



# IFEA WORLD FESTIVAL & EVENT CITY AWARD

*“Recognizing the best in community leadership and festival and event partnerships around the world.”*

## 2019

# IFEA World Festival & Event City Award Recipients





# IFEA WORLD FESTIVAL & EVENT CITY AWARD

The International Festivals & Events Association announced and recognized the 2019 recipients of the "IFEA World Festival & Event City" award during the 64th Annual IFEA Convention, Expo & Retreat in Williamsburg, Virginia, United States on September 25, 2019. The IFEA would like to congratulate all of our 2019 IFEA World Festival & Event City Award Recipients.

## Coffs Harbour

### New South Wales, Australia

The City of Coffs Harbour is a major regional city on the Mid North Coast of New South Wales, about midway between Sydney and Brisbane. It is the principal city of the tourism destination known as Coffs Coast, which also includes the delightful seaside and hinterland communities of Bellingen, Sawtell, Coramba and Woolgoolga.

The humble agricultural centre has since evolved into a vibrant, coastal city with an expanding economy based on tourism/ events, retail, manufacturing and construction, government services, education and the health industry. Highly valued as a place to live and a popular holiday destination, Coffs Harbour continues to attract people seeking a lifestyle change or place to enjoy a diverse and expanding range of festivals and special events.

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## Gimje-Si

### Jeollabuk-do, South Korea

Located in the southwestern part of Korea, Gimje-si is a typical rural city with a population of 100,000 and is the largest rice production area that accounts for 1/40 of the Korean rice production and is the center of agriculture culture that has Byeokgolje (the best reservoir in the East which was constructed in 330 AD. It is the beginning of Korean agricultural culture).

It is also a place where Gimje Plain, which is Korea's largest grain-growing district and agricultural culture is alive with the endless horizon as the backdrop and a typical autumn landscape represented by the field made with golden waves of yellowish ripe rice, autumn and blue sky in Korea with four distinct seasons is the most beautiful. Currently, Gimje-si operates a variety of festivals in addition to the Gimje Horizon Festival. In the future, we will strengthen public relations marketing that links festivals with local tourism resources and create tourism demand by continuously developing stay type package tour products and added value of local products that combine the festival's brand value with local agro and livestock products and goods.

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## Philadelphia Pennsylvania, United States

What makes Philadelphia so memorable is its unique blend of experiences that must be discovered in person. By day, you can explore four centuries of history and architecture, beautiful neighborhoods, remarkable museum collections and endless shopping. After the sun sets, the city heats up with acclaimed performing arts, amazing dining and vibrant nightlife.

As the first American city to be named a World Heritage City, Philadelphia owns up to the legacy it was built upon. With a rich history immersed in diversity, acceptance, innovation and originality, Philadelphia's vibrant culture attracts more than **43 million** visitors to the region each year, and that number continues to only grow. Over **1600 events** take place within

the City and its surrounding region yearly. The range of those events—street festivals, foot races, bike races, concerts—are pure reflections of their respected neighborhoods and are continuously inviting you—the neighbor, friend, family, and tourist—to celebrate and relish in their local customs and lifestyle.

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## Rotterdam South Holland, The Netherlands

Rotterdam is a young and vibrant city, with more than 170 nationalities living within its borders. It aims to be a 'WE' society, a community for everyone, regardless of their origins, religious beliefs or skin color. A community in which we are looking for what unites us, rather than emphasizing the differences. Festivals play an important role in achieving this. In the words of one of our visitors: "These festivals are a way of celebrating our unique Rotterdam identity. They have a great bonding effect and turn us into a community."

Rotterdam's event calendar is based on the identity of the city and its people, alongside the ideas and creativity of the many festival producers and cultural institutions based here. Events form part of the city's DNA and in turn the city is in the DNA of Rotterdam's events. Rotterdammers are justifiably proud of their international port city, which stands open to the world and is, as *Wallpaper\** magazine wrote, "fiercely committed to the new".

The municipality of Rotterdam, city marketing organizations, festival producers, and supporting organizations all share the same vision. Locals also share in the festivals and enjoy how Rotterdam – both in the Netherlands and internationally – is presented as a city with its own distinctive identity, a city with an undeniable appeal. The city and its people are the main source of inspiration for Rotterdam's events, which together tell the fascinating story of Rotterdam.

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# IFEA WORLD FESTIVAL & EVENT CITY AWARD

## Sydney

### New South Wales, Australia

Sydney is Australia's event capital – a creative extraverted city that views events as an expression of its culture, its vibrancy and its inclusiveness.

Events are also core to its future. The city is currently undergoing an unprecedented transformation that is revitalising and connecting all parts of the city. Huge regenerative development of former dockland and industrial areas, mass transit infrastructure, town centres, event venues and public spaces is renewing the fabric of the city. Sydney is a city preparing for the future and ready to express its values through events in new and innovative ways.

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## West Palm Beach

### Florida, United States

West Palm Beach, Florida is a city of gorgeous weather, world-renowned culture, dining and shopping, and exciting land, water and sports adventures. It is a place that has made a name for itself, evolving into a city in the true sense of what a city is: an active and vibrant urban engine that powers the region.

Strategically located at the intersection of cultural expression and global commerce, West Palm Beach's aesthetic environment and diverse community are the foundation of what makes the city an exceptional spot to host world-class festivals and events.

Embarking on a 125th anniversary celebration in 2019, the city finds itself at the center of an exciting renaissance as it builds a future that puts people at the forefront of its design and mobility. The city's communities are diverse, blending historic neighborhoods alongside a modern cityscape, offering a small-town charm to urban amenities. West Palm Beach encompasses over 55 square miles of semi-tropical lush natural beauty, and is located along 7 miles of the Intracoastal Waterway. With a population of just over 112,000 and an average yearly temperature of 75.4°F (24.1°C), West Palm Beach is the perfect setting in which to *Live, Work and Play*.

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To view past recipients of the IFEA World Festival & Event City Award – [Click Here](#).

