

# MAITLAND RIVERLIGHTS

# Cultural Passport 2024

# Contents

Translated and Accessible Options	2
Your Cultural Passport	3
Riverlights Stage	4
Groove Fusion Stage	4
World Stage	5
Global Kitchen	6
Express Yourself Language Lounge	7
Riverlights Eatery	8
Cultural Villages	10
Festival Map	14
Destination NSW	23
Riverlights Finale, Procession and Flotilla	24
Sponsors and Supporters	28

# Welcome

## Welcome to Maitland Riverlights 2024!

Riverlights is a vibrant and dynamic celebration of culture through interactive stalls, dance, global flavours, music, and the arts.

With over 40 cultures featured, it's a magnificent gathering of the Hunter's multicultural community.

Sample delicious food, revel in captivating performances, pick up new language skills, make new friends, and become a part of something truly special!



## Translated and Accessible Options

Your Maitland Riverlights Cultural Passport is available in a variety of languages and accessible formats on the website.

- عربي | Arabic
- 中文 ( 简体) | Chinese (simplified)
- pilipino | Filipino
- Melayu | Malay
- ਪੰਜਾਬੀ | Punjabi
- தமிழ் | Tamil

Scan the QR code to find out more



# Your Cultural Passport

Embark on a cultural journey with your Maitland Riverlights Cultural Passport.

This passport is your key to unlock a world of experiences at the festival. Discover captivating performances, workshops, demonstrations, and vibrant Cultural Villages throughout the event.

Don't forget to get your passport stamped as you step into the Global Village and enrich your understanding of a diverse range of traditions.



Hosted by Jasmin O'Brien

## Riverlights Stage

### TIME PERFORMANCE

3.00pm	Greek songs by Nicholas Nicolas
4.15pm	Paco Lara Duende
5.15pm	Mariachi Fiesta Viva
6.30pm	Moussa and Wassado
8.00pm	SpeakDance (collaboration performance)
8.00pm	Riverlights Flotilla and Lighting Activation
8.15pm	Amaru Tribe



Hosted by Todd Sergeant

## World Stage

### TIME PROGRAM

2.00pm	Event Welcome
2.05pm	Welcome to Country
2.10pm	Hear from our Sponsors
2.15pm	Citizenship Ceremony
2.45pm	Performance by Nillo Infants School Choir
2.55pm	Fashion Parade
3.40pm	Cultural song and dance performances
7.35pm	Riverlights Procession commences



Hosted by Alex Morris

## Groove Fusion Stage

### TIME PERFORMANCE

2.00pm	Mixed Mobs Dance Group
3.00pm	Te Ukaipo Maori Club Newcastle
4.00pm	Chance2dance performance
4.30pm	Čekor Macedonian Dance Company
5.30pm	Capoeira Aruanda performance and lesson
6.30pm	Samba Frog





Hosted by Slow Food Hunter Valley

# Global Kitchen

## TIME GROUP / DISH

2.00pm	<b>Nigeria Community Newcastle and Hunter Region</b> Puff Puff (snacks)
2.35pm	<b>Newcastle Tamil Sangam</b> Coconut Rice and Dry Eggplant Curry
3.10pm	<b>Tibetan Community of Newcastle</b> Tibetan Momo (dumplings)
3.45pm	<b>Newcastle Sinhala School</b> Kottu Roti
4.20pm	<b>Argentinian</b> Lentil Stew
5.15pm	<b>North Sudan</b> Salad Aswadi (eggplant with peanut butter)
5.50pm	<b>Afghan Community</b> Afghan Bolani
6.25pm	<b>Adam Liaw</b> Perfect pancakes with a multicultural twist
7.00pm	<b>Australian Iranian Community of Newcastle</b> Kookoo Sabzi (fritata)



# Express Yourself Language Lounge

## TIME PROGRAM

2.00pm	North Sudan - Learning words in Sudanese Arabic
2.30pm	Bonjour! French stories and games with the UON French Society and Studies of Language Association
3.00pm	Hola! Story time in Spanish with Carla Neira
3.30pm	Russian Speaking Community - Learn common Russian words
4.00pm	Introduction to Tamil Language and Thirukkural, traditional games and Tamil Letters
4.30pm	Australian Iranian Community of Newcastle - The Alphabet Puzzle
5.00pm	Samoan Language with Carol - Greetings and basic language skills
5.30pm	South Sudan - Learning common words in Madi
6.00pm	Azziza explores Farsi, Persian, Dari languages
6.30pm	Newcastle Sinhala School - Sinhala Prastha Pirulu (idioms)
7.00pm	Afghan Community - Pashto - Dari storytelling A young Afghan - From defeating problems to rising success by Sami Zakhil



# Riverlights Eatery

Located in Dransfield Lane and Bulwer Street, the Riverlights Eatery is a dedicated food area featuring your favourite local and regional food trucks and stalls serving up a wide range of food and drinks from across the globe.

