



## A LITTLE LESS CONVERSATION, A LOT MORE ACTION AT PARKES ELVIS FESTIVAL 2024

### *Festival Program Announced!*

Celebrating another year of hip swivels, poodle skirts and pompadours, the **Parkes Elvis Festival** has unveiled its 2024 program, filled to the brim with concerts, dance lessons, art classes... and even an Elvis-themed dog show!

From **Wednesday 10 - Sunday 14 January 2024**, over 25,000 Elvis enthusiasts are expected to make the annual pilgrimage to Parkes NSW, making it the largest congregation of Elvis fans in the Southern Hemisphere.

The electric program is bursting with Elvis and Jailhouse Rock-inspired events. Back by popular demand are the **Northparkes Mines Street Parade**, **Renewal of Vows ceremony**, **Festival markets**, and, of course, electric performances on the **Cooke Park Main Stage** and **Memphis Stage**.

In 2024, the Parkes Elvis Festival delivers outstanding new concerts for diehard fans: Dive into a harmonious blend of blues and rock with **The Blues Brothers Spectacular Dinner Show** at Parkes Golf Club, or revel in the 70s nostalgia as **The Vegas Legends** tribute brings Elvis, Cher, and Tina Turner back to the spotlight. For those seeking a global flair, **Elvis International** promises a world-class dinner show, uniting Elvis Tribute Artists from Osaka to Scotland, all celebrating the iconic tunes of The King.

Legendary Australian surf rock band, **The Atlantics**, will be inducted to the **Wall of Fame**. Celebrated for their ground-breaking 1963 hit, *Bombora*, The Atlantics' iconic sound has inspired countless musicians and resonates with new generations. The celebration takes a musical turn with a tribute concert at the Services Club, where Martin Cilia (The Atlantics and Mental as Anything), will captivate audiences with the band's classic tunes. The event also features special guest Lonnie Lee, Australia's pioneering Elvis Tribute Artist.

**Parkes Elvis Festival Producer Julien Poulsen** said, "Every year, the Festival strives to encapsulate the magic of Elvis, to create an experience that resonates with both long-time fans and newcomers. This 2024 program, with its diverse range of events and world-class performances, truly embodies the spirit and legacy of The King."



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# Parkes★ ELVIS FESTIVAL

The 2024 Parkes Elvis Festival is set to dazzle with its International Feature Concert Series, headlined by the top international artists Cote Deonath and Taylor Rodriguez. This dynamic duo, alongside a medley of top Elvis Presley tribute artists, will kick off the festival with **The Ultimate Elvis Jukebox Request Show**. Audiences will be transported through the eras, from rockabilly to Vegas, as the likes of Jack Gatto, Che Orton, Johnny Lee Memphis, and Mark Andrew join Cote and Taylor onstage to deliver Elvis's most iconic melodies.

Beyond concerts, the program offers unique experiences: try your hand at **Jailhouse Bingo**, stretch those tired dancing muscles to Elvis's classics, or watch pups strut their stuff at the **Hound Dog Dog Show**, where canine companions vie for the title of The King. Get adventurous with **rock climbing** classes, **Rock n Roll dance lessons**, or get creative with **Paint and Elvis** art sessions.

Starting as a small get-together between like-minded Elvis fans in 1993, the Festival has grown today into an internationally renowned phenomenon, recognised as one of the top events in Australia and attracting fans from all over the globe.

The preliminary round of the international Ultimate **Elvis Tribute Artist Contest** also returns in 2024, with leading Elvis tribute artists from Australia and abroad battling it out at Parkes Leagues Club. Officially endorsed by Elvis Presley Enterprises, Inc, the winner will represent Parkes in the Semi-Final round of the 2024 Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist Contest in Memphis, USA, during Elvis Week in August.

Arrive in style aboard the **NSW TrainLink Elvis Express** or the **Regional Express Hound Dog Express**, with both offering a dose of Elvis-infused entertainment.

Tickets to all Parkes Elvis Festival shows, across the many venues in the city, will go on sale 12pm, Tuesday 19 September at [www.parkeselvisfestival.com.au](http://www.parkeselvisfestival.com.au).

Parkes Elvis Festival is proudly supported by the NSW Government through its tourism and major events agency, Destination NSW.

**EVENT NAME:** Parkes Elvis Festival

**DATES:** 10-4 January 2024

**THEME:** Jailhouse Rock

**WEBSITE:** [www.parkeselvisfestival.com.au](http://www.parkeselvisfestival.com.au)

**LOCATION:** Parkes, NSW, Australia

## MEDIA ENQUIRIES

**Original Spin**

**Matt Fraser** [matt@originalspin.com.au](mailto:matt@originalspin.com.au) M: 0401 326 007



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## EDITORS NOTES

### Parkes Elvis Festival

Parkes Elvis Festival is held annually in the second week of January in Parkes, New South Wales, coinciding with the birthday of Elvis Presley. Parkes has a population of 12,000 and is located 365 kilometres west of Sydney. In January 2019 over 27,000 visitors attended the Festival, more than doubling Parkes' population.

The Festival began in January 1993 as a small birthday party at Gracelands Restaurant. It was so much fun they decided to do it again - and again! Over the following 10 years additional events were added and it became a two-day Festival. With the vision and effort of the voluntary organising committee as well as the support of Parkes Shire Council, the Festival exploded in popularity and word quickly spread across Australia of the fun and unique event in regional NSW.

Following its tremendous success, in 2014 the Festival transitioned management to Parkes Shire Council under a Section 355 Festival Committee. The Festival now regularly attracts visitors from all around Australia and stages more than 200 events annually. In January 2015, Parkes Elvis Festival was officially endorsed by Elvis Presley Enterprises, Inc., the trustees of the estate of Elvis Presley. Official endorsement elevates Parkes Elvis Festival to the ranks of premiere Elvis tribute festivals in the world.

