

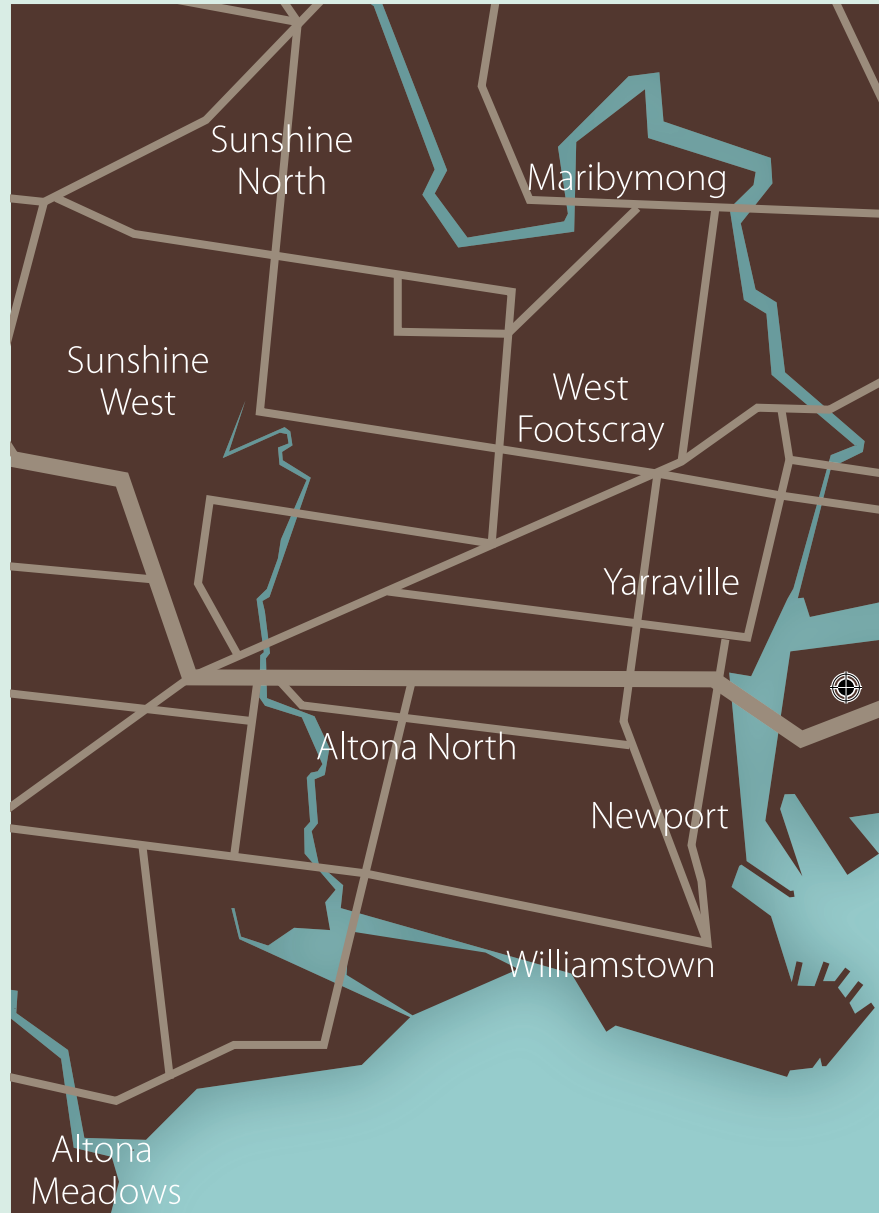


MAPPED

MELBOURNE

Melbourne has the understated urban cool of Tribeca or Berlin, not the hard-bodied flashiness of L.A. In Sydney, everyone thinks they are a rock star. In Melbourne, everyone thinks they're a barista. The weather is grim, but it adds to the theatrical nature of the city where, like London, the centre of life exists mainly indoors – in the galleries, boutiques and bookshops (it's a city where people still buy books from independent bookshops). The city is as cosmopolitan as its demographics suggest (35 per cent of the population is made up of first-generation immigrants). Melbournites take their wining and dining very seriously and gourmet pretence is scoffed at. The best restaurants are small, dank, dark, and packed with rickety tables and rude waiters. HG2's Luciano Di Gregorio explores Melbourne's most interesting venues.

