



Wodonga

Your major events destination

major concerts



Testimonial

I would like to thank the City of Wodonga for providing such a magnificent venue to host the Cold Chisel concert last Friday, 18th November.

Early this year, I was given the task of finding a suitable regional town to hold this show. I travelled across the state and met with many councils. The events team at City of Wodonga, in particular Kellie Miller and Kim Strang, went above and beyond to secure the event for the City of Wodonga. Kellie, in the lead up and throughout the event worked around the clock to ensure that the City of Wodonga was a well represented partner in the event, and that all stakeholders were kept well informed of proceedings.

The venue when we arrived was impeccable, and a credit to the grounds staff.

A capacity crowd of 12,500 people attended the event and the reviews about the show and event space have been magnificent. I do hope that the flow on effect from these patrons was positive for the greater business community.

I will definitely be looking to use this venue again in the future.

Duane McDonald
Regional Touring

Location

Wodonga sits at the centre of the Melbourne–Sydney–Canberra triangle and in the foothills of the Great Dividing Range. The city is located on the majestic Murray River which forms the border between Victoria and our neighbouring city, Albury in NSW. The region is surrounded by rich agricultural valleys with easy access to nearby snow fields, celebrated wine regions and historic heritage towns and villages.

The Albury-Wodonga region is also a major hub for transport, retail and employment, with a rich restaurant and cafe culture. Added to this, the broader North East region is renowned for its incredible range of gourmet produce, outstanding food, boutique beer and wine offerings and an exciting year-round calendar of events.



Transport

One of Wodonga's strengths as an event destination is its ease of access.

Albury Airport is located just 15 minutes from Wodonga CBD. It offers over 160 direct flights weekly to and from Sydney and Melbourne. Regional Express, QantasLink and Virgin Australia service the airport.

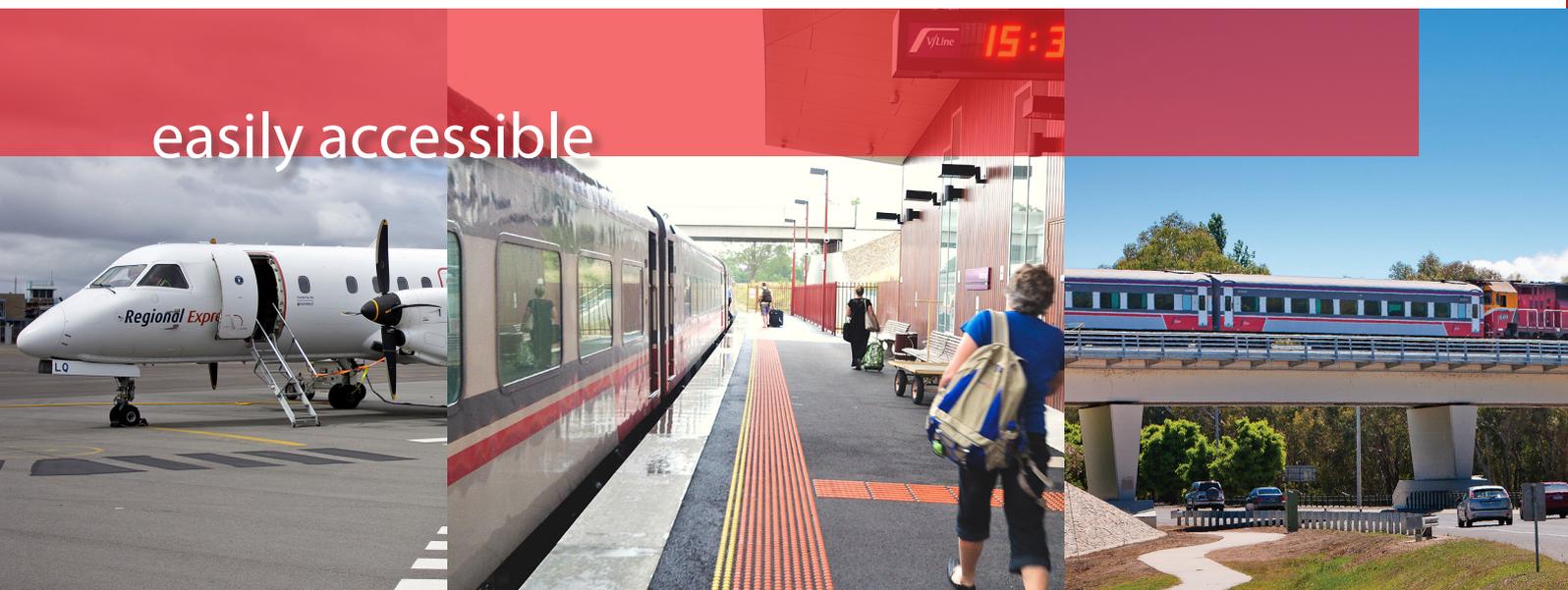
Charter services for corporate groups and individuals are also available to and from Albury Airport through Forest Air and Smartair.

