



# Data Center World AUSTRALIA

by informa...

**PRELIMINARY  
AGENDA**  
*Updated agenda  
coming in June!*



# The AI Summit AUSTRALIA

by informa...

Co-located global  
flagship events  
showcasing  
innovation,  
enterprise AI  
and data centre  
excellence

7 - 9 SEPTEMBER 2026

MELBOURNE CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE

[www.australia.theaisummit.com](http://www.australia.theaisummit.com)

[www.datacenterworldaustralia.com](http://www.datacenterworldaustralia.com)

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# Data Center World & The AI Summit Australia will be a landmark event

This event will combine Informa's global expertise with Melbourne's thriving tech ecosystem.

Showcasing advancements in AI-driven optimization, sustainable energy solutions, and next-gen power architectures, the event will highlight Melbourne's leadership in digital transformation and inspire innovation and investment.

Expect a technology event that unites industry leaders, policymakers, and innovators, fostering collaboration and creating unmatched networking opportunities.

## THE AUDIENCE

**Data Center World Australia and The AI Summit Australia will attract 1000+ data center and AI leaders** from across the Asia-Pacific region and beyond. With **30% international attendees**, this co-located event creates a truly global platform for innovation, collaboration, and business development at the intersection of infrastructure and artificial intelligence.

## Who Attends



The AI Summit Australia attracts enterprise AI leaders and decision-makers representing the forefront of artificial intelligence adoption and innovation across the Asia-Pacific region.

The audience will be a powerhouse of:

- **Visionary Leaders** - CEOs, CTOs, and policymakers shaping the future of AI.
- **Technical Pioneers** - Experts driving innovation across diverse industries like healthcare, finance, and beyond.
- **Investment Powerhouses** - Venture capitalists and angels fueling the next wave of AI breakthroughs.

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Data Center World Australia convenes data center and infrastructure leaders, representing the critical backbone of digital transformation across Australia and globally.

Data Center World Australia attracts leaders from hyperscale operators, colocation providers, technology vendors, and enterprise infrastructure teams.

Our diverse attendee base includes:

- **Facility & Operations Leaders** - Data Center Facility Managers, Directors of Facilities Operations, Data Center Operations Specialists
- **Infrastructure & Technical Specialists** - Cloud Architects, Technical Architects, IT Facilities Engineers, System/Network Administrators
- **Power & Cooling Experts** - Critical Cooling and Power Managers, Energy Efficiency Engineers
- **Planning & Development** - Data Center Planning and Capacity Leads, Directors of Construction, Economic Development Officers
- **Security & IT Management** - Managers of Security Operations, IT Operations Managers, IT Infrastructure Managers, VP of Leasing and Operations

[www.datacenterworldaustralia.com](http://www.datacenterworldaustralia.com)

# Agenda at a Glance

**Monday 7 September 2026**

**Pre-Conference Activations**

**SITE TOUR 1:** CDC Brooklyn Campus | 11am – 12:30pm

**SITE TOUR 2:** Next DC M2 facility | 2pm – 4pm + travel time

**SITE TOUR 3:** Natural Velocity AI experience tour | 3pm – 4:30pm

**OFFICIAL WELCOME RECEPTION**

5pm – 7pm | Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC)



