

Visitor Guide 2024

Canberra

Destination Dining | Cultural Icons | Family Adventures | Local Secrets
Plus what's on – and what's free





CONTENTS

© VisitCanberra
Canberra Visitor Guide 2024
is published by Medium Rare
Content Agency (02 8114 8900,
mediumrarecontent.com) for
VisitCanberra, part of the
ACT Government. GPO Box 158,
Canberra City ACT 2601.
T: (02) 6205 0666, E: visitcanberra@
act.gov.au. Tourist information:
1300 554 114. Printed November 2023.

FOOD & WINE

4/ Destination Dining
The restaurants and signature
dishes that make eating out in
the capital memorable.

10/ Black Gold
Unearth rare truffles at a small
farm on the city's fringe.

12/ Crushing It
Sip your way around the scenic
(and surprising) wine region.

CULTURE

16/ New Perspectives
Take a fresh look at Canberra's
museums and galleries.

24/ Modern by Design
A self-guided walking tour of
the city's Mid-century marvels.

FAMILY & NATURE

28/ Turn Up the Fun
Epic playgrounds, action-packed
tours and adrenaline hits for kids.

34/ Shore Things
An ideal day – from sun-up to
sundown – at Lake Burley Griffin.

38/ Wild at Heart
Explore hiking or biking trails
and spectacular views within
easy reach of the CBD.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We wish to acknowledge the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the land and recognise any other peoples or families with a connection to the lands of the ACT and surrounds. We pay our respects to their ongoing culture and the rich contributions they make to the life of this region.

40/ So Close, Yet So Far
Escape to dreamy nature getaways that are nearer than you think.

44/ On Country
Connect with the ancient culture of the region's First Nations peoples.

TRENDING

46/ Neighbourhoods to Know
What to eat, do and see in three unique pockets of the city.

50/ After Dark
The perfect spots for a laid-back beer, underground wine and rooftop nightcap.

51/ Events
Why Canberra is the place to be every season of the year.

LOCAL SECRETS

60/ My Perfect Day
Three in-the-know locals share the secrets that make the capital tick.

66/ Free for All
Some of Canberra's best experiences won't cost you a cent.

DIRECTORY

67/ Listings
Look up hundreds of attractions, tours, eateries and stays.

75/ Around Town
Essential info for getting around, finding wi-fi and securing last-minute bookings at the Canberra and Region Visitors Centre.



Printed by IVE Group.
Paper fibre is from sustainably managed forests and controlled sources.
Certified by the PEFC (Program for Endorsement of Forest Certification).

DESTINATION DINING

Inventive chefs with cool new venues. Artful dishes served with a side of fun. Canberra's food scene is sizzling hot right now.

Inka

Canberra City

Wondering what a Japanese-Peruvian restaurant might put on your plate? At moodily low-lit Inka, a ceviche bar brings Peru's national dish to the fore, while miso-glazed short ribs and Wagyu sirloin with chimichurri come hot off the robata grill. From the kitchen, there's all manner of goodness, not least the Signature Nikkei Nigiri – fingers of sushi rice laden with tuna and flecked with Peruvian yellow pepper. inka.com.au

Koto

Parkes

Is this the finest dining location in Canberra? Once home to The Lobby, a fabled National Triangle dining destination, this Mid-century venue has now been reimaged into a Kyoto-inspired pavilion for new restaurant Koto. Guide your chopsticks around a contemporary Japanese menu, savouring new-style sushi, tempura and grills as you bask in the grandeur of the grounds at Old Parliament House. kotodining.com.au

Lamshed's

Yarralumla

Here's a classic example of a neighbourhood wine bar and diner that, with unshowy confidence, has come to stand with the best in the city. Expect surprises like beetroot carpaccio with heirloom beets, vodka-cured trout and peppery bites of horseradish and watercress. Start a long lunch with bubbles – your options range from French to Italian or Australian pétillant naturel. lamsheds.com.au

Bar Rochford

Canberra City

Yep, it's definitely a bar – and a very good one at that. But as spirited as the cocktails may be (and as late as the vinyl spins into the night), it's also home to some of the city's most impressive cooking. Snack on anchovy toast with a sparky sauce gribiche at the bar or trip the light fandango through a set menu, eating Sichuan-seasoned lamb ribs and roasted rice ice-cream with yuzu and Earl Grey meringue. barrochford.com

Onzieme

Kingston

Chef Louis Couttoupes earned his stripes in Paris, working with leaders of the bistronomy scene, a movement all about matching relaxed bistro-style service with restaurant-quality details. At award-winner Onzieme, that translates to laid-back vibes with slick small dishes such as crab, lovage and almond gazpacho and elegantly substantial plates. Think: half a chicken, expertly roasted and served with smoky mash and a lusty tarragon butter – just the thing for tasting your way around the natural-leaning wine list. onzieme.com.au

Les Bistronomes

Campbell

For a more classical take on the French canon with a twist of modern flair, look no further than the warm, wood-panelled dining room of owner and executive chef Clément Chauvin. Snails with butter, parsley and garlic? *Oui*. Le tartare de boeuf? *Mais oui*. Duck à l'orange and a tarte Tatin for two? Oh, yes. lesbistronomes.net



OCTOPUS
WITH PAPRIKA
MAYONNAISE
AND KIPFLERS
AT LAMSHED'S

FOOD & WINE

CULTURE

FAMILY & NATURE

TRENDING

LOCAL SECRETS

DIRECTORY



(CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT) VEGETARIAN DELIGHTS AT MONSTER; PEONEE'S CARAMELISED YOGHURT ICE-CREAM WITH BURNT MERINGUE AND SEASONAL CITRUS; HIDDEN FINE-DINER PILOT; SPANISH RED AT SUCH AND SUCH



Pilot

Ainslie

Behind an unassuming disguise at the little shopping village in Ainslie lies one of Canberra's greatest food experiences.

Upending expectations is the whole idea at Pilot. Presenting a seven-course degustation that spans the eclectic likes of massaman carrots, tom yum meatballs and a sliver of roasted duck plated with walnuts, green onion and a blade of piquant sorrel, co-owner and executive chef Mal Hanslow has turned this 30-seat suburban surprise into one of the big guns of Australia's fine-dining scene. Book early or you'll kick yourself.

pilotrestaurant.com

Such and Such

Canberra City

In early 2023, the team behind Pilot opened a new place, which flips the script entirely. Such and Such might have a dress-circle address near the Canberra Theatre Centre but, despite the polished fit-out, lunch and dinner here are casual. Grab a seat at the little bar, order the house's Lions Tail whisky cocktail and make the most of snacks such as Jerusalem artichoke latkes with smoked cream and Old Bay almonds. Going all-out? Order the roasted duck crown with quince and fish-sauce caramel to share, along with a bottle of something special. "I think eating in Canberra has never been better," says co-owner Ross McQuinn. New independent operators are constantly popping

up and, he adds, they're being ever bolder in their vision for good hospitality. "Pound for pound, I think this is one of the best places to eat in the country." andsuchandsuch.com

Monster

Acton

With its mind-bending puzzle-of-timber staircase, the Ovolo Nishi hotel is a design marvel – as is Monster, the champion of herbivorous cuisine loved by vegetarians and carnivores alike. Local and seasonal vegetables are the stars here, from snacks (corn "ribs" with smoked paprika) to hearty share plates (roasted cauliflower with macadamia hummus and Aleppo pepper) and wickedly good desserts (vegan-friendly chocolate mousse with Pedro Ximénez). ovolohotels.com

Louis

Barton

Ben Willis broke new ground for fine dining in Canberra with his acclaimed restaurant Aubergine, which he shuttered in 2022. Now at Hotel Realm, he's leaning into the setting with a greater focus on French cuisine and a menu set to a three-course cadence. It's fresh, sunny French we're talking, with anchovy butter and grapefruit punching up grilled calamari; aioli bringing zing to the bluefin tuna in a Provençal seafood salad; and passionfruit and orange lending their spark to crème caramel. louisdining.com.au

Peonee

Campbell

Small is beautiful at Peonee, whether you're considering the jewel box of a dining space, the boutique wineries on the all-Australian drinks list or the independent producers championed by Italian-born chef Alberto Ranalli. He may be from Bologna but bolognese doesn't figure on this menu. Ranalli's focus is both global and contemporary, leading him to dishes such as slow-roasted Berkshire pork aged with koji and spices, plated in generous slices along with a fine apple-and-riesling purée and spoonfuls of deeply savoury pan juices. peoneerestaurant.com.au

Corella

Braddon

An opening act of cultured "buttermite" on perfect bread sets the tone at cheerful, light-filled Corella. It says: "Yes, this is upscale but we're not above Vegemite, because it's delicious." Accept the ride and trust the set menu, which rolls from appellation oysters to surprises such as Wagyu flank with trusty stroganoff sauce or Barramundi dressed in caramelised miso. Native ingredients used as accents are a delight here, with sunrise lime adding sharpness to the mayonnaise on spanner crab toast. Come dessert, chocolate cake spiked with wattleseed makes for a winning, nutty finale. corellabar.com.au

Paranormal Wines

Campbell

From Copenhagen to Tokyo, drink-and-dine-in bottle shops are becoming a trend and Paranormal Wines is leading the local charge. Located on Provan Street, opposite Hassett Park, it's a stripped-back space (under an unassuming "Wine Shop" sign) with a succinct menu. But just as the edit of bottles on the shelves is choice, so it goes with the food. Everything on these plates is there for a reason. Case in point? The flatbread laden with taramasalata and a punchy little salad of chilli and fennel. Matching these zippy flavours with orange, pink, fizzy and unconventional drops from small makers, such as Mada Wines, is the name of the game.
paranormalwines.com

Mu

Canberra City

Omakase dining, in which the chef decides the best dishes for you, is a tradition in Japan. Mu is the first restaurant to bring it to Canberra. Your 12 to 15 plates might explore oysters, clams, duck or... surprises. Opt in for bold sake pairings such as dessert sake matched with sweet miso-cured Patagonian toothfish.
chairmangroup.com.au/mu

Rebel Rebel

Acton

Beneath a canopy of impossibly high timber beams, Sean McConnell serves a menu like no other in Canberra, adroitly bringing together seemingly disparate influences and ingredients in a consistently seamless (and tasty) way. Gear up for tahini-dressed sugarloaf cabbage with North African harissa oil and rock oysters spiked with pink peppercorns and pomelo. Or, as McConnell puts it, "uncomplicated, reliable food that you want to come back for".
rebelrebel.com.au

Raku

Canberra City

Canberra has a lot of affection for Japanese food (it's everywhere) and big love for sleek little Raku and its executive chef, Hao Chen, in particular. Over the years, Chen has charmed diners with beef cheeks braised to melting tenderness, prawns swimming in XO butter and sushi rolls packed with perfectly fatty tuna belly. Fans are now eyeing the old West Portal Cafeteria on Constitution Avenue with excitement as Chef Chen plans to open a new venue there in August 2024.
rakudining.com.au

QUICK CITY BITES

Verity Lane Market

Hit up the 1920s Sydney Building and its upscale market-style dining hall. There's Indonesian turmeric-stained rice with chicken curry at Rasa Rosa, creative takes on Latin cuisine at La Cocina Pura and pork-belly stuffed buns at Super Bao. You'll also find a proper Neapolitan slice at Pizza Artigiana and "unapologetically authentic and affordable" Singaporean noodle dishes at Lim Peh's Wonton Noodles.
veritylanemarket.com.au

Tiger Lane

This pan-Asian precinct at the Canberra Centre brings together full-service restaurants and hawker-style stalls. Of the restaurants, Taki and Inari explore different expressions of Japanese cuisine, while Mrs Wang brings Shanghai to the capital. Fast-casual options – Cantonese barbecue, Korean fried chicken and poke – are cranked out on the spot.
tigerlane.com.au



LEAN TIMMS

REBEL REBEL

FOOD & WINE

CULTURE

FAMILY & NATURE

TRENDS

LOCAL SECRETS

DIRECTORY

BLACK GOLD

Boots on, shot of schnapps – now you're ready. Winter truffle season is for getting your hands dirty, hunting a rare culinary luxury with expert sniffing companions.



(FROM ABOVE) BLACK TRUFFLES; ALICE O'MARA WITH CAMEO; BELTANA FARM'S RESTAURANT IS ALL ABOUT FRESH PRODUCE



Alice O'Mara does not speak dog. But when her fluffy brown Lagotto Romagnolo, Cameo, tap-tap-taps the dirt and gives her that look, O'Mara knows it means eureka. "Cameo's never wrong," says the owner of Beltana Farm (beltanafarm.au), a boutique truffle orchard in Pialligo, a 10-minute drive south-east of the city. "She might be off by a few centimetres in a stiff wind but she always takes me to the treasure."

Canberra is truffle country, one of the few places outside of Western Europe – and the only Australian capital city – growing the Tuber melanosporum, or black truffle mushrooms, that are universally prized by chefs. "Our climate, swinging from hot summers to frosty winters, gives trees the kind of stress they need for root systems to grow healthy truffles," notes O'Mara. From June through August, the hunt is on at the small handful of truffières speckled along the city's semi-rural fringe. At Beltana Farm, that means a bucket, a spade, a bracing shot of schnapps and rambling around its 800 hazel and oak trees in search of a good, hearty stink.

That's right – once you've disturbed the patch of soil Cameo picks out, the funk will get you, too. "You can dig, get your hands dirty. Sometimes the truffle is buried 20 centimetres down." Some people say the freshly unearthed fungi whiffs of kerosene or musky socks but "I think it's a sulphuric asparagus-like scent," says O'Mara. "Or it can even be nutmeg-y."

James Souter from Beltana Farm's rustic-luxe restaurant thinks they smell like delicious possibilities. "We like to use our truffles in ways that aren't predictable," he says. They're always good when folded through licks of butter or microplaned into slivers atop silky eggs but truffles also add umami to lighter-leaning dishes of poultry or squid. "We even put truffle in ice-cream," grins Souter. "We're about modern food inspired by the Australian landscape and, while we don't put truffle in every dish from go to woah, we like to be creative with it."

Beltana's produce also shows up on seasonal menus at local restaurants such as Marble & Grain steakhouse (marbleandgrain.com.au) and Filipino eatery Lolo and Lola (loloandlola.com.au). "Truffle doesn't have to be fancy; it's incredibly versatile and can elevate so many styles of cuisine," says Souter.

Black truffles can fetch up to \$2000 per kilo at market but Cameo remains nonchalant about her position at the pinnacle of culinary luxury. "She's pretty relaxed – probably because she only works six to eight weeks of the year," laughs O'Mara.

Off duty, the six-year-old pooch lolls around her 1.2-hectare country domain, wandering over for a few scratchy pats if any guests are up for it and easing into the live music, sculpture trails and festival feel of the events that Beltana hosts throughout the warmer months. She isn't wrong about that, either. For both dogs *and* humans, this is the good life.



HEYWOOD WINERY

LEAN TIMMS

CRUSHING IT

In a region famous for experimentation, do some testing of your own – starting with an “ethereal” shiraz.

It's perhaps unsurprising that the dynamic wine scene in Canberra was started by scientists. In the 1970s, a handful of grape-loving CSIRO researchers surveyed the soils and climate surrounding the city and, noticing similarities with Bordeaux and Burgundy, promptly staked out sheep paddocks to have a go at growing grapes.

