SYDNEY & NEW SOUTH WALES EVENTS CALENDAR
SEPTEMBER 2015 – JUNE 2016

sydney.com | visitnsw.com
On behalf of the NSW Government, I am proud to present the 2015-16 Sydney & New South Wales Events Calendar, your essential guide to the fantastic range of events and entertainment on offer across Sydney and Regional NSW.

This world-class calendar reveals the impressive line-up of sporting, arts, culture and lifestyle events to be staged over the next year. The NSW Government remains committed to securing major events across the State which attract visitors from around NSW, Australia and the world, helping boost the NSW visitor economy.

The calendar features events that will appeal to people of all tastes and ages, including the Australian premiere of Matilda The Musical, the 2015 NRL Telstra Premiership Grand Final, Sculpture by the Sea, Tropfest and the Coates Hire Sydney 500.

There is a great range of Regional NSW events, including the Dubbo Stampede Running Festival, Taste Riverina Festival, Deni Ute Muster, and the Tamworth Country Music Festival.

I encourage you to make the most of this impressive calendar of events for 2015-16 as there is plenty to see and do in Australia’s number one State.

Stuart Ayres MP
Minister for Trade, Tourism and Major Events
Minister for Sport
**SYDNEY AND NSW HIGHLIGHT EVENTS**

**SEPTEMBER 2015**

**MATILDA THE MUSICAL**
Now playing
Sydney Lyric Theatre

**OCTOBER 2015**

**2015 NRL TELSTRA PREMIERSHIP GRAND FINAL WEEK**
29 September - 4 October
ANZ Stadium, Sydney Olympic Park

**DECEMBER 2015**

**5TH AACTA AWARDS PRESENTED BY PRESTO**
9 December
The Star, Sydney

**JANUARY 2016**

**2016 PARKES ELVIS FESTIVAL**
6 – 10 January
Parkes

**MARCH 2016**

**SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW**
17 – 30 March
Sydney Showground, Sydney Olympic Park

**APRIL 2016**

**XTERRA ASIA-PACIFIC CHAMPIONSHIP**
2 – 3 April
Callala Beach, Jervis Bay

**JANUARY 2016**

**TAMWORTH COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL**
15 – 24 January
Tamworth

**FEBRUARY 2016**

**HSBC SYDNEY SEVENS**
6 – 7 February
Allianz Stadium, Sydney

**MAY 2016**

**VIVID SYDNEY**
27 May – 13 June
Various locations across Sydney

**JUNE 2016**

**THE AUSTRALIAN BADMINTON OPEN 2016**
7 – 12 June
Sydney Olympic Park

**OCTOBER 2015**

**SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL ART SERIES**
24 October – 1 May
Art Gallery of NSW & Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, Sydney

**NOVEMBER 2015**

**MULLUM MUSIC FESTIVAL**
19 – 22 November
Mullumbimby
Les Misérables
Now playing (limited season)
Cameron Mackintosh’s acclaimed new production.
Capitol Theatre, Sydney

Matilda The Musical
Now playing
Be captivated by this multi-award-winning, unforgettable production.
Sydney Lyric Theatre

Spring Festival of Flowers
1 – 30 September
Beautiful floral displays, entertainment, demonstrations, talks, tours and workshops.
Pokolbin

Sample Food Festival
5 September
The premier food and lifestyle festival for northern New South Wales.
Bangalow

Anything Goes
5 September – 31 October
Opera Australia and John Frost are proud to present Cole Porter’s popular musical comedy.
Sydney Opera House

Colette Dinnigan: Unlaced
5 September – 28 August
Don’t miss this exhibition exploring the Australian fashion designer’s label.
Powerhouse Museum, Sydney

Dubbo Stampede Running Festival
6 September
A community event with options - walk 5.5km, run 10km or a marathon.
Dubbo

Bendigo Bank Coffs Harbour Running Festival
6 September
An event for the whole family offering fun runs and walks.
Coffs Harbour

Coates Hire Rally Australia
10 – 13 September
The fastest drivers in the FIA World Rally Championship return.
Coffs Harbour

The Other Art Fair
10 – 13 September
Buy ‘the next big thing’ at this international art fair.
Central Park, Sydney

