



## 📍 RMIT NEW ACADEMIC STREET

**Address:** RMIT City Campus, Bowen Street, Melbourne VIC 3000  
**Architects:** Lyons, Harrison and White, MvS Architects, NMBW Studio and Maddison Architects  
**Landscape Architects:** TCL  
**Completed:** 2017

Over the past 20 years, RMIT's public spaces have been upgraded and revitalised with laneways that convey Melbourne's character both in scale and materiality, stitching the site into its broader city context. New Academic Street provides a vibrant civic experience that supports social opportunities, consolidating the precinct as the heart of the city campus, playing host to celebrations, markets, food and drinks services, and events.

### Key Features:

- Unique design collaboration that resulted in diverse contemporary architectural outcomes
- Dynamic textures, materiality and spatial experiences that seamlessly stitch the cohesive city campus experience
- Enhanced pedestrian permeability throughout the campus,



## 📍 WESLEY PLACE

**Address:** 130 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne VIC 3003  
**Architects:** COX Architecture and Lovell Chen  
**Landscape Architects:** Oculus  
**Completed:** 2021

Wesley Place offers an urban park and through-block link where visitors can unwind, making it a unique open space within the CBD. The precinct features a seamless mix of office towers and revitalised heritage buildings. Additional to seats and gardens that mould to the orthogonal layout of its buildings, the place is rich in materials that connect the new with the old. The open lawn near Little Lonsdale Street is centred around existing trees, including one of Australia's oldest olive trees originating from Jerusalem in 1839.

### Key Features:

- Open public space activated by fine grain mixed-use context
- Historical significance of buildings and landscape
- Adaptation of historical site into varied contemporary uses
- Generous integration of public furniture, well-lit spaces and intimate scale



## 📍 MEYERS PLACE

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

Meyers Place is one of the city's oldest laneways and 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. Check out the various street art featured in the laneway, including *Emma Donovan & The Putbacks* by Aretha Brown.

### Key Features:

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



## 📍 SELF-GUIDED TOUR

# THE POCKET BOOK OF MELBOURNE LANEWAYS



## 📍 GUILDFORD LANE

**Address:** Guildford Lane, Melbourne VIC 3000  
**Landscape Architects and Urban Design:** City of Melbourne  
**Completed:** 2017

A rare pocket of Melbourne's industrial heritage, this urban pocket was given a makeover through the Green Your Laneway pilot program. Endless plants have since taken over window sills, shopfronts and laneway walls. There's also Mike Makatron's towering mural of an overgrown factory painted on an old substation door. It's a nod to Melbourne's green future and the lane's industrial heritage.

### Key Features:

- Transformation of historical industrial pocket into a green laneway, through City of Melbourne's Green Your Laneway initiative
- Exemplar of Melbourne's fine-grain activation of heritage laneways



## 📍 MARKET STREET PARK

**Address:** 43/55 Market St, Melbourne VIC 3000  
**Landscape Architects:** Oculus  
**Completed:** 2021

Market Street Park opened in 2021, created by discontinuing a street and converting it to an urban park. The design was guided by the City of Melbourne's Open Space, Urban Forest and Nature in the City strategies. The park is framed by an extensive, new colonnade that activates the space through improved pedestrian access. The landscaped terrace also features new tree plantings from a variety of species, and water sensitive urban design to reduce stormwater runoff.

### Key Features:

- Central plaza connection from Market Street with generous public seating, playful landscaping and abundant greenery
- Reconfiguration of Market Street to southbound traffic only, paving space for the addition of new bicycle lanes
- Terrace incorporates water sensitive urban design initiatives



## 📍 80 COLLINS

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

80 Collins Street is now a retrofitted public space and mixed-use city block around the former Nauru House (1977). 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
- Continuous grade public space connects seamlessly to its surrounding streets

Melbourne's laneway network supports the city's vibrant dining, street art, cafe and shopping experience.

This pocket book comprises examples of Melbourne's iconic laneways and north-to-south walk along a collection of the city's hidden gems. We invite you to go on a journey that unveils the diverse layers of experience Melbourne's laneways has to offer, ranging from the old to the new.



