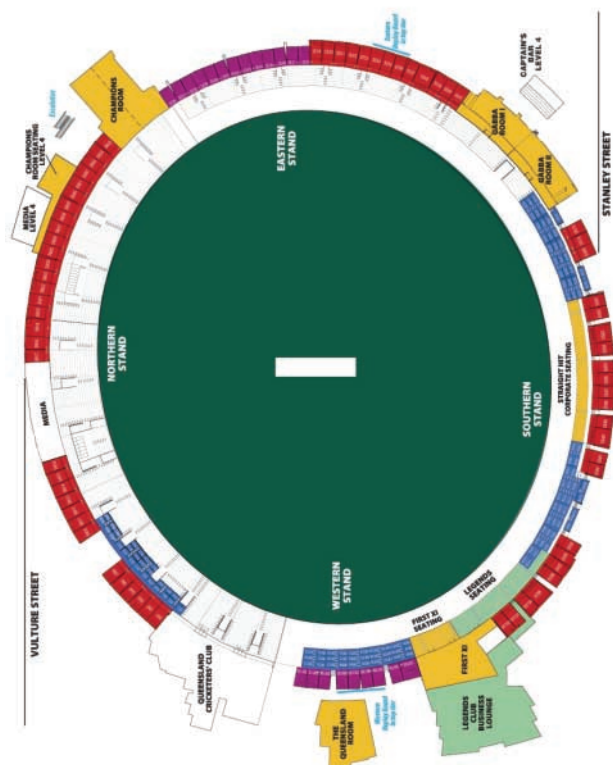


Venues

Brisbane

Ground Name	The Gabba
Address	Vulture St, Woolloongabba QLD 4151
Telephone	(07) 3292 3100
Fax	(07) 3262 9160
Ground Capacity	approx 40,000
Email	qldc@qldcricket.com.au
Website	www.qldcricket.com.au / www.bulls.com.au

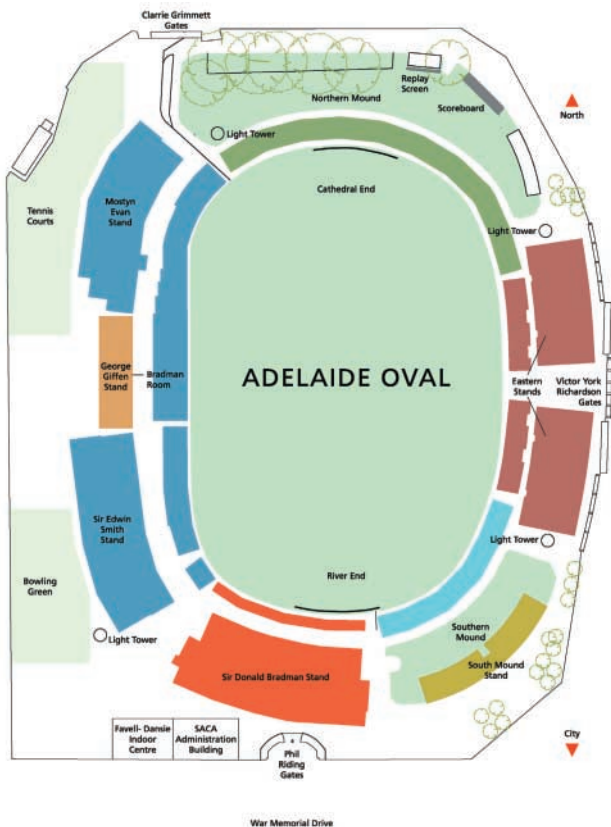
Has been used as a First Class Cricket Ground since 1897 although it did not host its first Test until 1931. Staged Australia's first ever Twenty20 International in 2006 and was used to stage events in the 2000 Olympics. The wicket has traditionally favoured fast bowlers but nowadays tends to be good for batting. England fans will remember the ground as the venue for Ian Botham's last Test century, a hard-hitting 138 on the triumphant Ashes tour of 1986-7. A spectacular thunderstorm on the final day allowed England to escape with a draw at 'The Gabba' in 1998-99, but England lost Ashes Tests here in 1990-91, 1994-95 and on their last visit in 2002-03 when Simon Jones ruptured his knee ligaments in the field on the first day and captain Nasser Hussain was left rueing his decision to put the home side into bat first.



