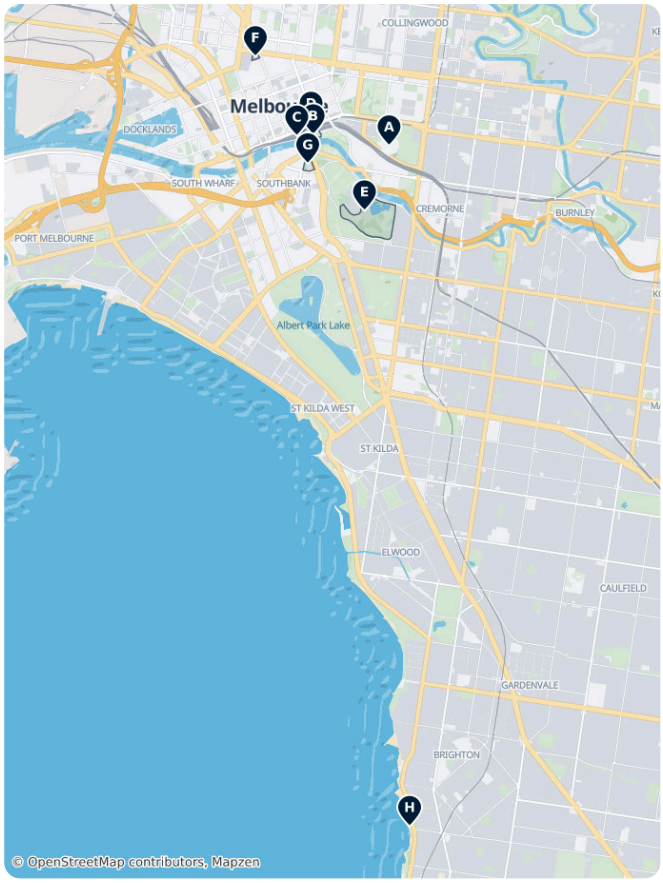
The city's biggest annual draw is the Australian Open, held at Melbourne Park every January. The world's best tennis players compete there for two weeks, drawing huge crowds.

MONTH	CONDITIONS	DAY °C avg / max	NIGHT °C avg / min	
January	Great Great for sightseeing	26° / 36°	15° / 12°	UV 10 (Very high)
February	Great Great for sightseeing	26° / 35°	15° / 12°	UV 9 (Very high)
March	Great Great for sightseeing	24° / 32°	15° / 11°	Dry air
April	Great Great for sightseeing	20° / 26°	12° / 9°	Dry air
May	Good Good for cycling	17° / 21° Feels like 14°	10° / 7°	Dry air
June	Good Good for cycling	14° / 17° Feels like 10°	8° / 5°	13 rainy days · Dry air
July	Fair Fair for cycling	13° / 16° Feels like 9°	7° / 4°	14 rainy days · Dry air
August	Fair Fair for cycling	14° / 18° Feels like 10°	7° / 5°	14 rainy days · Dry air
September	Good Good for cycling	16° / 21° Feels like 12°	8° / 6°	12 rainy days · Dry air
October	Good Good for cycling	19° / 26° Feels like 15°	10° / 7°	Dry air
November	Great Great for sightseeing	21° / 30°	12° / 9°	Dry air
December	Great Great for sightseeing	24° / 33°	13° / 10°	Dry air · UV 10 (Very high)

Best months: January, February, March, April, November, December

Climate data: NASA POWER (MERRA-2) · 1996–2025

Top sights



A Melbourne Cricket Ground is Australia's largest sports stadium, hosting cricket Test matches and Australian Rules football finals in front of crowds of over 100,000. Even outside match days, a tour of the stadium and its sports museum is worth the trip.

B Federation Square is Melbourne's main public square, a plaza of angular buildings built over the old rail yards that hosts free exhibitions, screenings, and public events year-round.

C Flinders Street Railway Station, with its distinctive facade and clocks, is the city's best-known meeting point and one of the busiest train stations in the country.

D Hosier Lane is the most famous of Melbourne's laneways covered in ever-changing street art, and a good introduction to the city's laneway culture.

E Royal Botanic Gardens spreads out beside the Yarra River, with a tropical glasshouse and paths that make for an easy escape from the city grid.

