



EASY COME, EASY GO AT PARKES ELVIS FESTIVAL 2025 Festival Program Announced!

It's time to get all shook up—**Parkes Elvis Festival** is back for 2025! Running from **8–12 January**, the 32nd annual festival will pay tribute to Elvis with a groovy 1960's **Easy Come, Easy Go** theme, offering fans a packed program of concerts, dancing, markets, and a few surprises along the way.

More than 25,000 Elvis lovers are expected to shake, rattle, and roll into Parkes, NSW, making it the largest celebration of The King in the Southern Hemisphere. Australia's official Elvis hometown will once again come alive with festival favourites like the **Evolution Mining Street Parade**, **Renewal of Vows Ceremony**, bustling markets, and electrifying performances on the **Cooke Park Main Stage** and **Memphis Stage**.

A major highlight of 2025 will be the launch of the **Gates of Graceland**, a full-sized replica of the iconic Graceland gates, located at the Parkes Visitor Information Centre. This beautiful new attraction will honour key contributors to the festival, with stars also commemorating the winners of the Parkes Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist Contest. **Festival founders Bob and Anne Steel** will be the first to be officially recognised at the gates for their pivotal role in establishing the event.

Adding to the excitement, **Jack Gatto**, one of Australia's favourite Elvis Tribute Artists, will perform a live solo show at 5:30 pm at the Leagues Club. Meanwhile, the Cooke Park Main Stage will host **Two Strong Hearts**, a free tribute to **John Farnham** and **Olivia Newton-John**, offering a nostalgic journey through their most iconic hits.

This year also introduces six new ticketed shows at the Parkes Services Club, featuring top Elvis Tribute Artists from Australia, New Zealand, and Scotland. And after a brief hiatus, the **Miss Priscilla Dinner** returns on Thursday evening at the Parkes Services Club, where the 2025 Miss Priscilla will be crowned.

Festivalgoers can look forward to stunning outdoor installations, including **Under Our Umbrella**, a vibrant 250-metre canopy of colourful umbrellas providing shade and a perfect photo op, and **Vivid Elvis**, a nightly lighting display illuminating the main drag. Staying connected will be easier than ever with the new mobile app, **Elvis in Your Pocket**, featuring the full program, maps, and real-time updates.

Joel Ulbricht, Festival Producer, said, "Each year we work to capture the essence of Elvis, and the 2025 Festival will be no different. This year's program offers something for everyone—whether



you've been rockin' with us since the early days or are discovering the King's magic for the first time."

The 2025 International Feature Concert Series will kick off with UETA Champion **Emilio Santoro** (2024) from the UK, alongside U.S. UETA Champion **Cote Deonath** (2023) and **Riley Jenkins** (UETA Top 5 Finalist, 2024). These top Elvis Tribute Artists will perform ten shows at the Parkes Leagues Club, taking audiences on a journey through Elvis's most iconic songs.

From rock 'n' roll dance classes to Elvis-themed workshops, and even the **Hound Dog Dog Show**, the festival is jam-packed with experiences that will have everyone singing, dancing, and smiling. And the preliminary round of the international **Ultimate Elvis Tribute Artist Contest** returns, with leading tribute artists from Australia and beyond battling it out for a chance to represent Parkes in Memphis during Elvis Week in August.

For an immersive experience, hop aboard the **NSW TrainLink Elvis Express** or the **Regional Express Hound Dog Express**. These themed journeys will set the stage for a festival adventure, complete with Elvis tunes to get you in the spirit!

Tickets go on sale Monday 23 September for Parkes League Club shows and 2pm Tuesday 24 September for all other events, at www.parkeselvisfestival.com.au

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

EVENT: Parkes Elvis Festival

DATES: 8-12 January 2025

THEME: Easy Come, Easy Go

WEBSITE: www.parkeselvisfestival.com.au

LOCATION: Parkes, NSW, Australia

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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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.

