

WAHO 2019 AUSTRALIA CONFERENCE



Invitation to attend
the WAHO Australia
Conference 2019.



Shirley Day
2015



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Dear WAHO Members,

On behalf of the Arabian Horse Society of Australia and our Conference Organizing Team, it is our sincere pleasure to extend this enthusiastic invitation to attend the 2019 WAHO Conference Australia.

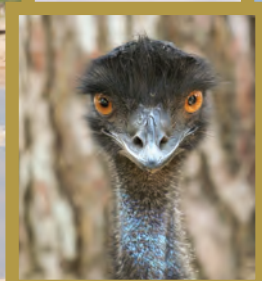
While Australia is a young country by world standards, its history with the Arabian horse is nearly as old as the country itself. In just 230 years, Australia has grown from a country with no indigenous equine population to one of the largest horse populations in the world, with well over 1.5 million horses representing most of the major breeds. The Arabian horse has played a significant role in Australia's equine identity from the arrival of the First Fleet in 1788. The Arabian Horse Society of Australia, one of the founder Member countries of WAHO, is now ranked as one of the world's largest and most diverse Arabian horse registries. Our purebred Arabians & eight different Arabian Derivative breeds continue to excel across all levels of elite equine sport both at home and on the world stage, including endurance, racing, dressage and working stock/ranch disciplines, as well as in major international shows both in hand and under saddle.

Almost two decades have passed since the last WAHO Conference was hosted in the Southern Hemisphere, when the global WAHO family gathered on the beautiful Gold Coast of Queensland in Millennium Year 2000, to celebrate our shared love of the Arabian horse. This time the picturesque Central Coast of New South Wales, just 90 km north of Sydney's world famous harbour, will play host to the worldwide Arabian horse community. The 4.5

Star Terrigal Crowne Plaza, ideally situated on the Pacific Ocean beachfront, has been selected as both the host hotel and Conference venue. Described as a 'Slice of Paradise', Terrigal is blessed with pristine beaches, stunning coastline and lush bushland, as well as boutique shopping, gourmet eateries, entertainment venues, and stunning local attractions all within walking distance of the hotel.

Our friendly team will be ready to greet you at our Welcome Desk at Sydney International Airport from Friday 1st February. The first major highlight of our pre-conference programme will be the unmissable presentation of our "Australian Arabian Ambassadors" on the afternoon of Saturday 2nd February. This parade will showcase some of our best horses, including equine athletes, show stars and breeding stock, representing not only the purebred Arabian but also examples of our Derivative breeds, from Arabian Ponies to Arabian Stockhorses. This takes place at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre, the venue for the 2019 East Coast Championships - one of Australia's longest running and most successful Arabian horse events, which will also host a Pre-Conference Welcome dinner after the parade, in conjunction with their prestigious Finals night. This unmissable event will giving you the chance to see more of our horses and socialize with many of our breeders and owners.

We do hope that many of you will then join us for the special tailor-made tours on 3rd and 4th February, designed to give you the opportunity to enjoy the natural beauty and attractions of Sydney, Australia's largest and most vibrant city, as well as the surrounding areas.



Contact: Scott Benjamin, Event Coordinator

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The central heart of the WAHO 2019 Conference schedule begins on Tuesday 5th February at the Terrigal Crowne Plaza Hotel. After the World Registrars Meeting, we will all gather that evening for the Welcome Reception - at which there may well be a few unusual but undoubtedly friendly 'guests' joining us to make the event uniquely Australian. The WAHO General Assembly itself follows on Wednesday 6th and Friday 8th February, with several interesting guest speakers. Both hospitality and horses fill the intervening day on Thursday 7th February, with visits planned to the nearby Simeon Stud & Mulawa Arabian Stud - two of Australia's largest and most internationally well-known breeding programmes. These central Conference days conclude with the President's Ball & Gala Dinner on Friday evening.

An additional opportunity to visit the best of Australian horse breeding in the local area will be offered in the Hunter Valley post-conference excursions on Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th February, with plans to visit not only the world-class Thoroughbred & Arabian breeding operations just outside of Scone, NSW - Australia's Horse Capital - but also some of the continent's best specialty food producers & artisans in the world-renowned wine growing region in the Lower Hunter Valley.

