

Planning a Visit to Discovery

Visual Story



Discovery Science and Technology Centre

The Discovery Science & Technology Centre in Bendigo is a hands-on science museum dedicated to sparking curiosity and making STEM accessible to all.

The address of Discovery is:

7 Railway Place, Bendigo, Victoria

The entrance is through the doors on the marketplace end of a big brick building.

Discovery opens at 10am and closes at 4pm.

During the school term, Discovery is closed on Mondays. In school holidays, it is open every day.





Getting There

Car Parking

Parking is at the Bendigo Marketplace carpark. It has over 1,200 free 3-hour car park spaces including disabled car park and parents with prams parking spaces.

Public Transport

Discovery is located opposite to Bendigo Train Station and bus depot, so it is easily accessible by public transport.

Accessible Parking

There are accessible car parks within the Marketplace car park, and the train station parking. If I am entering via the Marketplace side, there is a ramp available. If I am entering via the train station parking side, I am at Discovery's level.





Buying Tickets

I will enter Discovery through the glass doors.

I will see a Discovery staff member at the front desk helping people buy tickets and checking people in.

I might need to wait in line to buy tickets. If it is busy, there might be people lined-up outside the building.

Another Discovery staff member may be helping guests and answering questions.

I can leave and come back later in the day. I will need to let staff know before leaving and I may be given a stamp or wristband.





Discovery Staff

Discovery staff are here to help and keep people safe.

If I am confused, want to ask a question or need help I can ask a Discovery staff member for help.

Discovery staff wear black shirts with a green logo like this.



Discovery staff also wear a lanyard and a name tag.

There will always be staff at the Front Desk.





Finding out what we can do at Discovery

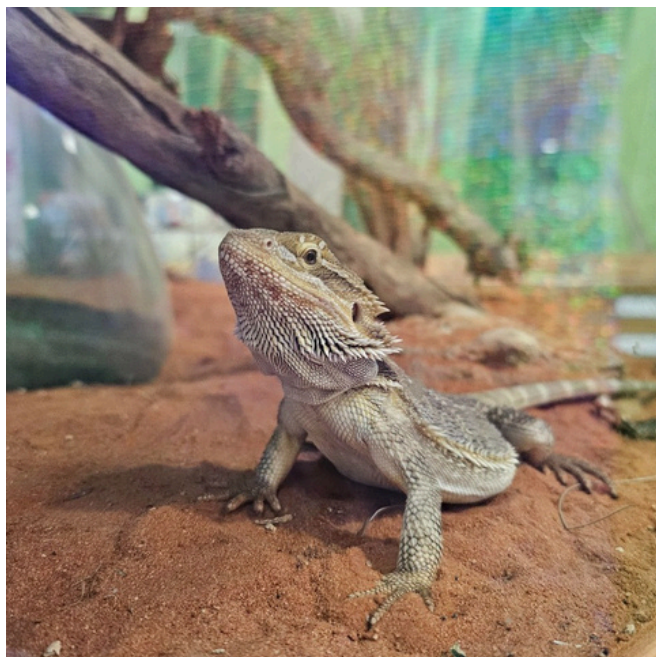
I can ask at the front desk for the sessions that are running today and things we can see and do.

Usually, all sessions are included in the general entry except for the Planetarium.

Sessions I could go to might include:

- Vertical Slide
- Lizard Feeding
- Science Shows

There is a screen above the Front Desk with session times and there are announcements over the speakers in the centre to let me know when the next session is beginning.





Sensory Bags to Borrow

Discovery can be loud and busy.

I might like to take my own sensory tools to help me in the centre when I visit.

If I don't have my own, I can borrow one from Discovery.

These bags can be borrowed from the Front Desk for free.



Enchroma Glasses

Enchroma glasses assist people with red-green colour blindness and can be borrowed from the front desk.

Bag Storage

Bags can be stored in cubbies between Roary the T-Rex and the front desk.





Biology Section

Just past the Front Desk, I may go up the stairs to our biology section.

This section includes some stick insects, in an enclosure, a yabby in a tank, two Central Bearded Dragons in a dome and Roary the T-Rex.

Roary may say hello if I say loudly “Hi Roary.” She roars loudly but I can let the front desk know if I don’t want her to roar.

If I need ramp access or want to avoid this section, I will head down the green corridor beside the Front Desk instead.





Toilets

Discovery has toilets down the green corridor that connects the front desk to our accessible ramp.

If I need help finding the toilet, I can ask a staff member.

The accessible toilets are in the middle; this is also our parent's room.

The hand dryers blow lots of air and are noisy.





Tables and Chairs

There are tables and chairs I can eat at when at Discovery. These are located down the green corridor and across from the blue police box.



Water Refill Station

I can refill my water at the blue refill station inside the main exhibit space, near the end of the vertical slide.





Kaleidoscope

Kaleidoscope is an area for young children and is designed to be safe for 0-5 year olds.

There are many stations for our youngest scientists to build, learn and explore.

I might need to share the exhibits and space with other children and their families.





Exhibits

There is a lot of exhibits at Discovery. I can touch and play with everything. If there is something that can't be touched, there will be a sign and a picture.

Some exhibits are loud, particularly the rocket ship and footnotes. If I find these too loud, I can play somewhere else or ask staff for a sensory bag.

