

# AUSTRALIA STATE BY STATE

## SYDNEY & NEW SOUTH WALES

There is no disputing the fact that Sydney is the HUB of the Australian music industry with all of the major labels based here as well as the four major industry associations, ARIA (Major Labels), APRA (Songwriters), MMF (Music Managers) and ArtsLaw Centre (Legal Advice).

Whether it comes down to the fact that Sydney is the number one tourist destination for overseas visitors (who can resist our beautiful, clean beaches or the stunning views of our spectacular Harbour and Blue Mountains), or that it is a melting pot of cultural influences, one fact is certain; NSW has a musical diversity that is second to none. Sydney has always been home to classic rock and acoustic venues like the Hopetoun Hotel or the Annandale, but it now has a burgeoning Hip Hop scene, which has a mixture of styles within itself.

From our 'Nashville' in the rural north-west, Tamworth, home to the biggest annual Country Music Festival to the lush, coastal paradise of Byron Bay which hosts the annual Blues and Roots Festival and rock festival, Splendour in the Grass, the sounds emerging from our artists are as varied as the landscapes of NSW. Thriving upon this fusion of styles and embracing all subcultures, the vast number of live music venues makes NSW an essential and popular stop for any touring musicians.

### KEY STATE MUSIC INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

#### MusicNSW

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#### VENUES

MusicNSW are currently developing an online venue database for artists wishing to tour NSW. The **MusicNSW Online Venue Guide** will be a practical and accessible tool designed to assist NSW musicians, promoters, agents, artist managers, and venues to present live and original contemporary music. The guide will be searchable through region, town and large selected areas, from maps provided on the site.

#### MAJOR CITY VENUES

##### Metro Theatre

[www.metrotheatre.com.au](http://www.metrotheatre.com.au)  
One of the biggest venues in Sydney for all types of music.

##### Gaelic Club [www.thegaelicclub.com](http://www.thegaelicclub.com)

A lovely, two-storey venue that supports any style of music.

##### The Vanguard

[www.thevanguard.com.au](http://www.thevanguard.com.au)  
For all your blues, jazz and roots needs.

##### The Basement

[www.thebasement.com.au](http://www.thebasement.com.au)  
Long time live jazz, blues and roots institution with an intimate atmosphere.

Of course there are the big venues such as the State Theatre, Enmore Theatre, Superdome and Entertainment Centre that can cater for crowds of over 2000 people. To keep up to date with who's performing where, it's best to check the local street press:

##### Drum Media [www.drummedia.com.au](http://www.drummedia.com.au)

One of the best and longest running free music guide with a readership of around 125,000. Contains a gig guide, an essential industry column, reviews, articles and a 'backline' section with studio, audio, CD pressers and other music services.

##### 3D World [www.threedworld.com.au](http://www.threedworld.com.au)

Free weekly dance mag that is packed with articles, interviews, reviews and industry news, pertaining mainly to the electronic side of the music world.

### TOP FESTIVALS

##### Homebake [www.homebake.com.au](http://www.homebake.com.au)

Now in its 10th year, Homebake continues to be present the finest in pop, rock, punk, dance, electronica, country and more via a selection of talented artists from the past, present and future.

##### Tamworth Country Music Festival

[www.countrymusic.asn.au/tamworth](http://www.countrymusic.asn.au/tamworth)  
Annual country music festival which incorporates the 'Golden Guitar Awards' held in the Country Music capital of Australia.

##### Peats Ridge Festival

[www.peatsridgefestival.com.au](http://www.peatsridgefestival.com.au)  
3 day festival hosting a mixture of world music, blues, roots and dub, contemporary music and chilled beats. Promotes the concept of sustainable development.

