

4 Arcades and Lanes

Lanes, alleyways, little streets, arcades, café society and fascinating shops.

Walking time 1.5 hours

Distance 2.5 Kilometres



Let your imagination guide you



Melbourne's little laneways began life as rear access to properties facing big streets. Many were later roofed as 'arcades' to provide refuge from the weather and crowds and to provide more space for shops. Today, some lanes have been reborn and hum to the rhythm of daily city life. Others are still waiting to be discovered.

Begin your walk by crossing from **Federation Square** ① to a traditional meeting place 'Under the Clocks' ② at **Flinders Street Station** ③. Cross Flinders Street, turn left and continue on. Turn right into Degraives Street where William Degraives' steam flourmill pumped away in the 1850s. Nowadays, it's espresso.

Degraives Street ④ is a mecca for Melbourne's café society. Check out the healthy delights at the organic shop, juice bar. Order a coffee at Degraives Espresso Bar, where the seats are recycled cinema seats and benches from a former magistrates court.

At the end of Degraives Street, on the other side of Flinders Lane, is the **Majorca Building** ⑤ – still as stylish as in its 1920s heyday. The building's terracotta has Spanish or Moorish influences, reflecting the exotic destinations that captured imaginations at that time.

Centre Place ⑥ is a breeding ground for cafes – some so small you can barely stretch to stir your coffee. Ask for the delicious soup of the day at pocket sized Jungle Juice Bar, squat on the box seats and enjoy noodles at Yen or retreat upstairs to dimly lit Hell's Kitchen and look down on the passing throng. This area is also a must see for those interested in street art.

Step up to **Centre Way** ⑦ (1913) – an early steel-framed building with a post-modern makeover – then cross Collins Street and turn left before entering the exquisite 19th Century **Block Arcade** ⑧. The arcade was named after the fashionable Collins Street block between Swanston and Elizabeth Streets where nineteenth century Melburnians liked to promenade or 'do the block'. Today, it is still a hive of activity, with its mosaic floors and fascinating shops to explore.



