



Event background

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EVENT DETAILS

WHAT	Festitalia – Brisbane’s Italian Festival
WHEN	Sunday 4 June, 2006 from 10.30am–7.15pm
WHERE	New Farm Park
ENTRY	Free

EVENT OVERVIEW

Festitalia will be a celebration of contemporary Italian culture an opportunity to share with all Australians the Italian love of life and how this is translated into fine food, wine, music, culture and the arts.

The festival will feature traditional and contemporary facets of the Italian culture, food, beverages, products, entertainment and fashion. The event will be an opportunity to display Italian Culture to the Brisbane Community and will also include stalls, an Italian coffee ‘piazza’, an Italian beer garden, displays, demonstrations and exhibitions.

Activities on the day will highlight the enormous presence of the Italian community in Queensland’s agricultural, economic, social and recreational life and will be a hands-on dialogue with all things Italian.

BACKGROUND OF FESTIVAL AND ASSOCIATION

Italians are among the largest culturally and linguistically diverse group from a non-English speaking background in Australia, and Italian is the second most spoken language in the country. Approximately half a million people still speak Italian at home.

The Italians have a long history of making social, cultural and economic contributions to Australia and in particular, to Queensland. The Italians who settled in Queensland have imprinted their vitality, energy and identity into the State without diluting their love of Italy, its people or its history.

The Festitalia Association Inc. was formed in May 2005 as an independent organisation dedicated to the implementation of an annual Italian Festival. The Association membership consists of general community members (predominantly Italian), representatives from 15 community organisations and a skilled organising committee.

EVENT ACTIVITIES

- Two return economy flights to Milan, Italy with Singapore Airlines to be won
- Reduced airfares to Italy with Singapore airlines on sale on the day through Canale travel
- Italian entertainment including two Italian bands, the Sopranos and the Xpressos performing modern and traditional Italian music
- Traditional Italian theatre – Commedia dell’Arte
- Spaghetti eating competitions
- Birra Moretti Bar
- Italian food and sweets
- Roman centurion camp site and battle re-enactment
- DiBella Coffee piazza
- Grape stomping competitions
- Exhibition of Italian vehicles – Alfa Romeo, Fiat and Ducati
- Roaming entertainers and piano accordion
- Children’s interactive entertainment sessions
- Pasta making demonstrations
- Exhibition of historical photos of Italians in Australia
- Display of historical Italian agricultural involvement in Queensland
- Kids fashion parades – *Little Workers* display their latest fashions for kids
- Regional food stalls
- Market stalls
- Toga races for young and old
- Strike Power – measure how fast you can kick a soccer ball!
- Children’s amusement rides
- Children’s face painting
- Air brush tattoos – get the Italian flag on your arm!
- Children’s wall mural painting

Official Opening

Festitalia will be officially opened at 12.30am on Sunday, 4 June by the following VIP speakers:

- The Minister for Multicultural Affairs, Minister Chris Cummins
- The Brisbane Lord Mayor, Councilor Campbell Newman
- Councilor David Hinchliffe
- The Italian Consul for Queensland and the Northern territory, Dottore Stefano Catani

FESTITALIA SUPPORTERS

The Festitalia Association and the Festitalia event are strongly endorsed and supported by the Italian Consulate for Queensland and the Northern Territory, the Italian Trade Commission, and numerous community groups and individuals including:

- Lord Mayor Campbell Newman
- Mayor for Hinchinbrook, Pino Giandomenico
- Senator Santo Santoro
- Teresa Gambaro MP
- Cr Michael Caltabiano MP
- Mr Ross Vasta MP
- Mr Steven Ciobo MP
- Councillor Andrew Lancini
- Mr Con Sciacca
- Com.It.Es (Committee for Italians Abroad)
- GinQ (Young Italians Network)
- Italian Chamber of Commerce in Queensland
- Italo-Australian Centre, Brisbane
- Italo-Australian Centre, Gold Coast

FESTITALIA PARTNERS

Festitalia has been successful in securing funding and support from the following:

- Department of the Premier and Cabinet through Multicultural Affairs, Queensland and the Gambling Community Benefit Fund
- Brisbane City Council
- Cr Hinchcliffe, Deputy Lord Mayor, Community Parks Development Fund
- Co.As.It (Italian Australian Welfare Association)

FESTITALIA SPONSORS

GOLD sponsors:

- Birra Moretti
- Di Bella Coffee
- Singapore Airlines
- puntoitalia design
- 4BH Radio

SILVER sponsors:

- Azzura bathroom supplies
- TFH - Temporary Fencing Hire

BRONZE sponsors:

- Italian Institute of Culture
- Global Imports

OTHER sponsors:

- Seabest International
- DeBortoli Wines
- Collas Moro & Ross Solicitors
- Canale Travel