

VICTORIA

Melbourne is the world's live music capitol; well perhaps it is only second to Austin. The state capital of Victoria is Australia's second largest city with a population of almost 4 million. No other Australian city offers such a specialist and diverse music scene. There are always too many choices when it comes to live music on any given night of the week.

There is a wealth of talent in Melbourne with an excess of 4,000 acts currently playing their craft.

Melbourne's music community is proud of its rich musical heritage and is dedicated to preserving this as well as nurturing new talent. It's a passionate town when it comes to music, evident from the strength of the public radio stations, music press, good independent record stores, enthusiasm of local promoters and dedication of punters.

Melbourne's hundreds of live venues are the keystones of our celebrated scene. Many of these establishments have become landmarks as birthplaces or death places of music. In recent years there has also been a spawning of rocknroll bars across Melbourne which are late night spots for post-gig socializing such as the Cherry Bar in AC/DC Lane. Melbourne rocks!

KEY STATE MUSIC INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

VICMusic

Blair Maine (president)
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URL: www.vicmusic.com

VicMUSIC is a non-profit membership based organization that promotes the growth and development of original popular contemporary music in Victoria, both as an art form and as an industry.

TOP FESTIVALS

HARVEST FESTIVAL

www.harvestfestival.com.au
January 22-23

Located in Red Hill this festival celebrates alternative country and roots music with international and local artists plus film screenings.

ST KILDA FESTIVAL

www.stkildafestival.com.au

Second Sunday in February every year. This is Australia's largest community day attracting between 300,000 and 500,000 people each year to bayside inner city suburb St Kilda. A free event with more than 8 live music stages.

PORT FAIRY FOLK FESTIVAL

www.portfairyfolkfestival.com

March 11 – 14 Port Fairy
Located in old sea side fishing and farming village along the south west coast of Victoria, the world famous folk festival (est 1977) sells out months in advance.

PUSH OVER 2005

www.thepush.asn.au

March 14 at Luna Park
Annual music event organized by The Push, a community organisation which specialises in all ages events.

BRUNSWICK MUSIC FESTIVAL

www.brunswickmusicfestival.com.au

March 3 - 20
World, folk, blues and roots music festival across various venues in inner city Brunswick includes a street party.

APOLLO BAY MUSIC FESTIVAL

www.apollobaymusicfestival.com

April 22 - 24
Set in scenic Apollo Bay, this is a family music festival.

WANGARATTA FESTIVAL OF JAZZ

www.wangaratta-jazz.org.au

October 29 – November 2
Annual gourmet jazz festival featuring international and local artists.

QUEENSLIFF MUSIC FESTIVAL

www.qmf.net.au

November 26 – 28
Queenscliff Township, 100kms from Melbourne

Winner of 2002 Victorian Tourism Awards, family festival featuring a stellar line up of roots and rock music.

MEREDITH MUSIC FESTIVAL

www.mmf.com.au

December 10 – 12
Set around the supernatural amphitheatre in Meredith with a massive local and international line up. Highlights include bush camping and nude foot race.

FALLS FESTIVAL

www.fallsfestival.com

December 30 – January 1
Annual New Years event featuring international headline acts in two locations Lorne (Victoria) and Marion Bay (Tasmania) which has been going strong for eleven years.

Top major city original live music venues
Name Only, URL and music style

Arthouse

corner Elizabeth & Queensberry Sts,
Melbourne.
punk rock, hardcore and emo.

Bar Open

317 Brunswick St, Fitzroy.
eclectic program of indie, jazz, spoken word,
electronica and world music.

Corner Hotel

57 Swan St Richmond.
One of Melbourne's premier venues with
original music most nights. Capacity 850.

Cornish Arms

163a Sydney Rd Brunswick.
Intimate venue specialists in blues, roots,
rock, folk and acoustic

Ding Dong Lounge

18 Market Lane, Melbourne.
Located in the city center with a nightly roster of international and local shows.
Capacity 400

Duke of Windsor Hotel

179 Chapel St Prahran.
live and local rock. Jet started here.
Capacity 300

Empress Hotel

714 Nicholson St North Fitzroy.
Serving local music seven nights a week.
Dowager of the Inner North.

Esplanade Hotel

11 Upper Esplanade St Kilda.
A live music institution offering free music 7

nights with 3 stages.

