



EVENTS

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM

Step into a world of wonder.



Government
of South Australia



SOUTH
AUSTRALIAN
MUSEUM





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WELCOME

Step into a world of wonder.

The South Australian Museum is a place of boundless discovery. Bringing together state-of-the-art spaces, fascinating collections and scenic views to create unforgettable event experiences.

Home to over four million historical and cultural artifacts, the Museum is one of our state's most iconic institutions. With 16 unique spaces dotted throughout our grounds and galleries, we invite you to explore the Museum and imagine how your next event could come to life.

We are a not-for-profit organisation – by choosing to host your event here, you are helping to enrich South Australia and keep our spirit of discovery alive. Your support plays a pivotal role in maintaining and expanding our collections as well as funding cutting-edge research and program development which strives to unearth and share new knowledge for current and future generations.







EVENT SPACES

Curate your one-of-a-kind event.

No two events at the Museum are ever the same. We welcome your unique vision and big ideas. Explore our spaces, gather inspiration and connect with our Event Managers to design a bespoke events experience that ticks all of your boxes.

Ask us what could be. Chances are, it can.

THE TERRACE LAWNS

Inset from the North Terrace cultural boulevard and encircled by heritage-listed sandstone buildings, our expansive Terrace Lawns present the perfect outdoor setting for large-scale launches, gatherings and open-air events. This versatile and evolving space provides an enthralling backdrop truly unmatched in Adelaide.

Able to be brought to life with music, mood lighting and projection elements, The Terrace Lawns are a remarkable choice for performance-driven events. Make use of the catwalk-like pathway or North Terrace steps—both natural opportunities for head-turning moments.

Cocktail 550

Seated 300

Theatre 500

Area 540m²





THE ATRIUM

We think of the Atrium as the heart of the Museum. Fusing heritage architecture and contemporary design, this stunning space invites your guests to mingle beneath a canopy of suspended sculptures and skeletons whilst taking in unobstructed views of the lush Terrace Lawns and North Terrace boulevard.

Walled on one side by the historic brick archways and on the other by soaring floor-to-ceiling windows, the Atrium offers a delightfully unexpected venue for corporate or social gatherings; sit down dining, cocktail or theatre style events. Peel off and explore the neighbouring ground floor collections and special exhibition spaces, creating a bespoke event experience like no other.

