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MARCH 27-30 2025

BENDIGOPRIDEFESTIVAL.COM.AU

**It takes a community
to raise a festival**



Bendigo LGBTQIA+ Community

BENDIGO
PRIDE
FESTIVAL 2025

**MARCH
27-30
2025**

Come and join us for connection, community and celebration of your authentic self in the beautiful city of Greater Bendigo. With over 30 events for all ages, our community would love to meet you and share this incredible festival made with love.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Bendigo Pride Festival acknowledges the Dja Dja Wurrung and Taungurung people as the traditional owners of the land on which we live, love, work and create. We pay our respects to elders past and present and emerging.

We recognise sovereignty has never been ceded and express our sorrow for the personal, spiritual and cultural costs of colonisation and their lasting impact. May we walk forward together in harmony and the spirit of healing.



Welcome



Em Ireland
FESTIVAL DIRECTOR,
BENDIGO PRIDE FESTIVAL

Welcome to Bendigo Pride, I'm Em and I am so honoured to be working with the community from the Greater City of Bendigo and surrounds for the 2025 Pride Festival! This year we celebrate our LGBTQIA+ communities' connection and resilience on beautiful Djaara country with pride. The festival has transformed into three annual events, the Bendigo Pride Festival 27-30 March, Bendigo Queer Film Festival July 18th-20th and our inaugural Halloween Ball Friday October 31st 2025. I want to thank the committee, the volunteers, supporters and sponsors of the Pride Festival with all my heart, without whom we couldn't grow such a magnificent and diverse weekend for everyone. I so look forward to seeing you across the festival, please come say hello and get your tickets early so you don't miss out! There's many free shows for all ages too and a few new events like the All Gender Fashion Parade, Choose Life Dance Party and our Pride with Purpose Forum as well our Heathcote shows. So get amongst it all and feel the region wide pride on the last weekend of March 2025. See you in the park or on the dance floor making beautiful country memories together.

xx Em



Joe Ball
VICTORIAN COMMISSIONER FOR
LGBTIQ+ COMMUNITIES

Welcome to the 2025 Bendigo Pride Festival! Pride events and festivals are crucial to LGBTQIA+ peoples' sense of connection and belonging. It is always someone's first pride event, creating a special moment that they will always remember. If this is you, happy first pride! Regional events with their vibrant and diverse programming, far away from the inner city LGBTQIA+ hubs, create essential place-based safety and pride in the communities people grew up in or have moved to.

For those in Melbourne, why not support this incredible event with a day trip or a weekend stay? Let's fill Bendigo with joy and solidarity.

I know it takes a dedicated group of passionate individuals to build a festival of this quality and scale. A special shout out to Director Em Ireland for leading this year's festival, and to all the talented performers, facilitators, volunteers and more who will make this festival possible.

Thank you to the Traditional Owners, the Dja Dja Wurrung and Taungurung Peoples, for hosting us on your beautiful Country. A special thanks to the City of Greater Bendigo and the local businesses for their incredible support.

I can't wait to be part of the festivities — please come say hi and consider this your invitation to meet me at the meet the Commissioner event advertised in this guide.

Have a fantastic Bendigo Pride Festival!

2025 Sponsors

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VICTORIAN COMMISSIONER FOR
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SPONSORS



**thorne
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MEDIA PARTNERS



SUPPORTERS

Bendigo Advertiser



Jacinta Allan MP
Member for Bendigo East

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MARCH 27-30 2025

Bendigo Pride Festival Map 2025

- 1 DUDLEY HOUSE**
📍 60 View St.
- 2 BENDIGO ART GALLERY**
📍 42 View St.
- 3 TRADES HALL**
📍 36-40 View St.
- 4 ROSALIND PARK**
📍 Cnr. Pall Mall & View St.
- 5 CHARING CROSS TRAM STOP**
📍 Pall Mall
- 6 VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE**
📍 51-67 Pall Mall
- 7 THE BEEHIVE**
📍 26 Pall Mall
- 8 HARGREAVES MALL**
📍 Hargreaves Mall
- 9 BENDIGO LIBRARY GARDENS**
📍 259 Hargreaves St.
- 10 BENDIGO TOWN HALL**
📍 189-193 Hargreaves St.
- 11 ST. ANDREWS UNITING CHURCH**
📍 26 Myers St.