## Day 1 | Tuesday 8 September 2026

Opening Plenary Keynote Session | 8:30am – 10am

The AI Summit  
Australia Conference

Data Center World  
Australia Conference

Showcase Theatre –  
The AI Summit

Showcase Theatre –  
Data Center World

Masterclass  
Agenda  
Lunch Briefing

Data Center World & The AI Summit Australia Networking Reception

## Day 2 | Wednesday 9 September 2026

Opening Plenary Keynote Session | 8:30am – 10am

The AI Summit  
Australia Conference

Data Center World  
Australia Conference

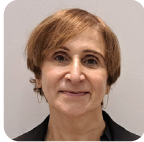
Showcase Theatre –  
The AI Summit

Showcase Theatre –  
Data Center World

Masterclass Program  
Breakfast Briefing  
9am - 10am

# Supported by Two Expert Advisory Boards

## The AI Summit Australia Advisory Board



**CONNIE CRISAFI**

*Executive Director of Innovation  
and Medical Research*

Department of Jobs, Skills,  
Industry and Regions



**IZZY WHITELOCK**

*CEO*

AIIA



**NADINE  
"NOODLES"  
GROVES**

*Co-founder & COO*  
Natural Velocity



**SHONALI  
KRISHNASWAMY**

*Director*

Monash AI Institute



**EMMA HALLER**

*Industry Program  
Manager*

National AI Centre



**TAM NGUYEN**

*Director of Research and  
Innovation*

Monash Health



**MILIND**

*Principal AI Scientist*

Mercedes-Benz



**CHRIS FECHNER**

*CEO*

Digital  
Transformation  
Agency



**JAYNE HOWLEY**

*Artificial Intelligence  
Strategy and  
Assurance Lead*

Department of  
Government Services



**ALEX CUMMINS**

*Head of Technology,  
APAC*

HAYS

## Data Center World Australia Advisory Board



**DAVID DIENZIOL**

*Chief Customer Officer  
and Chief Commercial  
Officer*

NextDC



**BELINDA DENNETT**

*CEO*

Data Centres  
Australia



**LAURA COAD**

*Chief Data Centre Officer*

AirTrunk



**MARK DEGUARA**

*GM, Data Centers*

Schneider Electric



**DANIELLE  
FINNIGAN**

*Head of External Affairs*

CDC



**MICHAEL LANG**

*Solutions Architect,  
APAC South*

NVIDIA



**BEN BOUDREAU**

*Global Chief  
Technology Officer*

Zerra DC



**RANA QADIR**

*President,  
Melbourne Chapter*

AFCOM Australia



**TIM GENTLE**

*President,  
Sydney Chapter*  
AFCOM Australia



**TREVOR CLARKE**

*Chief Analyst*  
Omdia

# Speaker Lineup

## KEYNOTE MINISTERIAL ADDRESS



**THE HON. STEVE DIMOPOULOS MP**  
Minister for Economic Growth and Jobs  
Victorian State Government



**ANDREW WATSON**  
Deputy Commissioner & Chief Data Officer  
ATO



**PROF TANYA MONRO**  
Chief Defence Scientist  
Defence, Science and Technology Group, Australian Department of Defence



**BEN MORLEY-JOHN**  
GM, Digital and Data  
Anglicare



**COLONEL PHILLIP ELLSMORE**  
Director for Land Command, Control, Communications and Computing, Australian Department of Defence



**CAMERON EVANS**  
Director, Data Centre Planning and Delivery, APAC  
Amazon Web Services



**DINO GEORGIU**  
Executive, Customer Success  
Telstra



**KIERAN HABOJAN**  
Head of Sales APAC  
Sharon AI



**CRAIG SCROGGIE**  
CEO  
NEXTDC



**JAYNE HOWLEY**  
AI Strategy and Assurance Lead  
Dept. of Government Services, Victoria



**IZZY WHITELOCK**  
CEO  
AIIA



**MILIND**  
Principal AI Scientist  
Mercedes-Benz



**HIMANSHI JUNEJA**  
Head of Data and Analytics  
CBRE



**CARLY WISHART**  
MD of Corporate and International  
AirTrunk



**SABOOH WHITELAW**  
Associate Vice President for Energy and Utilities  
AirTrunk



**BRENDAN DESSENT**  
Head of Legrand Data Centre Solutions  
Legrand



**PETRA ANDREN**  
CEO  
Quantum Australia



**NICOLE LIVINGSTONE**  
CEO  
Victorian Institute of Sport



**ELICIA MCDONALD**  
CEO & General Partner  
AirTree



**ANU KARUNAKILAKA**  
CTO  
Intrepid Travel



**PRERIT MISHRA**  
Domain Director  
DHL



**ALEX MOFFATT**  
Sr. Director Acquisitions APAC  
BDX



**JOAO ALMEIDA**  
GM and Director of Global Business  
XENON Systems



**DAVID DZIENCIOŁ**  
Chief Customer and Commercial Officer/Executive VP Technology  
NEXTDC



**BEN BOUDREAU**  
Chief Technology Officer  
Zerra DC



**SANCHIT JUNEJ**  
Sr Director- Data & AI  
Tripadvisor



**CHRIS FECHNER**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Digital Transformation Agency



**PHIL LAUFENBERG**  
Pro Vice-Chancellor (AI) and Chief Artificial Intelligence Officer  
La Trobe University



**QINGHUA LU**  
Acting Research Director, Software and Computational Systems  
Data61 CSIRO



**BELINDA DENNETT**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Data Centres Australia



**MIKE KLYMENKO**  
Research Scientist  
Data61 CSIRO



**RANA QADIR**  
President,  
Melbourne Chapter  
AFCOM



**JOHN BURGESS**  
Head of Microsoft Datacentre Academy  
Victoria University

More remarkable speakers to be announced soon!

