

MEET NEWCASTLE



The City of
Newcastle



Meet Newcastle



Thank you for thinking of Newcastle - we are delighted to have the opportunity to provide further information on our fantastic city.

A top ten city in Lonely Planet's 'Best in Travel' and four time winner of the IFEA World Festival and Event City Award, Newcastle continues to flourish as a city with internationally recognised events, industry and education.

Nestled in the heart of the Hunter region and only two hours' drive north of Sydney, Newcastle boasts a spectacular coastline, cosmopolitan cafes, award-winning restaurants, harbourside bars, a vibrant arts scene and boutique shopping precincts.

The city is a place worthy of exploration with its attractive blend of new and old architecture, a rich Aboriginal heritage and a bustling working harbour. Newcastle Airport's increased capacity has encouraged further visitation to the city with the 1,216,624 passengers welcomed in 2016 representing a record year for the Airport.

Throughout this event planner, we invite you to Meet Newcastle - a city of rich history, vibrant culture and amazing scenery. A city that is convenient, capable, experienced, smart, social, scenic, accommodating and supportive.

We look forward to welcoming you and your delegates to our city in the future but for now, we invite you to Meet Newcastle.



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@meetnewcastle #NewcastleBizEvents



A Convenient City



Getting to Newcastle is easy and when you're here that ease continues in our extremely walkable City.

Drive

In under two hours, drive from the city of Sydney, to the CBD of Newcastle via the M1 Motorway. From Newcastle Airport, the city is just 25 minutes by car.

Fly

Fly directly to Newcastle from Brisbane, Canberra, the Gold Coast, Melbourne and Sydney with Jetstar, Virgin Australia, Qantaslink, FlyPelican and Regional Express all operating out of Newcastle Airport. Or, for your VIPs, perhaps consider a seaplane arrival departing from Sydney's Rose Bay and arriving in Newcastle within just 30 minutes.

Transport to and from the airport can be organised by the Airport Information Services Team who are available to assist with door-to-door airport transfers for individuals and groups. Alternatively, the airport is serviced by all major car rental companies, Newcastle Taxis and Uber.

Ride

The train ride from Sydney to Newcastle is a scenic trip of around 2.5 hours which takes in native bushland, national parks, the Hawkesbury River and spectacular waterways.

The NSW State Transit Authority operates a regular 24-hour public bus service throughout Newcastle and suburbs, offering a fare-free zone within the Newcastle CBD from 7am to 6pm seven days a week. A number of these fare-free routes link the accommodation options within the CBD with larger conference venues.

Countrylink trains connect Newcastle to Sydney, Brisbane and many country centres. The trains are designed for comfortable long distance travelling and regularly depart from Newcastle's Broadmeadow Train Station.

The NSW Government has also commenced the planning process for a light rail system in Newcastle, to take passengers from a new transport interchange in the western CBD to the eastern end of the City and beaches.



A Capable City



As NSW's second largest and second oldest city, Newcastle offers contemporary venues together with iconic and historically significant function spaces, providing a diverse range of options for staging events.

The city can provide for sport, business, arts, entertainment and cultural events in theatres, performance spaces and venues catering to audiences of up to 6000. There are over 25 venues within close proximity to the CBD, 10 with onsite accommodation.

Newcastle Venues

Located in the heart of the City, Civic Precinct comprises Newcastle's finest historic venues and incorporates Newcastle City Hall, Civic Theatre, the Playhouse and Newcastle Museum. The 1500 seat Civic Theatre offers state-of-the-art lighting, sound, audio-visual equipment and expert technical support staff. These significant buildings, which are managed by the team at Newcastle Venues, are all linked by 1200 sqm Wheeler Place which is ideal for public performances, welcome ceremonies or for place activation initiatives. The Newcastle Venues team also manage Fort Scratchley Historic Site which, located in the East End of the city provides a unique setting for corporate meetings and gala dinners.