NSW HAS WON ‘BEST EVENT STATE’ AT THE AUSTRALIAN EVENT AWARDS FOR 2013 AND 2014.
sydney.com | visitnsw.com
Broken Heel Festival
11 – 13 September
Join ‘Priscilla Queen of the Desert’ to celebrate her 21st birthday in the Outback.
Broken Hill

2015 ISA World Kneeboarding Championship
13 – 20 September
Watch a hot field of the world’s best kneeboarders in action.
Kiama

Tulip Time Festival
15 – 27 September
Two weeks of beautiful gardens in springtime.
Bowral

Art & About Sydney
18 September – 11 October
Experience Sydney through art in unusual spaces.
Various locations across Sydney

Annual Porchetta Day
19 September
Enjoy all the tastes and sounds of Italy in country NSW.
Gunnedah

Woolgoolga Curryfest
19 – 27 September
Celebrate the town’s unique Punjabi heritage with food, markets and entertainment.
Woolgoolga

Blackmores Sydney Running Festival
20 September
Four exciting events to cater for all ages and fitness levels.
Milsons Point, Sydney

Cherry Blossom Long Lunch
27 September
Savour Hilltops region food and wine in a blossom-filled cherry orchard.
Young

FFA National Youth Championships for Boys
28 September – 2 October
Australia’s premier youth football tournament attracts competitors from across the nation.
Coffs Harbour

THE SYDNEY HARBOUR BRIDGE IS ONE OF AUSTRALIA’S MOST WELL-KNOWN AND PHOTOGRAPHED LANDMARKS.
sydney.com | visitnsw.com
2015 NRL Telstra Premiership Grand Final Week
28 September – 4 October
A variety of events building up to the much anticipated NRL Grand Final.
ANZ Stadium, Sydney Olympic Park

Blender Festival
1 – 4 October
A blend of music, arts, technology, food and skateboarding.
Wollongong

Taste Riverina Festival
1 – 31 October
Celebrate the year’s harvest with fine food, wine, beer and fun.
Wagga Wagga, Griffith, Leeton & Junee

Deni Ute Muster
2 – 3 October
Award-winning, record-breaking muster for your bucket list.
Deniliquin

Murrumbateman Moving Feast
3 – 5 October
An event for the tastebuds with fine local wines and food.
Murrumbateman

Sydney Spring Carnival
3, 10, 17, 24, 31 October
Enjoy entertainment, top quality horses and superior race day hospitality.
Royal Randwick Racecourse, Sydney

Supercheap Auto Bathurst 1000
8 – 11 October
An iconic motorsport celebration featuring V8 supercars.
Mount Panorama, Bathurst

Real Juice Company Citrus Sculptures
11 – 24 October
More than 60 large 3D sculptures line the main street of Griffith.
Griffith

Hunter by the Harbour
12 October – 8 November
Cockle Bay Wharf welcomes Hunter Valley wineries and providores.
Cockle Bay Wharf, Sydney

Wingham Akoostik Music Festival
16 – 18 October
Camping, music, food markets and activities for everyone.
Wingham
**Orange Wine Festival**  
16 October – 1 November  
Wine tastings, food and wine matching, dinners and night markets for everyone.  
**Orange**

**IRONMAN 70.3 Port Macquarie**  
18 October  
One of Australia’s leading and most enduring triathlon events.  
**Port Macquarie**

**Sculpture by the Sea**  
22 October – 8 November  
Sydney’s annual free outdoor art exhibition along the coastline.  
**Bondi to Tamarama Coast Walk**

**Dungog Festival**  
22 – 25 October  
A fun festival of film, music, food, performances and markets.  
**Dungog**

**ChromeFest**  
23 – 25 October  
A tribute to hot rods, low-rider bicycles, rock’ n’ roll and rockabilly.  
**The Entrance**

**Central Coast Sevens**  
23 – 25 October  
The world’s best rugby sevens is part of a family festival.  
**Wyong**

**Sydney International Art Series**  
- **The Greats: Masterpieces from the National Galleries of Scotland**  
24 October – 14 February  
Admire masterpieces by some of the greatest names in European art.  
**Art Gallery of NSW, Sydney**

**Nepean Triathlon**  
24 – 25 October  
Australia’s oldest triathlon held in Penrith with the Blue Mountains as a backdrop.  
**Penrith, Sydney**

