

**SYDNEY
FILM
FESTIVAL**

**4 – 15
JUNE
2025**

Access and Inclusion Guide

Welcome

Sydney Film Festival brings the world's best new films to Australia. The 72nd Festival is screening 200+ films in cinemas across Sydney 4-15 June 2025.

Sydney Film Festival endeavours to make its events a welcoming and inclusive experience for all.

All Festival venues are wheelchair accessible.

For details on the Festival's accessibility and inclusion practices, including bathroom access and parking, visit **sff.org.au/info/access**.

Sessions are also browsable by access requirements via our website, and Venue-Specific Access Information is available at the back of this guide.

Booking Info

For all access and inclusion bookings or enquires, and to notify us of your needs so we can make your visit as enjoyable as possible, please call us on **1300 733 733** or email tickets@sff.org.au.

Companion Card

Sydney Film Festival proudly accepts Companion Cards to all sessions. For guests who require the assistance of a companion or carer, a second ticket is issued at no cost to the Companion Card holder. To book, call **1300 733 733** or email tickets@sff.org.au. Companion Card tickets can also be booked on our website by selecting your ticket and entering the code **COMPANION25** in the discount code field in the ticketing block. This unlocks a Companion Card ticket for you to add to your cart. If you are booking a session with allocated seating, check your seats are together at checkout before proceeding with payment.

Vision

Audio Description



Audio describers give verbal descriptions of all the visual elements of what is happening on the screen. This is done during natural pauses and gaps in the dialogue via a small earpiece, provided to audience members before the show. You can book this service in advance by emailing us at tickets@sff.org.au and pick up the FM headset on arrival.

AD is not available with every film and there is limited availability for each session. Check the program for AD before booking and refer to Venue Specific Access Information on the website, or at the back of this guide.

Assistance Animals



Assistance animals are welcome at all Festival events and venues. Bookings are essential as we must advise the venue in advance: call **1300 733 733** or email tickets@sff.org.au.

Hearing



Assistive Listening

All venues have an induction hearing loop system or hearing aid transmitters available. See Venue-Specific Access Information on the website or at the back of this guide for more details.



Open Captions

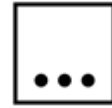
Open Captions display all dialogue and describe sounds as text on the screen.



Closed Captions

Closed Captions display all dialogue and describe sounds as text on a personal device with a high-contrast display and privacy screen.

Subtitled Screenings



All foreign language in films is subtitled in English. This does not include full open captions.

Auslan Interpreted Q&As and Introductions



Auslan interpreting is for audiences who use Australian Sign Language (Auslan).

Other Access

Wheelchair Spaces



Sydney Film Festival's venues are all wheelchair accessible and have a limited number of wheelchair spaces.

For sessions with allocated seating, you can book a wheelchair space online by opening the 'Choose Seats' option, selecting a blue circle and following the instructions provided.

For sessions with general admission, please contact our box office on **1300 733 733** or tickets@sff.org.au to request a wheelchair space.

Assistance at the Venue



If you require assistance or have questions about accessibility, our friendly accessibility volunteers will be happy to help. They'll be at each cinema wearing purple vests. Or head to the SFF Box Office on arrival and we will organise for a volunteer to assist you.

Screenability

Screenability showcases the best in groundbreaking and innovative films from creatives living with disabilities, featuring award-winning documentaries, compelling narratives, heartwarming humour and emerging local talent.

Rebecca McCormack

Screenability Curator

All of these screenings are fully accessible with open captions, assistive listening, wheelchair access, and audio descriptions.

Each of the three features in the program screens with a short film.

Life After

Australian Premiere.

Sundance Award-winning documentarian Reid Davenport exposes the tangled web of moral dilemmas and profit motives surrounding assisted dying in this gripping investigation.

It screens with:

Dark Matter

Australian Premiere. Screens with Life After.

Wheelchair-bound and in the late stages of multiple sclerosis, Melbourne-based filmmaker Leo Berkeley contemplates existence and observes his neighbours – who remain oblivious to him in this observational essay film. Winner, Best Documentary Short, 2024 Global Shorts Awards.

Marlee Matlin: Not Alone Anymore

Australian Premiere.

On becoming the first deaf actor to win an Academy Award aged just 21, Marlee Matlin found herself thrust into the limelight as a trailblazer. Here, she looks back on a rich and tumultuous life.

It screens with:

Where the World is Quiet

World Premiere.

In this immersive and deeply personal documentary, former Australian of the Year Grace Tame explores her experience with autism and

reflects on how long-distance running became a refuge for her.

NB: the 3:30pm session of Marlee Matlin on Saturday 14 June at Dendy Newtown is a relaxed session, with low lights and reduced volume.

Racewalkers

Australian Premiere.

This hilarious yet heartfelt comedy pits a struggling racewalking coach and his unlikely protégé, a washed-up pro baseball player, against the himbo champion. Winner, Slamdance Grand Jury Prize.

