

# **Plane Spotting**

**MELBOURNE** AIRPORT



This book belongs to:

Between
1st July 2010 and
30th June 2020,
close to 240
million domestic
passengers passed
through Melbourne
Airport.



## MELBOURNE A I R P O R T STANK

Melbourne Airport opened in 1970. What else happened that year?

- RT. Hon. J.G. Gorton was Prime Minister of Australia
- Carlton won the VFL Grand Final against Collingwood
- Sir Henry Bolte was Premier of Victoria
- Baghdad Note won the Melbourne Cup



Melbourne Airport's solar farm can support nearly 15% of the airport's electricity consumption.



Melbourne Airport is located on a broad plateau on the land of the Wurundjeri people, the traditional owners.



Plans to build Melbourne Airport in Tullamarine were announced in 1959!



More than 19,000 people work at the airport precinct.



Melbourne Airport's longest runway is 3,658m long! That's the same length as 258 W Class trams that operate on the Melbourne City Circle tram route!



CBD is 316m tall.

Melbourne Airport covers more than 2,700 hectares. 1,350 MCGs could fit on airport land!

Since opening in July 1970, almost 780 million passengers have passed through Melbourne Airport.



Terminal 4 (T4) was opened on the 9th December 2015.

## Have you seen these airlines at Melbourne Airport?











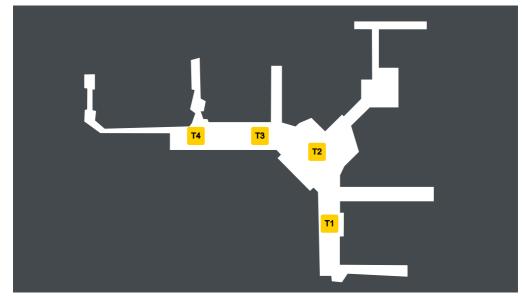














Length

39.5m

Wingspan

35.8m

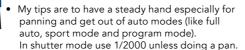
- Two engines
- Pointed nose
- Triangular section at the front of the tail
- Winglets at the end of each wing







## **Christian**



- Make sure you get the full aircraft in the photo.
- Try doing some silhouette photos with the orange light and sun in the background for sunset and sunrise.
- Try to get out when there is some great contrast in the clouds, it produces a very cool effect even in golden hour.

#### My favourite livery

On the 737 it's the Qantas Retro Roo (1959). It's my favourite livery because it really shows what Qantas was like back in the day, and it's really cool to see and to take photos of. It looks amazing in golden hour light.

### My favourite angle

My favourite angle is the side of the aircraft because it shows the whole aircraft and livery in the photo and looks good. Or even a head on shot and a close up of the landing.

The Boeing 737-800, as photographed by Christian, 2022





#### DID YOU KNOW:

In 2019, more than 9.1 million people travelled between Melbourne Airport and Sydney Airport. This equated to more than 6 in 10 people living in NSW and VIC using this route.







Length 37.5m

Wingspan 35.8m

- Two engines
- A rounder nose
- No triangular section in front of the tail









## **Adrian**

- First, go to 'FlightRadar24.com' to find out when the planes are arriving or departing. Zoom in to Melbourne Airport and click on the blue location icon to find information.
- Check the weather at 'Windy.com' to see
   everything the weather is doing as well as forecasting
   days ahead. Wind direction is a crucial factor when spotting, as it will
   determine the direction that the planes are departing and arriving.
   By using Windy.com you can see the wind direction for that day.

### My favourite livery

I'm excited by seeing Jetstar's new livery arrive at Melbourne Airport.

### My favourite angle

For Jetstar's A320, it is side on. To get these side on shots, head to locations like the Operations Road Viewing Carpark or Uniting Lane – Bulla (North end of airport, runway 16).

If you prefer overhead shots, like take-offs from runway 34, or exhilarating low overhead arrivals on runway 16, locations such as the aircraft viewing area carpark at the northern end of the airport, at Oaklands Road intersection, will give you that. There's usually a food van offering Gelato or hot snacks that'll top off your overhead spotting experience!

The Airbus A320, as photographed by Adrian, 2022





Length

57-63m

Wingspan

60m

- Two engines
- Swept wings with no winglets
- Four doors per side
- Pointed nose
- Noise reducing chevrons on its engines







## **Christian**

 My tip would be to get out of auto mode and start going into shutter mode or aperture mode, or even manual mode.

 For shutter mode, I would put 1/2000 or use the reciprocal rule, which is what ever your focal length, is your minimum shutter speed. For example, focal length: 200mm minimum shutter speed: 1/200. and for aperture mode 7.1.

#### My favourite livery

My favourite livery design on the 787 is Air Tahiti or Qantas Yam Dreaming.

### My favourite angle

My favourite angle to photograph the 787 is its side view.