F Queen Victoria Market is the largest open-air market in the Southern Hemisphere, worth a visit for its produce halls and covered lanes of stalls.

G National Gallery of Victoria (NGV International) holds Australia's oldest and most visited art collection, split between its original building on St Kilda Road and the Australian collection at Federation Square.

H Brighton Bathing Boxes is a row of brightly painted Victorian-era bathing huts on Brighton's beach, one of the most photographed sights on Port Phillip Bay.

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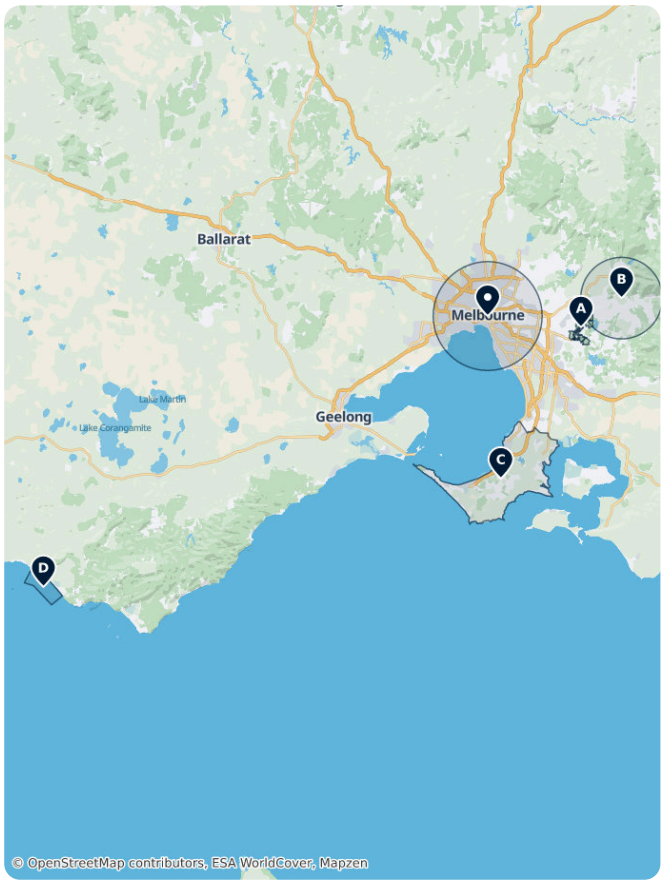
Scan to download the app

What to experience

- Ride the free City Circle tram loop around the CBD — a slow, easy way to get oriented on your first day.
- Catch a match at Melbourne Cricket Ground, or in January, watch a session of the Australian Open at Rod Laver Arena.
- Take in sunset from The Edge, the glass cube that slides out of the tower at Melbourne Skydeck.
- Wander the smaller laneways around the centre for coffee and rotating street art beyond Hosier Lane.
- Stroll St Kilda's foreshore at sunset, past Luna Park and the little penguin colony that nests under the pier breakwater.

Day trips

Melbourne sits within reach of mountain ranges, wine country, and one of the world's best-known coastal drives. All of these are easiest by car, though train and organized bus options exist for most.



- A Dandenong Ranges National Park — around 1 hour by car or train: cool eucalypt forests and gardens; ride the historic Puffing Billy steam train through the hills.
- B Yarra Valley — around 1 to 1.5 hours by car: Victoria's best-known wine region, with cellar doors and the Healesville Sanctuary for native wildlife.
- C Mornington Peninsula — around 1.5 hours by car: beaches, vineyards, and natural hot springs at the tip of the peninsula.
- Phillip Island — around 2 hours by car or bus: home to the nightly Penguin Parade, where little penguins come ashore at dusk.
- Great Ocean Road and D Twelve Apostles Marine National Park — around 2.5 to 3 hours by car to reach the limestone stacks, or a full-day guided tour: one of Australia's most scenic coastal drives.

Getting there

- By air: Melbourne Airport (Tullamarine) is the main international and domestic gateway, about 23 km northwest of the centre. The SkyBus express runs to Southern Cross Station in the CBD in around 20 to 30 minutes; taxis and ride-hailing take a similar time in light traffic. Avalon Airport, further southwest, handles a smaller number of budget domestic flights.
- By train: Southern Cross Station is Melbourne's main rail hub, with regional V/Line services across Victoria and the interstate XPT service to Sydney.
- By bus: Long-distance coaches to other Australian cities and regional Victoria also depart from Southern Cross Station.