It screens with:

With Love, Lottie

Lottie, a disabled teenager, fears she will never find love. When she enlists her friends to help her navigate the unpredictable world of dating, she discovers that love can sometimes be found in unexpected ways.

To see more information on the films in the Screenability program strand visit

sff.org.au/program/strands/screenability

Other Accessible Films

The SFF website can now be filtered by accessibility. Films are also listed with all access features available. CC and AD devices still need to be requested in advance when booking tickets.

At time of printing, these are the films with confirmed accessibility options beyond wheelchair access.

All talks at the The Hub will also have live-captioning, available via your personal smartphone device and a QR Code scanned at the event.

Closed Captions

Assembly

Saturday June 15, 6pm at Dendy Newtown

Art, activism, voguing and queer Black excellence collide in this documentary about visionary Rashaad Newsome and his creation of a multi-sensory extravaganza. SXSW 2025.

Come See Me in the Good Light

Sunday June 8, 3pm at Dendy Newtown

Sunday June 15, 6:30pm at Event Cinemas

Winner of the Sundance Festival Favourite Award, this tear-jerking yet joyous film follows a poet couple navigating their life together after an incurable cancer diagnosis.

The Perfect Neighbor

Thursday June 5, 6:15pm at Dendy Newtown

Made up almost entirely of police bodycam footage, this haunting Sundance award-winner captures the shocking escalation of a dispute between neighbours, fuelled by festering racism.

Slanted

Friday June 13, 8:20pm at Dendy Newtown

Debut Australian director Amy Wang's twisted satire sees an aspiring prom queen undergo radical surgery to change her race. Winner of the SXSW Narrative Jury Award.

Audio Description

Come See Me in the Good Light

Sunday June 8, 3pm at Dendy Newtown

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Winner of the Sundance Festival Favourite Award, this tear-jerking yet joyous film follows a poet couple navigating their life together after an incurable cancer diagnosis.

How to Book Tickets

By Phone: 1300 733 733

PRE-FESTIVAL BOX OFFICE HOURS

Until 3 June: Call between 9AM-6PM Monday to Friday
10AM-3PM on Saturdays

DURING THE FESTIVAL

From 4-15 June: Call between 9AM-6.30PM daily

In Person

See venues for in-person box office hours.

Online

Email: tickets@sff.org.au

Website: sff.org.au

App: SFF 2025 app, for iPhone and Android

Ticket Pricing

Adult	\$26.00
Concession/Seniors*	\$22.00
Youth (17 and under)	\$20.00
Group of 10+	\$19.50

* Concessions available to full-time students, pensioners, healthcare card holders, unemployed people and seniors. Concession cards must be shown upon admission.

Venue-Specific Access Information

Art Gallery of New South Wales

The main entrance at the front of the Gallery is via two short flights of stairs: nine steps outside and two in the vestibule inside. A permanent access ramp provides an alternative to the external stairs. Another ramp is positioned on the inside stairs and a Gallery staff member is available for assistance if required. All areas inside the building are accessible by ramps and two lifts.

Wheelchair accessible toilets are located on Lower Level 1.

There are four free accessible parking spaces: two at the front of the Gallery and two at the rear.

Hearing loops are available throughout the Domain Theatre through T-Channel.

There are five wheelchair spaces at the back of the cinema. To book a wheelchair space please call us on **1300 733 733**.

Dendy Newtown

All cinemas are wheelchair accessible. Please use the lift on the Ground Floor. Cinemas 1-4 are located on Level 1 and Cinemas 5-10 are located on Level 3. Accessible bathrooms are located on the Ground Floor or Level 3. Cinemas 5 and 8 have hearing aid transmitter technology, available via bookable devices.

Cinema 1 has four wheelchair spaces. Cinemas 2, 3 and 8 have 2 wheelchair spaces. To book a wheelchair space please call us on **1300 733 733**.

Event Cinemas

Ramp access to Event Cinemas is available from the main entrance on George Street. It is recommended to drop off on Kent St and take the laneway down to the cinema. Cinemas 4, 5, 8 and 9 are wheelchair accessible.

Accessible toilets are located a short distance from each cinema.

Only Cinema 8, VMAX 1 and VMAX 2 are hearing loop enabled. Please see the festival staff for locations that are best covered by the hearing loop. Cinemas 4, 9 and 11 have infrared sound and can be accessed with a headset provided by Event Cinemas staff.

There is no onsite parking available.

Cinemas 3, 4, 5 and 9 each have four wheelchair spaces. Cinemas 8 and 11 each have three wheelchair spaces. To book a wheelchair space please call us on **1300 733 733**.

Hayden Orpheum Picture Palace Cremorne

All cinemas in the Hayden Orpheum are wheelchair accessible except Cinema 3. Please note there is a 175kg weight limit on the inclinator in HOC cinemas.

Please note the Venue policy is that the inclinator cannot be used after the session start time due to noise disruption. Please plan your visit accordingly.

