

Arcades and Lanes

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

Walking time 1.5 hours
Distance 2.5 Kilometres



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.

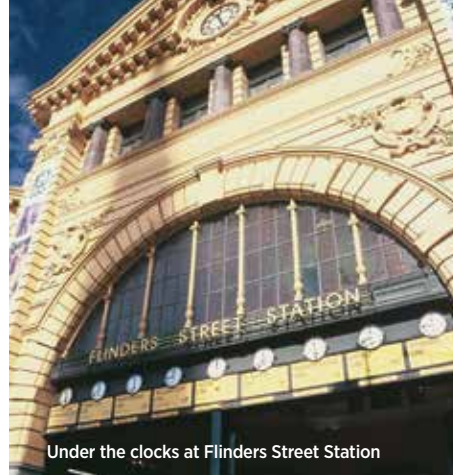
Begin your walk at a traditional meeting place 'Under the Clocks' ① at **Flinders Street Station** ②. Cross Flinders Street, turn left and continue on. Turn right into Degraves Street where William Degraves' steam flourmill pumped away in the 1850s. Nowadays, it's espresso.

Degraves Street ③ is a mecca for Melbourne's cafe society. Check out the healthy delights at the organic shop or the juice bar. Order a coffee at Degraves Espresso Bar, where the seats are recycled cinema seats and benches from a former magistrates court.

At the end of Degraves Street, on the other side of Flinders Lane, is the **Majorca Building** ④ - still as stylish as in its 1920s heyday. The building's terracotta facade has Spanish or Moorish influences, reflecting the exotic destinations that captured imaginations at that time.

Centre Place ⑤ 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** ⑥ (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** ⑦. The arcade was named after the fashionable Collins Street block between Swanston and Elizabeth Streets where 19th 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

