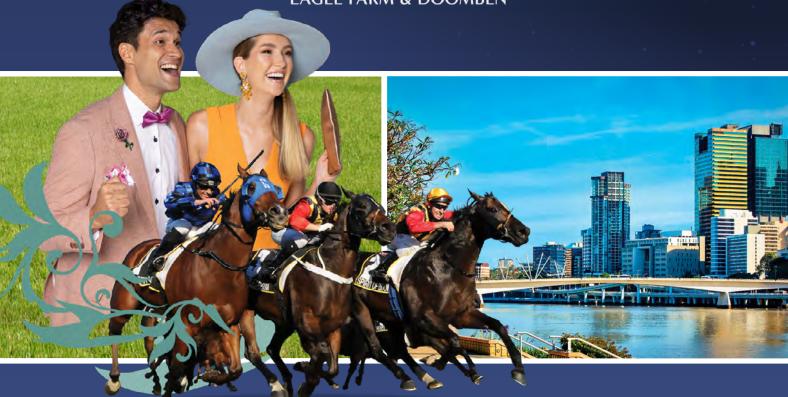


1 MAY - 12 JUNE EAGLE FARM & DOOMBEN



# The best time to be in BRISBANE















Brisbane is rapidly expanding its horizon as a tourist destination in the critical May-June months with travel opportunities.

But there is much more to do. The timing is right for all sectors of entertainment – the arts, racing, hotels, sports and many more ventures – to come together and present a united front to travellers coming to Brisbane from other parts of Queensland, interstate and overseas.

In my world of thoroughbred racing, under the Brisbane Racing Club banner at Eagle Farm and Doomben, Queensland has long held a dominant position in the Australian racing calendar in mid-year months.

For many decades the prime BRC carnival, now Stradbroke Season presented by TAB with six race meetings from 1 May to 12 June, will attract many of the high profile interstate and New Zealand horses, trainers, owners and jockeys to our racecourses.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE BRISBANE RACING CLUB CHAIRMAN

Racing was first conducted at Eagle Farm in August 1865 so the history of this magnificent racecourse is almost as old as the state. Queensland was proclaimed a state just six years earlier.

We know the BRC will host great racing. But tourism now requires a multi-faceted approach. Visitors are attracted by the prospect of several diverse experiences in one trip.

Which is the driving force for the BRC now to have initiated ties to Opera Queensland and the Queensland Symphony Orchestra with other similar connections in the pipeline.

Of course the balmy weather in Brisbane is a major lure to those travellers from colder climes interstate and New Zealand. But there is so much more to the offering for visitors and so many exciting things starting to come together in the capital.

For sports enthusiasts there is always something major each weekend. There will be rugby league, rugby union, AFL and soccer at the highest level. For example on the weekend of 22 May the BRC will stage the Group 1 Doomben Cup and the Group 2 The Roses. AFL fans will be salivating about going to the

Gabba that weekend to see the emerging Brisbane Lions tackle the reigning premiers Richmond.

A week prior, on Doomben 10,000 weekend, the Magic Round will be held at Suncorp Stadium involving all 16 NRL teams. Suncorp Stadium is regarded as the best rugby league ground in Australia. It is the spiritual home for league in Brisbane and home of the Brisbane Broncos.

On 29 May it's Moët & Chandon Queensland Derby Day at Eagle Farm and the Lions play Greater Western Sydney.

The \$1.5 million TAB Stradbroke Handicap on 12 June is the race Queensland racing participants covet. It is the Holy Grail for those directly involved in the thoroughbred industry in this state.

Brisbane has tourism opportunities right now. But the future has never looked rosier with the Queen's Wharf project tantalizingly close to completion, and a new shipping terminal at Pinkenba set to bring thousands of international cruise ship passengers into the city. Cross River Rail is going to revolutionise public transport in the capital.

Brisbane should be the destination "must do" year round. But May-June can deliver something unique.

COVID-19 has brought some of the most talented rising stars in the arts world back to their city of birth Brisbane.

Xenia Puskarz Thomas, a gifted mezzo soprano who has performed several times at BRC functions, is now based in her native Brisbane studying remotely at the famous performing arts Juilliard School in New York.