**Eden Whale Festival**  
30 October – 1 November  
Celebrate the southern migration at one of Australia’s premier whale-watching locations.  
**Eden**

**Sculpture in the Vineyards**  
31 October – 29 November  
Beautiful sculptures along the Wollombi Valley Wine Trail.  
**Wollombi**

**Original Source Australian Boardriders Battle**  
31 October  
Yamba’s iconic surf break is the scene for NSW State qualifying events.  
**Yamba**

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**SCULPTURE BY THE SEA ATTRACTS ALMOST 500,000 VISITORS OVER THREE WEEKS.**

[link to sydney.com] [link to visitnsw.com]
Hyundai A League: Sydney FC v Brisbane Roar
6 November
Be there to see the Sky Blues take on their Queensland rivals.
Allianz Stadium, Sydney

Christmas Lights Spectacular
6 November – 26 January
Sound and light shows, entertainment and a guest appearance by Santa.
Pokolbin

Tastings on Hastings
6 – 8 November
Enjoy the North Coast’s premier food and wine festival.
Port Macquarie

Carcoar Cup Running Festival
7 – 8 November
Some of the nation’s best runners compete on this challenging course.
Carcoar & Neville

Hyundai A League: Sydney FC v Melbourne Victory
14 November
The Sky Blues face their nemesis on home turf.
Allianz Stadium, Sydney

Original Source Australian Boardriders Battle
14 November
North Narrabeen boardriders battle it out for a place in the finals.
North Narrabeen

Mullum Music Festival
19 – 22 November
An amazing line-up at Mullumbimby in the Byron Bay hinterland.
Mullumbimby

Warbirds DownUnder Airshow
20 – 21 November
Australia’s military aviation heritage is centre stage.
Temora

ARIA Week
November
The best new artists plus ground-breaking music industry conferences.
Various locations across Sydney

2015 ARIA Awards
Connected by Telstra
November
Annual awards celebrating the best of Australian music.
The Star, Sydney

SYDNEY WAS RANKED IN THE TOP FIVE OF THE ‘WORLD’S BEST PLACES TO VISIT’ LIST BY U.S. NEWS.
The Art of the Brick: DC Comics
21 November – 1 May
Super heroes and super villains come to life with LEGO® bricks at this Australian exclusive show.
Powerhouse Museum, Sydney

Doctor Who Festival
21 – 22 November
Q&As with the cast and a festival hall of activities.
Hordern Pavilion & Royal Hall of Industries, Moore Park

Sydney Christmas
26 November – 25 December
Celebrate with free concerts and fun for the whole family.
Various locations across Sydney

Emirates Australian Open Golf
26 – 29 November
The world’s best will compete to claim Australian golf’s most prized trophy.
The Australian Golf Club, Sydney

Hyundai A League: Newcastle Jets v Brisbane Roar FC
28 November
The Jets take on Brisbane Roar in home territory.
Hunter Stadium, Newcastle

Rootstock Sydney
28 – 29 November
A sustainable food and wine festival that brings everyone together.
Carriageworks, Sydney

2015 AUS-X Open Sydney
28 – 29 November
The world’s biggest names in Supercross and FMX compete.
AllPhones Arena, Sydney Olympic Park

Trailblazers: Australia’s 50 greatest explorers
28 November – 18 July
Discover the stories of ordinary people who became explorers.
Australian Museum, Sydney

IRONMAN 70.3 Western Sydney
29 November
Athletes race along the iconic Penrith Lakes, with stunning views of the Blue Mountains.
Penrith, Sydney
Electronic Music Conference (EMC)
1 – 2 December
Panels, talks, networking, master classes, showcases, parties and more.

The Ivy, Sydney

9th Junior World Gliding Championships
1 – 12 December
Watch the gliders take part in this exciting world championship event.

Narromine

Vanfest
4 – 5 December
This boutique music festival is packed with world-class acts in country NSW.

Forbes

Coates Hire Sydney 500
4 – 6 December
The final showdown for the V8 Supercars Championship.

Sydney Olympic Park

National Cherry Festival
4 – 6 December
This is the 66th year of cherry pie eating contests, a street parade and markets.

Young

Tropfest
6 December
The world’s largest short film festival and an iconic Sydney event.

