***Virtual Excursions***

***Virtual Australia - exploring Australia online***

**National Parks**

* + The Story Spheres of [Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park](https://parksaustralia.gov.au/uluru/discover/virtual-tour/)
  + Google Street View Trekker in [NSW National Parks](https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/google-trekker)
  + Georama tours of SA National Parks, including:
    - [Coorong National Park](http://www.georama.com.au/coorong/)
    - [Malkumba-Coongie Lakes National Park](http://georama.com.au/coongielakes/)
    - [Onkaparinga River National Park](http://georama.com.au/onkaparinga/)
    - [Mount Lofty Summit](http://georama.com.au/mountloftysummit/)
    - [Tantanoola Caves Conservation Park](http://georama.com.au/tantanoolacavesconservationpark/)
    - There are 22 parks that come up on a search for [virtual tours](https://www.parks.sa.gov.au/search?q=virtual) and each park’s page has a range of additional information available.
    - **NB: these virtual tours require Adobe Flash**
  + [Learning in Nature](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0TIakCfp0aM&list=PLWTnHc7pcIKc3KivmXc-HSUkM5BmbMUk0) : playlist of eight YouTube videos from Parks Victoria
  + [Parks Victoria on SoundCloud](https://soundcloud.com/user-380990574) : this educational channel from Parks Victoria has 18 audio tracks evenly divided between the topics of “Under the Sea” and “Gippsland Birds”, the longest track is 6min44sec.

**Zoos**

* [Zoos Victoria](https://www.zoo.org.au/animal-house/) : take your kids/students to check out the four live camera streams and see if they can spot the animals. “*See Melbourne Zoo's three baby Snow Leopard cubs as they play under mum's watchful eye in their den. Enjoy the penguins as they go about their busy day; look up high and spot the giraffes as they spend most of the day eating; and check out the lazy lions of Werribee Open Range Zoo as they lord over their very own Pride Rock.”*

**Government buildings**

* Victoria’s [Parliament House](https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/visit/virtual-tour)
* NSW’s [Parliament House](https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/about/Pages/Virtual-Tour.aspx) (these are YouTube videos rather than a direct VR experience)
* [Parliament House](http://virtualtour.aph.gov.au/#?), Canberra
* NT’s [Parliament House](https://www.virtualonlinetours.com.au/virtual-online-tour-examples/northern-territory-parliament-house/)

**Museums**

* + The following are examples of the 36 tours available [via Google Arts & Culture](https://artsandculture.google.com/search/streetview?q=Australia)
    - [Queensland Museum](https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/queensland-museum-network)
    - [The Australian War Memorial](https://artsandculture.google.com/streetview/australian-war-memorial/QgHJq7wlm9eraA?sv_lng=149.148658686691&sv_lat=-35.28090043737959&sv_h=34.38&sv_p=0&sv_pid=jvOnh0rnI3cLAGIXB8yc_Q&sv_z=1.0000000000000004)
    - [South Australian Maritime Museum](https://artsandculture.google.com/streetview/south-australia-maritime-museum/IAFOeyvHm9xXpQ?sv_lng=138.5063082612799&sv_lat=-34.84300056592888&sv_h=61.18&sv_p=0&sv_pid=YJmC8f5o4jVKusVZ2qx17w&sv_z=1.0000000000000002)
    - [South Australian Museum](https://artsandculture.google.com/streetview/south-australian-museum/sgEo4uf2GhojZg?sv_lng=138.6031992231094&sv_lat=-34.92065941720595&sv_h=-34&sv_p=0&sv_pid=NmkbKj9hwsw3QNz3F_xfaA&sv_z=1.0000000000000004)
    - [Australia Museum](https://artsandculture.google.com/streetview/australian-museum/4AE0AHHsWK5jMQ?sv_lng=151.2133902761654&sv_lat=-33.87405668829594&sv_h=265.84704374926196&sv_p=-0.9890641710381942&sv_pid=JVwdaNd15dbb2bsnE_yPCQ&sv_z=1.0000000000000004)

**Historic sites**

* Visit the [Polly Woodside Tall Ship or Old Melbourne Gaol](https://www.nationaltrust.org.au/educationprograms/virtually-there/) via the National Trust’s Virtually There 3D resources

**Cities**

* [Hidden Melbourne](https://www.hiddenmelbourne.com.au/) : this website is loaded with amazing virtual tours of “..*.places that are often not accessible such as the tops of towers, derelict buildings and even some that have since been lost to redevelopment*.”