Under the clocks at Flinders Street Station

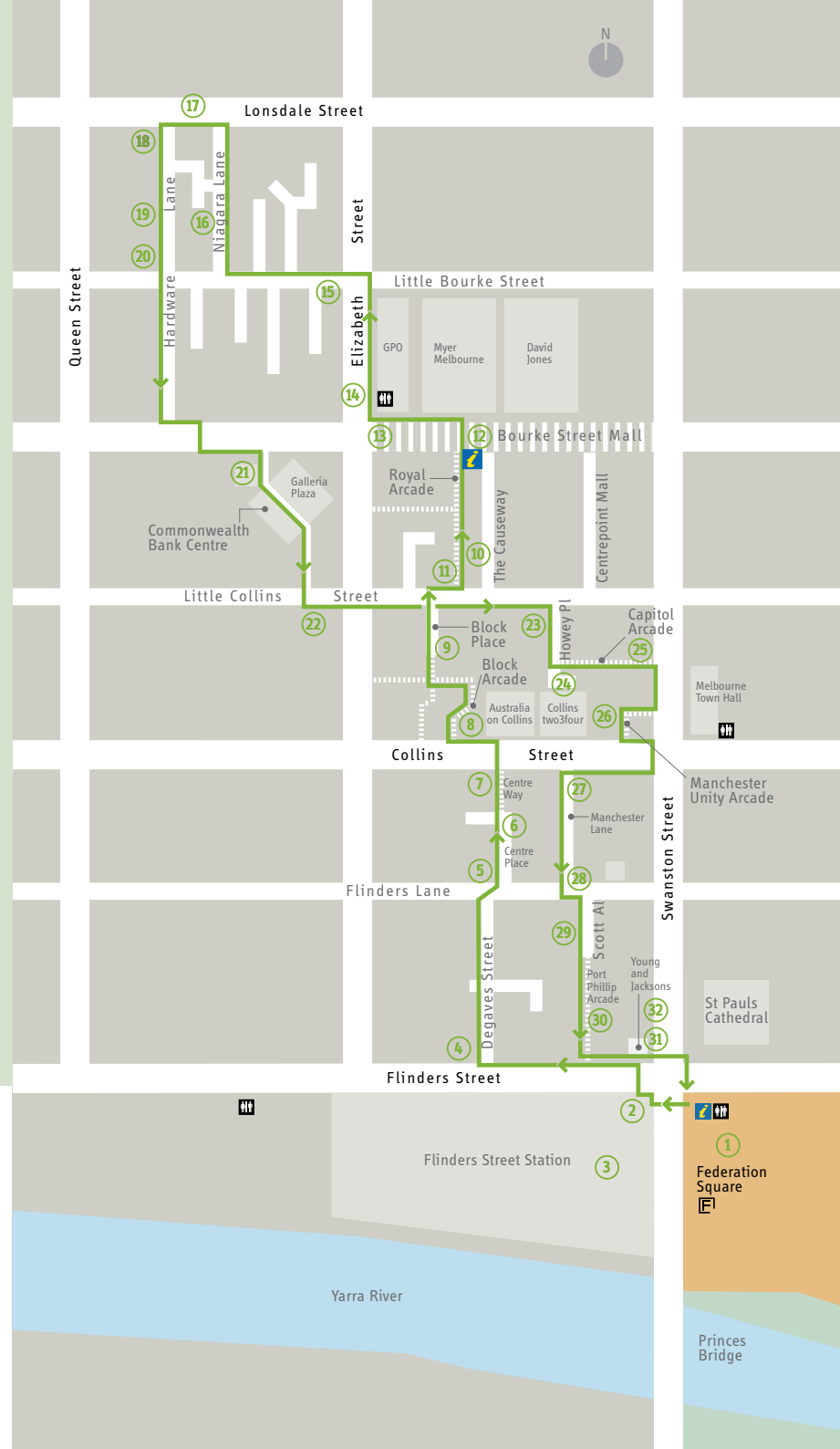


Public Purse



Howey Place

Pick up a table at **Block Place** ⑨ and grab a bite to eat before you cross over Little Collins Street to the elegant **Royal Arcade** ⑩ (1869) – the oldest shopping arcade in Australia. Don't forget to look back up to **Gog and Magog** ⑪, the two legendary giants of the ancient Britons who have struck on the hour since 1892.





Niagara Lane



The famous Block Arcade

Reaching Melbourne's shopping heart at **Bourke Street Mall** (12), turn left and cross the Bourke St Mall, pass the sculpture the **Public Purse** (13) then continue along Elizabeth Street. The **Underground Public Toilets** (14) are historic: the men's were built in 1910, while the ladies waited longer, until 1927.

Go left up **Little Bourke Street** (15) and cross two laneways before we discover a superb group of 1880s warehouses at **23-31 Niagara Lane** (16). Look for the picturesque barrel hoists. The lane was named in the 1860s after the Niagara Hotel in **Lonsdale Street** (17).

Round the corner, after a short walk up Lonsdale Street, bustling **Hardware Lane** (18) epitomises Melbourne's laneway renaissance. With cobbled stones underfoot and café umbrellas overhead, stay awhile and enjoy the lane's alfresco seating, fascinating facades and small specialty shops.

At 63-73 Hardware Lane, look up through the café umbrellas to check the date of **Dynon's Building** (19), a set of four (originally five) warehouses designed by William Pitt, the celebrated architect of Princess Theatre and some of the finest gothic revival buildings in Collins Street. Named after **Hardware House** (20) in the 1920s, Hardware Lane was built on land formerly occupied by Kirk's Horse Bazaar.

