

Melbourne

POP 4,530,000 / 203

Includes ⇒	•
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Sights	50
Activities	80
Tours	84
Sleeping	85
Eating	92
Drinking & Nightlife	. 110
Entertainment	.122
Shopping	.127

Best Places to Eat

- → Attica (p110)
- → Lee Ho Fook (p95)
- Supernormal (p92)
- → Hakata Gensuke (p92)
- Chin Chin (p93)

Best Places to Sleep

- Treasury on Collins (p85)
- Ovolo Laneways (p86)
- QT Melbourne (p86)
- Tyrian Serviced Apartments (p89)
- Nunnery (p88)

Why Go?

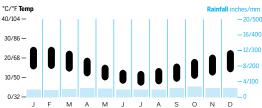
Stylish, arty Melbourne is both dynamic and cosmopolitan, and it's proud of its place as Australia's sporting and cultural capital. More than 230 laneways penetrate into the heart of the city blocks and it's here that the inner city's true nature resides, crammed into narrow lanes concealing world-beating restaurants, bars and street art.

Melbourne is best experienced as a local would, with its character largely reliant upon its diverse collection of inner-city neighbourhoods. Despite a long-standing north-south divide (flashy South Yarra versus hipster Fitzroy), there's a coolness about its bars, cafes, restaurants, festivals and people that transcends the borders.

Sport is a crucial part of the social fabric here, taking on something of a religious aspect. Melburnians are passionate about AFL football ('footy'), cricket and horse racing, while grand-slam tennis and Formula One car racing draw visitors in droves.

When to Go

Melbourne



Sept-Nov

Footy-finals fever hits before the lead-up to the Melbourne Cup.

Dec- Feb Summer brings balmy nights, grand-slam tennis, Formula One cars and

music festivals.

April-Sept April has arguably has the best weather, before cold nights and crisp winter days.



Melbourne Highlights

- Royal Botanic Gardens
 (p74) Victorian-era garden
 landscaping.
- 2 City Laneways & Arcades (p51) Graffiti-as-art in narrow city laneways.
- 3 National Gallery of Victoria (p50) National and international art treasures.
- 4 Melbourne Cricket Ground (p64) Home to the sacred AFL Grand Final.
- **5 Shrine of Remembrance** (p74) Prominent secular civic War Memorial shrine.
- Melbourne Museum & Royal Exhibition Building (p69) Victoria's cultural, social and natural history.
- **7 St Kilda** (p75) Roguish seaside surburb with Victorian-era pier
- 3 Abbotsford Convent (p66) Converted historic buildings with galleries, cafés and markets.
- **Q** Cult of Coffee (p117) Get the perfect cup of Melbourne coffee.