of the country's population. CG Melbourne is responsible for one of the largest geographic consular districts in the world, covering more than 1 million square miles (one-third of Australia's landmass) and about 40 percent of its population and economic activity.

"We're lucky in the fact that we have an amazing bilateral relationship with Australia, and our consular work here reinforces that,"

"Our bilateral goods trade has nearly doubled since the 2005 implementation of the U.S.-Australia Free Trade Agreement from $21.8 billion to $35.5 billion, and Australia is now the United States' 15th largest export market." - *Vanessa Colon, pol/econ officer*

said Kimberly Furnish, consular chief. "We're out in the district a lot with frequent visits to Tasmania, Adelaide [where, outside of Melbourne, the largest group of Americans reside], Darwin and Alice Springs. We visit those places and provide passport and report of birth abroad services, among other things. At any given time there could be more than 150,000 Americans within our consular district, so, it's really quite large."

No Melbourne visit is complete without a trip to one of the city's famous laneway cafés for a bite to eat or a creamy flat white (Australia's better version of a latte).