Cover: View of the City from Southbank Promenade. On the left, the River Yarra Pedestrian Bridge (1989) and the clocktower of Flinders Street Station (1911). Stretching along the Yarra River, the station’s platforms and rear facade. On the right, the Moorhouse Tower of St Paul’s Cathedral (1891), the second highest Anglican spire in the world (the tallest being that of Salisbury Cathedral), dwarfed by skyscrapers.
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INTRODUCTION

Seventeen years ago, the then Dean of the Arts Faculty, Professor Stuart Macintyre, suggested I collate my suggested walks for overseas visitors to Melbourne. The result was the first edition of this guide; this is the seventh.

The guide remains what it was in its first incarnation: a short guide to Melbourne for academics visiting the University, written from a personal point of view, that of an academic associated with the University for nearly 40 years. It is meant to be subjective and unofficial. Nothing in this guide should be construed as reflecting the views of the University of Melbourne.

The architectural reflections too are entirely my own. They will serve their purpose whether they provoke the reader’s interest or disagreement. I have benefited from two fine studies, to which I refer the curious reader: Philip Goad, *Melbourne Architecture* (Sydney: The Watermark Press, 2009) and George Tibbits, *The Planning and Development of the University of Melbourne* (Melbourne: University of Melbourne History of the University Unit, 2000). The reader may also consult Stuart Macintyre and R.J.W. Selleck, *A Short History of the University of Melbourne* (Melbourne University Press, 2003). To pursue the University’s architectural past and present, pick up a copy of Philip Goad and George Tibbits, *Architecture on campus: a guide to the University of Melbourne and its colleges* (Carlton: Melbourne University Press, 2003).

I thank Helen Davies for originally arranging for us to use the Victorian Ministry of Transport’s excellent transport map for our map of inner Melbourne. The map remains copyright to Public Transport Victoria.

Dr Michael Adcock originally conceived the title and helped on bookshops; Naomi Cass and Robyn Sloggett provided material on the Ian Potter Museum of Art; Marita Smith gave help on Nolan’s Paradise Garden; Marion Poynter gave general advice on shopping and things to do; Jeremy Vincent of the Arts Centre and Martin Green of the National Trust made useful suggestions.

Dr Wendy Garden wrote the section on Galleries. I owe her a special debt.

I thank the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Glyn Davis, at whose request and with whose support this edition was prepared. I thank Dr Alice Garner, who did research for the fourth edition and co-authored the fifth edition. Special thanks to Sally Ford, who has worked closely with me on this edition as on the previous (sixth) edition. She has added much valuable new material. Natasha Chu, from Marketing, designed the layout and typeset this edition. I think it’s the best looking edition yet and I thank her warmly. My old friend Gabrielle Murphy held it all together.

Ultimate responsibility rests solely with me. I welcome readers’ responses and suggestions.

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PART I: GENERAL INFORMATION

The University and its City

In 2003 the University celebrated the 150th anniversary of its founding by Act of the Victorian Parliament. The University was allocated its present site in 1853, even as the City of Melbourne was being planned. To plan a city and a university in what was hardly more than a frontier town—it was first settled by Europeans only 20 years before—was a courageous and visionary act. No wonder the University chose as its motto *postera crescam laude*: posterity will praise it as it grows.

It is to this vision that we owe the University’s good fortune of having a leafy campus inserted in the heart of Melbourne’s urban fabric. Walk 700 metres south out of the main entrance on Grattan Street, through University Square (see photo above); in less than ten minutes you will be at the bustling Queen Victoria Market in the midst of the City. Take a tram—they leave every minute or two—south along Swanston Street and in ten minutes you will be at the corner of Bourke and Swanston Streets, the heart of the City. Walk two short blocks east from the campus and you will be on Lygon Street, with its many cafés and restaurants. Walk two short blocks further east on Grattan Street and you will come to the Carlton Gardens, in the middle of which sit, cheek by jowl, the post-modern Museum of Melbourne (2001) and the Royal Exhibition Buildings (1880).

The City of Melbourne

Melbourne is the capital of Victoria, a colony of Great Britain until its incorporation into the Federation of Australia in 1901. Greater Melbourne contains some 4.2 million people across an area spreading 30 kilometres out from the city centre and substantially further southeast around Port Phillip Bay.

The City, as it is called, or Melbourne proper (postcode 3000), contains the seat of state government, courts, offices, museums, hotels, entertainment and shopping. The City comprises two and a half square kilometres bounded on the north by Victoria Street, on the west by Spencer Street, on the east by Spring Street and on the south by Flinders Street and the Yarra River. Despite a recent boom in apartments, its population is only about 100,000.
Melbourne’s main north–south artery, Swanston Street, extends south from the University of Melbourne to the City, where it crosses Collins and Bourke Streets, the most important shopping strips, and leads to Princes Bridge across the Yarra River. It continues on as St Kilda Road. The City grid is aligned with the Yarra River, while the surrounding grid is on a strict north–south alignment. The difference (about 17°) produces unexpected triangular parks where the two grids intersect along Victoria Street.

Across Princes Bridge is Southbank. There you will find, on the left (east) of St Kilda Road, the King’s Domain, in which are located the Royal Botanic Gardens, and, on the right, the Arts Centre, comprising the State Theatre and Hamer Hall (previously the Melbourne Concert Hall), and the National Gallery of Victoria. All these buildings were designed as a complex by the same architect.

Behind the Arts Centre, overlooking the river, you will find Southgate (a dining, shopping and entertainment complex) and the Crown Casino complex. Behind these highly visible areas, in what is now officially called Southbank, stands a forest of modern high-rise apartments. At the same time, the rail and shipping yards west of the City, Docklands, have also been heavily developed. This has enlarged the inner urban area beyond the City and added a new population of urban dwellers in what some call Hong Kong on the Yarra.

Around this dense urban centre are the ‘inner suburbs’, those settled before electric rail transport took the middle classes south and east across the river to more undulating landscapes and better soil. The University of Melbourne’s main campus at Parkville is in these inner suburbs. They extend in a radius of about five kilometres from the City (ten kilometres southeast along the Bay to St Kilda). They house some half a million people.

The inner suburbs constitute an urban environment—a series of neighbourhoods—served by trams and buses, in which 19th-century terrace (or row) houses predominate. The dismantling of state planning in the 1990s is, however, leading to a developers’ gold rush to produce ever taller and denser apartment buildings. Most sites of interest to tourists are located in the City and the inner suburbs. Visitors to the University of Melbourne will frequent the inner suburbs of Parkville and Carlton, which adjoin the campus. Those in search of the trendy will gravitate to Fitzroy, a few blocks further east.

Maps and tourist information

Maps of Melbourne and tourist information are available at the Melbourne Visitor Centre, Federation Square, corner of Swanston and Flinders Streets (tel: 9658 9658); limited service is available from a booth in the Bourke Street Mall (between Swanston and Elizabeth Streets). The free maps available there are adequate for short-term visitors.

The Melway is a large street directory, which provides excellent maps of greater Melbourne as well as general information. Essential if you’re spending more than a week or two in Melbourne, it is available from newsagents and bookshops. Some may prefer to use internet or GPS, but the Melway remains in common use: many locations are often given with their Melway reference.
The University of Melbourne Information Centre is located on Swanston Street, near the Melbourne University Tram Terminus, just north of Faraday Street. It offers campus guides as well as information about University courses.

The Victorian Government Bookshop, aka Information Victoria, stocks a comprehensive collection of maps, guides, histories, and photograph books. Unfortunately, it is off the beaten track at Level 20, Nauru House, 80 Collins Street, City, two blocks up from Swanston Street. Their website, however, is quite useful.

Motoring information is available in the City from the Royal Automobile Club of Victoria (RACV), 438 Little Collins Street (between William and Queen Streets). Automobile club members from other states and countries enjoy reciprocal benefits. The RACV supplies a free map of Melbourne, which includes the University of Melbourne, but gives no information on public transport.

Public transport

A dense if old-fashioned tram network covers most streets in the City and the inner suburbs. Buses supplement the tram network. Virtually all tourist destinations are served by trams. Tram stops are numbered going up from the City, except for Swanston Street trams, which are numbered from the Melbourne University Tram Terminus. Numbers are indicated at the bottom of signs at stops. Pull the stop cord (it may seem like an emergency cord!) or press the red button on a pole to signal to the driver to let you off at the next stop.

A free City Circle tram for tourists operates every day; see Fifteen Top Attractions, p. 50.
A free City Tourist Shuttle Bus serves key attractions around inner Melbourne, going as far as the Melbourne Museum and Lygon Street. As with the City Circle tram, you can hop on at any stop. The Shuttle runs every 15 minutes between 10am and 4pm. Stops include Melbourne University (on Grattan Street at University Square), Queen Victoria Market, Southbank, Melbourne Museum and the Shrine of Remembrance.

An extensive rail network covers most suburbs. It operates from Flinders Street and Southern Cross Stations and from the three underground stations of the City Loop: Parliament, Melbourne Central and Flagstaff. Comfortable trains (though slow by European standards) departing from Southern Cross Station (Spencer Street, City) provide service to larger country towns, including the marvellous Victorian provincial cities of Ballarat and Bendigo and the industrial city of Geelong, gateway to the Great Ocean Road.

A map of the Melbourne tram network can be found on pages 40-41 of this guide. The City and Suburbs Fares and Travel Guide includes sketchy maps of the train and tram networks. It is available free from the Met Shop, Melbourne Town Hall (on Swanston Street between Little Collins and Collins Streets). Separate maps for metropolitan trains, trams and buses are available at the Public Transport Victoria website. Sadly, no full public transport map is currently available on paper, though there is a good guide in the Melway.

For information on all Victorian transport services, both metropolitan (Metlink) and regional (V/Line), tel: 1 800 800 007 between 6am and midnight or see the Public Transport Victoria website. For information and reservations on interstate trains to Sydney, tel: 132 232 or go to the Countrylink website; for all other national rail, tel: 132 147 or go to the Great Southern Rail website.

Myki, Melbourne’s new public transport ticketing system, has been a political hot potato. In July 2005, Kamco, a wholly owned subsidiary of the US company Keane Inc., won a tender to replace the existing ticketing system by March 2007 at a cost of $494 million. By 2010 it had blown out to $1.35 billion and the system was plagued with problems, making it an issue in the state elections. The worst feature for short-term visitors is that there is no way to buy a ticket on trams or buses and no way to buy any ticket for a one-off trip. You have to buy a Myki card.

Myki cards are sold at most train stations, milk bars, newsagents and convenience stores (including all 7-11 Stores). You can also get cards from vending machines at some major tram stops in the City. The card itself costs $6. You can also get a Visitor Pack at Southern Cross Station or the Tourist Information Centre at Federation Square. It costs $14 and includes a day’s worth of travel, as well as some discounts for tourist attractions. Whether it’s worth finding a place that sells it is an open question.

To use Myki, be sure you have enough value on it to travel until the next time you’re near a place where you can top up. A two-hour fare valid for zones 1-2 (the area covered by the tram network) is $3.50. After the two hours, you move onto a daily fare ($7 or $3.50 on weekends) which lasts until the last tram.
Public transport to and from the University of Melbourne

Trams from the University
- Swanston Street trams run every minute or two south through the City, past the Arts Centre, and on to various points south. (Swanston Street is the main north–south street in the City and the eastern boundary of the campus.)
- Royal Parade trams run every six minutes or better past the University onto Elizabeth Street (City) and terminate at Flinders Street Station.

Trams from the City
- all northbound Swanston Street trams go to the Melbourne University Terminus (stop 1); nos 1 and 8 continue north past the University.
- on Elizabeth Street, only the no. 19 tram runs up Royal Parade to the University: stop 10 (Grattan Street), 11 (Conservatorium of Music), or 12 (Tin Alley, which separates the University from the residential colleges).

Buses from the University
- Lygon Street buses (nos 200–207) originate in the City, at the corner of Hardware and Lonsdale Streets, run east on Lonsdale, north up Lygon Street and turn east at Elgin Street, going on to cross Brunswick and Smith Streets, Fitzroy, and on past Kew Junction.
- Grattan Street buses
  - no. 401 runs from University Square on Grattan Street (near Barry Street) to North Melbourne station, every 3 to 6 minutes but only on weekdays.
  - no. 402 runs along Grattan Street, west through North Melbourne and the village-like inner suburb of Kensington (en route to Footscray) and east to the Carlton Gardens, terminating at St Vincent’s Hospital, near the tram interchange at Victoria Parade and Brunswick Street, Fitzroy; 10 minute service on weekdays and 20 to 30 minutes on weekends.

Getting to La Trobe University
La Trobe University’s main campus at Bundoora makes an architectural statement: it is a harmonious complex in Australian suburban vernacular. It is a 30 minute drive, 15 kilometres north of the City. Count $35 for a taxi from the University of Melbourne. La Trobe is within Zone 1 on public transport.

From Melbourne University, take the 250 bus on Rathdowne Street, two blocks east of Lygon Street. Do not cross Rathdowne Street; go to the no. 250 bus stop on this (west) side of Rathdowne Street. The buses come from the City and head north. Allow 45 minutes from the corner of Elgin and Rathdowne Streets. At La Trobe, buses stop at the David Myers Building (humanities and social sciences) and then at the main science complex.

From the City or Fitzroy, take the no. 86 tram east on Bourke Street or north on Smith Street. Allow an hour from the corner of Bourke and Swanston Streets to the outer perimeter of the La Trobe campus.
Getting to Monash University

**Monash University’s Clayton campus** is some 25 kilometres south-east of the City and involves a 35 to 40-minute drive along the Monash Freeway (M1), longer when traffic is heavy, which is usually the case. The freeway is a toll road, part of City Link: you need an e-tag or a day-pass. Call 132 629 or see [www.transurban.com.au](http://www.transurban.com.au). Count $50 for a taxi from the University of Melbourne.

**Public transport to Monash Clayton** involves train plus bus. It requires a Zone 1+2 Myki card. Take a Cranbourne, Dandenong or Pakenham train from the City to Huntingdale Station. (You may need to go to Richmond and change.) On exiting the station, continue in the direction of your train to North Road. Turn left at North Road and walk a short distance to the bus stop. Take the 601 bus marked Monash University or the 900 bus marked Stud Park. Count 45 minutes to an hour from the City, longer outside peak hours.

**Monash University’s Caulfield campus** is some 15 kilometres south-east of the City and involves a 25 to 30-minute drive along the Monash Freeway; $35 for a taxi from the University of Melbourne.

**Public transport to Monash Caulfield** is a straight forward train trip. It requires a Zone 1+2 Myki card. Take a Cranbourne, Dandenong, Frankston or Pakenham train from the City to Caulfield Station. (You may need to go to Richmond and change.) Exit to the left (based on the direction of your train) and the campus will face you as you exit the station. Count about 45 minutes from the City, longer outside peak hours.

**Tips for visitors**

**Taxis** can be found at ranks in the City (a handy one is at Flinders Street Station on Swanston Street) or hailed on the street if their sign is illuminated. Phone bookings work well: if you call from a landline, the computer will know your location and automatically direct the nearest cab: 131 008 (Silver Top) or 131 755 (Embassy). The larger companies have excellent free apps facilitating calls wherever you are. Most accept credit cards, at a hefty surcharge.

**Cameras and photographic equipment** are sold in several specialised stores in the City, on the western side of Elizabeth Street in the block between Lonsdale and Little Bourke Streets. These shops provide advice, repairs, and duty-free sales. For specialists, try VanBar Imaging at 450 Gore Street, Fitzroy.

**Chemists (drug stores)** are located on campus in the Union Building, on Lygon Street (in the Lygon Court complex, 380 Lygon Street) and on Elgin Street between Lygon and Drummond Streets. There are several in the City, at the top end of Collins Street (near Spring Street), and on Swanston Street, opposite RMIT and opposite the Town Hall.

**Doctors** can be found under Medical Practitioners in the Yellow Pages. You normally see a General Practitioner (GP) first; she or he may refer you to a specialist. Most doctors’ after-hours phone messages give the telephone number for locums, who will make house calls.
Emergency out-patient service is available at the Royal Melbourne Hospital (on Grattan Street near Royal Parade), as well as at The Royal Women’s Hospital, further west on Grattan Street, at the corner on Flemington Road, and the Royal Children’s Hospital, further north on Flemington Road. Specialist emergency services are available at the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital, on Gisborne Street, East Melbourne, at the corner of Victoria Parade and Brunswick Street, Fitzroy.

Emergency services (ambulance, fire and police) are available by dialling 000.

Floors are numbered European style: the first floor is one flight up from the ground floor.

Metric measures are used in Australia, as in most countries (except of course the US).

One metre = 39 inches.

One kilometre = 5/8 of a mile.

Celsius (or Centigrade) degrees are 9/5 of Fahrenheit degrees; 0°C is the freezing point of water, 100°C the boiling point. It is easy to move from one to the other if you start at freezing and go up by 5s and 9s:

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Electricity in Australia is 240 volts AC, 50 cycle. Most hotels have provision for 110 volts AC in their rooms.

Drive on the left side and, at least in theory, walk on the left side. Lane swimming in pools is on the left too.

To make an international call, dial 0011 followed by the country code, area code and the telephone number. If you want to buy a local SIM card for your mobile (cell) phone, you will find phone shops on Lygon Street, near Grattan Street, and in the City: many are clustered on Bourke Street near Swanston Street.

Public toilets are generally clean and not too difficult to find. In public and University buildings, they may be located on staircase landings. Most towns have bearable toilets in their park or shopping centre. Most petrol stations have usable toilets.
Coffee nomenclature in Australia:
• short black—espresso
• long black—black coffee, big cup or glass
• caffè latte—espresso with steamed, lightly frothed hot milk, served in a glass
• flat white—same as a caffè latte but served in a cup and so has less head than a caffè latte
• cappuccino—half espresso, half steamed, frothed hot milk; frothier than latte; served in a cup
• macchiato—espresso stained or ‘marked’ with a dash of cold milk and froth; served in a glass
• mocha—caffè latte with chocolate
• and of course, the babycino for toddlers—warm frothed milk sprinkled with chocolate

Tipping is less common than in North America, but not included in bills as in Europe. Taxis do not expect tips, but are delighted if you leave the change. In restaurants where you pay at your seat, tips up to 10% have become common though not de rigueur, especially at more up-market establishments. In cafés and wherever you pay at the till, tips are increasingly welcome but still not expected.

Vernacular Australian is mostly used in more intimate registers than the visitor will encounter. Australians tend to shorten words and terminate them with -o (arvo: afternoon) or -y (Chrissy prezzie: Christmas present). These usages are part of Australia’s working-class and rural heritage. They are giving way under the pressures of globalisation and American entertainment. So, like all colonial peoples, Australians are more familiar with American and British vocabulary than Brits or Americans are with ours.

American influence is gradually eroding local particularities. Cookie can sometimes be heard in place of biscuit; elevator in place of lift. Though booking and chemist remain the standard terms, reservation and pharmacy are not uncommon. McDonalds require their employees to speak of French fries and some people now use that term for up-market, slimmer (hot) chips. But chips is still the common term for both hot, fried potatoes and, just to confuse visitors, cold crisps in a packet.

Indeed, many traditional Australian usages remain. You may be asked what team you barrack for; to root has only its sexual meaning. A cell phone is a mobile. If someone offers you a cuppa, expect a cup of tea or coffee. A hotel is a pub or bar, as well as a place with rooms for lodging. A milk bar is a shop licensed to sell milk; now small, general-purpose stores selling beverages, bread, magazines, newspapers, Myki and phone cards; this usage is disappearing as franchised 7-11 stores replace locally-owned milk bars. Ta is a colloquial thank you.
PART II:  
THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE CAMPUS

General information about the University

The University of Melbourne was founded by Act of Parliament in 1853, two years after the University of Sydney, making Melbourne the second oldest university in Australia. The foundation stone of the first building, the Old Quadrangle, was laid in April 1854 (see p. 19). When the University was founded, 10 hectares (25 acres) of land on the north edge of the City were set aside for its campus. Today the campus has doubled to more than 20 hectares. Major University buildings are located off the campus as well, east of Swanston Street and south of Grattan Street as far as Queensberry Street. The University has some 55,000 students enrolled (of whom 12,800 come from outside Australia) and about 3,500 academic staff, most located on the Parkville campus.

The Parkville campus is a short walk from the City. The main entrance to the University, Gate 10 on Grattan Street, faces the City across University Square, a park originally planned to connect the University with the City. The unfortunate buildings recently constructed around University Square block the vista, but you can still get a sense of the University’s link with the City by walking south on Leicester Street or on Barry Street, which joins Leicester. About 700 metres from the University you emerge at Victoria Square, opposite the Queen Victoria Market. Walking the same distance south on Swanston Street from Grattan Street brings you to the City Baths, RMIT and the State Library of Victoria (see Walk 5, p. 72).