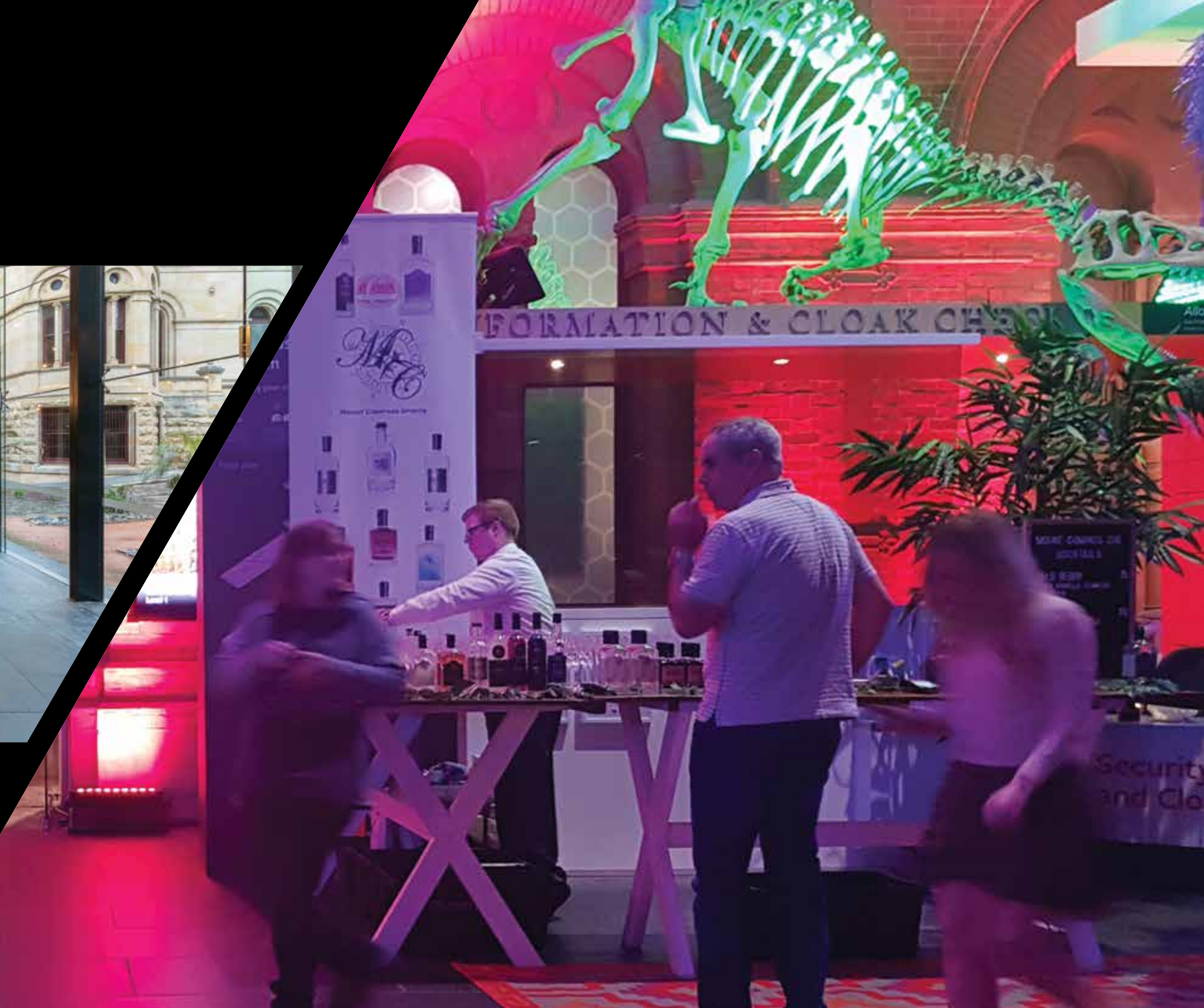
Cocktail 200

Seated 100

Theatre 120

Area 270m²









PACIFIC CULTURES GALLERY

Entering via the majestic Grand Stairway, past the stained-glass windows, guests will be transported back in time as they arrive in the Pacific Cultures Gallery. This immersive mezzanine space showcases over two thousand heritage artefacts from across the Pacific regions, including beautiful 19th century display furniture and statement sculptural exhibits suspended from the magnificent pitched ceiling.

With highly flexible floorplan layouts, the Pacific Cultures Gallery can be divided into bar, grazing, sit-down and presentation areas, equipped with in-built PA and projection facilities, giving your guests plenty of room to wander, mingle and discover with a drink in hand.

Cocktail 300

Seated 160

Theatre 200

Area 790m²

AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINAL CULTURES GALLERY

The South Australian Museum cares for the most representative collection of Australian Aboriginal Cultural material in the world. The best of this collection is displayed in the Australian Aboriginal Cultures Gallery, offering guests a comprehensive and immersive introduction to Australian Aboriginal culture, featuring over 3,000 tools, photographs, maps, films and artwork exhibits. Explore mood-lit hidden passages, peruse the cabinet displays or admire the show-stopping suspended bark canoes as you learn about the oldest continuous living culture on Earth.

Structured around the impressive central void, this two-storey space presents an intriguing and immersive backdrop for gatherings and pre-dinner events of all sizes, accessible via the historic Terrace Lawns sandstone staircase, indoor lift or the Atrium ground floor entranceway.

Cocktail 160

Seated N/A

Theatre N/A

Area 785m²





THE COURTYARD GARDEN

Overflowing with timeless character, our Courtyard Garden is an inner-city sanctuary offering your guests convenience and charm without compromise. Your guests will fall in love with the showstopping centrepiece — the rustic stone staircase, and exploring the neighbouring historic buildings and many secret laneways of the city.

Tucked behind the Museum, this secluded spot sets the scene for a romantic ceremony or intimate corporate event. Ornamental pear trees line the central lawns, providing dappled shade in summer, brilliant crimson colour in autumn or whimsical snowy blossoms in spring, for an idyllic outdoor function at any time of the year.

