



Queensland's Outback

Adventure out there

2009 Outback Events

The people in Queensland's Outback know how to kick up their heels and have a good time. From camel races to dunny derbies; rodeos to country music; triathlons to campdrafting; picnic races to yabby races – you have to check out these events in Queensland's Outback.

Outback events provide an opportunity to get your boots dusty while enjoying the Outback culture that so many people have grown to love. Only at Outback events can you experience the sounds of hooves pounding on the hard dusty ground, the smells of clean outback air and the atmosphere of adrenaline and excitement.

Whatever time of the year you visit Queensland's Outback there is always something happening. With over 250 events being held you will always find something to do. In order to gain a real Outback Queensland experience visiting Outback events are a must. Use this calendar as a guide to the fun and exciting events you can visit in Queensland's Outback.

A Rodeo normally comprises six standard events including: 'roughriding' events such as bull riding, saddlebronc, bareback riding; and timed events such as steer wrestling, rope and tie and team roping. Rodeos are a classic example of man against beast. As the tension grows you can feel the excitement rippling through the crowd as the gates burst open.

Bull Riding is the most popular rodeo event and the most dangerous. A loose rope straps a man's hand to a tonne of explosive power. To keep position and balance, a bull rider is constantly grabbing for new holds with his feet and continually pulling up on the rope. The more powerfully a bull bucks and the faster he spins the more points the ride is worth.

Saddlebronc Riding is considered the classic rodeo event; this competition is definitely not for beginners. There is a reason - the instinctive reactions required to keep in the stirrups, sense what the horse will do next and the ability to synchronise with the bronc's movement. The proven rider deliberately matches his spurring strides with the bucking bronc's rhythm beneath him making the whole ride appear smooth.

Campdrafting is conducted in a set of yards attached to an arena, and requires the competitor to "cut out" a beast from the yard or "camp", follow it out through an opened gate into the arena where he must guide the beast around a course of a right and left hand turns before guiding it through a gate, all in a short few minutes. The ability of the horses, combined with breathtaking horsemanship, makes campdrafting a sport for both competitors and spectators.



Gymkhana is timed obstacle racing on horseback. It is an exciting family orientated equestrian sports event. A good gymkhana horse must have the speed of a race horse, the turning quickness and agility of a cutting horse and the control and responsiveness of the stock horse.

Picnic Races are an occasion which brings together the country and the town, the locals and the visitors, in the true spirit and traditions of the bush. Picnic races are an enjoyable family orientated event. A day of horse racing, fashions on the field, gourmet lunches, betting and socialising.

Motocross - If slamming whoops, carving berms and flying high over jumps are your idea of fun, motocross is the off-road sport for you. Motocross is one of the most physically demanding forms of motorcycle sport and tests both rider and their machines to the limit. Motocross is run on tracks shaped from natural terrain and produces fast, close and exciting racing for competitors and fans alike.

Agricultural Shows showcase outback life. Farm machinery, handicraft, produce and more are usually on display. Children can enjoy the rides and entertainment in sideshow alley, while adults can check out the wide range of other activities at an Agricultural Show, such as wood chopping demonstrations and competitions, sheep shearing competitions, sheep dog trials, equestrian events and Ute shows. Stock judging is a fiercely contested competition at many Agricultural Shows in Queensland's Outback. Sit ringside and see stock (beef cattle and sheep) being paraded in front of a panel of judges all vying for the ultimate prize winner in each category.

2009 Outback Events

May

3 – 26 June	Outback Regional Gallery Exhibition – Outback Spirit Ergon Energy Waltzing Matilda Art Show 2009	Winton	1300 665 115
3 – 26 June	Outback Regional Gallery Foyer – Highlights from the Shire Collection	Winton	1300 665 115
15 – 17 June	Home on the Grey Range' Gallery Exhibition by Leah Cameron	Quilpie	07 4656 2166
16 – 6 June	Harry Redford Cattle Drive	Aramac	07 4651 3311
22 - 8 June	Blackall Heartland Festival	Blackall	07 4657 4637

June

3	Eco Walk on Flinders Open	Hughenden	07 4741 1288
5	Hungerford Bi-Annual Field Day	Hungerford	07 4655 3399
5 – 6	Q150 Steam Train	Mount Isa	07 4749 1555
5 – 7	Q150 Entertainment Shed	Mount Isa	07 4749 1555
6	Charleville Races	Charleville	07 4654 3057
6	Landsborough Flock and Ewe Show	Mttaburra	07 4651 3311
6	Queensland Day	Blackall	07 4657 4637
6	Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame XXXX Cup	Longreach	07 4658 2166
6	Opening Q150 Family Park	Mount Isa	07 4749 1555

June cont.

