



VRC MEDIA RELEASE

Warwick to host 19th annual Lexus Melbourne Cup Tour

Vision and images available for download [here](#)

The Victoria Racing Club (VRC) today announced that Warwick in Queensland will join racing history when it plays host to 2021 Lexus Melbourne Cup Tour.

Warwick will host the iconic trophy on Wednesday 29 September, with Warwick Turf Club planning a range of community events as part of the visit.

Once selected as a tour destination, communities are supported by the VRC to plan and host a range of memorable community events during the Cup's visit, with a stable of racing legends also accompanying the Cup as Tour Ambassadors.

Warwick will join 29 other towns and cities across Australia that will be part of the 19th annual tour, which will see the magic of the People's Cup shared with all Australians.

Honorary Treasurer of Warwick Turf Club Kathy Wyvill said the community was looking forward to being part of this year's tour.

"Warwick is known as the 'Horsepower Capital of Australia' so it is only fitting the iconic Lexus Melbourne Cup trophy visits as part of its annual tour. We look forward to sharing the Cup with the community."

Warwick will also be part of the Lexus Melbourne Cup Tour National Sweep, which will give 24 Cup Tour destinations across Australia the opportunity to be allocated a barrier for the 2021 Lexus Melbourne Cup.

The town which draws the barrier of the Lexus Melbourne Cup-winning horse will be presented with a cash prize of \$50,000 to put towards a nominated charity for a local community initiative.

The bushfire-ravaged community of Kangaroo Island in South Australia took home the \$50,000 donation last year for the Royal Flying Doctors, after Twilight Payment led from start to finish to win the 160th Lexus Melbourne Cup.

Inspired by the initiative, the ownership group behind Twilight Payment matched the prize to make the total contribution \$100,000.

VRC Chairman Neil Wilson said this year's Lexus Melbourne Cup Tour will celebrate 19 years on the road.

"The VRC is pleased to be taking the iconic Lexus Melbourne Cup trophy back on the road after restricted travel last year, and sharing it with the nation again," Mr Wilson said.

"Now in its 19th year, the Lexus Melbourne Cup Tour allows local communities to come together to share stories, celebrate their favourite racing moments and to raise funds for local community charities and initiatives in their town.

"The tour also plays an important role in showcasing these towns and communities with people across Australia and the world.



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“The addition of the Lexus Melbourne Cup Tour National Sweep two years ago has added another wonderful dimension to the tour and we look forward to sharing \$50,000 with the successful community later this year.”

Chief Executive of Lexus Australia, Scott Thompson, said as Principal Partner of the VRC they were honoured to again be driving this year’s Lexus Melbourne Cup Tour.

“We are thrilled to be entering our fourth year as naming rights sponsor of the Lexus Melbourne Cup, and the 19th year of our relationship with the VRC,” Mr. Thompson said.

“The Lexus Melbourne Cup is the People’s Cup, and we look forward to playing our part in sharing the iconic trophy with communities across Australia, as well as supporting fundraising efforts in all states and territories.”

The Lexus Melbourne Cup Tour will officially kick off on Saturday 3 July when the Cup visits **Port Augusta** in South Australia and attends the Port Augusta Cup race meeting.

Since the tour first began in 2003, the iconic trophy has travelled more than 750,000 kilometres and visited more than 530 regional, rural and metropolitan destinations, providing communities with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience the magic of the Lexus Melbourne Cup.

For further information about the 2021 Lexus Melbourne Cup Tour please visit melbournecuptour.com.au.

Media Enquiries

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2021 Lexus Melbourne Cup Tour Destinations:

Victoria – Melbourne, Coleraine, Kaniva, Apollo Bay, Nagambie, Bendigo, Merbein, Kerang.

New South Wales – Sydney, Taree, Muswellbrook, Sapphire Coast.

Queensland – Brisbane, Gold Coast, Cairns, Richmond, Warra, Warwick, Noosa, Kandanga, Gayndah.

Northern Territory – Darwin.

Western Australia – Perth, Kalgoorlie, Broome, Jennacubbine, Newman.

South Australia – Adelaide, Port Augusta.

Tasmania – Longford.

Schedule

*Lexus Melbourne Cup Tour National Sweep destination

July 3 – 4	*Port Augusta, SA
July 6	Adelaide, SA
July 13	*Coleraine, VIC



July 15	*Kaniva, VIC
July 17	Melbourne, VIC
July 20	*Apollo Bay, VIC
July 22	*Nagambie, VIC
July 27	*Taree, NSW
July 29	*Muswellbrook, NSW
August 1 - 2	Darwin, NT
August 4	*Kalgoorlie, WA
August 6 - 7	*Gold Coast, QLD
August 13 - 14	*Broome, WA
August 18	*Jennacubbine, WA
August 19	Perth, WA
August 21	*Newman, WA
August 28 – 29	*Sapphire Coast, NSW
August 30 – September 2	Sydney, NSW
September 5 - 8	Melbourne, VIC
September 9 - 11	*Cairns, QLD
September 14 - 15	*Richmond, QLD
September 17	Melbourne, VIC
September 20	*Bendigo/Fosterville VIC
September 27	*Warra, QLD
September 29	*Warwick, QLDW
September 30 – October 1	Brisbane, QLD
October 1	Brisbane, QLD
October 2	Melbourne, VIC
October 3 - 4	*Noosa, QLD
October 5	*Kandanga, QLD
October 6	*Gayndah, QLD
October 8 – 10	Melbourne, VIC
October 12	*Merbein, VIC
October 14	*Kerang, VIC
October 16	Melbourne, VIC
October 18	*Longford, TAS
October 20 – November 2	Melbourne, VIC