There are also extensive coach and train services between Melbourne, Canberra and Sydney, as well as many other regional centres.

And for those driving to the region, Wodonga is strategically located about three hours north of Melbourne and six hours south of Sydney on the Hume Freeway. Canberra is also only 3.5 hours drive away.

DESTINATION	AIR	ROAD	TRAIN/BUS
Sydney	One hour	Six hours	7.5 hours
Melbourne	55 mins	Three hours	3.5 hours
Canberra	Three hours (via Sydney)	3.5 hours	Four hours
Adelaide	Via Melbourne	Nine hours	Via Melbourne
Brisbane	Two hours		
Gold Coast	Two hours		

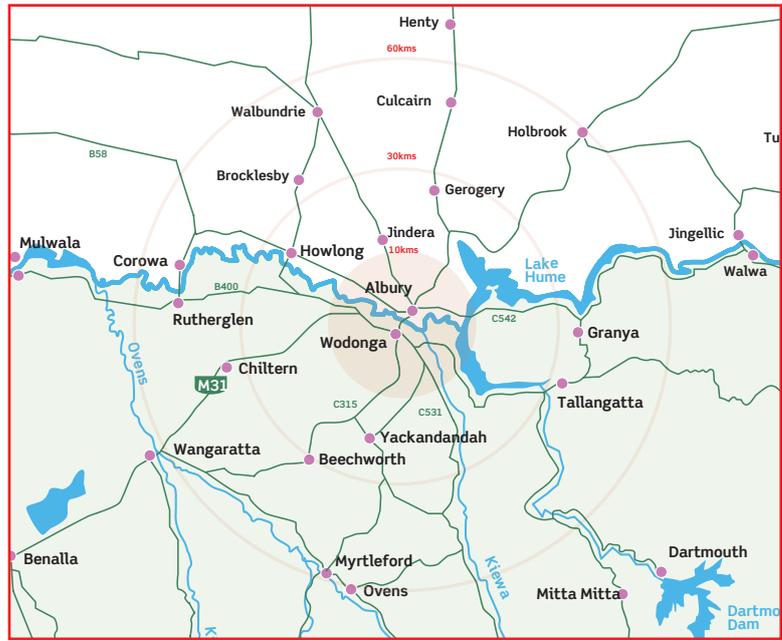
easily accessible



Population catchment

The combined municipalities of Albury and Wodonga are recognised as Australia's 19th largest city, with a population of more than 95,000 residents.

However, Albury-Wodonga's regional catchment is over 360,000 people, which includes Wangaratta, Wagga, Shepparton, Gundagai, Holbrook, Urana, Deniliquin, Corowa, Bright and Benalla - all within a 200 kilometre radius.



