

CANBERRA TOP 10 EXPERIENCES

1

DISCOVER THE AUSTRALIAN STORY

There's no better place to discover the Australian story than in Canberra. The city is home to some of Australia's most significant collections in its many national museums and galleries.

Why not take an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of one of the Cultural Attractions of Australia? Book a privately flown hot air balloon tour of the **National Museum of Australia's** architecture, feast on a degustation amongst the great works in the **National Gallery of Australia**, venture behind the scenes of **Australian Parliament House**, or join a private tour sharing stories of sacrifice from the **Australian War Memorial**. Ever wondered how Australia's coins are made? Visit the **Royal Australian Mint**.



3

TOURS WITH A TWIST

Wanting to be guided around Canberra? We've got you covered. Join **Canberra Bike Tours** to explore the historical, political, artistic and cultural sites of Canberra, or **Canberra Guided Tours** on a wildlife tour.

Van Du Vin will drive you to Canberra's cool climate wine region, while **Classic Capital Golf Tours** provides an opportunity to sample the best of golf and regional produce at the same time. Discover an exciting and diverse account of Australia's history on a walking tour with **She Shapes History**. Our museums and galleries also offered tailored tours.

2



FIRST NATIONS' EXPERIENCES

Immerse yourself in some of the oldest and richest cultures in human history with the extensive collections of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art and history at Canberra's museums and galleries. Try your hand at traditional First Nations art practices during a workshop at the **National Arboretum Canberra**. To learn about local Ngunnawal culture, join **Dhawura Tours** and travel back in time to 'The Dreaming' or explore a variety of landscapes, wildlife and natural bush around Canberra with the **Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation** during a cultural immersion.

4

SAMPLE THE REGION'S PRODUCE

Love coffee? You're coming to the right city — with **ONA Coffee's** award-winning baristas. The city has a great reputation for its food, wine, beer and spirit scene, with craft beer lovers well catered for by the popular **BentSpoke Brewing Co** and **Capital Brewing Co**. If you're wanting a paddock to plate experience close by, both **Pialligo Estate** and **Poachers Pantry** are the places to try. Surrounding the city is Canberra's cool climate wine region, with 140 vineyards and 40 cellar doors just 35-minutes' drive from the city centre.



5

EXPLORE THE LAKE

Lake Burley Griffin in the centre of Canberra divides the north and south of the capital. Many of the city's iconic galleries and museums are located along the lake's shores. You can explore the lake a number of ways: on a lake cruise aboard the **MV Southern Cross**, on an electric **GoBoat** picnic boat, a **Stand Up Paddle** board or by hiring a bike from the **Canberra and Region Visitors Centre**.



6

ESCAPE INTO NATURE

Natural beauty is right on your doorstep in Canberra. Head to nearby nature reserves and national parks to see native Australian animals. Step back in time and experience the Australian bush as it was 100 years ago on a twilight tour of **Mulligans Flat Woodland Sanctuary** where you'll spot native possums, quolls and bettongs. See koalas, kangaroos, birds, and reptiles at **Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve**, an easy 45-minute drive from the city. Choose between 24 marked trails – ranging from a 15-minute walk to full-day hikes, all with the opportunity to spot native wildlife in their natural setting.



INSPIRE YOUNG MINDS

From nature themed playgrounds to **Questacon's** science wonderland, Canberra is the ultimate family-friendly destination. Head out to Gold Creek Village to tour the **National Dinosaur Museum** or take part in a fun treasure hunt at **Cockington Green Gardens'** miniature village. Feed birds from your hand at **Canberra Walk-in Aviary** and see reptiles up close at the **Canberra Reptile Zoo**. Purchase a **Gold Creek Adventure Ticket** for discounted entry to all four attractions.

7



8

A BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF THE CAPITAL

Hot air ballooning over Canberra is definitely a bucket-list contender. If you're looking for the ultimate experience, visit during the **Canberra Balloon Spectacular** in March to glimpse dozens of balloons inflating and launching from the lawns of **Old Parliament House** — an amazing sight. Ballooning is a year round experience and the perfect way to see this planned, modern Australian city. If you're feeling adventurous, try a helicopter flight with **Helicopter Corp** or **AIR CBR** over the city and surrounding mountain ranges.



9

AN EVENT FOR ALL SEASONS

Canberra's signature events are timed to coincide with Canberra's distinct seasons. **Floriade**, Australia's biggest celebration of spring, is held from mid-September to mid-October each year. The free flower festival features more than one million spring blooms planted across a city park as well as children's activities, gardening workshops and live entertainment. In autumn, the capital's sky is dotted with hot air balloons for the **Canberra Balloon Spectacular** as part of the **Enlighten Festival**. Winter in Canberra is known for the **Truffle Festival**, where the cold weather produces black truffle in the region, with truffle hunts, degustation dinners and cooking classes a feature of the festival.

10

EXPERIENCE THE NEARBY REGIONS

Canberra is the perfect central base for exploring the surrounding region. Within a few hours' drive, you can be in Australia's high country exploring the **Snowy Mountains**, or the beautiful unspoilt coastline of the **South Coast**, or quaint towns and villages close to the capital. The **Capital, Coast and Country Self-Drive Guide** is a perfect inspiration guide to the capital's surrounds.

