



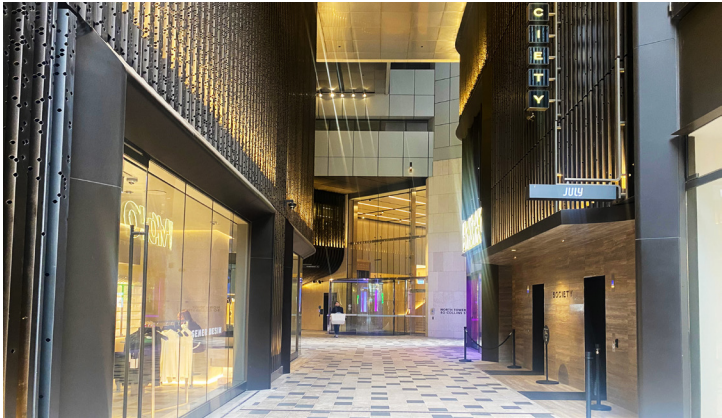
## COUNCIL HOUSE 2

**Address:** 218-240 Little Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000  
**Architects:** DesignInc with City of Melbourne  
**Completed:** 2006

The first commercial project to be awarded a 6-star Green Star rating by the Green Building Council of Australia, Council House 2 is widely recognised as an exemplar of sustainable architecture. Council House 2 was experimental at its time of construction and tested numerous passive design solutions. This includes an automated system of “night purging” through various design features including concrete vaulted ceilings, openable windows, exhaust air shafts and wind turbines to draw out heat. The yellow wind turbines at the top of the building have become a recognisable feature linked to the building’s legacy of prototyping and innovation.

### Key Features:

- Green wall on the northern facade of the structure
- Timber design detailing on the Swanston Street facade



## 80 COLLINS STREET

**Address:** 80 Collins Street, Melbourne VIC 3000  
**Architects:** Woods Bagot, Seventh Wave, UN Studio, and Jouin Manku  
**Completed:** 2020

80 Collins Street is a retrofitted development and is the first mixed-use city block introduced to this end of Collins Street in over two decades. The design reinforces the streetwall character of Little Collins Street and addresses the human-scale through use of high quality textural materials. The internal links are an excellent example of publicly accessible, privately owned space that improves ground floor connectivity and activation.

### Key Features:

- Improved safety through activation and elimination of dark undercrofts
- Through-block laneways improve the walkability of the block
- Texturally rich materials create visual interest and relate to the human-scale in size and tactility



## QT HOTEL

**Address:** 133 Russell Street, Melbourne VIC 3000  
**Architects:** Candalepas Associates with Indyk Architects and Nicholas Graham and Associates  
**Completed:** 2016

The QT Hotel exemplifies the principles in the Central Melbourne Design Guide. It is sited on the former Greater Union cinemas and takes its inspiration from the “Paris end” of Collins Street. High quality design can be read through the celebration of the sculptural, expressive quality of concrete, the use of tactile and textured materials, including the grand copper and timber entry, and through the short succession of vertical and horizontal elements. The façade provides hints of internal activity and allows for light spill out onto the street at night.

### Key Features:

- Clearly articulated double-height entry
- Tactile and textured materials
- Thin metal canopies providing weather protection
- Considered placement of retail entrances on laneway interface



## MEYERS PLACE

**Address:** Meyers Place, Melbourne VIC 3000  
**Landscape Architects:** City of Melbourne

Laneways are integral to Melbourne’s city experience. They offer a place to escape the city’s bustle and invite people to explore. Meyers Place is one of the city’s oldest laneways and widely-recognised as the site of Melbourne’s first laneway bar. Initially, a social retreat space, Meyers Place has grown over time into a microcosm of all the things we love about Melbourne; outdoor dining, bars, coffee, street art and greenery. While all laneways have their own unique character, many features in Meyers Place have been replicated in other laneways.

### Key Features:

- North to south orientation of the laneway maximises sunlight access
- Intimate street section with partial laneway closure to accomodate outdoor dining
- Green wall, trees, planter boxes and a large art mural as part of the Green Your Laneways Project



## HERO APARTMENTS

**Address:** 118 Russell Street, Melbourne VIC 3000  
**Architects:** Fender Katsalidis  
**Completed:** 2001

The heritage listed and retrofitted Hero Apartments building was previously the Russell Street Telephone Exchange and Post Office. It played a crucial role for Postcode 3000, a planning policy aimed at bringing the residential population back into the city during a time in which retail was moving out to suburban shopping malls and the city was simply seen as the place you worked. The building helped support the policy by providing attractive apartments to encourage people to live in the central city.