combined municipalities



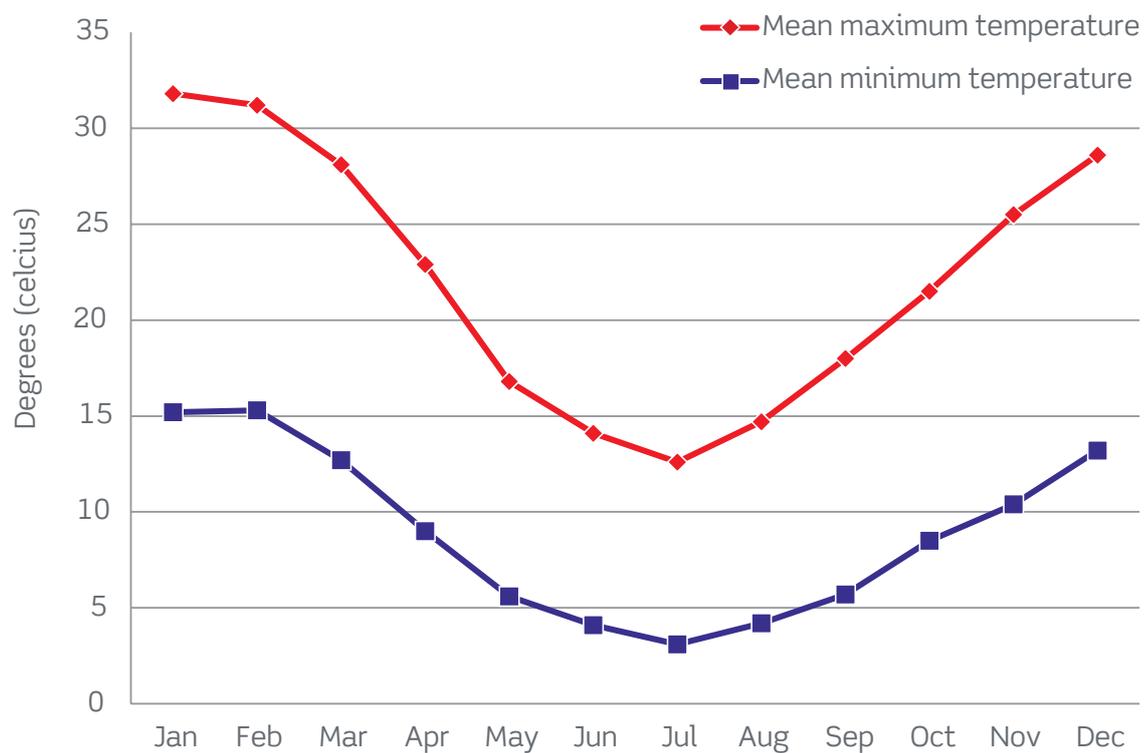
Accommodation

The Albury-Wodonga region offers accommodation to suit every taste and budget, from five-star luxury accommodation to cabins and back packer options. There are around 5500 beds in the region which provide a 'critical mass' for major events that come to the area.



Climate

The broader Wodonga region has a largely 'Mediterranean climate' which is characterised by warm to hot, dry summers and mild to cool, wet winters. If you're after sunshine, there's plenty of that too with around 240 days per year when you will see the sun shining.



Outdoor activities

- Albury-Wodonga has more than 100kms of bike and walking paths, providing the perfect opportunity to meander by the river or enjoy one of the scenic routes that link the city.
- Picturesque parks and gardens are dotted throughout the community, making an ideal spot to picnic.
- Quality restaurants, coffee shops and taverns offer wonderful food and entertainment for locals and visitors alike.
- The hillsides and parkland reserves provide the ideal bushwalking, bird watching and hiking tracks for the novice as well as the experienced walker. Alternatively, take a stroll along the river's edge and indulge in adventure water activities at Lake Hume.
- The wine areas of Rutherglen, Beechworth, Milawa and King Valley to the south, and Tumbarumba to the north, make for a great wine lovers' experience.
- The historic towns of Beechworth, Yackandandah and Chiltern are close by.

picturesque places



Arts and culture

- Albury-Wodonga is known for its rich cultural life. It is the home of the renowned **Flying Fruit Fly Circus**, which tour locally, nationally and internationally.
- There are also a number of performing arts spaces including **The Cube Wodonga**, the **HotHouse Theatre** and the **Albury Entertainment Centre**.
- The new Murray Arts Museum Albury (**MAMA**) is more than a showcase for art - **MAMA** is an all-encompassing contemporary art experience that balances international touring exhibitions with deep connections to the surrounding regional area and cultural identity.
- Explore local indigenous art outdoors when you experience the **Yindyamarra Sculpture Trail**. Walk or bicycle to view 11 different art sites strategically located along the banks of the river.
- **Bonegilla Migrant Experience** brings to life the stories and experiences of the more than 300,000 post-war migrants who travelled through the centre. It was once made up of 24 blocks having its own churches, banks, sporting fields, cinema, hospital, police station and railway platform. Today, Block 19 is all that remains of the original site.

