

Dungog Film Festival & Film Settings of the Hunter

4 or 5 Day Packages Available



“What an inspired venture — fantastic! Dungog is a treasure of a country town; and this film festival is a brilliant way for the film community and audiences to connect and enjoy Australian films”
Jane Campion (dir Bright Star, The Piano)

Want to rub shoulders with the stars of Australian cinema in the beautiful Hunter town of Dungog? Come and experience quality Aussie movies over four glorious days at four different venues around this idyllic location. Dungog Film Festival (DFF), the world’s biggest festival of Australian films, offers a unique experience you will never forget.

This year special guests include Australia’s leading playwright and screenwriter David Williamson conducting a master class and presenting his classics “The Club” and “Gallipoli”; award winning documentarian Bob Connelly with his latest uplifting and fascinating film “Mrs. Carey’s Concert”; composer of the Oscar winner “The Lost Thing” with a live performance of his work on the Opening Night.

Join us on this wonderful tour and experience the magic of our homegrown stories.

Day 1 (26 May): Home—Luskintyre Bridge, Olives, Dungog including Gala Opening Night Party (LD)

Departing Central Station, we pick up at Strathfield and Hornsby to meet fellow film buffs whilst enjoying Robert’s famous homemade morning tea. We enjoy lunch at Woody’s Café before checking into our 4 star accommodation, in the heart of the lower Hunter. We visit Luskintyre, home to the steel bridge used in “Tomorrow When The War Began”, then visit the olive farm for tastings on our way to Dungog. To launch the Festival, there will be an exclusive screening of a brand new Australian movie, followed by dinner and dancing through to midnight, charity auction, local wine and beer tasting to enjoy, bands and some of the hippest parties happening, so let your hair down and enjoy a night to remember, before returning to our hotel, Mercure Maitland.

Mecure Maitland 02 4937 7999

Day 2 (27 May): Maitland Gaol, Dungog Film Festival (B)

After a hearty country style breakfast, we visit the Old Maitland gaol, a maximum security gaol closed in 1998 and now featured in many TV and Film productions, including: Australian Enemy (2010), Cedar Boys (2008), The Garden (2007), Braille (2006), Suburban Mayhem (2005). Following our tour of the Big House, we arrive in Dungog, where DFF will be showing Australian films of all varieties including features, shorts, docos and more throughout the day. Study your program, as your ticket is all-inclusive with tonight’s Gala Film and Dance Party. A transfer will take you back to your accommodation at 11pm.

Day 3 (28 May): Morpeth & Dungog Film Festival (B)

After breakfast we have an early stop in Morpeth, a river town which once rivalled Sydney for importance to the early colony. Today it is a mecca for art and crafts, boutique and unusual clothing, antiques, jewellery and

“Big and glitzy, lots of drinks, heaps of laughs, you better believe it... I had a ball. The gog was completely dun...”
Shane Jacobson, star of the hit movie Kenny.



curios. After lunch we make our way back to Dungog for another full day of the Film Festival. Once again your ticket allows entry to the Gala Film, followed by the Dance Party. A transfer will be available to take you back to your accommodation at 2am.

Day 4 (29 May): Newcastle Markets, Foreshore, Fort Scratchley— Home (B) OR ADD AN EXTRA DAY (See below)

A late start this morning, following breakfast we make our way to the Newcastle Farmer’s Markets, which are held in the local showground every Sunday morning. It is a great opportunity to pick up some fresh local produce to take home. From here we have a guided tour of Fort Scratchley which was used in a number of films and movies, most notably, a re-enactment of the Japanese attack on Newcastle and the subsequent firing of the cannon. Learn about the making of the movie and experience the tunnels used to relay the shells from the magazines to the cannons. Lunch can be enjoyed on the sparkling Newcastle Foreshore, before commencing our journey back to Sydney to arrive at Central at around 5.30pm.

Film Buff’s Fabulous 5 Day Package!!

If you want to extend your experience to include the Gala Closing Night of the Film Festival, just add an extra night’s accommodation, tickets and transfers to your package!

Day 4 (29 May): Dungog Film Festival & Final Closing Party (BD)

Transfer straight to Dungog for the last day of the Festival, including the Gala Closing Party before returning to pick you up at midnight.

Day 5 (30 May): Hunter—Home (B)

A leisurely start, after a hot country breakfast, returning to Sydney via Central, Hornsby and Strathfield.