### 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)



## EXPLORING MELBOURNE'S LANEWAYS

Wandering through the city's laneways and arcades might be the ultimate way to experience Melbourne on foot. Here's how to traverse the city from north to south.

First stop is **(1) Wesley Place**. Named after the 1858 Gothic Revival-style church, today Wesley Place is an urban precinct featuring a next-generation workplace, retail, and important green space in the city. Look up to find Axionome, Stanislava Pinchuk's minimalist artwork that gauges climate data.

Head down Lonsdale Street and cross at the Exhibition Street pedestrian lights. Double back and look out for the red Chinese Museum sign. Head into **(2) Cohen Place** and you'll emerge into Chinatown. Up ahead is the 'Facing Heaven' Archway, a gift from Victoria's sister state Jiangsu Province in 1985 to celebrate Victoria's 150th anniversary.

Cross at Little Bourke Street into **(3) Market Lane**, home to a cluster of award-winning restaurants. The quiet laneway is unassuming by day but in the evening choose between hearty Bavarian fare at Hofbrauhaus, the Melbourne culinary institution that is Flower Drum, famous xiao long bao at HuTong Dumpling House or traditional Japanese fine dining at Shoya.

From Bourke Street, cross at the Exhibition Street pedestrian lights and continue south through **(4) Southern Cross Lane**, a bustling laneway largely catering to the office crowd on weekdays. Bordering Exhibition, Bourke and Little Collins Streets, the lane was named after the former Southern Cross Hotel that once occupied the site.

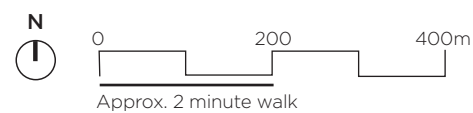
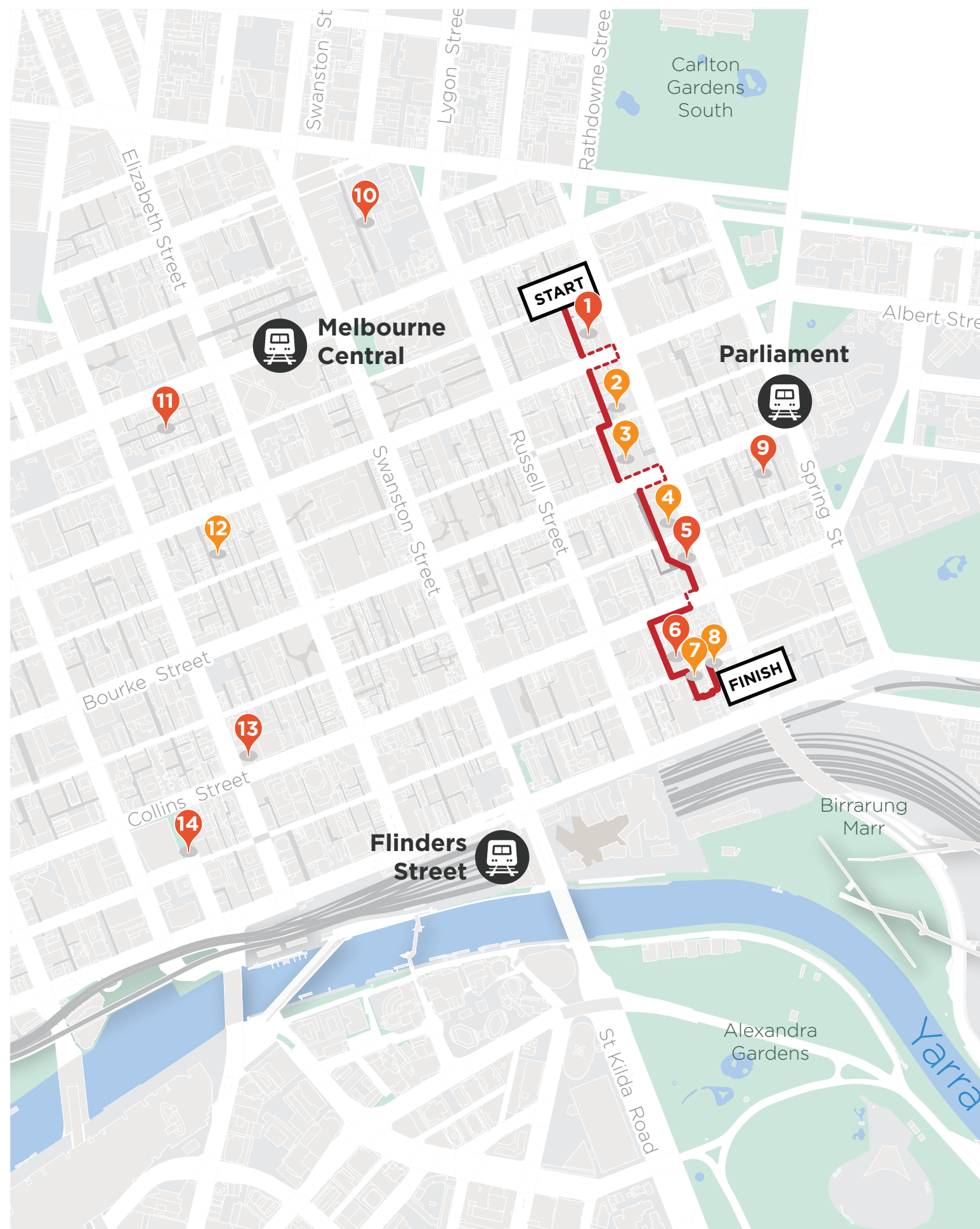
Cross Little Collins Street and head into Benson Walk, a modern precinct of high-end fashion, fine dining restaurants and a luxury hotel nestled behind the historic 1867 facade of **(5) 80 Collins Street**. Dine at high energy Japanese-inspired eating house Yakimono, opt for Gippsland-fresh produce at Farmer's Daughters or Italian and cocktails at La Madonna.