The Star, Sydney

5th AACTA Awards presented by Presto
9 December
Celebrating the best of Australian film and television in 2015.

Museum of Contemporary Art Australia, Sydney

Sydney International Art Series - Grayson Perry: My Pretty Little Art Career
10 December – 1 May
The first major exhibition in the southern hemisphere by this renowned British artist.

Extremes Sailing Series™ 2015
11 – 13 December
High-performance catamarans create a unique show on Sydney Harbour.

Fleet Steps, Royal Botanic Gardens

NSW HAS MORE MOTOR SPORT COMPETITORS, OFFICIALS & MOTOR SPORT CLUB MEMBERS THAN ANY OTHER AUSTRALIAN STATE.

sydney.com | visitnsw.com
Festival of the Sun
12 – 13 December
A boutique music festival that’s just right for summer.
Port Macquarie

The London Palladium
Production of The Sound of Music
From 13 December
The world’s best-loved musical is coming to Sydney direct from London.
Capitol Theatre, Sydney

KFC T20 Big Bash League
17 December – 16 January
Catch all the cricket action and explosive off-field entertainment.
Sydney Cricket Ground and Spotless Stadium

Hyundai A League: Central Coast Mariners v Brisbane Roar FC
20 December
See the Mariners battle it out with the Roar on their home turf.
Central Coast Stadium

Rolex Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race
26 December
An iconic harbour event on Boxing Day.
Sydney Harbour

KFC BBL: Sydney Sixers v Melbourne Stars
27 December
Two heavyweights of the Big Bash cricket competition go head-to-head.
Sydney Cricket Ground

KFC BBL: Sydney Thunder v Adelaide Strikers
28 December
The Big Bash teams pick up the pace in round three of the summer competition.
Spotless Stadium

Sydney New Year’s Eve
31 December
Sydney welcomes in the New Year with 9pm and midnight fireworks.
Sydney Harbour

New Year’s Eve at Hunter Valley Gardens
31 December
Welcome in the New Year with entertainment, fireworks and lights.
Pokolbin

An estimated 1 billion people globally watch the New Year’s Eve midnight fireworks in Sydney.
CommBank Pink Test  
Australia v West Indies  
3 – 7 January  
Australia takes on the calypso kings in the final CommBank test of the summer.  
Sydney Cricket Ground

2016 Parkes Elvis Festival  
6 – 10 January  
Celebrate the life and music of Elvis Presley at 150 events over five days.  
Parkes

Sydney Festival  
7 – 26 January  
A Sydney in summer highlight for everyone.  
Various locations across Sydney

Original Source Australian Boardriders Battle - Qualifying Event  
9 January  
The last of the NSW qualifying events before the finals.  
Kiama

Apia International Sydney  
10 – 16 January  
Watch the stars of world tennis in action in Sydney.  
Sydney Olympic Park Tennis Centre

Tamworth Country Music Festival  
15 – 24 January  
Australia’s largest music festival offers plenty of fun for all.  
Tamworth

Victoria Bitter ODI Series  
Australia v India and KFC T20 INTL Series Australia v India  
23 & 31 January  
Australia battles it out with India in two exciting series of limited overs cricket.  
Sydney Cricket Ground

Australia Day  
26 January  
Music, entertainment and plenty of free fun for the family.  
Various locations across Sydney