WWW.HG2.COM



HOTELS

1. Crown Metropol

2. The Blackman

3. The Windsor

4. The Como



RESTAURANTS

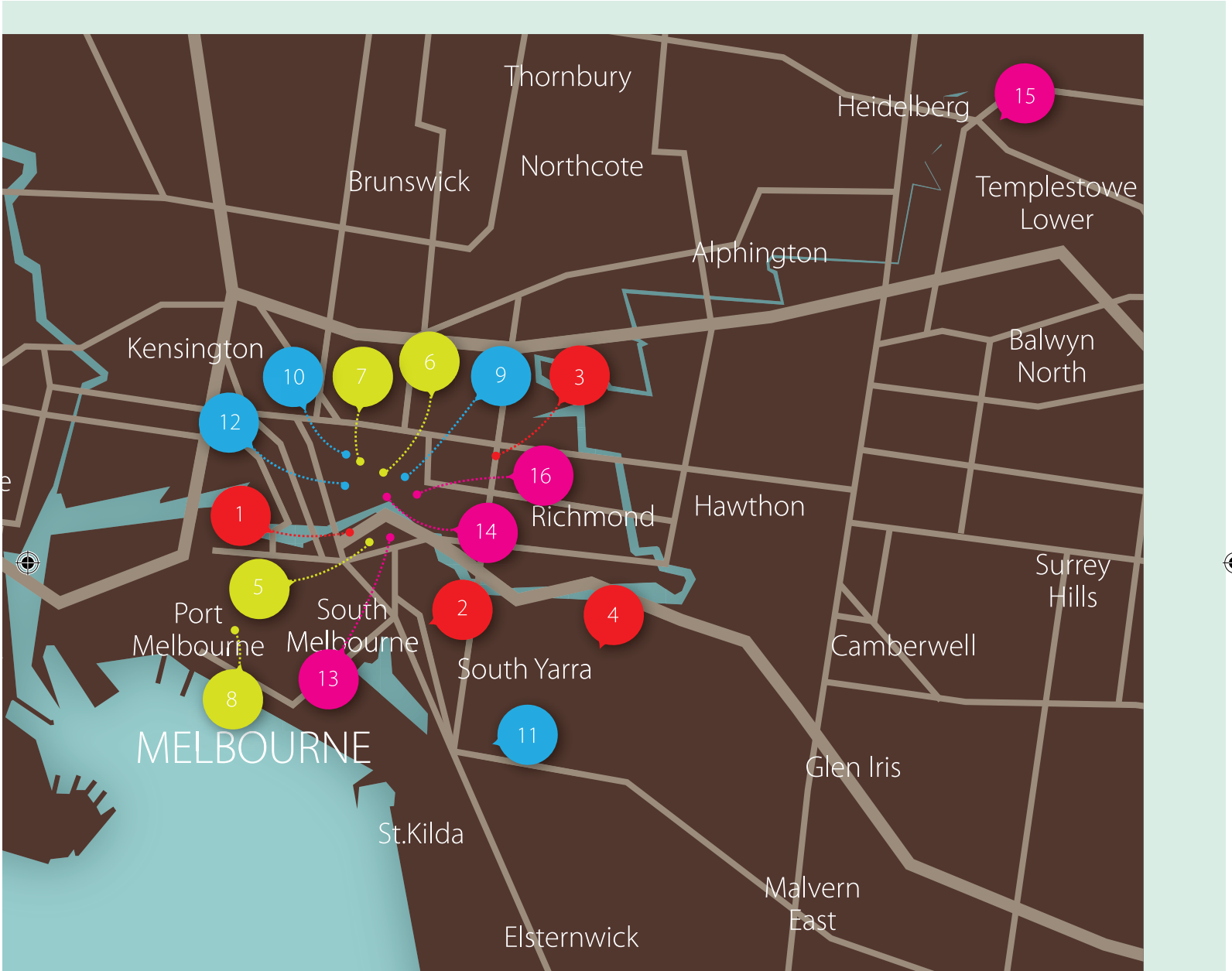
5. Giuseppe Arnaldo & Sons

6. Comme Bar

7. Vue de Monde

8. Stavros Tavern





- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| ● BARS / CLUBS | | | |
| 9. Spice Market | 10. Blue Diamond | 11. Madame Butterfly | 12. Silk Road |
| ● GALLERIES | | | |
| 13. National Gallery of Victoria | 14. Ian Potter Centre | 15. Heide Museum of Modern Art | 16. Anna Schwartz Gallery |



MAPPED

MELBOURNE

HOTELS

- 1 CROWN METROPOL**
One of the swishest buildings on the Melbourne skyline is also one of the funkiest hotels in town. A range of rooms complements its world class dining, all close to some great shopping.
- 2 THE BLACKMAN**
The Blackman is one of Melbourne's most luxurious designer hotels. With 209 rooms nestled in on the famed St Kilda Road, you won't be far from some of the city's leading restaurants.
- 3 THE WINDSOR**
The elegant 'Old Dame' of Melbourne is more than 120 years old and exudes charm. Apart from its amazing rooms and impeccable service, it offers the best Sunday afternoon high tea.
- 4 THE COMO**
Packed with the city's glitterati, The Como's designer rooms and famed bar are not the only reason to stay, as Chapel St, Australia's longest shopping strip, is located at its front door.

RESTAURANTS

- 5 GIUSEPPE ARNALDO & SONS**
GAS took Melbourne by storm. From the exterior glass panels etched with images of the porticos of Rome, to the contemporary Italian cuisine, GAS is superb.
- 6 COMME BAR**
Comme Bar rolls classic elegance with modern chic and just a hint of French inspiration. Chef Daniel Southern breaks the mould, offering a 'left field' French bistro menu with a twist.
- 7 VUE DE MONDE**
The dynamic atmosphere and finest French cuisine in the city make Vue de Monde a sophisticated choice. The food is of the highest quality, the décor is sexy and the service unimpeachable.
- 8 STAVROS TAVERN**
