



# Venues Guide

February 2019



**MUSEUMS  
VICTORIA**



## Museums Victoria

Museums Victoria is Australia's largest public museum organisation. We have been creating knowledge and experiences that help our audiences make sense of the world and building the State Collection since 1854. This collection is an invaluable record of Victoria's environmental and cultural history, and our amazing wealth of over 17 million items and has been inspiring discovery and a sense of wonder for generations.

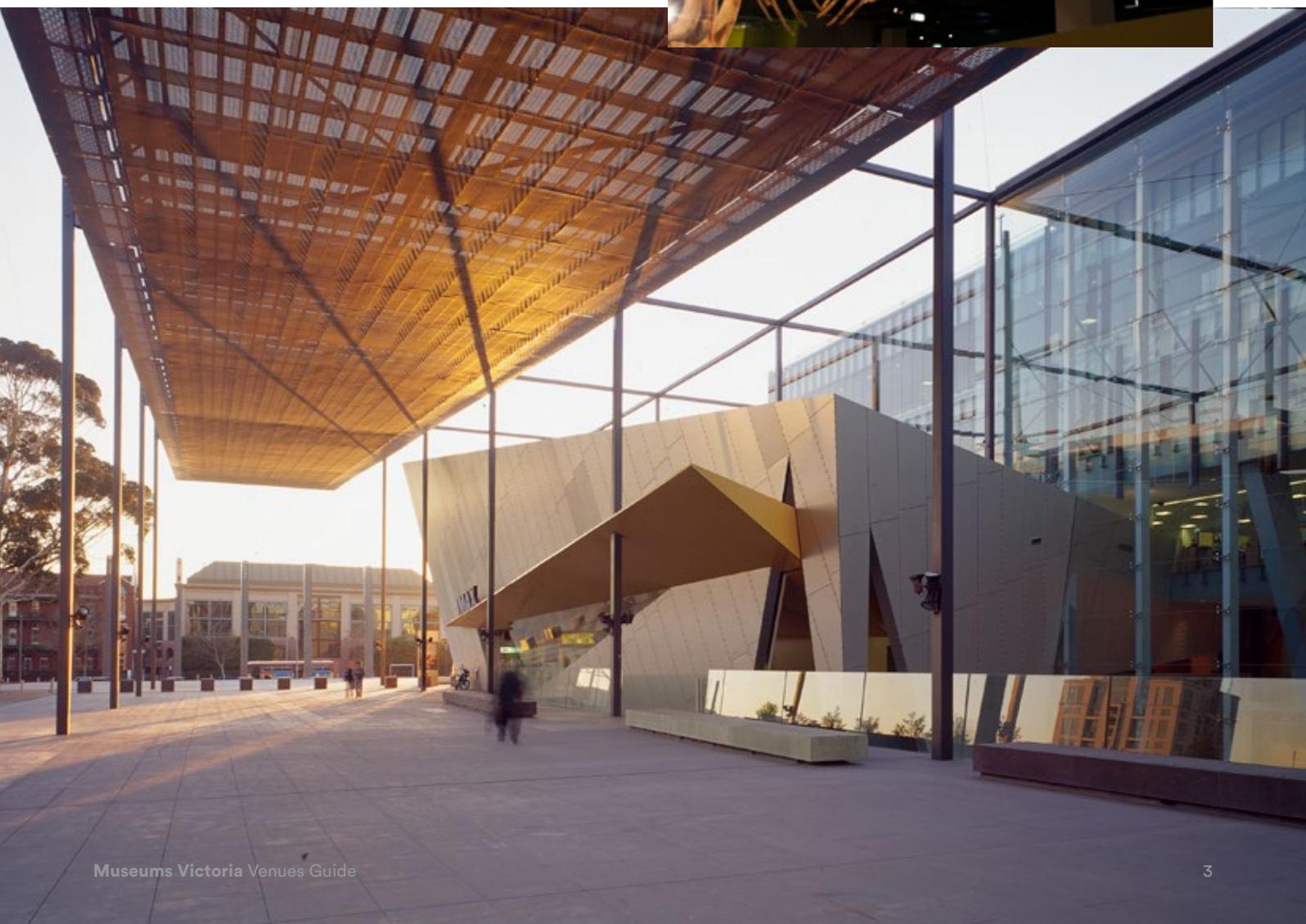
Museums Victoria is the umbrella organisation for Melbourne Museum, Scienceworks, Immigration Museum and IMAX Melbourne, as well as Museums Victoria's largest collection item, the iconic UNESCO World Heritage-listed Royal Exhibition Building. Attracting in excess of 2.1 million visitors across all its venues, Museums Victoria is one of the most popular tourism attractions in Victoria.