More remarkable speakers to be announced soon!

# Conference Day 1: Tuesday 8 September 2026

## JOINT PLENARY KEYNOTES

8:30	Day One Chair's Welcome
8:40	<b>Welcome to Country</b>
8:45	<b>MINISTERIAL KEYNOTE   Victoria's Digital Future</b> The Hon. Steve Dimopoulos MP, <i>Minister for Economic Growth and Jobs, Victorian State Government</i>
8:50	<b>STRATEGIC PARTNER WELCOME   AIIA</b> Izzy Whitelock, <i>CEO, AIIA</i>

9:00	<b>STRATEGIC PARTNER WELCOME   DCA</b> Belinda Dennett, <i>Chief Executive Officer, Data Centres Australia</i>
9:10	<b>INDUSTRY KEYNOTE   One Company's Vision for an AI World</b>
9:35	<b>HEADLINE SPONSOR KEYNOTE</b> Senior Executive, <i>Fujitsu Australia Limited</i>
10:00	Networking Break

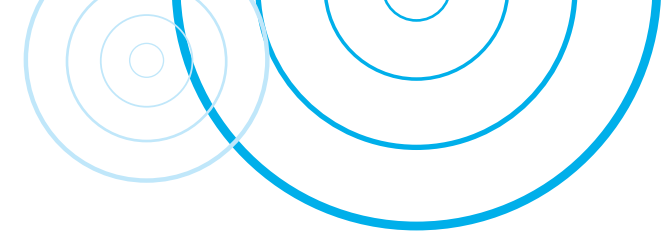
## DATA CENTER WORLD AUSTRALIA DAY 1

10:30	Day One Chair's Welcome
10:35	<b>DIAMOND KEYNOTE   Where AI Thrives: Sovereignty, Resilience and Connectivity</b> Dino Georgiou, <i>Executive, Customer Success, Telstra</i>
11:00	<b>KEYNOTE   NVIDIA's partnerships with data centre operators</b>
11:25	<b>DIAMOND KEYNOTE   Power/voltage and cooling</b> Senior Executive, <i>Schneider Electric</i>
11:50	<b>KEYNOTE   Meeting the Moment: Building Australia's AI-Ready Data Centre Infrastructure</b> Craig Scroggie, <i>CEO and MD, NEXTDC</i>
12:00	<b>PANEL DISCUSSION   What global hyperscalers, neoclouds and AI leaders seek in Australia's data center market</b> Moderator: Belinda Dennett, <i>CEO, Data Centres Australia</i> David Dzienciol, <i>Chief Customer and Commercial Officer/Executive VP Technology, NEXTDC</i> Kieran Habojan, <i>Head of Sales APAC, Sharon AI</i>
12:30	Lunch and Networking Break   Exhibition Hall

## THE AI SUMMIT AUSTRALIA DAY 1

10:30	Day One Chair's Welcome
10:35	<b>DIAMOND KEYNOTE   AI infrastructure - compute power to handle AI workloads</b>
11:00	<b>CASE STUDY   Achieving Decision Advantage: Artificial Intelligence in Modern Defence</b> Colonel Clifford White, <i>Director of Land Network Integration - Army, Australian Department of Defence</i> Colonel Phillip Ellsmore, <i>Director for Land Command, Control, Communications and Computing, Australian Department of Defence</i>
11:25	<b>DIAMOND KEYNOTE   Weighing the 'SaaSocalypse' threat</b>
11:50	<b>CASE STUDY   AI-driven Personalization: How Bigtech Monetizes Data</b> Sanchit Junej, <i>Sr Director- Data &amp; AI, Tripadvisor</i>

