



## Two Day Canberra Culture Itinerary

Canberra is full of fantastic experiences for visitors. Set within leafy surrounds, this modern city offers fun for the kids, a busy calendar of events and festivals, as well as stylish restaurants, bars and shops.

The majority of Canberra's national attractions offer free admission which makes this destination great value for money. Canberra also boasts easy accessibility from the city centre and attractions which are mainly within a 10km radius.

### DAY 1

#### **National Museum of Australia**

Take a ride on the rotating theatre exhibit, be enthralled by the stories of unique Australians, and leave your own story on videotape in the Eternity Gallery. Use an Aboriginal grinding stone, smell the aromas of different bush foods and see anything from Phar Lap's heart to the first official Holden to roll off the assembly line. The stunning and symbolic architecture of this building also makes a perfect shot for your photo album. [www.nma.gov.au](http://www.nma.gov.au)

*Minimum time recommended: 1.5 hours*

*Distance from city centre: 5km*

*Open: 9am-5pm daily*

*Free general admission*

#### **Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House**

This museum not only showcases the history of Australian democracy, it also continues to pay respect to the heritage values of this former home of Federal Parliament. Once the busy nucleus of parliamentary business, the building remains a treasure-trove where visitors can wander the corridors of power, or take a tour with an experienced guide. [www.moadoph.gov.au](http://www.moadoph.gov.au)

*Minimum time recommended: 1 hour*

*Distance from city centre: 10km*

*Open: 9am-5pm daily*

*Entry fee applies*

#### **Parliament House**

Regular free tours will guide you through Parliament House, one of the world's most acclaimed buildings. Don't miss the excellent views of Canberra from the roof, marvel at the 81-metre flagpole with an Australian flag bigger than a double-decker bus, stroll through the

beautifully landscaped gardens and enjoy the renowned collection of Australian contemporary art. [www.aph.gov.au](http://www.aph.gov.au)

*Minimum time recommended: 1 hour*

*Distance from city centre: 10km*

*Open: 9am-5pm daily*

*Free general admission*

### **Lunch at The Deck, Regatta Point**

Overlooking Lake Burley Griffin and Commonwealth Park, The Deck at Regatta Point is Canberra's most magnificent and picturesque function venue.

The Deck boasts a wonderful indoor/outdoor aspect. The room's spacious interior is ideal for larger functions and guests may also enjoy wonderful views from the outside balcony and deck.

[www.outincanberra.com.au/thedeck](http://www.outincanberra.com.au/thedeck)

*Distance from city centre: 5km*

### **Canberra Glassworks**

Canberra Glassworks, Australia's only cultural institution devoted wholly to contemporary Australian studio glass.

Watch artists at work, take a tour, visit the exhibition, learn about the processes and techniques of working with glass and discover more about the heritage of Canberra's oldest public building The Kingston Powerhouse. Get up close and personal with glass with 'Off the Street' programs, try out a 15 -20 minute session and make your own piece of glass. [www.canberraglassworks.com](http://www.canberraglassworks.com)

*Minimum time recommended: 1 hour*

*Distance from city centre: 10km*

*Open: 10am-4pm, Wednesday - Sunday*

*Free general admission*

### **Australian War Memorial**

See what makes us proud at the Australian War Memorial, which commemorates the commitment, camaraderie and sacrifice of Australians in war. Regarded as one of the finest museums of its kind in the world, the Memorial uses film, sound, light and modern technology, to depict the Australian experience of war.

Conflicts 1945 to Today the newest gallery combine cutting edge technology with large iconic objects to tell powerful stories about

Australian involvement in conflicts over six decades.

[www.awm.gov.au](http://www.awm.gov.au)

*Minimum time recommended: 2 hours*

*Distance from city centre: 5km*

*Open: 9am-5pm daily*

*Free general admission*

### **Dinner at Benchmark Wine Bar**

Benchmark offers flexibility to enjoy a drink, tapas or full a la carte meal. The degustation menu is highly recommended and features creative, French-inspired dishes matched with an optional wine degustation. Benchmark has an extraordinary 300 wines on offer, around 100 available by the glass, with an emphasis on lesser-known labels from Australia, France and Spain.

[www.benchmarkwinebar.com.au](http://www.benchmarkwinebar.com.au)

*Distance from city centre: Located within the CBD district*

### **After Dark Suggestion:**

#### **Canberra Theatre Centre**

Canberra Theatre Centre is Canberra's premier performing arts venue, providing world class performing arts and entertainment to the people of Canberra and surrounding regions.