Architectural background

Gothic style characterised campus architecture in the first 90 years. Joseph Reed (1823–90) became University architect in 1858. He was the most celebrated architect of 19th-century Melbourne, responsible either alone or in various partnerships for many major Melbourne buildings. He envisaged a neo-Gothic campus, but lack of funds prevented much construction until the 1880s, when his partners designed several brick Gothic buildings; unfortunately, the depression of the 1890s curtailed construction again. Well into the 20th century, Gothic remained the architecture of choice, reflected above all in Old Arts, a 1920s construction whose clock tower has become the University’s most recognisable icon, although a number of red brick buildings constructed between the wars reflect a more modern, utilitarian aesthetic.

The History of the University Unit has a remarkable seven minute video recreating how the university campus looked in 1896: http://our-history.unimelb.edu.au/exhibitions/aerial-loop/.

The modernist aesthetic had a brief triumph after World War II. In the 1960s, rapidly expanding enrolments led to a number of cliché-ridden boxes of cream brick with concrete banding. Many in the University community began to demand better architecture. The University appointed Sir Roy Grounds (1905–81) as architect of the John Medley Building, a crucial site at the main entrance.
Grounds was a leader of the modernist movement, but he broke away from its strict canons. As architect of the Arts Centre (see Walk 3, p. 64), he was then pre-eminent in the profession. Although the John Medley Building disappointed many, the new outlook did lead to significant change.

**A new master** plan was approved in 1971 and a new landscape plan followed in 1974. An outstanding team in Property and Buildings worked to implement the landscape plan. The South Lawn was reconceived when the car park was built underneath it. The campus was pedestrianised and many unpleasant roads were converted to wide, landscaped walkways. (It is instructive to compare the Melbourne University campus to the main Sydney University campus, which never had the benefit of such treatment.) The brick paving, landscaping and urban furniture used throughout helped unify the campus. In 1981, the then Royal Australian Institute of Architects judged the result ‘an outstanding example of urban and community design’. In the last twenty years, the University has engaged many leading architects to design extensions which have vastly improved many undistinguished buildings. One of Melbourne’s pre-eminent architects, Daryl Jackson (1937– ), was named University Master Planner in 1997.

### A walking tour of the University of Melbourne Parkville Campus

The following walking tour takes two hours at a leisurely pace. Directions are in *italics*. Options for varying the tour are in **bold**. Building numbers are from the official map of the Parkville Campus, University of Melbourne (see pp. 42-43).

стрелка Begin at the northwest corner of Grattan and Swanston Streets.

**757 Swanston Street (bldg 199),** was built for studio and performing arts in the former Teachers’ College, which was amalgamated with the University in the 1990s. It now houses the Faculty of Architecture while their new building is under construction. Its heavy 1960s exterior remains unchanged. Plans to demolish it in order to open a view on the beautiful 1888 Building have never eventuated.

стрелка Walk west along Grattan Street.

The **1888 Building (bldg 198)**, on your right 100 metres from the corner, was designed by the Victorian Public Works Department as the Teachers’ College (see photo on left). Its fine cream detailing against red brick walls make it an excellent example of what might be called neo-Queen Anne style. It was expertly renovated and reopened in 1996. It houses the University’s School of Graduate Studies. At the top of the stairs is the lovely Gryphon Gallery, formerly the examination hall, with a moving stained-glass memorial to the teachers who died in World War I. If the door to the Gallery is locked, ask at the building entrance to see the Gallery.

стрелка Cross Grattan Street and walk south on Bouverie Street.
207-221 Bouverie Street (bldg 379), the contemporary building on your right, houses the Melbourne School of Land and Environment, Geography and the School of Population Health. Originally designed for IT by Daryl Jackson and completed in 1993, it shows his transition toward post-modernism and eclecticism. The stepped-back upper level helps keep the building within the broad context of its neighbours while the use of deep grey for the dramatic fenestration and for the upper level unites the whole.

Return to Grattan Street and continue west.

The Faculty of Engineering (bldgs 170, 174–5–6), on your right as you walk west on Grattan Street, consists of several buildings in various 1960s styles, from pink panelled to concrete brutalist. They are planted right on the footpath because the master plan in force until 1971, inspired by modernism, called for a wall of such buildings around the perimeter of the campus.

Walk west past the Engineering Buildings to the main entrance to the University (Gate 10), at the pedestrian crossing. Look across Grattan Street to University Square.

University Square (bldg 107) was redeveloped during the late 1990s to provide a campus for Melbourne University Private (MUP), a vain attempt to make up the shortfall from severe cuts which the incoming conservative government made to public funding of universities in 1996. The square itself was dug up to accommodate an underground car park, covered over in a featurist style; note the rubble filled blue-stone features near Grattan Street. In the original plan of the City, University Square was meant to link the campus with the City. Since the 1880s, a nondescript bowling club had marred that view; the redevelopment of the square opened that vista but the massive Law Building at the City end soon closed it again.

Around University Square, three major buildings were planned for MUP, on a build and lease arrangement. The University excised the project from its master plan and the state government exempted it from planning controls. Design for all three was by the Melbourne firm Metier 3, not usually considered in the top tier of local firms. Metier 3 supervised renovation of the Downtowner Motel, 66 Lygon Street, and, under the direction of the Italian architect Mario Bellini, renovation of the National Gallery of Victoria (see Walk 3, pp. 64 and 67). Work on the project was completed in 2001. In the meantime, MUP had failed to achieve the hoped-for profit and had shrunk to the point that it didn’t need the space; it was liquidated in 2005.

From this vantage point, note the following buildings:
• **The Melbourne Business School (bldg 202),** the large butter-coloured building on the left side of the University Square. Designed by Daryl Jackson and completed in 1994, it was originally painted a bold salmon. It attempted a creative solution to the architectural problem of inserting a large, modern building into the context of 19th-century terrace housing: Jackson mobilised setbacks and blocks to continue the rhythm of the terrace houses.

• **The Law Building (bldg 106),** at the far end of University Square, was planned as Building C for MUP before it found its current vocation. It is a pity that this building is less successful than the others of the complex, given its dominant position.

• **The Economics and Commerce Building (bldg 105),** on the far right side of University Square, was planned as Building B for MUP. It offers a more dynamic facade and better interplay with the square.

• **The Economics and Commerce Building (bldg 110),** behind Economics and Commerce, was also designed by Metier 3, though it was subsequent to the MUP plan. It opened in February 2010. It offers dynamic verticality and a 5-star energy rating.

• **The Alan Gilbert Building (bldg 104),** fronting on Grattan Street and extending along the near right side of University Square, overshadows the preserved facades of 19th-century terrace houses which bear feeble witness to the original character of the square. It was originally planned as Building A for MUP. It was later named after a recent Vice-Chancellor (who left Melbourne to become V-C of the University of Manchester in 2004 and died in 2010). It is largely devoted to administration, but offers a nice café.

> If you are walking west along Grattan Street, you can see or at least glimpse the huge medical complex emerging at the corner of Royal Parade, the tree-lined avenue with trams running down the centre. From left to right:

• **Peter Doherty Institute,** under construction on the southeast corner, adjacent to the Alan Gilbert Building. Named after Professor Doherty, who won the 1997 Nobel Prize for work on the immune system, the Institute will focus on research into infectious diseases and immunology. Perhaps unsurprisingly, the website lists no architect for the remarkably unprepossessing design.

• **Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre,** under construction across Royal Parade, on the southwest corner, will house the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre for cancer treatment, and oncology training and research. Three Australian firms—Silver Thomas Hanley, DesignInc, and McBride Charles Ryan—have collaborated in what promises to be a striking design, with a futuristic ship’s prow wrapping around the key corner.

• **Royal Melbourne Hospital,** across Royal Parade, on the northwest corner. It was given a remake by Daryl Jackson in the early 1990s. Jackson took a collection of 1940s brick boxes and, on a low budget, made them look like a coherent whole. He used white enamelled steel panels, cream brick and white concrete to help define the new buildings and provide a central focus, thus binding the whole together. Beyond it, out of your sight, is the Royal Women’s Hospital opened in 2008, replacing a tired 1950s building behind you, on the corner of Grattan and Swanston Streets, which the University has purchased but which currently lies unused.
Faculty of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences, across Grattan Street at the northeast corner of Royal Parade. In 1996–7, a new top level with a highly resolved roof line (designed by Castle, Stevenson and Turner) improved the original building, emphasising its graceful curve.

Turn right and walk to the pedestrian crossing opposite the University’s main entrance (Gate 10), and enter the campus.

The Gate Lodge (bldg 187), was built in 1860 to house the gatekeeper.

The John Medley Building (bldg 191), with its twin towers, faces you. It opened in 1971. Sir Roy Grounds envisaged two octagonal towers clad in bluestone, with suggestions of the Gothic, to create a ceremonial entry to the University. Unfortunately, his design met opposition, which led to the less adventurous building you see before you.

The Old Engineering School (bldg 173), is the red brick building around to the right of the John Medley. Designed by Reed, Tappin and Smart (1899), it was the first Engineering Building. It has lost its tower and some of its ornamentation to an addition in brighter red brick, but is of interest as a remnant of the 19th-century University. Now less romantically called Engineering Block A, it houses the Engineering Student Centre.

Pass under the John Medley Building, between the two towers, and up the broad stone steps.

The South Lawn, on which you are now standing, covers a large underground car park (bldg 195). Electrical Engineering (bldg 193) is immediately to your right. It is an undistinguished building, typical of the 1960s and 70s.

Proceed to the end of the pool and stop. You are now at the heart of the campus. Looking from right to left, note:

Wilson Hall (bldg 151) is the modernist box in orange brick to your right. In typical modernist fashion, it turns its back on the south lawn. Note the copper-sheathed hump at the back end, which houses the organ. Beneath it is a sunken fernery. Wilson Hall is the University’s ceremonial space for conferring of degrees. It abuts the Quadrangle on the opposite side from Old Arts. (Access is from a plaza east of the Quadrangle, through the arch at the far right of the Quadrangle.) The photo on the left shows the other facade of Wilson Hall.

The original Wilson Hall, in sumptuous Gothic Revival style, was designed by Joseph Reed. That building burned down in 1952. The task of replacing it was entrusted to the firm of Bates, Smart and McCutcheon, successors to Reed and Barnes. McCutcheon had pioneered the international style in the 1930s; for the new Wilson Hall he produced a functionalist box. Wilson Hall is distinguished by its ‘four different external facades’ and, inside, ‘by the four walls of the main hall presenting four entirely different materials’, as
Philip Goad of the Architecture Faculty puts it in his *Melbourne Architecture*. Considered a masterpiece when it opened in 1956, it was deemed insufficiently modernist by critics like Robin Boyd, author of the classic modernist protest, *The Australian Ugliness*. Like many modernist buildings, it is not very functional and it never gained the hearts and minds of the University community as its predecessor had.

An organ was included to accompany academic processions. The closing of a church in the City made available a fine instrument built in 1890 by the Melbourne firm Fincham and Hobday. Unfortunately, the organ chamber was too small for the spectacular bass pipes (up to 32 feet long), the copper sheathing conducts heat, making tuning difficult, and the dry acoustic defeats what remains of the organ.

- **Old Arts (bldg 149)** faces you to the left of the Old Quadrangle, distinguished by its iconic clock tower. In this age of privatisation, it is ironic that the University’s most loved building, instantly recognisable to all Melburnians, was designed not by a private architecture firm but by the Victorian Public Works Department. It was constructed between 1919 and 1924, with later additions. It was faced in sandstone from Kyneton, near Bendigo, 150 km northwest of Melbourne.

- **The Old Quadrangle (bldg 150)**, in grey stone, lies before you. What you actually see is a 1970 addition to the first building of the University. The original building, designed by Francis White and begun in 1854, was not finished as a quadrangle. The side facing you was not built, so the ‘quadrangle’ was a U-shaped building opening toward you and, no doubt accidentally, welcoming visitors who trekked along the wide but empty path from the Gate Lodge. The north side of the Old Quad contained classrooms and the library, while the east and west sides contained apartments for Professors.

**Turn left (away from Wilson Hall) at the end of the pool and descend the steps.**

**The Baillieu Library (bldg 177)** now faces you. The original building, completed in 1958, by the architectural firm John FD Scarborough, presents as modernist architecture, distinguished by its front facade of non–load bearing curtain wall in glass and ochre panels with aluminium struts. This porch hides a simple brick box. The foyer still retains its 1950s decoration: note the bas-relief above on the right as you enter. The interior has been completely renovated. All that remains of the original is the semi-circular central staircase, now enclosed and no longer floating in the open as the architect intended.

The Baillieu houses the Humanities and Social Sciences library as well as a fine rare books collection, emphasising early Australiana and the explorations of Australia. (For information, go to Special Collections on the third floor.) The Music Library, Grainger and Prints collections may also be of interest. Changing exhibits are held on the first floor, just outside the lifts.

**Exit the Baillieu, bearing left up a few steps into the small courtyard.**

**The grotto and fountain** were part of the new landscaping of the 1970s. On a rock opposite the fountain is a plaque commemorating the award this work received from the then Royal Australian Institute of Architects.
Continue up the steps past the fountain, turn to the left at the Old Arts clock tower and proceed under the arch.

Cussonia Court, where you now find yourself, derived its name from a large cussonia spicata (cabbage tree), planted in the 1880s by Professor McCoy, one of the University's first four professors. The original tree shaded the courtyard until it died in 1992 and was replaced by the present specimen, propagated from a cutting from the original tree.

Bear right through Cussonia Court and into the Old Quad.

Inside the Old Quadrangle (bldg 150), note the camellia bushes, a feature of the courtyard since the 1860s, making the Old Quadrangle popular for wedding photos. In 1856, masons working on the building downed tools and marched to the corner of Victoria and Russell Streets (see Walk 5, p. 72), where they resolved not to resume work until they obtained an eight-hour day. They succeeded and so the building is almost certainly the first major construction project completed on that basis. A plaque on the north wall near the western exit (ahead to the left) attests to this success.

The subsequent history of the Quadrangle is not so happy. Originally, the cloisters were built only on the north side. It was not until 1930 that cloisters were added to the east and west wings. In 1970, cloisters were added on the south side of the Quadrangle, unfortunately without respect for the original proportions. The Quadrangle housed the Law Faculty for many years. When Law moved to University Square in 2002, Philosophy, Classics and Archaeology moved into the Quadrangle.

Return to Cussonia Court.

Old Arts (bldg 149) constitutes the far side of Cussonia Court. Note, around the doorway opposite, the preparations for a cloister—never built—to replicate the original Quadrangle. To the right you will see red brick additions to the north side of the building constructed in 1936–37 and in 1944–45. They were designed to be faced in sandstone, but, owing to the University’s perennial lack of funds, they were left in brick.

The Old Physics Building (bldg 128), on your right, at the north side of the courtyard, was designed by Reed, Henderson and Smart (as the partnership had become) in 1889 and begun in 1891. The facade you see was only completed in 1919. This part of the building is now a conference centre.

Turn right and exit Cussonia Court by the small archway to the right as you face the conference centre; continue through Hearn Court into South Court. From left to right, you will see:

- Old Physics Building (bldg 128), now on your left, houses Murrup Barak, the Melbourne Institute for Indigenous Development.
- Union House (bldg 130), the Student Union, faces you.
- The Old Quadrangle’s original exterior (bldg 150) is on your right. Behind this facade lies a large hall which was originally the University Library. Its future use is unclear.

Turn right and walk east, between Union House and the Old Quad.
Union House (bldg 130) was designed by Reed and Barnes in yellow brick Gothic and begun in 1863 to house the National Museum (now the Melbourne Museum, nearby in the Carlton Gardens), which remained there until 1899. The current building is a series of more or less regrettable accretions to the original museum. In 1910 the building was turned over to the recently formed Student Representative Council. Philip Hudson, architect of the Shrine of Remembrance (see Walk 2, p. 61), designed a major addition to the west. Opened in 1938, it gave the building its present bulk.

In 2006, the conservative government eliminated student unions (in favour of ‘voluntary student unionism’, a law prohibiting student activity fees). This has led to the loss of many student activities in the Union, which has become more a shopping mall and food hall. The Uni Store, located in the basement, sells University of Melbourne hoodies (sweatshirts), T-shirts, and other souvenirs, as well as stationery and stamps.

Some student activities survive, subsidised by rent paid to the Union from the businesses on the ground floor. The Union House Theatre, on the ground floor, long hosted student theatre productions (today’s Melbourne Theatre Company—MTC—began there in the 1950s) and still offers workshops and occasional productions. On the first floor, the Food Co-Op, which began in the 1970s, sells cheap wholesome food and bulk groceries with minimal packaging. On the second floor, the George Paton Gallery was set up in 1975, during the heady days of Australian cultural revival, as an alternative art gallery, and still offers exhibits.

Back outside, continue walking east, between Union House and the Old Quad. Beyond Union House stretches the Union Lawn, known to students as the ‘concrete lawn’. Looking back at Union House, you can see a fragment of the original Science Museum, now incorporated into the Union. Looking across the concrete lawn, note on either side:

- The Raymond Priestley Building (bldg 152), on your right. It was designed in 1969 by staff architect Rae Featherstone, who was also responsible for the Redmond Barry Building (see p. 24). The Vice-Chancellor’s offices are on the ninth floor; the building has been the site of student protests.

- The Baldwin Spencer Building (1887–90, bldg 113), on your left, at the north side of the concrete lawn. Reed, Henderson and Smart’s young partner Anketell Henderson was responsible for the design. It was built for and named after the Foundation Professor of Biology, Walter Baldwin Spencer (1860–1929), later an explorer-anthropologist working among the Aboriginal peoples of central Australia. Baldwin Spencer’s interpretations, though now contested, played a major role in bringing the concept of the Dreamtime into use. The building now houses administration.

The Old Commerce Building (bldg 132), or rather its facade, stands before you across the Union Lawn, awaiting incorporation into the new Architecture building. The Old Commerce Building on which this facade was hung has been demolished. What you see is the facade of an 1856 bank in Collins Street (City) designed by Joseph Reed. Its incorporation in the Commerce Building represented a vain hope that the bank might contribute to the cost of its construction.
The Faculty of Architecture, Building and Planning will stand before you across the Union Lawn when completed in 2015. It will incorporate the bank facade (at exactly the position it now occupies). It will be the imposing main entrance at the end of a broad path across the concrete lawn. On either side, the facade will be of open and transparent materials so that the 1856 facade will attract the eye with its highly-defined articulation of classical elements. The other facades—all different—and the interior atrium promise to be exciting. The new building is being designed in partnership by John Wardle Architects (Melbourne) and Office dA (Boston), chosen from 133 submissions to an international competition.

The new building will replace a 1960s building whose appearance reflected the unfortunate confluence of rigid modernism and the need to scrounge materials from every possible source. Despite several efforts by major architects to improve it, the building remained problematic and its passing has not been mourned.

Follow Masson Road, alongside the concrete lawn, as it bends to the right.

The Chemistry Building (bldg 153), facing you as you turn right, was designed by the Victorian Public Works Department in 1938. It betrays the first steps toward a modernist aesthetic despite its neo-Gothic fenestration.

Continue along Masson Road to the east.

The Elisabeth Murdoch Building (bldg 134), facing you on the left side of Masson Road, was designed by Reed, Henderson and Smart. Begun in 1884, additions in 1908 compromised its appearance: George Tibbits deplores ‘the cramped staircase inserted into the entrance portico’. The building originally housed the State morgue in the cellar at the north end of the building and, above it, a dissection room with a domed skylight and a public gallery, which for many years served as a charming Art History Library. The building now houses financial administration.

Continue east on Masson Road as it becomes a wide brick path and continue to Swanston Street. From this vantage point, you can note:

- an immense apartment block for overseas students facing you across the road from the Potter, constructed by the ubiquitous developers Becton. There was vociferous opposition to the large scale of this development, but there it is.
- The McCoy Building (bldg 200, Earth Sciences) facing you further north or left, on the corner of Elgin Street. It is joined to the Physics Building by a walkway over Swanston Street.
- The Physics Building (bldg 192) is an undistinguished 1960s building, but its Swanston Street facade was vastly improved by the dramatic Physics Podium, designed by Castle, Stevenson and Turner and finished in 1994.

The Ian Potter Museum of Art (bldg 136) is immediately on your left. The facade, new exhibition space and renovations to an earlier brick building (now used for offices) are all the work of Melbourne architect Nonda Katsalidis of Nation Fender Katsalidis. The Potter, as it is known, won the then Royal Australian Institute of Architects’ Project of the Year award on its completion in 1999. Bursting through Katsalidis’s
sleek facade is the immense 1993 sculpture, *Cultural Rubble* (see photo p. 22), by the Australian sculptor Christine O’Loughlin, who is now based in Paris. She used fragments of classical statuary, architecture and pottery cast in white fibreglass from plaster moulds of originals in the Louvre to evoke the tension between Australia’s European heritage and its actual context; the metaphor might work better with Australiana bursting through a European facade.

