# **MELBOURNE FAST FACTS**

Set on the shores of picturesque Port Phillip Bay, the southern-most city of mainland Australia is rich in aesthetics, with its beauty enhanced by the meandering Yarra River, immaculate parks and gardens, public art, classical buildings and innovative design.



#### **STABLE AND PROSPEROUS**

Only western economy to achieve growth during the global financial crisis and continuing 17 years of uninterrupted prosperity.

Global top 10 countries for ease of doing business



## **ENVIABLE LIFESTYLE**

Over 200 countries and 180 languages represented World's Most Liveable City 2011-2017



## One of the world's safest, friendliest and cleanest destinations

**HIGH LEVEL SAFETY AND SECURITY** 

Accredited as an international 'Safe City' by the World Health Organisation



## **EASY VISA APPLICATION PROCESS**

The Australian Government is committed to making conferences in Australia easy to attend, facilitated by the International Event Coordinator Network (IECN) - a designated group of immigration experts



## **AUSTRALIA'S PREMIER CONFERENCE CITY**

Australasia's Leading Meetings and Conference Destination 2011-2016 (World Travel Awards)

Australia's highest concentration of conference facilities



## EASY ACCOMMODATION ACCESS **TO CONVENTION CENTRE**

Over 4,300 rooms available within a tenminute walk of the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC)



## THE INTELLIGENT CHOICE

Victoria is home to 7,900 technology companies generating AU\$29 billion in revenue

- 13 Internationally Recognised Medical **Research Institutes**
- 10 Teaching Hospitals
- 10 Universities



#### **EXCELLENT CONNECTIVITY**

33 international airlines fly direct to Melbourne from 32 destinations, 425 times per week



## **FREE WI-FI**

Melbourne's city centre has Australia's largest and fastest free Wi-Fi network

## SAFETY AND SECURITY

Australia is internationally recognised as one of the safest and most welcoming countries for travellers to visit.



## ENVIABLE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT

On an economic basis, Australia has a very strong economy, with a AAA credit rating. Australia consistently ranks highly on the Index of Economic Freedom where it is currently fourth in the world. The Australian currency is highly stable and due to no restrictions on foreign entities transacting in the Australian dollar, the fifth most traded in the world.



#### SECURE MEETING VENUE

The Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) has full-time patrolled security across all areas of the precinct, supported by a CCTV network. A detailed risk assessment report is developed by the MCEC in consultation with the meeting organisers to ensure the safety of all delegates, exhibitors, visitors and guests.



## SAFE CITY

Melbourne has become the first major city in the Southern Hemisphere - and only the third major city in the world to be recognised as a Safe City by the World Health Organization.



## POLITICAL STABILITY

On international indexes, Australia's political system is rated as very transparent with strong levels of protection for people's political rights.