

## 2010 another event-filled year for Queensland

Queensland is gearing up for another busy year in 2010 with event lovers spoiled for choice with a host of festivals and sporting events filling the calendar. Here's a taste of what's on offer:

### December 2009

- **Asia Pacific Triennial (APT), Brisbane, December 5 – April 5, 2010** Brisbane's Gallery of Modern Art (GoMA) will unveil its next exhibition - the 6th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art – on December 5. The APT is the most extensive event on the international calendar for contemporary art in Asia, Australia and the Pacific. [www.qag.qld.gov.au/apt6](http://www.qag.qld.gov.au/apt6)
- **Woodford Folk Festival, Woodford, December 27 – January 1.** One of the largest 'folk' festivals in the world with entertainment from more than 2000 performers and at 400 events. [www.woodfordfolkfestival.com](http://www.woodfordfolkfestival.com)
- **Australian PGA Championship, Sunshine Coast, December, 10-13.** Some of the world's leading professional golfers will tee off on Queensland's Sunshine Coast at the Australian PGA Championship. The annual event held at the Hyatt Regency Coolum is Australia's oldest and one of its most distinguished golfing tournaments. [www.championship.pga.org.au](http://www.championship.pga.org.au)

### January 2010

- **Brisbane International Tennis, Brisbane, January 3 – 10.** The Brisbane International was a real hit when the inaugural event was launched at the new Queensland Tennis Centre in January. World No 1 seed Dinara Safina is the latest star to sign up for the 2010 event. [www.brisbaneinternational.com.au](http://www.brisbaneinternational.com.au)
- **Magic Millions Carnival & Yearling Sales, Gold Coast, January 1-17.** The programme for this annual and iconic event features multi-million dollar race days, social activities and yearling sales. [www.magicmillions.com.au](http://www.magicmillions.com.au)
- **National Rodeos Final, Gold Coast, January 7-10.** See the nation's toughest bulls and broncs, cowboys and cowgirls in action. [www.nfrgoldcoast.com.au](http://www.nfrgoldcoast.com.au)
- **Australian Cockroach Races, Story Bridge Hotel, Brisbane, January 26.** Internationally-famous races held every year on Australia Day. Barrack for your favourite pest. [www.cockroachraces.com.au](http://www.cockroachraces.com.au)

### March

- **2010 ANZ Ladies Masters, Gold Coast, March 4-7.** The southern hemisphere's premier women's golfing event celebrates its 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary in 2010. [www.anzladiesmasters.com.au](http://www.anzladiesmasters.com.au)
- **Apple and Grape Harvest Festival, Stanthorpe, March 5-7.** Celebrate the Granite Belt's delicious produce and wine at a grape crushing competition, Apple Day, sports activities, street and market stalls, wine and multicultural food fiesta and fireworks. Stanthorpe is a two hour drive from Brisbane. [www.appleandgrape.org](http://www.appleandgrape.org)

- **Australian Surf Lifesaving Championships, Kurrawa Beach, Gold Coast, March 16-21.** This event attracts around 7000 competitors in dozens of events including Ironman and Ironwoman and board races. [www.slsa.com.au](http://www.slsa.com.au)
- **Mooloolaba Triathlon, Sunshine Coast, March 26-28.** An action-packed three-day multi-sport festival featuring world class athletes and entertainment, including the Mooloolaba triathlon, the second largest in Australia. [www.usmevents.com.au](http://www.usmevents.com.au)

## April

- **The 61<sup>st</sup> Brisbane to Gladstone Yacht Race, April 2.** Queensland's most famous blue water yachting event sets sail in the waters off Brisbane every year on Good Friday. [www.qcyc.com.au](http://www.qcyc.com.au)
- **Dirt & Dust Festival, Outback, April 16-18.** This popular outback festival is held each year in the tiny Outback town of Julia Creek and includes the famous Dirt and Dust triathlon. [www.dirtndust.com](http://www.dirtndust.com)
- **Richmond Fossil Festival, Richmond – April 29-May 2.** This biennial event is a fun filled interactive weekend for all ages with activities including dinosaur tours, prehistoric cartoon workshops with author and illustrator Michael Salmon, fossil preparation and sculpture workshops with palaeontologist Dr Colin McHenry and Museum Artist/Sculptor Paul Stumkat, rodeo and camel races. [www.kronosauruskorner.com.au](http://www.kronosauruskorner.com.au)

