

PMEA Canberra Tour 2025

The Federation Tour to the National Capital of Australia



10th, 11th, 12th, 13th November 2025





Welcome,

On behalf of the Committee, we would like to welcome you to the 2025 PMEA Canberra Tour.

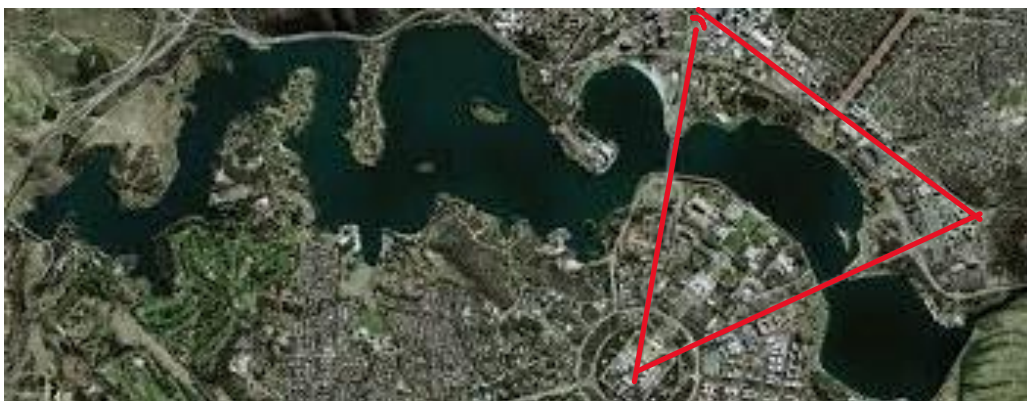
We have a four-day tour organized for you staying in one venue so you don't need to pack and unpack several times, this will allow everybody to spend more time together and provide us with a more relaxed time away.

We have an early start on Monday heading to Goulburn for a lovely morning tea/early lunch at The Rose Café followed by a stop and wander around Bungendore. After lunch heading to our motel in Canberra.

On Tuesday morning we have a tour to New Parliament House followed by a visit to the National Arboretum. Dinner at the nearby German Club on Tuesday night

Wednesday brings a visit to the lakefront area where you can tour Questacon, the National Gallery, the High Court Building, the National Portrait Gallery along with a lakeside lunch at the lakeside Café. A modest walk up to the Old Parliament House for a tour if you wish followed by a visit to the Royal Australian Mint.

Thursday brings a visit to Australian War Memorial in northern Canberra and lunch at The Kingston Hotel. Then heading off back to Sydney.



Fun Fact, the area of Canberra inside the red lines, on the map above, is called the Parliamentary Triangle and only contains public buildings.

Programme of Events

Monday 10th November

- 9.00am Meet at the Terry Hills Tavern carpark for a entrants meeting.
- 9.30am Leave Terry Hills Tavern
Drive along Mona Vale Road/Ryde Road to the M2, turn west on the M2 and proceed along the M2/M7/M31 past Eastern Creek, Campbelltown, Pheasants Nest, Marulan and on towards Goulburn.
Comfort stops along if needed at several service stations and RTA laybys.
- 12.00pm Take the first exit to Goulburn off the freeway and continue along into town along the main street.
After you pass the beautiful park (Belmore Park) on your left, turn right at the next street (Vener Street) and travel up one block and arrive at The Rose Café on your right, 59 Verner Street, Goulburn
- 2.00pm Leave the Rose Café and back down to the main street (Auburn Street). Turn right and head down the main street approx. three blocks to you get to Mundy Street.
Turn left onto Mundy Street and continue along one block and over the railway line where the road turns into the Braidwood Road.
Continue along Braidwood Road past the racetrack, the heritage rail centre and under the freeway and head off towards Braidwood
You will pass the old Wakefield Park racetrack on your left a little way down the road
Continue along approx. 25kms through Lake Bathurst and then into Tarago, just after the Tarago school and service station turn right at the Loaded Dog pub and head towards Bungendore.
Continue on this road (Bungendore Road) to Bungendore, as you come into town turn left at the roundabout and head into town for a coffee and look around.
- 3.30/4.00pm Leave Bungendore on the Kings Hwy heading towards Queanbeyan/Canberra.
Travel through Queanbeyan and on towards Canberra.
Put the Motel address into your GPS (the Garden City Motel, 55 Jerrabomberra Ave, Narrabundah ph 6295 3322)
After you leave Queanbeyan approx. 3-4kms turn left onto Hindmarsh Drive, travel along Hindmarsh Drive approx. 2 kms and turn right into Jerrabomberra Ave.
Travel approx. 200-300m and you will see the Motel/Hotel on your right.
- Evening meal. Free Choice.

