

# Media Release

**Steve Dimopoulos MP**

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events  
Minister for Creative Industries



Saturday, 18 February 2023

## ALL ABOARD FOR RIVERBOATS MUSIC FESTIVAL

The Riverboats Music Festival is set to welcome thousands of visitors to Echuca for a weekend of music and entertainment along the Murray River, with backing from the Andrews Labor Government.

The Labor Government is supporting the Riverboats Music Festival through its \$20 million Regional Events Fund and the \$8 million Live Music Restart program to help deliver a fantastic event at this year's temporary location at Victoria Park Reserve.

Founded in 2012, the festival is celebrating its 11th anniversary this year with a stellar line-up including Marlon Williams, Spiderbait, C.W. Stoneking and His Primitive Horn Orchestra, The Rolling Stones Revue featuring Adalita, Phil Jamieson & Tex Perkins, The Whitlams, Felix Riebl, Alice Skye, Tami Neilson, and more.

Riverboats has grown to become the largest outdoor music festival on the Murray River, attracting more than 6,000 people to Echuca-Moama annually and injecting an estimated \$17.5 million into the regional economy since its inception.

Festival goers will have the opportunity to cruise down the Murray River whilst enjoying a series of live performances aboard the region's historic paddlesteamer fleet throughout the weekend.

The festival program allows time for attendees to experience the region's tourism offerings including resorts, wineries, retail stores and restaurants, which helps to spread the economic benefits throughout the region.

The Regional Events Fund promotes a strong calendar of regional events that work to attract visitors to regional Victoria, boost employment and drive growth which helps our local communities to thrive.

The Riverboats Music Festival runs until Sunday, 19 February 2023. For more information, visit the website, [riverboatsmusic.com.au](http://riverboatsmusic.com.au).

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos

*"We're backing the Riverboats Music Festival because it is a truly fantastic event and hugely important for tourism businesses in the region – particularly this year after the impacts of flooding."*

*"This year we're giving Riverboats an extra boost through our Live Music Restart program, setting the stage for memorable live performances, employing Victorian artists, tech crews and industry workers, and helping Riverboats light up the Murray with incredible music."*

### Quote attributable to Member for Northern Victoria Jaclyn Symes

*"This festival showcases the best of our region, attracting tourists from across the country and delivering a major boost to local businesses."*