Their vines thrived, especially shiraz and riesling, which quickly became the definitive grapes of a fast-growing region. Some 50 years later, those pioneering vineyards are still going strong and a new wave of growers has planted varietals from sangiovese and tempranillo to fiano, establishing the Canberra Region Wine District as one of Australia's most respected – and experimental – cool climate producers.

“The potential of this region excites me,” says Emma Shaw, a former public servant who was also drawn to the world of viticulture. “It's becoming known for producing really refined and distinctive styles. You can spot a Canberra shiraz – a perfumed, spicy, elegant wonder – from a mile away.”

For her nine-to-five, Shaw is the general manager at Collector Wines (collectorwines.com.au), the label of “visionary winemaker” Alex McKay. On weekends, she runs Pique Nique (piqueniquewine.com.au) classes, in which you relax beside Lake Burley Griffin for a swirl and sip. “There are no silly questions,” explains Shaw. “My aim is to get people excited about the quality of the wines they can explore around the region.”

Where to start? That depends on your palate. The district sews together more than 300 hectares of vineyards, reaching from northern ACT to the Yass Valley and Lake George in NSW. Most are within a half-hour-or-so drive from the capital.

Local styles can be roughly divided into three sub-regions, the diversity of the terroir expressed most clearly in shiraz, the flagship red. The vines in Murrumbateman produce “a more muscular wine with power that might be unexpected from our cool climate region”, says Shaw. Grapes grown by Lake George and around Bungendore are cooled by an evening easterly dubbed “Bateman's Breath”, which blows in from the coast of Batemans Bay. “You get wines, especially shiraz, with a real depth of character.” Conditions in Hall/Wallaroo, about 40 kilometres west of Lake George, tend to be warmer, with granite soils lending “an ethereal quality and an aromatic, floral perfume, which is divine in a cool climate shiraz”.

More than 30 wineries across the region have cellar doors and you could easily spend three unhurried days tasting your way around. Shaw steers first-timers to Murrumbateman's Clonakilla Wines (clonakilla.com.au), 40 kilometres north of Canberra. The winery is on land that one of those enterprising CSIRO staffers, Dr John Kirk, planted in 1971 and is now internationally renowned, particularly for its shiraz viognier. The scientist can still be spotted pruning his beloved vines but his son, Tim Kirk, oversees the



KEN HELM WORKS THE BAR MOST WEEKENDS; ASK HIM FOR A DROP OF BLUSHING RIESLING

winemaking these days. “He’s producing a beautiful grenache blend, a non-vintage muscat that is very special and some other wines that are only available here at the property,” says Shaw.

At an old schoolhouse nearby, another scientist, Ken Helm, mans the bar at Helm Wines (helmwines.com.au), pouring drops made from grandfather vines he planted in 1973. He’s called the “riesling king” around here, says Shaw. The 2023 vintage, all lemony on the nose and a balancing act of acid, fruit and texture, can be drunk now or cellared for 25 years. An oaky cabernet sauvignon and riesling rosé are Shaw’s other top picks.

At 860 metres elevation, Bungendore’s biodynamic Lark Hill Winery (larkhill.wine) nurtures vibrant grüner veltliners and rieslings. They’re best sampled between Friday and Sunday, when one of Canberra’s favourite Italian diners, Agostinis, takes charge of the kitchen. For a luxurious lunch, Shaw reckons Nick O’Leary’s Heywood winery (nickolearywines.com.au) in Wallaroo is hard to beat. “He’s producing great tempranillo,” she says, noting that the charred sweetness of anything from the restaurant’s grill would be an ideal match. “His riesling is some of the best in the region; really flavourful, intense and expressive” – and great with

oysters. As for the menu’s Snowy Mountains trout, Shaw swears it’s perfect with chardonnay. “For me, that’s a match made in heaven.”

Yarrh Wines (yarrhwines.com.au), which takes its name from the Ngunnawal word for running water, is located east of Murrumbateman and is reached by a winding road that runs over a creek and through a forest of stringybarks. The owners, Fiona Wholohan and Neil McGregor, built the rammed-earth cellar door using straw bales, a tangible sign of the commitment to sustainability that underpins their business.

“I think you can see that quality in the wines when you taste them,” says Shaw, who recommends doing a tour before lingering with a glass of “really elegant” shiraz or textural fiano and soaking up the view. “The Yarrh property is a gorgeous, very still and quiet place.” The whole region is full of gently sloping hills punctuated by tall poplars, she adds. “The French have a saying: ‘Syrah [or shiraz, as we call it] loves a view.’ The best winemaking sites in the world are simply beautiful places to be.”

See page 70 for more cellar doors in the Canberra Region Wine District.

GREAT ENTERTAINERS

Visit these vineyards for fun that goes far beyond a tasting flight.

CULTURE

FAMILY & NATURE

TRENDING

LOCALS' GREETINGS

COMMUNITY

Stay and play

Wine is always the headliner at Tallagandra Hill, which has seven varietals to sample at the cellar door, including a single-vineyard viognier, vermentino, shiraz and tempranillo. But the vineyard also hosts regular concerts by Australian artists (think Kate Ceberano and Ben Lee). Make a night of it and stay in one of the three vineyard cottages. tallagandrahill.com.au

Fly-in fly-out

For the ultimate designated driver experience, book a return helicopter flight from Canberra to Lake George Winery in Collector. You'll drink in aerial views before touching down to indulge in pizza, shiraz and a great single-malt whisky. Air CBR can whisk you off to other places, too, such as Shaw Wines, Brindabella Hills and Courabyra Wines. lakegeorgewinery.com.au, aircbr.com.au

Meet the locals

The Vintner's Daughter in Murrumbateman serves Canberra's signature drops and house specialties that are only available at the cellar door. Book a private session with winemaker Stephanie Helm to taste shiraz vintages dating back almost a decade. For children, there are farm tours with chickens, emus, peacocks, goats and adorable Babydoll sheep. thevintnersdaughter.com.au

Bring the dog

With grass to cavort on and piping-hot woodfired pizzas to share, the always relaxed Four Winds Vineyard, located east of Murrumbateman, is a magnet for families and their dogs. Wine-wise, there's something to suit all tastes, from sparkling to chardonnay, as well as a fine tempranillo from the winery's Kyeema Estate vineyard, plus a rare fortified shiraz and even a shiraz rosé gin. fourwindsvineyard.com.au



NEW PERSPECTIVES

There's a reason so many culture-hunters are drawn to this city.
Canberra's iconic galleries and museums do art differently.

What is art for, if not to rock the boat – at least a little? The National Museum of Australia (NMA; nma.gov.au) in Acton has been making waves since it first appeared in 2001, a jigsaw of red, yellow and silver steel set on a promontory of Lake Burley Griffin. Tapping into a playful current of the Australian character, messages such as “She’ll be right” and “Love is blind” had been studded in braille throughout the building. At its launch, then prime minister John Howard, who was surprised by its imaginative galleries, deemed the NMA “unmuseum-like”.

In 2024, audiences are used to cultural spaces that break new ground. But with its Great Southern Land gallery, the most significant development since the Museum’s opening, the NMA finds inventive ways to get visitors thinking about big questions. This gallery opens with the *Bunya Infinity Forest*, in which casts of living bunya trees are surrounded by mirrors. These trees’ Jurassic ancestors are now coal that is being burned for power. As you gaze around, time collapses; you see yourself connected to the past and to tomorrow.

“Our connection to the environment, who we are and the experiences of First Nations peoples are pillars of our lives in this country and so are the themes of the Museum,” says senior curator Dr Martha Sear. “I think a history museum can help people when society is grappling with things: the lens of the past can help show us where we want to be in the future.”

Bree Pickering, director of the National Portrait Gallery (NPG; portrait.gov.au), agrees. Portraiture can “joyfully open you up to a new position”, she says, because when viewing a work, “there’s a conversation

happening and there are three points of view: the subject’s, the artist’s and yours”. While many visitors come to the Gallery to learn the stories behind images of Hugh Jackman, Nick Cave and other famous faces, she notes, “people tell us the memory they leave with is of someone they’d never heard of before”.

On a visit to Canberra Museum and Gallery (CMAG; cmag.com.au) at Civic Square, you get a fresh take on the city’s vibrant history. You can also get to know Sir Sidney Nolan before he was famous – back when he was a young man living under an assumed identity, absent without leave from the army and painting social outcasts with the speed of an Instagrammer. Who is it that’s wearing the mask in his Ned Kelly series: the bushranger or the artist himself?

Canberra’s culture trail is full of surprises. Take the National Gallery of Australia (NGA; nga.gov.au), which pushes art out into the wild and artists out of their comfort zones. “The Sculpture Garden features a James Turrell skyspace, Tracey Emin... incredible artists,” notes the Gallery’s senior curator Simeran Maxwell. “The garden we have here is remarkable on an international level.” And it’s free.

The Hotshop at Kingston’s Canberra Glassworks (canberraglassworks.com) sees a 3500-year-old trade become fine art. “There are flames – the blast furnaces melt glass at 1270°C – and from those raw elements come exquisite works, which often end up in Canberra’s iconic national galleries,” says Aimee Frodsham, the Glassworks’ artistic director. “There’s a mesmerising fluidity to the way the artisans work; I think it’s a lot like watching ballroom dancing.”

Ready to see things from a different angle? Here are the culture hits you can’t miss...



LEAN TIMMS

BUNYA INFINITY FOREST
AT THE NATIONAL
MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA

CULTURE

HEALTHY & NATURAL

TRENDING

LOCAL SERVICES

Canberra Museum and Gallery

1/ “It was ’68, the flower power era, but also a time of technology and growth in Canberra. The flashes of colour in *Mugga Way* are the flowers in hedgerows that artist Thomas Gleghorn saw as he sped along the city’s new fast-moving roads on his motorbike,” says Virginia Rigney, CMAG’s senior curator of visual art.

THOMAS GLEGHORN B. 1925, *MUGGA WAY*, 1968, ACRYLIC ON CANVAS, CANBERRA MUSEUM AND GALLERY, DONATION EMMANUEL NOTARAS 2020



2/ Upon seeing a news story of a woman living rough, Nolan quickly painted this work and exhibited it within days. “It has that current sense of feeling something and needing to say something – much like a social media post.”

SIDNEY NOLAN (1917-1992), *WOMAN AND TENT*, 1946, ENAMEL ON BOARD, NOLAN COLLECTION MANAGED BY CANBERRA MUSEUM AND GALLERY ON BEHALF OF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

3/ A conscript who went AWOL during World War II, Nolan saw himself in the outlaw stories he painted in his Ned Kelly series (1946-47). “He said: ‘This collection is as much about myself as it is Ned Kelly,’” notes Rigney.

SIDNEY NOLAN (1917-1992), *POLICEMAN IN WOMBAT HOLE*, 1946, ENAMEL ON BOARD, NOLAN COLLECTION MANAGED BY CANBERRA MUSEUM AND GALLERY ON BEHALF OF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT

1



National Portrait Gallery

1/ Capturing Maggie Beer surrounded by kitchen ingredients, this painting feels familiar but also offers a new way of imagining the beloved cook. “It’s a real Del Kathryn Barton in terms of the detail and symbolism,” says NPG director Bree Pickering.

DEL KATHRYN BARTON, *MAGGIE*, 2023 © DEL KATHRYN BARTON



2

2/ “This textile sculpture is one of a series that shows artist Marlene Rubuntja’s reflection of herself as she’s changed over time. There’s joy emanating from it that children really respond to.”

MARLENE RUBUNTJA AND YARRENTY ARLTERE ARTISTS (ARTIST COLLECTIVE), *ARKUTJA (WOMAN)*, 2022 © MARLENE RUBUNTJA, YARRENTY ARLTERE ARTISTS

3/ A Bill Henson triptych of trailblazing conductor Simone Young AM, now the chief conductor of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, is one of Pickering’s favourite works. “It’s so alive, moving and enraptured by music.”

BILL HENSON, *SIMONE YOUNG*, 2002 © BILL HENSON



3

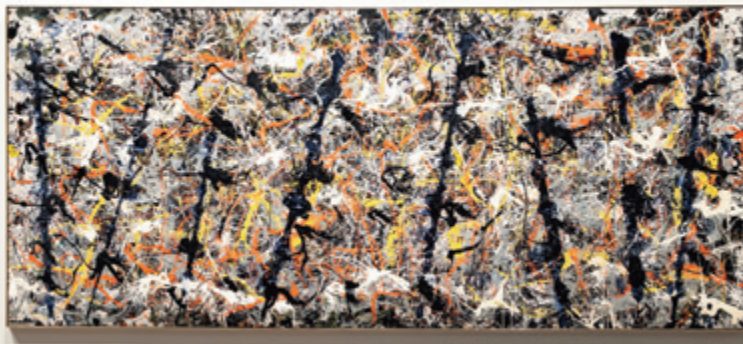
National Gallery of Australia

1/ Stretching across some 20 metres in the NGA's Sculpture Garden, seven gleaming, pivoting cones by Bert Flugelman reflect each other, the natural world that surrounds them and the viewer.

BERT FLUGELMAN, *CONES*, 1982, NATIONAL GALLERY OF AUSTRALIA, KAMBERRI/CANBERRA, COMMISSIONED 1976. PURCHASED 1982. © BERT FLUGELMAN



2



2 & 3/ Jackson Pollock's iconic artwork *Blue Poles* hangs near *Cool White*, a compelling work by his wife, Lee Krasner. "She was an incredible figure in post-war art and, in many ways, gave up her career to nurture his – a fairly common story," says senior curator Simeran Maxwell. "We always present a Krasner alongside Pollock."

2. JACKSON POLLOCK, *BLUE POLES*, 1952, NATIONAL GALLERY OF AUSTRALIA, KAMBERRI/CANBERRA, PURCHASED 1973. © POLLOCK-KRASNER FOUNDATION. ARS/COPYRIGHT AGENCY, 2023

3



3. LEE KRASNER, *COOL WHITE*, 1959, NATIONAL GALLERY OF AUSTRALIA, KAMBERRI/CANBERRA, PURCHASED 1978. © LEE KRASNER. ARS/COPYRIGHT AGENCY, 2023

4/ Artist Lindy Lee is gearing up to reveal *Ouroboros*, her first immersive public sculpture, in 2024. "Daytime or night-time, it's going to pulse with light and energy," she says.

(OPPOSITE) LINDY LEE AT UAP COMPANY, BRISBANE, IN 2022, WITH *OUROBOROS*, THE SUSTAINABLE BEACON SHE'S BUILDING FOR THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF AUSTRALIA'S FORECOURT

LEAN TIMMS, LINDY LEE PHOTOGRAPH: JOSEF RUCKLI



FOOD & WINE

CULTURE

FAMILY & NATURE

TRENDS

LOCAL SECRETS

DIRECTORY



Canberra Glassworks

Tours of the Glassworks' early-1900s industrial building take you inside the workshop. "You can see the artisans transforming liquid fire into unique tableware and amazing installations for artists such as Patricia Piccinini," says the Glassworks' artistic director, Aimee Frodsham. You can also craft your own piece at one of the regular artist-led classes.

