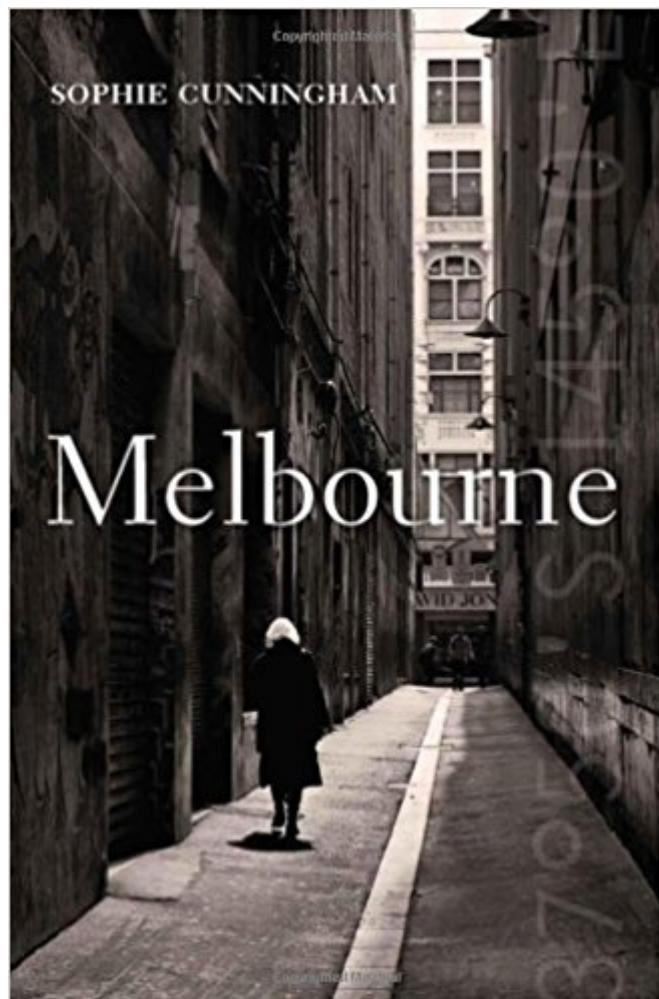


The book was found

# Melbourne (The City Series)



## Synopsis

A year in Melbourne's city life told in diary form, this contemporary and personal portrait depicts major events from the Australian heat wave, which culminated in more than 400 bushfires, to the destructive deluge of a hailstorm. While walking through Melbourne's oldest suburb to its largest market, experiencing an Australian Rules Football game, and attending the comedy festival, writer Sophie Cunningham journeys deep into her own recollections of the city she grew up in, and tells stories from its history. She strolls by Melbourne's rivers and creeks and considers the history of the wetlands and river that sit at Melbourne's heart, for it is water; the corraling of it, the excess of it, the squandering of it, the lack of it; that defines Melbourne's history, its present, and its future.

## Book Information

Series: The City Series

Hardcover: 272 pages

Publisher: University of New South Wales Press (October 1, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1742231381

ISBN-13: 978-1742231389

Product Dimensions: 4.2 x 0.9 x 4.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.1 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.3 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #3,191,790 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #59 in Books > Travel > Australia & South Pacific > Australia > Melbourne #1475 in Books > Travel > Australia & South Pacific > General #1666 in Books > History > Australia & Oceania > Australia & New Zealand

## Customer Reviews

Sophie Cunningham is the former editor of Meanjin Quarterly and a former publisher for Allen & Unwin, Penguin, and McPhee Gribble. She is the author of *Bird and Geography* and her work has been included in *The Best Australian Essays 2000* and *The Best Australian Fiction*.

I don't want to be too harsh on this book, because I guess I came into it with the wrong expectations. I will be visiting Melbourne and was looking for a book that would give me some insight on the city, something along the lines of the *Crown Journeys* series that had famous writers writing about their cities. Not a guidebook, but something that gives you the flavor of the place while

maybe giving you some ideas for places to visit. This book doesn't really fit that bill. It's a very personal account, to the point that if you didn't grow up in Melbourne in the 1970s, I'm not sure how interesting it will be to you. Lots of names get thrown around as though we're supposed to know who they are. It's a very narrow slice of life -- this writer's specific interests and circle of friends, who are part of a pretty specific part of Melbourne's arts culture. While I did glean a few nuggets of history and a couple interesting places to visit, it was really not what I was looking for. She is a good writer, though, and if you're more familiar with Melbourne's culture, you might find this more interesting.