# Conference Day 1: Tuesday 8 September 2026



DATA CENTER WORLD AUSTRALIA DAY 1	THE AI SUMMIT AUSTRALIA DAY 1
<p><b>13:50 Lessons from the US: Overcoming Data Centre Community Concerns</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– How an American data centre addressed feedback on environmental, noise, and aesthetics</li> <li>– Highlighting the role of green energy, water conservation, and innovative design in mitigating community objections</li> <li>– Lessons from an increasingly contentious US market, including laws, incentives, and policies that have helped balance development with community interest</li> </ul>	<p><b>13:30 PANEL DISCUSSION   Executive AI Literacy – Training the board and C-suite to embrace AI</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Top-down AI leadership: Identifying use cases that deliver tangible business value</li> <li>– Evaluating tools to invest in areas that will deliver results and minimise organisational risk</li> <li>– What does responsible AI adoption really mean, especially as it relates to privacy, intellectual property and ethics</li> <li>– Effective workforce communication strategies to address employee apprehension</li> </ul> <p>Phil Laufenberg, <i>Pro Vice-Chancellor (AI) and Chief Artificial Intelligence Officer, La Trobe University</i></p>
<p><b>14:15 PANEL DISCUSSION   Data Centres Are Good Neighbours</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Overcoming NIMBY through more effective communication strategies specific to Australia</li> <li>– Shifting from reactive approaches to proactivity in community/local council engagement</li> <li>– How data centres positively transform regional towns/communities</li> </ul> <p>Moderator: Belinda Dennett, <i>CEO, Data Centres Australia</i></p>	<p><b>14:15 Why most businesses are stuck in neutral on AI</b></p> <p>Milind, <i>Principal AI Scientist, Mercedes-Benz</i></p>
<p><b>14:40 DIAMOND KEYNOTE   Transforming data centres: Adapting to AI-driven megawatt racks and modular innovations</b></p>	<p><b>14:40 DIAMOND KEYNOTE   AI and security – protecting models against attacks</b></p>
<p><b>15:05</b> Networking Break on Exhibition Floor</p>	
<p><b>15:35 PANEL DISCUSSION   Strategies For Attracting and Retaining Data Centre Talent</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Recruitment and training strategies</li> <li>– Grooming the next generation of talent and operational expertise required in the modern data centre</li> <li>– Partnerships with universities and TAFE, including recent announcements</li> </ul> <p>Moderator: Tim Gentle, <i>President Sydney chapter of AFCOM</i> John Burgess, <i>Head of Microsoft Datacentre Academy, Victoria University</i></p>	<p><b>15:35 CASE STUDY   Next-Generation Governance: Scaling AI Safely in Victoria</b></p> <p>Jayne Howley, <i>AI Strategy and Assurance Lead, Dept. of Government Services, Victoria</i> Su Liew, <i>Principal Policy Offer, AI Strategy and Assurance, Dept. of Government Services, Victoria</i></p>
<p><b>16:20 PANEL DISCUSSION   Regionalizing the Data Centre Supply Chain</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Shortages, delays, tariffs and geopolitics might require rethinking where to source gear</li> <li>– Exploring how regional approaches can improve operational resilience, reduce latency and mitigate risks associated with global sourcing</li> </ul> <p>Carly Wishart, <i>MD of Corporate and International, AirTrunk</i></p>	<p><b>16:20 PANEL DISCUSSION   Reshaping the World of Work – Winners, losers, and workforce transparency</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– A human-centric approach to adoption AI with an emphasis on incorporating the human element into projects</li> <li>– How to redefine job roles and foster a culture of continuous learning for employees</li> <li>– Redefining performance metrics to ensure productivity gains are realised through human-AI collaboration</li> <li>– Hiring talent that will spearhead AI-enabled growth through accountable &amp; trusted initiatives</li> </ul> <p>Ben Morley-John, <i>GM, Digital and Data, Anglicare</i> Moderator: Izzy Whitelock, <i>CEO, AIIA</i></p>
<p><b>17:10</b> Networking Party   Exhibition Hall </p>	

# Conference Day 2: Wednesday 9 September 2026

## JOINT PLENARY KEYNOTES

8:55 Day Two Chair's Welcome

9:00 **INDUSTRY KEYNOTE | Democratising AI and building compute capacity to spread the benefits of AI**

9:35 **HEADLINER SPONSOR KEYNOTE**

10:00 Networking Break

## DATA CENTER WORLD AUSTRALIA DAY 2

10:30 Day Two Chair's Welcome

10:35 **INDUSTRY KEYNOTE | AWS's priorities/roadmap for the next 3-5 years and the criticality of the Australian market in relation to the region**

Sergio Loureiro, *Vice President of Global Data Center Operations, Amazon Web Services*

11:00 **DIAMOND KEYNOTE | Accelerating data centre deployment: Reducing time to power, value, and operations**

