

# WHAT IS LIGHT POLLUTION?

Light pollution is excessive, misdirected or obtrusive artificial (usually outdoor) light. This inappropriate or excessive use of artificial light can have serious environmental consequences for humans, safety, wildlife and our climate.

## TYPES OF LIGHT POLLUTION

### LIGHT TRESPASS

Light falling where it is not intended or needed.

### SKYGLOW

Brightening of the night sky over inhabited areas.

### GLARE

Excessive brightness that causes visual discomfort.

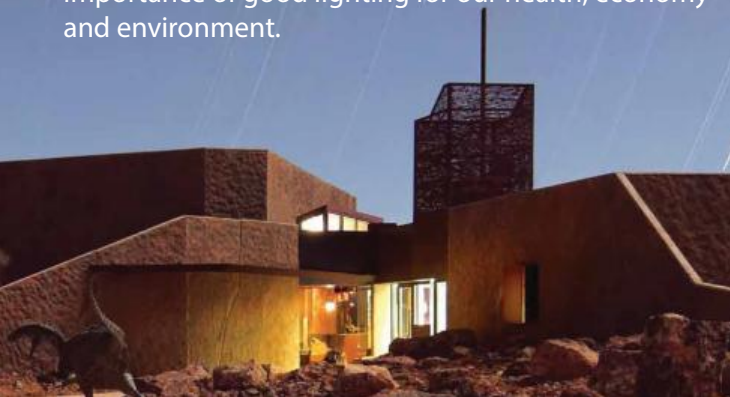
### LIGHT CLUTTER

Bright, confusing and excessive groupings of light sources.

While artificial lights disrupt the natural day-night pattern there are practical solutions everyone can implement, to combat light pollution.

## 4 WAYS YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

1. **INSTALL** lighting only when and where it is needed.
2. **USE** energy-saving features such as dimmers and motion sensors on outdoor lights.
3. **SHIELD** your lighting so light shines down, not up.
4. **EDUCATE** your friends and colleagues about the importance of good lighting for our health, economy and environment.



# AUSTRALIAN AGE OF DINOSAURS

## MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

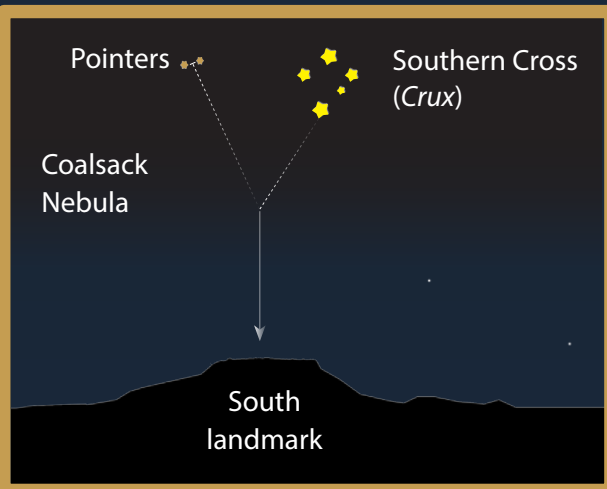
Looking to the  
STARS

# ENJOY THE DARKNESS

It can take your eyes a while to adjust fully to the darkness. It is best to get comfy and turn off mobile phones, car lights and flashlights. If you have to use a light use a red light as this will not impact vision as much as white. The galaxy that contains our own solar system, the **MILKY WAY**, is especially easy to see in Australia. The galaxy appears from Earth as a band of light formed from stars that cannot be individually distinguished by the naked eye.

## FINDING SOUTH

**THE SOUTHERN CROSS** or *Crux* comprises circumpolar stars that are visible from most locations in the Southern Hemisphere year-round. To find south draw a line perpendicular to the halfway point between the two pointer stars. Where that line meets the line formed by the two most widely separated stars in the Southern Cross is the south point in the sky. From the pole drop a line straight down to the horizon.



[australianageofdinosaurs.com](http://australianageofdinosaurs.com)

**THE MOON** is the Earth's only permanent natural satellite, and formed around 4.51 billions years ago – not long after the Earth.



Next to the Southern Cross, **THE EMU** is one of the few night-sky features made up of darker patches of sky rather than the stars themselves. These patches are created by the dust of the Coalsack Nebula and other dark dusty trails obscuring the light of stars that exist behind them.