(BELOW) THE HAYMAN JUG BY MASTER GLASSBLOWER BEN EDOLS WAS MADE - AND IS EXHIBITED - AT THE CANBERRA GLASSWORKS

“WE’RE HARNESSING LIGHTNING AND PLASMA UNLIKE ANY OTHER ART FORM. NEON WORK IS LIKE BOTTLING UP THE NORTHERN LIGHTS.”





1

National Museum of Australia

1/ “Shiny, with fluorescent tubes, Reko Rennie’s sculpture tells the story of moths that have migrated to caves near Canberra since the Ice Age and their ancient calling to Aboriginal people,” says Dr Martha Sear, the Museum’s senior curator. “Its bright contemporariness speaks to the vibrancy of continuous culture.”

REKO RENNIE, *UNTITLED (BOGONG MOTH)*, 2017, © REKO RENNIE

2/ The *Uluru Line* winds through and around the NMA building, a continuous reminder to visitors of a connection to the heart of the Australian continent.

ULURU LINE



2

MODERN BY DESIGN

A brave new world. Architects let loose. Take a walk through a capital's coming of age, starting with an on-campus surprise.

THE AUSTRALIAN
WAR MEMORIAL
ANNEX BY ENRICO
TAGLIETTI



A university building is not a typical place to launch a tour of a city's architectural highlights. But the Menzies Library at the Australian National University (ANU) is a cuboid marvel of concrete and pink-grey stone, influenced by Frank Lloyd Wright, one of the most visionary architects of the 20th century. And if you tilt your head, you can see light being scrambled by the sculptural bronze Lyndon Dadswell screens that swirl across its windows.

Don't know much about architecture at all? This grassy campus at the edge of Canberra's hip Acton café district is the perfect place to begin. "Such is the diversity of design at ANU that Robin Boyd once called it 'architectural Disneyland'," says Amy Jarvis, the co-founder of heritage events and advocacy platform Canberra Modern (canberramodern.com). "ANU is a fantastic microcosm of early Canberra being built on these very optimistic, brave post-war and democratic ideals." Through the middle of the century, the whole city was a laboratory. "Eminent designers from around the country and the world were given the space to



“CANBERRA [WAS] BEING BUILT ON OPTIMISTIC, BRAVE POST-WAR AND DEMOCRATIC IDEALS.”

create and experiment in making these buildings for everyday Australians.”

Not far from the campus, past the Art Deco National Film and Sound Archive of Australia, Jarvis points out the building that houses the Australian Academy of Science – the Shine Dome. Imagined by architect Roy Grounds, the saucer-like “Martian Embassy” landed on a quiet hillscape in 1959, the early years of the Space Age. “Even as they were building it, people weren’t sure it was going to stand up,” says Jarvis. “It was really pushing the boundaries, not only of aesthetics but of engineering, with 710 tonnes of concrete being held up by 16 very slender supports.” But stand it still does – or rather, it “floats” above a moat, and is now on the National Heritage List.

“What Marion Mahony Griffin and Walter Burley Griffin tried to convey while planning Canberra back in 1912 was revolutionary,” says Jarvis as she tracks onwards into the thick of the CBD. “It was about recognising our colonial past but defining a unique identity.” Sleekly utilitarian and focused on progress, Modernist design then came along and made those ideas visible – often in concrete.

Now buried amongst the shops and eateries of Bunda Street, Enrico Taglietti’s Cinema Center stuck out like a sore thumb when it opened in 1966. Angular and adorned only with straight balconies, it stood audaciously apart from the city’s stately Melbourne and Sydney Buildings, both landmarks with their Mediterranean-inspired colonnades. “Taglietti came to Canberra from Milan and revelled in not being weighed down by the old traditions of golden cathedrals and towers,” says Jarvis. With his organic style, he created schools, libraries and even the Apostolic Nunciature (HQ for the Pope’s representative in Australia) that frame Canberra’s unique social and natural landscape.

A few blocks from the old cinema, towards City Hill park, lies Civic Square, one of Jarvis’s favourite design precincts. “Look at the lavish gold mosaic on those columns,” she says of Canberra Museum and Gallery. At the opposite end of the square, a winged woman – Tom Bass’s 1961 *Ethos* sculpture – holds a bursting

sun before the ACT Legislative Assembly. The work became a totem for the growing capital as it boldly entered a new world. “She’s so powerful she was used in tourism marketing as soon as she was installed,” says Jarvis.

From Civic Square, you can peel off in two directions. Head east on a 30-minute wander through leafy Reid, Canberra’s oldest residential neighbourhood, where tree-lined streets are dotted by gabled brick homes, and you’ll reach the Australian War Memorial (free tours daily; awm.gov.au) in Campbell.

Rising proudly from the foot of Mount Ainslie, the Memorial was constructed in the years between 1929 and 1941. This was a time when Modernism was a global juggernaut – but its grandeur is resolutely Art Deco. After World War 1 and the Depression, people took comfort in the gravitas of a Byzantine dome, arched cloisters and soaring Hall of Memory, says Jarvis. “Not everyone was ready for Modernism’s radicalness.” That was reserved for the Memorial’s boldly asymmetric conservation annex in Mitchell, built decades later, in 1978, to house giant relics like rockets – a Taglietti design in full Brutalist effect.

Your other option from Civic Square is to head south to Australian Parliament House (guided tours daily; aph.gov.au/visit). Opened in 1988, the building has its hints of Postmodern flair but the design is Modernist in spirit. The façade is clad in white Carrara marble, luxurious compared to concrete but also built to last. The pink and green marble columns of the foyer reflect the colours of the Senate and House of Representatives Chambers. “The principal architect, Romaldo Giurgola, embodied optimistic and brave democratic ideals in his design,” explains Jarvis. “The building nestles into a hill, with grass on its roof so citizens can walk above the people making the decisions.” If that’s not a modern idea, what is?

Canberra Modern will host events celebrating the city’s Modernist sites during the 2024 Heritage Festival in April and the Craft + Design Canberra Festival in November. Updates on @canberra_modern.

TURN UP THE FUN

Pod-hopping, money-making, summer sledding... Find plenty of adventure for tiny travellers (and their grown-ups).





Play in epic pods

For kids — where giant acorn and banksia cubbies are linked by a labyrinth of slides and climbing nets — is the slam-dunk star of Molonglo Valley’s National Arboretum Canberra (also home to 94 different types of forest and many themed gardens). Nearby, you’ll find the starting point for the Himalayan Cedar Track, a 2.1-kilometre loop that leads to a picnic deck with free electric barbecues. Pack walkie-talkies to level up a game amongst the century-old cedars. nationalarboretum.act.gov.au



Go tobogganing on snow... or steel

In winter, Corin Forest Mountain Resort, a 50-minute drive southwest of the CBD, is blanketed with fluffy but not too fluffy snow – perfect for building snowmen and tobogganing. Hire a toboggan at the resort and try to time your visit for midweek to avoid the crowds (these snowy slopes are within easy reach of Sydney and Canberra). In summer, get your no-chill thrills on the Alpine Slide (ages two and up), which races through 1.2 kilometres of majestic mountain ash forest.

corin.com.au

Try fantastical treats

Fancy eating a psychedelic-looking mushroom stuffed with strawberry mousse and lychee jelly, served on edible “dirt”? How about a river of chocolate or a purple cheesecake? Taste weird and wonderful desserts at Willy Wonka’s Afternoon Tea at Space Kitchen in Phillip, a 10-minute drive from the CBD. There’s a four-person minimum for Willy Wonka bookings but kids can show up at any time for a Unicorn Hotcake with brightly coloured maple custard, ice-cream and fairy floss. space-kitchen.com.au



Talk to the animals

The five-hour Wonders of Wildlife tour at Yarralumla's National Zoo & Aquarium is your backstage pass to the animal kingdom. Stroke a rhino's rough skin, hide breakfast for the sun bears and dodge licks from a giraffe's 45-centimetre-long tongue at feeding time. Bring a fully charged camera and walk away with a stack of animal facts. nationalzoo.com.au

Sleep in a tricked-up cubbyhouse

Book the Kids Cubby and East Apartment at East Hotel in vibrant Kingston and soak up parental peace while the little ones get stuck into Xbox, board games and Lego in their interconnecting studio. The kids' zone also comes with a bunk bed and a "kiddy-bar" stocked with juice, popcorn and biscuits. A cruisy five-minute ride on the complimentary bicycles gets you to Patissez Cafe & Bakehaus, where you can fill up on the justly famous FreakShakes. easthotel.com.au, patissez.com

Staying up late(ish)?

Follow the sweet, smoky smell drifting from a charcoal grill to the laid-back City restaurant Terra, where easy family dining doesn't feel like eating at a play centre. "Our food is a good bridge between kids' meat-and-chips and adult dining, with options that aren't too challenging but are super delicious," says co-owner Anthony Iannelli. If hot dogs and burgers are a must, head to East Lake's Dairy Road precinct, where you'll find the Brodburger food van at Capital Brewing Co., a carbon-neutral outfit with a play area and



lawn games. To wind down, go to LESS, a sculptural public space created for quiet contemplation, just a short walk away. terraacanberra.com.au, capitalbrewing.co

Shake it up in the Quake Lab

Questacon, the science centre where you're *supposed* to fiddle with stuff, has been a holiday highlight since it opened in 1988. Kids can feel the full force of an earthquake and then defy gravity on the two-storey Free Fall slide. Queue early to catch one of the Spectacular Science Shows, which run multiple times a day. Want more? Get the Questacon Walks of Wonder app for a science-y guide to the nearby National Triangle. questacon.edu.au

Make your own coin

Robbie and Titan, the money-making robots, help the team at the Royal Australian Mint in Deakin crank out up to two million coins every day. See them in action on a guided tour and, for \$3, mint your very own shiny dollar (entry is free, as are guided tours). There's also Mini-Minties, a monthly hands-on session for children aged three to five. Big kids can sign up for Mintventures (ages six to 12; runs during the ACT school holidays) to learn all kinds of trivia, such as what makes the animals on Aussie coins so special. Note: the Mint will be closed to visitors from February to August 2024 while the building gets a makeover; a pop-up shop will operate at Canberra Museum and Gallery, located in Civic Square. ramint.gov.au



Discover secrets at the Australian National Botanic Gardens

As you follow the interactive Who Did That? Children's Trail at the Australian National Botanic Gardens in Acton, about a five-minute drive from the city, you'll learn why bees buzz and how a feather ended up on the moon. Download an activity book, or pick one up from the visitor centre, to become a detective and match scats (that's animal poo, kids) with the tracks of native animals. Itching to climb a tree? The three-storey Paperbark Treehouse takes you into the canopy of a lush paperbark forest (parts of the treehouse were made using rosewood fence posts from the set of the 2008 film *Australia*). parksaustralia.gov.au

Tick all the boxes

Reaching a family consensus can be tricky. But everyone wins with the Gold Creek Adventure Ticket, which gives you access to all four attractions at Gold Creek Village in the northern suburb of Nicholls. If you're lucky, you might just have a parrot perch on your shoulder at the Canberra Walk In Aviary, plus you can meet

lots of slithery critters at the Canberra Reptile Zoo. At the National Dinosaur Museum, will you be brave enough to come face to face with a 20-metre-long Tyrannosaurus rex? (No wonder its name means "king of the tyrant lizards".) At Cockington Green Gardens, a shrunken English village complete with its own micro Stonehenge, kids will feel like giants. Stay tuned for a new mini steam train, expected to chug into the village in late 2024. goldcreekadventure.com.au

Get your sport on

Aspiring athletes and trivia nuts will get a real kick out of the Australian Institute of Sport in the northside suburb of Bruce. A 1.5-hour tour gets you into Sportex, an interactive exhibit where you can stand on an Olympic podium, have a crack

at wheelchair basketball and virtual downhill skiing, and peruse all kinds of memorabilia including shoes worn by institute grad Cathy Freeman. Take a look at the public swimming timetable for the chance to test your speed in the pool where greats like Petria Thomas have clocked countless laps. ais.gov.au

Make a massive splash

From November to March, young ninjas can launch metres into the air from the epic jumping pillow at Canberra Aqua Park's 1600-square-metre overwater inflatable obstacle course. The park sets up at Black Mountain Peninsula on the western side of Lake Burley Griffin every year and it's the wildest way in town to get wet. For kids aged five and up; one paying adult can supervise up to four under-10s. canberraaquapark.com





FOOD & WINE

CULTURE

FAMILY & NATURE

TRENDING

LOCAL SPOTLIGHT

DIRECTORY



SHORE THINGS

In the centre of the city, Lake Burley Griffin makes a strong case for slow exploration, its 40-kilometre edge a haven for paddlers, bike riders and curious roos.

FOOD & WINE

CULTURE

FAMILY & NATURE

TRENDING

LOCAL SECRETS

DIRECTORY





You'll want to skip the sleep-in on at least one morning of your stay. Head down to Lotus Bay at first light to catch keen kayakers as they push off from the water's edge, fracturing reflections of the hot air balloons coasting above (or book your own flight; balloonloftcanberra.com.au). For now, the almost seven square kilometres of Lake Burley Griffin belong to early birds like you and the mobs of eastern grey kangaroos that graze in Weston Park at Yarralumla on its southern shore.

Later in the morning, things start to buzz. The roos give way to kids who come to swim at the sandy beach and whoop at Yarralumla Play Station (yarraps.com.au) – with no devices in sight. The park's miniature railway, small-scale golf course and farm populated by ponies, sheep and alpacas provide plenty of hands-on action.

Named after Walter Burley Griffin, one of the lead designers of the city's layout, the artificial lake is as much a part of the local lifestyle as it is a must-do for visitors. Gliding your stand-up paddleboard (rentals available via supcbr.com) through the mists of the Captain Cook Memorial Jet – which shoots six tonnes of water about 114 metres into the air – is a good time no matter where you are from. Perhaps piloting a Danish-designed electric GoBoat (goboat.com.au) is more your style? Steer clear of the jet, lest your table, laden with crunchy fish and chips from Snapper & Co. (snapperandco.com.au), cops a soaking.

The winding shoreline creates space for all types of adventurers. Families licking gelato and counting black swans share park benches with bike riders making pit stops on the five-kilometre bridge-to-bridge loop. Couples taking it slow on tandem bikes (cyclecanberra.com.au) have their pick of shady spots, too. If you want to squeeze in a gallery after your picnic, a purple or orange e-scooter (ridebeam.com, rideneuron.com) will zip you into the heart of the National Triangle.

Come late afternoon, Queen Elizabeth Terrace is the place to be, as lakeside bar Margot (margot.bar) dishes up Eden Road riesling, buffalo-milk blue cheese and a cruisy playlist. On the other side of the lake in Barton, The Boat House (theboathouse.restaurant) serves four courses – alongside the best sunset in town.

WILD AT HEART

Around here, epic views, bushwalking highs and even space odysseys are easy to come by.

Track down Stromlo's black diamonds

Stromlo Forest Park in Molonglo Valley, a 15-minute drive from the CBD, is a mountain-biking mecca. Its 50-plus kilometres of track offers 16 ways to descend Mount Stromlo, from black-diamond runs to cruiser sections for novices. "Green Evolution is a great trail for a family outing," suggests Peta Longhurst, an instructor at Dynamic Motivation, which runs training sessions and a shuttle up the 770-metre-high mountain. "You will navigate fun, flat corners with loose and slippery rocks and there's a jump, which you can go around if you're not confident." Feeling brave? Try the blue-square flow trail Trebuchet. "It has lots of berms and rollable jumps." stromloforestpark.act.gov.au, dynamicmotivation.com.au

CHECK PARKS.ACT.GOV.AU FOR TRACK MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY UPDATES.