Adelaide

Ground Name	Adelaide Oval
Address	War Memorial Drive, North Adelaide 5006
Telephone	(08) 8300 3800
Fax	(08) 8231 4346
Ground Capacity	approx 30,000
Email	admin@saca.com.au
Website	www.cricketsa.com.au

The Adelaide Oval was named after the famous AMP Oval in South London and is one of the prettiest settings in Test match cricket with fine views of the nearby mountains and St Peter's Cathedral. The ground is also a one hour drive from the world famous wine region of the 'Barossa Valley'. Adelaide is renowned for having well-balanced wickets; early in a match the pitch favours the batsmen, but it can take spin in the latter stages of a game. Steeped in history, the Adelaide Oval's famous Bradman Stand is named after the local hero Sir Donald Bradman, Australia's greatest ever batsman, who retired with a record Test match average of 99.94. England's most recent Ashes Test wins here were in 1994-95 and 1978-79 but they have won only eight Tests here overall and lost by an innings and 51 runs on their last visit in 2002-03 despite Michael Vaughan's magnificent 177.

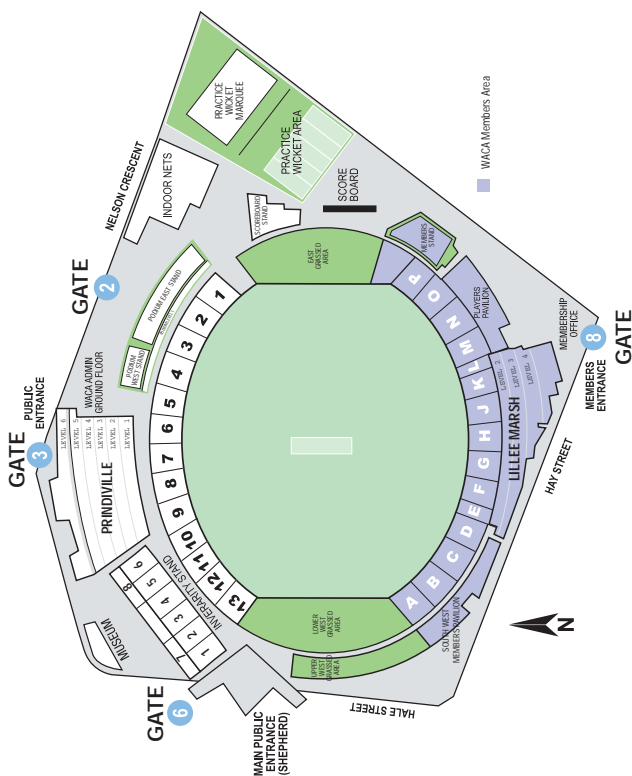


Venues

Perth

Ground Name	WACA Perth Ground
Address	Nelson Crescent, East Perth 6892
Telephone	(08) 9265 7222
Fax	(08) 9265 7275
Ground Capacity	24,000
Email	info@waca.com.au
Website	www.waca.com.au

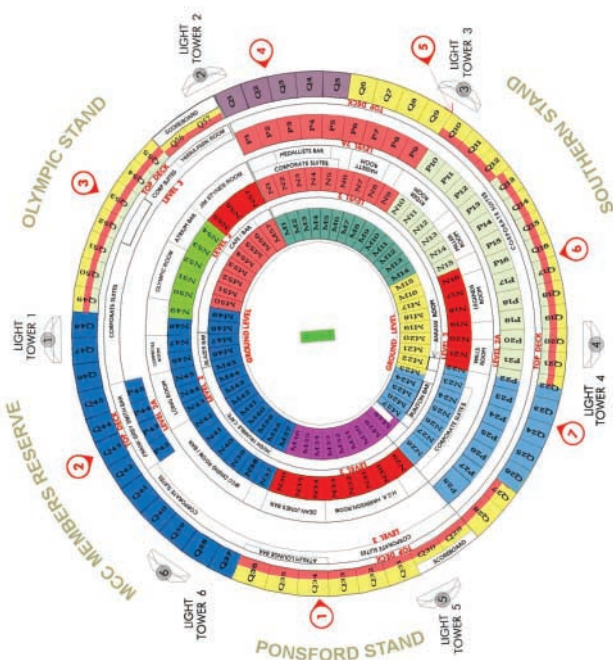
Built on old swamp land, the WACA (Western Australia Cricket Ground) has staged AFL, soccer, rugby league and union in its 116-year history, but is best known for cricket. Hosted its first Test Match in 1970-71 and has long enjoyed a reputation as one of the fastest and hardest pitches on the international circuit. Under-went a major redevelopment programme in 2002 which included the construction of a new small grandstand and players' pavilion. Bowling into the breeze is an art in itself at the WACA - thanks to the 'Fremantle Doctor', a stiff wind which blows in from the Swan River. Australia retained the Ashes here on England's last tour 'Down Under' wrapping up the match in three days by an innings and 48 runs.



