



# Australian Guide to the Cannes Film Festival 2024

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Top of the Lake: China Girl - Official Selection - 70th Anniversary Special Event 2017

The **Cannes Film Festival** is the biggest and most important celebration of cinema on the annual festival calendar and a unique opportunity to build a network of international film industry professionals.

Cannes is a festival, market and huge media event that can be overwhelming. As a market it attracts virtually every buyer and seller of any importance in the industry. As a festival it attracts producers, filmmakers and financiers, as well as the directors of other major film festivals and thousands of film journalists, who provide international coverage of big premieres and market stunts. As a spectacle it attracts large numbers of film fans.

This guide provides an overview of the festival, market and accreditation (why you need it and the screenings it will get you into), as well as some useful contact details and tips for first-timers.

The Festival de Cannes has remained true to its founding purpose: to raise the profile of films – contributing towards the development of cinema, boosting the film industry worldwide and celebrating cinema at an international level.

**In 2024 the festival will run from Tuesday 14 – Saturday 25 May.**

# The festival and its sections

Cannes is composed of three major events, each with its own sections and programs. These are the Festival de Cannes, Directors' Fortnight and Critics' Week, and they comprise what is commonly referred to as the 'Cannes Film Festival'.

## FESTIVAL DE CANNES

### OFFICIAL SELECTION

The Official Selection highlights the diversity of cinema through its different sections, the two most important of which are In Competition and Un Certain Regard.

Films that are representative of 'auteur cinema with a wide audience appeal' are presented In Competition, while Un Certain Regard focuses on works that have an original aesthetic. The Official Selection also includes Out of Competition films, Special Screenings and Midnight Screenings and La Cinef, run by the Cinéfondation.

### FILMS IN COMPETITION

This is the festival's main event. Films in this section are referred to as being 'In Competition' and compete for a variety of awards. The Palme d'Or for best picture is one of the most prestigious awards a film can receive. The Competition welcomes both features and shorts, and there are different awards in each category.

### OUT OF COMPETITION

Films shown in this category are typically high-profile showcase films, special events, films that the festival feels deserve the honour of screening at Cannes or films which did not necessarily meet the criteria for Competition.



Mad Max: Fury Road,  
Official Selection - Out of Competition 2015



## UN CERTAIN REGARD

Un Certain Regard is a reflection of current quality world cinema. The Prix Un Certain Regard is awarded to the best film.

## CINÉMA DE DEMAIN

Cinéma de Demain curate La Cinef which is the festival's competition for short and medium-length films made at film schools around the world. La Cinef has its own jury which presents three different awards.

The Résidence du Festival, L'Atelier and the 'Creative Programs (Focus SCRIPT, Focus WiP, Focus COPRO) are selective development and financing labs. Read more [here](#) and [here](#).

## CANNES CLASSICS

The Cannes Classics sidebar is a showcase section that screens a selection of classic films, tributes to foreign cinema, documentaries on filmmaking and, occasionally, rare or rediscovered footage from days gone by.

## DIRECTORS' FORTNIGHT

### LA QUINZAINE DES RÉALISATEURS

The Directors' Fortnight was founded with the intention of opening up Cannes to lesser-known filmmakers.

This sidebar for edgier films is organised by the French Directors Guild (Société des Réalistes de Films).

[quinzaine-realisateur.com](http://quinzaine-realisateur.com)

## CRITICS' WEEK

### LA SEMAINE DE LA CRITIQUE

Each year, a panel of international critics selects around 10 features and 10 shorts from first and second-time filmmakers to compete in this section.

Independent from the Festival de Cannes and organised by the French Union of Film Critics, this sidebar has a tradition of discovering new talents from all over the world.

[semainedelacritique.com](http://semainedelacritique.com)



The New Boy - Official Selection - Un Certain Regard 2023

# The Market

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The **Marché du Film** is the largest film market in the world, where the industry gets together to do business: financing, buying and selling. The market is attended by roughly 12,500 film industry professionals from 121 countries, with around 4,000 films and projects in development at 33 screening venues. The Marché also runs programs for producers – the Producers Network and Workshop. This year the market will run from Tuesday 14 – Wednesday 22 May.

## MARCHÉ DU FILM

By registering with the Marché du Film and gaining accreditation, you can take advantage of many services including access to:

- **Marché du Film screenings**  
34 screening rooms, the majority of which are digitally and 3D equipped
- the **Official Selection** of the Festival de Cannes
- exclusive **reruns of the Official Selection** films in private screenings from 22-24 May
- areas reserved for industry professionals such as the **Palais des Festivals, the Riviera, Lérins, and the Village International**
- a digital Marché Guide, detailing contact information for every registered company
- Company listing in and an annual subscription to [cinando.com](http://cinando.com)

## THE PRODUCERS NETWORK

The Producers Network is the go-to place for producers seeking to make the most out of their time in Cannes. Launched 15 years ago, the Producers Network welcomes more than 500 producers from all around the world for a series of meetings and unique events specifically designed to create opportunities to build their peer network and get international co-production projects off the ground.

The Producers Network is reserved for producers who've recently produced **feature films**.