You might expect a bouzouki-playing Greek man to escort you to your seat. But the Stavros Tavern is all about the modern aspects of Greek cuisine, inspired by belly-bursting lamb dishes.

BARS/CLUBS

- 9 SPICE MARKET**
Tucked away off one of the CBD's main roads, this is one of the city's busiest clubs. Get down and boogie on the weekends or come for ladies' night on a Thursday. Cheesy, but a lot of fun.
- 10 BLUE DIAMOND**
Bring it and swing it! Blue Diamond is Melbourne's hippest jazz bar and is the place to be seen at the weekend. Get in early for a seat at one of its coveted lounge areas, complete with stunning views over the city.
- 11 MADAME BUTTERFLY**
In the city's ever changing bar scene, it's good to see that this institution is as popular as ever. Its fame is partly due to its open-air roof terrace. Enjoy pitchers with views over the city's financial district.
- 12 SILK ROAD**
Don your gladrags and show off in this glamorous 'East meets West' bar where Melbourne's party people converge. Ever since its opening, Silk Road has raised the standards of the bar scene.

GALLERIES

- 13 NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA**
Though it may look like a block of concrete from the outside, the NGV sports an extensive collection of ancient and modern art and is one of the city's cultural 'must sees'.
- 14 IAN POTTER CENTRE**
It is fitting to enjoy the largest collection of Australian art in a gallery with a spot on Australia's architecturally controversial Federation Square. The 25,000 pieces include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art.
- 15 HEIDE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART**
Competing with the more popular NGV collections doesn't seem to bother the operators of this funky gallery, set in parkland about 8km from the centre of town.
- 16 ANNA SCHWARTZ GALLERY**
Tucked away in Flinders Lane, one of the city's creative hubs, its vision is a simple one: to showcase the best local and international artists in a minimalist environment.