

# Media Release

**Steve Dimopoulos MP**  
Minister for Environment  
Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events  
Minister for Outdoor Recreation



Saturday, 9 November 2024

## GRAPE TIME FOR A GIGGLE AS COMEDY IN THE VINES RETURNS

The much-celebrated Comedy in the Vines is set to bring a fresh wave of entertainment to regional Victoria this weekend, transforming the Goulburn Valley's picturesque wine region into open-air comedy stages.

Backed by the Allan Labor Government, the 2024 lineup promises big laughs, acclaimed comedians and a significant boost to the local economy across the three-day festival, beginning on Friday, 8 November.

Set against the backdrop of the stunning Mitchelton Winery, Comedy in the Vines is supported through the \$38 million Regional Events Fund, which helps attract visitors to regional areas and promote Victoria's vibrant tourism sector.

Last year's festival drew approximately 1,500 attendees, with 83 per cent of visitors traveling from outside the region and 8% from interstate, generating 1,973 bed nights and an economic impact of around \$800,000—numbers expected to be even higher this year.

With a line up including the UK's Jen Brister as well as home grown talent such as Joel Creasey, Mel Buttle, Charlie Pickering and Tony Armstrong – the stage is set for an unforgettable showcase of comedy.

Performances by musicians Tim Rogers and Gillian Cosgriff will also provide the perfect soundtrack to a memorable weekend.

Victoria is the major events capital of Australia and major events secured by the Victorian Government through Visit Victoria create thousands of local jobs, boost businesses and build the state's \$39.2 billion visitor economy.

Comedy in the Vines is part of a blockbuster calendar of major events across regional Victoria – including the Cadel Evans Great Ocean Road Race, the Frida Kahlo In Her Own Image Exhibition in Bendigo and the International Rose Garden Festival in Morwell.

Limited tickets are available, for more information and to purchase tickets, visit [comedyinthevines.com](https://comedyinthevines.com).

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

*"Comedy in the Vines is one of the highlights of regional Victoria's major events calendar, bringing visitors to a stunning part of the world for the chance to relax and have a laugh."*

*"Victoria's reputation as the home of live entertainment is stronger than ever. Festivals like this offer visitors and locals alike unforgettable experiences, right in the heart of our wine regions."*

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

*"This fantastic festival is a prime example of how the Allan Labor Government is bringing top-tier entertainment to our regions, boosting the local economy and showcasing everything that makes Goulburn Valley such a special destination."*

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**Quote attributable to Visit Victoria CEO Brendan McClements**

*“Comedy in the Vines not only showcases the best of Australian comedy but also drives tourism, supporting regional businesses and local jobs.”*

**Quote attributable to Comedy in the Vines Founder Merrick Watts**

*“Comedy in the Vines has quickly become a marquee weekend on the Australian comedy calendar, with world class acts travelling thousands of miles to be part of the fun. It’s fair to say that this weekend Nagambie will be the (comedy) centre of the world.”*