Getting around

- Public transit: Trams, trains, and buses run on the myki smart card system — tap on and off at readers, and buy or top up a myki at station machines or 7-Eleven stores. The central city sits within a Free Tram Zone, so short hops around downtown cost nothing.
- Taxi / ride-hailing: Uber and other ride-hailing apps operate alongside regular taxis.
- On foot / cycling: The city centre is flat and compact, easy to cover on foot, and the grid of laneways rewards wandering. Dedicated bike lanes cover much of the inner city, though trams share many of the same streets.

Getting around on foot & by bike

WALKABILITY

High

The city centre is flat, compact, and easy to explore on foot, with a free tram loop covering the wider CBD.

CYCLING INFRASTRUCTURE

Moderate

Bike lanes cover much of the inner city, though cyclists share many streets with trams.

Driving

- Car needed?: Not for the city itself — trams and trains cover the centre well and parking is expensive. A car becomes useful for day trips into Yarra Valley, Dandenong Ranges National Park, or along the Great Ocean Road, where public transport options are limited or slow.
- Parking: Metered street parking and multi-level car parks are common in the CBD; rates are highest on weekdays and drop sharply on weekends.
- Driving side: Australia drives on the left.

Food & drink

Melbourne is widely regarded as Australia's food and coffee capital. Generations of immigration shaped its kitchens — Italian, Greek, Vietnamese, and Chinese communities have all left a lasting mark. A flat white or long black from a laneway café is close to a local ritual.

For produce and street food stalls, head to Queen Victoria Market. For Melbourne's long-standing Italian dining strip, try Lygon Street in Carlton. Chinatown, on Little Bourke Street, is one of the oldest Chinatowns in the Western world and still packed with restaurants.

What to eat & drink

BREAKFAST

Vegemite on Toast · Vegemite
A salty, savory yeast-extract spread eaten in a thin layer on buttered toast — a genuine national quirk best tried sparingly.

LUNCH

Meat Pie
A hand-held pastry filled with minced meat and gravy, sold everywhere from bakeries to servos and football matches.

Fish and Chips
Battered fish and fried potato chips, often eaten at the beach wrapped in paper.

DINNER

Barbecue (Barbie) · Barbie
Grilled sausages, steak, and seafood cooked outdoors — a common way Australians socialize with friends and family.

SNACKS & STREET FOOD

Sausage Roll
Minced sausage meat wrapped in flaky pastry, a classic bakery and school-canteen staple.

SWEETS & DESSERTS

Lamington
A sponge cake cube coated in chocolate icing and desiccated coconut.

Tim Tam
A chocolate-coated biscuit with a chocolate cream filling, a beloved everyday treat.

DRINKS

Flat White
A espresso-based coffee with steamed milk and a thin layer of microfoam, an Australian (and New Zealand) coffee-culture staple.

Schooner of Beer · Schooner
A 425ml beer serving size, the standard pub order alongside the smaller 285ml middy/pot.

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Safety & health

Melbourne is a safe city for travelers by international standards. The most common issues are petty theft and bag-snatching around nightlife strips late at night, and drink spiking has been reported at some bars — watch your drink at all times.

Australia's UV levels are much higher than most travelers expect, even on cool or overcast days. Wear sunscreen and a hat, especially in summer, to avoid sunburn.

History

Melbourne sits on the traditional land of the Wurundjeri and Boon Wurrung peoples of the Kulin Nation. They lived along the Yarra River for tens of thousands of years before European settlement in 1835.

The Victorian gold rush of the 1850s transformed the town almost overnight. Melbourne became one of the wealthiest cities in the world, a period locals still call "Marvellous Melbourne." Much of the grand architecture visible today dates from this boom, including the domed Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens, built for the 1880 International Exhibition and now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Parliament House was completed in 1856. It has served as the seat of Victoria's parliament for most of the time since. The exception was 1901 to 1927, when it briefly became the temporary home of Australia's federal parliament.

Shrine of Remembrance was built between the World Wars to honor Australians who died in service, and remains the focus of the city's Anzac Day commemorations each April.