N.E.X

Newcastle Exhibition and Convention Centre (N.E.X) offers contemporary design, flexible spaces and cutting-edge technology in one of the largest indoor function venues in the Hunter region. With configurations for groups of up to 2400, N.E.X is a great option for large conferences and exhibitions.

Newcastle Entertainment Centre

Located on Newcastle's showground, Newcastle Entertainment Centre can host conferences, exhibitions and gala dinners. The venue can seat audiences of up to 6000 and has been the venue for a range of international artists and large conventions.

With a variety of venues, Newcastle can provide a solution to suit your event requirements and budget.



An Experienced City



Success Stories

Newcastle has significant experience as the host destination for a number of large conventions and events. The city is committed to providing world class event experiences to organisers and delegates through its strong community spirit and 'can do' attitude.

Conferences held in Newcastle from 2014 - 2016 include:

- **2014 Australian Earth Sciences Convention - 600 pax**
- 2014 National Gideon Convention - 800 pax
- **2014 Rotary District 9670 Annual conference - 500 pax**
- 2015 International Symposium of Spermatology - 600 pax
- **2015 Lions Australia Convention - 1200 pax**
- 2015 Alcoholics Anonymous Australia Convention - 800 pax
- **2015 Men's Shed Australia Conference - 800 pax**
- 2015 Asian Medical Education Association Conference - 500 pax
- **2015 TROG Cancer Research Conference - 250 pax**
- 2016 Australian Medical Students Association Conference - 650 pax
- **2016 Barbershop Harmony Association National Convention - 600 pax**
- 2016 9th International Conference on Environmental Catalysis - 400 pax



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

A Smart City



Newcastle Smart City Initiative

Newcastle is transitioning from a primarily industrial base to one that boasts a broader economic foundation. The Newcastle Smart City Initiative will maximise opportunities in the technology, advanced manufacturing, digital economy and creative industries sectors. It will leverage the smart city movement to improve liveability, sustainability and economic diversity, develop local innovation, build the city's international profile and attract talent and inward investment to our city.

Newcastle Institute for Energy and Resources (NIER)

The Newcastle Institute for Energy and Resources (NIER) was established to provide a multidisciplinary model for transformational research in energy and resources. Driven by a vision of global leadership, NIER addresses challenges of the rapidly emerging issues of resource sustainability, productivity and competitiveness associated with energy and resources infrastructure.

Priority Research Centre for Asthma and Respiratory Diseases (University of Newcastle)

Australia's two million+ sufferers of airway disease can breathe easier thanks to the work of the Newcastle University's groundbreaking respiratory researchers. The University of Newcastle's Priority Research Centre for Asthma and Respiratory Diseases is leading the way in the understanding, management and treatment of chronic airway conditions. The work of the centre is internationally recognised, having contributed significantly to advancing both medical practice and policy through its discoveries.

Ampcontrol

Newcastle's Ampcontrol is recognised as a leading supplier of innovative electrical and electronic solutions to power, energy and mining sectors across the world. Among Ampcontrol's world-leading engineering achievements is the development of the IS LED Lighting System; an innovative mine lighting system which can replace fluorescent lighting in hazardous mining environments and; the award winning iMAC system which was specifically designed by Ampcontrol for long line monitoring and control in hazardous areas and is now in operation across the world.



An Accommodating City



Variety and Convenience

With continued and robust economic growth, Newcastle is blessed with a wide selection of accommodation, ranging from contemporary coastal to historical and unique. There are more than 2000 rooms within a 30 minute reach of the CBD with almost 1000 of these within a 5 minute walk.

Accommodation options range from beachside backpackers ideal for student delegates, to the 4.5 star harbour-side Crowne Plaza Newcastle and beach-side Quality Hotel Noahs on the Beach. Many of the accommodation options are within walking distance of main conference venues or accessible via Newcastle's free bus network.

New developments

A new addition to the City's accommodation options in 2017 is Quest Newcastle West. Opening in March on the site of a former brewery dating back to 1876, this ornate Victorian building will house 78 studio, one, two and three bedroom serviced apartments featuring separate living/dining areas, LED TVs, WIFI, Foxtel and car parking.