rich cultural life



Event support and assistance

Wodonga Council can provide many types of assistance to event organisers including, but not limited to:

- Financial assistance through the *Event Attraction Contribution Program*;
- Event advice and guidance for traffic management and road closures (Wodonga Council roads only), building and structural approvals, food safety advice and waste management;
- Event site maintenance;
- Advice on any permits required for your event;
- Marketing and promotional assistance with your event;
- An *Event Management Guide* downloadable from Wodonga Council's website; and,
- A *Venue Guide* downloadable from the website.

professional event advice



Testimonial

Ulysses Motorcycle Club annual general meeting 2015

To whom it may concern,

I was the Director of the 2015 Ulysses AGM event held in Wodonga during March 2015. The event was a week-long activity for the 3000 Ulysses members who visited Wodonga and local municipalities, and concluded on Saturday with a grand parade through the streets of Wodonga. This was then followed by the annual general meeting that culminated in a gala dinner on the Saturday evening.

Without the support of the local community, local businesses and assistance given by Wodonga Council, this event would not have been possible. The councillors and the Events Team at Wodonga Council provided significant guidance and support for the event over an extended period of time. Their guidance in running major events ensured that the co-ordination of all agencies ran seamlessly and the event was an outstanding success.

I have no hesitation in recommending Wodonga Council and its highly skilled Events Team to facilitate your next event.

'Blue' Knowles

Event Director





Gateway Lakes site

Gateway Lakes

Gateway Lakes is a unique major event site, strategically located on the Lincoln Causeway between Albury and Wodonga. The 70,000 square metre grassed site is surrounded by lakes to the south-west with the Murray River just to the north.

The site has its own dedicated power (including three-phase), water and toilet facilities. It is linked to the nearby Gateway Village precinct by a shared bicycle and walking path that provides supporting infrastructure including restaurants, craft shops and an amenities block. Extensive parking is available and there are public transport stops 250m from the main entrance, with excellent access and egress.

Gateway Lakes has proved itself to be a perfect site for major concerts and outdoor events due to its picturesque location, extensive grass area, excellent infrastructure and close proximity to the twin cities.