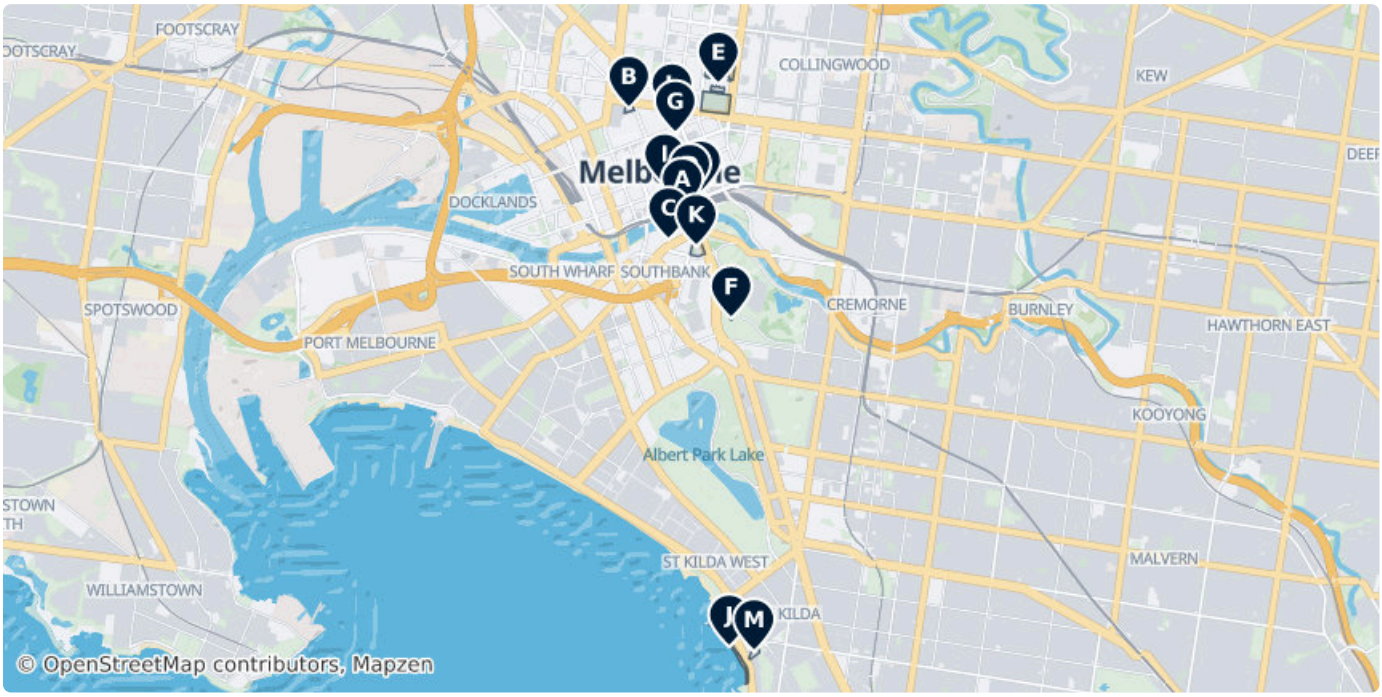
Country facts

Quick practical facts for Australia at a glance:

CURRENCY	EMERGENCY	ELECTRICITY	TAP WATER
AUD A$	**000**	Type I 230 V · 50 Hz	**Safe to drink**

Melbourne Must-Sees

Melbourne's urban landscape balances Victorian heritage with modern culture. This selection features the 19th-century architecture of Flinders Street Station and the UNESCO-listed Royal Exhibition Building. Experience the city's scale from the 88th-floor Melbourne Skydeck or explore the Southern Hemisphere's largest open-air market at Queen Victoria Market. Cultural landmarks include the State Library of Victoria and the National Gallery of Victoria, while Hosier Lane showcases world-renowned street art. The list extends to the seaside charm of St Kilda Beach and the historic Luna Park, alongside the solemn Shrine of Remembrance.





Ⓐ Flinders Street Railway Station

While this train station is not necessarily an attraction, it is a very important place for both tourists and locals.