Yabun  
26 January  
Australia’s largest indigenous festival is held on Australia Day.  
Victoria Park, Sydney
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sydney Chinese New Year Festival</td>
<td>6 – 21 February</td>
<td>Cultural events, food, outdoor installations and dragon boat races.</td>
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<td>Various locations across Sydney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newcastle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surfest 2016</td>
<td>31 January – 28 February</td>
<td>Australia’s largest festival of surfing welcomes everyone.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tweed Coast Pro</td>
<td>1 – 3 February</td>
<td>Australian and international surfers compete for a spot on the World Surf League Championship Tour.</td>
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<td>Cabarita Beach</td>
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<td>Liqui-Moly Bathurst 12 Hour</td>
<td>5 – 7 February</td>
<td>An international endurance race at the home of Australian motorsport.</td>
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<td>Mount Panorama, Bathurst</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Sydney Morning Herald Sun Run</td>
<td>6 February</td>
<td>A popular, family-friendly event on Sydney’s northern beaches.</td>
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<td>Dee Why Beach to Manly Beach</td>
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<tr>
<td>HSBC Sydney Sevens</td>
<td>6 – 7 February</td>
<td>A fun, thrilling and fast-paced seven-a-side rugby competition with 16 teams.</td>
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<td>Allianz Stadium, Sydney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australian Blues Music Festival</td>
<td>11 – 14 February</td>
<td>Enjoy a weekend of chilled blues and roots music in the country.</td>
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<td>Goulburn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Snowies Mountain Bike Festival</td>
<td>12 – 14 February</td>
<td>The ultimate mountain bike race in Australia’s iconic Snowy Mountains.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lake Crackenback</td>
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<tr>
<td>Club Marine Southern 80</td>
<td>12 – 14 February</td>
<td>The world’s largest waterski race offers thrills and spills.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Along the Murray River</td>
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**THE SNOWY MOUNTAINS IS HOME TO AUSTRALIA’S HIGHEST PEAKS AND MAINLAND AUSTRALIA’S ONLY GLACIAL LAKES.**

sydney.com | visitnsw.com
Miracle Mile Carnival
13, 20 & 28 February
The fastest horses in Australasia on the fastest harness racing track.
Tabcorp Park Menangle, Campbelltown

Hyundai A League:
Central Coast Mariners v Adelaide United
14 February
Mariners clash with The Reds at their home ground.
Central Coast Stadium

Australian Bowl-riding Championships
February
Australia’s only true ‘nationals’ skateboarding competition.
Newcastle

The Australian Surf Rowers League Open Championship
19 – 21 February
The premier surf boat event in the world.
Shellharbour

Riverboats Music Festival
19 – 21 February
The Murray River’s leading contemporary music event.
Echuca Moama

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras
19 February – 6 March
Parade: 5 March
The world’s loudest and proudest celebration of gay and lesbian diversity.
Various locations across Sydney

BOWL-A-RAMA Bondi
20 – 21 February
Australia’s biggest and best skateboarding competition.
Bondi Beach, Sydney

2016 Australian X-Tri Championships & MultiSport Festival
27 – 28 February
Off-road action includes triathlons, trail runs and family fun.
Lake Crackenback

Tumbafest
27 – 28 February
Be part of this summer celebration with food, wine and fun.
Tumbarumba

Australian Open of Surfing
February
A free festival featuring the world’s best surfers, skateboarders and entertainment.
Manly Beach

ALL 45 SPECIES OF WHALES AND DOLPHINS FOUND IN AUSTRALIAN WATERS CRUISE ALONG THE NSW COAST.
Komunity Project Pro
1 – 3 March
Surfers compete for a spot on the World Surf League Championship Tour.

Boomerang Beach
The Touch Football Australia 2016 National Touch League
9 – 12 March
Australia’s best touch football talent in action.

Coffs Harbour
Longines Golden Slipper Carnival
12, 16, 19 March
Enjoy the thrill of one of the world’s best racing carnivals.

Rosehill Gardens Racecourse
2016 Sydney International Rowing Regatta
14 – 20 March
Featuring some of the world’s finest athletes in a week-long rowing regatta.

Penrith
Commercial Club Albury Gold Cup Carnival
17 – 18 March
One of the premier country racing carnivals in Australia.

Albury

Sydney Royal Easter Show
17 – 30 March
Australia’s largest annual event showcasing Australian country life.

Sydney Showground,
Sydney Olympic Park

Bluesfest
24 – 28 March
Australia’s famous blues and roots music festival.

Byron Bay
Handa Opera on Sydney Harbour - Turandot
24 March – 24 April
Sydney’s most spectacular cultural event on Sydney Harbour.

Mrs Macquaries Point, Sydney

Easter Long Weekend at Hunter Valley Gardens
25 – 28 March
A fantastic program of activities, entertainment and prizes including a giant Easter egg hunt.

Pokolbin
94th Australian Athletics Championships
31 March – 3 April
More than 900 athletes compete from around the country.