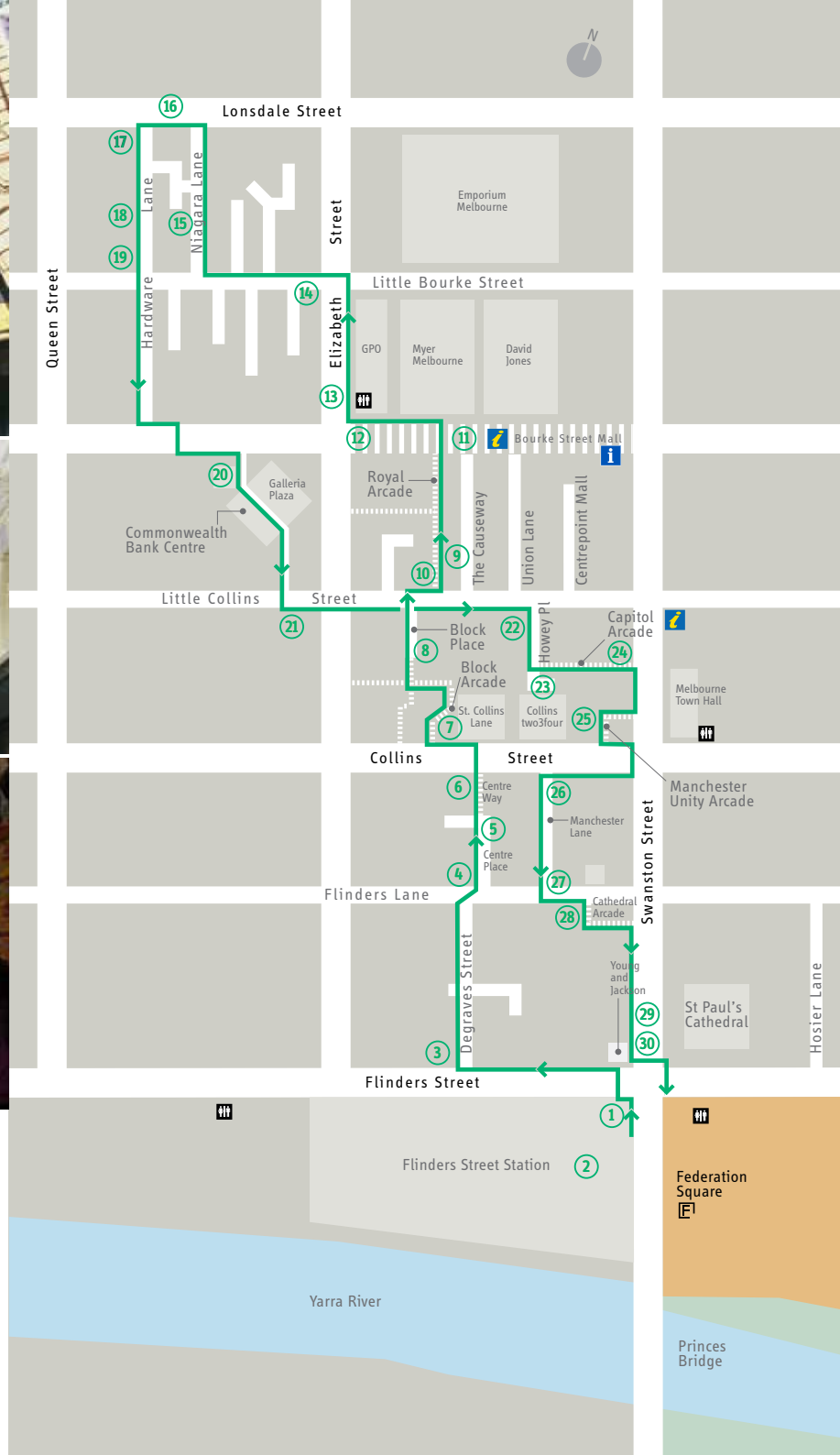


Gog and Magog



Centre Place

Pick a table at **Block Place** ⑧ and grab a bite to eat before you cross over Little Collins Street to the elegant **Royal Arcade** ⑨ (1869) - the oldest shopping arcade in Australia. Don't forget to look back up to **Gog and Magog** ⑩, 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** (11), turn left and cross the Bourke Street Mall, pass the sculpture the **Public Purse** (12) outside **Melbourne's GPO**, then turn right to continue along Elizabeth Street. The **Underground Public Toilets** (13) are historic: the men's were built in 1910, while the ladies waited longer, until 1927.

Go left up **Little Bourke Street** (14) and cross two laneways before you discover a superb group of 1880s warehouses at **23-31 Niagara Lane** (15). Look for the picturesque barrel hoists. The lane was named in the 1860s after the Niagara Hotel in **Lonsdale Street** (16).

Round the corner, after a short walk up Lonsdale Street, bustling **Hardware Lane** (17) epitomises Melbourne's laneway renaissance. With cobbled stones underfoot and cafe umbrellas overhead, stay awhile and enjoy the lane's alfresco seating, fascinating façades and small specialty shops.

At 63-73 Hardware Lane, look up through the cafe umbrellas to check the date of

Dynon's Building (18), 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** (19) 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** (20) – then turn left onto **Little Collins Street** (21) where the serious fashion begins. Pass a dozen lanes and arcades before reaching the delightful **Howey Place** (22). 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** (23) to Capitol House, opened in 1924 and designed by Walter Burley Griffin (architect of Canberra) and Marion Mahony Griffin. Upstairs, the **Capitol Theatre** (24) was once an extraordinary 'picture palace'. These days during term-time, you may see students from RMIT University, attending lectures in the impressive auditorium.

Walk through historic **Manchester Unity Arcade** (25) and then cross Collins Street to **Manchester Lane** (26) and Flinders Lane. Once the centre of the city's rag trade, **Flinders Lane** (27) 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, carry on along Flinders Lane before strolling through the heritage shopping laneway **Cathedral Arcade** (28) with all of its original fixtures. A walk through this art deco laneway will connect you to Swanston Street. Your final stop is at **Young & Jackson** (29) where the beer has flowed for over a century. Upstairs is the nude portrait **Chloe** (30) that shocked conservative Melbourne and made the hotel famous. Enjoy one last drink here as you take in the grand view of **Federation Square**.

