



Geelong

Geelong is known as 'the city by the bay'; from the 30s-era parklands along Eastern Beach and the city's historic woolsheds to the recent foreshore development and the parklands surrounding Corio Bay, Geelong takes full advantage of its picture-postcard location.

The city loses none of its charm once you move inland. Quiet streets lined with houses ranging from hilltop mansions to cutting-edge urban architecture reflect Geelong's varied history as a port, industrial city and rural hub. An extensive range of pubs, nightclubs, bars and restaurants keeps the city centre upbeat, while the classy cafes and boutiques of Pakington Street are a focus for shoppers after something a little different.

Look beyond the impressive redevelopment of Kardina Park, home ground to one of Victoria's oldest AFL clubs, and you'll find parks to suit every taste, from the formality of Geelong's Botanic Gardens to the Balyang Sanctuary wildlife reserve on the banks of the Barwon River. It's only a short drive to the surf coast and the Otway ranges, while recent upgrades to both the rail network and the Princes Highway mean Melbourne is less than an hour away.

Fast Fact: Little Malop Street features some of Geelong's hippest stores, plenty of al fresco dining, and a regular night market held monthly during the summer months.

Locals recommend:

Cafes and Restaurants

Sailor's Rest (3 Moorabool St. 5224 2241; www.sailorsrest.com)
Fine food with a great view of the bay.

Café Botticelli (9/111 Pakington St. 5229 8292) Relaxed cakes and coffee indoors or al fresco on Geelong's most stylish street.

Shopping

Barwon Booksellers (2 James St. 5221 8388; www.barwonbooksellers.com.au)
Great second-hand bookstore with a huge range of literary, art and alternative titles.

Browse Fashions for Men (Shop 2-3, 111 Pakington St. 5223 2052) Just one of the many clothing and footwear stores along this busy shopping strip.

Westfield Bay City (95 Malop St.) Where many of the brand-name retailers hang.

Hotels And Bars

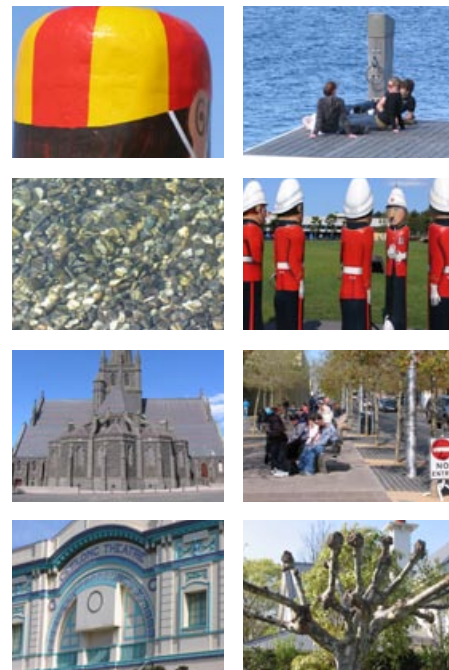
The Barking Dog (129 Pakington St. 5229 2889) Relaxed dining in a café atmosphere, and an extensive range of beers.

The Barwon Club (509 Moorabool St. 5221 4584) Geelong's premier live music venue, with a decent dining room.

Assorted Websites

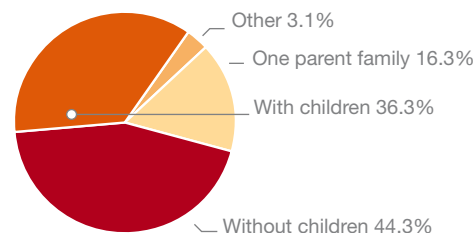
www.geelongaustralia.com.au

Gallery

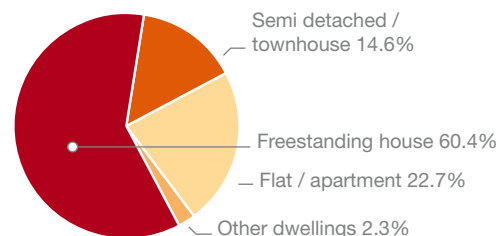


Statistics:

Family structure



Type of dwelling



Family structure and Type of Dwelling data used with permission of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.