

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY LOOKBOOK




MASTER DESIGNERS

OF

luxury travel

Where Australia's past & future meet



The Australian Capital Territory (ACT) is the nation's governing territory, leaving a large imprint on Australia's cultural and political landscape. Centered around the meticulously planned city of Canberra, the ACT blends natural beauty with national significance, offering travelers a rare mix of history, art, nature and cuisine.

This compact region tells the story of Australia's identity, spirit, and path to independence—where Australia's past and future meet in perfect harmony.

YOUR ADVENTURE STARTS HERE

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Greetings FROM THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

As a true-blue Aussie and owner of Swain Destinations since 1987, I've had the privilege of exploring every corner of Australia. The ACT continues to surprise me with new experiences—great food, excellent tours that celebrate Australia's culture and heritage, gorgeous landscapes, and that easygoing Aussie warmth that makes you feel like you're among mates.

I hope you'll go experience the ACT for yourself soon!

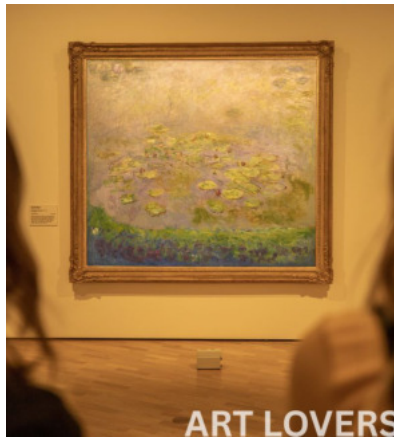
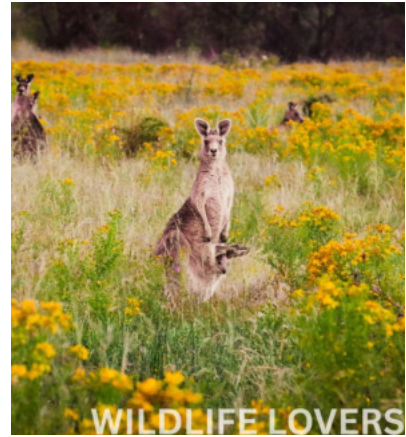
Cheers,

Jan Swain

President & Owner
Swain Destinations



THE ACT IS FOR...