Located centrally in Civic Square, Canberra Theatre Centre provides the city with the finest performing arts and the most diverse selection of entertainment from around the country including theatre, drama, dance, cabaret, circus, comedy, all genres of music, musicals, puppetry and physical theatre.

[www.canberratheatre.org.au](http://www.canberratheatre.org.au)

*Distance from city centre: Located within the CBD district*

## **DAY 2**

### **National Gallery of Australia**

Experience Australia through the eyes of our artists, see world-class exhibitions and stroll through the sculpture garden with its drifting fog sculpture. Home to the famous *Blue Poles* and more than 100,000 works of art, including a renowned Indigenous art collection, the National Gallery of Australia is an ever-changing delight.

[www.nga.gov.au](http://www.nga.gov.au)

*Minimum time recommended: 1.5 hours*

*Distance from city centre: 10km*

*Open: 9am-5pm daily*  
*Free general admission*

### **The National Archives of Australia**

Canberra's original general post office is now the place to research your family tree and discover a treasure trove of fascinating records, including Australia's 'birth certificate' – Queen Victoria's *Royal Commission of Assent* – and Australia's first Constitution. Delve into original government records on immigration, transport, politics or Indigenous affairs, or explore one of the ever changing exhibitions.

[www.naa.gov.au](http://www.naa.gov.au)

*Minimum time recommended: 1 hour*

*Distance from city centre: 10km*

*Open: 9am-5pm daily*

*Free general admission*

### **National Library of Australia**

With the personal papers of 13 prime ministers and infamous people like Lindy Chamberlain, as well as rare books, photographs, maps, letters, sheet music and other valuable historic documents, this is a must for book lovers and those with a penchant for research. Browse the beautiful bookstore and pay a visit to one of the wonderful exhibitions of items from their vast collection. [www.nla.gov.au](http://www.nla.gov.au)

*Minimum time recommended: 1 hour*

*Distance from city centre: 10km*

*Open: 9am-5pm daily*

*Free general admission*

### **Lunch at Bookplate**

Tucked away in the National Library of Australia Bookplate offers two beautiful settings - outdoors overlooking Lake Burley Griffin or indoors under the impressive stained glass windows. Relax over coffee or a light meal -select from cakes, pastries, gourmet sandwiches and salads. There's also a blackboard menu of hot dishes such as curries and pasta. [www.bookplate.com.au](http://www.bookplate.com.au)

*Distance from city centre: 10km*

### **National Portrait Gallery**

The National Portrait Gallery aims to increase the understanding of the Australian people - their identity, history, creativity and culture - through portraiture.

The new National Portrait Gallery building, situated on King Edward Terrace, Parkes, Canberra, bounded by the High Court of Australia and the National Gallery of Australia, displays some 400 portraits of people who have shaped Australia and who continue to shape our nation. [www.portrait.gov.au](http://www.portrait.gov.au)

*Minimum time recommended: 1 hour*

*Distance from city centre: 10km*

*Open: 9am-5pm daily*

*Free general admission*

### **National Film & Sound Archive**

Laugh and cry with Australians on screen and radio at the National Film and Sound Archive, a division of the Australian Film Commission. Housed in a beautiful art deco building, the archive holds 100 years of Australian film, radio and television history. Wander through the exhibition, catch a classic film, watch early Australian television commercials and browse in the shop. [www.nfsa.afc.gov.au](http://www.nfsa.afc.gov.au)

*Minimum time recommended: 1 hour*

*Distance from city centre: 10km*

*Open: 9am-5pm daily*

*Free general admission*

### **Dinner at Anise**

This highly regarded restaurant has a loyal following for its fine food, attentive service and outstanding wine list, including many Canberra District wines. The owner/chef is renowned for his duck confit and his signature dish of twice cooked onion and Gruyere soufflé.

[www.outincanberra.com.au/anise](http://www.outincanberra.com.au/anise)

*Distance from city centre: Located within the CBD district*

### **After Dark Suggestion:**

#### **The Street Theatre**

The Street Theatre is a multidisciplinary performance *ideas house* with a curated program of work created by professional and independent artists. Street Theatre undertakes creative development projects through to fully staged performances, presents workshops and forums, and tells Canberra stories. [www.thestreet.org.au](http://www.thestreet.org.au)

*Distance from city centre: Located within the CBD district.*