Newcastle continues to encourage investment and will welcome further accommodation options in the coming years including a Holiday Inn Express to complement Quest Newcastle West in the West End precinct of the City.

Crowne Plaza Newcastle

Enviably positioned on the iconic Honeysuckle harbourfront, Crowne Plaza Newcastle is a welcoming and connected hub in the midst of the foreshore promenade and waterfront cafes. With a range of modern facilities, an award-winning restaurant and reputation for service excellence, Crowne Plaza Newcastle is the perfect choice for meetings and events.

Quality Hotel Noah's on the Beach

Quality Hotel Noah's on the Beach is situated directly opposite spectacular Newcastle Beach and offers the perfect place to beach yourself for business. Within minutes of the CBD, harbour and city shopping, Noah's is the ideal venue for meetings, launches, conferences and functions.



A Social City



Newcastle offers a range of options for social events. From a relaxed welcome reception by the beach to an elaborate formal gala dinner in one of the City's iconic venues, the options are extensive:

Take me to Church

One of Newcastle's newest oldest venues, 48 Watt provides a unique inner city event space ideal for a welcome reception or conference dinner.



Night at the Museum

Conveniently located Newcastle Museum is the perfect place to get a taste of Newcastle's personality, history and future. Your delegates are encouraged to interact with the space and exhibitions including the BHP Fire and Earth Exhibition; a story of industry, immigration, religion, resilience and family.



Take to the Stage

Designed by famed 1920's theatre architect Henry Eli White in his famous Spanish Baroque style, a visit to Civic Theatre with its grand marble foyer and staircase, terrazzo balcony, beautiful interiors and historic main auditorium chandelier, makes for a stunning and unforgettable experience. Your delegates can experience the venue in an even more unique way with dinner on stage.



In the swim of things

Opening in 1922, Newcastle Ocean Baths has a long history as a popular swimming spot for Novocastrians. Treat your delegates to a welcome reception with a twist with a casual BBQ or cocktail style catering with a beachside theme, complete with synchronised swimmers and fireworks.



Lock them up and throw away the key

You're welcome at Maitland Gaol. A former maximum security prison with a gruesome history spanning over 150 years. The remarkable former cell blocks are the perfect setting for a gourmet dining experience that no prisoner could ever have dreamed would be served in the steely site.







A Scenic City



Newcastle and the surrounding region offers a range of great experiences for delegates looking to extend their stay pre or post conference, or to incorporate into the conference program.

A range of tour operators based in Newcastle also provide guided options for groups and a range of unique event activity options.

Tour Options

- Newcastle Harbour Lunch Cruise
- Hunter Valley Tour
- Port Stephens Tour
- Newcastle Heritage and High Tea Tour
- Surf and Scenery Walking Tour
- Art Gallery and Cultural Precinct Walking Tour
- Inner City Winemakers Experience

Newcastle provides the perfect base to explore a broader area stretching to Port Stephens, Lake Macquarie, both Upper and Lower Hunter, the foothills of the Barrington Tops and Hunter Valley Wine Country.

Walking Tours

A range of self-guided walking tours are available as maps for inclusion in delegate satchels including:

- Newcastle Architecture
- Newcastle at War
- The Artist's City
- The Shoreline
- Newcastle Memorial Walk
- Convict and Industry
- Official Pocket Guide and Map

An Eventful City



Newcastle is a thriving cultural and events city with a range of exciting events on the annual calendar. These events offer opportunities for enhanced delegate experiences and tailored itineraries.

Surfest

Surfest Newcastle is one of Australia's longest running surfing festivals. Established in 1985 it now attracts some of the world's best male and female surfers to Merewether Beach - a recognised National Surfing Reserve and home to Australia's most accomplished World Surfing Champion, Mark Richards.