Tuesday 11th November

Breakfast at the Motel

9:30am Assemble at Motel entry for a quick talk before our run to the new Parliament House.

10:00am Put this address into your GPS as I have no hope of directing you there
New Parliament House, Parliament Drive, Canberra ACT 2600
Arrive at new Parliament House forecourt. There is a fee for parking.

10.30am Assembly for tour of Parliament House

Lunch You can have an early lunch in one of the several cafes in the Parliament House.

2.00pm Leave Parliament House and head up to the National Arboretum. Put into your GPS
National Arboretum, Forest Drive, off Tuggeranong Parkway, Molonglo Valley

Evening Meal 6.30pm at the Harmonie German Club, next door to our Motel

Please wear your name badge if possible as it is difficult to remember everybody's name, it also helps our new members feel more at home.

Wednesday 12th November

Breakfast at the Motel

9.30am Assemble at Motel entry for quick talk before our run to the lakeside area.

10.00am Drive down to the lakefront area down in front of old Parliament House (GPS address is Queen Elizabeth Terrace, Parkes ACT)

10.30 Tour either, any or all of the High Court Building, The National Portrait Gallery, The National Art Gallery, Questacon or Old Parliament House in this area.

2.00pm Head off to the Royal Australian Mint for a tour. (GPS Denison Street, Deakin ACT)

4.00pm Head back to motel

6.30pm Dinner in the Motel dining room

Thursday 13th November

Breakfast in the Motel.

Pack up and check out of the Motel. (Don't forget to fill the car with fuel).

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| 9.00am | Gather in front of the Garden City Motel for a quick talk before heading off to the Australian War Museum. |
| 9.15am | Drive to the Australian War Memorial (GPS Treloar Crescent, Campbell, ACT) |
| 9.45am | Enjoy the Australian War Memorial, it is under restoration at the moment but still well worth a visit. |
| 12.45pm | Leave the Australian War Memorial heading towards the Kingston Hotel GPS (73 Canberra Ave, Griffith, ACT 2603) In the Grill Room |
| 1.00pm | Arrive and enjoy lunch at The Kingston Hotel. |
| After Lunch | Bid farewells for a safe trip home. |



59 Verner Street, Goulburn

The Rose Family has created a cafe that emulates their combined love of food and entertaining. Carole and Michael Rose began this adventure in 2006, along with their four daughters, in Goulburn.

Their dream was to create a cafe and space that was different to the rest.



Our Accommodation

Best Western

Garden City Hotel

55 Jerrabomberra Avenue Narrabundah, Canberra,
Ph. 6295 3322

The Garden City Hotel, BW Signature Collection is Canberra's favorite 4.5-star hotel.

Great value is the Garden City Hotel's commitment - guests enjoy free Wi-Fi, free undercover parking, free Foxtel and free movies!

Conveniently located, the 4.5-star Garden City Hotel, Best Western Signature Collection is nestled in the heart of Canberra's vibrant inner-south. Just a five-minute drive from the trendy shopping and restaurant district of Manuka-Kingston, the Garden City Hotel, BW Signature Collection features 72 modern and comfortable hotel rooms, a lagoon-style swimming pool, gymnasium, conference facilities and meeting rooms, restaurant, bar and lounge.

The popular Secret Garden Bar & Restaurant is located on the ground floor and open Monday through Thursday for dinner and seven days for breakfast. Offering a range of dining options, the Secret Garden Bar & Restaurant serves contemporary cuisine in a relaxed, stylish setting.

Just ten minutes' drive from Canberra's CBD and five minutes from the Parliamentary Triangle, the Garden City Hotel is an ideal base to explore Canberra's main attractions without the bustle and noise of the inner-city.



BW | **Best Western.**
Hotels & Resorts



New Parliament House

Parliament House is the meeting place of the Parliament of Australia, the legislative body of Australia's federal system of government. The building also houses the core of the executive (the Australian Government), containing the Cabinet room and offices of the Prime Minister and other federal ministers.

Located in Canberra, Parliament House is situated on the southern apex of the National Triangle atop Capitol Hill, at the intersection of Commonwealth, Adelaide, Canberra and Kings Avenues enclosed by the State Circle.

