

Melbourne's Rockin' Venues

The Palais Theatre

Most punters in Melbourne have had a Palais experience at least once.

Maybe you saw The Rolling Stones in '66, or went to Jesus Christ Superstar or

The Andrew Durant Memorial Concert in the 70's?

Today it remains a grand old dame, still hosting iconic shows.

Here is a cool link to its history:

<https://palais theatre.com.au/venue/venue-history>

Armstrong Studios

Basically, it was our *Abbey Road*.

Whispering Jack was recorded here, and many other acts came to avail themselves of its world class facilities. ([U2](#), [Paul McCartney](#), [Madonna](#), [Bob Dylan](#), [Split Enz](#), [Crowded House](#) and many more)

Bill Armstrong started out in a terraced house in South Melbourne before moving operations to an old butter factory in Bank street. The work recorded here is a staggering list of Australian Rock & Entertainment.

Wikipedia has the story:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armstrong_Studios

Festival Hall

The "House of Stoush" in West Melbourne has hosted Wrestling, The Beatles, Boxing, Jethro Tull, Roller Derbies, Black Sabbath, Chuck Berry, The Bee Gees, Roy Orbison & hundreds more eclectic shows over its six-decade history.

Recently, it was saved from high rise 're-development' by concerned councils & ratepayers.

<https://blogs.unimelb.edu.au/archives/boxing-ballroom-dancing-and-the-bishop-of-coventry-festival-hall-and-stadiums-pty-ltd/>

http://www.jpgr.co.uk/ven_melbourne.html

Melbourne Town Hall

A strange rock venue you might think, but The Beatles & Abba have both waved at the crowds from its balcony. If you take the MTH tour, you can wave from there too!

https://whatson.melbourne.vic.gov.au/Whatson/tours/ground/Pages/b974dd12-59a5-4de8-a7b0-d8c2f82385ec.aspx?_ga=2.257283979.127260475.1547370975-471500608.1542539087

Swanston St/ACDC Lane

It takes a flatbed truck, a great song, a film crew from Countdown, and a rock band with bagpipes to create one of the greatest Aussie anthems of all time, It's a *Long Way to the Top* (If you wanna Rock n' Roll) This is where ACDC made one of their most remembered film clips in the 70's. And just around the corner, is the laneway named & decorated in their honour.

<https://www.onlymelbourne.com.au/ac-dc#.XDrhx81S9PY>

Amphlett Lane

Named after & dedicated to The Divinyls' dynamic singer Chrissie Amphlett, this site is a great place for reflection and photos.

<https://www.facebook.com/AmphlettLane/>

Australian Music Vault

See how much performers were paid to play @ Sunbury, check out Harry Vanda's 12 string Maton guitar, take your photo in front of the huge poster wall...and so much more.

https://www.australianmusicvault.com.au/?gclid=CjwKCAiA4OvhBRAjEiwAU2FoJRrf4ShcRH93fdWRUe9WJ2KGNbhwRNdHQflqtUZO65ijQ3UpFMnqBoCyjIQAvD_BwE

The Sidney Myer Music Bowl

What a great place to see a concert. In fact, your host Phil Smith saw his very first major act here in 1976-*Staus Quo*, supported by *Kevin Borich Express*.

The Seekers drew a crowd of over 200,000 to this iconic venue in 1967, still the largest concert attendance record ever in the Southern Hemisphere.

<https://www.artscentremelbourne.com.au/Visit/Theatres-and-Spaces/Sidney-Myer-Music-Bowl>

The Hotel Esplanade

Who hasn't been to the Espy?

Whether seeing a dynamite performance in the front bar or Gershwin room, or peering through the gloom of the street bar, to getting lost in the catacombs trying to find the Espy Kitchen. Espy Recorders was another iconic institution once housed in the bowels of this grand old building, built in 1878. Here is an excellent link to its chequered history:

<https://stkildahistory.org.au/images/EspyHotel/Chapter-3/EA%20Report%201%20Cultural%20History.pdf>