Cultural Discovery
Melbourne’s creativity is all around, from galleries and performance to style and design

By the Yarra
On the edge of the city and overlooking its famous Yarra River, Richmond’s stylish Amora Hotel Riverwalk Melbourne will be your home for the next three days. A tram stop at the front door providing easy access to all of Melbourne’s attractions, including the world-famous Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Contemporary Works
Richmond is a major Melbourne cultural centre. Church Street is a good place to start – take the number 48 or 75 tram from the Amora to the corner of Bridge Road and Church Street. A stroll—or the number 78 tram—along Church Street will take you to several Australian contemporary art galleries, including the Charles Nodrum Gallery, Windows on Church and the Albert Street Galleries, just off Church Street and a short walk from East Richmond Station. There are actually six galleries in this tiny street – the Karen Woodbury Gallery, the Sophie Gannon Gallery, the Alison Kelly Gallery, the Anna Traverso Gallery, the John Buckley Gallery and the Jenny Port Gallery.

Walk back to Swan Street and take the number 70 tram (corner Swan and Church streets) to Federation Square. Referred to as ‘Fed Square’, you can join a guided tour at 11 am or 2 pm from Monday to Saturday. Fed Square is the city’s civic heart and meeting place. Home to many restaurants, cafés and bars it brings together several of Melbourne’s major cultural institutions including The Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI), where you can explore the moving image in all its forms, and The Ian Potter Centre: NGV (National Gallery of Victoria) Australia, with the world’s largest collection of Australian art on permanent display, including more than 20,000 works of Indigenous and non-Indigenous art.

Fed Square also features Champions, the Australian Racing Museum & Hall of Fame, the National Design Centre and the Melbourne Visitor Centre at Federation Square (MVC).

Cultural Conversations
From Fed Square, walk across Flinders Street and turn right into Flinders Lane, the heart of Melbourne’s commercial gallery scene. Adjourn for lunch to Yu.U Japanese restaurant. Down a set of concrete stairs you are transported into a beautiful, Japanese-influenced basement bar. The entire experience is yet another Melbourne delight.

One Bohemian Evening
Located in inner-city Fitzroy, a taxi is a good way to get to Dante’s from the Amora Hotel. Capturing the bohemian and cosmopolitan parade of café culture, Dante’s is a friendly restaurant/wine bar which doubles as a gallery and performance space – a perfect way to end your day.

Major Collections
Crossing the Yarra River over Princes Bridge, either by foot or tram, you will find Melbourne’s major cultural precinct.
Day 2

To Market, To Market
It opens at dawn, so you can go early! The Prahran Market first opened in 1864 and since then has provided restaurants and cafés, locals and visitors with the best fruit and vegetables, seafood, meat, poultry, flowers and, more recently, gourmet deli foods, organic produce, and specialty goods. A number 48 tram from the Amora Hotel up to Church Street, then a number 78 tram along Church Street and then Chapel Street to Commercial Road will get you there. The market is open Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from dawn to 5pm or 6pm, and Sundays from 10am to 3pm. Another 'must visit' next to the market is The Essential Ingredient, a treasure trove of all things culinary with a huge range of cookware, books and ingredients.

Behind The Scenes
Board a number 72 tram back to the centre of town, where walk to art will give you access to a range of artists and their studios. This three-hour tour of Melbourne’s laneways, studios, garrets and galleries operates on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The tour itineraries are always changing and the destinations – in Melbourne’s city centre and inner city suburbs – are revealed on the day. At the end of the walk engage in a creative discussion over fantastic wines and cheeses at a cool city bar.

Upstairs Dining
Stay in the city and continue on to dinner at the uber-stylish Melbourne Supper Club opposite Parliament House. There are stunning views from this elevated room and it has one of the best wine lists around – together with classic cocktails and fab suppers. Enter through a tiny doorway and go up the narrow flight of stairs. It’s open ‘till very late!

Day 3

Ports of Call
After a leisurely breakfast, take the tram back into town, and on Swanston Street change to the South Melbourne Beach tram (number 1), and get off at Stop 24 on the corner of Clarendon and Park Streets. Here you will find a national treasure – the Victorian Tapestry Workshop. Take a tour on Wednesdays at 11am or Thursdays at 2pm. Close by is the wonderful South Melbourne Market, regarded as one of Melbourne’s best fresh produce markets. It’s open on Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from 8am to 6pm, and on Friday from 8am to 6pm. And for things uniquely Melburnian, call into melbournestyle, a gallery store and design studio that specialises in a range of gifts inspired by and designed and made in Melbourne.

Time to go Home
Before you go, what about some musical Aussie culture at the Corner Hotel. It’s not far from the Amora Hotel and there are indoor and outdoor dining areas and a rooftop bar. But the music is what has brought hordes of people here over the years – from the famous to the simply infamous, and both local and international artists. Make sure you check out the programme in advance so you know what’s on.

Contacts

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649 Bridge Road
Richmond, Victoria 3121
Tel: +61 3 9246 1200
1800 339 436 (within Australia)
www.amorahotels.com

Australian Centre for the Moving Image
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Melbourne, Victoria 3000
Tel: +61 3 8663 2200
www.acmi.net.au

The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia
Federation Square
Melbourne, Victoria 3000
Tel: +61 3 8620 2222
www.nvg.vic.gov.au

The Australian Racing Museum & Hall of Fame
Champions Building - Federation Square
Melbourne, Victoria 3000
Tel: 1300 139 407
www.racingmuseum.com.au

The Arts Centre
105 St Kilda Road
Melbourne, Victoria 3000
Tel: +61 3 9281 8000
www.artscentre.com.au

NGV: International
180 St Kilda Road
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