**Enter the Potter from Swanston Street.**

Inside the Potter, Napier Waller’s immense Leckie Window dominates the three levels of exhibition space. The window was installed in the old Wilson Hall in 1935. After Wilson Hall burned down, the window was recovered and restored.

The Potter houses the University’s permanent collection, which has a strong focus on Australian art, from colonial to contemporary, including Aboriginal art. It includes some notable 19th-century Australian works. William Strutt’s *Bushrangers* will be of interest to many visitors, as will the engravings of S.T. Gill, both among the earliest artists practising in Victoria. The work of Australian impressionists is represented by important paintings of Rupert Bunny, E. Philips Fox, and Frederick McCubbin. The Potter maintains a major program of temporary exhibitions and runs a major art conservation centre. It also holds the Classics and Archaeology Gallery.

**Exit the Potter and proceed south (toward the City) on Swanston Street.**

The **University Information Centre** is on your right as you proceed south on Swanston Street. The **Sidney Myer Asia Centre** (bldg 158) is on your right at the southern corner of Swanston Street and Monash Road (at Gate 4; Faraday Street starts on the opposite side of Swanston Street). The Centre, designed by Nation Fender Katsalidis, opened in 2001. Katsalidis here went for a starker look than he did for the Potter, except for the rust-coloured podium at the corner (see photo to left), which provides a buffer between the Potter and the Alice Hoy Building on Monash Road.

**If you wish to visit the colleges, walk back north on Swanston Street and pass under the walkway. Go to ‘A walking tour of College Crescent’ (p. 28).**

To continue the campus tour, proceed south on Swanston Street past Gate 4 (Monash Road), and enter the **Sidney Myer Asia Centre** (glass doors on your right past the rust-coloured corner building). Walk straight through and out the other side, alongside the stunning water feature designed by Fiona da Preu, formerly Assistant Director, Buildings and Property.

The **Alice Hoy Building** (bldg 162), on your right, is an unfortunate 1960s brick construction inherited from the former College of Advanced Education. It now houses Optometry and Visual Sciences.

**Walk to the end of the water feature.**
The Frank Tate Learning Centre (bldg 189), on your left, is a curious building dating from 1939–40 and designed by Percy Everett of the Victorian Public Works Department in ‘ship’s prow’ style or, in the words of Philip Goad and George Tibbits, ‘Streamlined Moderne’. Its ground floor is unfortunately obscured by a podium, which hides an electrical substation. Cox Rayner Architects undertook substantial alterations in 2008-2010. The whole area before you was originally the Victorian Teachers’ Training College. The Frank Tate now houses a student centre and IT facilities. Proceed up the stairs on your left.

The ERC—originally Education Resource Centre, now Eastern Resource Centre—(bldg 171), on the platform at the top of the stairs, is part of the Eastern Precinct Student Centre. Originally built to house the College Library, it became the research library in the 1980s, when the Baillieu Library Building reached capacity. More recently, it became the Engineering Library and, since the demolition of the old Architecture Building, the Architecture Library.

Return to the water feature, turn north (left coming back) and follow the wide pathway through the glass doors of the Alice Hoy Building. You will be on Monash Road.

Wilson Hall faces you as you look left toward the end of Monash Road. This seems to be the view the architect intended you to see.

Walk left on Monash Road about 100 metres, then right onto the path just past the car park, at the corner of Old Geology (bldg 156—it has an ATM at the corner). Follow this path north, cross Masson Road and continue north on Spencer Road, following the roadway. Walk north between the Elisabeth Murdoch Building (to your right) and the Architecture Building construction site (to your left).

The Physics Building (bldg 192) is on your right after the Elisabeth Murdoch Building.

Continue walking north past the Physics Building ramp.

The Redmond Barry Building (bldg 115) extends opposite the ramp. Opened in 1961, it was designed by staff architect Rae Featherstone, who was also responsible for the Raymond Priestley Building. It is an undistinguished high-rise building in pale orange brick with vertical concrete banding. It has a pleasant, faintly Japanese garden on its north side. The tallest building on the campus, it offers good views from level 12. This is the only trace of a modernist master plan drawn up in 1948 by Brian Lewis, Foundation Professor of Architecture. He envisaged a campus of continuous high-rise buildings with large open spaces, a concept similar to Le Corbusier’s famous plan to rebuild Paris with high-rise towers. Fortunately his plan was never accepted. Redmond Barry now houses the Melbourne School of Psychological Sciences, which brings together within the Faculty of Medicine a number of units concerned with behavioural science and the mind.

Continue north a bit further, past Physics, to Tin Alley. Turn left (west) into Tin Alley.
The Sports Centre (bldg 103), to your right on the north side of Tin Alley, contains squash courts and a gym. Up the steps on your right are the sports ovals between the Sports Centre and the backs of the colleges.

**Continue along Tin Alley.**

The Beaurepaire Centre (1954, bldg 101), on your right past the steps, contains a gym and a 25-metre pool, which was closed when major faults were discovered in 1999. The pool reopened in August 2005 after a $5.3 million overhaul. Note the mural, *Symmetry of Sport*, and the external Italian glass mosaic, both by Leonard French.

**At the entry to the Beaurepaire, take the road branching off to the left and follow it around, bearing right.**

University House, the staff club (bldg 112), will be on your right. It is known for reasonable food and excellent wine. Liquor licensing laws in the 1950s required it to be a private club if it was to serve alcoholic beverages, and it is still a club. Free memberships are available for short-term visitors to the University from the desk at the entry. This is the only remaining professorial home; the path south from University House is known as Professors’ Walk (originally Road): from the late 1880s until the 1950s, five more such houses for professors lined the road. The modern entry meets National Trust requirements by being distinct from the original building. The veranda originally graced Ogg’s Pharmacy in Collins Street (City).

**Walk south on Professors’ Walk.**

The Botany Building (bldg 122) is an unassuming red-brick building designed by the Victorian Public Works Department (1928), now pleasantly covered with ivy. John F.D. Scarborough designed minor additions in 1944 and Bates Smart & McCutcheon designed the north wing in 1962, in harmony with the original Gothic style.

**Walk toward the Botany Building and proceed right (north) 50 metres.**

Botany North (bldg 123) extends to your left. This intriguing building won an RAIA award in 2004. Lyons Architecture designed each facade with a different character, reflecting the various architectural influences on campus: on the north side, glazed bricks gashed open by a triangular main door; an aluminium west face; and a glass-panelled, pleated southern wall facing onto the System Garden.

**Walk on past old Botany and turn right down the path.**

The System Garden, at the end of the path, is a hidden jewel. Established by the first Botany Professor in 1856 according to his own unique botanical classification system, it has gradually given way to the present park, but remnants of the original organisation survive in some plant and herb beds and in the octagonal tower at the centre of the garden, dating from 1860, originally the core of an octagonal glass house designed by Reed and Barnes.

**Return to Professors’ Walk and continue right (south).**
The Babel Building (bldg 139), next on your right, was until 2000 and again from 2010 the home of European languages (perhaps a joke, but it was). Built in two stages (1948 and 1957), it was the work of a former associate of Sir Roy Grounds and was hailed as a modernist statement. It is what George Tibbits calls ‘form follows function modernism’, which no longer arouses enthusiasm. The first stage involved only three levels. In the second stage, two floors were added and the north wing was completed. During 2000, Babel underwent rebuilding for the Faculty of Economics and Commerce. Three new levels were added, designed by Blomquist and Wark. Unfortunately, the new levels are visible from the South Lawn and thus spoil the classic view of the Old Arts Clock Tower from the South Lawn.

Try right past Babel.

Zoology (bldg 147) lies before you. It is a more modern but no less mediocre version of the University’s 1960s yellow-brick buildings. The Tiegs Zoology Museum (room 104, 1st floor) can be visited by appointment (tel: 8344 7041).

Walk through the open core of Zoology and down the path to Royal Parade.

The Grainger Museum (bldg 140), on your right as you emerge from Zoology, is a strange red-brick building in the shape of a semi-circle completed in 1938. Philip Goad calls it ‘a curious building (often mistaken for a public convenience)’. Former Vice-Chancellor John Medley wrote of it:

Pass by this place, Impatient Stranger!
It was not made for your affair.
Pray for the soul of Percy Grainger,
But please relieve yourself elsewhere.

Despite its appearance, the building is of enormous cultural significance. It may well be the only archive anywhere of a major composer or virtuoso constructed according to the composer’s wishes: Percy Grainger (1882–1961), a leading pianist, composer and folk-song collector, was born and raised in Melbourne. His career was entirely in the UK and the US, but he left his archives, instruments and mementos to the University and then conceived and funded the museum to house them. He even laid some of the bricks himself. The architects Gawler and Drummond realised the plans in close consultation with the imperious Grainger. The Museum was affected by large scale waterproofing problems stemming, as the University’s official statement tactfully put it, ‘from the idiosyncratic building design’. Indecision and lack of funds long kept the museum closed, but a successful refurbishment by Lovell Chen Architects has reopened it to visitors. Any visitor interested in the history of music should stop and have a good look. Open weekday afternoons; closed during January and February.

The Conservatorium of Music (bldg 141), the white building on your left as you emerge from Zoology, designed by Bates, Peebles and Smart, is a marvellous example of ‘soft Edwardian’ architecture, with ‘restrained art nouveau decoration’ (Goad and Tibbits; see photo p. 27). Begun in 1909, it was completed only in 1935. Just inside the front door (facing Royal Parade) is a sumptuous portrait of Dame Nellie Melba in full regalia. Dame Nellie (1861–1931), Australia’s greatest diva before Joan Sutherland, was born in Richmond, just east of the MCG.
She laid the cornerstone in 1909 and donated funds for the lovely Melba Hall, a 400-seat concert hall perfect for chamber music, which was designed by the Public Works Department and completed in 1914. It was refurbished and a balcony added in 1986 (design by Daryl Jackson). The result is Melbourne’s best small chamber music venue. You will find Melba Hall to Dame Nellie’s right (your left) as you enter. During term many concerts are held here on Mondays at 1:10 pm. There are also many weekend and evening concerts. Call 8344-7839 for details.

Continue south on Royal Parade.

The Kenneth Myer Building (bldg 144), is just past the Conservatorium. This striking building, designed by the young (established 1996) Melbourne architecture firm Lyons and opened in 2011, houses the Melbourne Brain Centre, which brings together neuroscience and mental health research centres. It also boasts a popular café, a small branch of Readings bookstore and the Dax Centre. The Dax Centre is a major exhibition space built around the collection of Dr Eric Cunningham Dax, founding Chairman of the Mental Hygiene Authority of Victoria (1952) and foundation chair of Psychiatry (1963). Cunningham Dax pioneered the use of art as part of mainstream psychiatric treatment. He left a collection of some 15,000 artworks by people experiencing mental illness or trauma. It is one of only three such collections in the world (the others are the Prinzhorn Collection in Heidelberg and the Musée l’Art Brut in Lausanne).

Before entering the building or returning to the campus, look across Royal Parade.

The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research, across Royal Parade, amply set back and partially hidden behind the Royal Melbourne Hospital complex, is a colourful and imaginative building by Daryl Jackson opened in 1986. A massive extension, designed by Denton Corker Marshall and S2F, opened in 2012.

Return through Zoology to Professors’ Walk. Turn right and continue south.

Arts West, the former Economics and Commerce Building (bldg 148), is next on your right as you walk south on Professors’ Walk. Economics and Commerce departed in 2009 for new premises in Pelham Street, near University Square, John Scarborough and Partners designed an extension (1995–1996) to the south of this undistinguished building, closing the courtyard and joining the building to the Baillieu Library. The clever use of blue banding distracts the eye from the two lacklustre if not downright unpleasant buildings, thus creating a remarkably improved space. In 2013, a new student centre opened in the courtyard and the ground floor of the old building, under an enormous canopy. Whether this improves the aesthetic here remains to be seen.

Continue south on Professors’ Walk.
A sloping lawn, on your left opposite the Baillieu Library, hides the car park under the South Lawn. It is landscaped with large native trees. The statue on the lawn, Charity being kind to the poor, was rescued from the roof of the Equitable Life Assurance Building (1893) in the City when that building was demolished.

The Ellis Stones Garden, on your left as you continue south on Professors’ Walk (past the sloping lawn), was the last work of the distinguished landscape architect Ellis Stones (1895–1975). Was it coincidental that rockeries were Stones’ signature feature? The garden was completed in 1973, in conjunction with the underground car park, whose pedestrian entrance, just beyond the garden, is framed by Atlantis: caryatids rescued from the Colonial Bank in the City, built in 1880 and demolished in 1932. The car park was used in one of the Mad Max films. Its distinctive and graceful vaults result from the need to accommodate the large trees on the South Lawn: each tree is supported by a pillar in the car park which contains water and drainage services.

Pass the car park entry and follow the path to the left around the car park. Turn right at the stairs and pass between the two towers of John Medley; you will find yourself back at Gate 10 (Grattan Street). This concludes the tour of the University grounds.

A walking tour of College Crescent

The older residential colleges, many of which are of architectural interest, are laid out in a semi-circle around College Crescent from Swanston Street to Royal Parade. At its founding, the University was set up to be entirely secular, but land north of the campus was granted for residential colleges to be set up by the main religious denominations: Roman Catholic (Newman College), Methodist (Queen’s College), Presbyterian (Ormond College) and Anglican (Trinity College). Subsequently, these denominations set up colleges for women on their land: St Mary’s (Roman Catholic), St Hilda’s (Methodist and Presbyterian) and Janet Clarke Hall (Anglican). More recently, a number of new colleges were built further north on Royal Parade. This tour is limited to College Crescent.

Begin your walk on Swanston Street, at the corner of Elgin Street, where the trams turn right, north of the pedestrian overpass.

Tin Alley, which begins here at Gate 1, marks the northern boundary of the main campus. Beyond are sports facilities and facing outwards from the sports oval, the colleges.

Walk north, following the footpath around the Crescent.

St Mary’s College (Roman Catholic), replaced St Mary’s Hall, opened by the Loreto Sisters in 1918 on The Avenue in Parkville with 10 students. The current building dates from 1966, with subsequent additions (see photo to left). St Mary’s has been mixed since 1977.

Proceed north to the drive in front of the Newman College Chapel.
Newman College (Roman Catholic), opened in 1918, is the most spectacular college and the only one of international architectural merit. It was designed by Walter Burley Griffin and his partner Marion Mahony, who in 1912 won the competition to plan the nation’s capital, Canberra. (They also designed the Capitol Building, 113 Swanston Street: see Walk 1, p. 54). The chapel, designed by Thomas Payne, was consecrated in 1942. It is well-proportioned but severe.

To enter the quadrangle, walk in the main drive and turn right just before the chapel.

Only the east and north sides of the quadrangle, those spreading from the dome, are Griffin and Mahony’s work. Their fine sense of ornamentation contrasts with the clumsy west side of the quadrangle, a later addition. Don’t miss the College’s spectacular dining hall under the dome.

Proceed to the far corner of the quadrangle, by the fountain; enter the building, turn right and walk up the first staircase to the dining hall. Leave as you came and proceed north around College Crescent.

Queen’s College (Methodist), next after Newman some distance around on College Crescent, was designed by Terry and Oakden and begun in 1888, the centenary of white occupation of Australia. It boasts a neo-Gothic facade more massive and less playful than Ormond’s.

St Hilda’s College (Methodist) opened in 1964. It was built by Queen’s and Ormond Colleges on land donated by Queen’s. It was the last college built for women students before the colleges went co-residential. Its most notable feature is the 1969 addition, an early work by Daryl Jackson.

Continue on around the Crescent.

The Centre for Theology and Ministry, presents itself on the narrow strip of land after St Hilda’s. Designed by architects Williams Boag Carlton and completed in 2007, the building won the 2008 Australian Institute of Architects’ (no longer Royal) Award for Heritage Architecture. The Centre supports the Uniting Church Ministry in Victoria and Tasmania. The building also houses the office of the United Faculty of Theology (most of whose classes are held in the CTM). The Faculty, constituted in 1910, became in 2012 the MCD University of Divinity. It now includes, in a complex juggling act, all mainstream Christian Churches as well as the Coptic Orthodox and Salvation Army. The Dalton McCaughey Library, which extends into the campus behind the Centre, supports them all.

Wyselaskie Hall, the original Theological Hall at Ormond College (1887, designed by Reed, Henderson and Smart, the continuation of Reed and Barnes, founded in 1862 by Joseph Reed) is incorporated into the Centre building and can be seen on the left past the Centre, further back.

Continue around College Crescent.
**Ormond College** (Presbyterian) was designed by Reed and his colleagues. It opened in 1881 and was enlarged over the next decade. The master’s lodge was built in 1892 and the dining hall in 1893. The original curved drive has been closed at the eastern end, so you have to continue on to the far end of the College grounds to gain access. The extravagant neo-Gothic facade can only be seen by walking up the drive from the Crescent. It’s well worth the effort. The College Office will let you into the dining hall, an impressive Scottish baronial affair. Behind the College is McCaughey Court, an octagonal tower in concrete modernist style designed by Sir Roy Grounds and completed in 1968. Ask about services and concerts with the renowned Ormond College Choir.

*Return to College Crescent and continue around.*

**Janet Clarke Hall**, next on your left, was the first residential hall for women. After women entered the University in 1884, Trinity admitted them in 1886 to a ‘hostel’ in a pair of rented terrace houses. Responding to a public appeal for a permanent hall of residence in 1888, Lady Janet Clarke offered £5,000, with a further £1,000 before the building opened officially on 15 April 1891. ‘It was my very earnest desire to assist in providing the most liberal and advanced education for women that could be procured in this colony and when I asked Sir William’s consent he gladly helped me in this good cause. It was a token of love as I think very strongly that every woman should take pride in cultivating her intellect and learning all that is possible’, recalled Lady Clarke in 1899. In 1921, the Hostel was officially renamed Janet Clarke Hall; in 1961, the College formally separated from Trinity College under this name. The other women’s colleges were built in the 20th century.

**Lady Clarke** also played a significant role in the history of cricket. In 1882, the touring English cricket team spent Christmas at Rupertswood, Lady Clarke’s family mansion at Sunbury. The English team was in Australia to avenge England’s first real loss to Australia, which an English newspaper had jokingly called the death of cricket, adding, ‘the body will be cremated and the ashes taken to Australia’. After a social match at Rupertswood, Lady Clarke burnt a bail and presented the ashes in an urn to the English captain. The Ashes are now cricket’s most illustrious trophy, contested biennially in test matches between England and Australia.

*Continue on around the Crescent.*

**Trinity College** (Anglican) was built in stages from 1870 through 1887. Much of the original building was designed by Leonard Terry. The Chapel, neo-Gothic in style but of dark red brick, was built in 1917. Evensong, led by the College’s superb choir, is held on Sunday evenings during semester.

*You are now near tram stop 12 on Royal Parade, from which you can travel south to the City or north to the Zoo (see Fifteen Top Attractions, p. 50). If you continue walking west across Royal Parade along one of Parkville’s residential streets (try Bayle St) and cross Gatehouse Street, you will find the recently established Wetlands in the north-west corner of Royal Park, with walking paths.*
PART III: ENJOYING MELBOURNE

Australiana, art and souvenirs

Australiana can be found in a number of shops. For Australian themed T-shirts, windcheaters, stuffed animals, etc., try the Uni Shop at the University of Melbourne. Why not consider a famous Akubra Hat (City Hatters, Flinders Street Station; see Walk 1, p. 57)? Or try some local fashion (see the Shopping section in this guide, p. 44)? Cheap souvenirs can be found at the Victoria Market, especially on Sundays (see p. 52). Most goods on sale there, however, are made in China.

ABC (Australian Broadcasting Corporation) Shops sell CDs by Australian artists, including the various symphony orchestras, as well as merchandise from ABC hits such as Bananas in Pyjamas (for children). It’s on the mezzanine level of the GPO retail complex (corner of Bourke and Elizabeth Streets). DVDs and videos are available, but overseas visitors should remember that Australia uses PAL video format, DVDs are encoded Region 4 and Blu-ray B/2; make sure that you will be able to view your purchase when you get home.

Australian Arts and Crafts Markets can be found on Sundays at the street level of the Hamer Hall Promenade (facing the Yarra River), and at St Kilda on the Esplanade (no. 16 tram south on Swanston Street or no. 96 tram west on Bourke Street to stop 136).

Australian art can make excellent souvenirs; see Commercial Galleries, p. 33.

Australian books and posters may also serve for souvenirs. Information Victoria, Level 20, Nauru House, 80 Collins Street, City, has maps, guides, histories and some souvenirs. Try the Melbourne Museum and National Gallery of Victoria shops too.