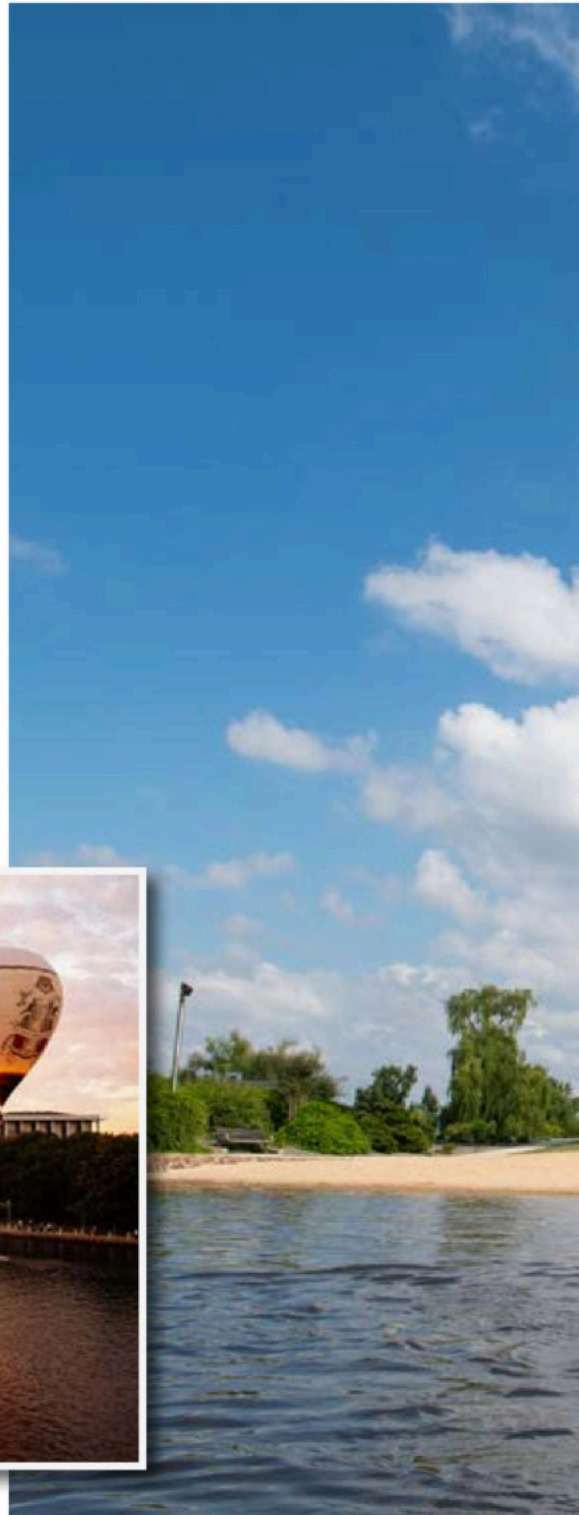


everyone.

Recreation

Nicknamed the Bush Capital for its nature reserves, forests, wetlands and gardens, at Canberra's heart lies Lake Burley Griffin—a gathering place for recreation and leisure. A water playground surrounded by green spaces, you'll find cyclists, rowers, and paddlers sharing space with picnickers and art lovers exploring the city's national treasures.

Each March, the Canberra Balloon Spectacular enchants all ages as a kaleidoscope of colorful, whimsical hot air balloons rise with the sun. Drifting gracefully over the ACT's countryside, the experience is nothing short of spectacular.







THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AUSTRALIA

National Treasures

Lake Burley Griffin is framed by national landmarks like the Australian Parliament House, Australian War Memorial, the National Gallery of Australia, and the National Museum of Australia.

Through Swain Destinations, enjoy special behind-the-scenes access to some of these national treasures—transforming a remarkable visit into an *extraordinary* one.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL



THE NATIONAL GALLERY



THE AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENT

Luxury with heart

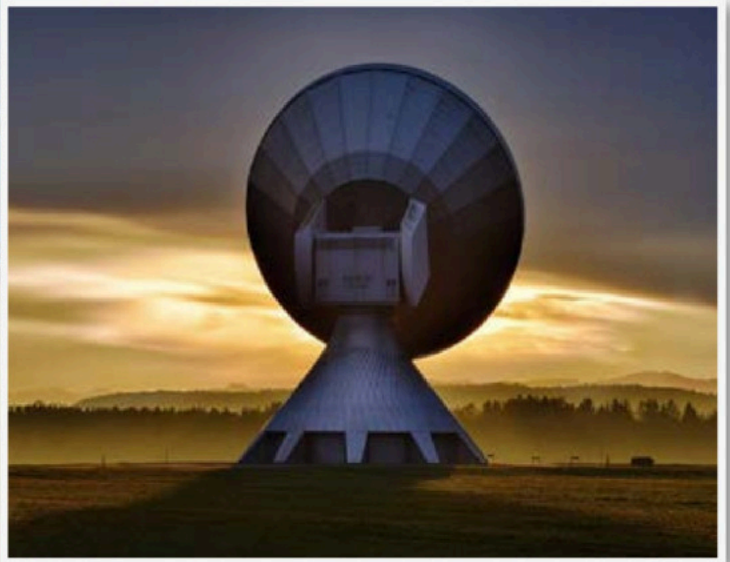
Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve plays a vital role in wildlife management and protection, grounded in a deep respect for its Aboriginal cultural heritage. Today, the reserve protects 14 diverse habitats and provides a safe haven for several endangered species.