### Key Features:

- Retail tenancies to create an active ground floor
- Use of brick as a durable material which has allowed for adaptability over time
- Billboard-scale public art installation invites local artists to showcase their work on the prominent Russell Street frontage



## PRINCESS THEATRE FORECOURT

**Address:** 163 Spring Street, Melbourne VIC 3000  
**Completed:** 2022  
**Landscape Architects:** City of Melbourne

Built in the 1800s, the elaborate and opulent Princess Theatre has staged some of the world’s most successful productions. Temporary works were carried out in 2018 to convert road space into an expanded forecourt to provide for anticipated ‘spill-out’ of large audiences at the Harry Potter and the Cursed Child show. This catalysed a more formalised and permanent condition in response to catering for the theatre’s crowds. The curved design of the planter walls derived its shape from observing pedestrian flows and occupation in these busy periods.

### Key Features:

- Planting palette is informed by the 19th century garden character of Spring Street
- Recurring use of bluestone pavers, as a durable and easily maintained material that is used across public spaces, streets and furniture

## SELF-GUIDED TOUR



# DESIGN EXCELLENCE

## WALKING TOUR



Design Excellence is both a program and a demonstrated exceptional standard of urban design, architecture and landscape architecture.

## 22

THE DESIGN EXCELLENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE DRAWS ON THE EXPERTISE, EXPERIENCE AND PROFILE OF 22 COMMUNITY AND DESIGN INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES, TO PROVIDE LEADERSHIP ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DESIGN EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

## 30

THE MELBOURNE DESIGN REVIEW PANEL UNDERTAKES DESIGN REVIEWS OF SIGNIFICANT PROPOSALS ACROSS THE MUNICIPALITY, DRAWING ON THE EXPERTISE OF 27 EXTERNAL AS WELL AS INTERNAL BUILT ENVIRONMENT PROFESSIONALS



### Interpreter Services

We cater for people of all backgrounds  
Please call 03 9280 0726

For more information,  
contact City of Melbourne  
Telephone: **03 9658 9658**

[melbourne.vic.gov.au](http://melbourne.vic.gov.au)