Books are great souvenirs. If you haven’t read some classic Australian literature, try Henry Handel Richardson’s The Getting of Wisdom or The Fortunes of Richard Mahony, perhaps the great Australian novel. Or, more recent, Nobel Prize winner Patrick White’s many novels, perhaps starting with Voss (based on the life of the explorer Ludwig Leichhardt), A Fringe of Leaves, or Eye of the Storm. Or, more recent, Peter Carey, starting with Oscar and Lucinda, or Tim Winton, starting with Cloud Street, surely the quintessential Australian novel of the late 20th century. Contemporary literature is too rich a field for this guide, but you can get suggestions from good bookshops such as Embiggen, Readings, Readers Feast or Dymocks (see Books and Bookshops, p. 34). A good way to learn more about contemporary writing is to visit the Wheeler Centre in the City (see Books and Bookshops, p. 34, for details). Don’t forget that there is a large genre of Australian and indeed Melbourne crime writing, great for plane reading.

Other Ideas for Souvenirs

Clementine’s, 7 Degraves Street, City, offers cheeses, chocolates, ceramics, textiles and much more, all made in Victoria.

The Melbourne Shop by Lumbi, 8 Driver Lane (off Little Bourke Street east of Elizabeth Street) sells a wide range of locally-made goods, including maps of Melbourne printed on cushions, tote bags, and covers for iPads and laptops.
matt irwin studio 72, level 7, Nicholas Building, 37 Swanston Street, City, will provide his iconic photos of Melbourne. While you’re there, check out the Nicholas Building for the other artists, designers, milliners, and jewellers housed there.

Guides for shopping as well as sightseeing: Urban Walkabout Guides are fold-out maps featuring contemporary fashion, food and design destinations and emphasising the local, available free at hotels and visitor centres. yelp.com.au is a funky internet guide. bcl.com.au is more commercially oriented.

Public Galleries and Museums

National Gallery of Victoria (NGV): see Fifteen Top Attractions, p. 50; Walk 3, p. 64.

Heide Museum of Modern Art, 7 Templestowe Road, Bulleen, is the heart of Victorian modernism, a 20-minute taxi ride from the University. In 1934, the prominent Melbourne art collectors John and Sunday Reed bought a dairy farm (now Heidi I), where they welcomed Albert Tucker, Sidney Nolan, Joy Hester and other modernist painters. In 1967 they built a new residence, a fine example of modernist architecture (Heide II). In 1981 the museum was established and in 1993 a dedicated gallery building (Heide III) was opened. Open daily.

Melbourne Museum, in the Carlton Gardens, a ten-minute walk east from the campus, is a collection of archaeological, environmental and historical exhibits in a stunning post-modern building which put the architects Denton Corker Marshall on the map. The lack of curatorial information makes it a dog’s breakfast, but you will spend some enjoyable hours there. Be sure to wander in the rainforest! (See Walk 5, p. 72.)

The Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI), on your left as you proceed up into Federation Square (opposite Flinders St Station), offers exhibitions about cinema history and a cinemathèque.

Australian Centre for Contemporary Art (ACCA), 111 Sturt Street, South Melbourne (tram no. 1 on Swanston Street to stop 18), sees itself as Melbourne’s major public contemporary art space; it is the only major public art gallery in Australia focused on commissioning rather than collecting (see photo below). Closed Mondays. For its architecture, see Walk 3, p. 64.

Centre for Contemporary Photography, 404 George Street, Fitzroy, has regular exhibitions by emerging and established photo-media artists. From the campus, walk 15 minutes or take any bus east on Elgin Street; it becomes Johnston Street; turn left on George Street.

And don’t forget three fine museums/galleries on the campus:

- Ian Potter Gallery (see Part II, p. 22)
- Dax Collection (see Part II, p. 27)
- Grainger Museum (see Part II, p. 26)
Commercial Galleries
For a complete listing, see: www.art-almanac.com.au. Here we present a selection of reputable galleries (directions in italics).

In the City, on Flinders Lane, from Spring to Russell Streets, a number of excellent galleries display funky contemporary art by living artists. Don’t miss Arc One Gallery, 45 Flinders Lane, near Spring Street and while there be sure to go down the stairwell to fortyfivedownstairs, a not-for-profit gallery that showcases independent, experimental visual art.

Craft, 31 Flinders Lane, has rotating exhibitions and a gift shop with work by some of Melbourne’s leading craftspeople. Other galleries worth a visit in Flinders Lane include Flinders Lane Gallery, at 137, and Anna Schwartz Gallery at 185, which exhibits the work of well-established contemporary artists.

Bridget McDonnell Gallery, near the campus at 130 Faraday Street (corner of Rathdowne Street), Carlton, specialises in Australian art at reasonable prices. From the campus it is a ten-minute walk east on Grattan or Faraday Streets to Rathdowne Street.

You can walk south on Lygon Street, toward the City, to Steps Gallery, at 62 (between Queensberry and Victoria Streets). Nestled behind a café, it’s a good place to stop and have a break.

Print galleries abound in Fitzroy. From the campus, walk 20 minutes (ten minutes from Rathdowne Street) or take any bus east on Johnston Street to Brunswick Street: Brunswick Street Gallery, 332 Brunswick Street; Printmaker Gallery, at 227, which has prints by local artists.

Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, 51 Victoria Street, Fitzroy (off Brunswick Street a short block south of Johnston Street), is one of the most respected galleries in Australia specialising in Aboriginal art. Stroll south (toward the City) on Brunswick Street to Gertrude Street and turn left (east).

Gertrude Street, Fitzroy, vibrates with funky cafés, fashion shops and galleries, many specialising in prints, often inexpensive. From Brunswick Street, continue south a few blocks; from the City, take the no. 112 tram on Collins Street or take the no. 86 tram on Bourke Street, alight at the corner of Gertrude and Brunswick Streets (stop 13).

Dianne Tanzer Gallery, 108 Gertrude Street, near Brunswick Street, is definitely worth a look. Near Smith Street (further east), Gertrude Contemporary Art, at 200, features cutting-edge work by emerging artists; The Australian Print Workshop, at 210, is a collective where you can learn about local print artists and purchase work.

Port Jackson Press Print Room, 61 Smith Street (around the corner from Gertrude), Australian Galleries, across Smith Street at 50, on the corner of Derby Street, is devoted to works on paper; their painting and sculpture division is at 35 Derby Street. Indigenart – The Mossenson Galleries, is nearby at 41 Derby Street. James Makin Gallery, 67 Cambridge Street, off Derby Street a block further, regularly exhibits the work of printmakers.
Richmond is also worth a visit for art lovers. Take the no. 70 tram on Flinders Street along Swan Street to stop 11 (corner of Swan and Church Streets) and continue to Albert Street: Sophie Gannon Gallery, 2 Albert Street, and Anita Traverso Gallery, 7 Albert Street. Back on Church Street, walk north to Charles Nodrum Gallery at 267. Take the no. 70 tram back to stop 7E at Punt Road, and walk 300 metres north (up the hill) to Niagara Galleries, 245 Punt Road, a gallery showing work by both indigenous and non-indigenous artists.

Aboriginal art galleries
There is wide diversity in quality and provenance (guarantee of authenticity). Unless you have time to do a lot of research, purchase only works that come with a certificate of authenticity from reputable galleries, preferably from a Community Art Centre. The following are all reliable.

Alcaston Gallery, 11 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy (near the city, just off Victoria Parade), is a highly regarded gallery specialising in Aboriginal art. From the city, take any Collins Street tram east, past St Patrick’s Cathedral, to the tram interchange in front of St Vincent’s Hospital and walk up Brunswick Street.

Gallery Gabrielle Pizzi, 51 Victoria Street, Fitzroy, is another respected Aboriginal art gallery. Around the corner.

Indigenart – The Mossenson Galleries, 41 Derby Street, Collingwood, feature work by West Australian indigenous artists. See p. 33 for directions.

Niagara Galleries, 245 Punt Road, Richmond, is another gallery worth the effort. See p. 33 for directions.

Books and Bookshops
Melbourne became the second UNESCO City of Literature, after Edinburgh, in 2008, as a result of an intense campaign by the then Labor state government. There are now five Cities of Literature. Thanks to a generous donation from Tony and Maureen Wheeler (founders of the Lonely Planet guides), the Wheeler Centre for Books, Writing and Ideas opened in 2010, housed in the State Library of Victoria (access on the side of the building, at 176 Little Lonsdale Street). The Wheeler Centre is an ongoing writers’ festival. If you’re interested in contemporary literature, check their website and attend one of their sessions.

Three bookshops stand out for wide selection in general and good coverage of Australian writing: Readings, Lygon Street, Carlton; Readers’ Feast and Dymocks, both on Collins Street in the City. They are included in the geographically-organised list below:

Moving from the campus:
The Coop, in the Baillieu Library Building, offers textbooks and some popular books but is weak on Australian literature.

Carlton Second-Hand Books, 678 Swanston Street (just south of Grattan Street), is filled with books on history, arts, and literature.
Readings, 309 Lygon Street (between Faraday and Elgin Streets). Browsing here is a traditional pastime, often after a meal or a film (they are open late, usually till 11). This is the place to look for Australian writing of all sorts. Many local book launches are held here.

Fitzroy:

Hares and Hyenas, at 63 Johnston St. Fitzroy, bills itself as ‘Melbourne’s queer bookshop’. Take a ten-minute walk east on Elgin Street; it becomes Johnston Street on crossing Nicholson Street and Hares and Hyenas is a little further on the left.

Brunswick Street Bookstore, 305 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy (just north of Johnston Street, a ten-minute walk east from Lygon Street), is smaller but pleasant and homely.

Polyester, at 330, is for you if you’re an aficionado of graphic art books (aka comics). It calls itself ‘the world’s freakiest bookstore’.

Grub Street Bookshop, further north at 379, is another good second-hand book shop.

Artisan Books, 159 Gertrude Street, Fitzroy, offers a range of books on art, craft, design and culture. Ten minutes south on Brunswick Street (walk or take the tram) to Gertrude Street and turn left. From the City, take the no. 86 tram from Bourke Street to stop 13 (Brunswick Street) or stop 15 (Smith Street).

Books for Cooks, 233 Gertrude Street, further east, near Smith Street, stocks a huge range of books on food and cooking from all over the world (see photo above). If you want to make a pavlova, a sticky-date pudding, or any other local specialty, pick up an Australian cook book here. The standard Australian cook book is Stephanie Alexander’s The Cook’s Companion.

In the City:

Dymocks, 234 Collins Street, west of Swanston Street, in the lower level of an arcade, is a jazzy space with a wide range of books. Dymocks are an Australian chain.

Embiggen Books, 197 Little Lonsdale Street, opposite the Wheeler Centre, is an independent that presents a ‘tightly curated’ selection of quality books.

Readers’ Feast, 162 Collins Street, east of Swanston Street (past the Town Hall) and splendidly if somewhat gloomily housed in what was once Melbourne’s most upmarket department store, is a large, independent bookstore with a very wide selection, including a fine Australian section. They sponsor a writers’ festival, Writers at the Convent, held every February.

Readings State Library, in the foyer on the left as you enter under the portico on Swanston Street, is a branch (the main store is on Lygon Street) handy to the Wheeler Centre.
Kay Craddock Antiquarian Books, 156 Collins Street, a few doors further up the hill, offers a wide range of old Australian and English books; her prices are eminently honest and reasonable. If you’re looking for souvenirs, why not seek out some Australiana here?

Theosophical Society Bookshop, 126 Russell Street, near Bourke Street, specializes in esoteric subjects and the world’s religious traditions.

Hill of Content, 86 Bourke Street, near Parliament House, an independent bookseller founded in 1922; its owner erected this building in 1928 and the shop has occupied it ever since. It is aimed at general readers and carries plenty of glossy books.

Information Victoria, Level 20, Nauru House, 80 Collins Street, has works on all aspects of Melbourne and Victoria

Paperback Bookshop, 60 Collins Street, has specialised in Australian literature since the 1960s.

The New International Bookshop, 54 Victoria Street Carlton (at the corner of Lygon Street) in the lower level of the Trades Hall Building, is an alternative bookshop for the socially conscious and a meeting-place for progressives. It is on the border between the City and Carlton, one block east of Swanston Street.

The Atrium at Federation Square has a book fair every Saturday from 11am to 5pm.

Bars, cafés, restaurants and happening streets

Australians speak of tea (or just a cuppa), but drink our excellent coffee. Cafés and espresso machines are an integral part of Melbourne life. (For coffee terms, see p. 13). And you will find many excellent restaurants. Here I sketch cafés and restaurants by area. Foodies and bar hoppers can consult The Age Good Food Guide and The Age Cheap Eats Guide, which also discusses bars.

City Cafés and Lunch Spots

The Windsor Hotel, Spring Street between Collins and Bourke Streets, offers sumptuous traditional morning or afternoon tea in one of the glories of 1880s Marvellous Melbourne (see Walk 1, p. 54, for details).

Hopetoun Tea Rooms, in the splendid Block Arcade, off the north side of Collins Street (between Elizabeth and Swanston Streets) are equally historic, dating from 1891 and remodelled in 1904. The Block Arcade was beautifully restored for its centenary in 1991 (see Walk 1, p. 54, for details).

Block Place, which runs north off Block Arcade after the rotunda, offers a number of cafés and lunch spots. Go north through Block Place, cross Little Collins Street, and you’re in Royal Arcade, which ends at Bourke Street.

The Intercontinental Hotel, an effective recycling of two Victorian office buildings at 495 Collins Street, further west in the City, also offers excellent tea in the remarkable Atrium.
For a younger, funkier feel in the City, try Flinders Lane

**Journal,** shop 1, 253 Flinders Lane (just west of Swanston Street), is in the same building as the new City Library and worth a browse. A hundred metres west is Degraves Street, where you’ll find the eponymous **Degraves Espresso Bar,** with its ex-cinema seats. Degraves St leads to Degraves Place and Centre Place, laneways bustling with places serving breakfast or lunch.

Up the top end of Bourke Street (two blocks east), get a taste of Melbourne’s Italian roots at **Pellegrini** (66 Bourke) or **Grossi Florentino Cellar Bar,** just down the hill at number 80.

**Southgate,** the complex on the Yarra River behind Hamer Hall on the right after crossing Princes Bridge from the City, offers many restaurants at which to dine before or after concert or theatre.

**City Bars**

Melbourne enjoys a thriving bar scene. Try the Gin Palace, 10 Russell Place (off Little Collins Street), for its martinis and shabby chic décor. Siglo, Level 2, 161 Spring Street, offers a rooftop with great views. Trunk Bar and Restaurant, 275 Exhibition Street, provides a pleasant outdoor experience.

**City Dining**

**Top City Restaurants.** *The Age Good Food Guide 2013* (available in bookstores and as an iPhone app) gave top ratings (three chef’s hats) to: **Vue de Monde,** Level 55, 525 Collins Street; **Attica,** 74 Glen Eira Road, Ripponlea, and **Jacques Reymond,** 78 Williams Road, Prahran (both described as *contemporary* and both a short taxi ride from the City or the Uni).

Two chef’s hats in the City or near the Uni went to **Cutler & Co.** 55 Gertrude St, Fitzroy (contemporary); **ezard,** 187 Flinders Lane (fusion); **Flower Drum,** 17 Market Lane (modern Chinese); **MoVida,** 1 Hosier Lane (modern Spanish); and **The Press Club,** 72 Flinders St, corner Exhibition Street (modern Greek).

Many fine restaurants garnered one chef’s hat. Among them, one could mention **Bistro Vue,** 430 Little Collins St (French; a more affordable Vue de Monde); **The European,** 161 Spring St; **Grossi Florentino,** 80 Bourke St (Italian; a Melbourne institution); and **PM 24,** 24 Russell St (French).
Chinatown—Little Bourke Street from Swanston to Spring Streets—offers dozens of Chinese restaurants. Many Melburnians enjoy yum cha on weekends, from late morning to early afternoon: select your dishes from trolleys doing laps around the dining room. The Supper Inn, an old Chinese stand-by that stays open very late, lies on the tantalisingly-named Celestial Avenue (in fact a small laneway) off Little Bourke between Swanston and Russell Streets. Gingerboy (one hat) 27–29 Crossley Street (off Little Bourke Street between Exhibition and Spring Streets) offers modern South-East Asian food. Flower Drum, a Melbourne institution, is on Market Lane, just off Little Bourke St.

For Japanese cuisine, try Kuni’s, 56 Little Bourke Street, or Kenzan, lower level Collins Place, 45 Collins Street.

For modern Thai cuisine, the fashionable and dimly lit Longrain, 44 Little Bourke Street.

**Inner suburb happening streets, cafés and dining:**

**Lygon Street, Carlton**, two short blocks east of the University, is both the University’s café area and Melbourne’s centre of Italian food. The best places are in the two blocks north of Grattan Street. Try the University Café, Lygon Food Store, Tiamo, Tiamo II or Brunetti’s. Jimmy Watson’s wine bar and bistro is a Melbourne University tradition. Lygon Street is also home to the Cinema Nova, which screens many films of interest (Lygon Court, 380 Lygon Street, opposite Readings). Parking is difficult. *From the City, take any Swanston Street tram to Grattan Street (stop 2)*

**Off Lygon Street**, restaurants abound on cross streets from Elgin Street to Queensberry Street (note at this corner the delightful Lygon Building, built in 1888). More restaurants can be found on Elgin Street, including Esposito (seafood, one hat) at 162, and Abla’s, at 109 (Lebanese, one hat). Vegetarian food is found at Shakahari, 201 Faraday Street (next door to La Mama Theatre).

**Rathdowne Street**, two blocks east of Lygon Street, offers a number of French restaurants. Just north of Johnston Street, you’ll find St Ann’s on the left, Paris Go on the right. A little further north, still on the right, is an old stand-by, Moreton’s Brasserie (166 Rathdowne).

**Brunswick Street, Fitzroy**, a kilometre further east, once a major focus of youth and marginal culture, is now famous for cafés and restaurants; there are more than 50 (mostly inexpensive) restaurants within a few blocks north and south of Johnston Street, one kilometre east of the campus. Indian, Thai and Malaysian restaurants predominate, but Australian-style cafés (offering a mix of Mediterranean and Asian-inspired dishes) abound too. Mario’s at 303 and Babka at 358 (try their pastries) are much loved. Brunswick Street was a centre of fringe artistic activity, but high rents pushed the arty scene east to Gertrude and Smith Streets, where a number of cafés are springing up. Parking is difficult. *From the City, take the no. 112 tram east on Collins Street to stop 21 at the intersection with Johnston Street, the hub of Brunswick Street. From the Uni, walk east on Elgin Street or take the no. 200–207 bus on Lygon Street; it goes east on Elgin Street (which becomes Johnston) to Brunswick Street.*
Gertrude Street, Fitzroy, which crosses Brunswick Street near the City, has established itself as Melbourne’s funkiest street. (See also Walk 5, p. 72). Spilling round the corner into Smith Street, it is dotted with interesting places to eat, drink and shop. Harry Evans & Sons (no. 7) have made billiard tables here since 1895.

Gertrude Street cafés, going from Brunswick to Smith Street: Breizoz for crêpes (corner Brunswick Street), Gertrude Street Enoteca at no. 229, a don’t miss experience for wine buffs. De Clieu, at no. 187, seems to have replaced Birdman Eating (no. 238) as the most in café. On Smith Street, around the corner you’ll find Monsieur Truffe (no. 90) a haven for lovers of chocolate and, towards the city, La Niche (no. 67) a cosy French café.

Gertrude Street restaurants include the intimate Ume Nomiyà for Japanese at 197 and, just next door, Añada, a tapas restaurant. The Gertrude Street Enoteca at 229 offers ‘artisan foods’ as well as wine. Across the street is Ladro (thin-crusted pizzas) at 224.

Charcoal Lane, at 136 Gertrude Street, is a quality restaurant, staffed by Indigenous Australians as a social enterprise program of Mission Australia. The 1854 building was a branch of the English, Scottish and Australian Bank Limited and the home of the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service (VAHS) from 1973 until 1992.

Victoria Street, Richmond, is the heart of Melbourne’s Vietnamese community. Its footpaths are always bustling with locals thronging its innumerable Vietnamese restaurants between Hoddle and Church Streets, some two kilometres east of the City. Parking is difficult. Take the no. 109 tram (Mont Albert) on Collins Street or on Victoria Parade east to stop 24 or 25.

Sydney Road, Brunswick, the extension of Royal Parade to the north, is a thriving centre of Mediterranean cultures, full of restaurants and cafés. Take a no. 19 tram on Elizabeth Street/Royal Parade north past Brunswick Road, where Royal Parade narrows to become Sydney Road (stop 19). Three stops further on is a fabulous Italian supermarket cum coffee shop and bakery (with three aisles of pasta!) Mediterranean Wholesalers (482 Sydney Road—tram stop 22). A few blocks north you will find Balha’s pastries (761 Sydney Road—tram stop 27) for delicious Lebanese sweets.