Australian Bowl Riding Championships

Now in its 6th year, the Australian Bowl Riding Championships (ABC) has grown to be the pinnacle event of competitive skateboarding in Australia. The event remains Australian focused but has an ever increasing number of international competitors and reach. The Newcastle skate bowl is rated as one of the world's best and Newcastle is fast growing its reputation for hosting world class events.

FIM Asian Supermoto Championship

Motorcycling in all its forms has a large following in Newcastle and the Hunter Region and the FIM Asian Supermoto Championships is designed to capture the passion and imagination of both enthusiasts and participants. Held annually in September, the event attracts over 150 competitors and 30,000 spectators to Newcastle's Foreshore.

Coates Hire Newcastle 500, Supercars Championship

In November 2017 the Supercars drivers will take on a challenging circuit that runs through the eastern end of the Newcastle CBD taking in scenic views along Shortland Esplanade, Newcastle and Nobby's beaches and Newcastle Harbour. At 2.6km in length, the Newcastle 500 is set to be one of Australia's most scenic motor racing circuits.

2017 Event Calendar



January

26 AUSTRALIA DAY, HONEYSUCKLE

February

- 10 NRL INDIGENOUS ALL STARS vs WORLD ALL STARS
- 11 - 26 SURFEST, MEREWETHER BEACH
- 17 - 19 AUSTRALIAN BOARDRIDERS BATTLE, NEWCASTLE BEACH
- 25 - 26 AUSTRALIAN BOWL-RIDING CHAMPIONSHIPS, EMPIRE PARK

March

- 3 - 5 NEWCASTLE REGIONAL SHOW
NEWCASTLE SHOWGROUND,
BROADMEADOW
- 4 - 5 AUSTRALIAN VETERINARY
ASSOCIATION REGIONAL
CONFERENCE, NEX
- 12 BEAUMONT STREET CARNIVALE,
HAMILTON



April

- 7-9 NEWCASTLE WRITERS FESTIVAL
- 25 ANZAC DAY, VARIOUS LOCATIONS

May

- 5 - 7 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN
PARKINSON'S DISEASE, NEX
- 16 - 19 FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT
AUSTRALIA NATIONAL
CONFERENCE, NEX
- 17 - 31 SPIEGELTENT: VELVET, CIVIC PARK
- 25 - 28 NEWCASTLE PORT TO PORT
MOUNTAIN BIKE EVENT



June

- 1 - 4 SPIEGELTENT: VELVET, CIVIC PARK



July

- 2-6 EASTERN UNIVERSITY GAMES,
VARIOUS LOCATIONS
- 3 - 7 AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL
ASSOCIATION NATIONAL
CONFERENCE, NEWCASTLE
CITY HALL



August

- 23 - 25 STORMWATER NSW CONFERENCE,
NEX

September

- 3 - 4 ASIAN SUPERMOTO, NEWCASTLE
FORESHORE
- 14 - 15 3RD AUSTRALIAN NURSING &
MIDWIFERY CONFERENCE, NEX
- 15 - 17 ZONTA INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT
24 STATE CONFERENCE, NOAHS
- 29 - 30 WOMEN'S MASTERS HOCKEY,
NEWCASTLE INTERNATIONAL
HOCKEY CENTRE, BROADMEADOW



October

- 1 - 7 WOMEN'S MASTERS HOCKEY,
NEWCASTLE INTERNATIONAL
HOCKEY CENTRE, BROADMEADOW



November

- 24 - 26 COATES HIRE NEWCASTLE 500,
NEWCASTLE EAST



December

- 1 CHRISTMAS IN THE CITY,
CIVIC PARK
- 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE, HONEYSUCKLE



A Supportive City



We're here to help

Newcastle is renowned for its friendly, hard-working locals who are keen to make a difference. This extends to the team at Newcastle's Convention Bureau, Newcastle Business Events and the various locally based suppliers of event services.