Previous events

Cold Chisel

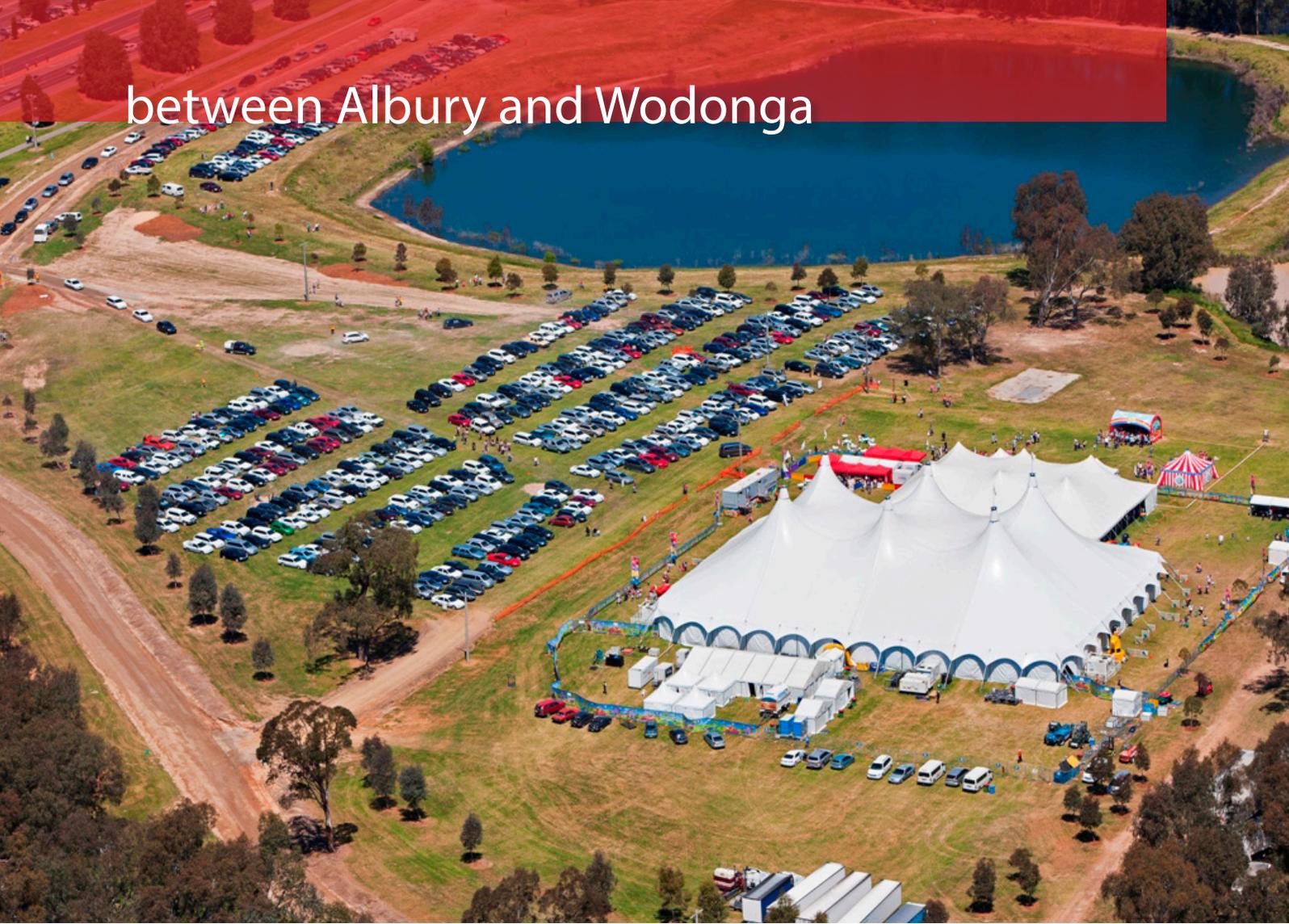
In conjunction with Wodonga Council, the Regional Touring Company staged the Cold Chisel 'Light the Nitro Tour' concert at Gateway Lakes on Friday, November 18, 2011. The concert was the only show of the tour in regional Victoria and established the Gateway Lakes event space as one of Victoria's premier entertainment venues. The open air concert drew a capacity crowd of 12,500 patrons and was a huge success. As quoted in the local newspaper The Border Mail the next day:

“Under the stars, beside the Murray River, there seemed no better place to be last night than Gateway Lakes, listening to some classic hits by one of the country's best bands. It's just the way we wanna be forever”.

open air concert



between Albury and Wodonga



The Wiggles

The Wiggles staged their 'Big 20th Birthday Tour in the Big Tent' at the Gateway Lakes site on Tuesday, October 18 and Wednesday, October 19, 2011. Three big shows were held over the two-day period with thousands of children and parents enjoying the total Wiggles' experience.

The concerts were part of a 50 show tour around the country, and was one of the largest tours of its type ever staged in Australia. The unique big tent had capacity for 3000 people per show.



Previous events

Chryslers on the Murray – annually in March

Chryslers on the Murray is the southern hemisphere's largest annual Chrysler expo and certainly the largest showing of Chrysler cars outside the USA. The show has grown substantially from its humble beginnings in the early 1990s with around 60 cars on show.

The event attracts up to 700 Chryslers including Chargers, Valiants, Dodges, Plymouth, PT Cruisers and a range of American Muscle cars.

Chryslers on the Murray takes place at the Gateway Lakes precinct in Wodonga and attracts upwards of 8,000 people over the weekend. It has now grown into a three-day event with the opportunity for owners to do some 'hot' laps and 'go to whoa' sessions at a local driver education track on the Friday before the weekend.

southern hemisphere's largest

An aerial photograph of a large outdoor car show. Numerous classic Chrysler cars, including Dodge Chargers, Plymouths, and American muscle cars, are parked in neat rows on a grassy field. Many of the cars have their hoods open, and some have their doors open. Several pop-up tents in various colors (blue, red, purple, green) are set up throughout the area, with people gathered around them. The scene is set in a park-like area with trees in the background.

Gateway Village precinct

The Gateway Village precinct is opposite the Gateway Lakes site and has proved to be an ideal site for circuses and large-scale food and wine events. Just metres from the Murray River, the village itself is home to an array of quality artists, fine art galleries, HotHouse Theatre, Albury Wodonga jazz club, a fortnightly farmers' market, the Aboriginal cultural centre and La Maison Cafe.