Acland and Fitzroy Streets, St Kilda, once the heart of the Jewish community in Melbourne, now offer another focus of café life and youth culture. See Walk 6, p. 77. Take tram no. 16 on Swanston Street or no. 96 on Bourke Street to stops 134 (Acland Street), 135–8 (Esplanade), or 139 (other end of Acland Street).

Toorak Road and Chapel Street, from South Yarra to Prahran, make one large shopping area, full of up-market cafés and high-fashion boutiques; they are always lively. Take the no. 8 (Toorak) tram on Swanston Street south to stops 25 to 29. Stop 28 is the intersection of Toorak Road and Chapel Street. Walk south towards Commercial Road, on which you can catch the no. 72 tram back to the City. You may also continue south to High Street, where you can catch the no. 6 tram either to the City or east to Armadale: stops 36–40 on High Street are the centre of the Melbourne antique trade.
Shopping for food and wine

Handy to the Uni, King and Godfree, 293 Lygon Street (at the corner of Faraday), is good for wine, deli and general food. There is a supermarket in the basement of the Lygon Court shopping mall, 380 Lygon Street. On Lygon Street between Elgin and Grattan Streets you will also find:

- The Lygon Foodstore, 263 Lygon Street: cheese and deli products.
- La Parisienne, 290 Lygon Street: French charcuterie.
- Gewürzhaus, 342 Lygon Street: spices, teas and chocolates in a funk setting.
- First Choice Fruit & Vegetable Supplies, 327 Lygon Street.

The Queen Victoria Market, on the corner of Elizabeth and Victoria Streets in the City, is unbeatable for fresh fruit and vegetables, meat, fish and delicatessen items. Bargains can be picked up round closing time. There is a good selection of organic produce in Shed I. Generally, fruit and veg prices (and sometimes quality) are lower in Sheds A and B. Open mornings Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, all day Friday and Sunday. Don’t miss it. From the University, take the no. 19 tram south on Royal Parade to stop 7.

City shopping

Melbourne’s two department stores, Myer (the larger) and David Jones (the smarter), sit side by side on the Bourke Street Mall (between Swanston and Elizabeth Streets).

Shopping centres now surround the department stores. The handsome former General Post Office (GPO), next to Myer on the corner of Bourke and Elizabeth Streets, specialises in high-end fashion. Melbourne Central, a block north of the Bourke Street Mall, built over an underground railway station, caters to everyone and everything. It was recently reworked to create a laneway effect on its edges, and to incorporate a cinema complex.

Boutique fashion shops can be found between Swanston and Elizabeth Streets, in the arcades clustered around Collins and Bourke Streets and on Little Collins Street and Flinders Lane. These last have an increasing array of small designers’ shops and a funkier feel than the main streets. A number of up-market shops can be found on Collins and Bourke Streets in the block between Elizabeth and Queen Streets and at the other end, near Parliament House. Little Collins west of Elizabeth Street is a delightful shopping strip.

Jewellery shops abound. To check them out you could wander from Kozminsky, Australia’s oldest jewellery store, at 421 Bourke Street, near the pleasant McKillop Street (between Queen and Elizabeth Streets) to Hardy Brothers, 338 Collins Street, jewellers to the establishment. You will find contemporary jewelers, among them e.g. etal, Basement, 167 Flinders Lane and Gallery Funaki, 4 Crossley Street, off Bourke Street between Spring and Exhibition Streets, which offers original jewellery designs.
Opals are distinctively Australian jewels and make excellent souvenirs. They are sold all over the City, usually duty-free. You’ll pass a dozen shops if you walk south on Swanston Street from Little Bourke to Collins Streets and turn left on Collins. Slightly off this track, at 175 Flinders Lane (near Russell Street), is Lightning Ridge Opal Mines, a family-run business dating back to 1838.

Entertainment

Information on what’s playing is found in The Age newspaper, especially in ‘The Shortlist’ which appears with the Friday edition. Throughout the City, you will find free street press, such as Inpress and Beat, which list many events. The City of Melbourne produces a weekly What’s On in Melbourne, available at the Town Hall (Swanston Street near Little Collins Street), or at their website: www.thatsmelbourne.com.au.

The Arts Centre offers a bi-monthly guide, which includes ballet, concerts, opera and theatre playing there. Their booking line is 1300 182 183 or tickets can be purchased at: www.theartscentre.com.au.

Half Tix, in the Melbourne Town Hall (on Swanston Street between Little Collins and Collins Streets), sells half-price seats for many performances that evening.

Theatre

The Melbourne Theatre Company (MTC), 140 Southbank Blvd, Southbank, is one of two major repertory companies. It began in 1953 as the Union Theatre Repertory Company, taking its name from its original home, the Union Theatre at the University of Melbourne. It is still linked to the University. It recently moved into a new theatre in Southbank. Take any tram on Swanston Street across the Yarra and alight at the first stop, in front of the Arts Centre; proceed past the National Gallery of Victoria, around the corner, and the MTC Theatre will be on your left at the first corner.

Malthouse Theatre, 113 Sturt Street, South Melbourne, is the other major repertory company. It sees itself as more progressive and more self-consciously Australian. It commissions many new works. It’s located a block south from the MTC and the Melbourne Recital Hall on Sturt Street. Take the no. 1 tram on Swanston Street to stop 18.

La Mama, a tiny experimental theatre at 205 Faraday Street, Carlton (just off Lygon Street), has long been the heart of avant-garde theatre in Melbourne. La Mama operates a second venue around the corner: the Carlton Courthouse Theatre, 349 Drummond Street, Carlton. For information and tickets for both, call 9347 6142. Take any Swanston Street tram to Melbourne University Terminus, Faraday Street, and walk east on Faraday past Lygon Street; Drummond Street is just beyond.
Red Stitch Actors’ Theatre, 2 Chapel Street, St Kilda, is an independent actors’ ensemble formed in 2002. They perform contemporary works from the US, UK and Europe and commission new Australian plays. Red Stitch is unique in this country as it is owned, operated and managed by the ensemble members. Box office tel: 9533 8083. **Take a no. 64 (East Brighton) or 67 (Carnegie) tram on Swanston Street to stop 37 at Chapel Street.**

Commercial Theatre usually has several productions going. The biggest musicals are often at the beautiful Princess Theatre on Spring Street (see Walk 4, p. 69); it’s worth getting a ticket just to see the interior. Others play at the restored Regent Theatre, opposite the Town Hall, on Collins Street. Her Majesty’s and the Comedy Theatres face each other on Exhibition Street between Little Bourke and Lonsdale Streets. The Athenæum is on Collins Street, next to the Town Hall.

**Cinema**

In addition to the many commercial cinemas, note the following independent and art house cinemas.

**Cinema Nova** in Lygon Court (380 Lygon St, tel: 9347 5331) shows new release films, both art-house and commercial, as well as the Metropolitan Opera and National Theatre productions.

**Kino Cinema** (lower level 45 Collins St in the City, tel: 9650 2100) screens local and international feature films and documentaries.

The Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI) at Federation Square screens many films of interest especially to cinema buffs listed on their website.

**The Rooftop Cinema** (level 7, 252 Swanston Street, City, tel: 9663 3596) screens classics from December to March. A fun place for a date.

**The Moonlight Cinema** in the Royal Botanic Gardens offers latest releases and classics in a picturesque setting at sundown from December to March, weather permitting. **Take any Swanston Street tram except no. 1 south to stop 18, cross in front of the Shrine to Birdwood Avenue, turn left and follow the signs.**

**Music and music theatre**

Melbourne has a lively pub music scene (note that pubs are called hotels), which ‘The Shortlist’ covers well.

**Jazz** starts with three noteworthy City venues: Bennetts Lane, Melbourne’s premier jazz club—25 Bennetts Lane (off Little Lonsdale Street, between Russell and Exhibition Streets), open every night; Paris Cat, an intimate jazz venue and cocktail bar with a great vibe—6 Goldie Place (off Little Bourke near Queen St), open Wednesday-Saturday; The Toff in Town, an intimate cabaret style room—Level 2, 252 Swanston Street.

**Opera Australia** performs in Melbourne in March, April and May each year and again in November and December at the State Theatre in the Arts Centre, under the spire (see Walk 3, p. 64).
Several small opera companies have formed in recent years: Melbourne Opera Company and VicOpera (formerly Melbourne City Opera) perform the classic repertoire. Victorian Opera has emerged as a dynamic young company doing more unusual repertoire. ChamberMade Opera specialises in contemporary work.

The Australian Ballet is based in Melbourne. It plays in the State Theatre from May to early July and again in September and October.

The Melbourne Symphony Orchestra performs regularly in Hamer Hall (see photo to left; see Walk 3, p. 64) and at several other venues, including the Myer Music Bowl for open-air performances in February.

The Australian Chamber Orchestra plays regularly in Melbourne. Led by the talented violinist Richard Tognetti, they provide a special dynamism. It is only one of a number of smaller ensembles performing regularly.

Musica Viva organises a wide range of chamber music concerts. Tel: 9645 5088.

Chamber Music Australia is a good source of information on concerts; they also organise the biennial Melbourne International Chamber Music Competition (odd years in July). Website: www.chambermusicaustralia.com.au

Radio and television

‘The Green Guide’ lists programs for the week. It is a supplement to the Thursday edition of The Age. The ABC provides a range of services, which are listed and can be downloaded for podcasting from the ABC’s excellent website: www.abc.net.au.

Radio National (621 AM) is a high-culture station with a number of first-rate programs. From 6 to 9am, Radio National Breakfast provides coverage of news and current affairs. Late Night Live after the 10pm news weekdays is an institution of Australian intellectual life. Afterward, the Daily Planet provides world music. The Music Show, Saturdays 10–12, provides extraordinary coverage of every kind of music.

774 ABC Melbourne (774 AM) provides a middle-brow service, going down-market, except for the morning show with Jon Faine (8:30-12). Its 7.45am news and 8am current affairs programs AM (7am on Radio National), together with PM at 6pm (5pm on Radio National), provide good coverage of national and international affairs.
ABC Newsradio (1026 AM) provides 24-hour news from the ABC, the BBC, PBS and Deutsche Veller.

Triple J (107.5 FM) is the ABC youth station.

Community radio stations provide a wide range of music and current affairs: RRR (102.7 FM), PBS (106.7 FM) and 3CR (855 AM).

SBS Radio (93.1 FM and 1224 AM) offers foreign-language programs.

Classical music is provided by ABC-FM (105.9 FM) and community station 3MBS (103.5 FM). On Air, a monthly magazine published by 3MBS, is available by subscription; tel: 9416 1035.

On television, ABC and SBS provide good news programs. ABC1 offers Australian Story at 8pm Monday nights (short bio-documentaries) and then investigative journalism on Four Corners at 8.30pm. Lateline (Monday to Friday at 10.30pm) is an in-depth analysis of the day’s events, both local and international. Q & A (Mondays, 9:35pm) is a live program involving politicians, commentators and artists with a studio audience. ABC2 is edgier. ABC3 is for kids. ABC24 offers 24 hour news. Both the ABC and SBS offer iView.

Sport

Australian Rules Football is a game many visitors have found wonderfully entertaining. Matches are great family events. Indeed, Aussie Rules has the highest proportion of female spectators of any football code in the world. Go and learn what taking a mark means. If you come during the footy season (March-September), choose a team, buy their scarf, go to a game and barrack for them (don’t root; in Australia the word has only its sexual connotation). For game information, visit the AFL website: www.afl.com.au.

The Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) is the cradle of Australian rules football as well as the heart of Australian cricket (see photo above). It is by far the best place to see either game. Football games are played Friday and Saturday nights, Saturday and Sunday afternoons and sometimes on Monday; the best time is still Saturday arvo (afternoon). Cricket is played in the summer. Be there an hour before the game. Buy tickets at the windows and walk in (except for some blockbuster games and footy finals in September, when booking is essential).
The MCG is 1.5 kilometres east of Flinders Street Station, just south of the Fitzroy Gardens (see p. 69). It can be reached by train or by tram from Flinders Street. *It is a pleasant walk along the Yarra River through Birrarung Marr Park (start behind Federation Square) or across the Fitzroy Gardens. On game days, just follow the crowds.*

**Etihad Stadium** is the other major venue for football, opened in 2000 (still known as Docklands or as Telstra Dome by many). In bad weather the closing roof may be appreciated. *Take the no. 86 tram west on Bourke Street to stop D1, or walk from Southern Cross Station by pedestrian overpass. Unlike the MCG, buying tickets beforehand (from Ticketmaster) is advised.*

**Exercise**

**Melbourne Bike Share** offers bikes for short-term rental on a pick-up-here-drop-off-there basis throughout the City and inner suburbs. Melbourne is a great cycling city because it’s so flat, but compulsory helmet laws have prevented the scheme from taking off. You can buy a legal $5 helmet at certain 7-11 stores and with it the scheme becomes workable.

**Melbourne University Sport** off Tin Alley at the north end of the campus, offers squash courts and gym facilities, and, further west along Tin Alley, the Beaurepaire swimming pool. While a staff card is normally required for admission, you may present yourself with some form of identification at the reception desk, explaining that you are here on a visiting basis, and you will be allowed to use the facilities at casual rates. The Sports Centre also offers physiotherapy and personal training.

**The City Baths**, 420 Swanston Street (corner of Victoria Street), is an historic but modernised 30 metre (100 foot) indoor pool heated to 29°C (see photo to left). There is also a gym, group exercise classes and squash courts as well as sauna, spa, and masseurs. (For the history of the Baths, see Walk 5, p. 72). *Take any tram south on Swanston Street from the campus to stop 6 (Victoria Street) or 7 (Franklin Street) or walk 700 metres south from Grattan Street.*

**The Fitzroy Pool** celebrated its centenary in 2008. It is a 50m outdoor heated pool (though the facilities are austere), open all year. *It is on Alexandra Parade east of Brunswick Street, a 15-minute walk from the campus. Walk east on Elgin Street to Brunswick Street, then north to Alexandra Parade and turn right. The pool is on the right.*
Part IV: FIFTEEN TOP ATTRACTIONS

If you are here for a short time, a day or two spent doing some of these things will give you a good sense of Melbourne. These walks are covered in more detail in Part V.

1 Melbourne on the Yarra
A walk along the Yarra in the city centre reveals Melbourne as most Melburnians imagine their city. You can make a circuit starting at either side of Princes Bridge (there are stairs at each corner and a lift at the Federation Square corner). The view of the city from Princes Bridge is iconic. Descend the staircase and walk west on the riverbank to Sandridge Bridge, now a pedestrian walk on the theme of immigration. Cross over and walk back past Princes Bridge. East of Federation Square is the recently developed Birrarung Marr, a modern park which connects the square to the MCG. You can cross over at the Swan Street Bridge or return to Princes Bridge.

2 Royal Botanic Gardens
These gardens are one of Melbourne’s finest features. Take any tram (except the no. 1) south on Swanston Street to the Shrine of Remembrance (stop 19) and walk past the Shrine to the Observatory Gate. For details, see Walk 2, p. 61.

3 The National Gallery of Victoria (NGV)
The NGV is the most visited tourist attraction in Victoria (see photo above). It is open from 10am to 5pm. Entry is free, though special exhibitions are not. The NGV is on two sites. The NGV Australia, in Federation Square (closed Mondays), presents a fine collection of Australian art. NGV International, 180 St Kilda Road (across Princes Bridge; closed Tuesdays), contains Australia’s finest collection of European art. For the buildings, see Walk 3, p. 64.
4 Fitzroy Gardens
These gardens, under the jurisdiction of the City of Melbourne, compete with the Botanic Gardens, controlled by the state. You can walk through the beautiful Treasury Gardens from the City (off Spring Street just south of Collins Street) to the Fitzroy Gardens, or take any Collins Street tram to stop 11 (Albert Street and St Patrick’s Cathedral) and walk east on Albert Street one block to the Fitzroy Gardens. Don’t miss the central grotto and fountain complex and be sure to visit the Conservatory. You might enjoy Captain Cook’s Cottage too. For details, see Walk 4, p. 69.

5 A Collins Street Promenade
Collins Street was Melbourne’s most fashionable street almost from the beginning. A walk on Collins Street reveals much of the city’s 19th-century heart. Take any tram to Collins Street. Then take any Collins Street tram east to Queen Street, where there are three neo-Gothic Bank Chambers, and walk back. If you have time, go further west to see the buildings now comprising the InterContinental Melbourne The Rialto at 495 Collins. Don’t miss the neo-Renaissance foyer at 333 Collins. Between Elizabeth and Swanston Streets, go into Block Arcade. At Swanston Street, note the Manchester Unity Building (1932). At Russell Street, note the two fine churches designed by the same architect in contrasting styles. See Walk 1, p. 54, for details.

6 City Circle Tram
The free City Circle tram service operates every day (except Good Friday and Christmas Day) from 10am to 6pm (10am–9pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday). It travels around the City in both directions on La Trobe Street, Harbour Esplanade (Docklands), Flinders and Spring Streets, passing many City tourist attractions. Trams run every twelve minutes. These are authentic W Class trams, built in the 1930s, though the dark red livery is definitely not authentic. This is a great way to get a good view of the central city in less than an hour. One should note, however, that the extension of the tram to Docklands, in a vain attempt to bring people to this development, adds to the time more than to the interest (for Docklands, see Walk 7, p. 79). You can catch the tram at any stop marked with a dark red circle sign: the stops on La Trobe and Flinders Streets are handy to Swanston and Elizabeth Street trams.

7 Eureka Tower
If you like to see cities from their tallest tower, the Eureka Skydeck 88 is for you. Walk west along Southbank from Princes Bridge to the end of Southgate, at the footbridge, turn left on Southgate Avenue, then right after 50 metres and then sharp left. For details, see Walk 3, p. 64.

8 Terrace Houses
A stroll along Drummond Street, Carlton, will show you some of the rich Victorian heritage of terrace (or row) houses decorated with original ironwork. Walk east from the University campus past Lygon Street to Drummond Street and turn right toward the City. From the City, walk east on Victoria Parade and turn left. Walk 5, p. 72, offers more 19th-century terraces.
9 River Cruises
A river cruise is a pleasant way to experience Melbourne. Two operators offer cruises on modern boats: City River Cruises (tel. 9650 2214) and Melbourne River Cruises (tel. 8610 2600). Classic Steamboat Cruises uses early 20th-century boats (tel. 0425 779 473). Williamstown Ferries (tel. 9682 9555) can take you to the picturesque seaside suburb of Williamstown.

All these operate from either of two locations:

- **Princes Walk**, the river bank below Federation Square. You can also access Princes Walk from the little gate at the end of Flinders Street Station, just past the mural and just before Princes Bridge.
- **Southbank Wharf**, the river bank promenade below Hamer Hall and Southgate, opposite Flinders Street Station.

10 Melbourne Zoo
The Melbourne Zoological Gardens, in the heart of Royal Park, on Elliot Avenue, Parkville, have many exhibits. Check out the kangaroos, platypuses, lions, elephants and bears. The polar bears and seals are visible from under-pool glass. Don’t miss the aviary, the butterfly enclosure and the giraffe savannah. The Zoo Shop is a good place to buy gifts, especially for children. Take the no. 55 tram (West Coburg) northbound on William Street from the City to stop 24, or take the Upfield train to Royal Park Station. Both tram and train take you directly to the zoo. Alternatively, take the no. 19 tram northbound on Elizabeth Street past the Victoria Market and on up Royal Parade, past the University and colleges (stop 10) and Parkville, where you can see marvellously preserved terraces for the well-to-do (stops 11–13). Alight at stop 16. Turn left and follow Walker Street, which becomes Kendall Avenue and leads directly to the zoo’s main entrance, a cream and brick pavilion on your right. The walk is about 600 metres.

11 Melbourne Aquarium
The Aquarium is a great visit, particularly for kids. A major redevelopment to be completed late 2013, should greatly enhance it. The entrance is at the corner of King and Spencer Streets in the city. Take any tram on Swanston Street or on Royal Parade/Elizabeth Street to Flinders Street; then take any tram (including the free City Circle Tram) west on Flinders Street to King Street.

12 Queen Victoria Market
The Queen Victoria Market is probably the largest covered market in the southern hemisphere. The first sheds were built in 1868. The Meat Hall on Victoria and Elizabeth Streets, facing Victoria Square (the triangle at Elizabeth and Victoria Streets), was designed by William Salway and completed in 1884 (see photo on left). Animal liberationists occasionally deface the animal sculpture over the entry.
From the City, take any Elizabeth Street northbound tram, or, from the University, take any Royal Parade southbound tram (marked City). Either way, alight at Victoria Square (stop 7). The building at the front is the meat and fish hall. Behind the shop fronts on Elizabeth Street is the deli section; fruit and vegetables are behind these buildings; souvenirs (mostly made in China), clothes, hardware and junk are further behind and to the left (south). Full food services operate from early morning until mid-afternoon every day except Mondays and Wednesdays. In summer, a vibrant night market with live music and hawker style food stalls is held on Wednesday evenings.