Some exhibits change over time, so the next time I visit, we might see different exhibits or a special visiting exhibit.





The Vertical Slide

The Vertical Slide is an experience for those aged 5 and over.

If I am over 5 and wish to ride the slide, I need to be wearing socks on my feet and Discovery's overalls.

The slide is only open for a few sessions per day. Each session runs for 20 minutes.

I will need to learn how to safely slide by listening to the Discovery Staff member give a talk about safety. I must follow all instructions or I won't be allowed to slide.

If I decide I don't want to go down the slide, that is ok. I can walk back down the stairs.

The slide may be busy and I may only get one turn.





School Holiday Science Shows

If I visit Discovery during the school holidays, I might see a show in the Auditorium.

For my own safety, it is important that I stay seated unless I am asked to be a helper in the show.

During the show, the presenter may ask if anyone wants to help with an experiment. If I want to help I will raise my hand and wait to see if I am picked. All experiments are safe and the presenter will tell me what I need to do if I am chosen.

There are sometime loud noises during the show, like a balloon popping. The presenter will let me know before so I can cover my ears.

If I have questions, I can talk to the presenter after the show is over.





Bendigo Planetarium

The Bendigo Planetarium is located inside Discovery. The entrance is near the astronomy wall near the front desk.

I can purchase tickets for the planetarium at the front desk, or online before arriving.

The Planetarium may run a few sessions per day, and I will listen out for announcements. My ticket will be a wristband with my show time on it. I can wear it or keep it in a pocket or bag.

I can not have food or drinks in the planetarium.

I may be able to choose where I sit. I might sit in a beanbag, low lounge or chair. I will make sure to stay in my seat while the show is on.

Inside the planetarium is very dark. Some parts of the movie may have moving images. If these make me feel dizzy, I can close my eyes until I feel better. Some shows may contain flashing





School Sleepovers at Discovery

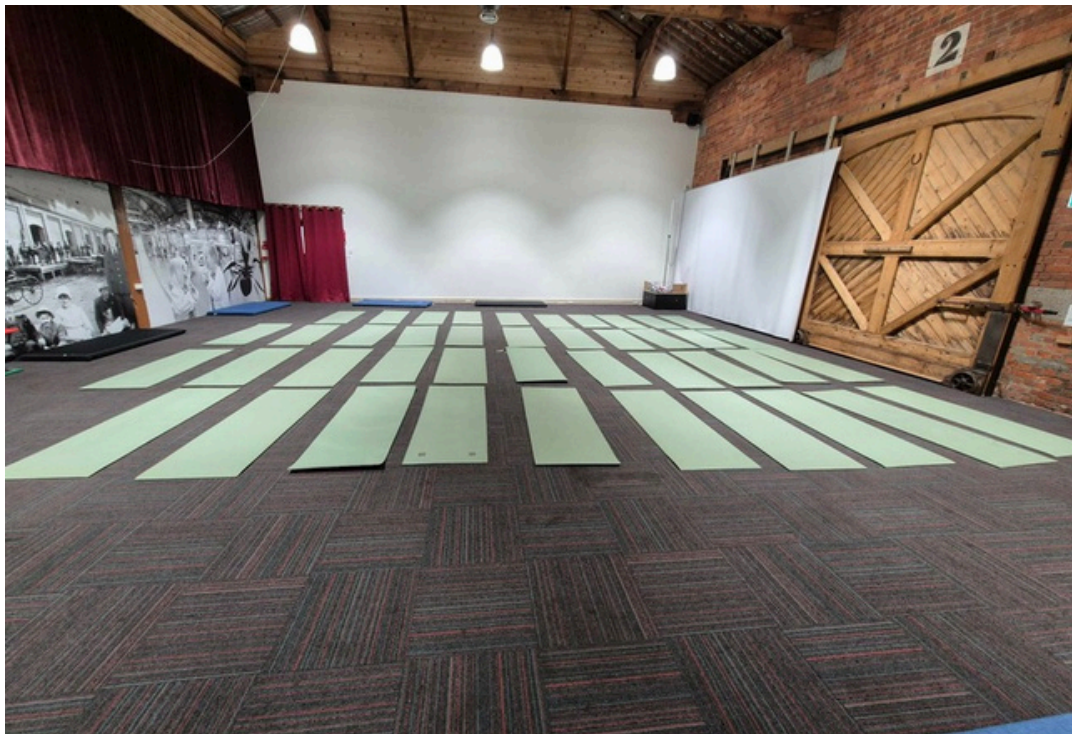
I might spend the night at Discovery with my school or scout group.

I can explore the exhibits and might go down the slide before having pizza for dinner.

I might go in the planetarium after dinner.

We will all sleep in the auditorium on sleeping mats on the floor. We will watch a movie in this room before bed. My teachers will also sleep in this room.

In the morning, I will have a choice of toast or cereal for breakfast.





Parties at Discovery

I might have been invited at a party at Discovery.

Some parties involve shows in the lab and will be run by a Discovery staff member called a partyologist.

For my safety, I will listen to the partyologist and stand or sit where I am told.

I will have time to watch the show, go on the slide and play with the exhibits.



We hope you enjoy your visit to Discovery!