Cocktail 250

Seated 200

Theatre 320

Area 254m²





THE ARCHWAY LAWNS

A country estate hidden in the heart of the city, The Archway Lawns offer a remarkable open-air space ideal for wedding receptions and large-scale corporate and social events. After arriving through the grand archway's wrought iron gates, your guests will spill onto the spacious central green where they can mingle, dine and dance the night away under the moonlit sky.

Surrounded by heritage buildings and rolling verandahs, this is a lush and versatile space is ready for your special touch. Long dining tables, twinkling lights, spacious marquees and an al fresco dancefloor are just a few of the feature elements that can transform the Archway Lawns into your dream event venue.

Cocktail 300

Seated 270

Theatre 350

Area 340m²









THE EAVES

The Eaves is a self-contained, inner-city meeting and workshop space, sheltered from the hustle and bustle with a touch of historic charm. Featuring a soaring gable ceiling, abundant natural light and Courtyard Garden views, this open-plan venue can be easily adapted for any business, creative or networking event.

The Eaves is fully equipped with furniture, presentation and projection equipment and catering. Throughout your event, guests are welcome to make use of surrounding lawns and outdoor areas for group activities or a quick lunch in the sunshine, accessible via the external grand stone staircase or private lift.

Cabaret 40

Theatre 70

U-Shape 30

Hollow Square 35

Area 110m²

AUSTRALIAN POLAR COLLECTIONS GALLERY

Your guests can discover the stories and accomplishments of renowned geologist and Antarctic explorer Sir Douglas Mawson as they drink and dine inside the Australian Polar Collections Gallery. This flexible floorplan can accommodate small, theatre-style presentations, intimate dinners or roving cocktail events within truly captivating surroundings.

The space is designed to evoke a sense of curiosity, with exhibits themselves able to be transformed into event centrepieces. Set your bar inside Mawson's Hut, arrange a grazing table alongside the penguin display, or serve canapés paired with a fascinating glimpse into hundred-year-old Antarctic adventures.

Cocktail 70

Seated 40

Theatre 40





THE MUSEUM CAFÉ + TERRACE

The Museum Café + Terrace is an inviting architectural space ideal for intimate cocktail and dining events. Your guests can gather alongside the floor-to-ceiling glass wall—a striking feature that provides natural light, picturesque views and direct access to the al fresco dining area and Terrace Lawns.

As you step inside, you'll be greeted with suspended whale and dolphin skeletons—an iconic display within the Museum's collection—set against heritage red brick archways, timber floors and soaring 14-metre ceilings.

Cocktail 30 inside Café, 50 outside Terrace

Seated 22 inside Café

Theatre 50 inside Café

Area 110m²





EVENT TYPES

A truly transformative place.

Every event at the South Australian Museum is an opportunity to create an extraordinary experience, whether it's an intimate sit-down dinner, private party, romantic wedding celebration or musical feast. We welcome you to explore our many indoor gallery spaces, open-air lawns and secluded courtyards to design a unique event experience aligned with your grand vision.





CORPORATE EVENTS

Located just off North Terrace, the South Australian Museum's corporate spaces are a well-kept secret, offering CBD convenience within a delightfully secluded setting. Here, modern interiors and luxuries are complemented by our heritage surrounds, scenic views and leafy outdoor spaces, giving your guests plenty of space to network, do business, and be creative.

With flexible room design, catering options and presentation facilities we can provide a seamless event experience for groups of all sizes. Make a strong impression on your clients and colleagues by hosting your next planning day or evening event at the Museum.









SOCIAL EVENTS

Raise a glass amongst the gemstones or host a degustation with a dinosaur. The Museum's transformative galleries offer stylish settings for special celebrations of any kind from exclusive events to extravagant soirees, brought to life by your wildest imagination.

Catering, music, performance, projection—these features can all complement your choice to produce a truly exceptional events experience. Reach out to our capable and creative Event Managers to custom design your own remarkable birthday, engagement party or social gathering.

WEDDINGS

Pop the Champagne; you've found the one.

A historic day in your love story deserves an equally historic setting. Infused with character and over 150 years of culture, the Museum's wedding spaces offer a touch of winery charm in the heart of the city.