6 – 7	Winton Show	Winton	1300 665 115
6 – 7	Yellowbelly Hunt Fishing Competition	Windorah	07 4656 3063
6 – 8	Shockwave Youth Festival	Blackall	07 4657 4637
6 – 8	Outback Carnival (Rugby League)	Barcaldine	0488 400 179
7	McKinlay Races	McKinlay	07 4746 7690
12 – 14	Cloncurry Show	Cloncurry	07 4742 1361
13	Tambo Cup	Tambo	07 4654 6082
13	Western Queensland Breast Cancer Awareness Pink Trail Ride	Longreach	07 4658 2166
13	Winton Auto Spectacular 1/8 Mile Drag Racing	Winton	1300 665 115
13	Nelia Post Office 100 years and Nelia CWA 85 years Celebrations	Neila	07 4746 8761
13	Porcupine Gorge Challenge	Hughenden	07 4741 1021
19	Margaret Stevenson Exhibition Opening	Quilpie	07 4656 0500
19 – 20	Richmond Field Days	Richmond	1300 KRONOK
19 – 21	Mount Isa Show	Mount Isa	07 4749 1555
21	Winton Market	Winton	07 4657 1565
20	Barcaldine Races	Barcaldine	07 4651 1002
20	Longreach Polocrosse	Longreach	07 4658 4150
27 – 28	Birdsville Gymkhana and Motorbike Event	Birdsville	07 4656 3300
27 – 28	Total Polocrosse	Isisford	
29 – 15 July	Outback Regional Gallery – QBOA Exhibition: Opal – Australia’s National Gem Stone	Winton	1300 665 115

July

1 – 31	Works by Rex Backhaus-Smith	Longreach	07 4658 2166
3 – 5	Rockhana Gem and Mineral Festival	Cloncurry	07 4742 1361
4	Charleville Markets	Charleville	07 4654 3999
4	Arts and Crafts Market	Charleville	07 4654 3349
4	Qantas Founders Black Tie Dinner Fundraiser	Longreach	07 4658 3737
4	Australian Stockman’s Hall of Fame 21 st Anniversary Dinner Dance and Official Opening of New Facility	Longreach	07 4658 2166
4 – 5	Bedourie Campdraft, Rodeo and Gymkhana	Bedourie	07 4746 1254
4 – 5	Ladies Sandgreen Championship	Blackall	07 4657 4637
4 – 5	Isisford Gymkhana	Isisford	07 4658 8101
4 – 5	Inaugural Western Games	Mount Isa	07 4749 1555
5 – 12	NAIDOC Week	Mount Isa	07 4749 1555
8 – 9	National Opal Symposium	Winton	07 4657 1565
10 – 11	Opal Expo	Winton	07 4657 1565
11	Charleville Races	Charleville	07 4654 3057
11	Charleville Markets	Charleville	07 4654 3999
11	The IOR Energy Bedourie Camel Races	Bedourie	07 4746 1291
11	Barcaldine Races	Barcaldine	07 4651 1002

July cont.

11 – 12	Bronco Branding and Gymkhana	Windorah	07 4656 3063
11 – 12	Yaraka Gymkhana	Yaraka	07 4657 5531
14	St Kilda Film Festival	Longreach	03 8660 4815
15	St Kilda Film Festival	Barcaldine	03 8660 4815
16	St Kilda Film Festival	Winton	03 8660 4815
17 – 19	Boulia Camel Races	Boulia	07 4746 3386
17 – 4 Sept.	Outback Regional Gallery Exhibition – Hermansberg Exhibition	Winton	1300 665 115
17 – 4 Sept.	Outback Regional Gallery Foyer – Regional Artist Feature Exhibition: Joanne Warren	Winton	1300 665 115
18	Yowah Opal Festival	Yowah	
18	Charleville Markets	Charleville	07 4654 3999
19	Ilfracombe Races	Ilfracombe	0427 586 150
19	Winton Markets	Winton	07 4657 1565
21 – 27	Lyn Barnes and Annabel Tully Artist Camp	Quilpie	07 4656 4993
24 – 25	Winton Camel Races	Winton	1300 665 115
24 – 26	Young Members Annual Forum	Longreach	07 4658 2166
25	APRA Queensland State Championship Rodeo	Longreach	07 4658 2166
25	Julia Creek Races and Race Day Ball	Julia Creek	07 4746 7166
25 – 26	Southern Cross Television and Isisford Fishing Competition	Isisford	07 4658 8411
26	Queensland Music Festival Performance	Blackall	07 4657 4637
28	Queensland Music Festival Launch	Barcaldine	07 3310 6630
30 – 1 Aug	The Road We're On – Queensland Music Festival Event	Charleville	02 9560 9257
31 – 2 Aug	Cloncurry Merry Muster, Rodeo and Airshow	Cloncurry	07 4742 1361
TBA	Q150 Film Festival	Longreach	07 4658 4150
TBA	Blackall Race Meeting	Blackall	07 4657 4637

