

Media Release

Steve Dimopoulos MP

Minister for Environment

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events

Minister for Outdoor Recreation



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AUSTRALIAN OPEN SET TO MAKE HISTORY IN 2024

The Allan Labor Government is backing a history-making Australian Open 2024, with tickets on sale from tomorrow to the iconic summer event, with the first ever 15-day tournament set to draw hundreds of thousands of fans to Melbourne Park.

Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events Steve Dimopoulos today joined Tennis Australia CEO Craig Tiley in anticipation of Victorian fans and tennis fanatics from around the world snapping up tickets to the beloved Aussie Grand Slam.

A record breaking 839,192 fans watched their favourite tennis stars at the 2023 Australian Open over 14 days of competition, with next year's boosted schedule of play expected to draw even larger crowds to the heart of the city.

With an additional day of play in the first round for the first time, Australian Open 2024 will see players, officials and fans file into Melbourne Park for an epic 15-day tournament, generating an economic boost across our local hospitality, hotels and retail sector as fans from near and far enjoy everything on offer in the city.

Fans are in for some thrilling tennis, with the world's best players battling it out for the championship title – while off the court, the event precinct will offer a range of entertainment and activities for tennis lovers of all ages.

The Labor Government invested almost \$1 billion in the Melbourne Park Redevelopment and the precinct is well placed to stage the extended tournament and welcome bumper crowds.

The Government has secured the Australian Open until 2046, ensuring the renowned international event continues to draw hundreds of thousands of visitors to Victoria for generations to come.

The Australian Open joins Melbourne's blockbuster summer of events alongside the Boxing Day Test, Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race, BBC Earth Experience and Australian exclusives – *Groundhog Day The Musical*, and *TITANIC: The Artefact Exhibition*.

The Australian Open will run from Sunday 14 January to Sunday 28 January 2024. For more information and tickets, go to ausopen.com.

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

"Melbourne's blockbuster calendar of major events is heating up for summer with tickets to the Australian Open 2024 on sale from tomorrow, giving fans the chance to see the world's best tennis players in action."

"The extra day of play means more visitors will spend more time in Melbourne, enjoying everything this vibrant city has to offer while backing local jobs and the economy."

Quotes attributable to Tennis Australia CEO Craig Tiley

"We are excited to launch another three-week extravaganza at Australian Open 2024, showcasing the very best of Melbourne and kicking off the main draw with an historic Sunday start."

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“Last year we introduced Opening Week to solidify the Australian Open as a three-week festival of sport and entertainment. At AO24, we are stepping it up again with an expanded program of events during Opening Week and more opportunities for fans to get close to the action with the champions of today and stars of tomorrow.”