217 Flinders St, Melbourne VIC 3000, Australia
(-37.81842, 144.96648)

Mo–Su	Open 24/7

ptv.vic.gov.au, +61396107476



Ⓑ Queen Victoria Market

This market is one of Melbourne's most well-known landmarks as well as the largest open-air market in the Southern Hemisphere.

513 Elizabeth St, Melbourne VIC 3000, Australia
(-37.80689, 144.95888)

Tu–Th	06:00–14:00
Fr	06:00–17:00
Sa	06:00–15:00
Su	09:00–16:00

qvm.com.au, +61 3 9320 5822



C Melbourne Skydeck

When you visit this observation deck, located on the 88th floor of the Eureka Tower, you are 285 meters high, looking down from the highest...

7 Riverside Quay, Southbank VIC 3006, Australia
(-37.82169, 144.96453)

Mo–Su 12:00–21:00

eurekaskydeck.com.au, +61 3 9693 8888



D Saint Paul's Cathedral

Recently having celebrated the 125th anniversary of its consecration, the St.

Flinders Ln & Swanston St, Melbourne VIC 3000, Australia
(-37.81680, 144.96758)

Mo–Sa 12:00, 13:00–18:00
Su 14:30–17:30

stpaulscathedral.org.au, +61 3 96534333



E Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens

The exhibition complex was designed for the 1880 Fair and it is listed by UNESCO as a smashing example of 19th century exhibition buildings.

Rathdowne St, Carlton VIC 3053, Australia
(-37.80416, 144.97163)

museumvictoria.com.au/reb/, +613 8341 7777



F Shrine of Remembrance

This solemn structure is a memorial to all Australian men and women who fell to death during the wars.

100 Birdwood Ave, Melbourne VIC 3004, Australia
(-37.83053, 144.97345)

Mo–Su 10:00–17:00

shrine.org.au, +61 3 9661 8100



G State Library of Victoria

This library is a cultural icon of the city built in the 19th century in a showy style.

328 Swanston St, Melbourne VIC 3000, Australia
(-37.80970, 144.96550)

Mo–Th	10:00–21:00
Fr–Su	10:00–18:00

slv.vic.gov.au, +61 3 8664 7000



H Hosier Lane

This narrow pedestrian street is popular for the ever-changing graffiti and other forms of urban art it bears.

Hosier Lane, Melbourne VIC 3000, Australia
(-37.81642, 144.96909)

Mo–Su	Open 24/7



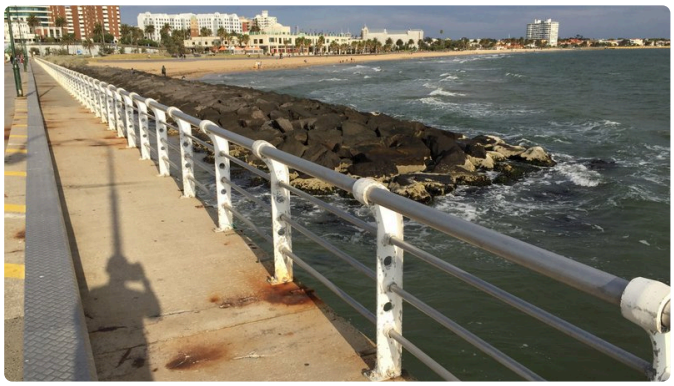
I Block Arcade

Historically the very first shopping arcade in the city.

Collins Street 282, 3000 (-37.81563, 144.96396)

Mo–Th	08:00–18:00
Fr	08:00–20:00
Sa	08:00–17:00
Su	09:00–17:00

theblock.com.au, +61 3 9654 5244



J St Kilda Beach

Melbourne's legendary and usually the most packed beach, lined with markets, cafés and bars.

(Unnamed Road), Melbourne 3182, Australia
(-37.86746, 144.97319)



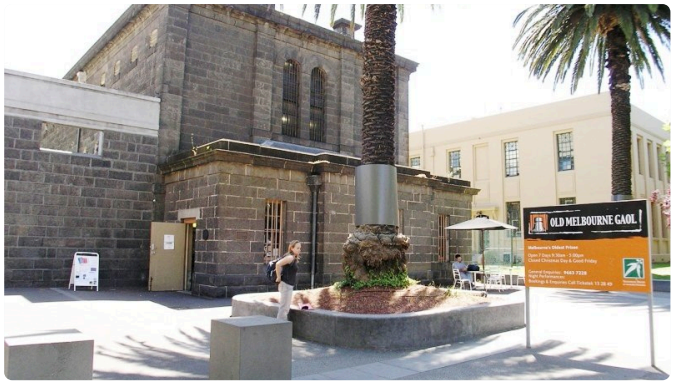
K National Gallery of Victoria (NGV International)

The National Gallery of Victoria, popularly known as the NGV, is an art museum in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.