11:25 **PANEL DISCUSSION | Site Strategies: Keeping Australia Competitive**

- How Australia compares to other geos in time to get operational
- Ensuring fast/sustainable access to power
- What Australia can do to cut red tape and become an even more attractive destination for buildouts

Alex Moffatt, *Sr. Director Acquisitions APAC, BDX*

Cameron Evans, *Director, Data Centre Planning and Delivery, APAC, Amazon Web Services*

Moderator: Rana Qadir, *President, Melbourne Chapter, AFCOM*

12:20 Lunch and Networking Break | Exhibition Hall

13:30 **PANEL DISCUSSION | Renewables, Clean Energy and Data Centre Sustainability**

- Overcoming the variability of renewables: developments in battery storage and hybrid solutions to bridge gaps in availability
- Sustainability and water use
- Nuclear as a power option

Joao Almeida, *GM and Director of Global Business, XENON Systems*

## THE AI SUMMIT AUSTRALIA DAY 2

10:30 Day Two Chair's Welcome

10:35 **CASE STUDY | AI Innovations at the ATO**

Finding fraud, identifying income and analysing deductions  
Andrew Watson, *Deputy Commissioner and Chief Data Officer, ATO*

11:00 **DIAMOND KEYNOTE | AI and security - protecting models against attacks**

11:25 **PANEL DISCUSSION | The AI Bubble: Real or Imagined?**

- Should we brace for a dot-com style crash or will AI truly transform society and business?
- When we will need to see a shift from AI promise to proof with measurable productivity gains
- If AI models can perform complete workflows, what are the implications for SaaS providers and for the way organisations buy technology

Nicole Livingstone, *CEO, Victorian Institute of Sport*

Elicia McDonald, *CEO & General Partner, AirTree*

Moderator: Nadine 'Noodles' Groves, *Chief Operating Officer and Co-Founder, Natural Velocity*

13:30 **PANEL DISCUSSION | AI for the SME - Pilots and programs on a tight budget**

- The advantages and obstacles in getting smaller organisations to see AI benefits
- Creating policy, upskilling staff and engaging employees to ensure widespread adoption
- Leveraging AI Adopt Centres and other resources to help get projects off the ground

Anu Karunakilaka, *CTO, Intrepid Travel*

Moderator: Emma Haller, *Industry Program Manager, The National AI Centre*

# Conference Day 2: Wednesday 9 September 2026

DATA CENTER WORLD AUSTRALIA DAY 2	THE AI SUMMIT AUSTRALIA DAY 2
<p><b>14:15 PANEL DISCUSSION   Working with the grid</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Ensuring power supplies can meet the needs of modern data centres, especially with the power-hungry inferencing AI workloads</li> <li>– On-site battery storage and UPS systems to manage loads</li> <li>– The use of bridging power to get up and running quick until the grid can support the data centre</li> </ul> <p>Ben Boudreau, <i>Chief Technology Officer, Zerra DC</i>            Sabooh Whitelaw, <i>Associate Vice President for Energy and Utilities, AirTrunk</i>            Brendan Dessent, <i>Head of Legrand Data Centre Solutions, Legrand</i></p>	<p><b>14:15 CASE STUDY   Making the move to agentic AI</b></p> <p>Transitioning from prompts to autonomous, multi-agent systems that plan, reason, and act across your enterprise.</p> <p>Prerit Mishra, <i>Domain Director, DHL</i></p>
<p><b>15:00 FIRESIDE CHAT   Quantum and the Data Centre</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Will Quantum capacity move out of specialised labs and research institutes?</li> <li>– What’s the roadmap for data centres to have native Quantum rooms?</li> <li>– Overview of the implications from an implementation perspective including power/cooling and hybrid algorithms for switching between tasks</li> </ul> <p>Mike Klymenko, <i>Research Scientist, Data61 CSIRO</i>            Petra Andren, <i>CEO, Quantum Australia</i></p>	<p><b>14:40 PANEL DISCUSSION   The Ethics of AI – Guardrails, bias, privacy, sovereignty and accountability</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Ensuring that AI models are fair</li> <li>– Avoiding bias and accounting for local nuances</li> <li>– Understanding the how/why a model arrived at a particular conclusion</li> <li>– When and where you need humans to provide a final layer of accountability</li> <li>– How to create governance frameworks, establish governance boards and do ongoing audits to determine AI is returning ethical outcomes</li> </ul> <p>Professor Tanya Monro, <i>Chief Defence Scientist, Defence, Science and Technology Group, Australian Department of Defence</i>            Qinghua Lu, <i>Acting Research Director, Software and Computational Systems, Data61 CSIRO</i>            Jinan Zou, <i>Sr. AI Technologist, UNSW</i>            Himanshi Juneja, <i>Head of Data and Analytics, CBRE</i>            Moderator: Chris Fechner, <i>Chief Executive Officer, Digital Transformation Agency</i></p>
<p><b>15:25</b> Closing remarks</p>	
<p><b>17:30</b> Conference close</p>	



