

# 5 The Cosmopolitan

Stunning city views, glamorous Collins Street, sophisticated shopping and Chinatown.

Walking time 2 hours  
Distance 3.75 Kilometres



Begin by walking up Swanston Street, opposite bustling Flinders Street Station, and past the magnificent St Paul's Cathedral. Pass the monument to explorer **Matthew Flinders** (1) and the **Burke and Wills** (2) monument dedicated to their doomed journey of discovery across the continent. Take in the view of the **Melbourne Town Hall** (3) and **Manchester Unity Building** (4), an art deco dream built in the 1930s.

Reaching Collins Street, catch a whiff of Chanel as you turn right into Melbourne's most sophisticated shopping street, home to Tiffany & Co, Hermes and Louis Vuitton. Majestic, tree-lined Collins Street is one of Melbourne's most prestigious addresses.

At the **Regent Theatre** (5) take a quick tour of the ornate entrance hall, and then look over the road to Athena on the parapet of the **Melbourne Athenaeum** (6).

If you have time, book a performance in one of the city's fine theatres at the ticket office here.

A little further up, is the former Georges department store – now home to George Patterson Bates (one of Melbourne's most renowned ad agencies) and a number of speciality homeware and design shops. Mingle with office workers in suits and elegant ladies, shopping and lunching at leisure.

At **161 On Collins** (7), enter the atrium and see the glass sculptures that represent *Significant Melbourne Landmarks and Buildings*.

At the corner of Russell Street you'll pass **Scots Church** (8), where Dame Nellie 'Melba' (named after her birthplace Melbourne) sang in the late 1800s. Her father was the builder.

As you cross Russell Street, look back down Collins Street for a stunning view of the city. Notice the beautiful polychrome patterns of **St Michael's Uniting Church** (9). Look down to Federation Square on the right past the Grand Hyatt Plaza.

On reaching the columns of **101 Collins Street** (10), go into the neo-classical foyer. Home to the city's financial whizzes, it's an

amazing artistic experience – four water pools, stunning marble, granite columns and sumptuous gold leaf panelling.

Back on Collins Street, several 19<sup>th</sup> century **townhouses** (11) nestle in the shadow of **Nauru House** (12). These were doctors' surgeries where Melbourne's well-heeled came for treatment. With its luxury designer **boutiques** (13), this area was christened the 'Paris-end' in 1958 when the Oriental Hotel put tables on the footpath. Nowadays, city workers soak up the atmosphere over a cappuccino.

In the 1970s, the Oriental made way for the soaring twin towers of **Collins Place** (14). Explore the fabulous shops and cafes and if you have time, check out the famous view of the city from the Sofitel restrooms on the 35<sup>th</sup> floor!

Opposite is the **Melbourne Club** (15), a private gentleman's club – you can almost smell the leather and cigars as you walk by.