Head for the hills

Red Hill Nature Reserve stretches over nearly 300 hectares along the eastern edge of the Woden Valley. One of the most delightful paths through this biodiverse wildlife corridor is The Red Track, a 3.2-kilometre loop where white-banded bees and meadow argus butterflies flit among creamy candle flowers while gang-gang cockatoos squawk above. You won't believe you're only five kilometres from the CBD.

parks.act.gov.au

Choose your own adventure

Skirting the NSW border at its northern tip and travelling as far south as the Murrumbidgee River, the epic Centenary Trail takes in major monuments and suburban lookouts before sweeping off into the wilderness that frames Canberra. Tackle the 145-kilometre loop by bike or on a seven-day walk (averaging about 20 kilometres per day). Alternatively, you can dip in and out on short trips. The popular One Tree Hill Summit trail starts and finishes in the town of Hall, a 20-minute drive north-west of the city. It's a mostly gentle nine-kilometre amble on well-groomed dirt, winding in and out of wattle and eucalypt cover and through open grazing land. The summit unfurls knockout views of the Brindabella Range.

parks.act.gov.au

Salute the sunshine

Sun-up (and sundown) is go time at Mount Ainslie Lookout, when 270-degree views of the National Triangle are burnished gold and orange. Drive or cycle your way there, or walk the Kokoda Track,



a 4.5-kilometre-return sealed trail that connects Remembrance Nature Park (near the Australian War Memorial) to Mount Ainslie's summit. Along the way, a series of switchbacks through shrubby scribbly gums gives way to a meandering path with a gentle incline and few steps. When you hear glossy black cockatoos making a ruckus atop some drooping she-oaks, you'll know you're almost there.

canberra.tracks.act.gov.au

Take off on a space odyssey

Before starting out on the self-guided Heritage Trail from Mount Stromlo Observatory, the HQ of the Australian National University's Research School of Astronomy & Astrophysics, download the ANU Walks smartphone app. Stories of the site's destruction in the 2003 bushfires and wartime military secondment bring history to life. But the real action is up above.

Ngunnawal people watched the sky from Stromlo for millennia before the first observatory dome arrived in 1911. "After-dark group tours, lectures and stargazing events here are a great way to discover the beauty of space," says Dr Brad Tucker, astrophysicist and cosmologist at ANU. "There's nothing quite like seeing the rings of Saturn with your own eyes."

rsaa.anu.edu.au/observatories

Hit a park after dark

Bush stone-curlews – nicknamed "murderbirds" for their haunting call – freeze when surprised, often committing to comically odd poses. Catch one in the act on a Twilight Tour at Mulligans Flat Woodland Sanctuary, a 12.5-square-kilometre oasis for endangered species in Throsby, 20 minutes' drive from the city. About two hours long, the easy walk starts before sunset at Wildbark, a visitor-centre-meets-café with a solid local wine list.

mulligansflat.org.au

SO CLOSE, YET SO FAR

Relax into dreamy stays just a short drive
into the middle of... nowhere.



Above the vines

From the cellar door at Mount Majura Vineyard, you'll need to walk five minutes uphill (pack light) to reach the solar-powered tent called Edgar, your escape for the night. Wander back down for tastings that go until 5 o'clock most afternoons. We suggest investigating the TSG, a sprightly blend of tempranillo,

shiraz and graciano. Haven't packed dinner? It's only a 15-minute trip to Kita at Narrabundah, which turns out topnotch Indonesian noodles for pick-up from 6pm. Up for a (very) late-night snack under the stars? The kitchen at Kita stays open until five in the morning.
nakedcubbycollective.com, kitakafe.com.au



In the bush

There are no bells or whistles at Ready-Cut Cottage, a six-bed, tin-roof hideout that is all but camouflaged by Namadgi National Park. There's no restaurant within cooee, either (Namadgi Visitor Centre is 30 kilometres north; Canberra is another 36 kilometres away). But who wants them? You'll have views of Yankee Hat Mountain, a bank of the Gudgenby River, a firepit and a kettle. Heaven. parks.act.gov.au

Among the animals

If it's wild immersion you're after, a tree house in the canopy, where a giraffe might just poke its nose in for a nuzzle, hits the brief. At Jamala Wildlife Lodge in the National Zoo & Aquarium, stays also include safari-style bungalows, which share glass walls with lion, tiger, cheetah and sun bear enclosures, plus digs set into a teeming blue aquarium. jamalawildlifelodge.com.au





Off the grid

It's always a good morning to wake up in a tiny eco house at Lake George Winery, in a cool climate varietal heartland about 45 minutes up the highway from Canberra. Outside your window, rows of chardonnay and shiraz riot with fruit in spring, are hand-picked in

March and April, then get that autumn glow when the air turns nippy. Each of the four stays is privately tucked away and cleverly kitted out. Little Baxter, with a loft and sofa, sleeps three. lakegeorgewinery.com.au

ON COUNTRY

Follow winding trails around the National Arboretum Canberra and you will discover ancient culture – not to mention tangy native raspberries.

Ngunnawal Elders welcome visitors to their Country, which includes lands in and around the ACT and southern NSW, with the phrase: “*Ngunna yarabi-yengu*.” It translates to “You are welcome to leave your footprint on our land,” explains Scott Saddler from the National Arboretum Canberra (nationalarboretum.act.gov.au), a 250-hectare haven in Molonglo Valley that is home to more than 44,000 rare and endangered trees.

The Ngunnawal people’s connection to this hilly region stretches back tens of thousands of years. Stone tools have been discovered by archaeologists on land that now forms Springbank Island on Lake Burley Griffin. Surrounded by giant granite boulders, Birrigai Rock Shelter at Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve, a 45-minute drive south-west of Canberra, is another place of camp and culture. Used from the time of the Ice Age until the end of the 19th century, this site is of special significance to Traditional Custodians (so be sure to stay on the marked trail).

Saddler, a Wiradjuri man, joined the Arboretum in 2014. His mission is to reconnect the contemporary landscape with the Country’s ancient heritage. “It’s all about making people culturally aware,” he says. “A lot of people who come here have never seen an emu caller, a real spear or a killer boomerang with their own eyes.”

Ngala Tours at the Arboretum include weaving workshops and a Walk on Country experience, during

which you can explore the site’s Bush Tucker Garden, designed on Ngunnawal Country. “The undulation of the garden beds represents the hills and mountains.” As you stroll, touch plant species that the Ngunnawal people have relied on for countless generations, such as “bootlace bush”, both eaten and used to make string. “There’s also a native raspberry that explodes in your mouth – much tastier than what you’d find at the supermarket,” says Saddler.

His favourite bush tucker is false sarsaparilla, a fruiting shrub that grows all over Ngunnawal Country and is chewed as a tonic for colds, arthritis and belly aches. “It’s also an indicator plant; when it’s in full flower, it means it’s a good time to catch the fat fish in local waterways.”

On a terrace that overlooks the Arboretum’s amphitheatre, there’s a quiet space inspired by the Dreaming story of a young girl who turned into a butterfly to avoid marrying the evil Gunga. Planted with insect-attracting natives, the garden takes the form of a butterfly when viewed from the hill above.

“Canberra is full of ways to learn about culture,” says Saddler. “I like to go barefoot in the dirt out in the pristine places.” On a trip to Tidbinbilla after losing his father, Saddler recalls walking between rocks and suddenly feeling someone behind him. “I’m Wiradjuri so this is not my own Country but I later found out I’d been in the secret men’s business area,” he says. “The First Nations’ connection to land is strong.”



(CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE LEFT) SCOTT SADDLER WALKS THROUGH BASKET GRASS; SADDLER DEMONSTRATES THE USE OF A CLUB; RIVER SHE-OAK; AUSTRALIAN INDIGO

FOOD & WINE

CULTURE

FAMILY & NATURE

TRENDING

LOCAL SECRETS

DIRECTORY

NEIGHBOURHOODS TO KNOW



Where can you find the most delicious brunch, track down vintage treasures or let the kids slide into an epic ball pit? Maximise your chances of pleasing everyone with our round-up of the ideal neighbourhoods to hit.



CANBERRA CITY, ACTON & BRADDON

Short walks and cycle paths connect the bar-studded laneways of Canberra's CBD to artsy Acton and hip Braddon. No matter where you set out from, you won't need to stroll far to get your coffee fix. If you're in the CBD, head to The Cupping Room (1; thecuppingroom.com.au) – “The Cuppo” in local dialect – where the menu features vegan and gluten-free options and world champion barista Sasa Sestic oversees the brews.

At Garema Place (2) you can shop at indie treasure troves Landspeed Records (landspeed.com.au) and Impact Comics (impactcomics.com.au). The nearby Canberra Centre (3; canberracentre.qicre.com) puts David Jones and other stores you know together with the authentic hawker-style eateries of its Tiger Lane (tigerlane.com.au) precinct. Fancy an al fresco wine instead? Low-key bar Dear Prudence (dearprudencebar.com.au) and the food hall at Verity Lane Market (4; veritylanemarket.com.au) open onto a buzzy backstreet.

Winding your way west into Acton, take the time

to nose around the colourful exhibitions of the Drill Hall Gallery (5; dhg.anu.edu.au) on your way to the Australian National Botanic Garden (6; anbg.gov.au) or the National Museum of Australia (7; nma.gov.au).

On Lonsdale Street, which runs north from the city into Braddon, retail is the cultural experience. There's Hive (8; hivebraddon.com.au), which curates sustainable kids' toys, knits and trinkets, plus jewellery showroom Kin Gallery (9; kin.gallery), where you'll find one-offs from local makers. When you're ready to relax, flip a coin: heads and you steam in the bathhouse at Adytum Wellness (10; adytum.com.au); tails and it's potato nori tacos from Lazy Su (11; lazy-su.com.au) before beers at Bentspoke Brewing Co. (12; bentspokebrewing.com.au).

Stay local

The Midnight Hotel (13; midnighthotel.com.au) for its elegant indoor pool and bar; A by Adina (14; abyadina.com) for Modernism-inspired rooms with a view.

(CLOCKWISE FROM OPPOSITE) VERITY LANE MARKET; STREET ART IN BRADDON; LANDSPEED RECORDS; LAZY SU



BARTON, MANUKA & KINGSTON

Leafy village vibes meet slick dining spots and retro-inspired cocktail bars in this enclave of the inner south. Barton, once known for its office blocks, is now one of the hottest places to eat in Canberra, with Vincent (1; vincentrestaurant.com.au) among those heroing refined small plates and European wines. The Realm precinct, featuring Hotel Realm (2; hotelrealm.com.au) and Burbury Hotel & Apartments (2; burburyhotel.com.au), with its rooftop bar Leyla (leylabar.com.au), also helps make the National Circuit an after-hours hangout.

After a meal at Cantonese restaurant Chairman & Yip (2; chairmangroup.com.au), wander across to Ostani (2; ostani.com.au) for a nightcap. In the AM, Maple + Clove (2; mapleandclove.com.au) pulls a weekend crowd with its nourishing smoothies, savoury spelt waffles and raw salads. This cool concrete pocket of town is also an oasis of wellness: bliss out with a massage ritual at Mudd The Spa (2; mudd.com.au) or book in for a high-performance facial at Hale Spa (3; halehealth.com.au).

A 15-minute walk away, Manuka village sets a chilled pace. You could spend an afternoon browsing beloved bookstore Paperchain (4; paperchainbookstore.com.au),

shopping for fashion by labels such as Alemais, Trelise Cooper and Kitx at Momento Dezigns (5; momentodezigns.com.au) or reading the paper at Manuka Lawns, ducking in to Urban Pantry (6; urbanpantrymanuka.com.au) for pasta when the mood strikes.

Neighbouring Kingston mixes the modern with the historical. “Old” Kingston has its heritage homes and Canberra Railway Museum (7; canberrarail.org.au) but head down to the foreshore and you’ll find a vibrant mix of parks and eateries – try the burger high tea at Beef & Barley (8; beefandbarley.com.au).

If you’re still around after sundown, wander into the backstreets of Kingston to discover all its restaurants and bars, including Queenies (9; queeniesatkingston.com.au), where the cocktails have names like My Auntie Maureen, the entirely gluten-free menu stars Bangkok chicken and the locals bring the good times.

Stay local

Little National Hotel (2; littlenationalhotel.com.au) for boutique sophistication; Hotel Kurrajong (10; hotelkurrajong.com.au) for heritage suites and a family room.

(FROM ABOVE LEFT) REFINED DINING AT VINCENT; OSTANI BAR AT HOTEL REALM

FYSHWICK, PIALLIGO & MAJURA

Escape to the country in a tick over 15 minutes. You'll find truffle farms and wineries to indulge in as well as fun for kids along the way. Start at Fyshwick, an industrial-zone-turned-hipster-hangout on Canberra's green fringe where you can snap up a wholesome brekkie and fill your picnic basket at the Fyshwick Fresh Food Markets (1; fyshwickmarkets.com.au). It's open from 7am, Thursday to Sunday.

Not far away, at the design-forward development of Dairy Road (2; dairyroad.com.au), bend and stretch at Flow Yoga (flowyogacanberra.com) and let the kids loose at the Kidzplora (kidzplora.com.au) play centre. However, no judgement if you skip yoga for a gin-sipping tour of Big River Distilling Co. (bigriverdistilling.com.au) or noodles at Canteen (eatcanteen.com.au) instead.

City caffeine crew Lonsdale Roasters (3; lonsdalestreetroasters.com) have also set up shop out here - with an indoor basketball court to boot. Vintage style more your addiction? You might unearth the Eames chairs and '50s-era furnishings of your dreams at nearby store The Modern Object (4; @the_modern_object) or collect pearls, perfume flacons and who knows what else at

Dirty Janes Canberra (5; dirtyjanes.com). Designer Op Shop Emporium (6; dosemporium.com.au) is a hotspot for consignment fashion and has a gallery attached. If you fancy fine art, swing by Grainger Gallery (2; graingergallery.com.au), back in the Dairy Road precinct.

A five-minute drive north brings you to semi-rural paddocks. Pull over in Pialligo to pick fresh apples at Tanbella Orchard (7; tanbellaorchard.com). Don't miss scones with jam at the pretty Kitchen Garden at Rodney's café (8; kitchengardenrodneys.com.au). In Majura, go hunting for prized black fungi at The Truffle Farm (9; thetrufflefarm.com.au) in winter.

Afternoons don't get better than sundowners with a glass of Silurian sparkling while overlooking the hills at Mount Majura Vineyard (10; mountmajura.com.au). Book in for a tasting flight to take a tour of the terroir.

Stay local

Yurts at Pialligo's Beltana Farm (11; beltanafarm.au) have fridges filled with ready-to-cook meals. The stylish Vibe Hotel Canberra (12; vibehotels.com) in Majura sits only 50 metres from the airport terminal.