13 Como House
Como House, at the corner of Williams Rd and Lechlade Ave, South Yarra, is arguably the finest example of early settler domestic architecture in Victoria. A wealthy sheep farmer’s mansion dating from 1847, it has been superbly restored by the National Trust. Tea and light lunches are available. Visitors to the University may enjoy the water garden designed by Ellis Stones, who designed the rock garden south of the Baillieu Library (‘A walking tour of the University’, p. 15). Como’s development over the 19th century mirrors that of Melbourne. It makes a fascinating comparison with Rippon Lea (see 14, below). Take the no. 8 (Toorak) tram south on Swanston Street to stop 34 (stops 19 to 21 are entries to the Botanic Gardens). Walk left (north) up Williams Road 200 metres. The entrance to Como House will be on your left, just past Lechlade Avenue. If after visiting Como you wish to go directly to Rippon Lea (below), take the tram back to South Yarra station (stop 30), where you can catch the Sandringham Line train to Ripponlea Station.

14 Rippon Lea
Rippon Lea, 192 Hotham St Elsternwick, is a splendid boom-style Italianate mansion built in 1868, now owned and operated by the National Trust. It is set in fine gardens including a magnificent (and magnificently restored) fernery, lake and lookout tower. Rippon Lea’s development in the late 19th century coincided with marvellous Melbourne. Between the wars, it was redeveloped in a Hollywood style. The Trust has taken care to display the house as it evolved. Take a Sandringham Line train to Ripponlea Station (myki Zone 1). Proceed from the station in the direction of your train to the first street, Glen Eira Road. Turn left, go to the traffic light and turn right on Hotham Street. The entrance is 100 metres along on the left. You can also take a no. 67 tram south on Swanston Street to stop 42, from which you walk sharply left up Hotham Street to the entrance.

15 Old Melbourne Gaol
The Old Melbourne Gaol is a fascinating example of 19th-century penal architecture. It is in the City, a block east of Swanston Street, on Russell Street between La Trobe and Victoria Streets. Opened in 1845, it is now in the hands of the National Trust. The Gaol is open daily 9.30am to 5pm. Night tours are available for those who like the spooky (check their website). For details, see Walk 5, p. 72.
Part V: EIGHT WALKING TOURS OF MELBOURNE

Walk 1: The City

This walk is divided into two parts, each of which requires an hour or two. It takes you through some of the most historic parts of central Melbourne. For more background, consult the website *Melbourne Buildings Adam Dimech*, which offers an inventory of significant buildings. *Walking Melbourne* provides a great deal of information but in a less user-friendly format.

Part A:

➢ *Take any Swanston Street tram to Collins Street.*

This corner is the civic hub of Melbourne. Facing south, away from the University and toward the Shrine, note the Manchester Unity Building on your right and the Melbourne Town Hall on your left.

**The Manchester Unity Building** is an extravagant neo-Gothic/Art Deco concoction designed by Marcus Barlow and completed in 1932. Look up at the tower to get the full feel of its ornamentation.

➢ *Cross to the Town Hall side of Swanston Street and look to the right of the Manchester Unity Building. From left to right you will see:*

- **The Century Building** (1938), at 125 Swanston Street, a perfect example of the modernist style then taking hold. It is hard to imagine that it was designed by the same architect as the Manchester Unity Building. The two buildings are a dialogue between modernism and eclecticism: their structures, building envelopes and towers are almost identical, but their styles are radically different.

➢ *Look further to the right.*

- **The Capitol Theatre** (completed 1924), at 109–117 Swanston Street, the work of Walter Burley Griffin and Marion Mahony (who planned Canberra; more at Newman College, p. 29). The ceiling of the Capitol Theatre is a triumph of Art Deco, a must-see if you can get in.

- **The Melbourne Town Hall**, designed by Reed and Barnes. Queen Victoria’s son Prince Alfred laid the cornerstone in 1867. The large auditorium, accessible from the huge porte-cochere, was rebuilt after a fire in 1925, when it was decorated with art in the style of Puvis de Chavannes by the Melbourne muralist Napier Waller (1893–1972), who later did the Leckie Window now in the University’s Ian Potter Gallery (see p. 22). The renovated hall was given a new grand organ by Hill, Norman and Beard (1927–29), rebuilt and enlarged by Schantz (1999–2001). There are regular organ concerts. The Town Hall was the home of the Melbourne Symphony until Hamer Hall opened in 1981. Tours of the Town Hall include a visit to the organ (11am and 1pm Monday to Friday; call 9658 9658 to book).

- **The City Square**, opposite the Town Hall, is the result of a long series of land grabs and misjudgements. In its latest incarnation, completed in 2000, half of the space has been turned over to a hotel, leaving only a narrow strip of public space.
Walk west along Collins Street, toward Elizabeth Street.

Block Arcade, on your right near Elizabeth Street, became, in the 1890s, so fashionable a spot to be seen that the term ‘doing the block’ came into use for a Sunday stroll to display one’s fashion. The arcade was meticulously renovated for its centenary in 1991. Near Collins Street are the Hopetoun Tea Rooms (1891, remodelled 1904), a good place to try pavlova (an Australian/New Zealand meringue cake); note the original decorated mirror covering the rear wall.

Walk out onto Collins Street. Turn right, and proceed west across Elizabeth Street.

333 Collins Street (on the south side), originally a banking chamber, boasts a marvellous neo-Renaissance foyer, open to the public.

Continue west. At the corner of Collins and Queen Streets, stop to admire the three neo-Gothic banking chambers, all accessible to the public and all worth a view. From left to right:

- A.C. Goode House, 389–399 Collins Street, on this side of Queen Street, was designed by Wright, Reed & Beaver; the first section was completed in 1892, the second in 1903.

- ANZ Bank, 390 Collins Street, on your right across Queen Street, was designed by William Wardell, architect of St Patrick’s Cathedral (see Walk 4, p. 69), and completed in 1887. Be sure to go into the banking chamber to see its ornately-decorated ceiling.

- Former Melbourne Stock Exchange, 376–80 Collins Street, on your right this side of Queen Street, was designed by William Pitt and completed in 1891. It is now a Banking Museum. Note the ironwork on the entrance and the recessed gothic arches with gargoyles and impressive carved stonework. The narrow Gothic-shaped windows at higher levels, are typical of the work of William Pitt; similar fenestration can be seen in The Olderfleet and Rialto buildings.

Walk west on Collins Street across William Street or take any tram to King Street. Note the neo-Gothic office buildings from the 1880s west of William Street, on the south side of Collins Street:

- Olderfleet Buildings, 471–77 Collins Street (1889, architect William Pitt), in flamboyant Venetian Gothic;

- Rialto Building, 495 Collins Street (1889, architect also William Pitt; now the Intercontinental Melbourne The Rialto Hotel). Pitt here used polychrome brick rather than stone as in the Stock Exchange and the Olderfleet Building. The hotel was created by joining the Rialto Building and the adjacent Wool Exchange. What is now the dramatic foyer was originally a laneway between the two buildings. Have a look or have a cuppa or a drink there.

Walk a short distance further west, to the south-eastern corner of Collins and King Streets.
Rialto Towers, on this corner (1982–86, architects Gerard de Preu and Partners in association with Perrott Lyon Mathiesons). To build these towers, the splendid Robbs Buildings (1885) were demolished. The developers justified the new building as a tourist attraction: it had a viewing platform at the top, but with the completion of the much taller Eureka Tower, the viewing platform became redundant and has been replaced by the 3-star restaurant Vue de Monde.

The Melbourne Aquarium is an option here, a short walk south from Collins Street along King Street to Flinders Street.

From the Rialto Building, walk or take any tram back, either to Elizabeth Street—you will find good cafés and lunches in the linked Block Arcade and Royal Arcade, between Bourke and Collins Streets just east of Elizabeth Street—or to Swanston Street, whence you can proceed with Part B of the walk by strolling south to Flinders Street.

Part B:

Begin at the corner of Swanston and Flinders Streets, the heart of Melbourne’s CBD.

Young and Jackson’s, one of Melbourne’s oldest hotels, is on the west side of Swanston Street, opposite St Paul’s Cathedral. The Swanston Street entrance is now labelled Chloe’s Bar. Chloe is a Melbourne celebrity, a nude by the 19th-century French academic painter Jules Lefebvre. Purchased by a Melbourne doctor at the 1875 Paris Salon and lent to the National Gallery of Victoria, the painting caused a scandal and was removed. Upon the doctor’s death in 1909, Henry Figsby Young purchased it and hung it in his hotel, where it became a feature of Melbourne life. The painting, originally in the ground floor bar, is now in the upstairs dining room, visible from just past the top of the stair.

St Paul’s Anglican Cathedral was designed by the English architect William Butterfield and consecrated in 1891. Butterfield never came to Melbourne but sent extremely detailed instructions. Still, local architects had to interpret the plans and Butterfield often objected over minor issues. He resigned in 1884, objecting to the use of differently coloured stones for the quoins (the stones forming external right angles), which he considered ‘effeminate’. The building was completed to his plans by Joseph Reed, architect of Ormond College (see ‘Architectural background’, p. 14) and the Royal Exhibition Building (see Walk 5, p. 72), among many other buildings. The spires were not completed until 1931. Sadly, Butterfield’s plans were not used; a Sydney architect drew up new plans and used different stone. Although the most recent part of the building, the spires were recently found to be in a dangerous state and had to be completely restored. Inside, the chancel and sanctuary are splendid examples of high Victorian ecclesiastical decoration. The mosaic behind the altar is dazzling. Restoration in 2009 renewed its sparkle. You may visit an exhibit of silver and costumes under the organ loft. Evensong is sung at 6pm on Sundays.
Federation Square is the collection of post-modern buildings across from St Paul’s, over the rail yards (see photo to left). Begun in 1997 and opened in 2002, Fed Square was a grand project of the state government to open up the vista from the bridge to the Cathedral, blocked by unfortunate 1960s buildings. The architects, London’s Lab Architecture Studio and Melbourne’s Bates Smart, ignored the original aim and planned a seven-story tower on the corner, which would have blocked the view that the square was supposed to open up. In 2000, a new government intervened to preserve the vista. The result was the strange little building at the corner now used as an information centre. The complex contains a number of restaurants and cafés, as well as two major museums:

- Australian Centre for the Moving Image offers excellent exhibitions about cinema history and a cinemathèque. For programs, ring 8663 2200 or www.acmi.net.au.
- NGV Australia (see Part IV: Fifteen Top Attractions, p. 50).

Walking through Federation Square to the river, opens up lovely views. Further along to the east is the new riverside park Birrarung Marr, with several bridges as well as walkways to the MCG and other major sports centres (see Walk 8, p. 82). Return to Swanston Street and cross over to Flinders Street Station.

Flinders Street Station, on the south side of Flinders Street, opposite Young and Jackson’s, was designed by Railways Department architects J. W. Fawcett and Ashworth, who won an international design competition in 1899. The building was opened in 1910 (see photo to left). A much-loved but utterly unfounded urban myth has it that the design for the Bombay Railway Station was accidentally sent by the London office to Melbourne and that the design meant for Melburnians now graces Mumbai.

Flinders Street Station is the busiest railway station in Australia. The building extends nearly a block and a half. It serves two urban functions: at Elizabeth Street, it offers a clock tower to close the vista; at Swanston Street it engages in dialogue with this key intersection and with St Paul’s. The clocks at this entry, indicating the departure times for trains, are a Melbourne landmark. They were saved from replacement by video screens in 1981 after a public outcry, so that ‘meet me under the clocks’ remains a by-word. City Hatters, down the stairs at 211 Flinders Street (just west of the main entrance), was originally the Assistant Station Manager’s dwelling. They sell the iconic Akubra hats.
Across Princes Bridge are the Domain and the Botanic Gardens—see Walk 2—and the Arts Centre—see Walk 3. To continue this walk, walk back up Swanston Street to Collins Street and turn right, walking east on Collins Street.

The Regent Theatre faces the Town Hall on Collins Street (see photo to left). A 1920s picture palace, it was slated for demolition but saved in the 1970s by union bans and finally reopened as a theatre in 1996.

Continue walking east on Collins Street.

The Athenaeum Theatre, across from the Regent, is Melbourne’s oldest theatre. Founded as Melbourne’s first Mechanics Institute in 1839, the current theatre dates from 1857, its facade from the 1880s.

The Collins Street Baptist Church, next on your left, dates from 1862. From 1995 to 2003, its minister was the Reverend Tim Costello, a leading social reformer, whose brother Peter was the Treasurer in John Howard’s conservative government (1996–2007) and was, ironically, the architect of the Howard government’s massive cuts to social welfare.

Continue east on Collins Street.

Georges, once the most up-market of Melbourne’s department stores, is or rather was the next building: bought out and run down by rival David Jones, it has now been turned into a lacklustre retail complex, though it houses a fine bookstore.

Continue east on Collins Street.

The Assembly Hall, next on your left after Georges, is the Parish Hall of Scots Church. Beautifully restored, it is often used for concerts. Kay Craddock Antiquarian Bookseller is located in the lower level of the Assembly Hall and is well worth a visit (see ‘Books and Bookshops’, p. 34).

Scots Church, at the corner of Collins and Russell Streets, was designed in neo-Gothic style by Reed and Barnes. Like the Royal Exhibition Building (see Walk 5, p. 72), it was constructed by David Mitchell, father of Dame Nellie Melba; she sang in the choir there (for Melba, see Conservatorium of Music, pp. 26-27). Opened in 1874, it is now the stronghold of the Continuing Presbyterian Church, the right wing that refused to join the Uniting Church, which brought mainstream Presbyterians, Methodists and Congregationalists together in 1975, and still refuses women’s ordination.

Continue east on Collins Street and cross Russell Street.
St Michael’s (until recently the Independent Church), on the corner of Collins Street across Russell Street, is also worth a visit. Built in 1866–67, it too was designed by Reed and Barnes, in a very unusual Lombardi Romanesque style, probably a result of Reed’s visit to Italy. The exterior uses extravagant polychrome brickwork. The interior is circular, suiting a style of worship attuned to preaching. St Michael’s is linked to the Uniting Church, which takes progressive positions on social issues, much to the annoyance of the Continuing Presbyterians.

Walk north on Russell Street, past the two churches, four short blocks to Lonsdale Street.

Wesley Church, on Lonsdale Street between Russell and Exhibition Streets, was designed by Joseph Reed before he joined Barnes in partnership; it was completed in 1858. Today it is a leading Uniting Church. Next to Wesley Church note the charming Princess Mary Club, if it is still there: the Church obtained a permit to demolish it, although it is on the Historic Buildings Register.

Lonsdale Street and especially Little Lonsdale Street one short block north were once the heart of Greek Melbourne.

Walk east along Lonsdale Street to Exhibition Street and turn right toward Little Bourke Street.

The Comedy Theatre (1928) and Her Majesty’s Theatre (1875) are on Exhibition Street near Little Bourke.

Chinatown is clustered around Little Bourke Street, from Spring Street, one block further east, to Swanston Street (see photos above).

Turn right (toward Swanston Street) into Little Bourke Street.

The Museum of Chinese-Australian History is located to your right, at 22 Cohen Place, off a square decorated with Chinese artefacts. It reflects the significant role of Chinese immigrants in Melbourne’s development since the Gold Rush.

Proceed east to Swanston Street and turn left (south); walk to Bourke Street and turn right.
The Bourke Street Mall is the stretch of Bourke Street from Swanston to Elizabeth Streets. An information booth is located in the middle of the Mall. Both department stores are here: Myer, on the north side, and David Jones (DJs), on both sides.

**Walk the Mall toward Elizabeth Street.**

![GPO. Photo: Tourism Victoria](image)

The General Post Office, in 1880s boom style, is on your right at the corner of Elizabeth Street (see photo above). Following a fire in 2001, it was redeveloped as a shopping centre. Thus the galleries are now open to the public and worth a stroll. (The functioning GPO is now at the corner of Little Bourke and Elizabeth Streets).

**Turn right and walk north one block on Elizabeth Street.**

St Francis’ Church at the corner of Elizabeth and Lonsdale Streets, is Melbourne’s oldest Roman Catholic Church (begun in 1841). It is noted for its music. Go in for a look.

**Return to the Bourke Street Mall; turn left and, after 50 metres, turn right into Royal Arcade.**

Royal Arcade, Melbourne’s most elaborate arcade, was completed in 1870 and renovated in 2003; it was designed by Charles Webb, later the architect of Tasman Terrace and the Windsor Hotel (see Walk 4, p. 69). Early in the 20th century, the arcade running west to Elizabeth Street was added. On the hour, the two giants, Gog and Magog (modelled on those in the Guildhall, London), strike the hour by hitting the bells with their fists.

**Continue through Royal Arcade, under the clock, and cross Little Collins Street.**

Block Place, facing you a few steps to the right, is full of eateries. It leads to Block Arcade.

**Turn left, and continue through the rotunda to Collins Street. You will find trams on Swanston Street, to your left, and on Elizabeth Street, to your right.**
Walk 2: Royal Domain, Government House and Royal Botanic Gardens

This walk will take you through Melbourne’s most beautiful park complex.

From Swanston Street, walk or take any tram (except the no. 1) south through the City and across Princes Bridge, down St Kilda Road to the Shrine of Remembrance (stop 19).

The Arts Centre will be visible from the tram, on your right after Princes Bridge: Hamer Hall, the Theatres Building, and the National Gallery of Victoria (NGV; see Walk 3, p. 64).

The Royal Domain will be on your left. It includes the Royal Botanic Gardens and several other features. From the tram, you may see the Queen Victoria Gardens, with roses around a pond at the Queen’s feet, and then the floral clock.

The Victorian College of the Arts (VCA) is the complex on your right after the National Gallery. It is now part of the University of Melbourne and is officially the Southbank Campus of the Faculty of VCA and Music. Its integration into the University was forced by the Howard government in order to avoid funding the institution adequately, but putting a performance-oriented institution inside a research-based university has led to tension and controversy.

Government House stands out by its tall white tower, which you will see from the tram on your left after the Floral Clock. This splendid Victorian palace, built between 1871 and 1876, is one of the grandest vice-regal residences of the British Empire: the ballroom is 42 metres long. It was designed by William Wardell, Inspector General of Public Works and architect of St Patrick’s Cathedral (see Walk 4, p. 69). He was assisted by J.J. (John James) Clark, architect of the Old Treasury (see Walk 4, p. 69) and of the City Baths (see Walk 5, p. 72). Tours of Government House are conducted on Mondays and Thursdays. Bookings essential. Telephone the National Trust at 8663-7260.

The Victoria Barracks are on your right after the VCA, an imposing mid-19th-century bluestone construction still used by mounted police.

Alight at stop 19 and walk up to the Shrine.

The Shrine of Remembrance stands on a hilltop, to your left as the tram bends to the right (see photo to left). Designed by Philip Hudson and built between 1927 and 1934, it is a marvellous example of the neo-classical style beloved of inter-war dictators. The design proved contentious—the Melbourne Herald called it ‘a tomb of gloom’—and construction was much delayed. The Shrine was built on a hill constructed where St Kilda Road curved around the Domain. Thus it closes the vista from Swanston Street in the City. The forecourt was designed in 1950 to provide a memorial to the fallen of World War II.
On the St Kilda Road side of the Shrine stands a Remembrance Garden, added in 1985 to honour those who served in post-World War II conflicts, particularly the 423 Australians who lost their lives in the Vietnam War. The US has replaced Great Britain as Australia’s de facto mother country. Australia and New Zealand were the US’ only western allies in this war; of all the allies, only South Korea endured more casualties (5,099). Since 2002, a series of redevelopments by the architects Ashton Raggatt McDougall have reconfigured the space around the Shrine and provided extensive space below it for a visitor centre. The interior of the Shrine boasts an extraordinary pyramidal ceiling. Take a moment to climb the stairs inside to the left; the view from the Shrine shows the City well and will orient your walk.

> On leaving the Shrine, turn sharply around to the right. The quiet road bending around to the east of the Shrine is Birdwood Avenue: follow it for 200 metres, past the Observatory Gate to La Trobe’s cottage.

**Governor La Trobe’s Cottage** is a pre-fabricated cottage brought from England in 1839 to house the newly-appointed Lieutenant Governor (Victoria was then the Port Philip District of New South Wales and La Trobe was subordinate to the Governor of New South Wales). Open Sundays from 2 to 4pm; also visited with Government House tours, see above).

> Return to the Observatory Gate and Visitors’ Centre of the Royal Botanic Gardens, directly east of the Shrine.

The **Visitors Centre** provides information, a good souvenir shop, food and coffee. Another kiosk, on the Ornamental Lake in the Gardens, offers Devonshire Tea and lunch, where you can enjoy the view and the black swans. That kiosk contains another shop, run by the Friends of the Gardens.