Our Services

Newcastle Business Events provides an advisory and support role to confirmed conferences and business events planned to take place in Newcastle. Some of the services of the bureau include:

- Venue Searches
- Site Inspections
- Bid Preparation
- Advice on using a Professional Conference Organiser (PCO)
- Social Programming
- Delegate Boosting
- Pre and Post Touring
- Promotional Collateral

Local knowledge

The team at Newcastle Business Events can also put you in touch with subject matter experts across a range of disciplines including health and education.

Range of local suppliers

The bureau team work in close partnership with a range of suppliers to ensure your event is a success. A variety of Newcastle based services are available including audio-visual, event hire, theming, professional conference organisers, caterers and transport providers.

Destination Partners



N.E.X

NEX offers an unrivalled exhibition, convention and entertainment destination for world-class conferences and events. Contemporary design, flexible spaces and cutting-edge technology combine to make NEX the obvious choice for event organisers and corporate planners. The largest indoor function venue in the Hunter, NEX can be configured to cater for groups of up to 2400.

Telephone: 02 4926 6211
Website: www.thenex.com.au
Email: m.small@thenex.com.au



Newcastle Airport

Located just a 25-minute drive from Newcastle's CBD, Newcastle Airport is New South Wales' second busiest airport, facilitating 1.2 million passengers annually. The Airport is serviced by Jetstar, Virgin Australia, QantasLink, Regional Express, and FlyPelican. These airlines fly to nine direct destinations along the eastern seaboard and 65 destinations around the globe with just one stop.

Telephone: 02 4928 9800
Website: www.newcastleairport.com.au



Crowne Plaza Newcastle

Located on the Newcastle harbour-front, Crowne Plaza Newcastle is a welcoming and connected hub in the midst of the modern foreshore promenade, waterfront cafes and restaurants. The hotel is able to adapt its meeting rooms to meet your requirements in terms of space, style and functionality. Take advantage of the nine versatile meeting rooms with natural light including the Crowne Plaza Ballroom for groups of up to 220.

Telephone: 02 4907 5000

Website: www.crowneplazanewcastle.com.au

Email: meetings.crowneplazanewcastle@ihg.com



Quality Hotel Noah's on the Beach

Situated directly opposite spectacular Newcastle Beach, Quality Hotel Noah's on the Beach is the perfect venue to hold your next function or conference in Newcastle. With extensive experience in event and function planning, Noah's will take care of all your conference and seminar needs - they make it their business to understand yours.

Telephone: 02 4929 5181

Website: www.noahsonthebeach.com.au

Email: functions@noahsonthebeach.com.au



Newcastle Venues

Offers a range of unique and iconic buildings combining historic character with modern technology to provide an ideal location for corporate meetings, presentations, workshops and networking events. Whether you are seeking an intimate space for a small function or larger spaces for up to 1500 people, the range of Newcastle Venues will provide the perfect space for your business event.

Telephone: 02 4974 2166

Website: www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/newcastle-venues

Email: newcastlevenues@ncc.nsw.gov.au

NEWCASTLE
—VENUES—



Newcastle Jockey Club

Catering from 10 to 10,000 guests, Newcastle Jockey Club provides a unique setting amongst 100 year old buildings and working stables. Specialising in corporate conferences, product launches, gala dinners, public and trade exhibitions, the ample car parking and close proximity to Newcastle's CBD ensures Newcastle Jockey Club is head of the field for your next event.

Telephone: 02 4961 1573

Website: www.njc.com.au

Email: events@njc.com.au



NEWCASTLE
BUSINESS EVENTS

FlyPelican

FlyPelican is Newcastle's own airline providing convenient access from Sydney to Newcastle together with services from Canberra, Dubbo and Mudgee. Fly Pelican's modern Twin Turbo Prop aircraft are also capable of providing an efficient and seamless charter service to many airports within Australia. Available 24x7 and offering contracted and ad-hoc charter services, FlyPelican can provide tailored transportation services for a diverse client base.