Parliament House was designed by Mitchell/Giurgola & Thorp Architects and constructed by a joint venture comprising Concrete Constructions and John Holland. The building replaced Old Parliament House, where the Federal Parliament sat from 1927 until 1988, when members and their staff moved "up the hill" to the so-named New Parliament House. The current Parliament House was officially opened on 9 May 1988 by Elizabeth II, Queen of Australia. It cost more than \$1.1 billion (equivalent to about \$6 billion in 2025) to build.



In Walter Burley Griffin's original design for Canberra, Parliament House would be located on Camp Hill, located between Old Parliament House and Capitol Hill.

In 1978 the Fraser government decided to proceed with a new Parliament House building on Capitol Hill, and the Parliament House Construction Authority was created.

A two-stage design competition was announced and made available to competitors a brief and competition documents. The design competition drew 329 entries from 29 countries.

The competition winner was the Philadelphia-based architectural firm of Mitchell/Giurgola, with the on-site work directed by the Italian-born architect Romaldo Giurgola

Construction began in 1981, and the House was intended to be ready by Australia Day, 26 January 1988, the 200th anniversary of European settlement in Australia. It was expected to cost \$220 million. Neither the deadline nor the budget was met.

The building was opened by Queen Elizabeth II on 9 May 1988, the anniversary of the opening of both the first Federal Parliament in Melbourne on 9 May 1901 and of Old Parliament House in Canberra on 9 May 1927 by the Duke of York



The flag flown from the 81-metre flagpole is 12.8 by 6.4 m, about the size of half a tennis court. The flagpole weighs 250 tons and is made of polished stainless steel from Newcastle



The site covers 80 acres The building was designed to sit above Old Parliament House when seen from a distance. The building is four metres higher than the original height of the hill. About one million cubic metres of rock had to be excavated from the site.

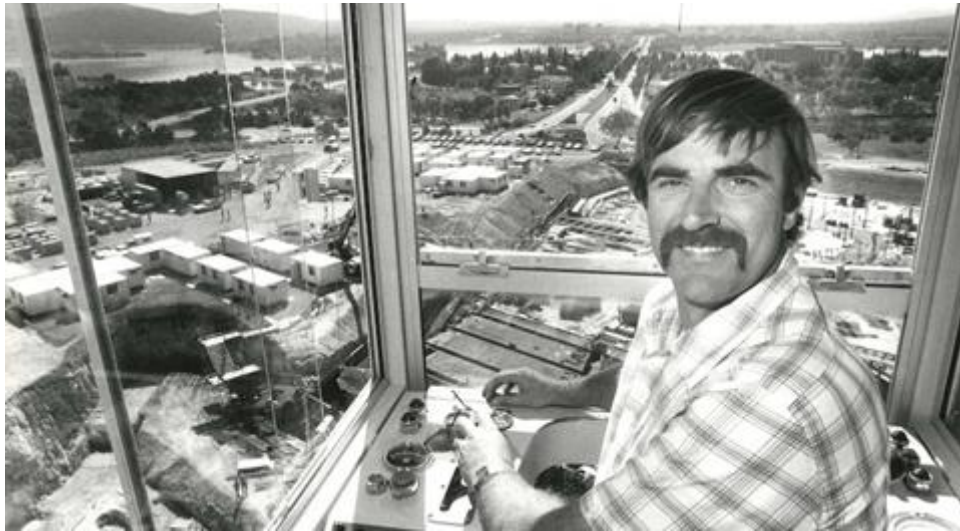
The design of Parliament House is anchored around two large curved walls that divides the structure into four quadrants. These are the formal entrance and event space, the House of Representatives and the Senate. These walls are sunken into the hill so that the building appears to emerge from the land, rather than towering over those beneath it.

“The ability for people to walk over the grass top of the building, over their parliamentary representatives, represents the people being above the government.”

The Parliament House contains 4,700 rooms, and many areas are open to the public. The main foyer contains a marble staircase and leads to the Great Hall, which has a large tapestry on display based on the Arthur Boyd painting. The House of Representatives chamber is decorated green, while the Senate chamber has a red colour scheme. At the centre of the building between the two chambers is the Members' Hall, which has a water feature directly beneath a glass roof and the large central flag



Bob the builder that built Parliament House



Bob Taylor operated the crane which built the Senate, House of Representatives and the flag mast and pole.

