



IN AND AROUND BRISBANE – Make yourself at home

Brisbane's arts, exhibitions and urban villages

Brisbane's arts and cultural sector has been described as dynamic, eclectic and inspiring! As a visitor to Brisbane you will have opportunities to engage in a diverse program of national and international events plus a program dedicated to local emerging and established artists and performers.

South of the river, right by the Congress venue, is the official cultural precinct of the city. From the Brisbane Conference and Exhibition Centre you will have easy access to the cultural precinct's highlights – the **Queensland Art Gallery** and the **Gallery of Modern Art (GoMA)**. GoMA, the largest modern and purpose-built art museum in the southern hemisphere is gaining a world-wide reputation for offering a range of exclusive exhibitions not seen anywhere else in Australia.

If independent creative spaces are more your thing you can try the Phillip Bacon Gallery, Heiser Gallery, Fusions Gallery, Jan Murphy Gallery, The Fort Arts Hub, Red Sea Gallery and Nine Lives – all located in the hip hub of **Fortitude Valley**, located in central Brisbane and known to locals as 'The Valley'.

The Valley is one of Brisbane's contemporary, sophisticated and progressive urban villages. Another is the boutique centre of Paddington in the city's west. Each of Brisbane's urban villages reflect the character, charm, culture and climate of the city's personality.

If arts and urban life are your interests, you will find a range of options to complement the professional programme of the Congress. Accompanying family and friends will find their days are easily filled while you are building your professional skills and networks at the Congress.



Fashion, food and entertainment

During your stay for the Congress, Brisbane will offer ample opportunities for delegates and travel companions to shop, dine and unwind while soaking up some of the unique atmosphere that is Australia. With vibrant shopping and fashion sectors, a smorgasbord of innovative wining and dining destinations and a sophisticated array of night-time entertainment, this cosmopolitan city will be a joy to discover.

Brisbane's Queen Street Mall is the centre for fashion and retail, and only a 15-minute stroll from the Congress venue across Victoria Bridge to the city. Here you will find Australian luxury fashion labels alongside internationally renowned labels. Details of the labels represented in Queen Street Mall can be found here: <http://www.bnecity.com.au/Centres/Default.aspx> Further afield, the inner-city suburb of New Farm is a trendy enclave that houses the latest Australian and international designers. To get there, head for James Street on a bus from the city centre.





For a different pace, stroll through the **inner-city suburbs of Paddington** or **Woolloongabba, south of the river**, to discover retro collectables, antiques, and vintage clothing boutiques set among a vibrant backdrop of cafés and bars. Just a CityCat ferry ride away from the Congress venue at South Bank is Bulimba, a picturesque inner-city riverside village. The CityCat will take you to Oxford Street, a wonderful location for shopping, dining and experiencing the relaxed Brisbane lifestyle. Note that CityCat ferries will take you up and down the river, while the smaller ferries will only take you across. Tickets for all transport are available on board, except for marked prepaid buses which operate during peak travel times.

When it comes to dining, Brisbane offers an array of fine dining, contemporary restaurants, international cuisine and laid back cafés, pubs and bars. The fresh seasonal produce and world-class seafood has lured many chefs from around the world and the result is a highly innovative and thriving dining scene.

Eagle Street Pier is an iconic waterfront precinct with world-class dining options and unrivalled views of the Brisbane River and Story Bridge. It's a 15- to 20-minute walk from the city centre, or you can catch a bus down Elizabeth Street, see <http://www.eaglestreetpier.com.au>. For more relaxed dining try the variety of restaurants on the Riverside boardwalk just next door to Eagle Street Pier.

Or you can visit **Chinatown in Fortitude Valley**, which is part of Duncan Street, for authentic Asian food. On the other side of town, check out the Archive Beer Boutique Bistro. The bistro showcases more than 80 Australian craft beers with a complementary tasting menu, and is worth the 15-minute walk from South Bank to Boundary Street in West End.

Brisbane's pubs, bars and live music venues are the perfect meeting places. Fortitude Valley is home to the city's thriving music scene and on any given night you'll find international, national and local acts performing at the various venues in this urban village.

From day into night, Brisbane has a wealth of exciting options to support your extracurricular activities during the week of Congress. Your conference registration pack will include insights to Brisbane's dining, transport, entertainment and essential services – compiled by locals for your enjoyment. We hope that this will help you to immerse yourself in the delights of your host city!