Stroll back down to Bourke Street cross over and take a short cut through **Galleria Plaza** (21) – then turn left onto **Little Collins Street** (22) where the serious fashion begins. Pass a dozen lanes and arcades before reaching the delightful **Howey Place** (23). Between the 1890s and 1920s, the western side of Howey Place was part of Cole's Book Arcade, which stretched from Collins to Bourke Streets and was probably the 'biggest bookshop in the world' with over two million books.

Continue on through **Capitol Arcade** (24) to Capitol House, opened in 1924 and designed by Walter Burley Griffin (architect of Canberra) and Marion Mahony Griffin. Upstairs, the **Capitol Theatre** (25) is an extraordinary 'picture palace' with tours available the third Friday each month. During term-time, you may see students from RMIT University, attending lectures in the impressive auditorium.

Walk through historic **Manchester Unity Arcade** (26) and then cross Collins Street to **Manchester Lane** (27) and Flinders Lane. Once the centre of the city's rag trade, **Flinders Lane** (28) is now a unique shopping destination for the hip and happening, as well as home to some of the best galleries and bars in the city.

As you head back to Federation Square, stroll down **Scott Alley** (29) and pass through **Port Phillip Arcade** (30) and turn left at Flinders Street. Your final stop is **Young & Jackson's** (31) where the beer has flowed for over a century. Upstairs is the nude portrait **Chloe** (32) that shocked conservative Melbourne and made the hotel famous. Enjoy one last drink here as you take in the grand view of **Federation Square** (1).

Federation Square



Arts and Culture

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

Champions: Australian Racing Museum and Hall of Fame
Mon-Sun 10am-6pm

The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia
Tue-Sun 10am-5pm
Thu until 9pm

Restaurants, Cafes and Bars

ACMI Lounge Café & Bar
Mon-Fri 8.30am-late
Sat & Sun 9.30am to late

Arintji
Mon-Thu 10am-late
Fri 7am-late
Sat-Sun 8am-late

Beer Deluxe
Mon-Wed 7.30am-10.30pm
Thurs 7.30am-midnight
Fri-Sun 7.30am-1am

Bokchoy Tang
Mon-Sun 11.30am-late

Café Chinotto
Mon-Sun 8am-late

Chocolate Buddha
Mon-Sun Noon-late

Feddish
Mon-Sun Noon-late

Il Pomodoro
Mon-Sun 8.30am-late

Jolimont Espresso
Mon-Fri 7.30am-5.30pm
Sat & Sun 9am-5.30pm

Riverland Bar and Café
Mon-Sun 7am-late

Time Out Café
Mon-Fri 7am-late
Sat-Sun 8am-late

Transport
Mon-Sun noon-late

Taxi Restaurant
Mon-Sun noon-late

Tjanabi
Mon-Sun 9am-late

Transit Lounge
Wed-Fri 5pm-late
Sat & Sun 4pm-late

Shops and Retail

Best of Souvenirs
Open same hours as Melbourne Visitor Centre

Kirra Gallery
Mon-Thu 10am-6pm
Fri 10am-9pm
Sat-Sun 10am-6pm

7-Eleven
Mon-Sun Early-late

Tourist Information

Melbourne Visitor Centre at Federation Square
Open 7 days 9am-6pm
(excluding Good Friday and Christmas Day)

Melbourne Visitor Booth in the Bourke Street Mall
Mon-Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 10am-5pm
(excluding Good Friday and Christmas Day)

City Ambassadors

Keep an eye out for our roving City Ambassadors in their distinctive red outfits roaming the City.
Mon-Sat 10am-4pm, Sun 11.30am-3pm

Melbourne Greeter Service

Discover from a local what locals love about Melbourne. English orientations available 7 days per week. Other languages on request.

Melbourne City Tourist Shuttle

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

For further information, visit www.thatsmelbourne.com.au/touristinformation

Useful Numbers

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

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

For more information, call the City of Melbourne Hotline 9658 9658, visit www.thatsmelbourne.com.au/melbournebrochures or go to the Melbourne Visitor Centre at Federation Square