Federation Square



The Ian Potter Centre: Australian Centre for the Moving Image

Arts and Culture

- ArtPlay**
Bookings essential
artplay.com.au
Telephone: 03 9658 7880
- Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI)**
Daily
10am to 5pm
- Koorie Heritage Trust**
Daily
10am to 5pm
- NGV Studio**
Daily
10am to 5pm
Closed Christmas
- No Vacancy Project Space**
Tue to Sat
11am to 5pm
Sunday
noon to 5pm
- The Ian Potter Centre: NGV Australia**
Daily
10am to 5pm

Restaurants, Cafes and Bars

- ACMI Cafe and Bar**
Mon to Fri
8.30am to late
Sat and Sun
9am to late
- Arintji**
Sun to Thu
10.30am to 10pm
Fri and Sat
10.30am to late
- Beer Deluxe**
Daily
11.30am to late
- Chocolate Buddha**
Sun to Thur
12pm to 10 pm
Fri and Sat
12pm to 11pm
- Il Pom Italian**
Daily
11am to late
- In a Rush Espresso**
Daily
7am to 5pm
- Pilgrim Bar**
Daily
12pm to late
- Riverland Bar and Cafe**
Daily
11am to 1am
- Taxi Kitchen**
Daily
12pm to late
- Taxi Riverside**
Daily
12pm to late
- Time Out Cafe**
Daily
8am to late
- Transit Rooftop Bar**
Daily
12pm to late
- Transport**
Daily
11am to late

Shops and retail

- ACMI Shop**
Mon to Fri
10am to 5pm
Sat & Sun
9.30am to 5.30pm
- NGV Design Store**
Daily
10am to 5pm
- Popstic Ice cream**
Daily
12pm to 5pm
- 7-Eleven**
Daily
early to late

Visitor Information

- Melbourne Visitor Hub at Town Hall**
Located within one of the city's most iconic landmarks, the Melbourne Visitor Hub at Town Hall is a place for free visitor information and maps, along with recommendations for the latest things to see to make the most of your experience. Open daily 9am to 6pm (excluding Christmas Day)
- Melbourne Visitor Booth in the Bourke Street Mall**
Volunteers at the Melbourne Visitor Booth provide maps and information on shopping, attractions, events, and more. Open daily 9am to 5pm (excluding Good Friday and Christmas Day)
- Queen Victoria Market Visitor Hub**
City Ambassadors and a Visitor Hub are located at the iconic Queen Victoria Market to support both locals and visitors alike who flock to Melbourne's favourite destination. Open Tues and Thu 10am to 1pm and Fri to Sun 9am to 3pm
- Fitzroy Gardens Visitor Centre**
Located within the heritage-listed Fitzroy Gardens, this centre provides information services, free wifi and café facilities. Visit the surrounding attractions including Cook's Cottage or take part in a guided garden walk. Open daily 9am to 5pm (excluding Christmas Day)
- City Ambassadors mobile information service**
Keep an eye out for our City Ambassadors in their distinctive red uniforms and get personal assistance with directions, events and more. Mon to Sat 10am to 4pm, Sun 11.30am to 3pm (excluding Good Friday and Christmas Day).

Melbourne Greeter Service Discover what locals love about Melbourne by taking a free walking orientation of the city. Orientations in languages other than English available on request. To book visit whatson.melbourne.vic.gov.au/visitors or phone 03 9658 9658 on weekdays and 03 9658 9942 on weekends.

Useful Numbers

Public transport queries	1800 800 007
Travellers' Aid Flinders Street Station	03 9068 8187
Travellers' Aid Southern Cross Station	03 9670 2072
Airport Bus Skybus	03 9335 2811
Ticketmaster	13 6100
Ticketek	13 2849
Directory Assistance	1223
Emergency police, fire and ambulance	000
City of Melbourne Hotline	03 9658 9658

What's on in Melbourne

Stay up to date on the latest events in the city and the best places to eat, drink, shop and play all year round at whatson.melbourne.vic.gov.au, or follow us

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