Walk down the aisle surrounded by ornamental pear trees in our secluded Courtyard Garden before exploring the labyrinth of secret laneways for your perfect photography location. Roving canapés will follow you over to our Archway Lawns, where you can toast and toss the bouquet before dancing the night away under the moonlit sky.

Discover how our Event Managers can make your wedding dreams come true and request a brochure:

events@samuseum.sa.gov.au





KIDOSAURUS PARTIES

Celebrate their curious spirit and special milestone birthday with a Kidosaurus themed party at the Museum. Welcome guests to your own 'Kids Zone', which will be your home base for an exciting day of exploration, fun and plenty of surprise treats.

For an effortless party experience, we suggest our full catering and entertainment option, treating everyone to food, drinks and a private guided tour of the Museum led by our singing palaeontologist, Professor Flint. Just ask us about accommodating any herbivores in your herd.

Enquire about our kids' parties:

kidsparties@samuseum.sa.gov.au









CATERING

Sensory stories told through food.

Here at the Museum, we know that the right menu can make a great event something truly extraordinary. From roving canapés with accompanying cocktails to formal three-course banquets, our chef-prepared catering can satisfy groups for any special occasion.

Three unique and extraordinary catering options await you at the Museum. Choose between our three exceptional catering suppliers or ask our Event Managers for assistance in selecting the right culinary fit for your event.

OUT IN THE PADDOCK

Out In The Paddock is the mastermind of husband and wife duo Ray Dahdah and Ally Aoukar. Food is in our blood! Bold in our approach, we design our menu to suit your event, from intimate at-home gatherings to events with over 1000 guests. We source the best produce from all over the world – with a strong commitment and passion for local South Australian producers. Taking our obsession with art, combined with an abundance of seasonal produce, we are the people to produce your culinary masterpiece. We don't just create events. We create art, experiences and memories.



BLANCO HORNER HOSPITALITY

Blanco Horner Hospitality Management is the leading catering, events and hospitality management company in Adelaide, South Australia. We have built a reputation for delivering unforgettable experiences and creating perfect moments to last a lifetime. As a multi-award winning company, who has been operating for 40 years, we pride ourselves on our attention to detail, commitment to service and being innovative in the catering and events space. We are fresh, creative, sophisticated and professional. We also support a garden to plate philosophy and champion sustainable food practices.



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM EVENT SPACES + CATERING

Local sourcing is at our heart and we offer imaginative catering menus featuring house-made products and native ingredients. From day catering with a difference to roving canapés or three-course banquets for evening events, our chef-prepared catering can satisfy groups for any occasion. By choosing South Australian Museum Event Spaces + Catering, you are directly supporting the work of the Museum as we strive to unearth and share new knowledge for current and future generations. Thank you for keeping us alive with wonder.





EVENT ADDITIONS

Elevate your event.

The Museum is more than a venue; it's a place of boundless discovery.

Why not make your event truly memorable by incorporating one of our exclusive event additions; a private exhibition opening, gallery tour or guided walk through our Discovery Centre. Or delight your guests with bespoke entertainment, a creative workshop or personal shopping experience.

Talk to our Event Managers about designing your own unforgettable event experience.









EVENT ADDITIONS

Gallery spaces

Discover our many diverse and fascinating gallery space options – a fantastic and unique addition to any event.

Our many additional gallery spaces can be incorporated into your event experience, whether as a private tour, pre-drinks area or break out space.

Ask your Event Manager for a quote to incorporate one of these fascinating spaces into your event program.

WORLD MAMMALS GALLERY

Travel around the world in just a few steps as you wander through the World Mammals Gallery. Located adjacent to the Atrium, Australian Aboriginal Cultures Gallery and Grand Stairwell, this quintessentially quirky space is a welcoming add-on to any Museum event, featuring diorama displays of taxidermied creatures in their natural habitat representing each continental region.

THE GRAND STAIRWELL

The Grand Stairwell presents hosts with an adaptable, complementary space brimming with striking character features. Make a memorable entrance into the Pacific Cultures Gallery via the imperial staircase past the magnificent stained-glass window or let your guests explore the special exhibition works on display.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BIODIVERSITY GALLERY

Stroll through South Australia's arid, temperate, coastal and marine regions in this fascinating, interactive gallery. Meticulously arranged animal specimens, models and multimedia elements combine to tell the evolving story of our state's unique wildlife, granting guests a fresh perspective of our ecosystem and their place within it.









