

INTERACTIVE ANIMAL ADVENTURES

Cradle-a-Chick presented by Carnival Cruise Line

WHEN: 9.30am to 5pm (last entry at 4.30pm) daily

WHERE: Large Animal Pavilion - ground floor

Experience one of the sweetest moments on the farm! Cradle-a-Chick presented by Carnival Cruise Line gives visitors the chance to gently cradle a fluffy baby chick, feeling the warmth and wonder of new life, while learning about its incredible journey from egg to hatchling.

This hands-on encounter is the perfect blend of cuteness and curiosity and this year the display will feature 150 hatching chicks in celebration of the Ekka's 150th anniversary.

One of the highlights? Witnessing a chick hatch right before your eyes in the specially designed incubator – a moment that delights kids and adults alike.

More than just adorable, Cradle-a-Chick teaches the basics of animal care and responsibility, making it a cluck-worthy experience for young animal lovers and future farmers.

This is one egg-stra special moment you won't want to miss!

Don't forget to scan the QR code at Cradle-a-Chick for your chance to WIN* a 6-night Carnival Cruise Line Great Barrier Reef Cruise for 4! *T&Cs apply. Scan the QR code at the activation for full terms and conditions.

NEW! The Goat Shed – A Farm Experience

WHEN: 9:30am, 11:00am, 12:30pm, 2:30pm, & 4:00pm daily

WHERE: Large Animal Pavilion - ground floor

Get up close with friendly dairy goats and their kids, watch live milking demonstrations and learn where goat milk comes from at The Goat Shed.

Meet the farmers, ask questions, see kid feeding sessions, and enjoy a taste of fresh goat milk while learning about dairy goat farming.

It's a fun, educational experience for all ages that offers a genuine glimpse into life on the farm.

Qld Beef Up Close presented by Meat & Livestock Australia

WHEN: 10.30am, 12pm, 1.30pm, 3.30pm & 5pm daily

WHERE: Large Animal Pavilion - ground floor

Curious about Queensland's beef industry? Step behind the farm gate at Qld Beef Up Close presented by Meat & Livestock Australia.

These interactive sessions offer a unique opportunity to get up close to some of the largest bulls at the Show while hearing firsthand from producers and industry experts about sustainable farming, raising beef cattle, and what life is like on the land for a beef producer.

Packed with educational content, each session seats up to 100 people and includes the chance to meet one of these impressive beasts.

Perfect for families, students and anyone interested in the beef cattle industry.

NEW !Ekka Animal Trail – 2026 Collectable Pins – in partnership with 7NEWS

Where: Various Locations

Follow the new Ekka Animal Trail in partnership with 7News to see and learn about Dairy Goats, Sheep, Horses, Fish, and Dogs while collecting a special pin at each stop.

Across five animal destinations, children can enjoy hands-on discovery, learn more about Ekka's favourite farmyard friends, and build their own set of keepsake pins. For just \$7, young showgoers will receive six collectable pins, including an official 2026 Royal Queensland Show pin, creating a fun memento of their visit to the 150th Ekka.



Animal Nursery

WHEN: 9.30am to 5.30pm (last entry at 5pm) daily

WHERE: Expo Place

Step into a world of wonder at Ekka's Animal Nursery, where cuddly companions and curious creatures will capture the hearts of all visitors.

This farmyard haven houses more than 350 animals, from playful baby goats and fluffy chicks to gentle rabbits and spirited puppies. Visitors can also meet the larger stars of the show, including llamas, alpacas, sheep, calves, goats, and even a miniature horse!

New this year are two of Australia's largest donkeys, Sultan, who is 16 hands high (1.63 metres) and Paladin, plus two miniature donkeys, Faith and Harperdem, who are just 79cm high. Two rare and adorable Valais Blacknose Sheep, known for their distinctive fleece and black faces, will charm visitors. While playful ducklings will splash about in their new Duckling Diving Pond – a delightful spectacle that's sure to bring smiles to visitors of all ages.

A must-do for city kids, the Nursery offers a rare chance to get up close to animals the children might only know from books.

The experience is about more than just cuteness –every visit is sure to be filled with hands-on experiences, learning moments, and unforgettable memories.