

SITE 6

CITY CENTRE & SURROUNDS

DESCRIPTION

Bunjilaka Cultural Centre, Melbourne Museum, hosts permanent and temporary exhibitions, a gallery showcasing Aboriginal artists, education programs as well as gallery talks and tours.

LOCATION

The centre is located at 11 Nicholson Street, Carlton just north of the central city in the historic Carlton Gardens. Melway: 43 K5.

GETTING THERE

Public transport: Tram 86 or 96 to the corner of Nicholson and Gertrude Streets; free City Circle Tram to Victoria Parade; city loop train to Parliament Station; bus routes 250, 251 and 402 to Rathdowne Street; and free City of Melbourne Tourist Shuttle Bus to stop No. 4.

Car parking: The Melbourne Museum undercover car park is open daily from 6am–midnight. Enter via Rathdowne Street or Nicholson Street.

HOURS

Open daily 10am–5pm. Closed Good Friday and Christmas Day.

TIME 60–90 minutes.



Above and right: the Bunjilaka Cultural Centre at the Melbourne Museum. Photographs by Hari Ho.

SITE 6 Bunjilaka Cultural Centre

Bunjilaka is the Aboriginal Centre at Melbourne Museum, a venue of Museum Victoria. The name was selected after consultation with the traditional owners of Melbourne. Bunjil was a significant creation ancestor for most of Victoria's Aboriginal wurrungs and 'aka' means land or place. Together, Bunjilaka can be interpreted as 'creation place'. The centre opened in October 2000. Its purpose is to empower Aboriginal people to interpret their own cultural heritage for both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.

Bunjilaka holds Aboriginal cultural heritage items from a collection that is one of the most significant in the world. It also has exhibition and performance spaces, as well as private areas such as a keeping place where the community can meet and view their cultural heritage material.

The Museum recognises the rights and perspectives of Aboriginal people and, through Bunjilaka, aims to further partnerships with Aboriginal communities, promote reconciliation to all visitors and actively support Indigenous rights and perspectives through exhibitions, performances and activities.



An Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee comprising of twenty-two representatives from the Victorian Aboriginal communities offers advice and leadership on Indigenous issues and is another means of consultation with communities.

Bunjilaka Aboriginal Cultural Centre hosts a permanent exhibition as well as temporary exhibitions. The exhibition, *First Peoples*, takes visitors on a journey through time and place to experience stories of Aboriginal culture, identity, community and survival. More than 600 historic and contemporary artefacts are on exhibition from across Victoria and Australia.

The Birrarung Gallery showcases new and emerging artists alongside established ones, exploring the talent, stories and cultural pride of Victorian Aboriginal Art. It hosts three exhibitions a year as part of the Community Art Program which range from photography, sculpture and works on canvas to digital media and installation.

Educational programs are also offered by Bunjilaka including exhibitions, activities, workshops and programs for all levels from preschool, tertiary to adult education. Koorie community gallery talks and tours are included. Online resources are also available.

FACILITIES

The Museum houses a permanent collection in eight galleries, including one for children. The IMAX theatre shows films daily from 10am with discounted tickets when combined with a visit to Melbourne Museum. Guided tours are available in the Museum and to the nearby World Heritage listed Royal Exhibition Building. Accessible toilets.

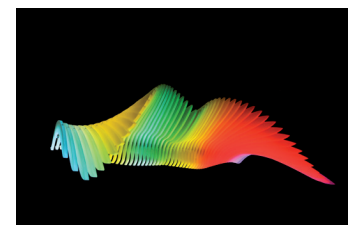
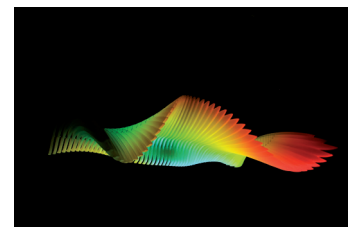
ADMISSION

Adult entry is \$10.00. Children (3–16) and those with concessions are free.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Tel: 13 11 02

Web: www.museumvictoria.com.au/bunjilaka/



Bunjil's Wings, a kinetic sculptural and audiovisual installation that chronicles the Creation of Countries. Photograph by Hari Ho.