

August 9, 2025

Ekka-citement as gates swing open

The 2025 Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) presented by the Bank of Queensland (BOQ), roared to life today with show-stopping moments in the show ring and Main Arena, an exciting opening day street parade, and thrilling experiences in B105 Sideshow Alley and Kids Carnival.

Day one delivered a feast of highlights with triumphant dogs and cats awarded blue ribbons and Australia's finest stud beef cattle crowned, while the nation's strongest arm wrestlers battled it out for glory—setting the tone for an unforgettable Ekka week ahead.

Awesome animals, fabulous food and exhilarating entertainment await Ekka visitors tomorrow, as the Show gets into the swing of things for its first full weekend.

By night's end tonight, almost 40,000 are expected to have come through the gates, as we head into a fabulous Super Sunday of fun!

Day 2: Sunday 10 August – HIGHLIGHTS

MEDIA DOORSTOP

11am with RNA President David Thomas or Chief Executive Brendan Christou on Heritage Hill overlooking the Main Arena.

JUDGING HIGHLIGHTS:

- From 8.30am – Canine judging – Utility Dog – in Sushi Hub Dog Pavilion
- From 9am – Cat judging – Shorthair Kittens – in Sushi Hub Cat Precinct
- From 9am – Woodchop and Sawing Competition – Jill and Jill 375mm Double Handed Sawing Handicap Final (12.54pm), Under 13's invitational 250mm Underhand final (1.15pm), and the Women's 275mm Underhand Championship of Australia Final (3.36pm), Ekka Woodchop Arena presented by AAM Investment Group
- From 9am – Bush Poetry, Stockman's Rest
- From 10am – Sheepdog Trials, Main Arena
- From 4.30pm – Australian Young Farmer Challenge presented by Dairy Farmers, Main Arena

EPIC FEATS OF STRENGTH ON SHOW

Get ready to be amazed as Australia's strongest men and women go head-to-head in the 2025 Australian Strongman Alliance Invitational. These elite athletes will tackle a series of gruelling strength

challenges, showcasing incredible power, endurance and determination as they push themselves to the limit.

When: 10am – 4pm, XXXX Stockmen's Bar & Grill

DOWNWARD GOAT...FURRY FRIENDS JOIN THE FLOW

Breathe in, bleat out! Find your inner peace (and a lot of laughter) at Goat Yoga, where playful baby goats nibble, nuzzle and clamber their way into your poses and your heart. Led by Karmably Goat Yoga, these 30-minute sessions embrace the joyful chaos of baby goats, encouraging participants to let go, laugh, and fully experience the moment.

When: 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm, 1.30pm and 2.30pm, Stockman's Rest

SHEEPDOGS IN WOOLY SHOWDOWN

The first Sheepdog Trial at the Show dates back to 1899 and the tradition continues in 2025. This iconic competition showcases the remarkable bond between handler and dog, with trials judged on cast, approach, bridging, obstacle and overall control. Seven skilled dogs will take to the Main Arena on Sunday.

When: Heats from 10am with the finals from 12pm, Main Arena

TIMBER TITANS IN WOODCHOP AXE-STRAVAGANZA

The iconic Woodchop and Sawing Competition has been held at the Ekka for more than a century. Axemen and women of all ages compete in this popular competition. Sunday highlights include the Jill and Jill 375mm Double Handed Sawing Handicap Final at 12.54pm, Under 13's invitational 250mm Underhand final at 1.15pm, and the Women's 275mm Underhand Championship of Australia Final at 3.36pm.

When: 9am – 5.30pm, Ekka Woodchop Arena presented by AAM Investment Group

OUTBACK ODES vs BUSH BALLADS

Bush poetry will once again echo through Stockman's Rest at the Ekka, as talented performers bring the art of the Aussie ballad to life. A line-up of both seasoned and student poets will deliver powerful renditions - many themed around the new 'hat' theme.

When: From 9am, Stockman's Rest

PAWS-ITIVELY PURR-FECT CATS COMPETE

Preened to purr-fection, more than 50 breeds of cats will be showcased at Ekka, from long haired Persians to short haired Siamese, and also the cutest kittens. On Sunday enjoy watching the judging of the Shorthair Kittens.

When: From 9am, Sushi Hub Cat Precinct

QUEENSLAND RURAL AMBASSADOR AWARDS

Eleven accomplished Rural Ambassadors – each a winner at their local agricultural show and passionate about Queensland's rural industries – will vie for the title of Queensland Rural Ambassador State Winner.

When: 11.15am, Multicultural Plaza Music Stage

EKKA ESSENTIALS:

- Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) August 9 – 17, 2025
- Brisbane Showgrounds, 600 Gregory Terrace, Bowen Hills, Queensland
- Gates open at 9am
- Tickets are available online at www.ekka.com.au

EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

The 2025 Ekka Media Kit is available to download. It is the most comprehensive information guide to the show – to download please visit [Media Kit](#)

For the latest updates, follow us on social media @TheEkka



And don't forget to download the Ekka App.



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