Not shown on map

- 12 LAKE WEERONA**
📍 Napier St.
- 14 OLD CHURCH ON THE HILL**
📍 36 Russell St., Quarry Hill
- 16 JUNIPER LOUNGE**
📍 98 High St., Heathcote
- 13 OMARI**
📍 27 Hamelin St., White Hills
- 15 COMMERCIAL HOTEL**
📍 139 High St., Heathcote

THURSDAY
Official Opening
Launch & Lunch



Leather Lungs

🕒 27th March
1-3PM

📍 Omari
27 HAMELIN ST, WHITE HILLS

💎 \$45.00/\$60.00
trybooking.com/CWSFK
Ticket includes drinks
and brunch

With special guests **Leather Lungs** and **Aurora Kurth**.

Come join us for an exquisite lunch and celebration at Omari as we officially launch the 2025 Bendigo Pride Festival together.

Let's share a meal and a chat, with guest speakers and performers, come connect with who we are. Because the festival that starts together stays together!



Aurora Kurth



Omari

THURSDAY
Madame Martha's
Cabaret



Madame Martha's

🕒 **27th March**
DOORS OPEN 7:30PM
SHOW 8-9PM

📍 **Trades Hall**
40 VIEW ST, BENDIGO

💎 \$30.00
trybooking.com/CXAVI

One night only! Step into an underground Parisian club of glamour where music sweeps you off your feet, drag divas sing to you in French, and the goddesses of burlesque transport you to another world

Artists: Iva Rosebud, Meg Hickey and Jens Radda (produced by Jens also).

Madame Martha's Hush Cabaret is a voyage of timeless music, blending reimagined songs by Charles Aznavour, Florence & The Machine, Edith Piaf, and Jacques Brel with electric performances from some of Melbourne's most iconic cabaret artistes.

Come into a world of pleasure and hilarity in Melbourne's home of Vaudeville, where mesmerising group dance numbers, soaring live vocals and avant-garde burlesque explode in a cabaret club of your dreams.



Madame Martha's

Frida Kahlo After Hours

- 📍 BENDIGO ART GALLERY
- 🕒 6–8PM, 27TH MARCH
- 🔗 bendigoartgallery.com.au

Immerse yourself in the fascinating universe of one of most influential queer artists of the twentieth century.

Explore how Kahlo creatively used clothing, make-up and adornment to imagine and construct a vibrant and unapologetic identity which defied social mores and continues to challenge and inspire today.

Dress to express your pride and individuality!



Heathcote Pride

- Coffee & catchups** with
Lesbean Coffee Van
- 📍 COMMERCIAL HOTEL
 - 🕒 11AM, 27TH MARCH

- Trivia** with Frock Hudson
- 📍 COMMERCIAL HOTEL
 - 🕒 5–9PM, 27TH MARCH
 - 💎 Free entry

- G&T Tastings** with Pork
Banh Mi and entertainment
- 📍 JUNIPER LOUNGE
 - 🕒 3-5PM, 30TH MARCH

Happy drinks \$30 per head,
book via Juniper Lounge.



Frock Hudson

Pride Carer Time Out

- 📍 EARTH LOVE YOGA
- 🕒 9:30-11AM, 27TH MARCH
- 💎 Free entry

A free self-care event at Yoga Earth Love in North Bendigo, for carers in the LGBTIQ+ community. A 90 min session of gentle yoga, massage and sound healing.

Run by experienced yoga teacher & masseur, Kate Robinson. Limited places, please call Anne-Maree on 0437 919 284 to book/for further details.



THURSDAY

Bendigo's Queer Music Showcase

- 📍 HARGREAVES MALL
- 🕒 11AM-3PM, 28TH MARCH
- 💎 Free entry

An afternoon of live music from Bendigo's fantastic LGBTIQ+ musicians featuring Bridie Lynas, Frankie Bell, Sherri Parry and Steph Bitter.



Sherri Parry

FRIDAY

BENDIGO PRIDE FESTIVAL

HEY Day: Advocacy and Activism

- 📍 TBA
- 🕒 10AM-4PM, 28TH MARCH
- 💎 Free entry for young people (12-25), \$20 for others.

Healthy Equal Youth (HEY) Day celebrates the lives of LGBTIQ+ young people and the work of the LGBTIQ+ sector in Victoria, showcasing new projects and initiatives that improve the mental health and wellbeing of LGBTIQ+ young people. Come along to hear from young leaders and activists, insightful panel discussions, free food, queer jubilation, and the announcement of the Round 14 HEY Grant recipients. For more information contact Bec Shaw at bshaw@yacvic.org.au

FRIDAY
Opening Night Dinner &
All Gender Fashion Parade



Polly Filla

📅 28th March
6-8PM

📍 The Beehive
110 PALL MALL, BENDIGO

💰 \$45.00
trybooking.com/CXAXP

This is a glamaganza event of fashion, song, celebration of community in the exquisite space of the Beehive our theme is your authentic self whatever that may be.