MINERALS AND METEORITES GALLERY

Enjoy a glass of sparkling amongst the gemstones. Located on the third floor, the Minerals and Meteorites Gallery is a meandering pathway walled by displays showcasing an array of iridescent stones and precious gems. This exclusive event space is synonymous with opulence and awe—a true diamond setting for your next function.

OPAL FOSSILS OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA GALLERY

Did you know Australia's Outback was once covered by an icy inland sea and inhabited by giant reptiles? The Opal Fossils of South Australia Gallery invites guests to discover this fascinating story, as told through the captivating centrepiece—a six-metre-long opalised skeleton, the finest known specimen of its kind on Earth.

EDIACARAN FOSSILS GALLERY

The discovery of ancient fossils in South Australia's Flinders Ranges defined a new geological period, representing the earliest known complex life on Earth. This exciting archaeological discovery takes pride of place within our Ediacaran Fossils Gallery, where your guests can marvel at the 635-million-year-old imprints left in the sandstone of the sea floor.

ANCIENT EGYPT GALLERY

The Ancient Egypt gallery gives an insight into the religion, burial practices and everyday life of Ancient Egypt. The original sarcophagus and mummy of Renpit-Nefert have been part of the Museum's collection for over 100 years. The items in the Ancient Egypt Gallery form part of the Foreign Ethnology Collection which holds more than 22,000 items from the Pacific, Asia, Europe, Africa and the Americas.

SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS GALLERY

Treat your guests to a private viewing of the Museum's Special Exhibitions Gallery, the perfect aperitif to awaken the senses. Throughout the year, this space transforms to house the Waterhouse Natural Science Art Prize, the Australian Geographic ANZANG Nature Photographer of the Year showcase and an ever-changing calendar of temporary displays and touring collections.

PHOTOGRAPHY + FILMING

The South Australian Museum's many intriguing galleries and display spaces make it a unique and striking feature location for photography and videography projects, ranging from fashion retail to independent film.

Get in touch with our Event Managers to discuss how we can help bring your vision to life.

events@samuseum.sa.gov.au







PREFERRED SUPPLIERS

It's all in the detail.

Our Event Managers are well versed in delivering exceptional events of all kinds. Over the years, we have built an impressive network of preferred suppliers—those who have proven themselves time and time again for a long list of happy clients and offer you the peace of mind of a seamless start-to-finish experience.

AUDIO VISUAL + STAGING

Scene Change
Novatech
Equipe Vision & Sound

MARQUEE + PAVILLION HIRE

Australian Hiring

FURNITURE/LIGHTING/HIRE ITEMS

Sash Events
Adelaide Hiring
Modern Party Hire
Olympic Party Hire

EVENT STYLISTS + COORDINATION

Found Collective Events
Tonic Events
Hygge Studio
Kiera Blanden Events
The Queens Quarters

PHOTOGRAPHY

Dave Pascoe
Will & Co.
Evan Bailey
Israel Baldago

FLORALS

Studio Botanic
The Queens Quarters
Blush & Ivy
Adelaide Flower House
Wild Fusion

STATIONERY + SIGNAGE

Wonderland Invites
Magnolia Press
Bluebelle Studios

MOBILE BAR SERVICE

Little Vintage Bar & Van
Grain & Vesper Vintage Caravan Bar
The Speakeasy Hotel Mobile Bar

ENTERTAINMENT

Entertainment Adelaide
Supreme Sound
Amicus Strings
Him & Her Music
Baker Boys
Ash Gale
Atlantic Street Band

PHOTO BACKDROPS

A Wall of Flowers
Adelaide Flower Wall Experts
Puff & Pop

PHOTO + INSTAGRAM BOOTH

Aloha Photoboosts

HOTELS

Mayfair
Majestic Roof Garden
Stamford Plaza

**HOW WILL YOUR EVENT COME ALIVE
AT THE MUSEUM?**

Please get in touch with our experienced
Event Managers to begin.

events@samuseum.sa.gov.au

