

### **Royal Botanic Gardens**

Open 7.30am to sunset every day of the year.

Located within walking distance of the Royce Hotel, the Royal Botanical Gardens are one of Melbourne's most popular tourist attractions and a treasured part of Melbourne's cultural life for more than 165 years.

Melburnians and tourists alike can enjoy the famous "Tan" jogging track that wraps all the way around the outskirts of the gardens.

The stunning gardens extend over 38 hectares and house a collection of more than 10,000 species of plants from around the world. As well as housing a diverse collection of plant life, the Botanic Gardens have also attracted a wide range of fauna, including flying foxes, frogs, possums and many species of birds. The Royal Botanic Gardens offers a variety of tours and year-round events, one of the most popular being the Moonlight Cinema that runs in the evenings throughout summer, but it is also the perfect place to take along a picnic and relax. The gardens also has a café overlooking the beautiful lake that is the centrepiece of the gardens.

### **Albert Park Lake & Golf Course**

Albert Park Lake is a paradise for sports enthusiasts and nature lovers alike. The Royce is situated within walking distance, which is home to an 18-hole golf course, a driving range, yacht club, Melbourne Sports and Aquatic centre, as well as walking and bicycle tracks. The picturesque lake in the centre of the park is a natural sanctuary for many species of birdlife. Parks Victoria host guided walks around the 5km edge of the lake and there are a range of boats for hire.

### **Fawkner Park & Tennis Court**

Within a 2 minute walk from the hotel is Fawkner Park which features include two art deco brick pavilions and meandering paths lined with Moreton Bay figs, elms, poplars and oaks. The park is a popular spot for a game of tennis, and the tennis club has a café which is open 7 days.

Groups can pre book Yoga sessions at the park by emailing [priscilla.carswell@mac.com](mailto:priscilla.carswell@mac.com) or view her web page at [priscilla.carswellyoga.com](http://priscilla.carswellyoga.com)

Summer weekend cricket matches have an English 'village green' atmosphere, with spectators making use of the free on-site barbecues and picnic areas.

The Fawkner Park Children's Centre is also within the park, along with playgrounds and sports grounds.

About a 15 minute walk through the park leads you to the Alfred Hospital on Commercial Road.

### **Victorian Arts Centre**

Just a short tram ride or 20 minute walk from the Royce, the Melbourne Arts Centre is not only the cultural centre of the city but one of the largest performing arts centres in the world. Beneath the iconic spire the centre houses several theatres, staging performances of classical ballet, modern dance, opera, drama and a wide range of music from local and international artists. Offstage, The Arts Centre is home to an impressive collection of memorabilia documenting the history of performing arts in Australia.

### **Genesis Gymnasium**

A fully equipped gymnasium that offers groups personal training, yoga and gym classes. Telephone +61 3 9804 5855 to find out further information. The Royce can organise \$10 gym passes if you contact the hotel directly.

### **National Gallery**

Just a short tram ride or 20 minute walk from the Royce is The National Gallery of Victoria, popularly known as the NGV, an art museum. Founded in 1861, it is the oldest public art museum in Australia.

Features arts covering both Eastern and Western hemispheres, ancient and modern, the fine arts and the applied decorative ones.

### **Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre**

Situated within close proximity to the hotel is the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre, known as MSAC. It is an international sporting venue which features:

2,000 seat show court 8 court basketball hall

12 court badminton hall 27 court table tennis hall

10 court squash centre

75 metre 10 lane swimming pool

14 board diving facility and multi purpose pool

25 metre lap pool and water slide

wave pool, spas and toddlers play area

FlowRider

cafe aqua and bar

### **MCG**

Situated about a 20 minute walk through the Royal Botanic Gardens is the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) which is an Australian sports stadium located in Yarra Park, Melbourne and is home to the Melbourne Cricket Club. The stadium is frequently used for cricket and Australian rules football.

### **Melbourne Park / Tennis Centre**

Situated about a 20 minute walk through the Royal Botanic Gardens is Melbourne Park Tennis Centre, home to the Australian Open and many international events and concerts

### **Federation Square**

Within a short tram ride from The Royce, is Federation Square (also known as Fed Square). It is a cultural precinct that covers about 3.2 hectares and is home to the Melbourne Visitors Centre as well as many bars and restaurants.

### **Theatres**

Her Majesty

Forum

Regent

Princess

Hamer Hall at the Arts Centre

### **Shopping and restaurant precincts**

Within close proximity to the hotel is many of Melbourne's best shopping and restaurants – Domain Road, Chapel Street, St.Kilda, South Melbourne Market and Southbank.

### **South Melbourne Market**

Within a short tram ride or taxi from the hotel is the South Melbourne Market with a variety of local produce, gifts, homewares etc.

Groups can also pre arrange cooking classes with a variety of accomplished Melbourne Chefs [www.southmelbournemarket.com.au/cooking-school](http://www.southmelbournemarket.com.au/cooking-school)