St Kilda Road 130-180, 3006, AU (-37.82245, 144.96848)

Mo–Su 10:00–17:00

ngv.vic.gov.au, +61 3 8620 2222



L Old Melbourne Gaol

This former prison was the place where the most dangerous criminals were held and also executed.

Russell Street 377, 3000 (-37.80774, 144.96500)

Mo–Su 09:30–17:00

oldmelbournegaol.com.au, +61 3 8663 7228



M Luna Park

Luna Park Melbourne is a historic amusement park located on the foreshore of Port Phillip Bay in St Kilda, Melbourne, Victoria.

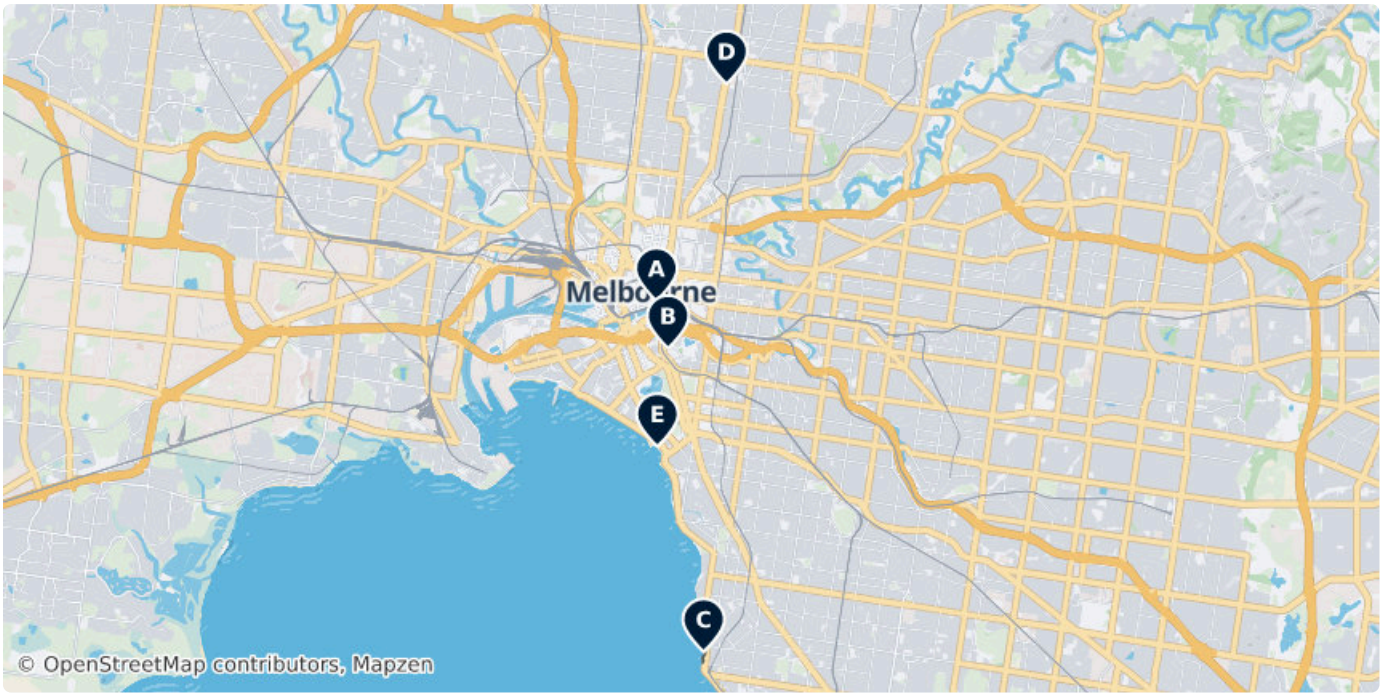
Lower Esplanade 18, 3182 (-37.86798, 144.97671)

Sa–Su 11:00–18:00

lunapark.com.au, +61 3 9525 5033

Editor's Choice

Melbourne's landscape features significant cultural and historical landmarks. Hosier Lane serves as a central hub for urban creativity, showcasing ever-changing street art and graffiti. The Shrine of Remembrance stands as a monumental tribute to Australian military service, while the Northcote Koori Mural reflects the city's Indigenous heritage. Along the coast, Dendy Street Beach is defined by its 82 historic, brightly painted bathing boxes. The Saturn model forms part of a scale representation of the solar system stretching along the Port Phillip Bay foreshore.





