

MELBOURNE

ENCOUNTER

JAYNE D'ARCY
DONNA WHEELER

Melbourne Encounter

Published by Lonely Planet Publications Pty Ltd

ABN 36 005 607 983

Australia
(Head Office)

Locked Bag 1, Footscray,
Vic 3011
☎ 03 8379 8000 fax 03 8379 8111

USA

150 Linden St, Oakland, CA 94607
☎ 510 250 6400

toll free 800 275 8555
fax 510 893 8572

UK

2nd fl, 186 City Rd
London EC1V 2NT
☎ 020 7106 2100 fax 020 7106 2101

Contact

talk2us@lonelyplanet.com
lonelyplanet.com/contact

The 1st edition of Lonely Planet's *Melbourne Encounter* was written and researched by Donna Wheeler. This title was commissioned in Lonely Planet's Melbourne office and produced by: **Commissioning Editor** Maryanne Netto **Coordinating Editor** Victoria Harrison **Coordinating Cartographer** Xavier Di Toro **Coordinating Layout Designer** Wibowo Rusli **Senior Editor** Susan Paterson **Managing Editor** Kirsten Rawlings **Managing Cartographer** David Connolly **Managing Layout Designer** Jane Hart **Assisting Editor** Gabrielle Innes **Cover Research** Naomi Parker **Internal Image Research** Rebecca Skinner **Thanks to** Annelies Mertens, Marg Tooley

Cover photograph Diners and pedestrians in Centre Place, Glenn Bealand/Lonely Planet Images.

All images are copyright of the photographers unless otherwise indicated. Many of the images in this guide are available for licensing from Lonely Planet Images: lonelyplanetimages.com

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

ISBN: 978 1 74179 563 9

2nd edition

Printed in China

Lonely Planet and the Lonely Planet logo are trademarks of Lonely Planet and are registered in the US Patent and Trademark Office and in other countries.

Lonely Planet does not allow its name or logo to be appropriated by commercial establishments, such as retailers, restaurants or hotels. Please let us know of any misuses: lonelyplanet.com/ip.

© Lonely Planet 2011. All rights reserved.



Paper in this book is certified against the Forest Stewardship Council™ standards. FSC™ promotes environmentally responsible, socially beneficial and economically viable management of the world's forests.

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

Colour-Coding & Maps

Colour-coding is used for symbols on maps and in the text that they relate to (eg all eating venues on the maps and in the text are given a green knife and fork symbol). Each neighbourhood also gets its own colour, and this is used down the edge of the page and throughout that neighbourhood section.

Shaded yellow areas on the maps denote areas of interest – for their historical significance, their attractive architecture or their great bars and restaurants. We encourage you to head to these areas and just start exploring!

Although the authors and Lonely Planet have taken all reasonable care in preparing this book, we make no warranty about the accuracy or completeness of its content and, to the maximum extent permitted, disclaim all liability arising from its use.

Send us your feedback We love to hear from travellers – your comments keep us on our toes and help make our books better. Our well-travelled team reads every word on what you loved or loathed about this book. Although we cannot reply individually to postal submissions, we always guarantee that your feedback goes straight to the appropriate authors, in time for the next edition. Each person who sends us information is thanked in the next edition, and the most useful submissions are rewarded with a free book.

Visit lonelyplanet.com to submit your updates and suggestions or to ask for help. Our award-winning website also features inspirational travel stories, news and discussions.

Note: We may edit, reproduce and incorporate your comments in Lonely Planet products such as guidebooks, websites and digital products, so let us know if you don't want your comments reproduced or your name acknowledged. For a copy of our privacy policy visit lonelyplanet.com/privacy.

JAYNE D'ARCY

Growing up in the Melbourne seaside suburb of Frankston had its advantages for Jayne; it motivated her to catch the train from the outer suburbs into the inner city to hang out in Prahran's Greville St, Fitzroy's Brunswick St, St Kilda and the Queen Vic market. She hit 18 and swapped countries before returning to make the Great Ocean Road her home while she studied journalism. After a long-ish spell working in community radio in Timor-Leste, she finally settled with her family in Melbourne's vibrant north (in Zone 1, just). When she's not riding her French 1970s folding bike around North Fitzroy, booking flights or pretending to renovate, Jayne is a freelance writer.