"It's one of [my] best achievements, a highlight... every time I drive past it with my grandkids they say 'my poppa put that up!'."

Bob Taylor worked as a crane operator on the Parliament House construction project for nine years, lifting into place the steel that forms the backbone of the iconic building.

The most noticeable section was the 200-tonne stainless steel flag mast which sits on top of Parliament House.

Flying at a height of 81 metres, the Australian flag is seen from many parts of Canberra making it part of the landscape in the capital.



The first official flag being raised at Parliament House, Canberra, 1988.

The flag itself weighs 15kg and is 12.8 by 6.4 metres; about the size of a double-decker bus.

Bob has worked with cranes most of his life, including on the Snowy Hydro Scheme, so he was well placed to work on such a significant project.

"It's wasn't scary; I've never had problems with heights," Bob told 666 ABC Canberra.

"The top of the flag pole is actually quite big...I was going to sit on top of it and have my photo taken, but it moved too much!"

An exhibition, 'Parliament House at Work', is now on display at Parliament House, showcasing the people that have worked in the building. including Bob.



Bob Taylor's crane, centre right, lifted the steel into place that now forms the Senate and House of Representatives.

Working on a high

In 1978, the Fraser administration approved the building of a replacement for the original, temporary Parliament House and created a competition to source a design.

New York architectural practice Mitchell/Giurgola/Thorp created the winning entry, chosen from 329 submissions from 28 countries.

Construction of 'new' Parliament House began in 1981 with the aim of officially opening on Australia Day 1988.

The project ran over time and the building was eventually opened by Queen Elizabeth on May 9th, 1988 – the anniversary of the first Australian parliament being formed in Melbourne in 1909.

Though the building was opened late, Bob's piece of the puzzle ran to time.

"They said 'this thing has got to be finished by '88, the flag has got to fly'...it was Australia Day 1988 when the flag went up, so it was pretty close."

One of the final pieces of the flagpole structure being lifted in to place by Bob Taylor, 1988

Significant lift

Bob's expertise helped build a lot more of Parliament House than the flagpole; his crane lifted in the steel structure for the Great Hall, the House of Representatives and the Senate.

His crane was mounted in different positions during the construction; initially it was on rails in the forecourt area, before being moved to the roof of the building for the craning in of the flag structure.

The four legs that support the flag pole were lifted into place one by one, a day Bob remembers well.

"That was one of the key moments of the whole project, if the first one didn't work for some reason then we would have had real problems.

"Once the first leg went up, management and the engineers were relieved, I was relieved too!"

While Bob was proud to have been working on such a significant project, he did not let it get to him during the build.



Bob Taylor, seen here in the cab of the crane, working on the final stages of the Parliament House flagpole.

"I wasn't thinking about significance of the building, I was just in my crane thinking 'I hope this is going to work'.

"The lift itself was quite difficult, but it was more about what was involved in getting us to that point... if it didn't go it would have been massive news."

Bob said the flag structure and the building that supports it are unique, adding to the difficulty factor.

"They had two guys up there welding 24 hours a day and wind was a big issue... it's a really good view though."

The huge flag that flies above parliament today was not the first to be raised; Bob attached a small Australian flag about the size of a pillowcase to the flagpole's supporting structure during the final phase of construction.

"That didn't go down too well...they said 'get that flag down!'"

New Parliament House in Canberra is a massive structure with numerous interesting features. It's designed to resemble two boomerangs, covers a vast area, and houses a large art collection. Notable elements include a grand hall with a massive tapestry, an 81-meter flagpole, and curved granite walls.

Here are some more interesting facts:

- **Size and Scale:**

Parliament House is one of the largest buildings in the Southern Hemisphere. It's six times the size of the old Parliament House and can hold up to 5,000 people.

- **Art Collection:**

It boasts over 6,500 permanent artworks, encompassing various Australian art forms.

- **Great Hall Tapestry:**

The Great Hall's tapestry is one of the world's largest, measuring 20 meters wide and 9 meters high.

- **Construction:**

The building required a massive excavation, removing one million cubic meters of earth and rock, which was then used to recreate the hill shape on the roof.

- **Symbolism:**

The design is based on two boomerangs, symbolizing the two chambers of Parliament.

- **Public Space:**

Visitors can walk on the roof, which is covered in grass to recreate the hill. This was to represent the symbol of the people over the Parliament

- **Fast Track Construction:**

The project utilized a "fast track" construction process, popular at the time but rarely used for such significant public buildings.