Come enjoy a star studded line up of fashionistas strutting their selves on three runways to celebrate LGBTQIA+ community and very special guests Sophie Delightful and the Leather lungs.

The bar will be open, tickets include light supper and finger food, individual seats and group bookings available, dont miss EAVIP (everyone's a very important person) new Bendigo Pride Festival event!

Free glass of bubbles on arrival.



Sophie Delightful

Big Girls Bar

- 📍 TRADES HALL
- 🕒 8:30–11PM, 28TH MARCH
- 💎 Free entry

Run by women for women and their tribe. Non-binary and femme friends welcome, come relax around a table and connect with performances by Sophie Delightful, Aurora Kurth, Kate Dukes and a few surprises! See you at the Big Girls Bar, where the big girls meet their peeps!



Sophie Delightful

Friday Fabulous Tram with Ms Poly Filla

- 📍 CHARING CROSS TRAM STOP
- 🕒 8:30–9:30PM, 28TH MARCH
- 💎 \$25
- trybooking.com/CYCHC

All aboard for an unforgettable celebration of PRIDE! Travel through the sparkling streets of Bendigo with a drink in hand on board the Friday Fabulous Tram with Ms Poly Filla and DJ Tonky! Strictly limited tickets are available, be sure to secure your spot before it's too late! This is an 18+ event.



DJ Tonky



Poof Doof Pride Patrol Stage

Bendigo Pride Festival Timetable 2025

MARCH 27-30 2025

THURSDAY 27TH

		Location	Cost
11am	Coffee & Catchup	Commercial Hotel	Free
9:30am-11am	Pride Carer Time Out	Earth Love Yoga	Free
12pm	Flag Raising Ceremony	Library Gardens	Free
12-1pm	Lake Walk n' Talk	Lake Weeroona, meet outside Whitby	Free
1-3pm	Official Opening Launch & Lunch	Omari	\$45-\$60
5-9pm	Trivia with Frock Hudson	Commercial Hotel	Free
6-8pm	Frida Kahlo After Hours	Bendigo Art Gallery	\$45
7:30-9pm	Madame Martha's Cabaret	Trades Hall	\$30

FRIDAY 28TH

		Location	Cost
9:30-11am	Coffee & Chats	Library Gardens	Free
11am-3pm	Bendigo's Queer Music Showcase	Hargreaves Mall	Free
6:30-8pm	Opening Night Dinner & All Gender Fashion Parade	The Beehive	\$45
8:30-10pm	Friday Fabulous Tram with Ms Poly Filla	Alexandra Fountain Tram Stop	\$25
8:30-11pm	Big Girls Bar	Trades Hall	Free

SATURDAY 29TH

		Location	Cost
9-10am	Rainbow Story-time with Frock Hudson	Library Gardens	Free
10am-4pm	Pride in the Park	Rosalind Park	Free
5pm	Queer Country Official Launch & Meet the Artists	Dudley House	Free
5:30-8:30pm	All Ages Youth Event	Rosalind Park	\$15/\$20
8pm-12am	Choose Life 80s Dance Party	Bendigo Town Hall	\$30

SUNDAY 30TH

		Location	Cost
9-10am	Coffee with the Commissioner	Library Gardens	Free
11am-2pm	Pride with Purpose Forum	Bendigo Town Hall	Donation
12pm	Film Screening: Priscilla Queen of the Desert	The Beehive	Free
2:30pm	Film Screening: Best in Show	The Beehive	Free
3-5pm	G&T Tasting	Juniper Lounge	\$30
5-6:30pm	The Last Tram Home	Alexandra Fountain Tram Stop	\$30
6:30pm	Bendigo Pride Multifaith Service	St. Andrews Uniting Church	Free

ACROSS THE WEEKEND

		Location	Cost
9am-5pm	Purrfect Portraits	Visitor Information Centre	Free
12-6pm	Queer Country Art Exhibition	Dudley House	Donation



Details correct at the time of printing.
For latest information, visit bendigopridefestival.com.au

MARCH 27-30 2025

SATURDAY
Pride in the Park



Adam Noviello

🕒 **29th March**
10AM-4PM

📍 **Rosalind Park**
BENDIGO

💎 **Free entry**

ARIA-charting, AIR Award nominated non-binary pop diva sensation Adam Noviello was recently named by Triple J as 1 of '10 Queer Artists To Discover Before They Blow Up' and Bendigo pride is proud to champion such an incredible performer and person as a headliner for our Pride in the Park event!