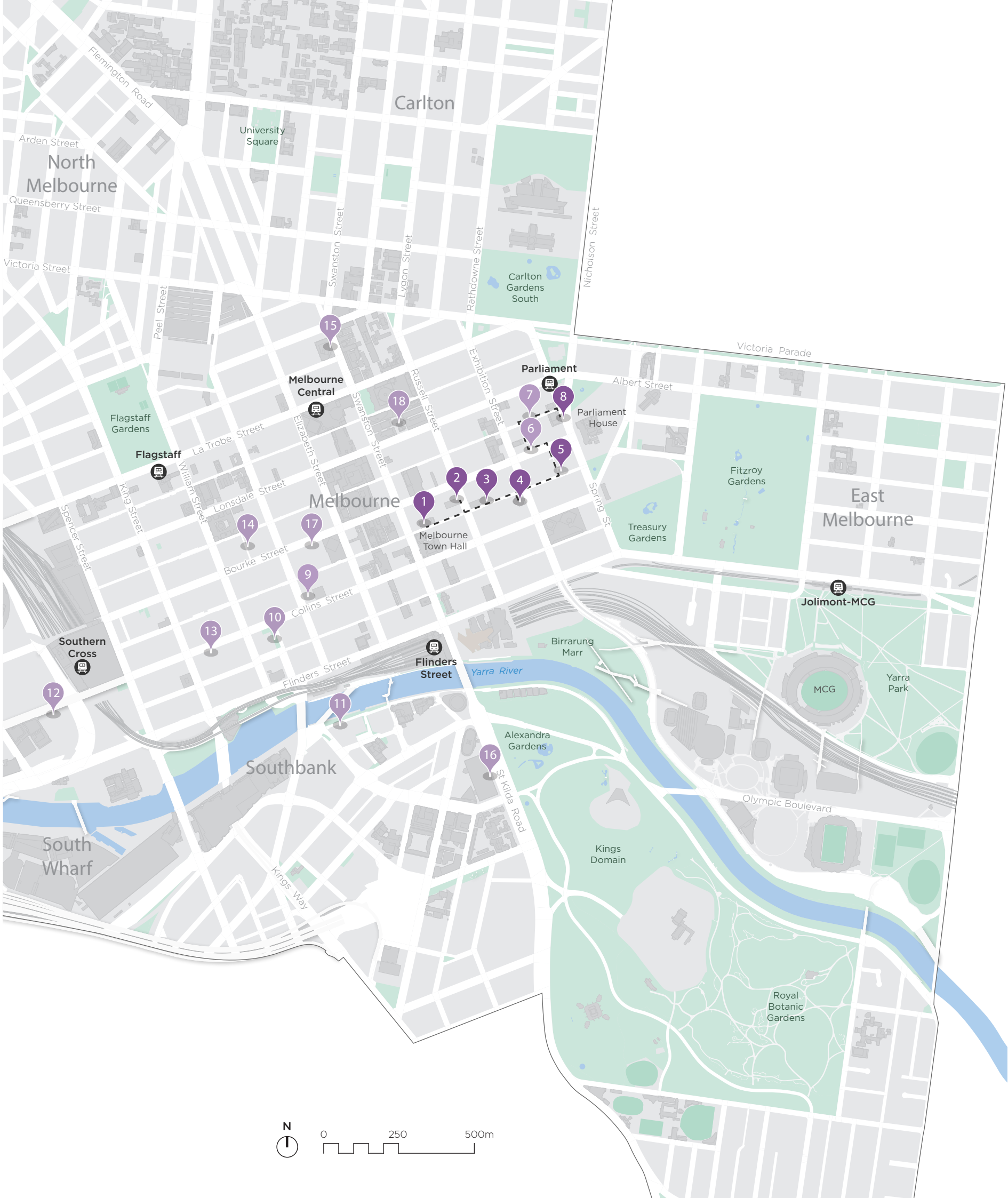


DESIGN EXCELLENCE  
IN THE CITY

- 1 Council House 2
- 2 QT Melbourne
- 3 Hero Apartments
- 4 80 Collins Street
- 5 Meyers Place
- 6 Crossley Street
- 7 Little Bourke Street
- 8 Princess Theatre Forecourt
- 9 Queen and Collins
- 10 Collins Arch and Market Street Park
- 11 Riverside Quay Pedestrian Laneways
- 12 Melbourne Quarter
- 13 Rialto Towers
- 14 Hilton Melbourne
- 15 Swanston Academic Building RMIT
- 16 National Gallery of Victoria
- 17 405 Bourke Street
- 18 QV Melbourne

DESIGN  
CONTRIBUTIONS

- Through-block links  
Provides new pedestrian connections to improve block walkability and to support an ongoing sense of discovery.
- Cultural place  
Celebrates the historic and contemporary layers of place and community.
- Exceptional design detail  
Adopts contextually responsive materials and finishes relating to human scale.
- Sensitive heritage treatment  
Respects heritage context by sensitively adapting or contrasting with historic built form.
- Welcoming public space  
Provides amenable and accessible public open space.



WHAT IS  
DESIGN  
EXCELLENCE?

The Design Excellence Program demonstrates the City of Melbourne's commitment to high quality design in our built environment.

This program responds to our Council Plan 2021-25 and includes: Melbourne Design Review Panel (MDRP), Design Excellence Advisory Committee (DEAC), design competitions, awards and advocacy.

Design Excellence is both a program and a demonstrated exceptional standard of urban design, architecture and landscape architecture.

In the context of Aboriginal truth-telling and reconciliation, a Climate and Biodiversity Emergency, a constrained urban environment, and diminishing opportunities for the provision of public open space, it is crucial that all developments in the City of Melbourne provide meaningful and public-facing social, environmental, cultural and economic benefits.

Legend

- 1 Design Excellence tour stop
- 1 Design Excellence location
- Train station

Acknowledgment of Traditional Owners

The City of Melbourne respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land we govern, the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung and Bunurong Boon Wurrung peoples of the Eastern Kulin and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

We acknowledge and honour the unbroken spiritual, cultural and political connection the Wurundjeri, Bunurong, Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wadawurrung peoples of the Eastern Kulin have to this unique place for more than 2000 generations.

We are committed to our reconciliation journey, because at its heart, reconciliation is about strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples, for the benefit of all Victorians.