

## Canberra

Do you know the capital of Australia? Many people think it's Sydney but they are wrong, because it's Canberra.

With its 340,800 inhabitants it is number eight in the list of Australia's biggest cities. You can find it on the map in the south east of the country just 150 km away from the coast. It was founded in 1913 and today, it's located in the district called "Australian Capital Territory".

The city is divided into seven different regions which are separated into north and south by the Molonglo River. The center is the big Lake Burley Griffin, named after the architect who constructed Canberra. In the middle of South Canberra you can find the Capital Hill and on top of it the Parliament House. From this point, the government does its job and controls the country.

If you search for a good place for shopping you will find it in the district called Civic. It's the City Center and also an important business area. For tourists, there are a lot of interesting museums, for example the "Canberra Museum and Gallery", which presents the history of the city. Another museum that is worth being visited is the "National Museum of Australia", which is near the lake. Its special futuristic design attracts plenty of visitors.

However, the city is also very lively and colorful. The big festivals are a good opportunity to get to know Canberra's people and celebrate together. For example, the Stonefest that takes place at the end of October. It's the biggest festival for rock music in Australia. There is also the great folk festival in March before the Canberra Day; it's a huge party that lasts ten days.

So, why not visit this fantastic city during your trip to Australia?

<http://www.visitcanberra.com.au/>

(Renée)