



## melbourne

VICTORIAN ARCHITECTURE DOMINATES, SHADY PARKS INVITE, AND AN ECLECTIC CULTURAL BOUNTY MAKES LIFE HERE BOTH LIVABLE AND EXCITING

**SEE** Bring yourself up to date on Australia's two-century history at the **Immigration Museum**, where true-life stories are told through poignant memorabilia and interactive displays. • At the **National Gallery**, view the country's finest collection of traditional paintings and native Koorie art. • Explore the food halls, open sheds, and stores of the 19th-century "**Queen Vic**" **Market**, whose buildings are preserved by the National Trust.

**DO** Pose for photos in front of elegant **Flinders Station**, then stroll up Flinders Lane for a retrospective of both European and Aboriginal painters showcased in the dozens of fabulous brick warehouses-turned-galleries. • Spend a few leisurely hours Melbourne-style, enjoying some of the city's exalted gardens. The amazing floral display in the conservatory at the **Fitzroy Gardens** was designed by James Sinclair, who planted Czar Nicholas's Royal Gardens in the Crimea. **Cook's Cottage** was brought over from England and reconstructed, brick by brick. And across the street the **Treasury Gardens**, laid out in 1867, highlight a spectacular rose garden and the President Kennedy Memorial. • Pause for coffee at the famous see-and-be-seen **Café Segovia** in Block Place.

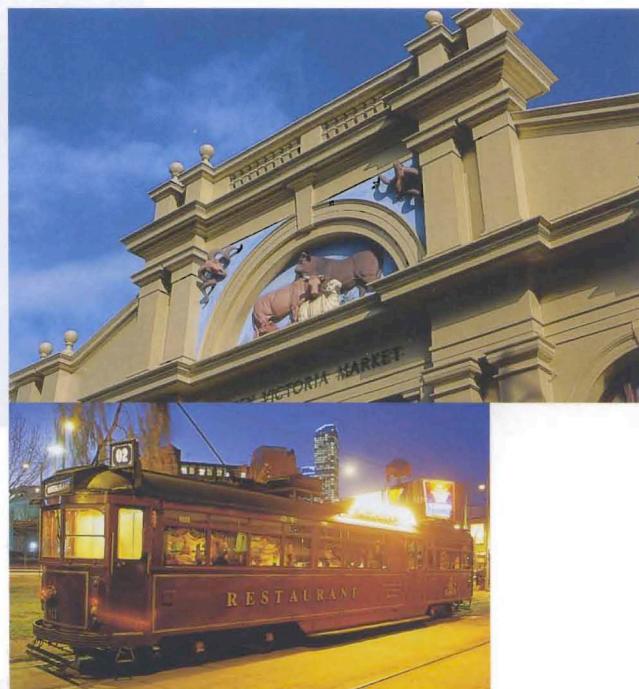
**SHOP** Find fashion nirvana at **South Yarra Chapel Street**, where original Australian clothing, jewelry, shoes, and art designs are showcased. Tiny boutiques such as Collette Dinnigan, Dinosaur Designs, and Dolci Firme yield enticing image treasures. • At **Melbourne Central**, 160 specialty stores – including the famed international Faimaru – sit in the heart of the city. The huge Marionette Fob Watch plays Waltzing Mathilda on the hour. • In the **Banana Alley Vault**, built under the viaduct beside the Yarra River, shop for souvenirs and local delicacies.

**TOP, FROM LEFT:** Australia's legendary dessert, the Lamington. Park Hyatt Melbourne. Fitzroy Gardens Conservatory. **BELOW:** See-and-be-seen **Café Segovia**.



**EAT** Excellent dining and a choice of international cuisine are Melbourne hallmarks. For truly local flavor, dine aboard the **Colonial Tramcar Restaurant** as it smoothly traverses the picturesque streets of Melbourne. Relax in the cozy atmosphere over excellent Australian wines, with traditional silver-and-white-linen service. • At **Langstons Restaurant and Wine Bar**, indulge in superb French cuisine and a 700-selection wine list in a warm atmosphere of leather banquettes and copper-wrapped columns. (*Flinders Lane*) • The **Flower Drum**, a highly celebrated Chinese restaurant known for its luxury experience, features fragrant Murray Cod, minced quail, crab, and crayfish in a lovely setting crowned by impeccable service. (*Market Lane*)

**STAY** Situated in Melbourne's premier historic precinct, the intimate **Park Hyatt Melbourne** faces St. Patrick's, the city's oldest cathedral, and the verdant expanse of Fitzroy Gardens. Lavish personalized service and a warm ambience distinguish this serene haven. Spacious rooms, furnished in leather and gorgeous fabrics, feature walk-in wardrobes, beautifully appointed baths with in-set television, and high-speed Internet access. The hotel offers two excellent restaurants, an elegant Tea Lounge, and three bars for late-evening relaxation. The centerpiece of the hotel's luxurious Park Club Health and Day Spa is a 25-meter lap pool (there's also a full-scale gym and sauna); its treatment room offers every body and facial treatment imaginable, with the exclusive use of Aveda products. *Virtuoso guests receive a room upgrade upon arrival (subject to availability); and one complimentary mini-facial (per room), taken in the Park Club Health and Day Spa. From AUD\$520 per room, per night.*



TOP: The 19th-century "Queen Vic" Market, preserved by the National Trust. ABOVE: Colonial Tramcar Restaurant.

**GETTING THERE** Melbourne's the first stop on ATS Tours' 10-day **Ultimate Australia** holiday, followed by Sydney and Hayman Island. Deluxe accommodations, sightseeing, and more. Call for departures. *From \$3,965* • Play Melbourne's best greens as part of Wide World of Golf's **Australia Golf About**. 13 days (Nov. 10 or Dec. 15). *From \$3,750*. • Comb the **Classic Australia** at your own pace with Abercrombie & Kent. 16 days (Nov. 9, 23; Dec. 7 or 14). *From \$6,045*. • For Voyager Club cruises to Australia and New Zealand, please refer to our Calendar, page 94.



FROM LEFT: Inspecting canvases at the Aboriginal Galleries of Australia, Flinders. Delectable views at Cafe La. Shot Tower, Melbourne Central.