The 787 photographed by Alistair, 2022



#### **DID YOU KNOW:**

The first international departure from Melbourne Airport was Qantas QF530 to San Francisco. The first international arrival at Melbourne Airport was Alitalia AZ723 from Rome.







Length 66.8-73.8m Key Features • Two engines

Wingspan 64.7m • Winglets on the wings

• Four doors per side







#### DID YOU KNOW:

More than 170 million international passengers have passed through Melbourne Airport since it opened.



Inspecting the runway with Airside Safety Officer...

## **Tanya**

When I am inspecting the Melbourne Airport runways to keep them safe for all arriving and departing aircraft, these are some of the things I look for:

- 1 Check the surface pavement for cracks, loose rocks and holes.
- **2** Check the lights are working along the edge of the runway, the centre line and on the approach.
- **3** Check for any wildlife such as rabbits, birds or foxes that may be near the runway and scare them away with our car horn and sirens.
- **4** Check all signs are visible and the lawn is mowed.



#### **DID YOU KNOW:**

The airside of an airport defines the aircraft operations area and its adjacent area where aircraft and ground support vehicles operate.

Access to the airside is restricted and requires passing through security checkpoints.







Length

72.7m

Wingspan

79.8m

- Four engines
- Two passenger decks (look for windows)
- Bulbous nose
- 22 wheels







## Alastair

- The A380 isn't seen very often during the day at Melbourne Airport compared to at night.
- If you are out at the airport at night and see the A380, try to hold your camera as still as possible so you can get the clearest photo.
- Try to lean your camera on something solid and use live focus to see what the camera is focusing on.
- My favourite photo of the A380 is Qantas, VH-OQJ that I captured on its first departure out of Melbourne in over a year.

### My favourite livery

On the A380, it's the Emirates blue Dubai expo livery because of its unique design and colours.

The A380, as photographed by Alastair, 2022

### My favourite angle

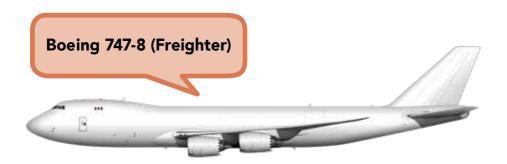
The best place for spotting the A380 at night time is the T4 car park because it is lighter up there then Operations Road at night.





#### DID YOU KNOW:

The A380 is the heaviest aircraft used at Melbourne
Airport. It has a maximum take-off weight of 575
tonnes, which is more than
five blue whales!



Length 7

76.3m

**Key Features** 

Wingspan 68.4m

• Four engines

- A 'hump' at the front of the aircraft
- Noise reducing chevrons on its engines





#### **DID YOU KNOW:**

In 2019, more than 174,000 tonnes of air freight was flown out of Melbourne Airport. That is the same weight as 310 million jars of Vegemite.







Length 32.8m Wingspan 28.4m

Key Features • Two turboprop engines (propellers)

- Wings connect to the top of the fuselage
- T shaped tail
- Wheels under propellers



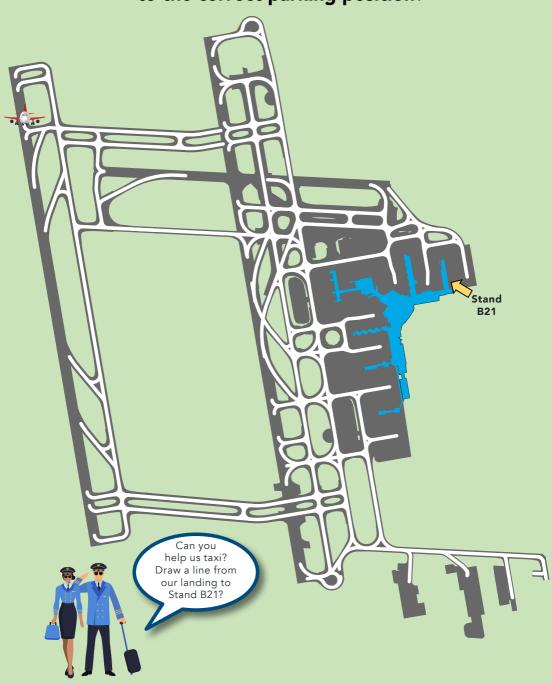
Length 19.7m Wingspan 21.4m

Key Features • Two turboprop engines (propellers)

• Winglets connect to the underside of the fuselage



## Can you help the pilots find their way to the correct parking position?



## **Word Search**

Q	N	U	N	С	Т	D	K	N	Χ	L	G	J	Т	0	L	I	Р	Т	Т
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### FIND THESE WORDS...

AIRPORT	DEPARTURE	JOURNEY	PILOT			
ARRIVAL	DESTINATION	LUGGAGE	TARMAC			
BOARDING	FAMILY	PASSENGER	TRANSPORT			
CABIN	HOLIDAY	PASSPORT	TRAVEL			

