

CANBERRA HIGHLIGHTS

Nestled between mountains and surrounded by bushland, Canberra is the perfect addition to an Australian east-coast itinerary. Discover some of Australia's finest seasonal dining, coffee that has won awards around the world, wildlife spotting, and expertly guided behind-the-scenes tours, all in Australia's capital, Canberra.

Lake Burley Griffin



Australian Parliament House



National Gallery of Australia



Australian War Memorial

DAY 1

*Arrive in Canberra,
Australia's national capital.*

MORNING

The heart of the nation

Appreciate democracy in action at Australia's **Parliament House**. Join the **Best of Parliament** tour (booking required, departs 10am, 45min, \$) to experience the must-see highlights such as the Great Hall, architectural features, the chambers, and significant artworks. Open daily, free general admission.

▼ Drive 5 minutes / 3 km

With waterfront views of **Lake Burley Griffin**, enjoy lunch at **The Marion** overlooking many of Canberra's cultural attractions and Commonwealth Park. Visit the **Canberra and Region Visitors Centre** right next door for more inspiration and to pick up some exquisite local products.

AFTERNOON

Discover rich culture

▼ Drive 4 minutes / 4 km

Visit the **National Gallery of Australia** to enjoy the world's largest collection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art, a significant Australian and international collection, and the Sculpture Garden. A guided **Collection Tour** (departs 1pm, 1 hour, free) will provide unique insights into the highlights at the gallery. Open daily, 10am–5pm, admission is free with an online booking.

▼ Drive 4 minutes / 4 km

Join an expert guide for an engaging private tour **A Place to Remember** (booking required, confirm time upon booking, 90min, \$) at the **Australian War Memorial** and connect with powerful stories of courage, mateship, and devotion told through the exhibits and collections. Stay and participate in the moving **Last Post Ceremony** which commemorates a person from the Roll of Honour every day at 4.30pm. Open daily, free general admission.

EVENING

A foodie paradise

Choose from one of the many featured restaurants, discover **Canberra's nightlife** and enjoy a nightcap and live jazz at **Molly**.



Balloon Aloft, Lake Burley Griffin

DAY 2

MORNING

For the best views in town

Start the day at dawn in a hot air balloon with **Balloon Aloft** (booking required, departing 5am summer / 6am winter, 3-4 hour total tour time, \$) and bask in stunning dawn colours – part exhilarating, part relaxing, this is one of the best ways to view the lake, city and mountain ranges.

▼ Drive 11 minutes / 9 km

In a beautifully landscaped setting, at the **National Zoo & Aquarium**, view native and exotic wildlife from around the world, from cuddly koalas, curious meerkats, cheeky monkeys to the giant cats and towering giraffes. For a memorable and thrilling experience, get up close and personal with your favorite animal in a **Close Encounter** (booking required, times vary, \$). Open daily, 9.30am–5pm, entry fee applies.

▼ Drive 14 minutes / 13 km

Sit back and relax at **Beltana Farm** for a paddock-to-plate lunch offering a sophisticated rural experience within the city (Thursday to Sunday).

AFTERNOON

See native Australian animals

Canberra is a city surrounded by nature. Join the **Best of Wildlife** tour (booking required, departs 1pm winter / 3pm summer, 4 hours, \$) to learn about and spot kangaroos, koalas, emus, and platypus at the peaceful **Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve**. **Canberra Guided Tours** also offer bespoke private tours.



National Zoo & Aquarium



Beltana Farm

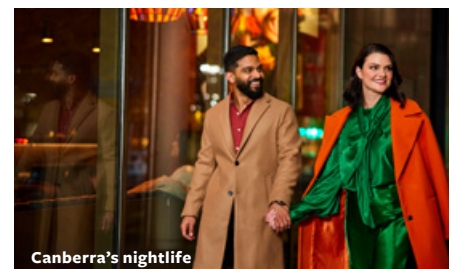
EVENING

A night at the theatre

Choose from one of the many featured restaurants and discover **Canberra's nightlife**. The **Canberra Theatre** offers a curated selection of international and Australian performances spanning from blockbuster musicals, theatre, comedy, and dance. Finish with a nightcap at one of **Canberra's best hidden bars**.



Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve



Canberra's nightlife



National Museum of Australia

DAY 3

MORNING

Explore the senses

Kickstart the day with a fresh brew and breakfast. Head to Braddon for inner city chic cafes such as **Harvest** or **Lonsdale Street Roasters**.

▼ Drive 7 minutes / 4.2 km

Delve into the stories of Australia with the **Big Histories** tour (booking required, departing 11am Mon–Fri, 1.5 hours plus dining, \$) at the **National Museum of Australia** which includes a guided tour exploring highlights from the permanent exhibits with lunch at the lakeside Museum Café. Open daily, 9am–5pm, free general admission, fees may apply.

WANT TO EXTEND YOUR STAY?

EVENING

Indulge for a night at Jamala Wildlife Lodge!

The ultimate overnight safari experience at the **National Zoo & Aquarium** includes an African-style dinner party in a rainforest cave and a luxury garden pavilion adjoining animal enclosures – imagine waking up to the roar of a lion or alongside a tiger! Inclusive of all meals, drinks, exclusive tours and a two-day pass.



Jamala Wildlife Lodge

LOOKING FOR MORE?

- Captain a self-drive e-GoBoat and picnic on the lake.
- Discover the cool climate wineries in the **Canberra Wine District**, meet the makers at the cellar door and pair a tempting drop with a cheese platter.
- See where Australia's money is made, find out the stories behind the images on the coins and even mint a coin at the **Royal Australian Mint**.
- For sensational panoramic views across the city, visit the **National Arboretum Canberra**. Enjoy forest walking trails, bonsai exhibitions, the POD playground and the Forest Sculpture Gallery.

MARKETS TO EXPLORE

Canberra Region Farmers Market (Saturdays)
Little Burley Market (Saturdays)
Haig Park Markets (Sundays)
Old Bus Depot Markets (Sundays)

DINING SUGGESTIONS

Akiba, Bar Rochford, Vincent, Onzime, Monster, Raku, 86, Inka

HOTEL SUGGESTIONS

The Avenue, Midnight Hotel, Hotel Kurrajong, QT, Little National, Ovolo Nishi, Novotel, Hyatt Hotel