

# Inner West

ULTIMO | CHIPPENDALE | GLEBE | CAMPERDOWN | DARLINGTON | NEWTOWN | ENMORE | ERSKINEVILLE

## Neighbourhood Top Five

- 1 Grazing your way around the farmers market, scoffing at conceptual art or being mystified by an avant-garde performance within the capacious **Carriage-works** (p114) complex.
- 2 Gawking at ancient booty in Sydney University's fascinating **Nicholson Museum** (p110).
- 3 Challenging your cultural stereotypes and expanding your mind at **White Rabbit** (p110).
- 4 Catching a gig at the **Vanguard** (p119) or any of the Inner West's other live-music hot-spots.
- 5 Getting down with the brown at **Campos** (p117), king of the coffee-bean scene.



For more detail of this area, see Map p252 ➔

## Explore: Inner West

The Inner West is a sociological stew of students, goths, urban hippies, artists, Mediterranean immigrants and sexual subculturists. At its heart is Sydney University, a bastion of old-world architecture that dominates the tiny suburbs of Camperdown, Darlingtown and Chippendale.

Between the university and Rozelle Bay, Glebe is home to a long-established Aboriginal community, students, lesbians, New Agers and cool bookstores. The First Fleet's chaplain was granted 160 hectares of church land here (technically a 'glebe'). Mansions began to sprout in 1826, but after 1855 the church leased its remaining land for downmarket housing, which degenerated into slums. In the mid-1970s Gough Whitlam's federal government bought the whole estate and rejuvenated the area for low-income families, many of whom have lived here for generations.

Where stoners and home renovators collide, Newtown shadows sinuous King St, lined with quirky boutiques, bookshops, yoga studios, cafes and Thai restaurants. It's definitely climbing the social rungs, but Newtown is still free-thinking and bolshy. Erskineville is similar but more upmarket, with an endearing village vibe and an outcrop of pubs and cafes.

## Local Life

- ➔ **Camperdown Park** When the sun shines, the Newtown tribes descend with their picnic rugs. Even the goths brave the risk of absorbing vitamin D, unpacking their baskets in the adjacent cemetery.
- ➔ **Pubs** The centre of Inner Western social life, whether for watching the footy, grabbing a cheap meal, checking out a band, catching up with mates or hooking up.
- ➔ **Markets** Yummy mummies stock up on organic whatnots at Eveleigh (p116), while hippy chicks peruse preloved frocks at Glebe (p120).

## Getting There & Away

- ➔ **Train** Newtown is well served by trains, with four stations (Macdonaldtown, Newtown, Erskineville and St Peters) on three train lines (Inner West, South and Bankstown). Redfern station is handy for Darlingtown, Chippendale and parts of Camperdown.
- ➔ **Light Rail** Glebe has two light rail stops (Glebe and Jubilee Park); walk uphill and you'll reach Glebe Point Rd. The best stop for Ultimo is Paddy's Market.
- ➔ **Bus** Dozens of buses from the city ply Glebe Point Rd (370, 431-433), Parramatta Rd (413, 436-440, 461, 480-483, M10) and City Rd/King St (352, 370, 422-428, M30).
- ➔ **Parking** Street parking is generally available. Watch out for the maze of one-way streets around Newtown.

## Lonely Planet's Top Tip

Tucked between Central station, Surry Hills and Sydney University, the tiny suburb of Chippendale is one to watch. The 2009 opening of the White Rabbit gallery (p110) was an early herald of what is steadily turning into one of Sydney's coolest neighbourhoods. Now, as the Jean Nouvel/Sir Norman Foster-driven Central Park complex of sustainable plant-covered towers and terraces is taking shape, fantastic new eateries and bars are already springing up.

## Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Ester (p114)
- ➔ Eveleigh Farmers' Market (p116)
- ➔ Black Star Pastry (p116)
- ➔ Glebe Point Diner (p116)
- ➔ Boathouse on Blackwattle Bay (p116)

For reviews, see p114 ➔

## Best Places to Drink

- ➔ Earl's Juke Joint (p118)
- ➔ Midnight Special (p118)
- ➔ Friend in Hand Hotel (p118)
- ➔ Corridor (p118)
- ➔ Zanzibar (p118)

For reviews, see p118 ➔

## Best for Coffee

- ➔ Campos (p117)
- ➔ Fleetwood Macchiato (p117)
- ➔ Mecca Espresso (p114)
- ➔ Black Star Pastry (p116)
- ➔ Luxe (p117)

For reviews, see p114 ➔