(CLOCKWISE FROM ABOVE LEFT) MOUNT MAJURA VINEYARD; FYSHWICK FRESH FOOD MARKETS; BIG RIVER DISTILLING CO.'S CINN GIN

EVENTS

Festivals of music, sport, wine and food. Hot air balloons and floral
spectaculars. Find out what's happening in Canberra for 2024.



FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION ABOUT WHAT'S ON FROM DAWN UNTIL
AFTER DARK, SCAN THIS CODE OR GO TO [VISITCANBERRA.COM.AU/EVENTS](https://visitcanberra.com.au/events)

SUMMER

World-class cricket, cars and art stars take over the city this action-packed season.



Emily Kam Kngwarray
exhibition

2 Dec 2023-28 Apr 2024

NATIONAL GALLERY OF
AUSTRALIA, PARKES

Monumental works by the
renowned Anmatyerr painter.

nga.gov.au



EMILY KAM KNGWARRAY, ANMATYERR PEOPLE, *UNTITLED (AWELYE)*, 1994, NATIONAL GALLERY OF AUSTRALIA, KAMBERRI/CANBERRA, PURCHASED 2022 IN CELEBRATION OF THE NATIONAL GALLERY OF AUSTRALIA'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE FOUNDATION GALA DINNER FUND 2021. © EMILY KAM KNGWARRAY/COPYRIGHT AGENCY, 2023

*Jordan Wolfson: Body
Sculpture* exhibition

9 Dec 2023-28 Apr 2024

NATIONAL GALLERY OF
AUSTRALIA, PARKES

Meet the US artist's latest
frighteningly real sculpture.

nga.gov.au

Discovering Ancient Egypt
exhibition

15 Dec 2023-8 Sept 2024

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF
AUSTRALIA, ACTON

Book tickets to see mummies and
a life-size recreation of a temple.

nma.gov.au

New Year's Eve Fireworks

31 Dec 2023

LAKE BURLEY GRIFFIN
FORESHORE

Picnic around Lake Burley Griffin
with spectacular firework displays.

events.canberra.com.au

Summernats 36

4-7 Jan

EXHIBITION PARK, MITCHELL

Revheads unite for four days of
burnouts, drifting and cruising.

summernats.com.au

Summernats
Fringe Festival

4-7 Jan

BRADDON

As evening falls, hot rods roll
along Braddon's eat streets.

summernats.com.au

Big Bash League:
Sydney Thunder v.
Adelaide Strikers

14 Jan

MANUKA OVAL, GRIFFITH

Family fun, with wallet-friendly
tickets and activities off the pitch.

cricket.com.au

Australia Day Celebrations

26 Jan

VARIOUS VENUES, ACT

Grab a snag and wave your flag.

events.canberra.com.au

Women's International T20:
Australia v. South Africa

27-28 Jan

MANUKA OVAL, GRIFFITH

Can the Aussies win again in this
2023 World Cup Final rematch?

cricket.com.au

Men's One Day
International:
Australia v. West Indies

6 Feb

MANUKA OVAL, GRIFFITH

Cheer on the green-and-gold in
the series' third and final match.

cricket.com.au

Lunar New Year

10 Feb

WOOLLEY STREET, DICKSON

Head to this lively, eclectic
neighbourhood to ring in
the Year of the Dragon.

events.canberra.com.au

National
Multicultural Festival

16-18 Feb

CITY CENTRE

Food, music and a street parade
celebrate 170 cultures.

multiculturalfestival.com.au

*All event dates are 2024
unless specified*

AUTUMN

The region's hills are alive with marathon runners, balloons and the sounds of rock-meets-folk music.



HOT AIR BALLOONS
ABOVE LAKE BURLEY GRIFFIN

LEAN TIMMS

NATIONAL
FOLK FESTIVAL



Enlighten Festival

1-11 Mar

**NATIONAL TRIANGLE AND
CANBERRA CITY**

See Canberra come to life with
culture and creativity this autumn.

enlightencanberra.com

Vincent Namatjira: Australia in Colour exhibition

2 Mar-21 Jul

**NATIONAL GALLERY OF
AUSTRALIA, PARKES**

Subversive, satirical art by the
Western Aranda portraitist.

nga.gov.au

Canberra Balloon Spectacular

9-17 Mar

PATRICK WHITE LAWNS

Marvel at hot air balloons floating
across the city.

enlightencanberra.com

National Sheepdog Trials

11-17 Mar

HALL SHOWGROUND, HALL

Watch as some of Australia's
finest working dogs do what
they do best.

nationalsheepdogtrials.org.au

Canberra Comedy Festival

13-24 Mar

CANBERRA CITY

A stellar line-up of top
performers. Don't miss
Jimeoin's all-new show.

canberracomedyfestival.com.au

Ralph Heimans: Portraiture. Power. Influence. exhibition

15 Mar-27 May

**NATIONAL PORTRAIT
GALLERY, PARKES**

A collection of the royal
portraitist's best work.

npg.gov.au

Skyfire

16 Mar

**COMMONWEALTH PARK AND
REGATTA POINT, CANBERRA CITY**

Entertainment and fireworks
light up Lake Burley Griffin.

hit1047.com.au

Canberra Beer & Cider Festival

16 Mar

MERCURE CANBERRA, BRADDON

Get crafty with 250 brews to try.

canberrabeerfest.com.au

National Folk Festival

28 Mar-1 Apr

EXHIBITION PARK, MITCHELL

Four days of the best folk acts

Australia and beyond has to offer.

folkfestival.org.au

Canberra and Region Heritage Festival

13-28 Apr

VARIOUS VENUES, ACT

Tours and other events celebrate
cultural and historical connections.

act.gov.au/heritagefestival

Anzac Day Dawn Service

25 Apr

**AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL,
CAMPBELL**

Honouring those who have served
takes on a special significance here.

awm.gov.au

Canberra International Music Festival

1-5 May

VARIOUS VENUES, ACT

Dance to classic and Baroque bops.

cimf.org.au



WINTER

Rug up and indulge in cold-weather pleasures, from dinosaur spotting and mulled wine fests to ice skating under the stars.



Truffle Season

Jun-Aug

VARIOUS VENUES, ACT

Hunt for underground treasure with truffle dogs at local orchards. Taste Périgord-infused sushi, beer and doughnuts on city menus.

trufflefestival.com.au

Magnificent MEGAfauna:

Family trail

1-31 Jul

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL BOTANIC GARDENS, ACTON

Go back more than 20,000 years to learn about wombats the size of a car and the “demon duck of doom”.

parksaustralia.gov.au/botanic-gardens/do/whats-on

The Forage

Dates TBA (check website)

DAIRY ROAD, FYSHWICK

An extravaganza of street eats from local cooks, wineries and breweries.

theforage.com.au

Gauguin's World: Tōna Iho, Tōna Ao exhibition

29 Jun-7 Oct

NATIONAL GALLERY OF AUSTRALIA, PARKES

Iconic masterpieces by French post-Impressionist Paul Gauguin.

nga.gov.au

National Photographic Portrait Prize and Darling Portrait Prize

22 Jun-13 Oct

NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY, PARKES

See winners and top contenders from leading image competitions.

npg.gov.au

Winter in the City

5-21 Jul

CANBERRA CITY CENTRE

Scarves and beanies at the ready!

Go on a winter wonderland adventure in the heart of the city.

winter.inthecity.com.au

Canberra Writers Festival

28 Aug-1 Sep

CANBERRA CITY

Nothing beats getting lost in a good book but hearing stories from the heavy hitters of Australian literature comes close.

Tickets are a must for authors' lunches and masterclasses.

canberrawritersfestival.com.au



AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL BOTANIC GARDENS



SPRING

The capital gets colourful with a million flowers in bloom, some crafty collabs and a cool festival scene.



SPILT MILK

Floriade/NightFest

14 Sept-13 Oct

COMMONWEALTH PARK,
CANBERRA CITY

At Australia's biggest celebration of spring, see millions of flowers by day and go with the festival flow at night. floriadeaustralia.com

Handmade Canberra

21-22 Sept

EXHIBITION PARK, MITCHELL

Meet makers at 250 stalls at this handmade food and design market. handmadecanberra.com.au

Ouroboros launch

From 25 Oct

NATIONAL GALLERY OF
AUSTRALIA, PARKES

Artist Lindy Lee's immersive sculpture is set to be unveiled. nga.com.au

Craft + Design

Canberra Festival

1-10 Nov

VARIOUS VENUES, ACT

Regeneration-themed events that imagine a sustainable future. craftanddesigncanberra.org

Carol Jerrems exhibition

1 Nov 2024-2 Feb 2025

NATIONAL PORTRAIT
GALLERY, PARKES

Works by a photographer famed for shots of '70s counter-culture. npg.gov.au

Spilt Milk

Date TBA (check website)

EXHIBITION PARK, MITCHELL

Australia's most in-demand music and arts festival is back. Watch the website for the stellar lineup. spilt-milk.com.au

SpringOUT

2-30 Nov

VARIOUS VENUES, ACT

With SpringOUT celebrating its 25th anniversary, pride flags fill the streets as Canberra celebrates love and joy with the LGBTQIA community. springout.com.au

FOOD & WINE

CULTURE

FAMILY & NATURE

TRENDING

LOCAL SECRETS

DIRECTORY

AFTER DARK

Up for a nightcap? Here's where to find underground cocktails, craft beers and live music playing until late.

Sideway

This bar and music room in the city's Sydney Building slings soda spiked with yuzu sake, primo pizzas and the kind of natural drops that get called "funky". Show up for happy hour at 6pm and don't be surprised if you blink and it's *late*. Beneath a suave exterior, this place is a vortex of great times. Keep your eyes on the website for tickets to funk, disco and rock 'n' roll gigs at the venue. sidewaybc.com

Leyla

Afternoons are golden on the glossy rooftop of Barton's Burbury Hotel. Grab a seat on a leather lounge for the big city views with a sunny disposition. As it darkens, Leyla's interior steals the scene with its glittering onyx-backed bar and slick booths where champagne feels so right. The wine list is impressive and, if tinnies are more your thing, a top edit of brews awaits. leylabar.com.au

Capital Brewing Co.

The city's only B Corp-certified carbon-neutral beers are pulled at this taproom in Fyshwick. On game days, footy fans come here for the big screens and an even bigger atmosphere. Nab a seat in the family-friendly beer garden, courtyard or by the fermenters in the main bar and quench your thirst with one of Capital's classic ales, the XPA or a special release, such as the tangy mango sour. capitalbrewing.co

High Jinks

Walk across the garden by New Acton's Nishi Building and take the elevator to the basement. Bunker bar High Jinks matches candlelit saloon vibes with fanciful cocktails and top-shelf gins and whiskies. The Lord Jim Zombie, spiked with three types of rum, absinthe and passionfruit, is the signature drink but the bartenders here are award-winners – so go bespoke and know you're in great hands. highjinks.bar

BentSpoke Brewing Co.

When this Braddon brewpub opened in 2014, local beer fans rejoiced, sinking more than 3000 litres of indie brew on its first weekend. BentSpoke still has buzz, its Crankshaft American IPA having topped the GABS Hottest 100 Craft Beer people's choice poll twice in recent years. Every beer on tap is a cracker. Try the cider, too. bentspokebrewing.com.au



HIGH JINKS

MY PERFECT DAY

Three locals share their line-up for the ultimate 24 hours in the capital. First is ceramicist Clyde Arnott, who follows wild swimming with Swedish buns.



I'm a bacon-and-egg-roll-for-breakfast guy. And I reckon the best one in town is from NewActon's Mocan and

Green Grout (mocanandgreengrout.net). The fit-out of this café is also one of my favourites – it's eclectic, with Brutalist shapes and plants everywhere. For me, that contrast is Canberra in a nutshell.

I might have had a good cup of tea with breakfast but now I need

coffee so I'll swing by Lonsdale Street in Braddon for a locally roasted flat white at Intra LNSD (intraclnsd.com.au). I often wander down the street with my coffee to Braddon Flowers (braddonflowers.com). I've always thought I'd like to be a florist and I find the way Lauren King, the owner of this place, arranges things is inspirational.

Incorporating nature is really important to my work. I love making things that have a sense of place. When they're finished, my cups, vases or whatever it is can be

quite stark and concrete-looking, influenced by the architecture of Canberra. But I also like to make water and sand from rivers around the city a literal part of the pieces. I collect a little to take back to my studio in Ainslie. I mix these with clay to make what potters call "grog", which gives the ceramics a rustic texture.

There's a beautiful spot called the Uriarra Crossing on the Murrumbidgee River, where I've been swimming since I was a kid. It's about 25 minutes north-west of the city. As you clear the suburbs,



URIARRA CROSSING ON THE MURRUMBIDGEE RIVER AT STROMLO



(CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT) EDGAR'S AT AINSLIE; LIGHT RYE AT UNDER; POTS BY CLYDE ARNOTT

you pass plains of bushland and sheep farms, then when you enter into a valley, it feels like you're driving into a secret. You end up at this peaceful river, surrounded by tall native trees. I come for the sounds of nothing but the birds and of clear water running over big river stones.

Uriarra is also a great picnic spot. Before you go, stock up at the Ainslie IGA (ainslieiga.com.au). It's not just any old supermarket – it has a fantastic deli with a wall of imported cheeses that you can't get anywhere else in Canberra. And I love that it has been owned by one family for 60-or-so years.

I'm big on small businesses that do something special. There's a bakery in Mawson called Under

(under-bakery.com), which makes bread and pastries that I'd say are worth making a trip to Canberra for. They do these sweet, doughy Swedish bullar – buns with cinnamon or cardamom – that are amazing.

And if you're in the city, follow No Name Lane to the sandwich joint called Sandoochie (sandoochie.com.au), which uses Under's bread, loading it with seasonal stuff from the markets. Fillings might be poached chicken with almond and rocket or pastrami with apple but they change daily – whatever's written on the butcher's paper on the wall is good.

If there's still some time left in the day, I'll work on my tennis

at the grass courts of Reid Tennis Club (play.tennis.com.au), one of the oldest in Canberra. In summer, I might watch an international or national cricket match at Manuka Oval (manukaoval.com.au). Or, in winter, you can catch AFL there.

The best way to see out the afternoon is a drink at the pub. My local is Edgar's (edgarsinn.com.au), near the Ainslie shops. The garden is a beautiful place to have a cold draught beer or lager from the tap. There's snazzy dining at The Inn restaurant upstairs but a classic schnitzel and chips from the bar makes me pretty happy.

Clyde Arnott's ceramics workshop is open by appointment. Shop online at clydearnott.com.



(FROM LEFT) MISS VAN'S SPICY LAO SAUSAGE; THE ICONIC VIEW FROM MOUNT AINSLIE

Sita Sargeant of tour company She Shapes History reveals the city's secrets, from unlikely sites of espionage to a hidden basement bar.



If someone told me I only had one day left in Canberra, I'd start that last day by hiking Mount Ainslie.

I think there's

something so special about the city's stillness in the early morning. At the summit, there's a display showing how Marion Mahony Griffin and her husband, Walter Burley Griffin, originally envisioned Canberra. It's a powerful reminder that Australia's history has been significantly shaped by women.

Canberra is one of the only capitals in the world that was, in large part, designed by a woman. Even Walter said that Marion was the genius in the relationship. She was a trailblazer as the second

woman in America to earn an architecture degree and played a pivotal role in defining 20th-century architecture.