Opera Queensland has signed her as one of their performers in the coming months.

Across the board Brisbane has something to offer tourists of all backgrounds. WE need to band together. As a team we should be on the cusp of a tourism boom. The possibility of the Olympics coming to Brisbane in 2032 is an exciting opportunity.

But now is the time to get started in the presentation of Brisbane as a "can do" place to excite visitors.

Neville Bell OAM Chairman Brisbane Racing Club

## EXPLORING BRISBANE IN LUXURY

When it comes to showing off the best of Brisbane and its surrounds to local, interstate and international visitors, everyone has their preferred "must dos".

Always popular is the short drive from the CBD to the Mount Coot-tha scenic Lookout where on a crisp, clear winter's day you get stunning views across the city's expanse, its winding river and beyond to Moreton Bay.

The mountain is on Brisbane Racing Club Ambassador Damien Anthony Rossi's "musts" list, as is taking the leisurely drive out of town to nearby Mount Glorious through picturesque Samford Village. A Los Angeles native, Damien has called Brisbane home for the past three decades and in that time has acquainted many visiting friends and family with its attractions.

"Brisbane was indeed a bit sleepy when I arrived from LA, but things picked up very quickly and now Brisbanites don't want for anything," he says.

"I love taking people to South Bank Parklands, whether it's for a show at QPAC, exhibition at GOMA or a meal at one of the restaurants in the area, and also heading to Fortitude Valley's James Street precinct with its designer shops, boutique hotels and stylish bars, cafes and restaurants."

Brisbane is blessed to have some of the world's best beaches, picturesque islands and lush rainforest and hinterland on its doorstep, so the choices for a day trip are plentiful.

"I love heading north to the Sunshine Coast," Damien says. "Once you hit the Glasshouse Mountains it just gets more and more beautiful. It's fun to take detours off the Bruce Highway and take in spots like Buderim, Maleny and Montville in the hinterland and then continue up to Noosa, which has always reminded me a little bit of the beach towns along the French Riviera like St Tropez





PRESENTED BY BERNBOROUGH ASCOT

### THURSDAY 13 MAY 6PM - 10PM

MEMBERS LAWN | EAGLE FARM RACECOURSE

Brisbane's Xenia Puskarz Thomas is a rising young opera star, winner of several scholarships to further her career, including the prestigious 2018 Opera Foundation for Young

Australians' Lady Fairfax New York Scholarship.

Described by the judges who awarded that scholarship as possessing "a beautiful voice of magnificent potential", Xenia is currently studying online as a Kovner Fellow at New York's Juilliard School under Professor Edith Wiens.

The versatility of her beautiful mezzo soprano voice will be on show at Jazz Under the Stars presented by Bernborough Ascot, the gala evening event of this year's Stradbroke Season staged on the manicured Members Lawn at Eagle Farm Racecourse.

For further information www.brc.com.au





### STAY & PLAY in Style

Stradbroke Season presented by TAB celebrates Brisbane as the best place to be in May and June. And it's not only for the experience and excitement of top-class racing and on-course food, fashion and entertainment. It's for the opportunity for visitors to take an extended staycation and, between race days, explore and savour the city and its surrounds.

Over the decades Brisbane has transformed into a sophisticated destination and vibrant hub for world-class sport, culture, cuisine, nightlife and more, while embracing and honouring its heritage.

Treasury Brisbane in the heart of the CBD exemplifies that blending of past and present. Its five-star hotel, casino, restaurants and bars occupy two beautifully restored heritage-listed buildings that are among the most photographed in Australia.

The Treasury Brisbane hotel sits within the former Land Administration Building, once the seat of State power. Its 125 unique hotel suites and rooms combine old-world elegance and luxury with essential modern appointments.

In what was previously the Treasury offices is the Treasury Brisbane casino and a mix of casual and fine dining restaurants. Kitchen at Treasury is a home-style diner, Mei Wei Dumplings offers a hawker-style Cantonese menu, Fat Noodle is celebrity chef Luke Nguyen's Asian-fusion dining hall, and Black Hide by Gambaro is an elegant, multi-award winning venue in partnership with one of Queensland's most celebrated names in hospitality, The Gambaro Group. Black Hide boasts an extensive selection of Australian wagyu and Angus steak cuts, plus the quality seafood synonymous with the Gambaro name.