# Event Features & Highlights



## Showcase Theatres

The exhibition hall isn't just for demos, it's where relationships begin and solutions get evaluated. Our Showcase Theatres amplify that moment.

Located in the heart of the exhibition hall, our Showcase Theatres for The AI Summit and Data Center World create focused spaces where solutions providers can share insights and connect with engaged audiences, right where innovation happens.

### Topics That Matter:

Data Center World: Water cooling solutions, power management, sustainable infrastructure and the future of the workforce

The AI Summit: Ethical AI deployment, security and risk management, training and talent development at every level

Ready to take the stage? Enquire about our Gold Sponsorship Packages which include a 25 minute speaking spot in the Showcase Theatre.



## Masterclasses – Breakfast or Lunch Briefings

Not every conversation fits the main stage. Some topics demand time, focus, and the right room.

Our Masterclasses create that space; intimate, in-depth sessions where industry professionals gather to tackle specialized subjects that go beyond the core agenda. With three sessions each for The AI Summit and Data Center World, these are opportunities to dive deep into the topics that matter most to your audience.

Hosted over breakfast, or lunch, Masterclasses blend learning with connection in a relaxed yet focused environment.

### Why Masterclasses Work:

- Explore niche or advanced topics in meaningful detail
- Engage a committed, interested audience
- Foster genuine dialogue and knowledge exchange
- Integrate seamlessly into the event flow

Enquire today about opportunities to host and sponsor a masterclass.



## Young Leaders Program

The Future Leaders Program at The AI Summit and Data Center World Australia is a curated enterprise talent pipeline initiative designed to connect high-potential university graduates and early career practitioners with organisations building and deploying AI at scale.

### What is it?

A curated delegate access and engagement program providing complimentary passes to outstanding final-year students and early-career professionals.

The program is explicitly designed to reduce friction between academic training and enterprise hiring needs.

Find out more about the opportunities to sponsor/ support and how students can apply here: [www.australia.theaisummit.com/future-ai-leaders](http://www.australia.theaisummit.com/future-ai-leaders)

Enquire about sponsoring the Young Leaders Program with us!

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# Visit Melbourne

Located in the southeastern corner of Australia, Melbourne, the capital of Victoria, stands as a vibrant and culturally rich city. As Australia's second-largest city, Melbourne is celebrated for its cultural diversity and cosmopolitan atmosphere. The city's streets are adorned with historic architecture, modern skyscrapers, and vibrant street art, creating a captivating blend of old and new.

Explore the eclectic neighbourhoods of Melbourne, from Fitzroy's trendy cafes and boutiques to the beachside charm of St Kilda. Each suburb contributes its unique character to Melbourne's diverse tapestry.

Melbourne has earned its reputation as Australia's culinary capital. The city's laneways and arcades are home to an array of eateries, offering cuisines from around the world. Experience the bustling food markets, fine dining establishments, and hidden gems that make Melbourne a paradise for food enthusiasts.

Melbourne's events calendar is brimming with cultural festivals, sporting spectacles, and community celebrations. From the Melbourne Fashion Festival to the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival, the city comes alive with a diverse range of events throughout the year.

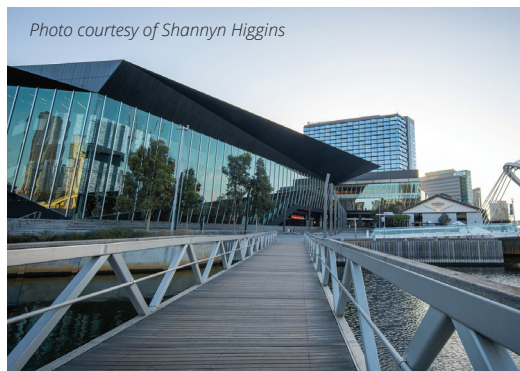
The traditional custodians of the land on which Melbourne stands are the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation. Melbourne acknowledges and respects the rich cultural heritage of the Wurundjeri, whose connection to the land remains an integral part of the city's identity.

## Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC)

1 Convention Centre Pl, South Wharf VIC 3006

**p:** (03) 9235 8000

**w:** [www.mcec.com.au](http://www.mcec.com.au)



*Photo courtesy of Shannyn Higgins*



*Photo courtesy of Shannyn Higgins*

*Photo courtesy of Earl Carter*

# Visit Victoria

Make the most of your time in Victoria before or after the conference. Whether you're sampling wines at renowned vineyards or unwinding on one of the state's stunning surf beaches, there's an experience for every interest.

Venture beyond the city to discover the rich diversity of regional Victoria. From relaxing in natural hot springs to exploring coastal towns, alpine villages, and scenic peninsulas, there's plenty to enjoy. Take a scenic drive, lace up your walking shoes for a nature trail, or browse local shops and vibrant produce markets.

## Phillip Island

Phillip Island is a coastal gem just 90 minutes from Melbourne, famous for its stunning beaches, wildlife encounters, and natural beauty. Visitors flock to see the world-famous Penguin Parade, explore scenic coastal walks, and enjoy close-up views of koalas, seals, and native birds. Whether you're surfing, hiking, or relaxing by the sea, Phillip Island offers a perfect mix of adventure and relaxation.

## Yarra Valley

The Yarra Valley is one of Victoria's premier wine regions, just an hour from Melbourne. Renowned for its cool-climate wines, especially Chardonnay and Pinot Noir, it's home to award-winning wineries, gourmet local produce, and breathtaking scenery. Visitors can enjoy cellar door tastings, fine dining, hot air ballooning, and visits to charming villages nestled among rolling vineyards and lush countryside.

## Great Ocean Road

The Great Ocean Road is one of Australia's most iconic coastal drives, stretching along Victoria's southwest coast. Known for its dramatic cliffs, pristine beaches, and the famous Twelve Apostles rock formations, the route offers breathtaking views at every turn. Along the way, explore charming seaside towns, lush rainforests, and scenic walking trails.

## Wilson's Promontory

Wilson's Promontory, affectionately known as "The Prom," is a spectacular coastal wilderness at the southernmost tip of mainland Australia. Located about three hours from Melbourne, it's known for its rugged granite mountains, white sandy beaches, and abundant wildlife, including wombats, kangaroos, and emus. Popular for hiking, camping, and swimming, Wilson's Prom offers scenic walking trails, panoramic lookouts, and a chance to reconnect with nature in one of Victoria's most cherished national parks.

## Mornington Peninsula

The Mornington Peninsula is a stunning coastal region just over an hour from Melbourne, offering a perfect blend of relaxation and adventure. Known for its beautiful beaches, hot springs, rolling vineyards, and gourmet food scene, it's a favourite getaway for both locals and visitors.

Explore charming seaside villages, take in clifftop views, or unwind with a spa day and a glass of local wine.

## Grampians National Park

Grampians National Park, also known as Gariwerd, is a striking mountain range in western Victoria known for its rugged sandstone peaks, scenic lookouts, and rich Aboriginal heritage. A haven for hikers and nature lovers, the park offers dramatic landscapes, cascading waterfalls, native wildlife, and ancient rock art sites.

Whether you're trekking to the Pinnacle, spotting kangaroos at dusk, or exploring local wineries and villages nearby, the Grampians delivers a truly immersive natural experience.

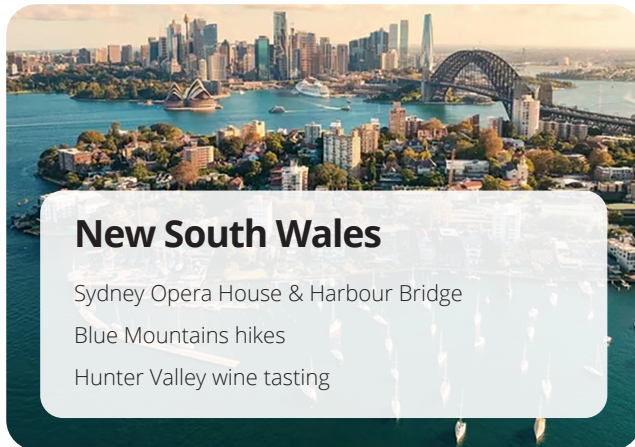
# Visit Australia

Beyond Melbourne and Victoria, the whole of Australia is yours to discover. Snorkel the Great Barrier Reef, watch the sunset over Uluru, taste world-class wines in the Barossa or Margaret River, and wander through Sydney's iconic harbour. From tropical rainforests and rugged outback landscapes to vibrant cities and pristine coastlines, there's an adventure for everyone. Why not extend your trip and experience more of what Australia has to offer?



