

## **Islamic Museum of Australia**

### **A guide to all attractions, food and fashion in the local neighbourhood**

The Islamic Museum of Australia is located in the family friendly area of Thornbury, situated just off Moreland road. If you are around the area or stop by for a visit to the museum, there are a range of things to do and places to eat in the local neighbourhood. Coburg has recently become a hot destination as it's home to many cultural cuisines and is only five-minutes travel time from the IMA.

Thornbury's recent revival has transformed Sydney Road into one of the city's most buzzing thoroughfares with popular restaurants and cafes located on nearly every corner. From exquisite restaurants and cafes to stylish clothing stores, Thornbury's local neighbourhood has you all covered. Also, a vast majority of the local restaurants and cafés offer vegetarian and halal alternatives so there's really no going wrong with cuisine options.

#### **DINING**

##### ***Old School Pizza and Stone Grill***

Just a short walk around the corner from the IMA, Old School Pizza is our go-to for a delicious feed of halal pizzas. They have a huge choice of toppings and also have a great selection of pasta. For an interactive dining experience, choose a steak which be served on a sizzling stone grill plate.

14-20 Nicholson Street, Coburg VIC 3058

<https://oldschoolpizza.com.au/coburg/>

##### ***Zaatar***

Located in Coburg, Zaatar combines the traditional essence of zaatar with a delightful array of tasty Middle Eastern dishes for everyone to enjoy. If you're craving a traditional Zaatar or simply a hot cup of coffee, this very popular family-run business will have you covered for all your breakfast, lunch and dinner needs.

365 Sydney Road, Coburg VIC 3058

<http://zaatar.com.au>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/zaatarbakery/>

### ***Royal Stacks***

The widely popular burgers and frozen custard creations have come to Brunswick and the good news is that it's only around the corner from Thornbury. The first Royal Stacks opened in Melbourne's CBD in January and became an instant hit due to its use of high quality Australian only ingredients. Plus, this American-style fast food eatery is the only Royal Stacks restaurant in Melbourne that offers halal options on the menu.

1/800 Sydney Road, Brunswick VIC 3056

<https://www.royalstacks.com.au>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/royalstacksau/>

### ***Northern Perk Café***

Home of the breakfast tower, Northern Perk café can pretty much do it all. From breakfast, to milkshakes and even burgers this café has a quality menu and is located at a quality venue in Brunswick. An outdoor courtyard is also located out the back which sets the perfect scene for a sunny Melbourne day.

710 Sydney Road, Brunswick VIC 3056

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/northernperkcafe/>

### ***Half Moon Café***

According to the locals, Half Moon Café has the best falafels in Melbourne. They serve some of the freshest, healthiest and most affordable falafels in the area. So if you're searching for some tasty vegan options, then Half Moon Café will not disappoint.

13 Victoria Street, Coburg VIC 3058

### ***Chorba Café***

If you're looking for an authentic Turkish breakfast experience, then the Chorba café has you covered. Located in a small laneway off Sydney Road, this café is always bustling with people and for good reason. There is a wide selection of choices on the menu and is also situated next door to the Half Moon Café.

11 Victoria Street, Coburg

### ***Balha's Pastry***

Balha's Pastry offers a range of traditional Lebanese pastries, scrumptious biscuits, continental deserts and ice-cream. Also renowned for producing great coffee, the Brunswick store has a spacious upstairs seating area and an outdoor café style seating area. Whatever the occasion, Balha's Pastry will meet your needs and be sure to satisfy your taste buds.

761-763 Sydney Road, Brunswick VIC 3056

<https://www.balhaspastry.com.au>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/balhaspastry/>

## FASHION

### ***Hijab House***

One of the world's largest hijab fashion brands is located in the heart of Brunswick. Hijab House offers the latest looks including hijabs, clothing and accessories that are always on trend. Only a ten minute drive from the Islamic Museum, this popular fashion store will keep you up to date with its newest vibrant collections. Hijab house also has a huge social media presence on Facebook and Instagram so be sure to check out their pages to discover the latest items in stock.

604 Sydney Road, Brunswick VIC 3056

<https://www.hijabhouse.com.au>

Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/hijab\\_house/](https://www.instagram.com/hijab_house/)

### ***Emaan***

Just a suburb away in Coburg, a fashion and lifestyle store, Emaan, offers Islamic-inspired styles for men, women, boys and girls. Lifestyle books & multimedia as well as pilgrimage attire, prayer mats and perfumes are just some of the items to shop around for at Emaan. So if you're in the area and in the mood for some shopping, Emaan is the place to visit.

338/342 Sydney Road, Coburg VIC 3058

<https://emaan.com.au/collections/women>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/emaan.official/>

## THINGS TO DO

### ***Preston Market***

The Preston Market has been the multi-cultural hub of Melbourne's North for over 45 years. Market stalls range from fruit and vegetables, cafés, deli's, fish markets, florists and small variety stores. This North-side attraction is Melbourne's second largest market and is open every Wednesday to Sunday.

### ***Merri Creek***

Located just behind the Islamic Museum is the Merri Creek. The walking track along the Merri Creek is a popular exercise trail and a fun, family friendly location. You can even enjoy the serene nature while watching the kids run around and enjoy themselves on the playground.

### ***La Trobe University***

La Trobe University is located within a close proximity to the Islamic Museum of Australia and is also one of their major partners. With a campus the size of the CBD, La Trobe University provides its students with outstanding educational facilities and promotes equal opportunity to everyone in the community. The university invites all students and non-students to discover La Trobe's fantastic facilities. If you're in the area, the Kingsbury Drive Community Market is also held at the university between 9am and 1pm.

### ***Edwardes Lake***

The iconic old train engine is a staple attraction at Edwardes Lake park. This park is perfect to spend an afternoon with family and the kids over a picnic. With two playgrounds, barbeque and picnic facilities plus a number of sporting tracks, this park brings an element of tranquillity.