A Hosier Lane

This narrow pedestrian street is popular for the ever-changing graffiti and other forms of urban art it bears.

Hosier Lane, Melbourne VIC 3000, Australia
(-37.81642, 144.96909)

Mo–Su Open 24/7



B Shrine of Remembrance

This solemn structure is a memorial to all Australian men and women who fell to death during the wars.

100 Birdwood Ave, Melbourne VIC 3004, Australia
(-37.83053, 144.97345)

Mo–Su 10:00–17:00

shrine.org.au, +61 3 9661 8100



C Dendy Street Beach

Amazing wide beach with fine golden sand gets sometimes crowded but it's worth it. Note the peculiar historical bathing boxes.

133 Esplanade, Melbourne 3186, Australia
(-37.92069, 144.98688)



D Northcote Koori Mural

The Northcote Koori Mural is located in St Georges Road Thornbury, Victoria in the City of Darebin.

(-37.75191, 144.99545)

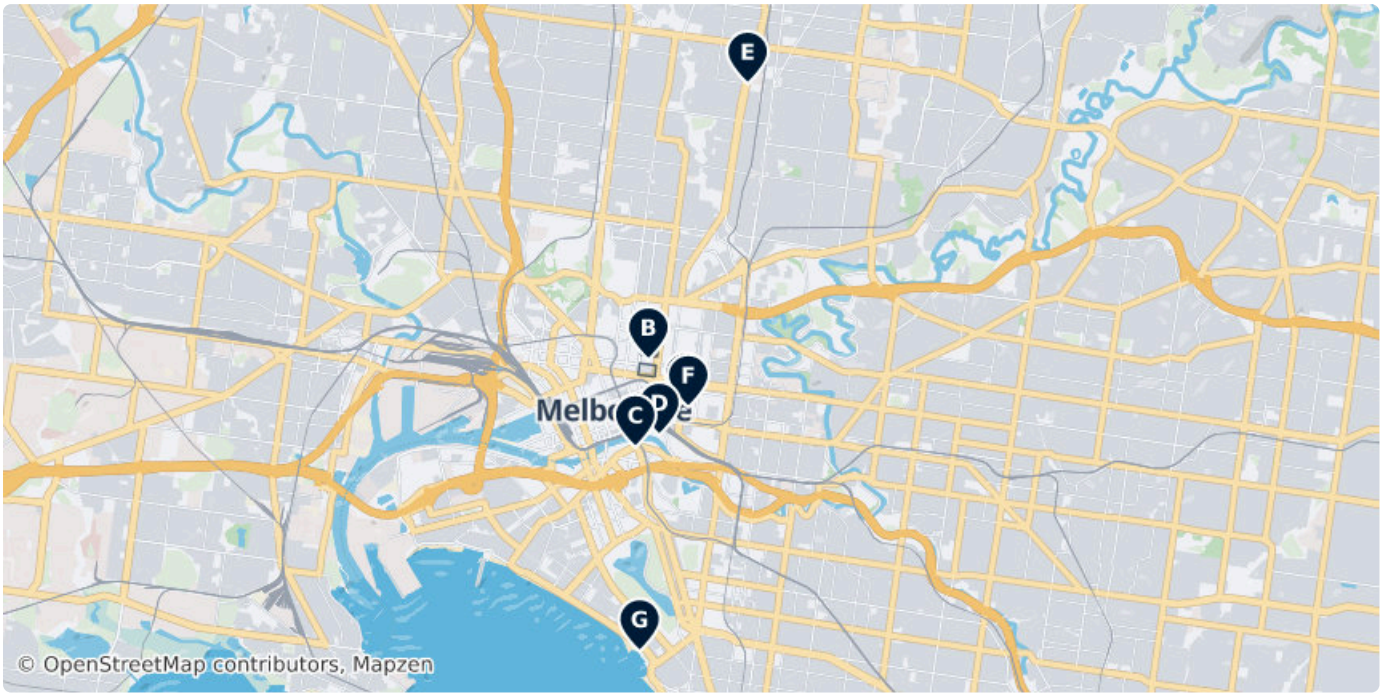
E Saturn

Part of the Melbourne Solar System trail, this 1:1 billion scale model is located on the St Kilda foreshore. It represents the planet and its ring system, positioned at a proportional distance from the Sun model.

Pier Road, Melbourne 3182, Australia
(-37.85975, 144.96942)

Hidden Art & Gardens

Melbourne's urban landscape features Victorian-era gardens alongside contemporary public art and historic monuments. This collection includes the 26-hectare Fitzroy Gardens, home to the carved Fairies Tree, and the UNESCO-listed Carlton Gardens. Artistic highlights range from the 162-meter Arts Centre Spire to the Northcote Koori Mural, which commemorates Indigenous history. Visitors can also experience the auditory installation of the Federation Bells in Birrarung Marr and the Saturn sculpture, part of a scaled solar system model along the bay.





A Fitzroy Gardens

The Fitzroy Gardens are 26 hectares located on the southeastern edge of the Melbourne central business district in East Melbourne, Victoria...