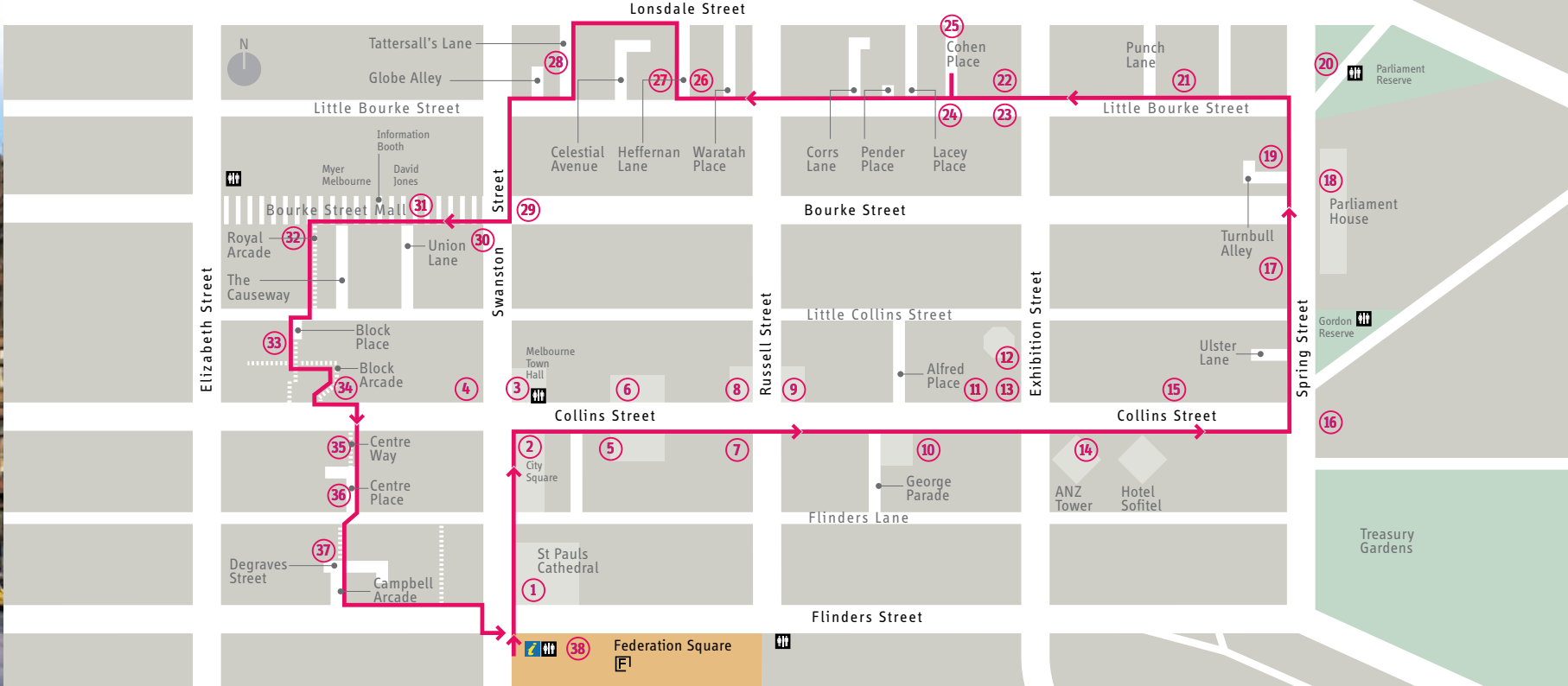
For chocolate lovers, a stop at either Koko Black or Haigh's is a must on the way to the **Gold Treasury Museum** (16) at the top



Melbourne Town Hall



Beautiful Collins Street





Princess Theatre

of Collins Street. It sits grandly at the intersection with Spring Street and was Victoria's Treasury, designed in the 1850s by 19 year old JJ Clark.

Turning left into Spring Street, we are still in the heart of the city, but the calm green oasis of the Treasury Gardens is nearby. Pass the famous **Hotel Windsor** (17), the grandest surviving hotel from the 1880s. The Windsor's traditional afternoon tea is almost an institution. And at the Cricketers Bar, the discerning drinker can enjoy a whiskey and soda every day, from noon.

Look across to **Parliament House** (18) and the tranquil gardens beyond. In 1860, rioters tried to storm parliament, seeking land reform. You can still see the two horizontal gun slits installed by the government after the riot, if you look behind the columns, high on the façade.

At **Princess Theatre** (19) (1886), Federici's Bar is named after an actor who died on stage in 1888. Some say his ghost still haunts the building. Next door is the cosmopolitan European café and the sleek Supper Club upstairs.

Fascinating 'Chinatown' begins at **Tianjin Garden** (20) as you turn into Little Bourke Street. Pass **Gordon Place** (21), now a luxury hotel apartment building. Cross Exhibition Street and continue to **Her Majesty's Theatre** (22) alongside the **Chinatown Arch** (23). Her Majesty's has staged over 100 musicals since 1934.

At **Facing Heaven Archway** (24) you are in culinary heaven, with a host of Asian restaurants nearby. Yum Cha anyone?

Be tempted at Shark Fin House, Fortuna Banquet Restaurant, or for something special, the Flower Drum.

Turn right at Cohen Place and walk through to the **Chinese Museum** (25), home of 'Dai Loong' the world's biggest Dragon. You're now in the heart of one of the oldest chinatowns in the western world - where hard-working goldminers, herbalists and cabinetmakers first settled in the 1850s.

As you continue down Little Bourke Street, old shops, mission halls and secret laneways surround you. Cross Russell Street and turn right into **Heffernan Lane** (26) where the walls of the **Methodist Mission** (27) warn: 'Commit No Nuisance'. Don't forget to look for the street signs at the end of the lane.

Turn left into Lonsdale Street, and return to Chinatown taking the first left into **Tattersall's Lane** (28) which was a horse bazaar in the 19th century. Lonsdale Street has some great Greek restaurants and is teeming with cafes and cake shops, rich with the aroma of coffee and oregano.

From Little Bourke Street, turn left into Swanston Street, an eclectic collection of buildings and businesses, shops, buskers and public sculptures. At Bourke Street, look up to the four **Weathervanes** (29). And don't miss **Three businessmen who brought their own lunch** (30) - three of Melbourne's founding fathers, Batman, Swanston and Hoddle.