Athletics Centre,
Sydney Olympic Park

SYDNEY IS ‘THE BEST OVERSEAS CITY FOR RESTAURANTS AND BARS’ - CONDÉ NAST TRAVELLER UK 2014.
sydney.com | visitnsw.com
XTERRA Asia-Pacific Championship
2 – 3 April
Professional and amateur triathletes and trail runners compete in the XTERRA World Tour.
Callala Beach, Jervis Bay

The Championships
2 & 9 April
Grand finale of thoroughbred racing during the Sydney Autumn Carnival.
Royal Randwick

Orange F.O.O.D Week
8 – 17 April
Experience the region’s best food and wine in a festival atmosphere.
Orange

Bundanoon Highland Gathering Festival
9 April
The premier location for traditional Scottish Highland Games and more.
Bundanoon

Sail Port Stephens
11 – 17 April
A week long, family friendly regatta held on the stunning waters of Port Stephens.
Port Stephens

12th Annual Sydney Comedy Festival
18 April – 15 May
The world’s funniest comedians supply plenty of laughs.
Various locations across Sydney

Boggabri Drovers Campfire Weekend
22 – 24 April
Bring your own RV, ute or 4WD for a weekend of campfires, camp oven cooking, shearing demonstrations and district tours.
Boggabri

2016 Porsche Rennsport Festival
30 April – 1 May
Porsche enthusiasts’ paradise: motor racing, car displays and much more.
Sydney Motorsport Park

A PRISTINE BAY TWICE THE SIZE OF SYDNEY HARBOUR MAKES PORT STEPHENS A WATER SPORTS PARADISE.
IRONMAN Australia
1 May
Swim, cycle and run in idyllic locations around Port Macquarie.
Port Macquarie

Thredbo Jazz Festival
1 – 3 May
Enjoy great jazz, food and wine in the heart of the Snowy Mountains.
Thredbo

Narooma Oyster Festival
2 May
Savour this delicious celebration of the local oyster culture.
Narooma

World Grand Masters Hockey World Cup 2016
2 – 13 May
The 2016 masters tournament will be one of the largest ever held.
Newcastle

Sydney Writers Festival
16 – 22 May
Australia’s largest celebration of literature, stories and ideas.
Various locations across Sydney

Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week Australia
May
Australia’s best designers are on show.
Carriageworks, Sydney

Mercedes-Benz Fashion Weekend Edition
May
Tap into the trends first with this fashion week experience.
Carriageworks, Sydney

Batlow CiderFest
21 May
Australia’s best CiderFest street party comes alive with great entertainment, cider and food.
Batlow

Port to Port MTB
26 – 29 May
A fun and challenging race for riders of all levels, from recreational to competitive.
Newcastle, Hunter Valley & Port Stephens

VIVID Sydney
27 May – 13 June
Sydney becomes a creative canvas of light, music and ideas.
Various locations across Sydney

VIVID SYDNEY HAS WON THE ‘GOLD AWARD’ IN DESTINATION MARKETING AT 2015 PATA GRAND AND GOLD AWARDS.
sydney.com | visitnsw.com
NCHA Futurity
1 – 12 June
The pinnacle of horse-cutting championships in Australia.
Tamworth

Hunter Valley Wine and Food Month
1 – 30 June
The region’s diverse wine and food culture is showcased.
Hunter Valley

The Australian Badminton Open 2016
7 – 12 June
The best players from more than 30 countries compete for top prize money.
Sydney Olympic Park

Sydney Film Festival
8 – 19 June
The best features, documentaries and short films from across Australia and the world.
Various locations across Sydney

Holden State of Origin - Game 1
June
Rugby League’s greatest rivals in action: the Blues vs the Maroons.
ANZ Stadium, Sydney Olympic Park

Perisher Peak Festival
10 – 13 June
Celebrate the opening of the winter snow season with great music.
Perisher Valley

Parkes Picnic Races
11 June
A fun day of country racing for one and all.
Parkes Racecourse

Coonamble Rodeo and Campdraft
11 – 13 June
The largest combined rodeo and campdraft in the southern hemisphere.
Coonamble

Shoalhaven Coast Winter Wine Festival
11 – 13 June
Fine wine, fabulous food, music, markets, vineyard tours and more.
Shoalhaven

Bellingen Readers and Writers Festival
11 – 13 June
This chilled-out bookfest is set in idyllic surroundings.
Bellingen & Dorrigo

The Hunter Valley was awarded ‘Australia’s Best Food and Wine Experience’ by 2014 Luxury Travel Magazine.
DISCOVER REGIONAL NSW

THE REGIONS OF NSW OFFER A YEAR-ROUND SOURCE OF ADVENTURE AND EXPERIENCES FOR EVERYONE.