I often joke that I'm single-handedly supporting Canberra's café economy with how many cups of coffee I consume each week. Post-hike, my go-to is often Café Stepping Stone (cafesteppingstone.com) in Dickson. Owned by women, this café is a work-integration social enterprise that is low on waste and provides employment and training opportunities to refugee and migrant women. What appears to be regular coffee-shop fare draws on the women's cultural backgrounds – and offers phenomenal flavours. The carrot cake is my favourite and the menu of seasonal specials is always worth exploring.

Next, I'd visit the Gallery of Small Things (galleryofsmallthings.com) in Watson. Anne Masters, a cornerstone of the local art community, curates rotating exhibits here. The intimate space, once a backyard laundry, displays everything from photography to painting and textiles.

The National Triangle doesn't seem like a secret but there are so many places here that don't make many visitors' to-do lists. For instance, the National Archives of Australia (naa.gov.au) does free exhibitions that explore intriguing tales from Canberra's past. It's set in a historic building that once housed ASIO. Unbeknownst to many, Canberra has a rich history of espionage. There are stories about '50s and '60s housewives being recruited to infiltrate the Communist Party.

The Ladies Rose Garden at Old Parliament House (moadoph.gov.au) is a beautiful spot to stop and catch your breath. Check out its Centenary of Women's Suffrage Fountain. It's a timeline that starts in 1902, when Australian women won the right to vote and to stand for Federal Parliament. It shares moments when the glass ceiling of federal politics has been broken, finishing when Julia Gillard became prime minister. In spring, the garden's wisteria blooms, revealing a code: the green, white and violet reflects the letters GWV, a sneaky acronym that suffragettes used for "Give Women Votes"!

Make sure you pop inside the Museum of Australian Democracy (moadoph.gov.au) at Old Parliament House to see the offices of Bob Hawke and Joan Child, preserved as they were during their tenure as Prime Minister and Speaker of the House. Once you're back outside, look out for the sculpture of Dames Dorothy Tangney and Enid Lyons, the first women to walk through the doors as members of parliament.

For lunch, I usually head to Bookplate at the National Library of Australia (nla.gov.au). The pot pie is my particular favourite and I'll eat at an outdoor table, reading

something from the bookshop's fantastic range of Australian authors. On Saturdays in spring or summer, I check out the food trucks at The Little Burley Market (thelittleburleymarket.com.au), by the lake. I'm lactose intolerant so I go to Maddalena Easterbrook's Future Swirl (futureswirl.com.au) for her oat milk soft serve.

In the afternoon, I like to check what's playing at Arc Cinema at the National Film and Sound Archive (nfsa.gov.au). The Archive restores films and puts on an amazing evening program of classics in an Art Deco building. This is solely responsible for my knowledge and love of Aussie film. Tickets are only about \$10.

For a pre-dinner drink, I'll stop by 11e Cave (onzieme.com.au) in Kingston. You have to look behind a red door to find it and there are only 12 spots – no reservations. The drinks list is incredible but you don't need to know about wine; just tell the bartenders how you're feeling. They're grape encyclopaedias and really personalise the experience.

My restaurant recommendation is Miss Van's (missvans.com.au) in the city. You can eat at the bar so it's great for solo travellers. It was started by Andrew Duong, whose parents were refugees from Vietnam, and the food is true to his family history. Don't faff around – get a cocktail and the set menu for mushroom larb and Lao sausage.

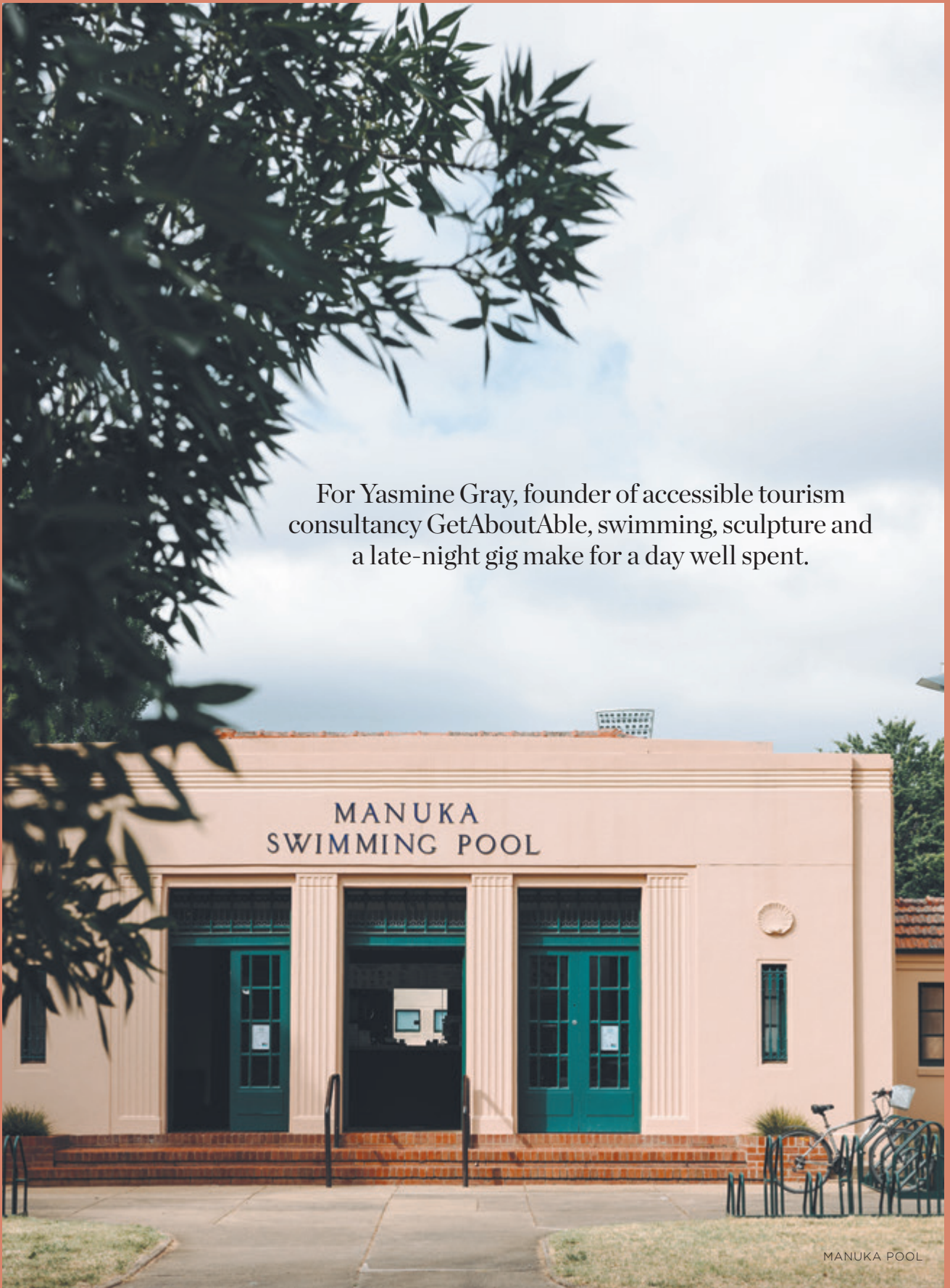
For dessert, I love Dickson's Spilt Milk Bar (spiltmilkbar.com), where the ice-cream is made with condensed milk. The friendly staff always let me sample as many flavours as I like before I settle on my usual vanilla. I'll brave my lactose intolerance for that.

She Shapes History's walking tours run in the Inner South, Inner North and National Triangle. Go to sheshapeshistory.com.au.



THE LADIES ROSE GARDEN AT OLD PARLIAMENT HOUSE

For Yasmine Gray, founder of accessible tourism consultancy GetAboutAble, swimming, sculpture and a late-night gig make for a day well spent.





(FROM LEFT) WALT & BURLEY;
BOWEN PARK



I'm not one to rush. My ideal weekend gives me either nature or the arts but because of the way Canberra is laid out, I can

do both at a leisurely pace in one day. For me, the perfect morning starts at My Café (mycafemanuka.com.au) in Manuka. The food is hearty but healthy; a vegetarian big brekkie and Refresher juice with pineapple, watermelon, orange and mint are my favourites. I never have trouble with my wheelchair there and the staff are amazing. It's a great example of the community feel in Canberra's inner south.

From there, it's an easy wander past Manuka Oval to Manuka Pool (October to March; manukapool.com.au), which opened in 1931 and still has that beautiful Art Deco character, plus it has a big lawn for picnics.

I'd continue on to Lake Burley Griffin via Telopea Park – both

have fully accessible paths – and once I got to the water, I'd pick which way to turn depending on my mood.

Going right would take me to Kingston Foreshore, where there are dozens of places to grab a quick lunch; Walt & Burley (waltandburley.com.au) does reliable pub classics. From there, I'd follow the lake's Eastern Loop for two kilometres to get to the nature trails and bird hides of the Jerrabomberra Wetlands. It's an unbelievable spot: you can be in native grassland, spotting planes as they come in to land at the airport or watching for Latham's snipes and waterfowl from a bird hide, and all the while Parliament House hovers in the distance.

If I felt like soaking up some culture instead, I'd turn left at the lake and, going past the black swans that hang out under Kings Avenue Bridge near Bowen Park, I would head over to the National Gallery of Australia (nga.gov.au), my go-to of the city's art hubs.

No matter how many times I visit, I always find something new to see. Bert Flugelman's gleaming silver *Cones* (1982) is one of my favourite works in the Sculpture Garden.

I love live music and theatre so as evening approaches, I'd go into the city for a show. For dinner, I recommend grabbing ramen at Tenkomori (tenkomori.com.au), a great hole in the wall on Lyric Lane, which winds between London Circuit and the theatre door at Canberra Theatre Centre.

Later in the night, I'd make my way to the Melbourne Building to see what's happening at Smith's Alternative (smithsalternative.com). It used to be a bookshop but these days it's a cool spot to have a drink and see a gig – you might get jazz, folk, classical, big band, comedy or poetry. Canberra is full of quirky secrets and Smith's is one of the best.

GetAboutAble helps improve tourism opportunities for people with disability. Visit GetAboutAble.com.

FREE FOR ALL

Five winning ways to get even more out of your trip – without spending a cent.

1/ Get some inside intel

You can see core exhibitions at most of Canberra's museums and galleries (see page 71) without paying an entrance fee. Many institutions, such as the National Museum of Australia and Australian Parliament House, also offer free talks or guided tours. Spend a leisurely hour or three on a self-guided walk around Lake Burley Griffin, Anzac Parade, the gardens at Old Parliament House or the National Triangle's Reconciliation Place. Go to the National Capital Authority website (below), bookmark your chosen walk and enjoy learning about the highlights as you go. nma.gov.au, aph.gov.au, nca.gov.au/attractions/take-tour

2/ Meet the maker

The good folk at the family-run Canberra Wine & Spirit Merchants in Ainslie are always up for a yarn about sangiovese, marsanne, riesling or almost any regional varietal you could name. The store

curates drops from about 60 local winemakers and on Thursday evenings, you can join a producer for a free tasting session. canberrawineandspiritmerchants.com.au

3/ Max out the markets

Weekends are for nosing around Canberra's community and artisan-led stalls. On Saturdays, The Little Burley Market in Parkes brings street food and tunes lakeside to Queen Elizabeth Terrace (in spring and summer; 8am-1pm). And on Sundays, there's Braddon's Haig Park Village Markets (8am-1pm), which entertains crowds with busking festivals, garden games and face painting, as well as Kingston's Old Bus Depot Markets, which is legendary for its free themed events, such as fashion-focused Designer Sunday, and crafty workshops. thelittleburleymarket.com.au, haigparkvillagemarkets.com.au, obdm.com.au

4/ Feel cool on campus

The Kambri precinct in Acton, at the Australian National University, is a thriving creative zone that's not just for students – everyone can listen to live music concerts on its grassy green or catch film screenings at its cinema. Keep your eyes peeled for free tickets to talks by authors such as Richard Flanagan and journalist Liz Hayes. kambri.com.au

5/ See the world

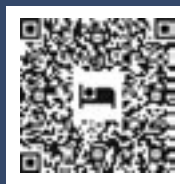
Roam around the epic National Arboretum Canberra to explore 94 different forests of rare trees from Australia and around the globe. If you're a fan of Japan, the National Bonsai and Penjing Collection of Australia showcases plant life that has been sculpted into art. There's also the Canberra Nara Peace Park in Yarralumla, which blooms with Japanese red maple and cherry blossoms during *hanami* season (spring). nationalarboretum.act.gov.au, parks.act.gov.au



NATIONAL ARBORETUM CANBERRA

DIRECTORY

More attractions, wineries, tours and places
to eat for the ideal Canberra holiday.



PLANNING YOUR NEXT TRIP? SCAN THE QR CODE FOR
OUR ACCOMMODATION GUIDE.

FOOD & WINE

CULTURE

FAMILY & NATURE

TRENDING

LOCAL SECRETS

DIRECTORY

FOOD & WINE

■ COFFEE & BREAKFAST

Arc

Constitution Place, 1 Constitution Avenue,
Canberra City
arcoffee.place

Barrio Collective

59/30 Lonsdale Street, Braddon
barriocollective.com

Gather

4/24 Mort Street, Braddon
cafegather.com.au

The Cupping Room

Cnr London Circuit and
University Avenue,
Canberra City
thecuppingroom.com.au

Doubleshot

7/27 Hopetoun Circuit, Deakin
doubleshotdeakin.com.au

East Row Specialty Coffee

2/121 London Circuit,
Canberra City
east-row-specialty-coffee.square.site

Eighty/Twenty Food

Outlets in Barton, Belconnen,
Braddon, Canberra City,
Coombs, Greenway and
Kingston
eightytwentyfood.com.au

Farmer's Daughter

27 Bentham Street, Yarralumla
cafefarmersdaughter.net.au

Gus' Place

Garema Arcade, 68 Bunda Street,
Canberra City
gusplace.com.au

Highroad

1 Woolley Street, Dickson
highrd.com.au

Intra Braddon

1/35 Lonsdale Street, Braddon; and
30/12 Provan Street, Campbell
intrabr.com.au

Kitchen Garden at Rodney's

24 Beltana Road, Pialligo
kitchengardenrodneys.com.au

Local Press Café

Cnr Eastlake Parade and Giles Street,
Kingston
localpresscafe.com.au

Lonsdale Street Roasters 7

3/7 Lonsdale Street, Braddon
7lsr.coffee

Lonsdale St Roasters Roastery & Café

Building 2, 5/1 Dairy Rd, Fyshwick
lonsdalestreetroasters.com

Maple + Clove

7 Burbury Close, Barton
mapleandclove.com.au

Mocan & Green Grout

1/19 Marcus Clarke Street,
Canberra City
mocanandgreengrout.net

My Café

Manuka Arcade, 1/22 Franklin
Street, Griffith
mycafemanuka.com.au

Ona Coffee House

68 Wollongong Street, Fyshwick
onacoffeehouse.com.au

Patissez Cafe & Bakehaus

2/21 Bougainville Street, Griffith
patissez.com

Penny University Coffee House

15 Kennedy Street, Kingston
pennyuniversitybr.com.au

Pollen

Australian National Botanic Gardens,
Clunies Ross Street, Acton
www.pollencafe.com.au

