

WEEKEND



Kambah Pools
Photography: Kit Baker

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Out of Town to Canberra

FOOD & DRINK

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By Nick Shirley and Eden Baker,
20th March 2014

There's much more to our capital city than roundabouts and Questacon. With a brand-new hotel and a line-up of great new spots to eat and drink, Canberra deserves more than just a drive-by.

People often say the best thing about Canberra is how close it is to the snow and to the coast, but the best thing about Canberra is, well, Canberra. The city celebrated its 100th birthday last year and is starting to hit its stride. With cafes and shops opening up all over town, there's now plenty to do between trips to the galleries, politician spotting and bike rides around the lake. Here's our guide to our capital city.

EAT

Mocan & Green Grout

If you're looking for excellent coffee and a big breakfast, this is the place. The team here prides itself on sourcing local produce; eggs from Temora, seafood from the south coast; and herbs from out the front. And if breakfast isn't your thing, it has just announced it will be open for dinner Tuesday to Saturday.

*1/19 Marcus Clarke Street, New Acton South
(02) 6162 2909
mocanandgreengrout.com*

Lonsdale Street Roasters

Only a few years ago, Braddon was full of car yards and petrol stations. While there still are a few left, they are now outnumbered by cafes. Lonsdale Street Roasters is the pick of the bunch, with two outposts only a block or so apart. Go for freshly roasted coffee and its famous toasted paninis.

*3/7 and 23 Lonsdale St, Braddon
(02) 6156 0975
lonsdalestreetroasters.com*

Sweet Bones Bakery and Cafe

With burgers and a heap of baked goodies on the menu, you'd be forgiven for missing that this is an entirely vegan cafe. Sweet Bones also stocks Sonoma bread, shipped down from Sydney a few times a week, and if the thought of soy milk makes you recoil, they'll make your coffee with dairy.

Shop 8/27 Lonsdale Street, Braddon

STAY

Hotel Hotel

It only opened for business in December, but Hotel Hotel is already generating a buzz. At the centre of the New Acton cultural precinct, Nishi, this architecturally designed building is hard to miss. No two rooms are the same, but you can expect mid-century furniture, Aesop skincare and a mini-bar full of local wines. And if you're not staying, it's still worth popping by the restaurant and bar for a snack and a drink.

*25 Edinburgh Ave, New Acton
(02) 6287 6287
hotel-hotel.com*

Rosebud Heritage Cottage

Rosebud Cottage was built in the 1860s and, incredibly, still has many of its original features. From the outside it looks as it would have back then – with raw timber panelling and a corrugated iron roof. But inside there's everything you need for a comfortable weekend getaway. The cottage is seven kilometres from the city, so you'll need a car, but it's so relaxing you may not want to leave anyway.

*10 Skinner Street, Cook
rosebudcottages.com*

SEE

Kambah Pools

The Ngambri people's word Kambah roughly translates into 'cleavage' and describes the space between Black Mountain and Mount Ainslie. This may go some way to explaining the nude beach close by. Don't worry though, if you prefer your swimming a little less risqué, Kambah Pools is also a perfect spot for a dip or riverside picnic.

Kambah Pool Reserve

Melbourne Now, Melbourne Then

After four months, 400 artists and 700,000 visitors, the biggest and most ambitious exhibition in the NGV's history is coming to a close. Whether you're hoping to get one more look – or forgot to go at all – this is your last chance to see Melbourne Now. Here's our guide to making the most of the final weekend.



Baths at the Corner Hotel

Get lost in a dream world of glitchy-beats by the L.A. based producer.



Make Your Own Kimchi

Chef Jae Park from Collingwood's modern Korean restaurant, Bistro K, shows us how to make real kimchi – none of that factory-made stuff.

Mount Ainslie

Mount Ainslie provides the perfect vantage point from which to see Walter Burley Griffin's urban design. It's a steep but rewarding walk up (or you can drive if you're feeling lazy), and is about an hour round trip. If you're lucky you might even see a 'roo or two.
Mount Ainslie Drive, Majura

Palace Electric

Tucked away on the ground floor of the Hotel Hotel building, Palace Electric is the newest Palace Cinema setting. Offering its usual selection of independent, new-release and documentary films, the cinema will also play host to a number of film festivals throughout the year.

*2 Phillip Law Street, Canberra
(02) 6222 4900
palacecinemas.com*

SHOP

Capital Region Farmers Market

This Saturday market is the real deal. With farmers from all over the ACT and NSW selling their produce, you will know where your food is from and who it was grown by. Expect fresh fruit and vegetables as well as honey, cheese and all sorts of other, locally made treats. The market is run as a community, not-for-profit project by Rotary Club of Hall, so you will leave knowing you've started your weekend with a good deed.

*Exhibition Park in Canberra (EPIC), Mitchell
capitalregionfarmersmarket.com*

Electric Shadows Bookshop

This independent bookshop, established in 1987, was opened as an offshoot of Canberra's longest-running, independent arthouse cinema of the same name. The shop stocks a carefully curated selection of books as well as DVDs for hire, conveniently arranged by director.

*Shop 2, 40 Mort Street, Braddon
(02) 6248 8352
electricshadowsbookshop.com*

Lonsdale St Traders

Located on the site of a former garage, this space is dedicated to supporting small, independent Canberra businesses. Inside the partitioned warehouse, stores include Shiro, which sells Japanese homewares, Wild Wood and FIVEFOLD. The site is due to be demolished in September so get in quick.

27 Lonsdale Street, Braddon

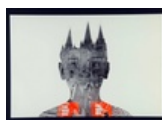
Like 271



A.P.C. Opens First Australian Store in Melbourne
The French label renowned for its workwear-inspired designs and clean lines is opening its first Australian store in Melbourne tomorrow.



dot.COMME Store Room Sale
Nicholas Building, Level 3, Room 18, 21-47
Swanston Street, Melbourne



Top Designs
10.00am at The Melbourne Museum, Gallery,
11 Nicholson Street, Carlton



FOLA: Festival of Live Art
Various locations



Botanical Calamity: Peaches +
K...



Red Hill Music Festival



Wadjda: A Landmark Film