## Melbourne Museum

Melbourne Museum offers visitors unparalleled insight into Victoria's histories, cultures and natural environment from a range of perspectives. Behold globally-recognised exhibitions such as *First Peoples*, *Te Vainui O Pasifika*, *Bugs Alive!*, *600 Million Years*, *The Mind* and *Dinosaur Walk*, along with brilliant temporary and touring exhibitions from near and far.

Originally situated in the State Library of Victoria on Russell Street, Melbourne Museum re-opened in its Carlton Gardens location on 21 October 2000. Designed by Denton Corker Marshall, this iconic structure houses spaces such as Bunjilaka Aboriginal Cultural Centre, Te Pasifika Gallery, the Forest Gallery, the Science and Life Gallery, the Melbourne Gallery and the Children's Gallery.





## Immigration Museum

Melbourne's Immigration Museum presents a thought-provoking experience filled with stories that are sometimes sad, sometimes funny, but always compelling. And somewhere within, you'll find your own story.

In 1998, Immigration Museum opened in the beautifully restored Old Customs House on Flinders Street. As the former administrative centre of Melbourne's immigration and customs, it is the perfect home for a museum filled with the real stories of people who have migrated to Victoria.

Today, you'll find two floors of exhibition galleries that house temporary exhibitions and events, along with permanent fixtures such as *Identity: Yours, Mine, Ours*, *Leaving Home* and *Immigrant Stories and Timeline*.

Several times a year in the Festival Courtyard we host joyous community festivals that are alive with food, music and culture. The Immigration Discovery Centre is the perfect place to start your genealogical research, while the Tribute Garden is a beautiful sanctuary that honours immigrants from over 90 countries.



# Scienceworks

When Museums Victoria opened Scienceworks in 1992, our vision was a place for young people to play with science. We linked Melbourne’s industry, heritage and applied technology in one place: a new building looking across the arena to the century-old Pumping Station, all under the grand arc of the West Gate Bridge.

Today, Scienceworks is bursting with attractions for curious minds of all ages. In ground-breaking exhibitions like *Ground Up*, babies to five-year-olds have their curiosity rewarded with surprising and intriguing sights, sounds and touch sensations. In *Beyond Perception: Seeing the Unseen*, teenagers dive into an awe-inspiring exploration of the imperceptible worlds of science and technology.

Ready for more? Stroll among the gigantic machines that kept the city running, enjoy electrifying theatre in the Lightning Room, let your little ones roam safely in enclosed spaces and wander through our immersive exhibitions and drop into deep space in the Melbourne Planetarium.





## Bunjilaka

Bunjilaka Aboriginal Cultural Centre respectfully acknowledges the traditional owners of Melbourne, the Boonwurrung and the Woi wurrung language groups of the greater Kulin nation.

The museum is on land where Aboriginal people have lived, laughed, fought, married, dreamed and died for thousands of years. Now, in Bunjilaka, we tell the story of survival against the odds and celebrate our vibrant cultures through performances, storytelling, artwork and more.

With the opening of First Peoples in 2013, Bunjilaka presents the Koorie experience with immense power, depth and respect in a major permanent exhibition entirely co-created with Aboriginal people. Bunjilaka's art space, Birrarung Gallery, holds three exhibitions a year of work by contemporary Koorie artists. Birrarung looks out to Millari Garden where we grow plants of significance to the First Peoples of Victoria. Kalaya is our performance space. Judy Watson's major artwork Wurreka adorns the wall outside *First Peoples*, which leads into a gallery for temporary and touring exhibitions about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.



Bunjil is the Ancestral Wedge-tailed Eagle, the creator. Waa is the Ancestral Crow, the protector. Bunjil created much of south-eastern Australia and the features and animals within it. He also created people, by breathing life into figures moulded from clay.

Stories of Bunjil and Waa provide meaning to south-eastern Aboriginal people. A person's affinity with either Bunjil or Waa defines their kinship relationships, marriage partners and social responsibilities.

Bunjilaka Aboriginal Cultural Centre was planned in collaboration with many Aboriginal people, including the traditional owners of Melbourne, the Boonwurrung and the Woi wurrung. The name Bunjilaka was chosen as it means 'the place of Bunjil', evoking a sense of ongoing creation.

# Royal Exhibition Building

Completed in 1880, this magnificent building is the oldest surviving from the Great Exhibition era that is still operating as an exhibition hall. Standing strong in Carlton Gardens, the Royal Exhibition Building is beautiful inside and out—a true landmark of Melbourne and Museums Victoria’s single largest collection item.

Dozens of trade fairs and public expos are held at the REB annually, continuing 135 years of bringing new ideas to Melbourne. It’s also home to gala dinners, fashion shows, community events and so much more. Whenever the building is available, we daily hold tours of the meticulously-restored interior with guides to tell the story of its triumphant arrival, its unappreciated middle age, and its rebirth as the first UNESCO World Heritage listed building in Australia.

The Royal Exhibition Building is currently undergoing a promotion and protection project which will see parts of the spectacular building restored and reopened.



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