- **Opening Date:**

Parliament House was officially opened by Queen Elizabeth II on May 9, 1988.

THE NATIONAL ARBORETUM CANBERRA



The National Arboretum Canberra is a mosaic of living forests and gardens offering breathtaking views, unique experiences, and a world-class entertainment and events hub including the award-winning Margaret Whitlam Pavilion and the popular Village Centre.

With over 44,000 rare and endangered trees across a 250-hectare site, the Arboretum is a place of beauty, conservation, science research, education, tourism and recreation. Prior to 2001, the Arboretum site was largely covered in pine plantations (*Pinus radiata*). Following the devastating bushfires in 2003 which burnt a significant area of the A.C.T, including residential areas and the pine plantations, the Australian Capital Territory government (in consultation with the community and experts), determined the establishment of a national arboretum as the best future use of the land on this site.

The new Arboretum would honour Walter Burley Griffin's original plan for Canberra (which included an arboretum located on the west side of the lake), and also symbolise the local community's process of healing and recovery from the upheaval and grief of the catastrophic fires.

A national design ideas competition for the new arboretum was launched, with the winning entry '100 Forests and 100 Gardens' being a joint proposal by Taylor Cullity Lethlean Landscape Architects and Tonkin Zulaikha Greer Architects.

The winning design presented 100 monoculture forests of rare, threatened and symbolic trees from Australia and around the world, providing the foundation for a master plan for the National Arboretum Canberra, which has been progressively implemented since 2005.

Work began in 2005 and major civil works commenced in 2010 for a visitors' centre, cafe, gift shop, bonsai and penjing centre, children's playground, picnic and barbeque areas, outdoor sculptures, amphitheatre, lookouts and a pavilion. Works included the development of a terraced Central Valley near the Village Centre; it was Australia's largest sculpted earthwork since the Sydney Olympics.

The National Arboretum Canberra officially opened to the public on 1 February 2013, with over 15,000 people attending the Opening Day Festival.

Since then, over 6 million visitors have been welcomed through the gates, an achievement that far exceeded the one million visitors expected within the first five years.

Today, the National Arboretum Canberra is an award-winning, iconic attraction, and a favourite amongst locals and tourists



Questacon is Australia's inter active national science centre, where science and technology come alive in a hands-on experience for all ages to inspire your imagination with the world of science and technology.

With over 200 interactive exhibits across 8 galleries, you can travel to the centre of an Earthquake, to the heart of a beehive, all the way to outer space!





The National Gallery is Australia's national visual arts institution dedicated to collecting, sharing and celebrating art from Australia and the world.



The national collection comprises over 155,000 works of art, including the world's largest collection of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander art.

The collection represents the whole of Australian art, modern art worldwide, particularly from Europe and America, and art from across Asia and the Pacific. It includes important examples of French Impressionism, Dada and Surrealism, the Russian avant-garde, Abstract Expressionism, Pop Art, Minimalism and Conceptual Art.

Expansive collection displays are accompanied by a dynamic program of exhibitions, national tours and cultural events that celebrate creative practice and deepen lifelong learning, in person and online. Central to our vision is elevating women artists and First Nations culture.

Based in the nation's capital, the Gallery sits on the southern shore of Lake Burley Griffin and within Canberra's Parliamentary Triangle.

The National Gallery is a heritage listed building, designed by award winning architect Colin Madigan AO, and recognised as a beacon of experimental design and exemplary Brutalist architecture.





HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA



The High Court is the highest court in the Australian judicial system. It was established in 1901

The functions of the High Court are to interpret and apply the law of Australia; to decide cases of special federal significance including challenges to the constitutional validity of laws and to hear appeals, by special leave, from Federal, State and Territory courts.

The seat of the High Court is in Canberra, where it is located in its own building within the Parliamentary Triangle. The High Court building houses three courtrooms, Justices' chambers, and the Court's main registry, library, and corporate services facilities.

Cases which involve interpretation of the Constitution, or where the Court may be invited to depart from one of its previous decisions, or where the Court considers the principle of law involved to be one of major public importance, are normally determined by a full bench comprising all seven Justices if they are available to sit.

Other cases which come to the High Court for final determination involve appeals against the decisions of the Supreme Courts of the States and Territories, of the Federal Court of Australia and of the Family Court of Australia and these are dealt with by a full court of not less than two Justices. In addition, there are certain matters which can be heard and determined by a single Justice.