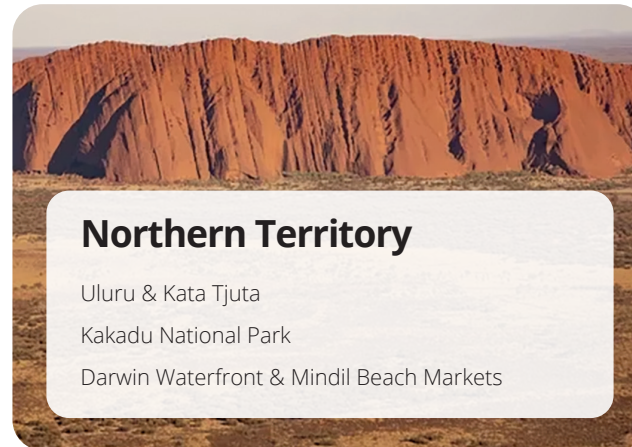
## Australian Capital Territory

Parliament House, Canberra  
National Gallery & Museum of Australia  
Lake Burley Griffin walks & cycling



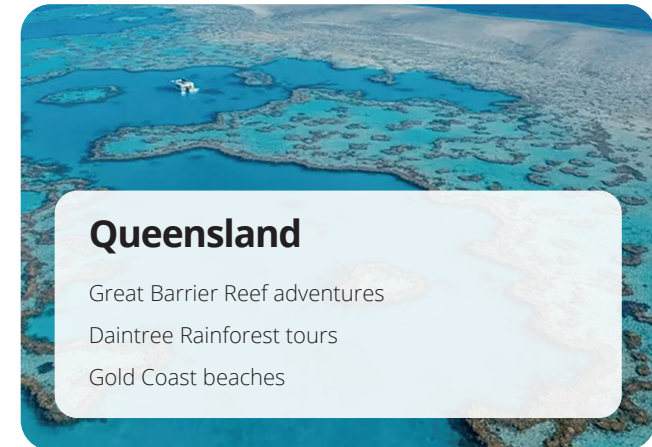
## New South Wales

Sydney Opera House & Harbour Bridge  
Blue Mountains hikes  
Hunter Valley wine tasting



## Northern Territory

Uluru & Kata Tjuta  
Kakadu National Park  
Darwin Waterfront & Mindil Beach Markets



## Queensland

Great Barrier Reef adventures  
Daintree Rainforest tours  
Gold Coast beaches



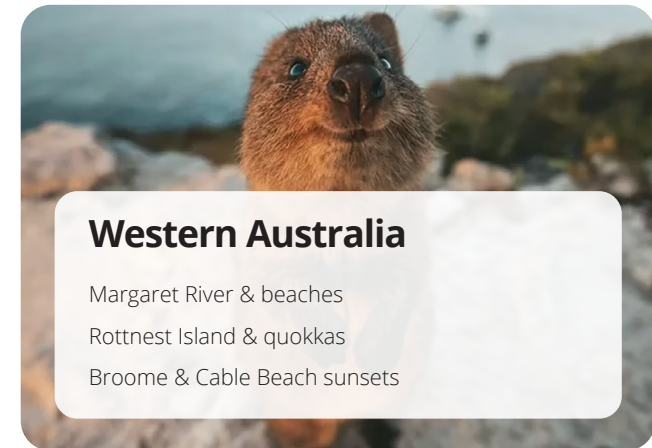
## South Australia

Barossa Valley wine experiences  
Kangaroo Island wildlife  
Adelaide Central Market



## Tasmania

Cradle Mountain hikes  
MONA - Museum of Old & New Art  
Freycinet National Park & Wineglass Bay



## Western Australia

Margaret River & beaches  
Rottnest Island & quokkas  
Broome & Cable Beach sunsets

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### David Espitia

Sponsorship and Exhibition Consultant, Informa Australia

**E:** David.Espitia@informa.com

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