

ACCOMMODATION TO REACH CAPACITY IN COMING WEEKS

2019 Adina Polocrosse World Cup

The 'No Vacancy' signs will be out in force in Warwick and surrounding towns during the Adina Polocrosse World Cup in April 2019, with many accommodation providers already at capacity.

The World Cup will be the largest international sporting event ever held in rural Australia, attracting over 60,000 people, including 2,000 international visitors. Players and spectators from New Zealand, South Africa, USA, UK, Ireland, Zambia and Zimbabwe will join the Australians at Morgan Park to battle it out for the glory of being named the world's best.

With accommodation providers fielding daily enquiries from teams and spectators, it is expected that most will be completely booked out in the next few weeks.

Yve Stocks from Pitstop Lodge and Area 51 said both properties were booked out for two weeks over the World Cup, with the New Zealand team filling the rooms.

"I hosted the New Zealand team this year during Barastoc, and they will be returning in April 2019 for the World Cup, which is really exciting!" Yve said.

"I was operating Pitstop Lodge during the 2007 World Cup, so am aware of the impact the event has on our town and the wider region. I have heard from a number of other accommodation providers in the surrounding towns that they are booking out as well, which really shows the reach of the event and the economic benefit it has on all of Southern Queensland," she said.

Tourism Industry Development Minister Kate Jones said the town of Warwick will be buzzing with thousands of visitors attending the 2019 Adina Polocrosse World Cup from around Australia and the world.

"With accommodation providers set to book out, this event will provide a significant economic boost to the local economy," Ms Jones said.

"This once again showcases the power of events to drive tourism to regional Queensland communities."

"The Palaszczuk Government has a clear strategy to support events that promote Queensland's unique tourism experiences, and this event will do just that, with players and spectators converging on the spectacular Southern Queensland Country region," she said.

CEO of Southern Queensland Country Tourism, Mary-Clare Power, said the event was expected to inject more than \$5 million into the local economy.

“We are really excited to host the Adina Polocrosse World Cup in Southern Queensland Country and look forward to the challenge of catering for the largest international event ever held in rural Australia,” Mary-Clare said.

“Events are a fantastic way to attract visitors and we will be actively looking to promote dispersal throughout the region, particularly among interstate and international visitors. We are also working with the event organisers and Southern Downs Regional Council to promote pre-and-post event travel, highlighting our key experience pillars of regional flavours, natural beauty and history and heritage.”

“Hosting the World Cup is a wonderful opportunity to showcase Southern Queensland and we are looking forward to seeing the benefit that the event has on the region’s economy,” she said.

The Polocrosse World Cup will be held in Warwick, QLD from 22-28 April 2019. Polocrosse is one of only three home-grown Australian sports, along with Aussie Rules football and Campdraft. The 2019 Polocrosse World Cup will attract 300 competitors from around the world, 2,000 international guests and 60,000 spectators, making it the largest international sporting event ever held in rural Australian.

The Queensland Government, via Tourism and Events Queensland, is proud to support the 2019 Polocrosse World Cup, which features on the *It's Live! in Queensland* events calendar. Your perfect next event is in Queensland where live events combine with the most incredible destinations, and life is beautiful one day, perfect the next.