The subject matter of the cases heard by the Court traverses the whole range of Australian law. It includes, for instance, arbitration, contract, company law, copyright, courts-martial, criminal law and procedure, tax law, insurance, personal injury, property law, family law, trade practices, etc.

Most of the Court's work relates to the hearing of appeals against decisions of other courts. There are no further appeals once a matter has been decided by the High Court, and the decision is binding on all other courts throughout Australia.

Rules of Court, which are made by the Justices, set out the procedural steps that legal practitioners must comply with in preparing a case for hearing, including the preparation of a Core Appeal Book and other papers. These documents are prepared by the parties' legal representatives, contains basic documentation which is necessary background for the Court to consider the issue raised by the appeal.

During the hearing, barristers representing the parties present their arguments orally to the Court.

The Court rarely gives its decision at the end of a hearing. Rather, the decision is "reserved" and presented sometime after the hearing. Each Justice makes his/her own decision on cases, and where decisions are not unanimous, the decision of the majority prevails.

Decisions of the High Court are binding on all other courts throughout Australia.

Old Parliament House



Old Parliament House is a living museum of social and political history. Located in a nationally significant heritage-listed building, exhibitions, historic rooms, guided tours and family activities invite you to consider the past, present and future of our democracy and why it matters.



Australian War Memorial



The Australian War Memorial is a national war memorial, museum and archive dedicated to all Australians who died as a result of war, including peacekeeping duties. The AWM is located in Campbell, a suburb of the Australian capital city of Canberra. The grounds include five buildings and a sculpture garden





The National Portrait Gallery, also known as the National Portrait Gallery of Australia in Canberra is a public art gallery containing portraits of prominent Australians. It was established in 1998 and moved to its present building on King Edward Terrace in December 2008



