



2026 QUEENSCLIFF MUSIC FESTIVAL FOOT-in-the-DOOR GUIDELINES

WE ARE SEEKING YOUNG MUSICIANS WHO WOULD LIKE TO PERFORM AT THIS YEAR'S FESTIVALS, ON THE FRIDAY AND SATURDAY NIGHT

THE FESTIVAL

The Queenscliff Music Festival is a 3-day event held annually over the last weekend in November. The 2026 Festival will be held on the 27th, 28th and 29th of November, and will be the 28th Festival. Award winning and high profile, Queenscliff Music Festival is nevertheless a community event that is operated by a minuscule staff and an army of truly amazing volunteers.

The Festival is held in the seaside heritage township of Queenscliff (hence the name) on the Bellarine Peninsula in Victoria. It is managed with respect for the local community and the sensitive coastal environment that supports the event. There are a range of venues, both inside the Festival precinct and dotted around the town. They include circus tents, marquees, Heritage community buildings, and a church.

Queenscliff encompasses a wide range of music, and we're pretty much up for anything original (sorry no cover bands or metal accepted). Anything different or quirky will definitely catch our attention.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply you **MUST** have:

- an internet site with streaming audio (preferably more than one song). This can be in the form of a Website, Facebook, YouTube, Soundcloud etc.

Please fill out all requested information online as accurately as possible.

We are likely to receive more applications than we have spaces on the program for. All programming decisions are final and made in the spirit of what will work best for the festival and the overall vibe. You will hear from us either way – whether your application has been successful or unsuccessful, so keep an eye on your emails.

PROGRAMMING

This is our own local brand of Amplify (formerly FReeZA) funded program dedicated to emerging talent that is totally delivered by young people. 2026 will see 2 genre-based competitions – **Rock and Folk & Blues**.

Rock - Friday Night

We **DON'T** do the following genres; metal, emo, hardcore, and other genres that don't fit into the 'Queenscliff Music Festival style'. Have a look at who's playing on the main program to give you an idea. This section can include hip-hop.

Folk & Blues – Saturday Night

For acts that may fit into the genres of folk, blues, world, jazz, pop, singer/songwriter types. Bands and solo artists can fit into this section. Originality and a little 'something different' will go a long way in this section.

PLEASE NOTE: No busking will be scheduled for Sunday 29th November.



COMPETITION – How it works

1. 5 artists will be selected by the Youth Committee to compete in each genre competition (Rock and Folk & Blues)
2. Each artist will have a 15-minute set, to perform ORIGINAL MUSIC to a panel of guest judges
3. The winner of each competition will be announced following the last performance

THE PRIZE

Prizes for the competition will be announced closer to the event date via the [Amplify Queenscliff Instagram page](#).

Winning the section does not guarantee you a spot at the festival the following year. If you're good enough it will hold you in good stead though.

AGE

ALL band members must be between the ages of 12-25, no exception. We are a youth run, youth based, and youth attended event and we're extremely proud of this. We're an Amplify-funded program and we work within their guidelines.

Under 18's

Must be accompanied by their parent/guardian (see info re. guests below), whilst at the festival. For more information check www.qmf.net.au about our 'Accompanied Youth' ticket types and conditions.

Drug, Alcohol & Smoking Free

Please remember we're a DRUG, ALCOHOL, VAPE & SMOKING FREE venue/program, and any artists found not adhering to this will be disqualified. Being the supportive festival that we are, there'll be plenty of water provided.

FESTIVAL PASSES & ACCOMMODATION

Each performer (and their guest) will receive their own '3 Day Festival pass'. Ticket information: www.qmf.net.au

Tent only camping is available for \$35 per person for 3 nights if you buy a festival weekend ticket. For this and other accommodation options check out <http://qmf.net.au/stay-travel>

GUESTS

Each individual performer is entitled to ONE guest pass for their parent/guardian/guest (note; artists performing in more than one act will only be entitled to 1x performer pass and 1x guest pass). Feel free to encourage all your mates and family to come along, however they will have to purchase a ticket, and we suggest they do so prior to the festival weekend via www.qmf.net.au to avoid disappointment on the weekend.

- Under 18s must allocate their guest pass to a parent/guardian. You will not be granted access to the festival without your accompanying responsible adult.
- Over 18's can allocate their guest pass to whomever they like (as long as the guest is over 18).

GETTING HERE

Queenscliff is approximately 90 minutes from Melbourne on the Bellarine Peninsula. Check out <http://qmf.net.au/stay-travel> for all the travel options.



EQUIPMENT

Queenscliff Music Festival does not take responsibility for any equipment or belongings brought onto the Festival site by the artist, even when that equipment is under the supervision of person/s associated with the Festival. You can store your equipment temporarily in the Pavilion before and after your set if there is room, but the venue has opening hour restrictions so if anything is left in there you will not be able to collect it until the next day.

Insurance

Please be aware that the Festival's Public & Products Liability does not provide protection for artists. For your protection we recommend you arrange your own public liability insurance. If you are not sure of your insurance status, we suggest you refer to your manager / agent as appropriate. Alternatively, we are aware that Duck for Cover offers entertainers insurance at very reasonable premiums: www.duckforcover.com.au

Backline

Queenscliff Music Festival provides backline for the Pavilion venue, which hosts our FOOT-in-the-DOOR program. We will provide all successful applications with the venues backline listings closer to the festival. Anything on top of what we provide is your own responsibility, so if you want some super amazing amp, you'll have to bring it yourself.

Sound check

NO SOUNDCHECKS. There are 15-minute change overs between each act and it is important that you adhere to these times, as not only does it throw the program out of whack when you don't, the judges will take this into consideration when marking you!

APPLYING

Fill out the online application form. Applications close on 31st August 2026.

The online application form will be removed from our website on the 31st of August 2026. No applications will be considered after this time.

Please send all and any queries regarding this process to hana.cooke@qmf.net.au

WHEN WILL YOU FIND OUT

QMF WILL INFORM YOU OF YOUR APPLICATION ACCEPTANCE OR NOT VIA YOUR GIVEN CONTACT DETAILS BY END OF SEPTEMBER

IF YOUR APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL, WE WILL SEND FURTHER DETAILS TO YOU REGARDING REGISTRATION AND SCHEDULING.