For both locals and Stradbroke Season visitors there's added incentive to explore city eateries during May with a range of deals running over two weeks (May 13 to 30) in the Dine BNE City initiative announced by Brisbane Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner.

More than 50 venues are taking part, including Fat Noodle and Treasury Brisbane's chic new bar Will & Flow which is perched over the Brisbane River.

The Dine BNE City campaign culminates with the Sea to the City event, an alfresco celebration of fresh seafood along a reach of the river with stalls, bars and live music.

### TREASURY BRISBANE QUEENSLAND GUINEAS DAY

SATURDAY I MAY EAGLE FARM RACECOURSE



TREASURY BRISBANE



For further information www.brc.com.au







SATURDAY 22 MAY DOOMBEN RACECOURSE





For further information www.brc.com.au



# MOËT & CHANDON DERBY DAY

SATURDAY 29 MAY

EAGLE FARM RACECOURSE







For further information www.brc.com.au









EVENT	DATE	VENUE	WEBSITE
Brisbane Street Art Festival	1 – 16 May	Around Brisbane	www.bsafest.com.au
NRL Magic Round Brisbane	14 – 16 May	Suncorp Stadium	www.tickets.nrl.com
QSO Musical Theatre Gala: Broadway to West End	15 May	QPAC Concert Hall	www.qso.com.au
MELT: Festival of Queer Arts & Culture	20 – 30 May	Brisbane Powerhouse	www.brisbanepowerhouse.org
Lions v Richmond	21 May	Gabba	www.lions.com.au
Queensland Reds v Crusaders	22 May	Suncorp Stadium	www.suncorpstadium.com.au
Brisbane Broncos v Melbourne Storm	27 May	Suncorp Stadium	www.suncorpstadium.com.au
Sea to the City	30 May	Eagle Street Pier	www.bnecity.com.au
Opera Queensland Recital: Death Becomes Her	4 – 5 June	OQ Studio	www.oq.com.au
Queensland Reds v Blues	4 June	Suncorp Stadium	www.suncorpstadium.com.au
Queensland Ballet The Sleeping Beauty	4 – 19 June	QPAC Lyric Theatre	www.qpac.com.au
Brisbane Marathon Festival	5 – 6 June	Riverstage Precinct	www.brisbanemarathon.com.au
Chess the Musical	8 – 10 June	QPAC Concert Hall	www.qpac.com.au
European Masterpieces from The Metropolitan Museum of Modern Art, New York	12 June – 17 October	Gallery of Modern Art (GOMA)	www.qagoma.qld.gov.au
Brisbane Broncos v South Sydney Rabbitohs	17 June	Suncorp Stadium	www.suncorpstadium.com.au
Amy Shark in concert	26 June	Riverstage	www.ticketmaster.com

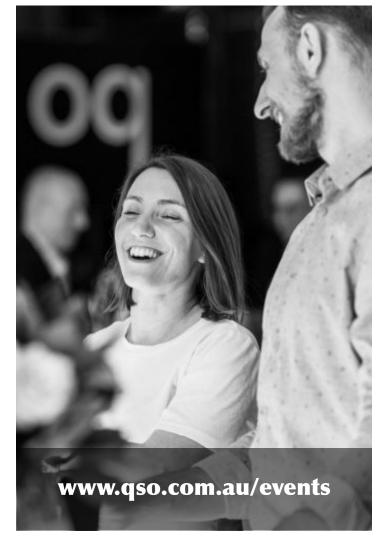
<sup>\*</sup> Current as at 29 April 2021



To find out what's happening at QPAC this Stradbroke Season, visit

QPAC.COM.AU







## Stradbroke Season presented by TAB BRISBANE ACCOMMODATION

#### **Treasury Brisbane**

www.treasurybrisbane.com.au/hotel/autumn-getaway



## **Emporium Hotel**South Bank

www.emporiumhotels.com.au/stay/offers



#### **Ovolo The Valley**

www.ovolohotels.com/ovolo/offers