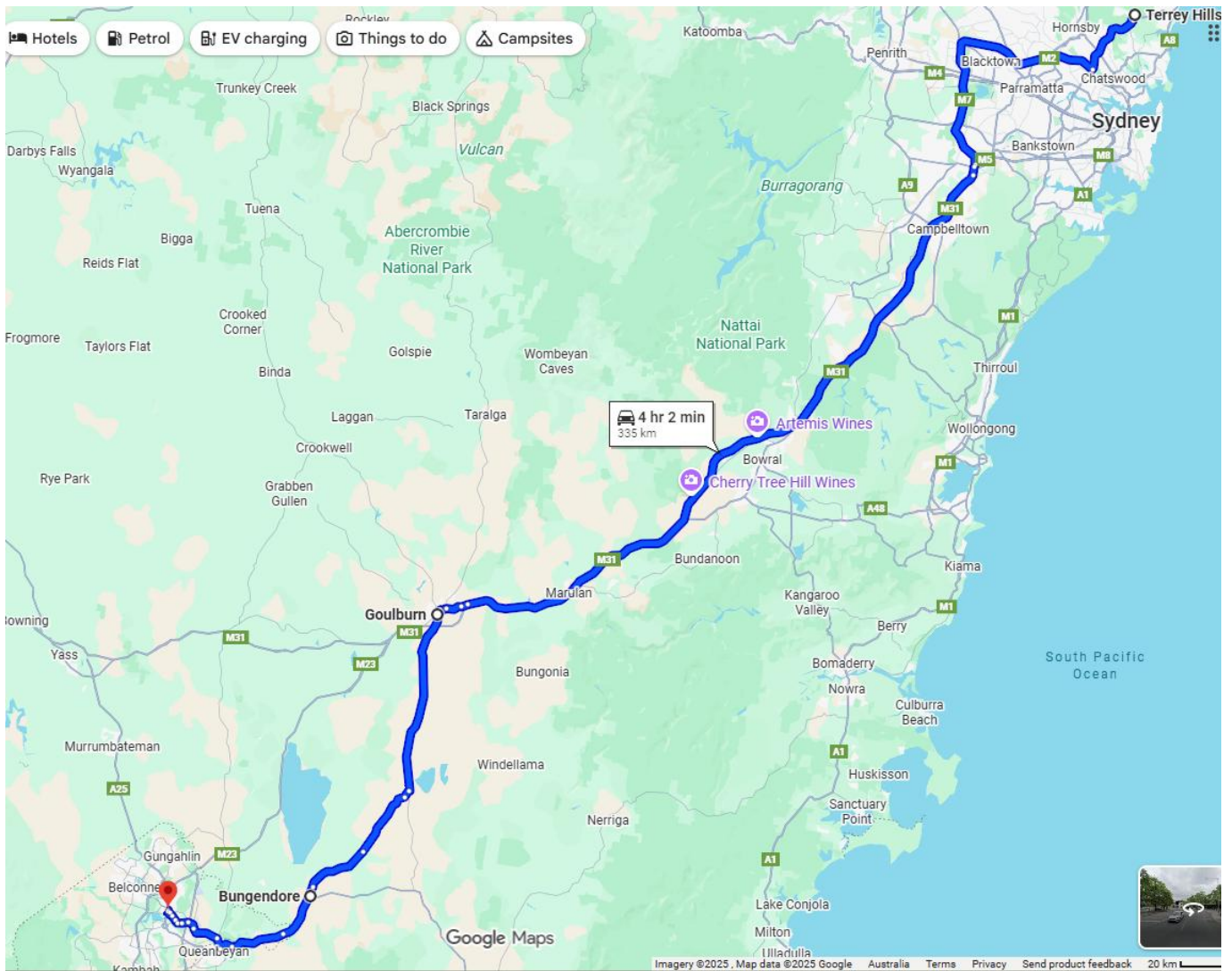
Denison Street , Deakin ACT

The Royal Australian Mint is the national mint of Australia, and the primary production facility for the country's circulating coins. The mint is a Commonwealth Government entity operating within the portfolio of the Treasury, and is situated in the Australian capital city of Canberra, in the suburb of Deakin.

