

GourMay Mary Valley Food Festival

Event Terms and Conditions

Our Stories. Real Food. Truly Local

The Mary Valley Chamber of Commerce MVCOC is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to building a stronger, more prosperous Mary Valley. Through business advocacy, networking, tourism promotion, regional development projects and the delivery of signature events such as the GourMay Mary Valley Food Festival, we connect people, promote our region and create opportunities that benefit businesses, residents and visitors alike.

The GourMay Mary Valley Food Festival is coordinated by the Festival Director and a valued volunteer team called the GOAT - GourMay Organising and Action Team.

Nestled south of Gympie, in the Sunshine Coast hinterland, the festival is a month-long celebration of the region's rich agricultural heritage, vibrant food culture and innovative producers.

We aim to showcase the Mary Valley's exceptional local produce and talented artisans, and connect visitors with the land, local producers, and authentic farm-to-table experience.

We invite businesses, producers, chefs and caterers to host an event that will showcase Mary Valley produce and tourism businesses, local farms and their stories, local artisans and their wares.

Definition of the Mary Valley

The MVCOC defines the Mary Valley as extending from the headwaters at Crystal Waters to Lagoon Pocket south of Gympie.

Event Participation Criteria

To participate in *GourMay Mary Valley Food Festival* preference is given to events hosted within the Mary Valley including Traveston, Kybong, Langshaw, Calico Creek, Gilldora, Dagun, Amamoor, Kandanga, Carters Ridge, Imbil, Belli Park, Kenilworth, Conondale, and Crystal Waters.

Event organisers do not have to be based in the Mary Valley (eg a tour operator running an event to/from the Mary Valley).

Businesses outside of this area are encouraged to please complete an EOI application.

Events hosted by organiser's not based in the Mary Valley **MUST** include a signature dish/demonstration showcasing Mary Valley produce consisting of 85% local ingredients from the Mary Valley.

Event hosts are to showcase Mary Valley produce and support food related elements. They **MUST** include a minimum 25% of local food and beverage content in their event such as:

- Food businesses operating in the Mary Valley – cafes, caterers, bakeries, manufacturers, organisations
- Food farmed in the Mary Valley
- Value-added products made in the Mary Valley such as jams, chutneys, cheese etc

Definition of Events - May 1 - May 31

Events must include a food element with preference given to events that especially feature a high level of food and producers of the Mary Valley (see definition of Tiers) which can include (but not limited to)

- Farm tours and producer experiences
- Cooking demonstrations and competitions
- Gourmet grazing events
- Sunrise breakfasts and long lunches
- Camp oven feasts and degustation dinners
- Art, music and film events celebrating food and rural life

Definition of Signature Event

The use of Mary Valley produce on the menu is an essential component of participation in *GourMay Mary Valley Food Festival*.

GourMay Signature Events proudly support Mary Valley farmers and celebrate the rich abundance of food grown and produced in this region.

A signature event menu must have at least 85% of the ingredients sourced locally and will receive special promotion in all elements of *GourMay Mary Valley Food Festival* marketing.

To apply for Signature event status, event hosts must provide a detailed menu and list of suppliers by the deadline to be included in all relevant marketing and promotions.

SIGNATURE EVENT 85%

Event organisers **must** display a menu with a list of all local suppliers at their event.

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Event name

The Festival is known as GourMay Mary Valley Food Festival. Event hosts must use the name **GourMay Mary Valley Food Festival** in marketing material.

2027 Events are to be held between May 1 – 31

When promoting the event the word GourMay **must** be spelt with

uppercase 'G' lowercase 'our' uppercase 'M' lowercase 'ay' **GourMay**

All other words in the event name must start with uppercase, followed by all other letters in lowercase:

Mary Valley Food Festival

Logo

Event organisers **must** use the *GourMay Mary Valley Food Festival* logo in all activities that are promoting the individual event. The logo will be sent once confirmation of inclusion on the calendar is confirmed.