230 Wellington Parade, East Melbourne VIC 3002, Australia
(-37.81296, 144.98046)

Mo–Su Open 24/7

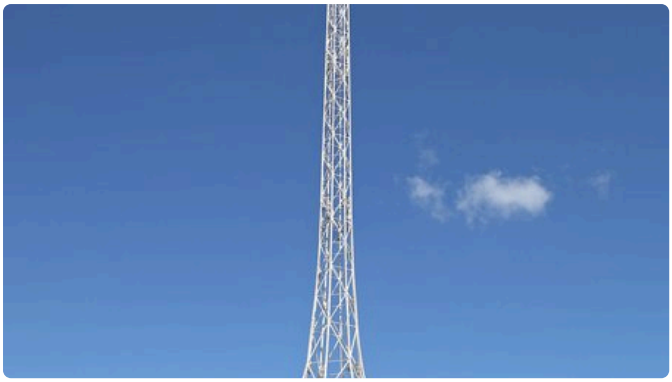
fitzroygardens.com, +61 3 9658 9658



B Carlton Gardens

This vast green oasis in the middle of Melbourne is a popular place to escape from the hustle and bustle of the city.

(Unnamed Road), Melbourne 3053, Australia
(-37.80434, 144.97156)



C Arts Centre Spire

Arts Centre Melbourne, originally known as the Victorian Arts Centre and briefly called the Arts Centre, is a performing arts centre...

100 St Kilda Rd, Southbank VIC 3006, Australia (-37.82099, 144.96839)

artscentremelbourne.com.au, +61 3 9281 8000

D Federation Bells

Located in Birrarung Marr, this musical installation consists of 39 computer-controlled inverted bells. Commissioned for the 2001 centenary of Australian Federation, the bells play various compositions daily, ranging from classical pieces to contemporary commissions.

Capital City Trail Main Yarra Trail, Melbourne VIC 3000, Australia (-37.81865, 144.97416)

federationbells.com.au



E Northcote Koori Mural

The Northcote Koori Mural is located in St Georges Road Thornbury, Victoria in the City of Darebin.

(-37.75191, 144.99545)



F The Fairies Tree

This Red Gum stump in Fitzroy Gardens was carved by artist Ola Cohn between 1931 and 1934. The intricate carvings depict Australian wildlife, birds, and folklore figures, serving as a whimsical landmark and a memorial to the children of Victoria.

(Unnamed Road), Melbourne 3002, Australia (-37.81338, 144.98115)

fitzroygardens.com

G Saturn

A scale model sculpture of the planet Saturn located on the St Kilda foreshore. It is part of the Melbourne Solar System, a permanent 1:1 billion scale outdoor model stretching along the coastline of Port Phillip Bay.

Pier Road, Melbourne 3182, Australia
(-37.85975, 144.96942)

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