Red Brick Coffee

6/161 Newcastle Street, Fyshwick
redbrick.coffee

Space Kitchen

3g/12 Furzer Street, Phillip
space-kitchen.com.au

Sweet Bones

8/18 Lonsdale Street, Braddon; and
3/3 Scullin Place, Scullin
sweetbonescompany.com

Under

1/30 Mawson Place, Mawson
under-bakery.com

Walter Cafe

Barrine Drive, Parkes
waltercafe.com.au

Wildflour Artisan Bakery & Café

8 Townsville Street, Fyshwick
wildflour.com.au

■ CASUAL & FAMILY- FRIENDLY DINING

Agostinis

East Hotel, 69 Canberra Avenue, Kingston;
and Lark Hill Winery, cnr Joe Rocks and
Bungendore Rd, Bungendore
agostinis.com.au

Ainslie Football Club

52 Wakefield Avenue, Ainslie
ainsliegroup.com.au

Akiba

40 Bunda Street, Canberra City
akiba.com.au

Assembly The People's Pub

11 Lonsdale Street, Braddon
thepeoplespub.com.au

Baby Su

Cnr West Row and Alinga Sts, Canberra City
baby-su.com.au

Beef & Barley

Cnr Eyre Street and Kingston Foreshore,
Kingston
beefandbarley.com.au

Bicicletta Restaurant

1/15 Edinburgh Avenue, Canberra City
bicicletta.com.au

Black Fire Restaurant

45/38 Mort Street, Braddon
blackfirecanberra.com.au

Bookplate

National Gallery Australia, Parkes Place,
Canberra City
bookplate.com.au

Braddon Merchant

1 Elouera Street, Braddon
braddonmerchant.com.au

Brodburger

13/1 Dairy Road, Fyshwick; 1 Wentworth Ave,
Kingston; and 91 Hindmarsh Drive, Woden
brodburger.com.au

Canberra Burns Club

28 Kett Street, Kambah
burnsclub.com.au

Canberra Southern Cross Club

Cnr Catchpole and Bowman Streets,
Macquarie; Cnr Pitman and Holwell
Streets, Greenway; 92-96 Corinna Street,
Woden; and Mariner Place, Yarralumla
csc.com.au

Capital Food Market

Market Street, Belconnen
capitalfoodmarket.com.au

CBD Dumpling House
Canberra Centre, Bunda Street,
Canberra City
canberracentre.qicre.com

Edgar's
1 Edgar Street, Ainslie
edgarsinn.com.au

Future Swirl
Various locations
futureswirl.com.au

Fyshwick Fresh Food Markets
36 Mildura Street, Fyshwick
fyshwickmarkets.com.au

Grease Monkey
19 Lonsdale Street, Braddon; 33 Hibberson
St, Gungahlin; and 3 Bradley Street, Phillip
greasys.com.au

Gungahlin Lakes Club
Cnr Gungahlin and Gundaroo Drives,
Nicholls
ainsliegrop.com.au

The Hellenic Club
13 Moore Street, Canberra City; and
1 Matilda Street, Woden
hellenicclub.com.au

Kita
59 Boolimba Crescent, Narrabundah
kitakafe.com.au

La Rustica by the Lake
Eastlake Parade and Trevillian Quay,
Kingston
larusticabythelake.com

Lolo and Lola
2/3 Watson Place, Watson
loloandlola.com.au

Marble & Grain
25 Mort Street, Canberra City
marbleandgrain.com.au

Parlour
16 Kendall Lane, Acton
parlourdining.com.au

Ramen O
1F/54 Benjamin Way, Belconnen;
1/28 University Avenue, Canberra City;
and G09/35 Furzer St, Phillip
ramen-o.com.au

Ramentic
134/24 Lonsdale Street, Braddon
ramenticbar.square.site

The RUC Turner
54 McCaughey Street, Turner
theruc.com.au

Sandoochie
8/No Name Lane, Canberra City
sandoochie.com.au

Snapper & Co.
Mariner Place, Yarralumla
snapperandco.com.au

Spilt Milk Bar
70/2 Cape Street, Dickson
spiltmilkbar.com

Stepping Stone Dickson
8 Hawdon Place, Dickson
cafesteppingstone.com

Stepping Stone Strathnairn
Gullifer Street, Strathnairn
cafesteppingstone.com

Tenkomori
7/220 London Circuit, Canberra City
tenkomori.com.au

Terra
40 Marcus Clarke Street, Braddon
terracanberra.com.au

Three Mills Bakery
Outlets in Canberra City, Fyshwick and
farmers markets
threemillsbakery.com.au

Tiger Lane
Canberra Centre, Bunda Street,
Canberra City
tigerlane.com.au

Urban Pantry
5 Bougainville Street, Griffith
urbanpantrymanuka.com.au

Verity Lane Market
Sydney Building, 50 Northbourne Avenue,
Canberra City
veritylanemarket.com.au

Walt & Burley
70/17 Eastlake Parade, Kingston
waltandburley.com.au

■ RESTAURANTS & FINE DINING

The Boat House
Greville Park, 7 Menindee Drive,
Barton
theboathouse.restaurant

Chairman & Yip
Burbury Hotel, 1 Burbury Close, Barton
chairmangroup.com.au

Corella
1/14 Lonsdale Street, Braddon
corellabar.com.au

Eightysix North and South
Cnr Elouera and Lonsdale Streets, Braddon;
and 45 Furzer Street, Phillip
eightysix.com.au

Grazing
Cnr Cork and Harp Streets, Gundaroo
grazing.com.au

Inka
Canberra Centre, Bunda Street, Canberra City
inka.com.au

Koto
1 King George Terrace, Parkes
kotodining.com.au

Lamshed's
27 Benthams Street, Yarralumla
lamsheds.com.au

Lazy Su
1/9 Lonsdale Street, Braddon
lazy-su.com.au

Les Bistronomes
18 Blamey Place, Campbell
lesbistronomes.net

Louis
Hotel Realm, 18 National Circuit, Barton
louisdining.com.au

The Marion
Barrine Drive, Parkes
themarion.com.au

Miss Van's
4/113-119 Marcus Clarke Street, Canberra City
missvans.com.au

Molto Italian
Element Building, 43 Eastlake Pde, Kingston
moltoitalian.com

Monster Kitchen & Bar
Ovolo Nishi, 25 Edinburgh Avenue,
Canberra City
ovolohotels.com

Mu
Constitution Place, 1 Constitution Avenue,
Canberra City
chairmangroup.com.au

OhNo!
13 and 15 Flinders Way, Griffith
oh-no.com.au

Olleyville at Shaw Wines
34 Isabel Drive, Murrumbateman
olleyville.com

Onzieme
5/39 Kennedy Street, Kingston
onzieme.com.au

Ostani

18 National Circuit, Barton
ostani.com.au

Otis

29 Jardine Street, Kingston
otisdininghall.com.au

Pilot

1 Wakefield Gardens, Ainslie
pilotrestaurant.com

Peonee

G34, 12 Pentland Street, Campbell
peoneerestaurant.com.au

Poachers Pantry

431 Nanima Road, Springrange
poacherspantry.com.au

Raku

Canberra Centre, Bunda Street, Canberra City
rakudining.com.au

Rebel Rebel

21-23 Marcus Clarke Street, Canberra City
rebelrebelidining.com.au

Rubicon

6a Barker Street, Griffith
rubiconrestaurant.com.au

Such and Such

Constitution Place, 1 Constitution Avenue,
Canberra City
andsuchandsuch.com

Vincent

Cnr Macquarie and Broughton Streets, Barton
vincentrestaurant.com.au

Water's Edge Restaurant

40 Parkes Place, Parkes
watersedgecanberra.com.au

Wild Duck

77-78/71 Giles Street, Kingston
wild-duck.com.au

■ BARS

Ile Cave

5/39 Kennedy Street, Kingston
onzieme.com.au

88mph

Basement, 8-10 Hobart Place, Canberra City
88mph.bar

The Alby

45 Furzer Street, Phillip
thealby.com.au

Alcove

105/16 Lonsdale Street, Braddon
alcovebar.com.au

Amici Wine Bar & Deli

59 Northbourne Avenue, Canberra City
amici.bar

Bar Beirut

25 Garema Place, Canberra City
barbeirut.com.au

Bar Rochford

First Floor, 65 London Circuit, Canberra City
barrochford.com

Blue Eyes

Level 1, 5 Garema Place, Canberra City
blueeyesabr.com.au

Brew Nation

Sydney Building, 102 Alinga St, Canberra City
brewnation.com.au

Cabo

27 Northbourne Avenue, Canberra City
cabocanberra.bar

Cicada Bar

Constitution Place, 1 Constitution Avenue,
Canberra City
chairmangroup.com.au

Dear Prudence

Sydney Building, 100 Alinga St, Canberra City
dearprudencebar.com.au

Highball

Melbourne Building, Level 1, 75 London
Circuit, Canberra City
highball.bar

High Jinks

Basement, 15 Edinburgh Avenue,
Canberra City
highjinks.bar

Hopscotch

5 Lonsdale Street, Braddon
hopscotchbar.com.au

The Howling Moon

150 Northbourne Avenue, Braddon
thehowlingmoon.com.au

Joe's Bar

East Hotel, 69 Canberra Avenue, Kingston
easthotel.com.au

Leyla

Level 7, 1 Burbury Close, Barton
leylabar.com.au

Luna

99 London Circuit, Canberra City
lunabar.com.au

Margot

West Kiosk, Queen Elizabeth Terrace, Parkes
margot.bar

Molly

Melbourne Building, 59-81 London Circuit,
Canberra City
molly.bar

Mooseheads

105 London Circuit, Canberra City
mooseheads.com.au

Paranormal Wines

G27/6 Provan Street, Campbell
paranormalwines.com

Public

1-33 Flinders Way, Griffith
publicbar.com.au

Queenies

Cnr Kennedy and Giles Streets, Kingston
queeniesatkingston.com.au

Rizla

22 Lonsdale Street, Braddon
drinkrizla.com.au

Sideway

21 East Row, Verity Lane, Canberra City
sidewaybc.com

Smith's Alternative

76 Alinga Street, Canberra City
smithsalternative.com

■ WINERIES, BREWERIES & DISTILLERIES

CANBERRA & SURROUNDS

BentSpoke Brewing Co. Braddon Brew Pub

38 Mort Street, Braddon
bentspokebrewing.com.au

The Canberra Distillery

70 Dacre Street, Mitchell
thecanberradistillery.com.au

Capital Brewing Co.

Building 3, 1 Dairy Road, Fyshwick
capitalbrewing.co

Cypher Brewing Co

3/35 Hinder Street, Gungahlin
cypherbrewing.com.au

Big River Distilling Co.

Building 3, 1 Dairy Road, Fyshwick
bigriverdistilling.com.au

GUNDAROO (35 MINS NORTH OF CANBERRA)

Gundog Estate at Cork St. Cellar

42 Cork Street
gundogestate.com.au

Joshua's Fault
Amorelle, 1725 Murrumbateman Road
joshuasfault.com.au

Mount Majura Vineyard
88 Lime Kiln Road, Majura
mountmajura.com.au

Tallagandra Hill
1692 Murrumbateman Road
tallagandrahill.com.au

HALL (25 MINS NORTH
OF CANBERRA)

Brindabella Hills Winery
156 Woodgrove Close
brindabellahills.com.au

JEIR (35 MINS NORTH
OF CANBERRA)

Gallagher Wines
2770 Dog Trap Road
gallagherwines.com.au

Granitevale Estate
153 Mageniss Drive
granitevaleestate.com.au

SPRINGRANGE (30 MINS NORTH
OF CANBERRA)

Poachers Vineyard
431 Nanima Road
poacherspantry.com.au

WALLAROO (25 MINS NORTH
OF CANBERRA)

**Nick O'Leary Wines
at Heywood**
149 Brooklands Road
nickolearywines.com.au

YASS (35 MINS NORTH
OF CANBERRA)

Mallaluka Wines
517 Dog Trap Road
mallaluka.com.au

Surveyors Hill Vineyard
'Woodgrove', 215 Brooklands Road
surveyorshill.com.au

Pankhurst Wines
56 Woodgrove Close
pankhurstwines.com.au

LAKE GEORGE REGION (30 MINS
NORTH-EAST OF CANBERRA)

Collector Wines
39 Murray Street
collectorwines.com.au

Lake George Winery
137 The Vineyards Road
lakegeorgewinery.com.au

Lerida Estate
87 The Vineyards Road
leridaestate.com.au

BUNGENDORE (35 MINS EAST
OF CANBERRA)

Lark Hill Winery
31 Joe Rocks Road
larkhill.wine

MURRUMBATEMAN
(40 MINS NORTH-WEST
OF CANBERRA)

Barton Estate
2307 Barton Highway
bartonestate.com.au

Clonakilla
3 Crisps Lane
clonakilla.com.au

Dionysus Winery
1 Patemans Lane
dionysus-winery.com.au

Eden Road Wines
3182 Barton Highway
edenroadwines.com.au

Four Winds Vineyard
9 Patemans Lane
fourwindsvineyard.com.au

Helm Wines
19 Butts Road
helmwines.com.au

Jeir Creek Wines
122 Bluebell Lane
jeircreekwines.com.au

McKellar Ridge Wines
2 Euroka Avenue
mckellarridgewines.com.au

Murrumbateman Winery
131 McIntosh Circuit
murrumbatemanwinery.com.au

Shaw Wines
34 Isabel Drive
shawwines.com.au

The Vintner's Daughter
5 Crisps Lane
thevintnersdaughter.com.au

Yarrh Wines
440 Greenwood Road
yarrhwines.com.au

■ WINERY TOURS & EXPERIENCES

Air CBR
aircbr.com.au

**Canberra Wine Region
E-Bike Tours**
winerides.com.au

Canberra Winery Tours
canberrawinerytours.com

Dave's Tours
daves.com.au

**Grape Escapes Canberra
Luxury Wine Tours**
grapeescapescanberra.com.au

Merry Heart CBR
merryheartcbr.com.au

Pique Nique
piqueniquewine.com.au

Van du Vin
vanduvin.com.au

Vines & Wines
vineswines.com.au

CULTURE

Aboriginal Dreamings Gallery
19 O'Hanlon Place, Nicholls
aboriginaldream.com

**Ainslie and Gorman Arts
Centres**
30 Elouera St and 55 Ainslie Ave,
Braddon
ainslieandgorman.com.au

ANCA Gallery
1 Rosevear Place, Dickson
anca.net.au

**ANU School of Art
& Design Gallery**
Building 105, Childers Street, Acton
soad.cass.anu.edu.au/gallery-exhibitions

Artworld ADG
Cnr London Circuit and Gordon Street,
Canberra City
aboriginaldream.com

Australian Parliament House
Parliament Drive, Canberra City
aph.gov.au

Australian War Memorial
Treloar Crescent, Campbell
awm.gov.au

Beaver Galleries
81 Denison Street, Deakin
beavergalleries.com.au

Belconnen Arts Centre
118 Emu Bank, Belconnen
belcoarts.com.au

Blundells Cottage
Kings Park, Wendouree Drive, Parkes
nca.gov.au/attractions

Burrunju Art Gallery
254 Lady Denman Drive, Canberra
burrunju-aboriginal-arts.org.au