**The Botanic Gardens** were established early in Melbourne’s history, in 1846, by Lieutenant Governor La Trobe. The pleasant archaism of the older form—botanic—is a reminder of the gardens’ early start, since botanical superseded botanic during the 19th century. The Melbourne gardens did not become royal until 1958. Baron Ferdinand von Mueller was appointed Director of the Gardens in 1857. He oversaw the first major development of the garden, but his emphasis on pedagogy rather than aesthetics was not popular.

William Guilfoyle succeeded the Baron in 1873 and remained in place until he retired in 1909. He shaped the Gardens as we know them. By carefully planting trees and placing garden beds, he developed the scenic panoramas and sweeping lawns now so characteristic of the Gardens. He was responsible for the Fern Gully, the rockeries, the picturesque shelters, the Temple of the Winds (a memorial to La Trobe) and the Ornamental Lake.
Free maps are available from boxes at entrances. Tours led by Indigenous guides can be booked by ringing 9252 2429. Don’t miss the excellent Children’s Garden near the Observatory Gate; adults love it too. Then stroll east across the top end of the gardens so as to see the Nymphaea Lily Lake near Gate E and the views of the City across the sloping lawns.

The Fern Gully, which slopes down to the Ornamental Lake from the middle of the gardens, suffered when a colony of flying foxes (aka fruit bats), forced to find a new home because of habitat destruction, stripped the trees of leaves. In 2003, the colony was lured to purpose-built accommodation at Yarra Bend Park in Kew.

The kiosk on the lake is located to the right (east) of the Fern Gully. After visiting the kiosk, turn left facing the lake and walk around it, with the lake on your right. Pass by Gates H and G on your right, and instead climb up to the Temple of the Winds and exit via Lych Gate into the Royal Domain.

The Royal Domain contains a number of lovely gardens. An attractive fernery and cascade extend to the right below the path leading out from Lych Gate. Straight on, another path crosses the one from Lych Gate. The left-hand path leads to Government House. There is usually an attractive flower display on this path.

➤ Take the right-hand path.

The Pioneer Women’s Gardens, dedicated in 1930, are on this path, in a secluded square just past the fernery.

➤ Continue on the same path.

The Sidney Myer Music Bowl is ahead of you. Designed by Melbourne architect Barry Patton, built in 1956–59 and reconstructed in 2000, the bowl is hollowed into the hillside. Its elegant suspended canopy continues the rise of the hill. It has accommodated crowds as large as 30,000. Southwest from the bowl (to the left coming from the Botanic Gardens) is a large beige monument to King George V.

➤ Walk north from the bowl (toward St Paul’s Cathedral, leaving King George to your left) and cross Linlithgow Avenue.

The Queen Victoria Monument is set on a rise on the north side of Linlithgow Avenue. The Queen looks west, toward the Arts Centre. Below her is an attractive garden around a pond.

The Lady Janet Russell Clarke Monument is a short distance southwest of the Queen, very near Linlithgow Avenue. Lady Clarke was the benefactress of Janet Clarke Hall, the University’s first hall of residence for women students (see p. 30). Like Queen Victoria, she enjoys a pleasant garden and pond.

➤ Walk further west, past the Edward VIII Monument.

The Floral Clock is just beyond the monument.

➤ Before you is St Kilda Road. Any tram will take you north through the City and as far as the University.
Walk 3: The Arts Centre, Southbank and Eureka Tower

This walk will take you through the Arts Centre and the surrounding complexes, including the Eureka Tower Skydeck.

❖ To reach the Arts Centre, take any tram south on Swanston Street across Princes Bridge, and alight at the first stop after the bridge.

The Arts Centre—until recently the Victorian Arts Centre, a change of name owing more to current fashion than to logic—is the ensemble of buildings on the south bank of the Yarra, along St Kilda Road (see photo below): Hamer Hall (formerly Melbourne Concert Hall), the circular building by the river; the Theatres Building (aka the State Theatre, after its major component), under the white spire; and the Sydney Myer Music Bowl in the Royal Domain. The National Gallery of Victoria (NGV), the long rectangular building behind the moat, was originally conceived as part of the Arts Centre but is now separately administered.

All three buildings were designed by Sir Roy Grounds, architect of the John Medley Building and McCaughey Court, Ormond College (see ‘Architectural background’, p. 14). From 1953 to 1962, Grounds was in partnership with the Swiss émigré Frederick Romberg and the Australian iconoclast Robin Boyd. Their ideas and buildings had enormous impact. The concept of the Arts Centre reflects their modernist preoccupation with geometrical form, although Grounds’ designs for these buildings edge away from modernist purity. Indeed, his design for the Gallery led to the dissolution of his partnership with Romberg and Boyd, who complained that the design was too ‘featurist’.

Hamer Hall faces St Kilda Road and the Yarra. It reopened in 2012 after extensive renovation. Originally the Melbourne Concert Hall, it was renamed Hamer Hall in honour of the state premier who as Minister of the Arts initiated its construction (and whose sister, Dr Alison Patrick, was a distinguished historian of the French Revolution and Head of the University of Melbourne History Department during the 1980s).
Hamer Hall opened in 1982. The interior, designed by John Truscott who returned to Melbourne after a long Hollywood career, was a particularly Australian masterpiece, but the recent renovations have significantly altered his work. The auditorium, seating up to 2600 over three levels, was painted to suggest the Australian desert and significant elements of Truscott’s interior were retained here. The foyer, on the other hand, was massacred. Truscott had set a central stairway around a void open to the lowest level of the foyer with a light sculpture providing a focus. The renovation created a tizzy entrance but suppressed the spectacular void, replacing it with cramped, flat foyers at each level.

Walk around Hamer Hall into Southgate Centre (overlooking the Yarra River).

Southgate Centre extends along the riverfront and offers restaurants and a food hall on the riverbank level.

Proceed to the central staircase and turn left, toward the ‘service area’ on the upper level.

St John’s Southgate faces you across the ‘service area’ courtyard. It is a small but pretty Lutheran church opened in 1992. You are at the balcony level of the church; the main entrance is on the street below. The door at the far right is usually open; it admits you to the chapel, from which there’s a good view of the interior, with its prominent organ. The original 1927 church was demolished to make room for the Southgate development and, in exchange, this church was built. It was designed by David Cole, of Buchan, Laird and Bawden. St John’s is notable for monthly services with complete Bach cantatas. Check their website for dates.

Return to the central staircase and descend to the riverbank.

Southbank Promenade, on the ground level, is part of a walkway stretching from Princes Bridge past Spencer Street Bridge, which offers good views of the city. From the quays a number of ferry services are available.

Walk west along the river (away from Princes Bridge) and turn left at the end of Southgate Centre, opposite the footbridge; take the very first right, at the roundabout, onto Riverside Quay: the unimpressive entrance to the impressive Eureka Tower will be on the left, just after the Travelodge.

Eureka Tower Skydeck is a viewing platform at the top of this 297-metre building (see photo to left). It offers fabulous views of Melbourne. The Tower was designed by the Melbourne firm Nation Fender Katsalidis Architects, architects of the Ian Potter Museum and the Sydney Myer Asia Centre at the University. It was completed in 2006 and was briefly the world’s tallest residential tower; by 2013 it was the 12th highest residential tower and the 94th highest tower and dozens of taller towers were under construction.

Return to Southbank Promenade and walk further west to Sandridge Bridge. If you wish to skip to the Theatres Building (p. 66), return to St Kilda Road and walk south to the building under the white spire.
Sandridge Bridge cuts across the Yarra at an angle. It was constructed in 1888, replacing an earlier bridge, for the railway line from Melbourne to Port Melbourne (originally called Sandridge). This was Australia’s first railway line, opened in 1853. The rail line was converted to light rail (aka tram) in 1987, becoming the no.109 tram on Flinders Street, and the bridge was abandoned. In 2006, after much debate, it was reopened as a pedestrian bridge/exhibition on the theme of immigration to Victoria. It makes a fascinating stroll.

- You may also continue west along Southbank Promenade, to the Casino, the Convention and Exhibition Centre and the Melbourne Maritime Museum (see Walk 7, p. 79). If you cross Sandridge Bridge, return to Princes Bridge on the north (City) side of the river and cross back to Southbank.

- You could walk east from Princes Bridge past the boat sheds, from which school crews bring out their skiffs to practise each afternoon, to the Alexandra Gardens of the Royal Domain.

- Return to St Kilda Road and proceed south past Hamer Hall to the Theatres Building (marked by the white latticed spire).

The Theatres Building, generally known as the State Theatre, opened in 1984. It contains the State Theatre (opera house) and two smaller theatres (The Playhouse and the Fairfax Studio). These are used by several companies, including Opera Australia and the Melbourne Theatre Company (MTC). Sir Roy Grounds’ original plan envisaged a 165-metre spire sheathed in copper lace. To cut costs, a committee reduced it to 115 metres and, in a gesture of post-modernism, redesigned it in unclad white tubing. On 12 January 1996 a new 162-metre spire was completed but, alas, to a similar committee design. Tours of the whole complex are available from the desk inside the main entrance. The foyers and services are usually open.

Beyond the main desk is Gallery 1, which offers free exhibits. Behind it is Café Vic, where you can get buffet (cafeteria) meals before events. Downstairs is Smorgon Plaza, a crossroad for the three theatres. Light meals are served here before events. While Smorgon Plaza is in international airport style, the foyers of the individual theatres are more attractive, with original paintings by Australian artists including Arthur Boyd, John Olsen, Jeffrey Smart and several Western Desert artists. The State Theatre itself is decorated sumptuously in traditional colours: red, gold and rosewood. It originally seated 2079, but in 2013 the front rows were removed to enlarge the orchestra pit for the Melbourne Ring cycle.

- Continue south on St Kilda Road.

Paradise Garden, a series of 1336 mixed media paintings on paper by Sidney Nolan, is displayed, or rather half of it is displayed, in the upper foyer of the State Theatre, to the right of the entrance to the building. The other half were in the lower foyer of Hamer Hall, around the void eliminated in recent works; their future is uncertain. Unfortunately, the setting in the State Theatre is too cramped to do justice to these works, to which Nolan devoted two years (1968–70). They explore the life cycle of Australian flora: germination, growth, blossoming and decay. They hang in groups of six (in some cases four) in 240 frames. In 1982, the year he was knighted, Sir Sidney and Lady Nolan donated the paintings to the Arts Centre.
Return to St Kilda Road and continue south.

The National Gallery of Victoria International (NGV International) is the next building as you walk south (see photo below). It is the only building of the complex completed in Sir Roy’s lifetime and under his direction. Its interior was thus a unique monument to one of Melbourne’s leading 20th-century architects. In 1999 the Gallery closed for extensive renovations co-directed by the Italian architect Mario Bellini and the Melbourne firm Metier 3, architects of the University of Melbourne’s University Square development. After public battles, the architect agreed to retain the water wall entrance and the Great Hall, with its stained-glass ceiling by Melbourne artist Leonard French (who also designed the mural in the Beaurepaire Pool at the University). The renovations were completed and the building re-opened in December 2003. They left little of Grounds’ interior but achieved a high level of acceptance because they have made the building so successful in displaying its art.

On leaving the NGV, turn right and right again on Southbank Boulevard; continue one block.
The MTC Theatre and the Melbourne Recital Centre, opened in 2009, will be on your left a short block from the corner, after a jumble of VCA buildings. The two buildings operate separately, but are connected. A project of the state government, they were designed by the Australian firm Ashton Raggatt McDougall (also responsible for redevelopment of the Shrine—see Walk 2, p. 61—and for the RMIT Annex next to Storey Hall—see Walk 5, p. 72). The exterior of the MTC Theatre, designed to look best at night, is of white steel tubing arranged in geometric patterns; it contains a 500-seat theatre and a smaller venue. The Melbourne Recital Centre has received acclaim for its superb acoustics and is now very popular for its concerts of chamber and smaller-scale orchestral music. The facade of honeycomb windows giving on to a grand staircase, attractive from the exterior, is exciting from the interior as you walk up the stairs. The Centre contains the 1,000-seat Elisabeth Murdoch Hall as well as a smaller hall.

ABC Southbank Building faces the Recital Centre. Designed by Peddle Thorp (architects of the Aquarium) and opened in 1994, it provides broadcasting facilities for the ABC, headquarters for the MSO and a small hall, the Iwaki Auditorium.

Turn left on Sturt Street, at the corner of the Recital Centre and the ABC Building, and walk one block south.

The CUB Malthouse, next door at 113 Sturt Street, is a former brewery, now the home of the Malthouse Theatre (see p. 45).

The Australian Centre for Contemporary Art (ACCA), at 111 Sturt Street, is a striking, bulky construction with a facade of angular corroded steel panels (see p. 32; photo below). It is also known by the Indigenous term Ngargee, though officially Ngargee is the precinct. Designed by Wood Marsh, ACCA opened in 2002. The building also houses the contemporary dance company Chunky Move.

You may catch a no.1 tram to the City or the University in front of ACCA or walk back to St Kilda Road.
Walk 4: Fitzroy Gardens, East Melbourne and Parliament House

This walk takes you through the parks and gardens of East Melbourne, which rival the Botanic Gardens, and to some of Melbourne’s most historic churches and other buildings.

From the City, take any tram east on Collins Street. (From the University, take any tram on Swanston Street to Collins Street.) After crossing Spring Street, the tram will curve north on MacArthur and then Gisborne Streets. Alight at stop 11 (Albert Street, which is parallel to but inferior to Victoria Parade, as befits a Prince Consort). Note the following buildings on each corner, looking clockwise from St Peter’s, which faces you as you alight the tram from the City:

- **St Peter’s Eastern Hill (Anglo-Catholic),** one of the oldest churches in Melbourne (1846), is hidden behind an unfortunate brick building, but the gate is usually open.

- **The Eastern Hill Fire Station,** or rather its 1979 brutalist extension, is opposite the Cathedral; the original building (1892–93), with its ornate facade and lookout tower, faces Victoria Parade. The older building now houses the Melbourne Fire Brigade Museum.

- **The Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital** is the brutal red-brick and cream building next on your right. The splendid original building (1883) was demolished in 1978 to make way for this. The Aubrey Bowen wing (1896) is at the opposite end of the site; it is now under heritage protection.

- **St Patrick’s Cathedral** (Roman Catholic) is the next building on your right. Designed by William Wardell (see Walks 1 and 2, pp. 54 and 61), it was begun in 1860. The spires were completed in 1939, following Wardell’s design. The interior is austere but dramatic in its vaulting, contrasting with the opulence of St Paul’s (see Walk 1, p. 54).

Continue south on the left (east) side of Gisborne Street, alongside St Patrick’s Cathedral, whose entrance faces the next corner. Cross Cathedral Place onto Parliament Place.

**German Lutheran Trinity Church** (1853), Parish Hall and Parsonage (1890) are on your left.

Continue south.

**The Park Hyatt Melbourne,** completed in 1999, has its entrance on the left just after the Lutheran Parsonage. It is a sympathetic redevelopment, profiting from the heritage buildings on the street without overwhelming them.

Continue south.

**Tasma Terrace** (1878–87) is a few steps further south. Charles Webb, who also designed the Windsor Hotel, designed this ornate Victorian building for the well-to-do flocking to the eastern edge of the City after the Gold Rush. It is now the headquarters of the National Trust (Victoria). You can go in and see the reception rooms, which have been carefully restored.
Continue south on Parliament Place to St Andrews Place. Turn right and walk toward the City. Cross MacArthur Street (as the street with the tram line now calls itself).

Gordon Reserve, the triangular park across the street, to your left, commemorates both the Australian poet Adam Lindsay Gordon (1833–70), best known today for a poem included in Elgar’s *Sea Pictures*, and General C.G. Gordon, who died in 1885 defending Khartoum for the Empire. The statue of General Gordon, erected in 1889, is a replica of the one in Trafalgar Square.

Cross Gordon Reserve and turn right on Spring Street.

The Houses of Parliament (Victoria) are immediately north, to your right, on Spring Street. Climb to the top of the stairs. Designed by Peter Kerr and J.G. Knight, Parliament House is a fine example of Victorian-era architecture. The chambers were completed in 1856, but the building was not brought to its present state until 1892. The panic of 1893 prevented the building’s being crowned with the planned dome. In 1996 the then Premier pushed through legislation to build a dome; shortly after, surprised by the cost, he had the legislation rescinded. Parliament House is open for visits hourly from 9:30 through 2:30 and 3:45 on days when Parliament is not in session. When Parliament is sitting, Tuesdays 9:30, 10:30 and 11:30.

Descending the Parliament House steps, note:

- The Princess Theatre, to your right, a wonderful Victorian building heavily influenced by Second Empire Paris architecture. The original 1857 theatre was redesigned by William Pitt for Queen Victoria’s Jubilee in 1887. After a fire, the interior was redecorated in Adams style in 1922. The entire building was renovated in 1989. It is worth trying to get a ticket (try Half-Tix) for whatever show is on.

- The Windsor Hotel (1883–87), to your left, another grand Victorian building. It was designed by Charles Webb. Walk in to see the foyer, the stairs and the grand dining room, now alas reserved for functions. High tea is served in the lounge to the left of the entry. The Windsor is currently threatened with a planned and approved addition that will tower above it.

Exit the Windsor, turn right (south) on Spring Street, and walk one block.

The Old Treasury (1858–62), at the top of Collins Street, was the first and arguably the finest work of J.J. Clark (1838–1915), who began designing the building when he was only 18, having joined the Public Works Department at the age of 13! He later helped Wardell with Government House (see Walk 2, p. 61) and ended his career with the City Baths (see Walk 5, p. 72). The Old Treasury now houses a museum of the city. It was threatened with closure to be devoted to weddings (more money to be made), but public opinion forced a reprieve. It combines social history with displays of historically-significant objects, multimedia technology and contemporary art and craft. The building’s former gold vaults house a permanent exhibition about the Gold Rush and its effect on the city. Open 10 to 4 every day except Saturday.

On leaving the Old Treasury, walk sharply around to your left (almost a U-turn) and into the gardens.
The Treasury Gardens extend south of the Old Treasury and east from Spring Street. You will see the statue of Sir William John Clarke, whose wife was the benefactor of Janet Clarke Hall (see p. 30) and whose statue keeps company with Queen Victoria’s in the Royal Domain (see p. 61). Halfway through the gardens on the left is an attractive glade and fountain dedicated to John F. Kennedy, another indication of Australia’s close relationship with her second, de facto mother country.

Continue walking east and cross Lansdowne Street.

The Fitzroy Gardens, with their stately lines of elms and marvellous hidden glades, are Melbourne’s best example of traditional English formal gardens. Do visit the floral display in the neo-Spanish Conservatory (see photo below). On leaving the Conservatory, turn left to Captain Cook’s Cottage, brought over stone by stone and re-erected in 1934 thanks to the Melbourne philanthropist, Sir Russell Grimwade.

Cross the wooden bridge over the lily ponds (which are to the left of the cottage) and follow the path near the stream to the falls; you will emerge at the centre of the gardens.

The main avenue, to the right of the Pavilion Café, has a delightful floral border. Children will enjoy the Fairies Tree carved by the Melbourne sculptor Ola Cohn in the early 1930s, and the miniature Tudor village, modelled in cement by a British pensioner and shipped to Melbourne by the City of Lambeth, in gratitude for food parcels sent to Britain during the Second World War.

Walk to Clarendon Street, at the top of the avenue.

East Melbourne lies beyond the gardens. It contains some of Melbourne’s most splendid Victorian terraces.

You can wander through East Melbourne or end this walk by proceeding left (north) up Clarendon Street along the perimeter of the Fitzroy Gardens to Victoria Parade, where you will find trams to the City.
Walk 5: Carlton Gardens, Old Melbourne Gaol and State Library of Victoria

This walk takes you to the Carlton Gardens, the Melbourne Museum, the Royal Exhibition Buildings and some of the oldest residential buildings of Melbourne.

From the University, walk to the Carlton Gardens along Grattan Street and turn right into the gardens. From the City, take any Bourke Street tram east, alight at stop 12 (Gertrude Street) and walk left into the gardens.

The Carlton Gardens occupy a key site on the northeast corner of the City. Completed in their present design for the 1880 Exhibition, they remain a monument to 19th-century English park planning.

Walk to the Melbourne Museum, the huge post-modern building in the centre of the Gardens, behind the 19th-century Royal Exhibition Building.

The Melbourne Museum, formerly Museum of Victoria, once shared the same building as the State Library of Victoria on Swanston Street. In 2001, it moved into a new and controversial building (see photo above), just behind the Royal Exhibition Building, designed by the Melbourne firm Denton, Corker, Marshall (architects of the new Exhibition Building on the Yarra—see Walk 7, p. 79). The new building is distinguished by thrusting blades, which became DCM’s signature. The Museum contains extensive anthropological and science exhibits, an interactive children’s area, and an Imax cinema claimed to be the world’s third largest. The gardens north of the Museum there boast a well-designed playground.