## May

- **Sanctuary Cove Boat Show, Gold Coast, May 20-23.** Boat-lovers flock to this show which has largest on water boat display in the Asia Pacific region. [www.sanctuarycoveboatshow.com.au](http://www.sanctuarycoveboatshow.com.au)
- **1770 Festival, Town of Seventeen-Seventy, May 20-24.** Celebrating the "Birth Place of Queensland", this festival has been an annual event for 17 years and commemorates the visit of the Endeavour and landing of Lt. James Cook and his crew in May 1770. [www.1770festival.com.au](http://www.1770festival.com.au)
- **Port Douglas Carnivale, Tropical North Queensland, May 21-30.** The seaside resort village of Port Douglas sets aside 10 days each year to celebrate music, arts, sport, food culture and entertainment. [www.carnivale.com.au](http://www.carnivale.com.au)

## June

- **The Noosa Longweekend Festival, Noosa, June 18-27.** A nationally-recognised festival with 10 days of drama, literature, film, music, design, food, wine, and visual and environmental arts. [www.noosalongweekend.com](http://www.noosalongweekend.com)

## July

- **Australian Festival of Chamber Music (AFCM), Townsville, July 30 – August 7.** More than 10,000 people are expected to attend the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary Festival which will feature some of world's finest chamber musicians. [www.afcm.com.au](http://www.afcm.com.au)
- **Gold Coast Airport Marathon, July 4, Gold Coast.** More than 23,000 people from around the world will compete in the full and half marathon, 10 and 5km runs, 5km challenge and 4km and 2.25km junior dashes. [www.goldcoastmarathon.com.au](http://www.goldcoastmarathon.com.au)

## August

- **Mount Isa Rodeo, Outback, August 6 - 8.** Competitors vie for prize money of more than \$200,000 in the biggest event on the Australian Rodeo calendar. [www.isarodeo.com.au](http://www.isarodeo.com.au)
- **Hamilton Island Raceweek, Whitsundays, August, 20-28.** One of Australia's most popular sailing festivals, Raceweek blends world class yacht racing for Australian and overseas competitors with spectacular off-water events. [www.hamiltonislandraceweek.com.au](http://www.hamiltonislandraceweek.com.au)

## September

- **Birdsville Races, Outback, 3-4 September.** Local residents, horses, riders, families and friends have gathered in Birdsville for a two day race meeting since 1882, but now days the events is recognised internationally as supporters make the trek for a memorable Outback weekend. [www.birdsvillerraces.com](http://www.birdsvillerraces.com)
- **Magnetic Island Race Week, Townsville, 3-7 September.** The popular tropical yachting regatta returns for its fourth year on the waters of Cleveland Bay off Magnetic Island. [www.magneticislandraceweek.com.au](http://www.magneticislandraceweek.com.au)
- **Brisbane Festival, September – October.** One of Australia's leading international arts festivals, the Brisbane Festival features a 22 day programme that combines the former Brisbane Festival and Riverfestival. The festival offers the opportunity to see some of the world's premier international companies and artists as well as a vast array of free and family-friendly events. [www.brisbanefestival.com.au](http://www.brisbanefestival.com.au)
- **Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers, Toowoomba, September 17-26.** Australia's longest-running annual horticultural event is a celebration of all things spring and highlights the best Toowoomba, the 'Garden City' has to offer in flowers, food, wine, entertainment and community spirit. Toowoomba is a ninety minute drive west of Brisbane. [www.tcof.com.au](http://www.tcof.com.au)

## October

- **Coolangatta Gold, Surfers Paradise, October.** Australia's premier Ironman and Ironwoman events in which competitors ski, board paddle, swim and run. The men compete over a 46.65km course and the women and juniors over 30.5km. [www.coolangattagold.com.au](http://www.coolangattagold.com.au)
- **Noosa Triathlon Multi Sport Festival, October.** Sporting champions will join amateur competitors at the Noosa Triathlon Multi Sport Festival. Held at Queensland's famous Noosa Beach the annual festival is one of the world's largest annual multi-sport events and culminates with the Noosa Triathlon. [www.usmevents.com.au](http://www.usmevents.com.au)
- **Mission Beach Film Festival, Mission Beach, Tropical North Queensland, October 22-23.** A treat for film lovers with a program of films that entertain and inspire us to protect the natural world we live in. Quirky stories, incredible individuals and inspired communities are celebrated. [www.missionbeachfilmfestival.com.au](http://www.missionbeachfilmfestival.com.au)

## November

- **Australia vs England Ashes Test, Brisbane, November 25-29.** Brisbane's famous 'Gabba' cricket ground will be the venue for the opening Test match of the Ashes series between Australia and England. [www.cricket.com.au](http://www.cricket.com.au)