There are accessible toilets located a short distance from the cinema. Hearing loops are available in all cinemas as a bookable device.

Behind the Orpheum on Parraween Street there is a car park with accessible spaces.

Cinema 2 (“The Arcadia”) has three wheelchair spaces.

Cinema 4 (“The Hayden”) has four wheelchair spaces.

Cinema 5 (“The Walsh”) has two wheelchair spaces.

To book a wheelchair space please call us on **1300 733 733**.

Lower Town Hall and Upper Town Hall

Wheelchair access is available to both Lower Town Hall and Upper Town Hall via a lift at the Druitt Street entrance. This includes access to the Centennial Hall and the Treasury Room.

Accessible toilet facilities are available on each publicly accessible floor of the building.

There is no onsite parking available.

State Theatre

The main entrance of the State Theatre on Market Street is wheelchair accessible. There will be temporary ramp access to the Mezzanine Level.

The State Theatre has up to six wheelchair accessible spaces available on the Mezzanine Level. To book a wheelchair space please call us on **1300 733 733**.

An accessible toilet is located at the QT Hotel next door on Level 1.

Rest points are available in foyer and bathroom areas.

The State Theatre has a hearing loop located in the centre two blocks of seating in the mezzanine. Optimal seats are in the Mezzanine: Row H 26 – 32, Row G 25 – 31, Row F 25 – 31, Row E 24 – 30, Row D 23 – 29, Row C 23 – 29 and Row B 23 – 29.

There is no onsite parking available.

The Ritz Cinemas Randwick

The venue has limited wheelchair spaces.

A hearing loop is available downstairs in the centre of the stalls Cinema 1, 3, and 5.

The accessible toilet is located on the ground floor on the east side of the building. There is direct or lift access to all cinemas. Please see staff on arrival.

Cinema 1 has 2 wheelchair spaces and four additional removable seats. Cinema 3 has three removable seats. Cinema 5 has one wheelchair space and two additional removable seats. To book a wheelchair space please call us on **1300 733 733**.

Palace Central

The venue has limited wheelchair spaces in all cinemas excluding Platinum 1. When booking, the seating plan will show specific wheelchair locations.

There is no accessible drop off on George Street. The

loading dock that connects to the north service elevator is located off Carlton Street. Those that require access via the loading dock must advise SFF prior to their visit on **1300 733 733** so we can inform the venue. You will be asked to sign in at the security desk at the loading dock.

The cinema is a 5-minute walk from Central Railway Station (taking exit 7 via Railway Square) and a 10-minute walk from Redfern Railway Station. Any bus stopping at Railway Square, Central Station or Eddy Avenue will drop you off close to the venue, only a few minutes walking distance from Central Park Mall.

Public lifts and escalators are available inside the shopping centre.

All Palace auditoriums are setup with the Fidelio headset and neck loop options. These receivers are available at the box office. The neck loop option works in conjunction with the hearing aid and the headset has adjustable volume to boost the dialogue levels. To access the headset or neck loop option, simply enquire with a venue staff member at the box office and they will be able to assist you further.

Audio description is available on request.

Accessible bathrooms are available next to the cinemas on L3.

Palace Norton Street

The venue has limited wheelchair spaces in all cinemas. When booking, the seating plan will show specific wheelchair locations.

There is an accessible drop off on Norton Street. There is a lift on street level that will take patrons up to the box office on the mezzanine level. There is also access via the lift from the underground parking garage.

There are buses that stop right out front of the cinema.

All Palace auditoriums are setup with the Fidelio headset and neck loop options. These receivers are available at the box office. The neck loop option works in conjunction with the hearing aid and the headset has adjustable volume to boost the dialogue levels. A limited number of devices are available for loan from the box office.

Accessible bathrooms are available.

State Library of NSW

Martin Place Station is the nearest station to the Library and it is wheelchair accessible. There are also many wheelchair accessible buses stop near the Library.

If you're coming by car, the nearest set-down point is on Macquarie Street, 140 metres from the Library, towards Martin Place station.

The nearest taxi rank is on Phillip Street, 200 metres from the Library, next to the Sofitel Wentworth Hotel.

The Library has a limited number of accessible parking spaces in its underground car park. The entry is on Hospital Road. Contact Library Visitor Services (on 02 9273 1414) before your visit to find out if spaces will be available.

Please note that the Library does not have an accessible drop-off zone.

Access to the State Library Auditorium is via the Mitchell Library, at 1 Shakespeare Place. There is a ramp and a lift located to the right of the entrance on Shakespeare Place. Travel to Lower Ground 1 using the Ground Floor lift

opposite the Objects Gallery, to the east of the Mitchell Library Reading Room. Staff at the information desk inside the Mitchell Building Foyer can answer questions and help you find your way around.

Accessible toilets are located on the ground floor, adjacent the Library Auditorium (this toilet has braille signage) and the Mitchell Library building.

There is a hearing loop throughout the Library Auditorium. There are four wheelchair spaces, and four removable seats.