August

1	Charleville Races	Charleville	07 4654 3057
1	Charleville Markets	Charleville	07 4654 3999
1	Arts and Crafts Markets	Charleville	07 4654 3349
3 – 27	Child's Life on the Station	Longreach	07 4658 2166
8	Charleville Markets	Charleville	07 4654 3999
8	Corfield Races, Quick Shears and Golf Competition	Corfield	07 4741 7441
7 – 9	Mount Isa Rotary Rodeo	Mount Isa	07 4743 2706
8 – 9	Campdraft and Rodeo	Windorah	07 4656 3063
8 – 9	Diamantina Open Golf Championship	Winton	1300 665 115
13	Queensland Arts Council Performance	Barcaldine	07 4651 1104
14 – 16	Back to Burra Weekend	Muttaburra	07 4658 7191
15	Charleville Markets	Charleville	07 4654 3999
15	Quilpie Show and Rodeo	Quilpie	07 4655 1133
15	APRA Diamantina Rodeo	Winton	1300 665 115
15	Julia Creek Races	Julia Creek	07 4746 7323
16	Winton Markets	Winton	07 4657 1565

August cont.

21	Q150 Steam Train Visit and Community Event	Quilpie	07 4656 0508
21 – 23	Sedan Dip Campdraft, Races and Rodeo	Sedan Dip	07 4746 8700
21 – 23	Drovers Camp Festival	Camooweal	07 4748 2022
22	Charleville Markets	Charleville	07 4654 3999
22	Longreach Races	Longreach	07 4658 2078
22 – 23	Charleville Endurance Ride	Charleville	07 4654 3613
22 – 23	Central West Rugby League Grand Final	Barcaldine	0488 400 179
24 – 30	Dinosaur Discovery Week #1	Winton	1300 665 115
28 – 29	Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame Best of the West Stockhorse Challenge	Longreach	07 4658 2166
28 – 30	Yellowbelly Classic Fishing Competition	Longreach	07 4658 2160
29 – 30	Yaraka Campdraft	Yaraka	
29	Charleville Markets	Charleville	07 4654 3999
31 – 6 Sept	Dinosaur Discovery Week #2	Winton	1300 665 115
TBA	Stonehenge Rodeo and Bronco Branding	Stonehenge	
TBA	Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame Exhibition 3: Child's Life on a Station	Longreach	07 4658 2166

September

1	Quilpie Street Party	Quilpie	07 4656 0500
2	International Yabby Races	Windorah	07 4656 3063
3	Queensland Top 150 – State Archives	Longreach	07 4658 2166
4 – 5	Birdsville Races	Birdsville	1300 794 257
5 – 6	Best of the West Stockman's Challenge	Longreach	07 4658 2166
5	Arts and Crafts Markets	Charleville	07 4654 3349
5	Charleville Markets	Charleville	07 4654 3999
5	Hughenden PBR Bull Ride	Hughenden	07 4741 1021
6	Meagan Walker Mini Marathon	Longreach	07 4658 2191
7 – Nov.	Outback Regional Gallery – BHP Billiton Cannington Waltzing Matilda Photographic Competition and Exhibition	Winton	1300 665 115
7 – Nov.	Outback Regional Gallery Foyer – Highlights of the Shire Collection	Winton	1300 665 115
9 – 10	Isolated Children's and Parents Association State Conference	Winton	1300 665 115
10 – 12	R.M. Williams Country Muster	Longreach	07 4658 2166
12	Charleville Markets	Charleville	07 4654 3999
12	Quilpie and District Show	Quilpie	07 4656 1823
12	Bedourie Races	Bedourie	1300 794 257
12	Longreach Amateur Rodeo	Longreach	07 4658 0792
12	Family Race Day and PBR Bull Ride	Hughenden	07 4741 1021
13	National Bilby Day	Charleville	07 4654 3057
13	RM Williams Country Muster	Longreach	07 4658 2166
14	Julia Creek Races	Julia Creek	07 4746 7323
17	Augathella Meat Ant Triathlon	Augathella	07 4654 7771

September Cont.