Canberra Contemporary Art Space
19 Furneaux St, Manuka; and
44 Queen Elizabeth Terrace, Parkes
ccas.com.au

Canberra Glassworks
11 Wentworth Avenue, Kingston
canberraglassworks.com

Canberra Museum and Gallery
Cnr London Circuit and City Square,
Canberra City
cmag.com.au

Canberra Theatre Centre
Civic Square, London Circuit, Canberra City
canberratheatrecentre.com.au

Craft + Design Canberra
Level 1, North Building, 180 London
Circuit, Canberra City
craftanddesigncanberra.org

Drill Hall Gallery
Kingsley Street, Acton
dhg.anu.edu.au

Gallery of Small Things
27 Wade St, Watson
galleryofsmallthings.com

Government House
Dunrossil Drive, Yarralumla
gg.gov.au

Grainger Gallery
Building 3.3, 1 Dairy Road, Fyshwick
graingergallery.com.au

High Court of Australia
Parkes Place, Parkes
hcourt.gov.au

Humble House Gallery
93 Wollongong Street, Fyshwick
humblehouse.com.au

Kin Gallery
G06/27 Lonsdale Street, Braddon
kin.gallery

Lanyon Homestead
Tharwa Drive, Tharwa
historicplaces.com.au

M16 Artspace
21 Blaxland Crescent, Griffith
m16artspace.com.au

**Museum of Australian Democracy
at Old Parliament House**
18 King George Terrace, Parkes
moadoph.gov.au

Nancy Sever Gallery
Level 1, 131 City Walk, Canberra City
nancysevergallery.com.au

**National Archives of Australia
National Office**
Kings Avenue, Parkes
naa.gov.au

National Capital Exhibition
Regatta Point, Barrine Drive, Parkes
nca.gov.au/attractions

National Carillon
Kings Park, Queen Elizabeth II Island, Parkes
nca.gov.au/attractions

**National Film and Sound Archive
of Australia**
McCoy Circuit, Acton
nfsa.gov.au

National Gallery Australia
Parkes Place, Parkes
nga.gov.au

National Library of Australia
Parkes Place, Parkes
nla.gov.au

National Museum of Australia
Lawson Crescent, Acton
nma.gov.au

National Portrait Gallery
King Edward Terrace, Parkes
portrait.gov.au

PhotoAccess
Manuka Arts Centre, 30 Manuka Circle, Griffith
photoaccess.org.au

Scott Leggo Gallery
33 Jardine Street, Kingston
scottleggo.com

Shine Dome
15 Gordon Street, Acton
shinedome.org.au

Strathnairn Arts
90 Stockdill Drive, Holt
strathnairn.com.au

The Street Theatre
15 Childers Street, Canberra City
thestreet.org.au

Tharwa Valley Forge
11 Naas Road, Tharwa
tharwavalleyforge.com

Thor's Hammer
10 Mildura Street, Griffith
thors.com.au

Tuggeranong Arts Centre
137 Reed Street, Greenway
tuggeranongarts.com

FAMILY & NATURE

■ ATTRACTIONS

Australian National Botanic Gardens
Clunies Ross Street, Acton
anbg.gov.au

Axxe (axe throwing)
4/1 Lyell Street, Fyshwick
axxe.com.au

Beltana Farm
14 Beltana Road, Pialligo
beltanafarm.au

Big Splash Waterpark
2 Catchpole Street, Macquarie
bigsplashwaterpark.com.au

BlocHaus Canberra (bouldering)
Unit 2, Building 2, 1 Dairy Road, Fyshwick
cbr.blochaus.com.au

BOUNCEinc (trampoline)
Westfield Belconnen,
Benjamin Way, Belconnen
bounceinc.com.au

Boundless Playground
Kings Park, Wendouree Drive, Parkes
nca.gov.au/attractions

Breakr (break room)
4/1 Lyell Street, Fyshwick
breakr.com.au

Canberra Aqua Park
Black Mountain Peninsula,
Garryowen Drive, Acton
canberraaquapark.com

Canberra Railway Museum
2 Geijera Place, Fyshwick
canberrarail.org.au

Canberra Reptile Zoo
O'Hanlon Place, Nicholls
reptilesinc.com.au

Canberra Walk In Aviary
Unit 13, Federation Square,
18-26 O'Hanlon Place, Nicholls
canberrawalkinaviary.com.au

Civic Carousel
Intersection of Petrie Plaza and City Walk,
Canberra City
arts.act.gov.au/public-art/civic-carousel

Cockington Green Gardens
11 Gold Creek Road, Nicholls
cockingtongreen.com.au

Corin Forestt
1268 Corin Dam Road, Paddys River
corin.com.au

**CSIRO Discovery Centre
at Black Mountain**
North Science Road, Acton
csiro.au/en/about/locations/state-locations/ACT

Delta Force Paintball
Cnr Monaro Highway and
Old Tuggeranong Road,
Tuggeranong
canberrapaintball.com.au

Escape Rooms Canberra
2/22 Dundas Court, Phillip
escaperoomscanberra.com

**Geoscience Australia
Education Centre**
Cnr Jerrabomberra Avenue and
Hindmarsh Drive, Symonston
ga.gov.au

International Flag Display
Commonwealth Place, Parkes
nca.gov.au/attractions

iPlay
Westfield Belconnen,
Benjamin Way, Belconnen
iplayaustralia.com.au

Jerrabomberra Wetlands
via Dairy Road, Fyshwick, and
Eyre Street, Kingston
jerrabomberrawetlands.org.au

Jet Flight Simulator Canberra
4 Montford Crescent, Lyneham
jetflightsimulatorcanberra.com.au

Kingpin (tenpin bowling)
Canberra Centre, Bunda Street,
Canberra City
kingpinplay.com

Lake Burley Griffin
Parkes
nca.gov.au/attractions

**Majura Valley Farm Gate
and Sunflower Maze**
728 Majura Road, Majura
mveggs.com

Metaphysica Virtual Reality
30 Kemble Court, Mitchell; and 176/South
Point Shopping Centre, Tuggeranong
metaphysica.com.au

Mount Stromlo Observatory
Cotter Road, Weston Creek
rsaa.anu.edu.au/observatories

**Mulligans Flat Woodland
Sanctuary**
25 Rosenberg Street, Throsby
mulligansflat.org.au

National Arboretum Canberra
Forest Drive, off Tuggeranong Parkway,
Molonglo Valley
nationalarboretum.act.gov.au

National Dinosaur Museum
6 Gold Creek Road, Nicholls
nationaldinosaurmuseum.com.au

National Zoo & Aquarium
Scrivener Dam, Lady Denman Drive,
Yarralumla
nationalzoo.com.au

Old Parliament House Gardens
Parliament Square and King George
Terrace, Parkes
nca.gov.au/attractions

Power Kart Raceway
125 Canberra Avenue, Griffith
powerkarts.com.au

**Questacon (science and
technology centre)**
King Edward Terrace, Canberra City
questacon.edu.au

Revelation Puzzle Rooms
Unit 8/151-155 Gladstone Street, Fyshwick
revelationpuzzlerooms.com

Riddle Room
8/160 Lysaght Street, Mitchell
riddleroom.com.au

Royal Australian Mint
62-114 Denison Street, Deakin
ramint.gov.au

Stromlo Forest Park
Dave McInnes Road, Stromlo
stromloforestpark.act.gov.au

Tanbella Orchard
20a Beltana Road, Pialligo
tanbellaorchard.com

Telstra Tower
100 Black Mountain Drive, Acton
telstra.com.au/telstra-tower

The Truffle Farm
23 Mount Majura Road, Majura
thetrufflefarm.com.au

VR Canberra (games and rides)
5/83-101 Lysaght Street, Mitchell
vrcanberra.com.au

Yarralumla Play Station
9 Pescott Lane, Yarralumla
yarraps.com.au

Zone 3 Canberra (laser games)
28 Weedon Close, Belconnen
zone3act.com.au

LOCAL SECRETS & SHOPPING

Adytum Wellness
101/16 Lonsdale Street, Braddon; and
in Kingston
adytum.com.au

Ainslie IGA
9/11 Edgar St, Ainslie
ainslieiga.com.au

Bison Home
12 Beltana Road, Pialligo
bisonhome.com

Braddon Flowers
Door 104, 16 Lonsdale Street, Braddon
braddonflowers.com

Canberra Centre
Bunda Street, Canberra City
canberracentre.qicre.com

Canberra Outlet
337 Canberra Avenue, Fyshwick
canberraoutlet.com.au

Canberra Wine & Spirit Merchants
39 Ainslie Place, Canberra City
canberrawineandspiritmerchants.com.au

Capital Region Farmers Market
Exhibition Park, Cnr Flemington Road
and Northbourne Avenue, Watson
capitalregionfarmersmarket.com.au

Designer Op Shop Emporium
Cnr Barrier Street and Lyell Street, Fyshwick
dosemporium.com.au

Dirty Janes Canberra
80 Collie Street, Fyshwick
dirtyjanes.com

Haig Park Village Markets
Haig Park, Braddon
haigparkvillagemarkets.com.au

Hale Gym + Spa
Brassey Hotel, 10-14 Macquarie Street,
Barton
halehealth.com.au

Hive
Ori building, 30 Lonsdale Street, Braddon
hivebraddon.com.au

IKEA
1030 Majura Road, Pialligo
ikea.com

Jindii EcoSpa
Australian National Botanic Gardens,
Clunies Ross Street, Acton
jindii.com.au

Landspeed Records
30 Garema Place, Canberra City
landspeed.com.au

The Little Burley Market
Queen Elizabeth Terrace, Parkes
thelittleburleymarket.com.au

The Modern Object
1/35 Townsville Street, Fyshwick
@the_modern_object

Momento Dezigns
4/Manuka Court,
17 Bougainville Street, Manuka
momentodezigns.com.au

Mudd the Spa
Hotel Realm, 18 National Circuit, Barton
mudd.com.au

Old Bus Depot Markets
21 Wentworth Avenue, Kingston
obdm.com.au

Paperchain Bookstore
34 Franklin Street, Manuka
paperchainbookstore.com.au

POP Canberra
27 Lonsdale Street, Braddon
popcanberra.com.au

Quizzic Alley
5 Pirie Street, Fyshwick
quizzicalley.com

Westfield Belconnen
Benjamin Way, Belconnen
westfield.com.au

Westfield Woden
Keltie Street, Woden
westfield.com.au

SPORT & RECREATION

Australian Institute of Sport
Leverrier Street, Bruce
ais.gov.au/visit

Canberra International Sports & Aquatic Centre
100 Eastern Valley Way, Bruce
clublime.com.au

Canberra Olympic Pool
Cnr Allara Street and Constitution Avenue,
Canberra City
canberraolympicpool.com.au

Casino Canberra
21 Binara Street, Canberra City
casinocanberra.com.au

GoBoat Canberra Central
Queen Elizabeth Terrace, Parkes
goboat.com.au

GoBoat Kingston
8 Trevillian Quay, Kingston
goboat.com.au

Stadium Canberra
Battye Street, Bruce
giostadiumcanberra.com.au

Manuka Oval
Manuka Circuit, Griffith
manukaoval.com.au

Manuka Pool
New South Wales Crescent, Griffith
manukapool.com.au

Phillip Swimming & Ice Skating Ctr
1 Irving Street, Phillip
swimskate.com.au

Reid Tennis Club
17a Dirrawan Gardens, Reid
play.tennis.com.au

SUP CBR
Yarralumla Beach, Yarralumla
supcbr.com

Thoroughbred Park
1 Randwick Road, Lyneham
thoroughbredpark.com.au

TOUR OPERATORS

Balloon Aloft Canberra
balloonaloftcanberra.com.au

Canberra Guided Tours
canberraguidedtours.com.au

Classic Capital Golf Tours
classiccaptalgolf.com.au

Cycle Canberra (tours and bike hire)
cyclecanberra.com.au

Dawn Drifters (balloon flights)
dawn drifters.com.au

Dhawura Tours
thunderstone.net.au

Dynamic Motivation (biking)
dynamicmotivation.com.au

Eat Canberra Food Tours
eatcanberra.com.au

Explorer Buses Canberra
explorerbuses.com.au

Gang Gang Tours
ganggangtours.com.au

Helicopter Corp.
helicoptercorp.com.au

Lake Burley Griffin Cruises
lakecruises.com.au

Love Boats Canberra
loveboats.com.au

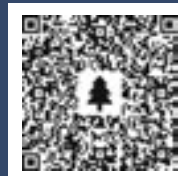
Mulga Bicycle Tours
mulgabicycletours.com.au

MV Southern Cross Cruises
csc.com.au/mv-southern-cross

She Shapes History
sheshapeshistory.com.au

Tim the Yowie Man
yowieman.com.au

**Traditional Owners
Aboriginal Corporation**
toac.com.au



FOR UP-TO-DATE
INFORMATION AND TO
PLAN YOUR VISIT TO PARKS
IN THE ACT, GO TO
PARKS.ACT.GOV.AU OR
SCAN THIS CODE

AROUND TOWN

Essential info for staying connected, planning ahead and getting to know the city.

i Canberra and Region Visitors Centre (CRVC)

Find this helpful visitors centre (visitcanberra.com.au, 1300 554 114) on the edge of Lake Burley Griffin at Regatta Point, Parkes. The in-the-know staff can help you put together the perfect itinerary, book tickets for shows and secure last-minute accommodation and restaurant reservations. You can also pick up books and toys for the kids, as well as locally made ceramics and gifts. Regional goodies, including Jasper + Myrtle chocolate and whisky-infused Blackhorse marmalade, are ideal for taking home a taste of the city – or elevating a lakeside picnic.

🚲 Bike and Scooter Hire

Canberra has an extensive network of shared bicycle and pedestrian paths, as well as on-road bike lanes, making cycling safe and accessible for all ([maps at transport.act.gov.au](http://maps.transport.act.gov.au)). E-scooters can be hired via Beam

(ridebeam.com) and Neuron (rideneuron.com). Find push bikes and e-bikes from Share A Bike (shareabike.com.au) at stations around the city. Cycle Canberra (cyclecanberra.com.au) delivers bikes to hotels. Bikes and e-scooters can also be hired from the CRVC.

🚌 Public Transport

The light rail and public bus network operated by Transport Canberra is an easy and cost-effective way to get around. To ride, you'll need to tap on and off with a MyWay card; you can buy one or top up your card balance at convenience stores, newsagencies and ticket vending machines (located at all light rail stops, selected bus interchanges and Canberra Airport). Find maps, timetables and a journey planner at transport.act.gov.au. For assistance, call 13 17 10.

🚗 Taxis and Rideshare

Taxis are operated by ACT Cabs (actcabs.com.au), Silver Service Canberra (silverservicecanberra.com.au) and Canberra Elite (canberraelite.com.au). Wheelchair-accessible taxis can be booked through 13WATS (13wats.com.au). App-based services include Uber (uber.com), Ola (ola.com.au) and the all-women rideshare Shebah (shebah.com.au).

📶 Free Wi-Fi

CBRfree is a public wi-fi network that covers much of the city and its surrounds, offering one free gigabyte per day. You'll also find free hotspots at Canberra Airport, the CRVC and many shopping centres and hotels.





 VISIT
CANBERRA