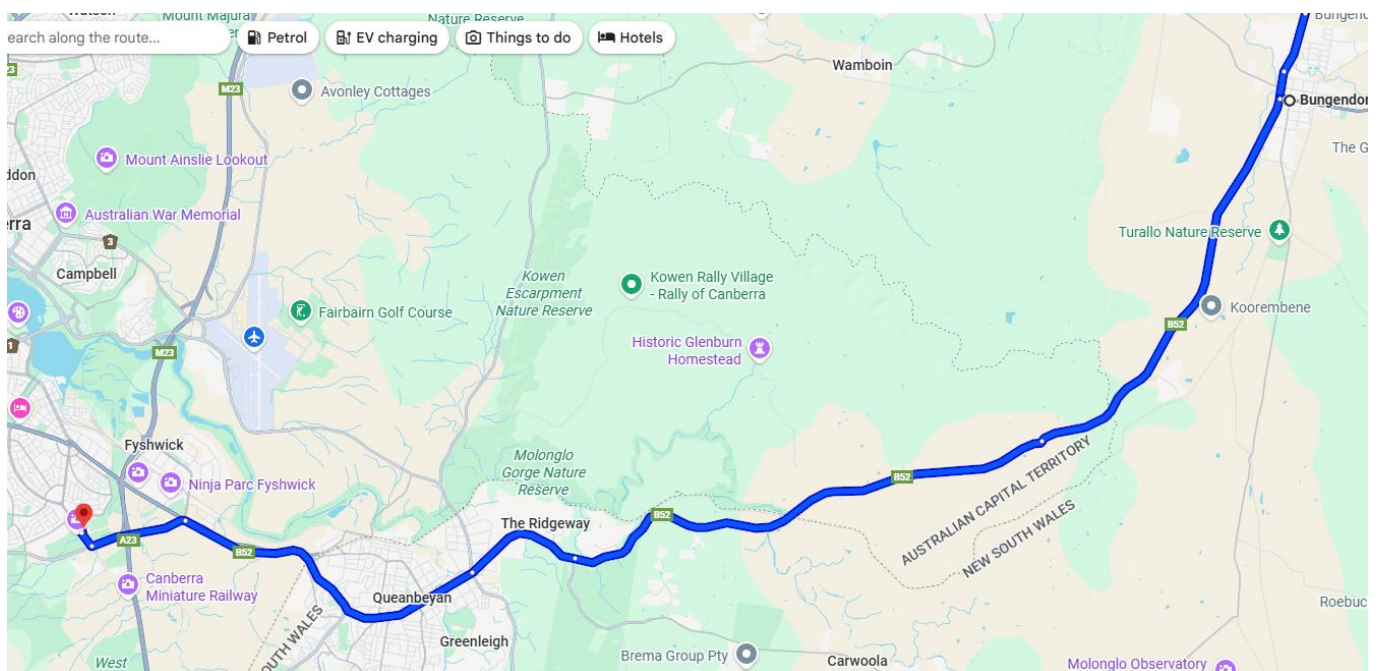
Kingston | Hotel

73 Canberra Ave, Griffith ACT

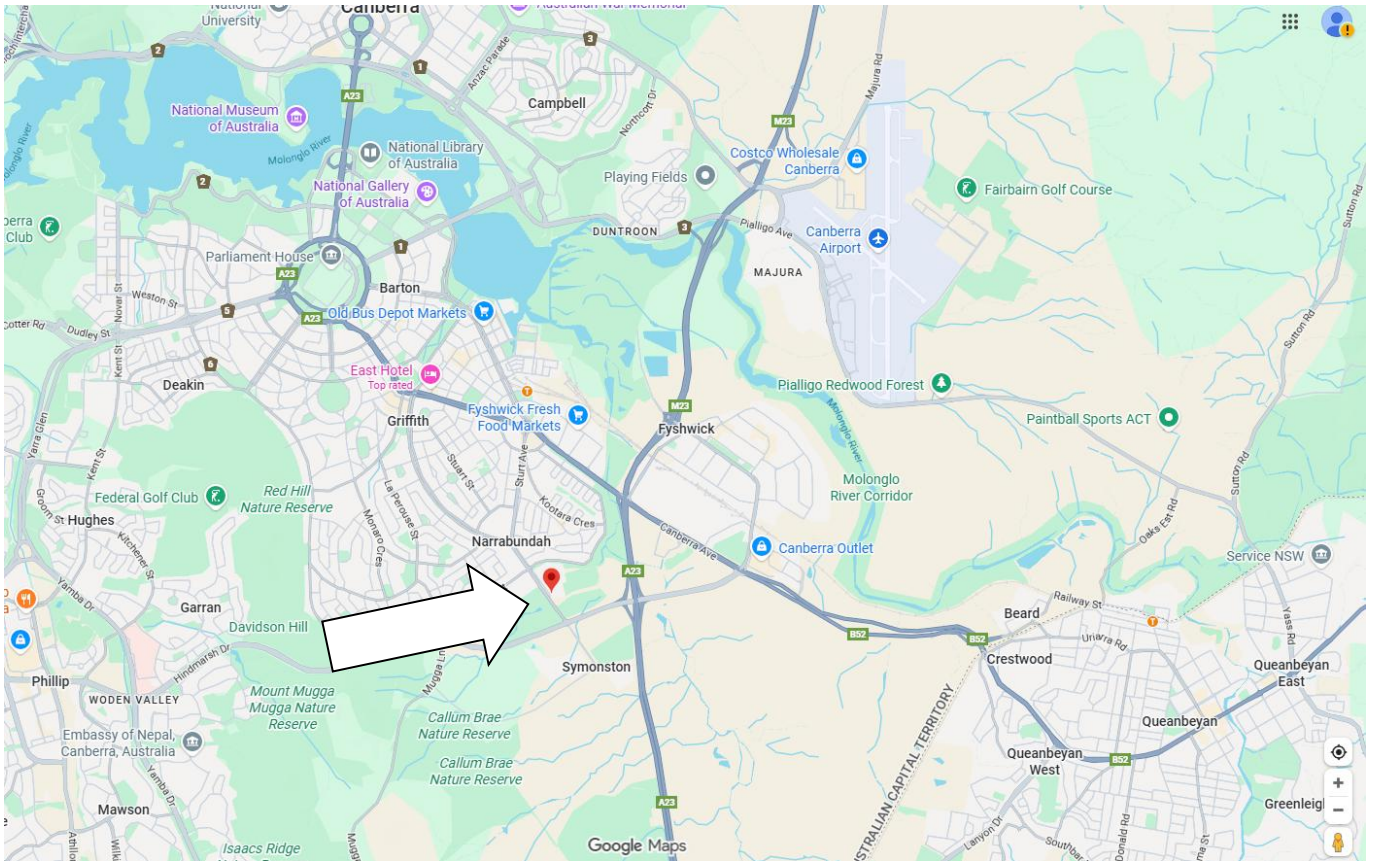




Sydney to Canberra



Bungendore to Garden City Hotel



Garden City Hotel



Canberra, the best place in Australia to get lost.
Enjoy those roundabouts !!!!!