Melbourne

Ground Name	Melbourne Cricket Ground
Stadium Manager	Melbourne Cricket Club
Address	86 Jolimont Street, Jolimont 3002
Media Enquiries	Shane Brown, 0418 353 431
Telephone (matchdays)	(03) 9654 4995
Telephone	(03) 9653 1100
Fax	(03) 9653 1196
Ground Capacity	approx 100,000 (including standing room)
Email	vca@cricketvictoria.com.au
Website	www.cricketvictoria.com.au / www.bushrangers.com.au

The Melbourne Cricket Ground, or MCG, is the world's oldest Test match ground, hosting a match between Australia and England in March 1877, three years before London's Oval. The MCG hosted the game which clinched the Ashes for Mike Gatting's team in 1986 but for many England fans it is best remembered for the 1992 World Cup Final when England lost to Pakistan by 22 runs. The crowd of 87,000 was just 3,000 short of the world record attendance for a day's Test cricket which brought 90,800 to the MCG to watch the West Indies in 1960-61. Venue for the traditional 'Boxing Day' Test, Australia won by five wickets here in 2002-03 with Justin Langer making 250, but four years earlier England secured a dramatic victory by just 12 runs with Dean Headley taking a match-winning 6-60 in the second innings. Venue for the 2006 Commonwealth Games and the 1956 Olympics, the northern side of the ground has recently undergone a redevelopment.

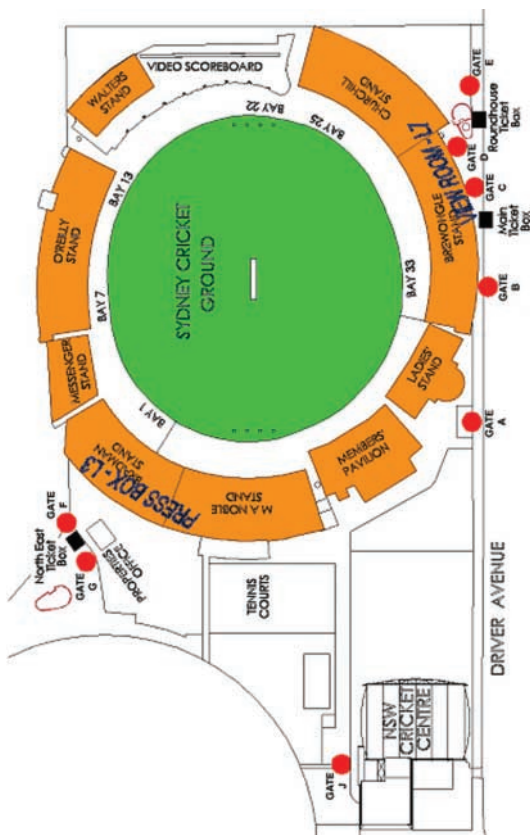


Venues

Sydney

Ground Name	Sydney Cricket Ground
Address	Driver Avenue, Moore Park, NSW 2021
Telephone (matchdays)	(02) 9339 0974
Telephone (Sydney Cricket Ground Trust)	(02) 9360 6601
Ground Capacity	43,000
Email	info@cricketnsw.com.au
Website	www.nswblues.com.au / www.cricketnsw.com.au

The great Ashes tradition began in Sydney after England won the third Test of 1882-83 to take a 2-1 lead against Australia. After the game, the infamous 'ladies of Melbourne', remembering an obituary notice placed in the Sporting Times after Australia's victory in England the previous summer, burned a ball and sent the Ashes in an urn to the English captain Ivo Bligh. The Sydney Test is now played at the Sydney Cricket Ground - or SCG - just five miles from the famous sights of the Opera House and Sydney Harbour Bridge. Renowned as the most spin-friendly of Australia's international venues, England won by 225 runs here in the final Test of the 2002-03 Ashes series with Andrew Caddick taking ten wickets in the match and Australian captain Stephen Waugh reaching a century off the last ball of the second day - to equal Don Bradman's record of 29 Test centuries.



Hobart

Ground Name	Bellerive Oval
Address	Bellerive Oval, Derwent Street, Bellerive TAS 7018
Postal Address	PO Box 495, Rosny Park TAS 7018
Telephone	(03) 6282 0400
Fax	(03) 6244 3924
Ground Capacity	16,200
Email	info@tascricket.com.au
Website	www.tascricket.com.au

Formerly a community sports field which once staged horse racing and bicycle races in the 1930s, turf wickets were first laid at Bellerive in 1957 and since then the ground has undergone major improvements with the removal of a noticeable camber and leveling of the oval. The pitch has traditionally assisted seam bowlers early on but is usually good for batting and influenced by afternoon sea-breezes off the Derwent River. Hosted its first ODI between New Zealand and Sri Lanka in 1988, and an inaugural Test Match between Australia and Sri Lanka a year later. Robert Key scored 174 not out here for England in a tour match against Australia 'A' in 2002 and the ground will be the venue for ODI Series encounters between England and New Zealand, and Australia and New Zealand this winter.