# Cultural Villages

Visit each Cultural Village, stamp your passport and immerse yourself in a world of vibrant traditions, tasty cuisines and exciting activities.

## Afghan Women's Dance Group

Learn about Afghan culture and see intricate embroidery and needlework created by women from Afghanistan.

Stamp here

## Afghan Community

See Afghan decorations and items on display and purchase a variety of henna art options.

Stamp here

## Filipino Language Class

Filipino handicrafts and decorations on display. Purchase Filipino food offerings and temporary body art tattoos.

Stamp here



## French Society

Try out some French games and activities and test your French speaking skills.

Stamp here

## Australian Iranian Community of Newcastle

Get your photo taken wearing traditional Iranian outfits and learn about Iranian culture.

Stamp here

## Kenya Wananchi Newcastle

Enjoy playing Kenyan board games and participate in interactive activities to learn about Kenyan culture. Purchase decorative items and clothing.

Stamp here

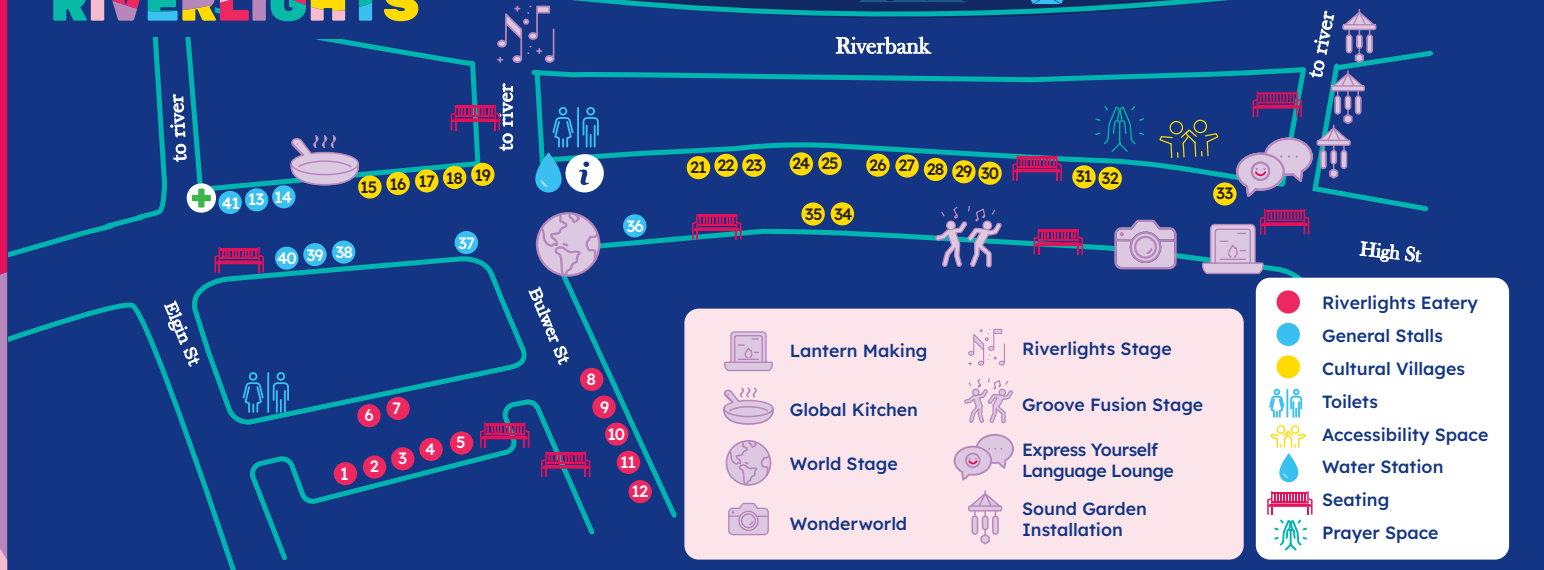
## The Russian Speaking Community of Newcastle and Hunter

Participate in fun interactive activities and see traditional costumes and souvenirs on display.