19	Charleville Markets	Charleville	07 4654 3999
19	Betoota Races	Betoota	1300 794 257
19 – 20	Balleyneety Rodeo	Aramac	07 4651 3311
20	Winton Markets	Winton	07 4657 1565
21 – 23	Sedan Dip Campdraft, Rodeo and Races	Sedan Dip	07 4746 7690
22 – 26	Winton Outback Festival	Winton	07 4657 1277
25	Winton Show Holiday	Winton	1300 665 115
26	Longreach Races	Longreach	07 4658 2078
26 – 27	Longreach Campdraft	Longreach	07 4658 0792
TBA	Noccundra Campdraft, Rodeo and Gymkhana	Noccundra	07 4655 3399
TBA	Springtime Affair	Blackall	07 4657 4637
TBA	Blackall Flower Show	Blackall	07 4657 4637
TBA	Winton Turf Club Races	Winton	1300 665 115
TBA	Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame Exhibition 4: Q150 Firsts	Longreach	07 4658 2166

October

2	Quilpie School Art Exhibition Opening	Quilpie	07 4656 0500
3	Charleville Cricket	Charleville	07 4654 3942
3	Charleville Markets	Charleville	07 4654 3999
3	Arts and Craft Market	Charleville	07 4654 3349
3	Cooladdi Gymkhana	Cooladdi	07 4654 0347
3	Jundah Races	Jundah	07 4658 5985
6	Pink Ribbon Day Morning Tea	Barcaldine	07 4651 5333
10	Charleville Cricket	Charleville	07 4654 3942
10	Charleville Bulldust and Bow Ties B & S Ball	Charleville	07 4654 3221
10	Charleville Markets	Charleville	07 4654 3999
17	Charleville Cricket	Charleville	07 4654 3942
17	Jundah Woolly Caufield Cup	Jundah	07 4658 6930
18	Winton Markets	Winton	07 4657 1565
18 – 24	Angel Flight Outback Trailblazers and Four Leaf Clover Challenge	Barcaldine	07 4651 5600
23	Top 150 Exhibition	Quilpie	07 4656 0500
24	Charleville Cricket	Charleville	07 4654 3942
24	Charleville Markets	Charleville	07 4654 3999
24	Charleville Races	Charleville	07 4654 3057
25	Lake Moondarra Fishing Classic	Mount Isa	07 4749 1555
31	Charleville Cricket	Charleville	07 4654 3942
31	Charleville Markets	Charleville	07 4654 3999
31	Barcaldine Races	Barcaldine	07 4651 1002
TBA	St Mary's School Fete	Charleville	07 4654 1638
TBA	Anglican School Fete	Charleville	07 4654 7771

November

3	Charleville Cup Race Day	Charleville	07 4654 3057
3	Melbourne Cup Races	Longreach	07 4658 2078
4 – 18	World War Two Photographic Exhibition	Mount Isa	07 4749 1555
7	Toompine World's Biggest Grill	Toompine	07 4656 2166
7	Windorah Car Rally	Windorah	07 4656 3063
12 – 14	Cunnamulla Fella Festival	Cunnamulla	07 4655 8470
14	Catholic Xmas Fair	Barcaldine	07 4651 1518
14	Julia Creek Races	Julia Creek	07 4746 7323
15	Winton Markets	Winton	07 4657 1565
23 – 24	Fire Brigade Trials	Longreach	07 4658 4150
27	Christmas in the Gallery Exhibition Opening	Quilpie	07 4656 0500
27	St. Patrick's Parish Fete	Winton	1300 665 115
29	St. Andrews Christmas Carols	Longreach	07 4658 2116
Nov – Feb	Outback Regional Gallery Exhibition - Generation Y Regional Youth Competition and Exhibition	Winton	1300 665 115
TBA	Barcaldine Town Fair	Barcaldine	07 4651 1724
TBA	St Patrick's Christmas Fair	Blackall	07 4657 4637

December

5	Bedourie Bikekana	Bedourie	1300 794 257
5	Barcaldine Races	Barcaldine	07 4651 1002
20	Winton Markets	Winton	07 4657 1565
24	Christmas Mardi Gras	Blackall	07 4657 4637

The Charleville Yabby Races are held every Tuesday and Friday Evening at the Bailey Bar Caravan Park – all proceeds going towards the Royal Flying Doctors Service.