



SHOPPING PRECINCTS

10 of Sydney's best places for a dose of retail therapy

General city shopping hours are Monday to Friday 9am-5.30pm with late night shopping on Thursday to 9pm. Most shops are open all day Saturday (9am-5pm) and Sunday 10am-5pm.

1 CITY CENTRE: for city shopping with a touch of elegance head to one of the historic arcades like The Queen Victoria Building or Strand Arcade where you'll find big-name fashion, beautiful jewellery, antiques, gifts, souvenirs and food. Skygarden, Glasshouse and Centrepoint are great places to begin any shopping spree. Castlereagh Street hosts many of the world's most chic designer brands and department stores, David Jones and Myer, are also in the heart of the city.

2 OXFORD STREET: Oxford Street Paddington, known as Sydney's 'Style Mile' is where many of Sydney's top designers first cut their fashion teeth. Crammed with hip fashion boutiques and homewares as well as top name designers like Collette Dinnigan, Morrissey, Lisa Ho and Akira Isogawa. In Darlinghurst, at the western end of Oxford Street you'll be swamped with street fashion and music.

3 DOUBLE BAY AND EASTERN SUBURBS: if you've got money to burn, head to Double Bay or Queen Street Woollahra for high-fashion street wear, haute couture or the perfect evening dress.

4 WBJ: if it's a mega shopping hit in the one place you're after head to Westfield Bondi Junction for 455 stores under the one roof – and free parking.

5 NEWTOWN: Sydney's Boho capital with lots of retro fashion and accessories and quirky one-offs. Wander down King Street and Enmore Road, both lined with stores that sell everything from buttons and beads, tiles, underground records and tribal gifts to the hippest new up-and-comers of the Sydney fashion scene including Leo Monk bespoke handbags.

6 BARGAIN SHOPPING: looking for bargain? There's discount stores galore at Market City, in the centre of Chinatown. Nearby, the old rag-trade district of Surry Hills is the place for outlet shopping with labels like Ralph Lauren, as is Birkenhead Point Outlet Centre, with big names like Country Road, Oxford and Marcs. The latest addition to the outlet scene is Direct Factory Outlets (DFO), close to Olympic Park, the largest of its kind in Sydney. The wide range of brands include Calvin Klein and Oroton.

7 THE ROCKS MARKET: at the northern end of George Street in the shade of the Harbour Bridge, it is filled with around 145 stalls that offer a collection of arts and crafts, home wares, jewellery and collectibles. Open Saturday and Sunday.

8 PADDINGTON MARKET: delve into the up and coming designers' style arena for creative fashion, or browse the many stands of toys, jewellery, antiques and collectibles. Open every Saturday.

9 BONDI BEACH MARKETS: young designers display their latest fashion lines at rock-bottom prices. There's lots of second-hand clothing dealers, retro goodies, art, jewellery and refurbished antiques. Open every Sunday.

10 PADDY'S MARKET, HAYMARKET AND FLEMINGTON: the biggest market in Australia, this is the place to find cheap shoes, clothes, swimwear and lingerie. It's also excellent for fresh seasonal produce. Haymarket – open Thursday to Sunday, Flemington – open Friday and Sunday.