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Christmas Comes Alive After Dark as Jolly Returns to Sydney Harbour

Over 100 exhibitors, giant Christmas bars, snow at random moments and 11 free Christmas shows. Jolly, Sydney's Christmas Night Market, returns to Circular Quay and The Rocks from 10 to 20 December.



There is something magical about Christmas after dark. The twinkling lights, the smell of festive food, the sound of music, a glass raised with friends and that feeling that Christmas has finally arrived.

This December, Jolly, Sydney's Christmas Night Market, brings that feeling to the heart of the city. Circular Quay and The Rocks become a free Christmas night market by the harbour for eleven nights, from 10 to 20 December.

Follow the lights through lanes of traditional European wooden huts. Discover the beauty of France and the magic of Europe's Christmas markets. Shop for gifts from local makers. Sip a festive cocktail served by Christmas elves, or warm your hands around a mulled wine. Then look up, as snowflakes fall beneath the Sydney summer sky.

And the gift that keeps on giving? Entry is free.

JOLLY NIGHTS LIVE: 11 nights. 11 free Christmas shows.



The celebration is only getting started when the sun goes down. JOLLY NIGHTS LIVE, the headline of the festival, brings a different free Christmas show to First Fleet Park every night.

Some nights are made for singing along. Others are made for dancing. Every show is family-friendly, and every night gives people a fresh reason to come back.

Every Night, a New Christmas Show. Come Sing, Dance & Be Jolly!

The full programme and performers will be announced on 20 November.

A little Christmas magic, a lot of Sydney spirit



Picture the charm of a traditional Christmas market: wooden huts, glowing fairy lights, festive food and two giant Christmas trees, 10 metres tall in front of Customs House and 6 metres tall at First Fleet Park.

Now add a Sydney summer night. Warm evenings by the harbour, friends meeting after work, families exploring the city and live music filling the night air.

Jolly suits a Christmas date, a night out with friends, a family evening or some last-minute gift shopping. The whole family can come: every show is family-friendly, and you can go everywhere with a pram.

Come for the market. Stay for the celebration. Come back for a different night.

Let it snow, Sydney!



Who says it can't snow in Sydney at Christmas?

At Jolly, snow falls at random moments each night in three places: beside the giant Christmas tree at Customs House, and around the giant Christmas bars at Gateway Plaza and First Fleet Park. There is no set time, so keep an eye on the sky.

Christmas cocktails, served with a little elf magic

At Jolly's two giant Christmas bars, at Gateway Plaza and First Fleet Park, the bartenders are dressed as Christmas elves. Festive cocktails are served in a Christmas bauble, a Christmas tree or a candy cane.

Four classic bars complete the six, serving NSW wines, beers and mulled wine. The NSW winemakers exhibiting at Jolly bring their wines to the bars, so a glass at Jolly supports a NSW winemaker.

Come Eat, Drink, Sing, Dance & Be Jolly!

Five destinations, one Christmas evening



- Customs House, The French Christmas Village. Inspired by Europe's most beautiful Christmas markets. Traditional European wooden huts around the 10-metre Christmas tree, artisan gifts, and French, German, Italian and Spanish food.
- Gateway Plaza, The NSW Wine & Spirits Christmas Village. Sip, savour & discover. Three NSW wineries and three NSW distilleries, wine tastings, free masterclasses and a giant Christmas bar.
- First Fleet Park, The Christmas Festive Village. Sing, dance, feast & be Jolly! The home of JOLLY NIGHTS LIVE, with festive food, the 6-metre Christmas tree and a giant Christmas bar.
- Circular Quay Upper Promenade, The Christmas Gathering Place. Eat, sip, share & stay a little longer. Live jazz, festive food and wine by the harbour.
- Circular Quay Lower Promenade, The Christmas Gift Promenade. Wander & Wonder. Wooden huts filled with handmade jewellery, artisan creations and gifts from independent makers.

Across the festival there are over 100 exhibitors, including 46 traditional European wooden huts, all imported from Europe.

Free masterclasses, every day



Jolly runs free masterclasses of two kinds: Meet the Makers and NSW producer masterclasses. There is at least one session every day. They are free, and a place is reserved online at jollymarket.com.au/book. More details to be announced soon.

Born from Bastille. Brought back by Sydney.

Jolly was born from the Bastille Festival. The 2020 Bastille Festival could not be held because of COVID, and in 2021 it was blocked again, so it moved to December. That December edition was so popular that people asked for it to come back, and Jolly was born.

Customs House began as a French and European Christmas market, which is why it is The French Christmas Village today. Jolly then blended that tradition with an Australian celebration: First Fleet Park, the NSW wines and spirits, and local makers and their gifts.

"Jolly has a French heart and an Australian home. First Fleet Park, the NSW wines and spirits, the local makers and their gifts bring New South Wales into the festival. It is our way to support the people who supported the Bastille Festival, and to celebrate Australian culture." Vincent Hernandez, creator of the Bastille Festival and Jolly, Sydney's Christmas Night Market.

Your December nights just got a lot more festive



Jolly runs for eleven nights, from 10 to 20 December 2026, open daily from 4pm to 10:30pm.

Entry is free. The whole festival is accessible to everyone, including wheelchair users. The whole event is suitable for prams, and pets are welcome. Trains, ferries and light rail all stop at Circular Quay.

Event information

- Name: Jolly, Sydney's Christmas Night Market

- Dates: 10 to 20 December 2026
- Opening hours: 4pm to 10:30pm daily
- Location: Circular Quay and The Rocks, Sydney
- Entry: Free
- JOLLY NIGHTS LIVE: 11 free Christmas shows at First Fleet Park, one every night, all family-friendly. Programme announced 20 November.
- Website: https://jollymarket.com.au
- Instagram: @jollymarketsyd
- Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/JollyMarketSydney/

About Jolly



Jolly is created and produced by BBR Group Australia, the team behind the Bastille Festival in Sydney, the Christmas in July Festival in The Rocks, the Ghost Festival in The Rocks, the outdoor cinema Mov'in Bed, and more events and activations around Australia.

Media enquiries

Alexis Petitcuenot – 0401 085 192 – alexis@bbr-agency.com

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https://jollymarket.com.au/media

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