Wildlife & Nature

Just a short drive from Canberra, Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve offers a unique opportunity to experience wild Australia. Stroll the Koala Path in the Eucalypt Forest, seek out an elusive platypus in the Sanctuary wetlands ecosystem, or venture out on one of 24 walking trails keeping an eye out for wandering wallabies and emus—all within this protected setting.


Stop at the Tidbinbilla Deep Space Communication Complex for an out-of-this-world look at Canberra's role in space exploration.



A photograph of a couple standing on a wooden walkway under a large rock overhang. The man is wearing a grey shirt and a red backpack, and the woman is wearing a red shirt. They are looking out at a forest of white-barked trees. The scene is set in a natural, rocky environment.

History & Culture

Namadgi National Park is an untamed landscape shaped by tens of thousands of years of Aboriginal history. To walk through Namadgi is to journey through time, where stories of First Nations culture are revealed in sacred sites, ceremonial grounds, and ancient rock art.



Aboriginal rock art sites date back more than 20,000 years—making this one of the most culturally significant landscapes in the region.



Food & Wine

The ACT's cool-climate wine regions are home to 140 vineyards and more than 50 wineries—all within a 35-minute drive from Canberra. Enjoy intimate tastings of the region's acclaimed Chardonnay, Riesling, Pinot Noir and Shiraz varieties, and meet passionate winemakers right at their cellar doors.

A burgeoning culinary scene blends vineyard-to-table dining with innovative chefs who showcase the region's seasonal abundance. That creative energy is reflected in the Territory's recent acclaim: *more than 20 ACT restaurants were recognized in the 2025 Australian Good Food Guide Chef Hat Awards*, underscoring the ACT's rise as a must-visit destination for foodies.

Winter (June to August) brings the thrill of truffle hunting, when you can join expert foragers and their dogs to discover prized black truffles—then enjoy them shaved over dishes at some of Canberra's top restaurants.



Curated Cosmopolitan

Set out on a 12-night journey through some of Australia's most vibrant and diverse cities: Melbourne, Adelaide, Canberra, and Brisbane.

3 Nights in **Melbourne** at the luxurious Park Hyatt

- Go beyond the tourist trail with a local guide through the boroughs of Melbourne
- Stroll the historic lanes & arcades for quirky cafes, street art, and independent boutiques



3 Nights in **Adelaide** at the elegant Mayfair Hotel

- Explore the city's hidden secrets with a local guide
- Savor a personally escorted tour of the Barossa Valley



3 Nights in **Canberra** at A by Adina, perched on Lake Burley Griffin

- Explore the national treasures and attractions
- Unwind with a private Luxe Tour du Vin visiting boutique wineries





3 Nights in **Brisbane** at the stylish Emporium Hotel South Bank

- Take a city tour and meet koalas at the Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary
- Scale the iconic Story Bridge on a panoramic climb



View the full itinerary or contact us to curate a bespoke itinerary just for you.

» View Itinerary



Australia's Scenic Southeast

Southeast Australia is no doubt scenic, but it offers so much more than beauty. This 11-night itinerary gives you a glimpse of what makes this region so special.

4 Nights in **Melbourne** at the luxurious Park Hyatt

- Explore this eclectic city on a customized tour
- Set off on a day tour of the iconic Great Ocean Road
- Enjoy a day at leisure



2 Nights at the seaside retreat of Sea Dragon **Kangaroo Island**

- Observe sea lions, koalas and goannas in their natural habitat
- Explore rugged coastlines, including Remarkable Rocks and Admirals Arch



2 Nights in **Adelaide Hills** at the elegant Mount Lofty House

- Venture into the world-renowned Barossa Valley for a day of wine tasting and shopping





3 Nights in **Canberra** at A by Adina, perched on Lake Burley Griffin

- Journey to Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve and Deep Space Communication Station
- Explore the national treasures and attractions



View the full itinerary or contact us to curate a bespoke itinerary just for you.

