

theFabric

# Your Pocket Guide to the Inner West



REIMAGINING URBAN LIFE SINCE 1972

# Live life's rich tapestry

The Fabric by Mirvac is a brand new community celebrating life's rich tapestry.

Our new neighbourhood has been designed to effortlessly weave into the rich, existing community in the vibrant suburb of Altona North.

## Explore the Inner West

This is the kind of place where you'll stop and chat to neighbours while grabbing coffee on the walk to the train station, rely on the talents of local makers to decorate your home, and spend weekends deciding whether you'll visit the beach, the park or both.

Locals and visitors alike share in the same sense of discovery when they stumble across a newly opened spot to eat, or uncover a hidden gem that has been around for generations.

This pocket guide is a snapshot of highlights from our journey through the Inner West, as we share the go-to places and hotspots favoured by the locals — all within close proximity to Mirvac's newest community, The Fabric.





# For a family day out

## 18 Altona Beach

A favourite for families and fishermen alike, Altona Beach is where locals love to unwind in warmer weather. You'll find rods, reels and leisurely strollers dotted along the length of the heritage-listed pier, kite surfers hoping for a gust in the usually-still waters and life guards keeping watch during summer. Grab some fish and chips from one of the beachfront shops and settle in under the shade of the Norfolk pines or make use of the well-kept barbecue facilities for a sunset get-together with family and friends.

## 21 Altona Coastal Park and Dog Beach

A pocket of Altona favoured by four-legged residents, P.A. Burns Reserve is most popular at lowtide when dogs have free reign in the shallows. Waste bag facilities are provided to keep the beach clean and there is a drinking fountain just near the cricket pitch, for fresh water and a doggy bowl for your pup. Altona Coastal Park is a nature conservation area and a wonderful place to explore, for you and your dog. Among the mangroves and historic boat sheds is 'Requiem for a Champion', a bronze sculpture in memory of the site's past as the Williamstown racecourse, where champions like Phar Lap used to race. Be sure to pay a visit in October when the pink pigface flowers bloom and areas of the park turn bright fuschia!

## Transport

Altona North has everything you need when it comes to great transport. Newport <sup>(09)</sup> and Altona <sup>(10)</sup> train stations give you access to the Werribee and Williamstown lines, making the CBD a short 20 minute journey away. If you are an avid cyclist, why not check out the Footscray Cycling Club <sup>(12)</sup> or take a ride along the Federation Bike Trail <sup>(13)</sup>.



## For your local coffee fix

29 Black Sheep

A much-loved local, this neighbourhood cafe is just a stone's throw from The Fabric. You'll find yourself there for coffee each morning, and on weekends sampling from its popular menu on every visit. With plenty of vego and gluten-free options, a menu just for kids and a range of frosty craft beers for happy hour, there's something for every member of the family. There's even space to play, let the little ones explore the cubby house outside while you sample a halloumi burger in the shade, or treat yourself to a cake or pastry from the rotating selection at the counter.

25B Vernon St, South Kingsville  
[facebook.com/Sthkingsvilleblacksheep](https://www.facebook.com/Sthkingsvilleblacksheep)

## For a real taste of Texas

39 Burn City Test Kitchen

Smoking meat takes commitment. The former sommeliers have a reputation for smoking out the city's best events and they have chosen South Kingsville to set up a permanent smokehouse. It is their headquarters for indulging diners and perfecting new recipes. Think: Texas-style brisket, smoked mushroom burgers or beef with peppery crust that falls apart on your plate. Plenty of garden-fresh and cheesy sides too. Edwards Reserve is just around the corner if it's shaping up to be more of a picnic kind-of-day.