Whether you enjoy hiking through alpine scenery to the peak of the highest mountain in Australia, paddling along a peaceful river to an overnight campsite or hang gliding over golden beaches – NSW is the perfect destination.

Make sure the stunning World Heritage Areas are top of your NSW must-visit list; Lord Howe Island, the Greater Blue Mountains, Willandra Lakes featuring Mungo National Park, and the Gondwana Rainforests along the North Coast.

BLUE MOUNTAINS
The small picturesque towns of the region are surrounded by the sandstone cliffs and deep valleys thick with rainforest that are part of the vast Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area, just 90 minutes’ drive from Sydney.

CENTRAL COAST
An hour’s drive north of Sydney, this region is known for its many natural attributes including lakes, rivers, beaches and lush countryside where you can go bushwalking, surfing, fishing, sailing, and whale-watching.

THE HUNTER
Known for its top-class wineries, restaurants and accommodation, The Hunter is a dynamic place for a getaway. Golf courses, spa retreats, beaches, bushwalking and water sports make it an ideal short break just two hours’ drive from Sydney.

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS AND TABLELANDS
This delightful region south of Sydney is famous for its heritage villages, gardens, golf courses and beautiful landscapes. Also known for its great dining options and cool-climate wines, it’s the perfect place to relax and unwind.

MID NORTH COAST
The incredible natural wonders of this region on land and in the sea offer plenty of enjoyable experiences, from bushwalking and snorkelling to dolphin-watching, surfing, bird-watching and canoeing.

NORTHERN RIVERS
Long stretches of coastline with beaches, headlands and national parks make this a special part of the State. Enjoy a wide range of activities including surfing, bushwalking, fishing, yoga on the beach and kayaking with dolphins.

For more information on events, travel and accommodation go to visitnsw.com
DISCOVER REGIONAL NSW

NEW ENGLAND AND NORTH WEST
A touring holiday is the best way to enjoy the wide open spaces, vast horizons and historic townships of this region. Its natural attractions offer opportunities for bushwalking, bird-watching, canoeing and fishing.

CENTRAL NSW
This region of varied landscapes is one of the State’s richest agricultural regions as well as one of its most historic. Visit historic towns, national parks, gardens and heritage sites, enjoying great food and wine experiences along the way.

SOUTH COAST
Stretching from Stanwell Park to Eden, the South Coast is a region of unspoilt natural beauty. It has more than 30 national parks, crystal-clear bays and lakes, uncrowded beaches, beautiful rivers and the whitest sand in the world at Hyams Beach in Jervis Bay.

SNOWY MOUNTAINS
Whatever the season, the Snowy Mountains is spectacular. Mt Kosciuszko, Australia’s highest peak, is located here, while Kosciuszko National Park is the largest national park in Australia. Go skiing in winter and hiking in summer.

THE MURRAY
Australia’s greatest river is at the heart of this rich agricultural region where life on the river is relaxed and unhurried. Soak up the ambience on a paddleboat cruise, hire a houseboat and fish for your dinner, go golfing or visit red gum forests.

THE RIVERINA
Known as the ‘food bowl of Australia’, this is the largest winegrowing region in NSW, perfect for wine and food experiences. Cycling, bushwalking, fishing and bird-watching are all popular activities in the great outdoors for visitors.

OUTBACK NSW
The landscape of this grand region is where red ochre earth merges with clear blue skies. A cultural highlight is the Willandra Lakes World-Heritage Area, famous for the 60,000-year-old burial sites at Lake Mungo as well as its lunar landscape.

LORD HOWE ISLAND
This World Heritage-listed paradise is located two hours’ flight from Sydney or Brisbane and is surrounded by the world’s most southerly coral reef. Explore the island by bike or on foot, snorkel, canoe and bushwalk.

For more information on events, travel and accommodation go to visitnsw.com
EXPERIENCE THE HIGHLIGHTS

THE WORLD-FAMOUS ICONS
Admire one of the world’s most beautiful cities from the summit of the Sydney Harbour Bridge on a guided BridgeClimb. Then explore the famous stages of the World Heritage-listed Sydney Opera House on a backstage tour.