Stamp here



# MAITLAND RIVERLIGHTS



- 1 The Kofte Lab
- 2 Elevated Kitchen
- 3 Satori at Tailors
- 4 Teppanyaki Noodles
- 5 Viet Yum
- 6 Tasty Road Sydney
- 7 Yiayia's Honey Balls
- 8 BellAmica
- 9 Pizza Buddy
- 10 Emmys Gourmet Gozleme
- 11 Little Tokyo Japanese Eats

- 12 Churros Madness
- + First Aid
- 13 Life Without Barriers
- 14 Celtic Stag Gifts
- 15 Newcastle Tamil Sangam
- 16 South Sudan
- 17 Australian Iranian Community of Newcastle
- 18 North Sudan
- 19 The Russian Speaking Community of Newcastle and Hunter
- i Information/Cultural Passport

- 21 South African Community
- 22 Afghan Community
- 23 Nigerian Community Newcastle and Hunter
- 24 Samoan Community Group
- 25 Tonga-Petani Community Services
- 26 Afghan Women's Dance Group
- 27 French Society
- 28 Multilingual Village
- 29 Tibetan Community of Newcastle
- 30 Ethiopian Village

- 31 Indonesian Australian Community (Newcastle and Hunter Region)
- 32 Kenya Wananchi Newcastle
- 33 Filipino Language Class
- 34 Fiji Islands
- 35 Newcastle Sinhala School
- 36 Your Say
- 37 Newcastle Airport
- 38 University of Newcastle
- 39 INM Migration & Legal
- 40 Smarttraveller
- 41 TAFE NSW

## **Samoan Community Group**

Purchase Samoan traditional food offerings and see a variety of cultural items on display.

**Stamp here**

## **Newcastle Sinhala School**

Purchase traditional Sri Lankan foods and see a variety of cultural items and lanterns on display.

**Stamp here**

## **Newcastle Tamil Sangam**

See a variety of cultural items and decorations on display and purchase food items.

**Stamp here**

## **Tonga – Petani Community Services**

Find a variety of cultural Tongan displays and handicrafts.

**Stamp here**

## **Indonesian Australian Community** Newcastle and Hunter Region

See brightly coloured Indonesian costumes on display.

**Stamp here**

## **North Sudan**

Get your hair braided and try traditional dishes Tagila, Kisra and Sudanese coffee.

**Stamp here**

## **South Sudan**

Get creative and make a bracelet, have your hair braided and see an array of cultural clothing on display. Taste Mula Bamia (an okra and meat dish).

**Stamp here**

## **Nigerian Community of Newcastle and Hunter**

See a variety of Nigerian items on display and purchase Nigerian snacks.

**Stamp here**

## Ethiopian Village

See Ethiopian cultural decorations, clothes, flags and lights. Try hand roasted coffee tastings and purchase Beef Lentil Curry with Rice, Sambusa, Injera (Ethiopian flat bread) and coffees.

**Stamp here**

## Tibetan Community of Newcastle

Purchase Tibetan Momo (dumplings) and see a variety of traditional items on display.

**Stamp here**

## South African Community

Purchase traditional South African treats and raffle tickets to win a variety of hand made goods.

**Stamp here**

## Fiji Islands

Learn about the Fijian Islands, see traditional items and objects and purchase Fijian gifts.

**Stamp here**

## Multilingual Village

Learn about different places around the world  
and test your language skills in a guessing game.

Stamp here



FEEL THE  
EDGE OF  
YOUR

COMFORT  
ZONE

📍 Grand Canyon,  
Blue Mountains



[visitnsw.com](https://www.visitnsw.com)

feel new south wales



# Riverlights Finale

Drawing inspiration from the high energy of Amaru Tribe's performance and their strong use of saturated colours, this lighting activation will support and integrate the community lantern parade and lantern flotilla. The Maitland side of the riverbank will be awash with light and colour elements that the public can walk through and photograph. Across the water, the far bank will glow with beautiful hues and patterned lights. Contrasting colours will highlight the

trees, all reflected in the river as it flows past. Each element celebrates diversity through a rainbow of colours, enlivening the natural landscape.

## **Riverlights Procession**

Commencing at the World Stage **7.35pm**

## **SpeakDance Collaboration Performance / Riverlights Flotilla and Lighting Activation**

Riverlights stage and on the Hunter River, view from the Riverbank **8.00pm**

## **Amaru Tribe**

Riverlights Stage **8.15pm**



# MAITLAND RIVERLIGHTS

**We look forward to seeing  
you at the next Maitland  
Riverlights in October 2025**

**#MaitlandRiverlights  
[maitlandriverlights.com.au](http://maitlandriverlights.com.au)**

## **Sponsors and Supporters**

Proudly funded by