JAYNE'S THANKS

Thanks Maryanne Netto at Lonely Planet for letting me delve so deeply into Melbourne. Thanks to Jane O'Neill and Dave Carswell who share a love of the city. Thanks Sharik Billington for your amazing support and our grade-one boy, Miles, who loves researching restaurants just as much as I do.



The bike-friendly sculptural Webb Bridge, inspired by Koorie fishing traps, Docklands (p54)

CONTENTS

| | | | |
|---|------------|-------------------|------------|
| THE AUTHOR | 3 | BACKGROUND | 143 |
| THIS IS MELBOURNE | 7 | DIRECTORY | 154 |
| HIGHLIGHTS | 8 | INDEX | 168 |
| MELBOURNE DIARY | 19 | | |
| ITINERARIES | 25 | | |
| NEIGHBOURHOODS | 30 | | |
| > CITY CENTRE | 34 | | |
| > SOUTH BANK & DOCKLANDS | 54 | | |
| > SOUTH MELBOURNE, PORT MELBOURNE & ALBERT PARK | 62 | | |
| > SOUTH YARRA & PRAHRAN | 70 | | |
| > EAST MELBOURNE & RICHMOND | 80 | | |
| > FITZROY & AROUND | 88 | | |
| > CARLTON & AROUND | 102 | | |
| > ST KILDA | 112 | | |
| EXCURSIONS | 121 | | |
| SNAPSHOTS | 126 | | |
| > ACCOMMODATION | 128 | | |
| > FOOD | 130 | | |
| > DRINKING | 132 | | |
| > FASHION | 134 | | |
| > ART | 136 | | |
| > ARCHITECTURE | 138 | | |
| > SPORT | 140 | | |
| > GAY & LESBIAN | 141 | | |
| > PARKS & GARDENS | 142 | | |

Why is our travel information the best in the world? It's simple: our authors are passionate, dedicated travellers. They don't take freebies in exchange for positive coverage so you can be sure the advice you're given is impartial. They travel widely to all the popular spots, and off the beaten track. They don't research using just the internet or phone. They discover new places not included in any other guidebook. They personally visit thousands of hotels, restaurants, palaces, trails, galleries, temples and more. They speak with dozens of locals every day to make sure you get the kind of insider knowledge only a local could tell you. They take pride in getting all the details right, and in telling it how it is. Think you can do it? Find out how at lonelyplanet.com.



>THIS IS MELBOURNE

Melbourne is a city you need to get to know. It won't take your breath away with overtly seductive geography on first sight. Its many charms aren't always immediately apparent on first meeting. But there's no doubt this city will get under your skin.

Few cities grew as fast and furiously as this one, and it launched itself onto the world stage with an arriviste swagger and a gold-tinted twinkle in its eye. With its Victorian streetscapes and genteel demeanour, Melbourne was considered the most British of Australian cities. These days, it possesses both an adopted European grace and a nonstop energy more akin to the urban hubs of Asia. Melbourne's citizens look as diverse as they are. It's a city of immigrants whose backgrounds usually span multiple ethnicities. They're good-looking too, though that can often be down to culture as much as nature. They'd rather appear effortlessly interesting than 'done'. Its mood could be considered serious, but that's softened by a sensuality uncommon in Australian cities. People aren't afraid to look each other in the eye, to appreciate details. Street life here has a sexy, celebratory edge. Melburnians are passionate about enjoying life: food, fashion, sport and socialising are cherished. Its many bars, cafes and restaurants draw on the best from Europe, Asia and the Middle East, while retaining an easy-going quintessentially Australian feel. Melbourne, like its city laneways, is many-layered and full of surprises. It's industrious, imaginative and creative; prolific in architecture, performance, live music and the visual arts but also endlessly self-deprecating. It's one of the world's youngest cities yet also one of the longest inhabited places on earth. It's resolutely urbane and irrevocably suburban. Life buzzes in its often beautifully designed interior spaces, though it's also outdoorsy, with a wealth of parks and close proximity to beaches and the bush. It's car-centric but totally devoted to its trams. It can be complicated, cliquey and cultish, then warm, welcoming and generous.

Melbourne is a city worth exploring: let it win you over.

Top left View over the wave-roofed Southern Cross Station **Top right** Leisurly stroll along the foreshore at St Kilda (p112)
Bottom Time for cafe culture, Degrafs St (p10)