Alongside our Pride ambassador Polly Filla with market stalls, incredible food, and expect some interactive play, neurodiverse spaces, Bendigo Pride in the Park is all accessible, with an all-star lineup! Best in show with Mark and Tom (Gogglebox) the Leather Lungs (NZ), Cerulean, Sophie Delightful, special guest appearances by Greg Gould and Kate Dearaugo and much more local talent! See you all there at Rosalind Park Bendigo.

**thorne
harbour**
country*

10AM	Gates open
10-10:20AM	Gorgeous Voices Choir
10:20-10:40AM	Kate Dukes
10:40-11AM	Gamelan Band
11:00AM	Welcome to country Cerulean
11:15AM	Thorne Harbour Best in Show - Our fur babies dog runway behind the stage
11:15AM	Sherri Parry
11:25AM	Dean Arcuri, Polly Filla, Cerulean
12PM	A few words from the LGBTIQ+ commissioner Joe Ball and Premier Jacinta Allen
12:10PM	The Leather Lungs
12:45PM	Sophie Delightful
1-1:30PM	Chinese Lion Dancers
1:30PM	Thank you to our sponsors / Best in Show Winner with Mark & Tom (Gogglebox)
1:45PM	Greg Gould
2PM	Kate Dearaugo
2:30PM	Polly Filla
3PM	Adam Noviello
3:30-4PM	DJ

SCHEDULE

BENDIGO PRIDE FESTIVAL

Thorne Harbour 'Best in Show' Dog Show

🕒 10:30AM FOR AN 11AM START.
11AM-12:15PM

Bring along your fur baby pooch to the rotunda. There are four categories: Best Dressed, Best Trick, Dog Most Like Their Owner and Judges' Choice. Judged by Mark and Tom from Gogglebox. Register on the day.

SATURDAY
All Ages
Youth Event



Bec Sandridge

🕒 **29th March**
5:30-8:30PM

📍 **Rosalind Park**
BENDIGO

💎 **\$15 conc. / \$20 full**
trybooking.com/CXKLW

6PM	Gates open
6-6:20PM	Stevie n' Arlo Live Music MC Sophie Delightful
6:20-6:40PM	Baby Drag Performers
6:45PM	The Leather Lungs
7PM	Adam Noviello
7:45PM	Bec Sandridge
8:30	Finish

SCHEDULE

Time to celebrate as the sun sets with the Pride in the Park Youth/All ages event! with very special guest Bec Sandridge (NSW, Adam Novelio, The Leather Lungs (NZ), Frock Hudson, and the lady on fire Sophie Delightful and local musicians.

Everyone's favourite place in Rosalind Park off the back of a Pink Truck stage! (brought to us by Poof Doof) come bring the Friends n have dance and experience community and connection. Limited tickets / Alcohol free event / No pass outs / All ages.

SATURDAY

Choose Life 80s Dance Party



Greg Gould

🕒 **29th March**
8PM–MIDNIGHT

📍 **Bendigo Town Hall**
189-193 HARGREAVES ST

💎 \$30
trybooking.com/CXKMF

This is the dance event for all as we gather as a community at the town hall with the incredible Greg Gould and his George Michael cover band show to raise money for suicide prevention, let's dance to make a difference!

Greg Gould is also performing with some very special guests and some mega pride anthems so get us all back to 80s dance floor we adored. Every year Bendigo Pride will be raising funds for one of our vital LGBTQIIA+ organisations that makes a difference for all of us, this year we are donating money to SWITCHBOARD for the incredible work they do across our community, see you on the dance floor!
DRESS 80s!



Rainbow Story-time with Frock Hudson

- 📍 LIBRARY GARDENS
- 🕒 9-10AM, 29TH MARCH
- 💎 Free entry

Rainbow Story-time join our busiest drag queen Frock Hudson as he shares some beautiful rainbow stories for all the ages, everyone welcome to come and enjoy this special time - fun for all the family.



Frock Hudson

Queer Country Official Launch & Meet the Artists

- 📍 DUDLEY HOUSE
- 🕒 5PM, 29TH MARCH
- 💎 Free entry

Queer country art 5pm come have a glass of bubbles and see some of the regions finest artists at our annual queer arts show.



SUNDAY
Pride with Purpose
Forum



Polly Filla



Cerulean

🕒 **30th March**
11AM-2PM

📍 **Bendigo Town Hall**
189-193 HARGREAVES ST

💎 **Entry by donation**

**What is our purpose of pride season?
Come join us in a discussion around our
Purpose of Pride!**

Three panel discussions with our changemakers, people who run different parts of our pride season. Our trans and gender diverse community and multigenerational and first nations community having open chats around how we are all feeling, who is being seen and heard and what we could do better, together. Let's move forward with regional wide pride and share a decompression session around the months we've experienced together, wonderful guest speakers from many organisations including our wonderful LGBT community. Hosted by the incredible Nelly Thomas (comedian and Dear Nelly podcast).