The premise had so much potential! I was hoping to get a feel for Melbourne but all I found was self-indulgent name dropping and a very narrow vision of the city. Name dropping is all well and good, especially with accompanying interesting/amusing anecdotes but that was lacking in "Melbourne". Many of the facts quoted were incorrect. For an author who has spent her whole career in publishing and is Chair of the Literature Board of the Council of Australia, the whole book is very disappointing. In fact, I am disappointed that I wasted my precious reading time on it....

the stories here carried through a Melbourne of my lifetime as a narrative of seasons, football, friends and family. A place I do not know, but could now wander through understanding the links of football club allegiance, the lost live music scene and the hidden scene of wonderful bars.

As a fellow Melbournian I looked forward to reading this account of our great metropolis. Sadly, Sophie Cunningham does not help the reader appreciate the many cultures and 'feelings' of Melbourne but rather just her own personal experience. What turns out is therefore is one angle of the almost five million accounts of people who in Melbourne yet it fails to be either personal, emotional or interesting (although there are lots of interesting tidbits and trivia that are some reward for your efforts). Cunningham only describes a Melbourne made up of elites who rarely venture to where the masses live... St Albans, Noble Park, Mordialloc, Greensborough, etc. I think she believes that Fitzroy is all Melbourne has to offer and everywhere else is an excursion (which ironically is typical of the inner north attitude). Missed opportunity with relentless, embarrassing name dropping on every page.

Totally loved this book. Have given several copies as gifts. It really maps the amazing city of Melbourne! Highly recommend!

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Melbourne 25 Secrets - The Locals Travel Guide For Your Trip to Melbourne ( Victoria, Australia ): Skip the tourist traps and explore like a local : Where to Go, Eat & Party in Melbourne 2016 Melbourne in 3 Days (Travel Guide 2017):How to Enjoy 3 Amazing Days in Melbourne, Australia: What to Do&See,Where to Stay,Eat&Go Out,Online Maps,Best Tips for First-Tlme Visitors to Melbourne Melbourne 2017 : 20 Cool Things to do during your Trip to Melbourne: Top 20 Local Places You Can't Miss! (Travel Guide Melbourne- Australia ) Melbourne Travel Guide 2018: Shops, Restaurants, Arts, Entertainment and Nightlife in Melbourne, Australia (City Travel Guide 2018) Melbourne Travel Guide 2016: Shops, Restaurants, Arts, Entertainment and Nightlife in Melbourne, Australia (City Travel Guide 2016) Melbourne Travel Guide 2015: Shops, Restaurants, Arts, Entertainment and Nightlife in Melbourne, Australia (City Travel Guide 2015). Melbourne Restaurant Guide 2017: Best Rated Restaurants in Melbourne - 500 restaurants, bars and cafÃ©s recommended for visitors, 2017 Top 12 Things to See and Do in Melbourne - Top 12 Melbourne Travel Guide Melbourne Travel Guide, Your eGuide to Melbourne Melbourne Unanchor Travel Guide - Magic of Melbourne 3 Day Tour Moving to Melbourne: A Practical Guide to Save You Time and Money When Moving To Melbourne, Australia Melbourne Unanchor Travel Guide - Laneway Melbourne: A One-Day Walking Tour Ghosts of Melbourne: The Haunted Locations of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia Melbourne Restaurant Guide 2018: Best Rated Restaurants in Melbourne - 500 restaurants, bars and cafÃ©s recommended for visitors, 2018 The Mortal Instruments, the Complete Collection(City of Bones/ City of Ashes/ City of Glass/ City of Fallen Angels/ City of Lost Souls/ City of Heavenly Fire) Cassandra Clare: The Mortal Instruments Series (5 books): City of Bones; City of Ashes; City of Glass; City of Fallen Angels, City of Lost Souls Melbourne Suburbs & City Centre (City Map) Wallpaper\* City Guide Melbourne 2012 (Wallpaper City Guides) Melbourne (The City Series) Lonely Planet Melbourne City Map (Travel Guide)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)