Telephone: 02 4965 0111

Website: www.flypelican.com.au

Email: bookings@flypelican.com.au



University of Newcastle

The University of Newcastle offers a range of venues, spaces and facilities for events, conferences and special occasions. Our venues are a popular choice for large presentations and keynote addresses, corporate events, product launches, trade shows and award ceremonies. External organisations are welcome to hire any of the central teaching spaces, auditoriums and conference rooms set in a unique bushland setting.

Telephone: 02 4985 4906

Website: www.newcastle.edu.au

Email: venuesandevents@newcastle.edu.au



Abercrombie Management

The team at Abercrombie Management pride themselves on delivering a truly personalised service. Their philosophy is to help you create imaginative and engaging business events. Director Nikki Abercrombie is a Certified Event Manager with the Professional Conference Organisers Association and member of the Newcastle Tourism Industry Group.

Telephone: 0418 283 397

Website: www.abercrombiemanagement.com.au

Email: info@abercrombiemanagement.com.au



Fordtronic Video and Sound

Fordtronic Video and Sound are proud to have been associated with the conference and meetings industry, in the hiring of video, sound and audio-visual products, for more than 30 years. The team at Fordtronic pride themselves on providing the highest standard of professional equipment, the latest technologies available, and onsite technical support so clients receive an amazing outcome from their conference.

Telephone: 02 4969 6722

Website: www.fordtronicvideo.com.au

Email: office@fordtronicvideo.com.au



Premium Bus Services

Premium Bus Services is a Transport NSW Accredited Bus Operator, with a reputation as Newcastle's best value Airport Transfer service. Premium Bus Services provides high quality transportation to and from Newcastle Airport, as well as to and from Sydney Airport. Various group sizes and requirements are catered for, accommodating up to 24 passengers and luggage. As a family owned business, Premium Bus Services always delivers the best quality service at affordable prices.

Telephone: 0475 305 285

Website: www.premiumbuses.com.au

Email: php01@bigpond.com



AJM Photography

Andrew Monger is a passionate, experienced and respected professional photographer in Newcastle and the Hunter Region. He established AJM Photography in Newcastle in 1992 after spending 10 years working as an action sport photographer traveling the world. AJM Photography is now the preferred choice of many of the Hunter Valley's leading businesses and community organisations for corporate photography. With Andrew at the helm, AJM Photography is known for delivering outstanding commercial photography and aerial work. Andrew has the ability to communicate with people at all levels with professionalism, reliability and a smile.

Telephone: 0417 689 627

Website: www.ajmphoto.com.au

Email: andrew@ajmphoto.com.au

ajm
photography



NEWCASTLE
BUSINESS EVENTS

Maitland Gaol

A former maximum security prison, Maitland Gaol is home to a variety of unique spaces which will give your delegates an unparalleled experience they're guaranteed to remember. Maitland Gaol offers flexibility and diversity whether it be a meeting for a select few, friendly team building session for twenty, a conference for 200, a dinner for 800 or a trade show utilising the entire site.

Telephone: 02 4936 6482
Website: www.maitlandgaol.com.au
Email: info@maitlandgaol.com.au



Will Organise

Will Organise is a Multi Award winning professional conference organiser managing meetings and events locally, nationally and internationally. Specialising in meetings from 50 to 2000 delegates, Will Organise offers a complete management and operations consultancy and full delegate and secretariat services.

Telephone: 02 4973 6573
Email: willorg@willorganise.com.au



Newcastle Event Hire

Newcastle Event Hire provides events infrastructure solutions to the Hunter Region including Newcastle, Port Stephens and Central Coast. We offer a range of hire equipment for exhibitions, corporate events, conferences, product launches, weddings and celebrations. Hire packages are available for marquees, exhibition booths, tableware, catering equipment, staging and furniture requirements to assist in creating a successful event.

Telephone: 02 4956 6733
Website: www.newcastleeventhire.com.au
Email: admin@newcastleeventhire.com.au







NEWCASTLE

BUSINESS EVENTS



 @NewcastleBizEvents
#MeetNewcastle

  VisitNewcastle

newcastlebusinessevents.com.au