Nelly Thomas

Film Screenings: Priscilla Queen of the Desert & Best in Show

- 📍 THE BEEHIVE
- 🕒 PRISCILLA
MIDDAY, 30TH MARCH
- 🕒 BEST IN SHOW
2:30PM, 30TH MARCH
- 💎 Free entry

The Adventures of Priscilla Queen of the Desert

celebrating its 30th anniversary Drag queens (Terence Stamp, Hugo Weaving, Guy Pearce) in Australian desert.

Best In Show (2000)

Pampered pooches and their quirky owners compete in a prestigious dog show.



Priscilla: Queen of the Desert



Best in Show

Coffee with the Commissioner

- 📍 LIBRARY GARDENS
- 🕒 9-10AM, 30TH MARCH
- 💎 Free entry

Come have a coffee on us from the wonderful LesBean van with our fantastic LGBTQIA+ commissioner Joe Ball. A chance to meet and greet, connect and reflect, open some discussion ahead of our Pride with Purpose Forum.



Bendigo Pride Multifaith Service

📍 ST ANDREW'S
UNITING CHURCH

🕒 6:30PM, 30TH MARCH

💎 Free entry

An occasion to celebrate and affirm the presence and contribution of proud people in all communities of faith.



The Last Tram Home

📍 ALEXANDRA FOUNTAIN
TRAM STOP

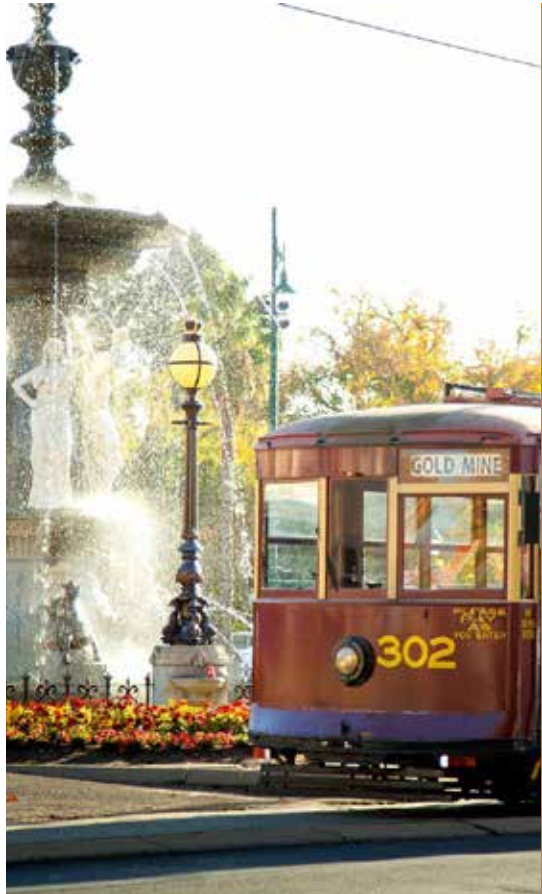
🕒 5-6:30PM, 30TH MARCH

💎 \$30

trybooking.com/CYCGV

Catch the last tram home with the Leather Lungs!

Join our fave drag queens The Leather Lungs, Hungry Jackie and DJ Tonky as we take it home with some song and tram glam. Limited seats, bar open.



Queer Country Art Exhibition

- 📍 DUDLEY HOUSE
- 🕒 12–6PM, 27TH–30TH MARCH
- 💎 Entry by donation

The Queer Country Art Exhibition is a platform for queer artists to express themselves, showcase their creativity, offer another perspective and educate the broader community about LGBTQIA2+ arts and culture.



Purrrfect Portraits

- 📍 VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE
- 🕒 9:00AM–5PM
THURSDAY 27TH
–MONDAY 31ST MARCH
- 💎 Free entry

Send your best cat pic and name, age, any hidden talents (ten words) as we celebrate our fave felines. Prizes for crowd favourites.

Email your entry to info.bendigopride@gmail.com. Winners will be announced on social media.





BENDIGO PRIDE FESTIVAL

**Jacinta
Allan MP**

**Labor Member |
for Bendigo East**

- 📍 140 Mollison Street, Bendigo VIC 3550
- ✉ jacinta.allan@parliament.vic.gov.au
- ☎ 5443 2144





www.bendigopridefestival.com.au