Head through to Collins Street. Crossing at the tram stop, continue on through the classical pillars into **(6) 101 Collins Street**. The 57-storey building designed by Denton Corker Marshall was completed in March 1991. Take a moment to take in the grandeur and opulence of the space along with the many artworks on display, including French artist Céleste Boursier-Mougenot's duplex (2021).

Continue heading around, stop for coffee at Binary, and head down the escalator and through the revolving doors. Cross Little Flinders Lane into **(7) AC/DC Lane**. Renamed from the impersonal Corporation Lane to its current moniker in 2004, the laneways honours Australian rock legends AC/DC, who filmed the video for It's a Long Way to the Top (If You Wanna Rock 'n' Roll) on nearby Swanston Street.

Check out the ever-changing music themed street art before continuing around the corner to the last stop, **(8) Duckboard Place**, where you'll find high-end fare at the likes of Tonka, Lee Ho Fook and A Hereford Beefstouw.

Want to keep exploring Melbourne's laneways? Take detours to other iconic laneways in Melbourne, including **(9) Meyers Place**, **(10) RMIT New Academic Street**, **(11) Guildford Lane**, **(12) Hardware Lane**, **(13) Queen & Collins** and **(14) Market Street Park**.



Access and opening hours for all venues and spaces may vary. Please check with the venue before arriving.

Information correct at time of printing, July 2024.

# THE POCKET BOOK OF MELBOURNE LANEWAYS

Melbourne is a big city defined by its historical Hoddle grid. Despite its scale, the city establishes a very human experience thanks to its network of interconnected laneways that are valued public spaces.

Built during the Victorian era, the city's laneways were once neglected and underused spaces that were designed for service access only. Today, they are destinations in their own right, internationally recognised for their street art, hidden cafes, secret shops and iconic restaurants.

Since the 1990s, the City of Melbourne has worked to revitalise and protect the city's laneways and arcades through proactive policies and initiatives, more recently the Green Your Laneway program.

The city's award-winning Central Melbourne Design Guide also supports the design of high-quality walkable laneways and precincts that contribute to Melbourne's unique urban spaces.

## Legend

**1** Key destination

**1** Additional sites

--- Safe pedestrian crossings

Train station

## Acknowledgement 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 Kulin and pays respect to their Elders past and present. We acknowledge and honour the unbroken spiritual, cultural and political connection they have maintained to this unique place for more than 2000 generations.

We accept the invitation in the Uluru Statement from the Heart and are committed to walking together to build a better future.