

Shining a red light on the past

Rumour has it that two laneways offered their own take on romance. Ladies of the night worked on Juliet Terrace (now Liverpool Street), while their fellow gentlemen of the evening worked on Romeo Street (now Crossley Street).

Today, these streets are pedalling more wholesome wares. Liverpool Street (I3) now hosts Asian eateries such as Longrain, Little Malaysia and Laksa Me, the Double Happiness bar that serves fusion cocktails in Chinese socialist propaganda surrounds, and Pellegrini’s, a Melbourne institution serving hearty Italian fare. On Crossley Street (I3) you’ll find Von Haus, a history-rich bar and eatery offering home-style European flavours. Plus there’s an array of shopping options near the popular lunch/dinner spots, Becco and Gingerboy. You can visit Melbourne’s oldest running pub on Bank Place/Mitre Lane (D6), the Mitre Tavern, that opened its doors in 1867. Here you will also find wining and dining institution Syracuse, plus other dining options.

Chinatown

The Victorian gold rush of the 1850s drew huge numbers of immigrants to Melbourne, including many Chinese people seeking their fortunes. Some set up shops along Little Bourke Street which grew to become Melbourne’s Chinatown of today. This area remains one of the most intriguing and enchanting parts of the city.

Venture down Tattersalls Lane (F3) to discover Section 8, a bar in a shipping container; Shanghai Dumpling House, one of the busiest, no-nonsense Chinese eating houses in town; and Gaylord, a flavoursome Indian restaurant with décor that needs to be seen to be believed. Nearby Celestial Ave (G4) is considered the birthplace of Melbourne’s Chinatown and home to the very popular Cantonese-style eatery, Supper Inn. Market Lane (H3) is another lane full of exotic and unusual flavours, including the much awarded Flower Drum, the rock and roll-themed music venue Ding Dong, HuTong Dumpling Bar, Hofbräuhaus German restaurant and the Korean Palace.

Off Bourke Street

You could well spend a decent amount of time in just one laneway, Meyers Place (I4), and still claim to have a well-rounded knowledge of Melbourne’s nightlife.

Visit the Meyers Place Bar and sip your preferred beverage in a sophisticated architecturally designed environment that welcomes all comers. There’s also Loop, with superb audiovisual facilities, regular screenings of digital, film and other visual art – plus great music. While you’re there, you may also want to visit the Italian Waiters’ Club for pasta and drop into 1920s-style speakeasy Lily Blacks for a delicious night cap.



Laneways



The important stuff

Shopping followed by sustenance, it’s an important rite of city passage. Start yours in one of these special city spots. Manchester Lane (F6) is home to the Design A Space Retail Gallery showcasing 70 independent Australian designers, plus Claude Maus, Plane, The Sure Store and Zoologie. Equitable Place (E6) really does have something for everyone in the food stakes, with standouts Rich Maha (Indian) and Sotto e Sopra.

On The Causeway (F5), taste the delights from French-style patisserie Laurent; Sushi Monger, where the lunch time queue curls out the door and onto the street; and hole-in-the wall Guavabeen mini.

Howey Place (F5) is a dedicated fashion laneway, featuring labels such as Alannah Hill, Orotan, Bisonte, Melko and FCUK, while Scott Alley (G6) caters to hip young things with Lady Petrova and Miss Lau, plus the Matt Irwin Gallery (where you can purchase photos of Melbourne laneways) and White Moss Flowers. Jane Bell Lane (F3) is synonymous with ‘street’ and ‘art’. Deck yourself out in urban culture from Trimäpee’s eclectic and artistic range or Villain’s street art-inspired streetwear, books and toys. No Vacancy Gallery has a predilection for exhibiting the work of Melbourne based street artists.

The art of the city

Melbourne’s street art offers a feast of colour, ideas and energy. These changing galleries enliven the ordinary and change the way we view our city. Annual art commissions transform Melbourne’s laneways into intriguing, captivating and sometimes challenging spaces for artistic exploration and expression. Common street art forms in Melbourne include large and small commissioned spray painted works, stencilling and papering. Some of the best examples around town can be found in Hosier Lane (H6), which needs to be seen to be believed; Union Lane (F5) and Croft Alley (H3), and Caledonian Lane (F4), home to cool t-shirt store Rancho Notorious. Rutledge Lane (H6) and Smythe Lane (H3) are also worth a look.



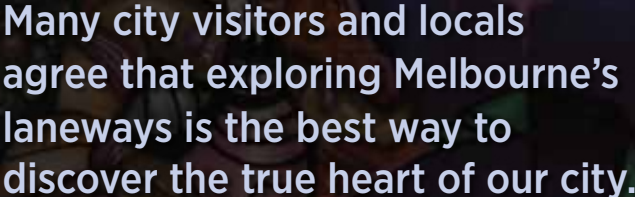
For more information:

- visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/whatson
- visit the Melbourne Visitor Centre at Federation Square, located on the corner of Swanston and Flinders streets
- visit the Melbourne Visitor Booth in the Bourke Street Mall
- call City of Melbourne on (03) 9658 9658

Uncover more about what other experiences Melbourne has to offer by picking up other brochures in this collection including shopping, dining, attractions, various precincts brochures and more, also available at the Melbourne Visitor Centre and Melbourne Visitor Booth.

Laneways





This booklet forms a great starting point for any exploration of Melbourne's laneways. Let your curiosity guide you to other parts of the city as well, where you may discover your own hidden treasures. Here are just a few laneways to get you started.

immerse yourself in a café-style crowd and go with the espresso-scented flow as you wander through these two connected classic lanes. Peer down side alleys as you discover an immense street 'gallery'. Look up to see how city dwellers live – right in the action.

Melbourne's jazz scene thrives with dedicated jazz venues in the central city. Bennetts Lane (G2) has hosted some of the world's biggest jazz acts and plenty of local talent as well. There's also Paris Cat at Goldie Place (D4). If you wanna rock, drop by ACDC Lane (I6) for a photo opp and stumble upon the super smooth 24 Moons bar or Cherry Bar, a venue that exudes authentic rock 'n' roll in its attitude and aesthetics. Dame Edna Place (F5) is another laneway worth a visit and a photo opportunity if you're a fan of that grand Dame from Moonee Ponds.

If you have a thirst for experimentation, wander down Croft Alley (H3) in the evening. Keep going, you'll find it. Some might find this drinking hole on Sniders Lane (E3) a little dark and dingy, while others will relish late evenings with like-minded souls. Need a break from the retail therapy? Then wander past boutiques aplenty and find yourself in Presgrave Place (F5). Sanctuary is here. Civilised types will be happy in Goldie Place (D4). Knock once and tell them we sent you. Understatement is the name of the game in Warburton Lane (E5) and you can hardly hear the name of this place. But name your liquid desire and it shall be yours.