General

1. Event organisers are required to provide relevant information about their activity. This includes:
 1. Name of Business
 2. ABN
 3. Name of Event

4. Date of event
 5. Nature of event eg. dinner, breakfast, farm tour, workshop
 6. Details of the event
 7. Contact details eg. phone, email address
 8. Allowance for dietary requirements
 9. Allowance of accessibility
 10. Copy of Public Liability Insurance to \$20M
 11. Copy of Food Licence (if applicable – see Item 10)
2. All event organisers **MUST** list their event on the Australian Tourism Data Warehouse ATDW at least 3 months prior to the event.
 3. All event organisers **are encouraged** to display a menu with a list of local suppliers at their event and/or promote these suppliers in the lead up to, and at the event.
 4. Event organisers are responsible for notifying **GourMay Mary Valley Food Festival** of any changes to the details of the event.
 5. Mary Valley Chamber of Commerce will update any new information in a timely manner.
 6. Mary Valley Chamber of Commerce takes no responsibility for the information provided by the event organiser.
 7. A GourMay Mary Valley teardrop banner must be placed at the entrance to the event (supplied by MVCOC) to indicate the event is part of *GourMay Mary Valley Food Festival*.
 8. *GourMay Mary Valley Food Festival* promotional material **must** be displayed at the event. This can include flyers, programmes, and posters.
 9. No political or religious signage, fliers, etc. are permitted at an event. Mary Valley Chamber of Commerce reserves the right to remove inappropriate signage.
 10. Event organisers will be asked to complete a 'post event questionnaire' to enable us to gauge the success of the event. This helps with future planning and the ability to access funding.
 11. A food licence is not required by a non-profit organisation** *holding less than 12 stalls/markets/year, the non-profit organisation has an obligation to ensure that all persons undertaking food handling operations have appropriate skills and knowledge required to produce safe and suitable food. This means that the food handler has the ability to perform those tasks that are necessary to ensure the safety of the food being handled. The non-profit organisation is exempt from this requirement if the food sold is not potentially hazardous (e.g. biscuits, cakes without cream, jams) or the food is consumed immediately after thorough cooking (e.g. sausage on bread). For further information: <https://www.foodstandards.gov.au/>*
 12. Mary Valley Chamber of Commerce takes no responsibility for loss, damage or injury to property, or people, at a GourMay Mary Valley Food Festival 2025 event.

Fees

Event Fees (per event) - 3% This fee contributes to the marketing and administration costs of coordinating the *GourMay Mary Valley Food Festival*.

Marketing

- Mary Valley Chamber of Commerce will include all *GourMay Mary Valley Food Festival* registered events in print and marketing collateral.

- In the period leading up to *GourMay Mary Valley Food Festival*, Mary Valley Chamber of Commerce will promote all individual events, through social media, as well as announcements on radio and TV when/ if opportunities arise.
- All participating events must join in cross promotion of other *GourMay Mary Valley Food Festival* events through social media, including Festival Day and the Gala Dinner.

Bookings

- **All events must** be listed on the preferred GourMay Mary Valley Food Festival booking platform.
- The event organiser is responsible for maintaining the listing and responding to **all enquiries / refunds** through the booking platform in a professional manner - courteous and timely. In managing tickets and refunds – event organisers are responsible for refunding tickets if they deem it necessary.

GourMay Mary Valley Food Festival Refund Policy

- Once purchased, tickets are non-refundable but can be transferred. Tickets must be treated like cash, if lost or stolen, we're unable to assist.
- If an event is rescheduled, all ticketholders will receive an email containing the new event information as well as instructions to obtain a refund.
- If an event is cancelled by the event organiser, the event organiser will notify all ticket holders via email. All orders will be automatically refunded back to the card used during the initial purchase process.
- If the event is cancelled due to extreme weather or emergency within 72 hours of the event occurring, ticketholders will not be subject to a refund, and are at the discretion of the event organiser.
- For all other Terms and Conditions relating to refunds please refer to Oztix <https://www.oztix.com.au/legal/terms-conditions/>