

Canberra

Australia

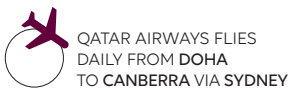


Stylist *Kimberley Sara* gives us the low-down on her hometown



"Canberra Sunrise" by Daniieelc/Getty Images

CANBERRA IS UNIQUE among Australian cities because it is still relatively small, but has enough culture, food and art experiences to be exciting. Often people expect a capital city to be really busy, but Canberra is quite slow-paced and very spread out, which allows for lots of green space, so there is a sense of calm and beauty to the city. My top tip for visitors is to check out the National Gallery on the shores of Lake Burley Griffin – the scope of the building and layout of the gardens alone are worth seeing. The art covers all different genres, but don't miss Sidney Nolan's paintings of the 19th-century bushranger Ned Kelly and the impressive collection of Aboriginal art.



STAY

Ovolo Nishi

This boutique hotel in New Acton is Instagram-friendly thanks to its use of raw materials, such as reclaimed timber in the stunning lobby. ovolohotels.com.au



EAT

A Bite To Eat

This quirky café on the south side of town is a hidden gem. Try the lavender-infused panna cotta with crunchy granola for brekkie. abitotoeat.net.au



DO

Rebel Muse

Shop at this Lonsdale Street store for Australian designers such as cult active-wear label PE Nation and chic Camilla and Marc. rebelmuse.com.au



A day to explore

I love to wake up early and head out for a walk, either around Lake Burley Griffin in the heart of the city or up Mount Ainslie. It's about 45 minutes to the top and the views over Canberra are beautiful; if you're lucky, the mountain may be blanketed by a thin layer of snow. Then I go for coffee with my little family, usually at our local

café, The Knox, in Watson, which serves breakfast all day. We might pop into the Questacon science museum, which has interactive exhibits like earthquake simulators that mesmerise adults and kids alike. Then it's dinner at Ainslie Football Club, a family-friendly spot that serves delicious food – try the pesto chicken pizza, it's our favourite.