

# INTERACTIVE ANIMAL ADVENTURES

## *Animal Nursery*

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

**WHERE:** Expo Place

Get ready to pat, cuddle and giggle your way through the cutest corner of the Ekka at the beloved Animal Nursery.

From snuggly piglets and sleepy lambs to cheeky baby goats, chickens, ducklings, guinea pigs and rabbits, this farmyard haven houses more than 350 animals and is where smiles are born and hearts melt.

Visitors can also meet the larger stars of the show, including llamas, alpacas, donkeys, sheep, calves, goats, and even a miniature horse!

This year sees the return of the majestic Highland Cows with their shaggy coats, and the ever-popular 'Goat Mountain', showcasing these hooved climbers in action on an even bigger and better display.

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

The experience is about more than just cuteness – it's about creating lifelong connections to agriculture.

## *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

Get ready to fall beak over tail feathers for one of the sweetest experiences at this year's Ekka – Cradle-a-Chick presented by Carnival Cruise Line.

This hands-on encounter is the perfect blend of cuteness and curiosity. Visitors of all ages can gently cradle a fluffy baby chick in the palm of their hand, feeling the warmth and wonder of new life. It's a chance to connect with nature and learn firsthand about the early stages of a chicken's life cycle.

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, teaches the basics of animal care and responsibility, making it a cluck-worthy experience for young animal lovers and future farmers.

Cradle-a-Chick has been so popular that we've extended its opening time by one hour this year - so come along and chirp hello. This is one egg-stra special moment you won't want to miss at the Ekka!

Plus, 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! Qld Beef Up Close presented by Meat & Livestock Australia***

**WHEN:** 10.30am, 11.30am, 12.30pm, 1.30pm, 2.30pm, 3.30pm & 4.30pm daily

**WHERE:** Large Animal Pavilion – ground floor

Step into the world of beef production at Ekka's new 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 learning about the Queensland beef industry.

Watch as a bull is paraded just metres away, while you listen to an industry expert share insights on animal features, the purpose of raising beef cattle, what life is like for a beef producer and more.

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.



### ***Norco Milking Barn***

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

**WHERE:** Large Animal Pavilion (ground floor)

Get hands-on with the magic of milking!

Watch skilled farmers in action, learn how cream and butter are made, and even try milking a gentle dairy cow yourself.

### ***NEW! Dairy Cattle Exercise Area***

**WHEN:** Throughout the day

**WHERE:** Next to the Large Animal Pavilion

Visit the new Dairy Cattle Exercise Area and meet our dairy exhibitors.

Watch the cattle being exercised throughout the day and chat with exhibitors to learn more about the dairy industry.

It's a great way to get up close and connect with these gentle animals and the farmers who care for them.

### ***NEW! Dairy Kid Experience***

**WHEN:** Tuesday 12, Thursday 14 & Sunday 17 at 2pm

**WHERE:** Large Animal Pavilion (level 1)

Interact with some of the cheekiest animals at the Ekka as you explore the wonderful world of dairy goats at the new Dairy Kid Experience.

Join long-time Ekka exhibitors Leo Thompson and Kylie Hopkins from Datadoo Anglo Nubians as they present a live milking demonstration with one of their prized does.

Learn how these friendly animals are cared for and how fresh goat milk is collected.

After the demonstration, it's time to get up close and personal with some of the cutest kids at the Ekka - literally! Meet, pat and connect with adorable young goats.