SEE AUSTRALIA’S ANIMALS
Sydney is home to world-class zoos and aquariums where you can meet Australia’s unique animals. By the harbour are Taronga Zoo, Manly SEA LIFE Sanctuary, SEA LIFE Sydney Aquarium and WILD LIFE Sydney. Featherdale Wildlife Park is in Western Sydney.

SHOP’TIL YOU DROP
Whether you love chic international brands, stylish vintage or cutting-edge Australian fashion designers, you’ll have fun shopping in Sydney. Highlights include Westfield Sydney, the Queen Victoria Building and Strand Arcade with boutiques along Castlereagh, Elizabeth and Kings streets.

WESTERN SYDNEY ADVENTURES
Explore the adventure playground west of the city centre. Go whitewater rafting at Penrith Whitewater Stadium, get wet at the aquatic fun park Wet’n’Wild Sydney, experience an aerial adventure with iFLY Downunder or Jetpack Adventures in Penrith.

OF SYDNEY AND SURROUNDS

SYDNEY WALKS
Sydney’s a great city for exploring with walking tracks and trails that are both easy and scenic. Check out the Manly to Spit Walk, the Nielsen Park foreshore walk or the Bondi to Coogee Coastal Walk which is also home to the spectacular Sculpture by the Sea each year.

HISTORIC SYDNEY
Sydney’s oldest quarter, The Rocks, is a fascinating world of cobblestone laneways, heritage buildings, galleries, restaurants and bars. Get the inside story about Sydney’s earliest colonial days on a guided walking tour or wander at your own pace.

DISCOVER THE HARBOUR
There’s no better way to soak up the natural beauty of Sydney than on a leisurely harbour cruise or short ferry ride from Circular Quay to Manly. Go on a spin around the harbour on a jet boat, kayak in sheltered coves or laze on the deck of a luxury yacht.

SYDNEY ARTS AND MARKETS
Enjoy art? Don’t miss the Art Gallery of NSW, the Museum of Contemporary Art Australia or the contemporary Chinese collection at White Rabbit Gallery. See local artists work and more at weekend markets in Bondi, Paddington, Eveleigh and The Rocks.

For more information on events, travel and accommodation go to sydney.com
TASTE SYDNEY
Fabulous harbourside restaurants, cool bars, funky cafes and heritage pubs; Sydney’s dining scene is creative, eclectic and affordable. Add exciting eat streets in Western Sydney serving cuisine from around the world and you’ve got a global dining hot spot.

BE COOL AT BONDI BEACH
Learn to surf with experienced guides at one of the most famous beaches in Australia. Bondi’s Campbell Parade is a near-continuous strip of outdoor cafes, gelato bars, cool restaurants, organic stores and funky surf wear.

EXPLORE ABORIGINAL HERITAGE
Just 90 minutes’ drive from Sydney is the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area where you can gain insights into the culture of the Aboriginal people who have lived here for thousands of years at the Waradah Aboriginal Centre.

FEEL LIKE AN AIR ADVENTURE?
Brave a sky dive onto the beach, go on a tandem hang-glide over the coast or get your adrenalin racing in an aerobatic flight over the coastline in a classic biplane. Find your very own air adventure just one hour’s drive south of Sydney at Wollongong.
PLAN. BOOK. GO!

DESTINATION NSW HAS THE DIGITAL TOOLS YOU NEED TO PLAN AND BOOK AN EVENTFUL GETAWAY.

Our websites are the one-stop shop for all the latest news about events in Sydney and Regional NSW. Don’t miss out on any of the State’s biggest and best events for 2015/16.

Download our free digital travel guides plus special travel and event apps. Get started now by heading to sydney.com and visitnsw.com

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Please consult the relevant ticketing agency and/or location for ticket prices, booking fees, surcharges and applicable taxes before purchase. There may be other conditions imposed by the ticketing agency and/or location as a result of your purchase or attendance. Please make yourself aware of all conditions before purchase and attendance. Note that events may be subject to change or cancellation without notice due to unforeseen circumstances. Location capacity restrictions may apply for some events. Check sydney.com, visitnsw.com or other relevant event owner websites for the latest information.

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