

PORTPIRIE NYE PARTY

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

Why has the format for Port Pirie's New Year's Eve celebrations changed?

Port Pirie Regional Council has decided to focus this year's event on families by creating a safe, family-friendly environment for people of all ages to enjoy. Bring along your kids, parents, grandparents and friends and enjoy an event that is free, safe and packed full of entertainment.

The event will start and finish earlier but will run for the exact same duration as previous years and will be packed with even more activities and entertainment.

It will also be an alcohol free event to create a safe environment for everyone to enjoy.

What time is the event?

The 2023 New Year's Eve celebrations will be held from 5pm - 10pm. This is the exact same duration as previous events but will start and finish earlier to accommodate for families.

Why wouldn't New Year's Eve end with the traditional midnight countdown?

Approximately 40% of guests traditionally leave the Port Pirie New Year's Eve celebrations after the 9.30pm fireworks to go home with children or attend other parties.

This year's event gives people the opportunity to enjoy the New Year's Eve festivities while bringing in midnight in the safety and comfort of their own homes or other venues with family and friends.

The earlier finish time not only reduces the likelihood of unsafe or antisocial behaviour, but also provides an opportunity for local businesses to create their own events on this festive occasion.

Many working volunteers, local vendors and contracted staff have also expressed that if they didn't finish so late (commonly finishing into the early hours of the next morning), they would still have the opportunity to go home before midnight and enjoy some celebrations with their own families.



Is BYO alcohol permitted?

This year's event will be alcohol free to promote the safest possible environment for all families attending.

Removing alcohol reduces the likelihood of incidents caused by intoxication or antisocial behaviour and is in line with the safety standards for other zero alcohol New Year's Eve events around the state

There is also reduced risk and costs associated without licensing the areas for liquor consumption such as less security, emergency aid monitoring and additional temporary fencing, which will now create open accessibility for all to enjoy across the whole riverfront.

This change is also highly supported by SAPOL as they have indicated that many community events are moving in this direction to avoid poor behaviour but also promoting more families to attend when safety is top priority.

The foreshore area is a Dry Zone all year round so the rules will not be lifted during this event. SAPOL will be in attendance to monitor this.

In light of this change, extra efforts have been made to deliver a spectacular line-up of entertainment for all ages to ensure everyone celebrates in the safest possible way.

Will there still be a fireworks display?

Port Pirie's New Year's Eve is renowned for having one of the best fireworks displays in the region. There will still be a 9.30pm fireworks display and although there will be one display this year instead of two, the display will see a combination of the two to make it the biggest single fireworks show that Port Pirie has seen.

What are other regional councils/towns doing for New Year's Eve?

Port Pirie is proud to host one of the best New Year's Eve events in regional South Australia. Many councils and communities have elected not to host New Year's Eve events or to have fireworks only (no entertainment). Many regional NYE events only run 1 x 9/9.30pm fireworks.

Are there any costs involved?

Port Pirie Regional Council is once again proud to bring you a FREE community event! There will be costs associated with food and refreshment stalls and the amusement rides, but all other entertainment and activities on the night are delivered to our community free of charge.

What can I expect to see at New Year's Eve?

A highlight of the 2023 New Year's Eve celebrations is a concert showcasing the famous children's entertainer Peter Combe! Loved by children (and their parents) Peter Combe will return to Port Pirie following a successful concert at the Northern Festival Centre ballroom last year.

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Festivities will also include:

- Amusement rides – for young and big kids!
- Live music from local talent
- Food and refreshment stalls – more details to come soon!
- Emergency Services Show & Tell
- 4Shore Sk8 Park fun (kids encouraged to bring their bike or scooter!)
- Giant interactive street art
- Free face painting and balloon twisting
- Presentation of the 2023 Certificate of Merit for Outstanding Community Service awards

Is Port Pirie Regional Council supporting locals?

Council is very proud to support locals, from stallholders and food vendors through to our entertainment!

Singer/guitarist Tom Barratt will open the evening followed by headline band Gen X with their fantastic range of party classics.

Will there be disability access?

There will be special access parking available as well as drop off points on Beach Road and Main Road in front of S.D Caputos and Wardle Marine. A taxi rank will also be located on Beach Road (accessible via Three Chain Road entrance only)

What road closures are taking place?

There will be a full road closure on both sides of Main Road from S.D. Caputos (before Alpha Terrace) to Illman Street. This road closure will be in effect from 4pm 31st December until 11pm 31st December. The John Pirie Bridge (also known as the Bridge to Nowhere) will also be closed from 8am 31st December to 12am 1st January for fireworks preparation.

What time is the boat ramp being closed?

The boat ramp will be closed from 12pm on 31st December and reopen at 12am 1st January. No boats can be launched or in the water (excluding long term moored boats) within 400m of the John Pirie Bridge (the Bridge to Nowhere) during the following times: 8.45pm to 10.15pm for 9.30pm fireworks display.

What should I bring?

Bring your chairs, picnic rugs, family, friends and smiling faces for a fun community event!