**Visual collections**

* + The following are examples of the 75 locations (including galleries, museums and more) who have made some/all of their collections available [via Google Arts & Culture](https://artsandculture.google.com/search/partner?q=Australia) (please note, despite limiting my search to Australia, there are some overseas locations in the mix)
    - [National Gallery of Victoria](https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/national-gallery-of-victoria)
    - [Art Gallery of South Australia](https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/art-gallery-of-south-australia)
    - [Australian Football League](https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/AFL)
    - [The Australian Ballet](https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/the-australian-ballet)
    - [SensiLab, Monash University](https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/monash-university-faculty-of-it)
    - [Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka (M.A.D.E), Ballarat](https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/museum-of-australian-democracy-at-eureka)
    - [Australian Centre for the Moving Image](https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/australian-centre-for-the-moving-image)
    - [Geoscience Australia](https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/geoscience-australia)
  + [Australia: Great Sporting Land](https://artsandculture.google.com/project/australian-sports) : *explore the unifying spirit of Australian sport - from tales to traditions, larrikins to legends*
  + [The Australasian Virtual Herbarium](http://avh.chah.org.au/) : *Australian and New Zealand herbaria house over eight million plant, algae and fungi specimens.*
  + [Wilsons Promontory Virtual Herbarium](http://wpvherbarium.biosciences.unimelb.edu.au/) : *This virtual herbarium provides access to a significant collection of plant and algal species from Wilsons Promontory National Park.*

***Virtual Globe - exploring the world online***

* [360° Videos from Google Arts & Culture](https://artsandculture.google.com/project/360-videos) : museums, galleries, iconic venues, fashion, natural history, around the world, space… there are soooo many places to go in this collection

**Museums & Galleries**

* [Tour the Louvre, Paris](https://www.louvre.fr/en/visites-en-ligne) : currently there are two virtual tours of the Louvre - Egyptian Antiquities and the Remains of the Louvre’s Moat, both of these require Flash to be enabled. There is also a mini tour/information site on the restoration of the Galerie d'Apollon, which also requires Flash.
* [The British Museum’s Collection Online](https://research.britishmuseum.org/research/collection_online/search.aspx) : *There are currently 2,335,338 records available, which represent more than 4,000,000 objects. 1,018,471 records have one or more images.*
* [British Museum via Google Arts & Culture](https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/the-british-museum)
* [The Dali Theatre-Museum, Catalonia](https://www.salvador-dali.org/en/museums/dali-theatre-museum-in-figueres/visita-virtual/) : *By means of this virtual visit, we invite you to take a tour around some of the museum's rooms and see some works and objects exhibited there by means of panoramic pictures.* NB: requires Flash to view panoramic images.
* [The Vatican](http://www.museivaticani.va/content/museivaticani/en/collezioni/musei/tour-virtuali-elenco.1.html) : seven different 360º tours of museums and other locations within the Vatican
* [Online exhibits @ the National Women’s History Museum, USA](https://www.womenshistory.org/womens-history/online-exhibits) : 29 different online exhibits examining Women’s history in the USA, although I’ve noticed a lack of any mention of First Nations women.

**Historical sites**

* [Virtual Tour of the Great Wall of China](https://www.thechinaguide.com/destination/great-wall-of-china)

**Orchestras, Operas…**

* [Take me to the Opera](https://operavision.eu/en/library/%C3%B3peras) : OperaVision has 21 operas from companies across the globe available for you to share with your students. Each thumbnail takes you to the specific performance’s information page where you can view the YouTubeLive video, read up on the cast, the story and insights into the opera.
* [Berliner Philharmoniker Digital Concert Hall](https://www.digitalconcerthall.com/en/concerts) : if you register before March 31, the Berlin Philharmonic is offering a free 30 day pass to access their digital concert hall.

**Animals - in the wild, in the farm, in captivity**

* [Monterey Bay Aquarium, California](https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/visit/exhibits) exhibits
* [FarmFood360](https://www.farmfood360.ca/) : explore Canadian farms and food tours
* [Tundra Connections](https://www.discoveryeducation.com/learn/tundra-connections/) :  *Experience Polar Bears | Virtual Field Trip in Churchill, Manitoba, Canada*

**a STEM focus**

* [Langley Research Centre Virtual Tour (NASA)](https://oh.larc.nasa.gov/oh/) : click to view the map and then use the markers to visit different locations around Langley. Each marker opens up an information page about the location with a video and (scrolling down) additional information about the area and what happens there.
* [Glenn Research Center (NASA)](https://www.nasa.gov/glennvirtualtours) : there are 10 virtual tours to take, including the Wind tunnels, Ballistics Impact Lab, the Space Environments Complex, and Zero-G.

***Virtual Space - explore beyond the exosphere***

* [Access Mars](https://accessmars.withgoogle.com/)
* [Innovating the Future Virtual Field Trip](https://www.boeingfutureu.com/virtual-field-trip) : *Join Boeing and Discovery Education on a mission to inspire the world through aerospace innovation with an exclusive virtual field trip to historic Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas.*