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SPECTACULAR FACTS

Melbourne



Inhabited for almost 40,000 years. It's first inhabitants were the Kulin peoples from the Wurundjeri, Boonwurrung and Wathaurong clans who inhabited the coastal areas of Port Phillip Bay.

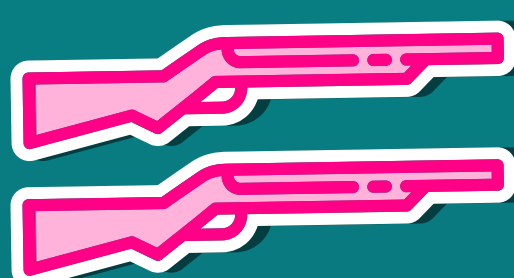
Almost half of Melbourne's current population was born overseas. Around 38% of the city's residents are migrants coming from the UK, Asia and Europe.



Melbourne's Greek community is an integral part of its culture - it has the largest number of Greek-speaking residents outside of Greece.

Melbourne has the highest population of Holocaust survivors per capita, after Israel.

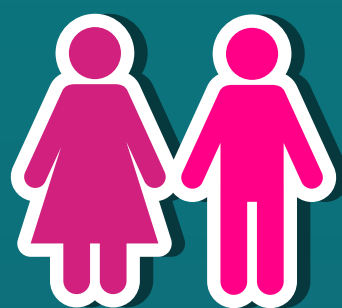
Along with the migrants, Melbourne has a lot of foxes! There are up to 2-dozen per square kilometre in the metropolitan area.



One of the world's oldest exhibition pavilions is Melbourne's Royal Exhibition Building. It was granted a UNESCO World Heritage Listing in 2004 and was the first building in Australia to do so.

In addition, the first sitting of Australia's Federal Parliament was held in the Royal Exhibition Building in 1901.

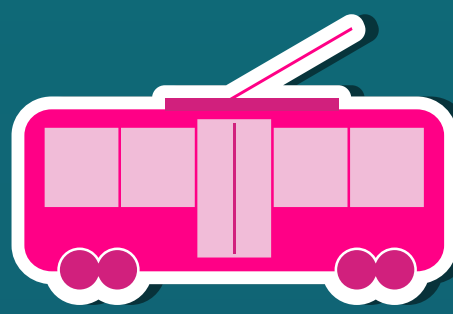
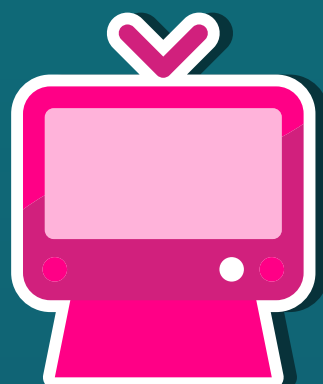
Parliament House has gun slits in its walls from the time of the Great Strikes of the 1890s to give its occupants a clear sight line down Bourke Street as defence against mob attacks.



Melbourne pubs would close every evening at 6pm, right up until 1966.

When Prince Charles and Lady Diana visited Melbourne in 1982, a private bathroom was built for them to use during their visit to Hamer Hall at the Arts Centre.

Australia's most famous export, Foster's Beer, is originally from Melbourne. It was brewed there in 1888 by two American brothers, William and Ralph Foster.



Australia's most iconic food item, Vegemite, was invented in Melbourne in 1922 and is still produced in the Fisherman's Bend factory.

Melbourne is the home of the nation's greatest TV export - Neighbours, which has been screened for over 30 years and syndicated to more than 60 countries worldwide.

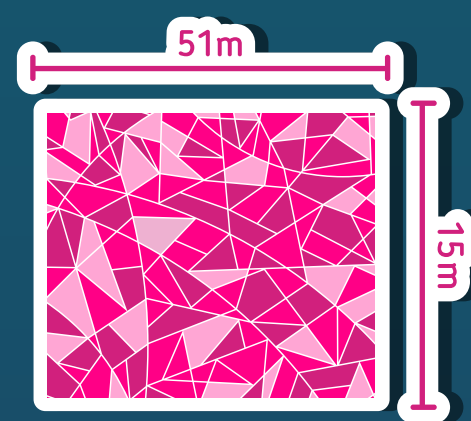
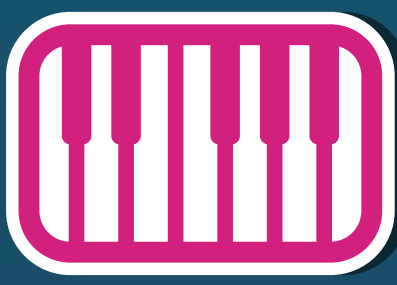
The Melbourne city tram network is the largest in the world with 250 kilometres of tracks and more than 1,700 tram stops.



Melbourne is home to the world's first feature film; a silent film made in 1906 called The Story of the Ned Kelly Gang, and was listed on UNESCO's Memory of the World register in 2007.

Melbourne's beachside suburb of St Kilda is known for its most iconic landmark - Luna Park, which is the oldest privately owned amusement park in the world.

The black box flight recorder was invented in Melbourne in 1958.



The Eureka Tower in Melbourne is the 2nd tallest building in Australia, and Melbourne's CBD is in fact home to no less than 5 of the country's tallest buildings.

The Grand Organ in Melbourne Town Hall is the largest in the southern hemisphere.

The largest stained glass ceiling in the world is 51 metres long and 15 metres wide and it can be found in the National Gallery of Victoria.