Continue around the Exhibition Building to the main, south facade, facing the City, and proceed to the Hochgurtel Fountain in front of the central entrance.
The Royal Exhibition Building was designed by Joseph Reed (see Architectural background, p. 14, and Walk 1, p. 54 photo above) and built by David Mitchell, Nellie Melba’s father, for the 1880 Universal Exposition; it was used again for the 1888 Exposition (for Melba, see Conservatorium of Music, p. 26). The fountain at the east (Gertrude Street) entrance (see photo above) was given by the French Government to mark Federation, which was proclaimed here in 1901. From then until the opening of the first Canberra Parliament House in 1927, Federal Parliament sat in the Melbourne Parliament House and the Victorian Parliament sat here. During the 1980s, the state government adopted a visionary plan to modernise the Exhibition Building while building on its historic significance as the only 19th-century Exhibition Building still in use for its original purpose. In 1992, however, a conservative premier came to power and decided to adapt a project for a new museum on the south bank of the Yarra and turn it into a new exhibition building (no longer Royal; see Walk 7, p. 79). The building here is now, sadly, used only for cheaper shows and sales.

Walk east in front of the Exhibition Building to the corner of Gertrude and Nicholson Streets.

Royal Terrace, on the left or north corner of Gertrude Street, is one of the oldest (1854) and finest terraces of Melbourne. Its Regency style austerity contrasts with the later, more opulent Victorian terraces so typical of Melbourne. The next several blocks of Nicholson Street to the north, opposite the Carlton Gardens, present a remarkably intact 1880s streetscape characteristic of the later style.

The Cable Tram Engine House (1885), on the right or south corner, is distinguished by the tower overlooking the tram routes and the cable motif over the windows. Cable trams operated from this building until 1940, when buses replaced them. The present tramlines here (nos 86 and 96 from Bourke Street) were installed in 1956 for the Melbourne Olympics.

From here, if time permits, make a short excursion along Gertrude Street to Glass Terrace.
Glass Terrace (1854), 64–78 Gertrude Street, is, with Royal Terrace, the earliest extant terrace in Melbourne. (For Gertrude Street, see also Bars, cafés and happening streets, p. 36.) Opposite Glass Terrace, note the intact shop fronts from the 1880s.

Return to the Carlton Gardens. Walk diagonally across the gardens, to the far left corner, and continue west on Victoria Street across first Rathdowne Street and then Drummond Street. Those who are interested in terrace housing will find a stroll up Drummond Street very rewarding. Continue to Lygon Street.

Trades Hall is on your right, facing Lygon Street. That the trade union movement chose Reed and Barnes, Melbourne’s pre-eminent architects, to design its headquarters says a great deal about its effort to assert its place in the community. That such a splendid building still awaits restoration (the signs proclaiming restoration have been in place for years) says as much about the position of the workers’ movement in today’s culture. The building was begun in 1873 but it took half a century to complete the original design. A theatre, bar and bookshop are accessible from the side entrance on Victoria Street.

Horti Hall, originally the Victorian Horticultural Hall (1873), is on your left opposite the Trades Hall. In 1878, the Horticultural Society enlarged the building with an identical additional bay, thus rendering it curiously asymmetrical.

The Eight-Hour Day Monument is located diagonally across from Trades Hall in the park bounded by Russell and Victoria Streets. In 1856, labourers building the Quadrangle at the University downed tools and marched here to strike for the eight-hour day (see Old Quadrangle, p. 19).

The Emily McPherson Building faces you. It, and not Trades Hall, dominates the space. Emily McPherson was a society matron who led the campaign to teach working-class women domestic science. Her husband, Sir William, later Premier of Victoria, funded the building. It was opened by the Duchess of York on 27 April 1927. Designed by the Government Architect, it reflects the conservatism of Melbourne architecture at the time: it won the Royal Victorian Institute of Architects Street Architecture Medal in 1930 for its simplified neo-Greek external treatment. It is now part of RMIT University.

Walk to the Old Melbourne Gaol, to the left of the Emily McPherson Building.

The Old Melbourne Gaol is the third gaol on the site. Completed in 1854, it was extended in the late 1850s. In the early 1860s the north wing (around the corner) was added, comprising the entrance buildings, central hall and chapel. This north wing, facing Victoria Street, is now used by RMIT University; only the east wing on Russell Street, now a National Trust property, is open for visits. Based upon the designs of British prison engineer Joshua Jebb, and more particularly upon the Pentonville Model Prison in London, it is a perfect example of Jeremy Bentham’s idea of the panopticon, which so influenced Michel Foucault. The inmates feel under constant surveillance, or worse: the hangman’s platform is at the far end of the open gallery. The famous bushranger Ned Kelly was hanged here. The display of death masks and the presentation of the cells make for a most interesting visit and are of particular fascination to children.
The entrance through which you visit the complex was built as a service entrance. The original and more impressive entrance is around to the left when you go out, further west on Victoria Street, partly hidden by other buildings.

Return to Victoria Street and continue west to Swanston Street.

The entrance through which you visit the complex was built as a service entrance. The original and more impressive entrance is around to the left when you go out, further west on Victoria Street, partly hidden by other buildings.

The City Baths, designed by J.J. Clark and opened in 1904, are on your left as you approach Swanston Street (see photo to left). This was Clark’s last notable work. He was 66 when the building was completed. It is instructive to compare the Baths with his first building, the Old Treasury (see Walk 4, p. 69). Ask to look around or book for the historical tour. The pools are original, women’s to the left, men’s to the right. As you can see from the facade, there were originally separate entrances for men and women. When mixed bathing was permitted in 1947, the entrance and stairs were altered to the present configuration, using bricks of darker red. The baths were under threat of demolition in the 1970s, but the Builders Labourers Union put a black ban on demolishing ‘the workers’ pool’. It was finally renovated, maintaining the original spirit and facilities, including the public baths and individual change rooms around the women’s pool. These have proved remarkably popular: preservation of heritage is not necessarily bad for business. Note the Mikvah bath used for ritual Jewish cleansing; its inclusion in a civic edifice at this early date (1904) is unusual.

Walk south on Swanston Street.

RMIT University campus is on the left (east) side of Swanston Street after the City Baths. (The Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology was forced to add the word university to its name when this became a requirement for Commonwealth funding in 1987.) The buildings are better viewed from the opposite side of Swanston Street. The corner facing the City Baths is dominated by an appalling example of post-war brutalist architecture. Next is the Union Building (1991–4), whose playful exuberance gives welcome relief. Across the street, the Druid’s Building (1927) has a huge carved Druid at the top.

Continue south on Swanston Street.

Storey Hall (1887), now functions as a contemporary art gallery. Next door, the post-modern annex, known as the Bat Cave or Green Slime (1995), was designed by Ashton Raggatt McDougall (later the architects of the MTC Theatre and the Melbourne Recital Centre—see Walk 3, p. 64).

Continue south on Swanston Street and cross La Trobe Street.
The State Library of Victoria, at the corner, is a Roman revival design by Joseph Reed. The original building and facade on Swanston Street were completed in 1854. The bulk of the front building and the Queen’s Hall result from enlargements by Reed and Barnes in 1870. The Library is well worth a visit: leave bags in the cloak room, and walk up the stairs. At the front of the building on the first floor is Queen’s Hall, one of Melbourne’s grandest high Victorian spaces (along with Government House and the Parliament), alas, the only part of the building still awaiting restoration. Toward the rear is the La Trobe Reading Room, built in 1910 and designed by Bates, Peebles and Smart, modelled after the British Library but using advanced techniques for the time (see photo below). It was then the largest reinforced concrete dome in the world. The glass skylights, long painted over, were recently reinstated, part of a major refurbishment. The Library also houses a branch of Readings Bookstores in the foyer and, around on the Little Lonsdale Street side, the Wheeler Centre for Books, Writing and Ideas.

Melbourne Central is a shopping centre and train station opposite the State Library. A 1980s development refurbished in 2005 to include a cinema complex, it provides a shopping mall around the 1870 Shot Tower. Lead shot was made here until the 1950s. Molten lead was dropped from the top; it formed into pellets as it fell to a pool at the bottom. Its classification forced the developers to incorporate it as a feature under a glass roof. From the platform by the tower, you can view the immense Seiko Fob Watch, which strikes the hour with a display of kitschy automatons to the tune of Waltzing Matilda. Children love it.

Return to Swanston Street and cross to the State Library. You may take any tram on Swanston Street, north for the University or south for the Arts Centre and the Botanic Gardens (see Walk 2, p. 61). The City Circle tram runs on La Trobe Street.
Walk 6: St Kilda and Port Phillip Bay

Port Phillip Bay is an aspect of Melbourne sometimes ignored from the City, even though St Kilda, Melbourne’s first bayside playground, is less than five kilometres from Flinders Street Station.

Option A

For a really long walk on the beach and a good sense of Melbourne’s maritime past, take a no. 109 tram on Collins Street west (Port Melbourne) to its terminus.

Station Pier, just in front of the tram terminus, now serves the ferry to Tasmania. Originally called Railway Pier, it was officially opened on 12 September 1854, in time to serve those arriving for the Gold Rush. In 1861, the original pier was extended to more than 661 metres (2171 feet). In the early 20th century, it was extended further and renamed Station Pier. In August 1899, the first contingent of troops for the Boer War in South Africa left from Station Pier. In October 1914, 16 ships left Port Melbourne carrying troops, horses and supplies as part of Australia’s contingent for the Great War (World War I). Between 1949 and 1966, an average of 61,000 immigrants arrived here each year. The pier is open to the public.

Walk left (east) from the tram about two kilometres, to Mills Street, and rejoin Option B.

Option B

For a shorter walk, take a no. 1 tram (South Melbourne) on Swanston Street. St Vincent’s Place (stop 26) has many fine Victorian terraces.

Continue on the no. 1 tram to the terminus and walk left (eastward) 600 metres along the seashore. At Mills Street, where you will see public changing rooms, walk two short blocks inland, to where the no. 112 tram running parallel to the beach can take you to Fitzroy Street, St Kilda. At the terminus of the no. 112, turn right and walk two blocks south on Fitzroy Street or take the no. 16 tram to Acland Street (stop 134) and proceed as for Option C, below.
Option C

For a still shorter walk, take a no. 16 tram south on Swanston Street or a no. 96 west on Bourke Street (both marked St Kilda Beach) and alight at stop 134, at the corner of Acland and Fitzroy Streets. Walk south on Fitzroy Street.

Acland Street is part of Melbourne’s past thanks to the cafés and cake shops opened by Jewish refugees in the 1930s. This began Melbourne’s love of cafés.

The Catani Gardens, on your right, display huge palm trees.

Take the pedestrian bridge at tram stop 136 to the Lower Esplanade, where you will see St Kilda Pier.

St Kilda Pier (see photo p. 77) offers a terrific view of Melbourne across the bay and a reconstructed Edwardian kiosk. The original burned down in 2003.

The St Kilda Sea Baths are beside the pier. On Sundays there is a craft market on the Upper Esplanade, just past the pedestrian bridge.

Continue south-east along the Esplanade.

The Palais Theatre, facing the Lower Esplanade, is a 1927 picture palace; it now functions as a live venue. With 2896 seats, it is the largest theatre in Australia and a splendid example of Art Deco architecture.

Luna Park, opposite the Palais Theatre, was once Melbourne’s centre of pleasure. It could do with renovation, but it is intact and open for business (see photo below).

To return from the Esplanade, you can take either the no. 16 tram back into the City and on up to the University or the faster no. 96 tram to Bourke Street.
Walk 7: Docklands and Southbank

This walk explores some of the most recent urban developments of central Melbourne.

- **Take any La Trobe Street tram or the free City Circle tram from Swanston or Elizabeth Streets west to stop 2 or 3 (at the south side of the gardens).** **Walk north through the gardens, bearing left, to the corner of Batman Street, on the west side of the gardens two blocks north of La Trobe Street.**

**The Flagstaff Gardens** are thus named because in the 19th century a flagstaff stood there to signal from the City to the harbour.

**St James Old Cathedral** (1839–42), at the corner of King and Batman Streets, was originally located at the corner of Collins and William Streets, but was removed to this site in 1912; St Paul’s had already replaced it as Melbourne’s Anglican Cathedral (see Walk 1, p. 54).

- **Return to La Trobe Street and take the no. 30 tram or the free City Circle tram west.**

**Etihad Stadium**—its fourth name!—is on your left after the rail yards. Designed by Daryl Jackson, it opened in 2000. It has a sliding roof and movable seating so that it can assume a square configuration for rugby, though its main purpose is Australian rules football. It can take up to 56,000 spectators. It has not won hearts and minds because of a perceived lack of atmosphere compared to the MGG.

- **Alight from the tram at stop D2 (Harbour Esplanade), before the tram turns.**

**Docklands** overlooks Victoria Harbour, west of Spencer Street (see photo to left); it is a 1990s effort to redevelop a decaying port zone. The state government, in a burst of neoliberalism, allocated each of seven precincts to a developer. ‘It was’, said Architecture Professor Kim Dovey, ‘an experiment in privatisation of urban planning.’ (*The Age* 8/7/10). It is widely perceived as a disaster. Wurundjeri Way and Etihad Stadium sever the precinct from the City. There is little green space. Pedestrian activity has been much lower than expected. Many restaurants and businesses have closed.

**Southern Star,** until recently known as Melbourne Star, is a large currently non-operational ferris wheel. It is an echo of the London Eye, touted as the solution to Docklands’ problems. It opened in 2008 and closed 40 days later, after the discovery of major structural flaws. Lawsuits, redesigns and reconstruction followed. Reopening has continually been postponed. In the meantime, the wheel sits in what Robyn Annear calls ‘gothic decrepitude’ (*The Big Tumbleweed, The Monthly*, April 2012). As a leading architectural blogger suggests, Melbourne does not present so favourably as London for a giant wheel and this one is 15 metres smaller than the London Eye: even if it becomes operational, it will at best be ‘a miniature version of someone else’s landmark’ (*When the Wheels Fall Off, The Red and Black Architect* [website], 3 August 2012).
Walk north, with the water’s edge on your left, and turn left (west) onto New Quay, where restaurants and cafés struggle for patronage. Then walk back to the corner of Harbour Esplanade and La Trobe Street and take the City Circle tram south (to your right coming from New Quay).

You will pass a sculpture called Cow up a Tree and Docklands Park on your right. The tram turns left to follow the Yarra River and crosses Wurundjeri Way (you might spot Chris Booth’s monumental sculpture of Bunjil, the Kulin nations’ Eaglehawk spirit creator, on your left, if it has not been removed to make way for a development).

Alight at the corner of Flinders and Spencer Streets (stop 1). Alternatively, you may remain on the tram and skip to the Aquarium (King Street) or to the Immigration Museum (William Street).

Southern Cross Station, previously Spencer Street Station, two blocks north, at the corner of Bourke and Spencer Streets, is the main provincial (and a major suburban) train station. You will notice its wavy roof. Designed by Nicholas Grimshaw & Partners, the station was completed for the 2006 Commonwealth Games.

Walk south across Spencer Street Bridge the road becomes Clarendon Street.

The Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre—two adjacent buildings with the Polly Woodside tall ship before them—lies on the south bank of the Yarra, to your left. In 1992, the new conservative government under Jeff Kennett decided to reverse previous policy and build a new Exhibition Building to replace the Royal Exhibition Building in the Carlton Gardens (see Walk 5, p. 72). A new building for the Museum of Victoria was already under construction at this site. Denton Corker Marshall—Kennett’s preferred architects—replaced Daryl Jackson and redesigned the building, from a museum to an exhibition centre: in Philip Goad’s words, ‘the collage-like array of forms, fins and planes…cleverly clokes its unwanted skeleton.’ DCM then designed a new museum in the Carlton Gardens (see Walk 5, p. 72).

The Polly Woodside, formerly the Melbourne Maritime Museum, is a tall ship now a permanent exhibit in front of the Exhibition Convention and Exhibition Centre. Built in 1885 and named after the first owner’s wife, the Polly is moored in the Duke & Orr dry dock (1875), one of the few surviving relics of an extensive shipbuilding industry that stretched from Queens Bridge to Docklands. In the 1940s and 1950s, the dock sustained the Polly Woodside during her time as a coal ship. The Polly is open Saturday and Sunday 10 to 4pm (everyday during school holidays).

The Melbourne Convention Centre stands before you, past the Polly Woodside, adjacent to the Exhibition Centre. Designed by NH Architecture and Woods Bagot and completed in 2009, it includes a 5541-seat Plenary Hall, 32 meeting rooms, a grand banquet room, and a Hilton Hotel. The building won the Victorian Architecture Medal for 2009.

The World Trade Centre lies on the bank opposite the Polly Woodside. In 2010, a number of architects nominated it as Melbourne’s worst building (The Age, 14/2/2010).

Return to Clarendon Street and cross Spencer Street Bridge; turn right (east) onto Flinders Street.
Crown Casino faces you on the Yarra for two blocks. Designed by a huge team (or committee!) of architects—Bates Smart, Perrot Lyon Mathieson, and Daryl Jackson—the result does not equal any of their individual work. Every hour on the hour after dark, exploding balls of gas are fired into the sky from the riverbank. Legend has it that at the opening of the complex, the fireballs roasted a flock of doves released to be a sign of good luck for Asian gamblers.

The Melbourne Aquarium is on your right one block east on Flinders Street, at King Street (see photo above). Designed by Peddle Thorp architects to resemble a ship moored to the river, it opened in 2000 and was significantly expanded in 2007–2008. In 2010, a number of architects nominated it as Melbourne’s second-worst building (*The Age*, 14/2/2010). Open daily, it offers some excellent exhibits, well geared to children. Further improvements are due for completion late in 2013.

Enterprize Park, on your right one block further east on Flinders Street, overlooks the turning basin where sailing ships were turned around for the voyage home.

The Immigration Museum is housed in the stately old Customs House at the corner of William Street (400 Flinders Street). Begun in the 1850s, its design proved too ambitious; it was only completed in 1878, to a revised design by J.J. Clark. Its Long Room is a fine example of Renaissance revival architecture. The Museum has a permanent exhibition about migration to Melbourne since the early 19th century, with a focus on post-World War II mass migration. It is open daily. At the far or eastern end of Enterprize Park, the no. 55 tram crosses Queens Bridge on its way to the Zoo.

Sandridge Bridge cuts across the Yarra at an angle, a short distance to the east. Now a pedestrian bridge, it features an excellent installation about migration to Victoria. Stroll across.

You can continue east to Princes Bridge on either side of the river and pick up Walks 2 or 3 or take a Swanston Street tram home.
Walk 8: Birrarung Marr, Rod Laver Arena and the MCG

Birrarung Marr is a riverside park east of Federation Square.

- Take any Swanston Street tram to Flinders Street, walk to the river and take the stairs or lift down to Princes Walk, along the Yarra. You will pass Artplay, where children (5 to 12) can enjoy workshops led by professional artists (bookings necessary, tel: 9664 7900). A network of paths, some elevated with interesting sound installations, will enable you to walk either to the Rod Laver Arena, before you approach the Yarra, or directly to the MCG (Melbourne Cricket Ground), by taking the first footbridge, somewhat to the left, following the MCG’s light towers.

Rod Laver Arena (or National Tennis Centre) is where the Davis Cup and Australian Open are held (see photo to left). Further on are a number of sporting facilities, including Hisense Arena (formerly Vodafone Arena), completed in 2000, a velodrome and basketball/netball venue. Opposite Hisense is the Melbourne Rectangular Stadium (officially AAMI Park), which houses the Melbourne Storm (Rugby), Melbourne Rebels (Super Rugby) and the A-League teams Melbourne Victory and Melbourne Heart. While Aussie rules football requires an oval field, Rugby codes require a rectangular stadium. Thus AAMI Park was constructed for Rugby, which has only recently begun to attract fans in Melbourne.

- Just after the Arena, take the footbridge from the pedestrian plaza and bear right around the MCG.

Melbourne Cricket Ground (the MCG or the ‘G’) is a major Melbourne tradition. It hosted crowds as large as 140,000 in the days when most fans stood. Redevelopment began in 2002 and was completed in 2006 for the Commonwealth Games. The MCG now holds 100,000 for the Grand Final of Australian rules football in September (see Sport, p. 48) and the traditional Boxing Day Test, a five-day international cricket match, when Australia plays England. This match is part of the Ashes Test Series, for which the ashes Lady Clarke presented to the English captain in 1882 are still the trophy (see p. 30).

- Walk around the MCG to Gate 3.

The National Sports Museum is on the northeast side of the MCG, at Gate 3. It houses the Australian Gallery of Sport and Olympic Museum, the Sport Australia Hall of Fame, the Australian Cricket Hall of Fame, the Aussie Rules (football) Exhibition, and next door, the Melbourne Cricket Club Museum.

- If you are on the Rod Laver Arena side of the railway, take a no. 70 tram back to the City. If you are at the MCG, take a no. 48 or 75 tram by walking a few short blocks north to Wellington Parade, which runs along the south side of the Fitzroy Gardens.