Turn right into **Bourke Street Mall** (31), a short pedestrian and tram strip, pulsating with shoppers, tourists and city workers. Here you'll find Melbourne's two big department stores, David Jones and Myer, plus the Royal Arcade (1869) with its delightful range of small specialty shops. Stop at the Melbourne Visitor Booth in the Mall for more information about the city.

Take the scenic route home, and explore the maze of sensational shops and cafes in the narrow laneways. Walk through **Royal Arcade** (32), **Block Place** (33) and **Block Arcade** (34) over Collins Street through **Centre Way** (35), **Centre Place** (36) and **Degraves Street** (37) to Flinders Street and back again to **Federation Square** (38).

# Federation Square



The Ian Potter Centre NGV Australia

Australian Centre for the Moving Image

## Arts and Culture

**ArtPlay**  
Bookings essential,  
www.artplay.com.au  
Tel: 9664 7900

**Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI)**

Mon to Sun  
10am to 5pm  
**No Vacancy Project Space**  
Tue to Sun  
10am to 6pm

**The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia**  
Tue to Sun  
10am to 5pm

## Restaurants, Cafes and Bars

**ACMI Lounge**  
Mon to Fri  
8.30am to late  
Sat to Sun  
10am to late  
**Arintji**  
Mon to Sun  
10am to late  
**Beer Deluxe**  
Mon to Thu  
7.30am to 12am  
Fri to Sat  
7.30am to 3am  
Sun 7.30am to 12am

**Bokchoy Tang**  
Mon to Sun  
11.30am to late

**Café Chinotto**  
Mon to Sun  
10am to late

**Chocolate Buddha**  
Mon to Sun  
Noon to late

**Feddish**  
Mon to Sun  
Noon to late

**Il Pomodoro**  
Mon to Sun  
8am to late  
**Jolimont Espresso**  
Mon to Sun  
9.30am to 5.30pm  
**Riverland Bar and Café**  
Mon to Sun  
7am to late  
**Time Out Café**  
Mon to Sun  
8am to late

**Transport**  
Mon to Sun  
11am to late

**Taxi Restaurant**  
Mon to Sun  
Noon to late

**Transit Cocktail Lounge**  
Wed to Sun  
5pm to late

## Shops and Retail

**Best of Victoria**  
**Best of Souvenirs**  
Open same hours as Melbourne Visitor Centre

**Kirra Galleries**  
Mon to Sun  
10am to 6pm

**7-Eleven**  
Mon to Sun  
Early to late

## Tourist Information

Melbourne Visitor Centre at Federation Square  
Open seven days a week 9am to 6pm  
(excluding Christmas Day)

Melbourne Visitor Booth in the Bourke Street Mall

Open seven days a week 9am to 5pm  
(excluding Good Friday and Christmas Day)

### City Ambassadors

Keep an eye out for the City Ambassadors dressed in their distinctive red uniforms in the central city.

Mon to Sat 10am to 4pm, Sun noon to 3pm

### Melbourne Greeter Service

Discover from a local what locals love about Melbourne. English orientations available seven days per week. Other languages on request. Bookings are essential.

### Melbourne City Tourist Shuttle

Hop on and off at any of the 13 stops along the route at key city destinations, guided by an informative on-board commentary. The complete trip takes approximately an hour and a half. The bus runs every 30 minutes between 9.30am and 4.30pm daily excluding Christmas Day.

For further information, visit [www.thatsmelbourne.com.au/touristinformation](http://www.thatsmelbourne.com.au/touristinformation)

## Useful Numbers

Victorian Tourist Information	132 842
Best of Victoria Booking Service	9928 0000
Metlink - train, buses and trams	131 638
V/Line - country and interstate transport	136 196
Travellers' Aid - City Village Bourke St	9654 2600
Travellers' Aid - Flinders St Station	9610 2030
Travellers' Aid - Southern Cross Station	9670 2072
Airport Bus - Skybus	9335 2811
Ticketmaster 7	136 100
Ticketek	132 849
Melbourne Mobility Centre	1800 735 266
Directory Assistance	1223
Emergency - police, fire and ambulance	000

There are a number of self-guided walks in this series. These walks were developed by Federation Square and the City of Melbourne.

For more information, call the City of Melbourne Hotline 03 9658 9658, visit [www.thatsmelbourne.com.au/melbournebrochures](http://www.thatsmelbourne.com.au/melbournebrochures) or go to the Melbourne Visitor Centre at Federation Square