» View Itinerary



Where Australia's past & future meet

Australia's past and future meet in the ACT— where historic landmarks, treasured artifacts, First Nations culture, and abundant greenspaces sit side-by-side with modern art, imaginative exhibits, and bold innovation.



Due to its compact size, you can spend a morning immersed in Australia's national treasures and by afternoon be surrounded by vineyards or bushland. We recommend spending at least three nights in Canberra to truly appreciate the ACT's diverse cultural, historical, outdoor, and culinary offerings.

Is travel to Australia in your future?

Allow us to assist you with including the ACT in your journey.



Message Us

800-22-SWAIN | www.swaindestinations.com

luxury with heart

is our promise
that every
adventure will
be as thoughtful
as it is
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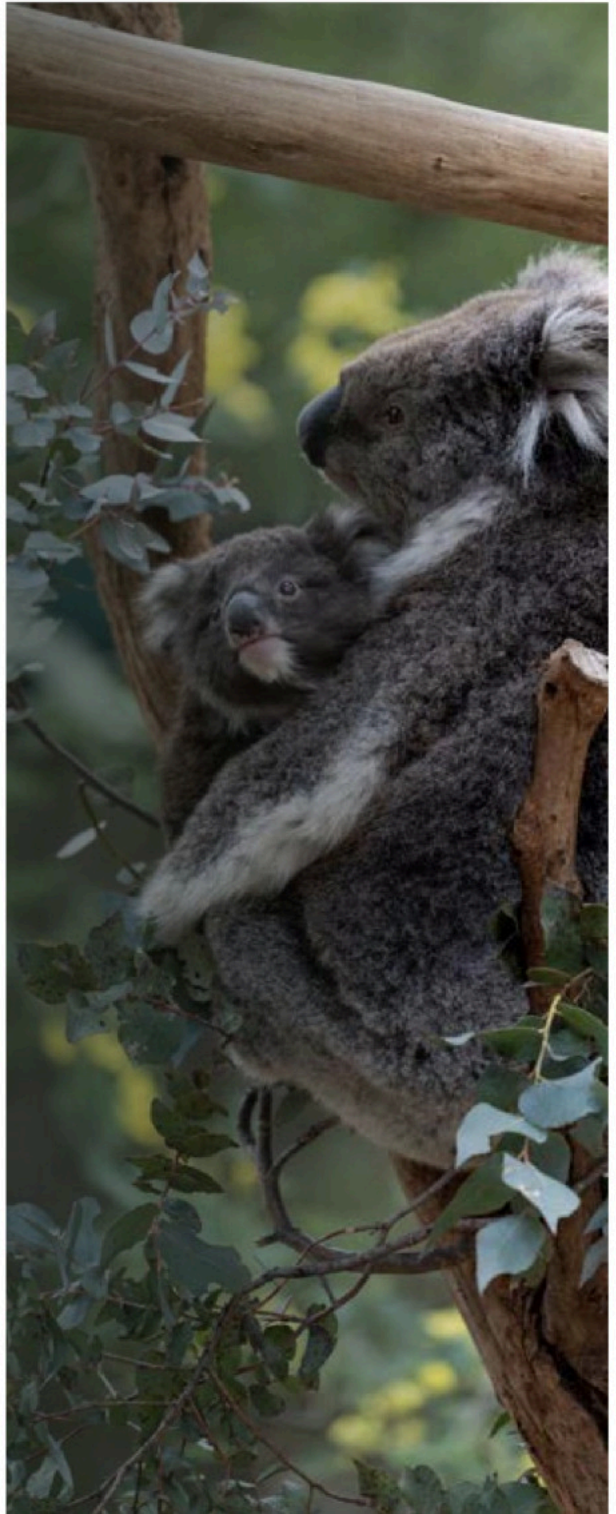


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