Post-conference tourism opportunities will be virtually limitless, as the long-trip to Australia affords our visitors the opportunity to extend your stay and enjoy the wonder and abundance of

Australasia. Many of our breeders are looking forward to showing you their Arabian horses and so we are planning for a variety of specially arranged tours, featuring some of the best Arabian & Arabian Derivative horses: in Victoria, just outside Melbourne; in Queensland, near Brisbane; and in cooperation with our neighbours and friends from the New Zealand Arab Horse Breeders Society, in the picturesque countryside outside Auckland.

Choosing amongst Australasia's many natural wonders - the Great Barrier Reef, Uluru, the Great Ocean Road, the holiday isle of Tasmania, the Sunshine Coast, Kakadu National Park, the Whitsunday Islands, the Daintree Rainforest, the famed Australian Outback, Milford Sound & Fiordland National Park, the Bay of Islands, & Rotorua, not to mention the sophistication and friendly energy of the region's largest urban centres - Melbourne, Brisbane, Perth, Adelaide, Hobart, Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch & Queenstown - will give you the opportunity to plan big and create the trip of lifetime for yourselves and your families.

We look forward to meeting you all at the WAHO Conference Australia next February, and to sharing an abundance of authentic Aussie hospitality and the natural wonders of this ancient continent, as well as the inherently beautiful and athletically versatile Arabian horses of Australia that continue to thrive in this wondrous land Down Under.

We assure you of an unforgettable trip and a warm welcome in Australia!

Leonie Williamson
Chairman, AHSA

Helen Dohan
Registrar, AHSA

Scott Benjamin
Event Coordinator



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Crowne Plaza Hotel, Terrigal



PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (Subject to change)

The WAHO Conference Registration Desk and tour desks will be open daily at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Terrigal from 1st February. An alternative hotel will also be offered in Sydney for those arriving early and taking part in the pre-conference tours between 2nd and 4th February.

Pre-Conference Activities for Registered Participants, Sydney 2 - 4 February 2019

- Saturday 02 February p.m. | Australian Arabian Ambassadors Presentation
East Coast Championships Welcome Dinner
- Sunday 03 February | Taronga Zoo Excursion and Sydney Harbour Cruise
- Monday 04 February | Blue Mountains Day Tour with Wildlife
Sydney City Day Tour

WAHO Conference and General Assembly, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Terrigal 4 - 8 February 2019

- Monday 04 February | WAHO Executive Committee Meeting
- Tuesday 05 February | WAHO World Registrars Meeting (lunch provided)
WAHO Executive Committee Meeting
Evening | Welcome Reception Aussie-style BBQ
- Wednesday 06 February | WAHO General Assembly (lunch provided)
Evening Entertainment & Dinner
- Thursday 07 February | Local Stud Visits (lunch & dinner provided)
Simeon Stud & Mulawa Arabian Stud
- Friday 08 February | WAHO General Assembly (lunch provided)
President's Ball - Gala Evening & Dinner

Post-Conference Activities, full details to follow 9 - 10 February and from 11 February 2019

- Saturday 09 February | Hunter Valley Equine Excursion
Scone NSW - Australia's Horse Capital
- Sunday 10 February | Hunter Valley Food & Artisan Excursion
Pokolbin NSW - Lower Hunter Valley
- from Monday 11 February | Post-Conference Tour Options:
Victorian Breeders Tour - Melbourne
Queensland Breeders Tour - Brisbane
New Zealand Breeders Tour - Auckland
Explore Australia - Tour Packages Available
Explore New Zealand - Tour Packages Available

Full details and registration forms for the 2019 WAHO Australia Conference will be mailed to all our WAHO Members in due course. The same information including a detailed schedule of events, pre and post-conference tour options and tourism links will be also available online on the dedicated WAHO Conference website. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We would also welcome your expression of interest in attendance.

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We look forward to
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WAHO Australia
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