Due to its close proximity to the Lincoln Causeway, the event site is highly visible with about 15,000 vehicles passing every day, making it an ideal site for such things as circuses and events spanning longer run times.

The Gateway Village site has hosted events such as the Albury Wodonga Food and Wine Festival, home and leisure expos, Melbourne Food and Wine Festival's 'Long Lunch', Silvers Circus and the international Cirque Africa.



Cirque Africa

Cirque Africa performed its block buster show at the Gateway Village circus site in March 2016. The circus itself was a two hour, high energy acrobatic production featuring 38 world class artists from six African countries, with a 9 piece live band playing original music composed for the show.

This was the first time a circus of this type had performed in Albury Wodonga. Cirque Africa consisted of 70 tons of circus equipment including professional sound, lighting and stage gear, with elevated seating capacity for up to 1,100 people. The big top tent was 35 metres in diameter with an 11 metre performance stage, plus two foyer tents and a back stage tent measuring 35 x 8 metres.

The circus proved to be extremely popular with residents of the broader Albury Wodonga region.



a vibrant experience



Racecourse precinct

The Wodonga Racecourse and Showground precinct is within 1.5 km of the Wodonga CBD. The showground precinct consists of four large pavilions, extensive power outlets, water, toilets, kitchen facilities and extensive open areas for displays and exhibitions.

When this is combined with the Wodonga Racecourse, the total useable area of the site is 330,000m². The racecourse is grassed and watered by recycled water and has been designed to ensure maximum run off during heavy rains. There is also secure fencing surrounding the entire site with two entry/exit points.

Previous major events hosted by the Racecourse and Showground precinct include the 2015 Ulysses Motorcycle Club AGM, which saw over 3,000 participants use the site for a period of five days. The Border RV & Camping Show also takes place annually, attracting around 12,000 people, and the annual Wodonga Children's Fair attracts 15,000 to the site.

Ulysses

The Ulysses club is a social club for the mature motorcycle enthusiast with a minimum age of 40 years. The club held its 2015 annual general meeting in Wodonga with the event hub and accommodation precinct based at the Wodonga racecourse. The AGM was a huge success and demonstrated the adaptability and versatility of the Wodonga racecourse site to host large-scale events.

adaptability & versatility



Border RV and Camping Show

Attracting more than 12,000 visitors to the Wodonga Racecourse and Showgrounds precinct, the Border RV Show is held annually in mid-August over three days from Friday to Sunday. The event showcases new caravans, motor homes, camper trailers, off-road vehicles, campervans, pop-tops, tent trailers, fifth wheelers, 4x4s, camping equipment and more.

three day event showcase





The Cube Wodonga

Located in the Wodonga CBD, The Cube Wodonga is a multipurpose, world-class conference and performance space. The spacious auditorium, meeting room, foyer, courtyard, green room and dressing rooms cater for a range of events, both large and small.

All spaces are fitted with state-of-the-art technology and free Wi-Fi. Professional and friendly staff are on hand at all times to ensure your event runs smoothly and the technical team will make sure your event goes according to plan.

The Cube Wodonga can be tailored to suit almost any event. This includes touring bands, theatre shows, local community performances, film screenings, conferences, cocktail functions, exhibitions, launches, trade shows and much, much more.

The auditorium has retractable tiered seating. Within minutes, the venue can go from 410 theatre style to a flat floor mode tailored for live concerts with a standing capacity of up to 1500. This space can also be utilised for dinners and presentations for up to 310.

The external courtyard also has a permanent large LED screen that is available for functions, music events, corporate events and film screenings.



Contact

Wodonga Council is committed to supporting a vibrant calendar of major events which will build upon Wodonga's reputation as a great place to live, work and invest.

Wodonga Council has a proven track record of successfully working with automotive clubs and event promoters to deliver major events for the city.

The council is committed to providing both financial and/or in kind support for appropriate major events as it recognises the crucial economic, social and cultural benefits which can result from its role as host.

Please contact Wodonga Council to discuss your event further.

Miranda Somers

Event Attraction Co-ordinator

Wodonga Council

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