Evelyn Hotel

351 Brunswick St Fitzroy.
funk and grooves sit alongside the rock

Green Room

downstairs 33 Elizabeth St, City
Located in downtown Melbourne dishing
out loud guitar based rock three nights a
week until very late.

Greyhound Hotel

Corner Carlisle & Brighton Rd, St Kilda
A wild venue with a format that includes
drag shows, rock n roll wrestling and dirty
rock n roll.

Hi Fi Bar and Ballroom

125 Swanston St, Melbourne.
A large city venue housed in a former cinema,
hosts more established rock acts.
Capacity 950.

The Metro

20 Bourke St, Melbourne.
Capacity over 2,000 this night club and
venue hosts to international and local touring
acts as well as original acts every
Thursday as part of the popular punk and
alternative night called "Goo."

Northcote Social Club

301 High St, Northcote
Newest live venue presenting local and
international acts in a smoke free environment.
Capacity 450

The Palace

Lower Esplanade St Kilda
One of the larger club venues which has
been host to major tours for almost 20 years.

Pony

68 Little Collins St Melbourne.
Hosting up and coming live music until very
late most nights, dangerously open until
7am on weekends.

Prince of Wales

29 Fitzroy St, St Kilda.
Legendary venue which had a major facelift
a few years ago. Presenting a high standard
of local and international acts most nights.
Capacity 950.

Rainbow Hotel

27 St David St Fitzroy.
Roots, blues, country and acoustic acts.

Revolver

229 Chapel St Prahran.
A combined band venue and night club, a
great room for showcasing.

Rob Roy Hotel

51 Brunswick St Fitzroy.
The home of indie rock in the inner city.
Capacity 250.

The Tote

71 Johnston St Collingwood.
Home of rock and grunge with the best
jukebox in town.

Town Hall Hotel

33 Errol St North Melbourne.
Always free, lounge-y atmosphere for
raucous rock and intimate acoustic sets.

TOP SITES

www.beat.com.au

Melbourne's biggest street press is available
on line since 1994, includes gig guides,
reviews and articles.

www.messandnoise.com

Taking over from Mono.net dedicated to
local music and scene discussion.

www.indieinitiative.com

News, reviews, advice and more. A helpful
site for young bands

www.melbournepubs.com

This website offers a comprehensive guide
to Melbourne's pubs, clubs and live music
venues.

Some of the top bands that have come from there in the past.

The Avalanches, Bodyjar, Bored!, Boys Next Door, The Breadmakers, Chain, Cosmic Psychos, Crowded House (were formed and based in Melbourne), Daddy Cool, The Dirty Three, Frente, God, Hugo Race, Hunters & Collectors, Jet, Kylie Minogue, Lisa Gerard, The Living End, The Loved Ones, The Lucksmiths, Magic Dirt, Men At Work, Models, Nick Cave & The Bad Seeds, Olivia Newton John, Paul Kelly, Powder Monkeys, The Seekers, Spiderbait, The Sports, Taxiride, Tina Arena and Weddings Parties Anything.

Some of the top bands emerging now.

Architecture in Helsinki, Art Of Fighting, Augie March, The Bird Blobs, Dan Brodie, Dan Kelly & The Alpha Males, Car Stereo Wars, The Casanovas, The Cat Empire, Cut Copy, Dallas Crane, The Devastations, Git, Missy Higgins, Morning After Girls, Pete Murray, Neon, The Nation Blue, Origami, The Pictures, Rocket Science, Something For Kate, The Spazzys, and Xavier Rudd

VICTORIAN MEDIA CONTACTS:

3RRR 102.7FM

www.rrr.org.au

Community radio station which has been
integral to breaking new talent.

PBS 106.7FM

www.pbsfm.org.au
Community radio station with many specialist
music programs.

BEAT MAGAZINE

www.beat.com.au
Weekly street paper covering music, arts,
film and club culture.

INPRESS MAGAZINE

www.inpress.com.au
Weekly street paper covering music, clubs,
film and theatre.

FORTE MAGAZINE

www.fortemagazine.com.au
Distributes to coastal towns Geelong,
Ballarat, Bendigo and Warrnambool covering
music, dance, film, theatre and comedy.

HERALD SUN – HIT

www.heraldsun.com.au
hit@heraldsun.com.au
Published every Thursday in the most read
daily newspaper, covers music and film.

THE AGE - EG

www.theage.com.au
eguide@theage.com.au
Published every in the daily Age covering a
broad range of music, film and comedy.

COMPILED BY

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www.australianmusiccollective.com