31A Vernon Street, South Kingsville  
[burncitytestkitchen.com.au](http://burncitytestkitchen.com.au)

# For all the essentials and more

28 Altona Gate

Altona Gate isn't the kind of shopping centre that requires a touch-screen map, a photographic memory and an off-duty trolley boy to help you navigate. It's all about the essentials: the shops you need – including Kmart, Coles, Australia Post, ALDI and Bonds – plus plenty of underground parking. Natural light streams through the skylights onto the central walkways, which lead to a big food court, play areas for kids and a convenient medical centre. If you need to check a recipe in aisle six, the free wi-fi will save the day.

124-134 Millers Road, Altona North · [altonagate.com.au](http://altonagate.com.au)

30 Sacca's Fine Foods

A family-owned business for over 30 years, Sacca's are the experts who know what's best for the local community. With a continental grocery and full-service deli with countless olive options, entertainers can find the best authentic and specialty European ingredients here. Track down the same passata that Nonna uses, or a specialty rose water you've been searching for to make Easter figoli. Make sure you keep an eye out for the regular tasting stalls and coffee bean specials.

Altona Gate Shopping Centre · [saccas.com.au](http://saccas.com.au)

# For homemade choc-tops and art deco style

17 Sun Theatre

Fitted with state-of-the-art screens and sound system, the Sun Theatre commit to the cinematic experience when escaping for an evening out. They promote \$12 tickets on Mondays and Tuesdays too, perfect for an early week date night. The theatre is located on Ballarat Steet in Yarraville, which means there are plenty of restaurants to check out along the strip after the credits roll.

8 Ballarat Street, Yarraville · [suntheatre.com.au](http://suntheatre.com.au)

## 15 Newport Lakes Reserve

The Newport Lakes Reserve used to be a bluestone quarry, but it's been transformed into an ecological win for the west. The 33-hectare reserve sits just around the corner from The Fabric, boasting plenty of electric barbecues, picnic spaces, a dog-walking park, play equipment, two big lakes and a nature trail to help you appreciate it all. If you take a stroll at dusk you can expect to see swans, blue fairy wrens, ring-tailed possums and Pacific black ducks. Keep your eyes open for some occasional frog-spotting too.



## 32 Say It Sister

The fashion-forward mums who run Say It Sister pride themselves on creating a space that gives customers a certain feel-good factor. That means they are always up for a chat and some good advice. They regularly stock daywear from Foxwood, vibrant cuts from Elm and footwear from Rollies – some of the most comfortable shoes going around. There are well curated kid's and men's ranges, as well as homewares and gift ideas.

30 Hall Street, Newport · [sayitsister.com.au](http://sayitsister.com.au)

# For brunch right by the beach

26 Rockabye Candy

Every great eatery needs a specialty dish – the kind of thing you wake up craving knowing nothing else will do. At this understated little cafe on Pier Street, the standout dish has to be The Rock-A-Bye; it's poached eggs on potato and herb rosties with grilled shortcut bacon, Swiss and Tasty cheese and a generous dollop of homemade tomato relish. They have plenty of delicious options for vegetarians and vegans too. If you are up for lunch, they have got you sorted with salt and pepper calamari, falafel salads and a traditional roast lamb spread. Remember to save some room for dessert because Eye Candy gelato bar is just next door.

38 Pier Street, Altona  
[facebook.com/rockabyecandy/](https://www.facebook.com/rockabyecandy/)

46 Gordon Street Bakery

People have been known to rock up to Gordon Street Bakery as early as 10am on a weekend only to be greeted by a 'sold out' sign on the door. Wilhem Isaac – head baker is originally from France so you know your going to be getting the best of the best. The galette des rois (French almond cream tart) is a rare gem and worth a try!

142 Gordon Street, Footscray  
<https://www.gordonstbakery.com/>

## Education

The Fabric is conveniently located within an expansive school zone including Spotswood Primary <sup>(01)</sup>, Altona North Primary <sup>(02)</sup> and Emmanuel College <sup>(07)</sup>. It is also surrounded by unique extra-curricular and learning centres, performance and art schools, childcare centres and an impressive public library.



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