##### Sydney Festival

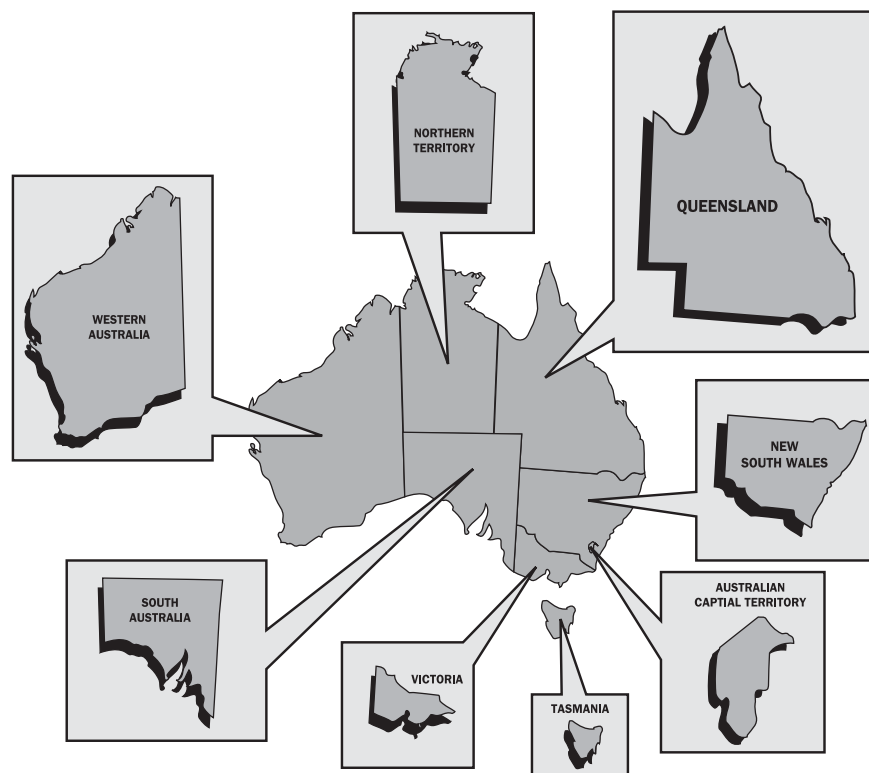
[www.sydneyfestival.org.au](http://www.sydneyfestival.org.au)  
Staged throughout January across many venues in Sydney from the Opera House to the Hyde Park Barracks, this is one of Australia's largest and most attended annual cultural events.

##### Bellingen Global Carnival

[www.globalcarnival.com](http://www.globalcarnival.com)  
Held over the October long weekend, this is a world music, theatre, dance, electronica and arts festival extravaganza.

##### East Coast Blues and Roots Festival

[www.bluesfest.com.au](http://www.bluesfest.com.au)  
The largest Festival of Blues & Roots music to be held in the southern hemisphere staged over 5 nights and 4 days with non-stop music on 4 stages daily - over 50 hours of sheer musical bliss.



##### Splendour in the Grass

##### [www.splendourinthegrass.com](http://www.splendourinthegrass.com)

A fun-filled, camping weekend in July, staged in the Belongil Fields, Byron Bay. Plenty of local and international musicians from acoustic folk, hip hop, to electronica and rock.

### TOP WEBSITES FOR NSW

##### Sydney Music Web

##### [www.sydneymusicweb.com](http://www.sydneymusicweb.com)

A quintessential Sydney directory for Musicians and music service.

##### Regional Arts NSW

##### <http://www.regionalartsnsw.com.au>

Regional Arts NSW is the peak body for the arts and community cultural development in regional and rural NSW.

##### 2SER Radio [www.2ser.com](http://www.2ser.com)

Live 24 hour streaming from Sydney's University of Technology, Ultimo. Presenting the best in local and overseas music.

##### FBI Radio [www.fbiradio.org.au](http://www.fbiradio.org.au)

Now in its second year of broadcasting across Sydney, FBI features a large percentage of content from Sydney musicians.

##### JJJ Gig Guide [www.abc.net.au/triplej](http://www.abc.net.au/triplej)

Find out where favourite bands of your style are playing.

### MUSIC INDUSTRY EVENTS

##### Australasian Music Business Conference

##### <http://www.immedia.com.au/ambc>

The 7th AustralAsian Music Business Conference sponsored by Apple is set to take place on August 11-13, 2005 at Sydney's Superdome with over 50 speakers

to participate in 9, 90 minute seminars with a 30 minute keynote speech by industry leaders each day and two hours of post-conference networking each evening.

##### Sound Summit

##### [www.octapod.org.au/soundsummit](http://www.octapod.org.au/soundsummit)

Sound Summit is an annual independent conference focusing on independent electronic music and independent hip hop. Speakers representing all levels of the independent electronic and hip hop music industry present and conduct workshops on a range of topics.

### WHO'S FROM NSW

Silverchair, The Beautiful Girls, Sarah Blasko, Gelbison, The Bird, Darren Hanlon, Missy Higgins, Ben Lee, The Dissociatives, Machine Gun Fellatio, Alex Lloyd, King Tide, Kasey Chambers, Delta Goodrem, Daley, Frenzal Rhomb, The Vines, Sunk Loto, The Whitlams, Grinspoon, Pnau, Friendly, Jimmy Barnes, Spiderbait, Deborah Conway, The Cruel Sea.

### EMERGING ARTISTS FROM NSW

Macromantics, Tracy Redhead, Bliss N Eso, The Camels, Koolism (ACT), Andy Clockwise, Carla Werner, Fireflies, Wolfmother, Lior, Cops, Paul Mac, Sam Hawkesley, Todd Williams, Women of Troy, Urthboy, Good Buddha, Kid Confucious, Waiting for Guinness, The Red Sun Band, Holly Throsby, After the Fall, Jeff Lang, Old Man River, Starkey, 78 Saab, Bumblebeez (ACT), City Lights, Youth Group, Hermitude, Peabody, The Herd, Faker, Sista She, Inga Liljestrom.

### COMPILED BY:

Josie Styles, writer and reviewer for Stealth Magazine and Drum Media.