The number of producers is limited so it is recommended to register your interest as early as possible. Find out more here: [marchedufilm.com/programs/producers-network/](http://marchedufilm.com/programs/producers-network/)



## CANNES DOCS

Throughout the Marché du Film, Cannes Docs offers multiple opportunities to documentary filmmakers and to all professionals working with creative, cinematic, author-driven feature docs, particularly specialized sales agents and top international festival programmers.

The networking platform brings together major players in the field for a series of customized events including panels, talks, special screenings, workshops, opportunities to consult with experts, one-on-one meetings, tutoring, as well as selected showcases of docs-in-progress from all around the world.

Cannes Docs is particularly relevant for producers with films in advanced stages of production who are looking for a festival premiere and/or for a sales agent, or for sellers and programmers looking for the latest undiscovered documentary gems.

Each year, the program rounds off with Doc Day, a full-day event composed of keynotes, panel discussions and masterclasses, featuring inspiring doc filmmakers in selection at Cannes and high profile industry executives. You can find more detailed information here:

[marchedufilm.com/programs/cannes-docs/](https://marchedufilm.com/programs/cannes-docs/)

## CANNES XR

Cannes XR is a program from the Marché du Film dedicated to immersive technologies and cinematographic content. Cannes XR offers a multitude of networking, financing and distribution opportunities.

Cannes XR is a networking platform with which directors, studio executives, XR artists, independent producers, leading tech companies, location-based and online distributors all gather to discuss the role of XR technologies, inspire the art of storytelling and fuel the future of film.

You can find more information and when it is released the schedule of events on the website, here: [marchedufilm.com/programs/cannes-xr/](https://marchedufilm.com/programs/cannes-xr/)



Cannes XR industry panel as part of the Marche Du Film.

# Accreditation

Unlike many international film festivals, Cannes is an event reserved for film industry professionals, who need accreditation to gain access to the Palais des Festivals. Film industry professionals and those in associated disciplines can attend the festival but must register prior to arriving. All requests must be supported by evidence of industry affiliation.

There are various types of accreditation at Cannes and each has different rules, fees, eligibility criteria and inclusions.

## FESTIVAL ACCREDITATION

The **Film Professional's Accreditation**, is available to a specific range of film industry professions and provides access to all festival venues (the Palais, Riviera, Village International and the major hotels) and to screenings in the official selection and sidebars.

Festival Professional Accreditation is free save for a eco contribution payment to offset carbon footprint. The pass is highly restricted.

Typically Australian industry should register through the market accreditation.

Other festival accreditation types include '**Three Days in Cannes**' which is offered to 'cinema lovers' aged between 18 – 28 to enable them to discover the official selection, and '**Cinephiles**' open to school groups, film students and film clubs.

For more details, please visit here:

<https://www.festival-cannes.com/en/take-part/accreditations/>

## MARKET ACCREDITATION

Over 12,000 industry professionals attend the Marché du Film. Market Accreditation is available to the board members and employees of companies which either operate in the film industry or service the film industry.

Registration price for the Marché du Film is €429 (without taxes) if registered before March 15 / €499 (without taxes) after March 16 but before May 3. You can register on the spot from the May 13 for €600 (without taxes). For more information, visit the Marché du Film [registration](#) page.

## THE PRODUCERS NETWORK

The Producers Network is a special type of accreditation aimed at producers. The intention is to provide a collection of services and events to help producers develop their projects and to encourage international co-productions. Registration price for the Producers Network is an add-on of €79 (without taxes) on top of your market accreditation registration.

For more information, visit the Marché du Film [registration](#) page.

## SHORT FILM CORNER, RENDEZ-VOUS INDUSTRY

### The Short Film Corner | Rendez-vous Industry

is a Forum dedicated to short film professionals. It has its own registration fee and accreditation.

It is important to note that Short Film Corner is not curated and is not part of the official selection of short films. It accepts all and any short film submissions (excluding pornography) as long as the registration fee is paid. It is not a festival screening but a market screening so should be carefully considered.

We advise all Australians, before registering for the Short Film Corner and investing in the vast expense to a trip to Cannes, it is wise to reflect upon what objectives you have in mind and do some research on what is on offer before registering. Here is an [article](#) with former participants' observations. The Short Film Corner will run 19 – 22 May 2024

## PRESS ACCREDITATION

The festival is attended by around 4,000 journalists, representing 2,000 media outlets in over 90 countries. Media access is managed directly by the Festival de Cannes via its Press Accreditation Commission.

## SCREENINGS IN THE MARKET

Access to Marché screenings is by the separate Marché badge or by an invitation issued by the sales agent representing the film. Screenings are held in cinemas in the streets around Cannes or in the small screening rooms at the Palais. All screenings are listed on a daily basis in the Cannes trade dailies.

## SCREENINGS AT THE FESTIVAL

As an accredited attendee, your badge gives you access to the Festival area and screenings (Official Selection, and parallel sections such as Directors' Fortnight, Semaine de la Critique).

Tickets are issued via an online service and you will need a unique ticketing code, which is part of your badge (supplied when you collect your accreditation pack).

If you are successful in being allocated tickets – they are released approximately 24 hours before film screenings. Tickets may be printed or presented electronically. They are strictly personal and the sale of tickets is expressly forbidden. For most screenings, a time period when you can access the theatre is indicated on the ticket. Please adhere to this.

For evening In Competition screenings at the Palais Lumière, you must be in evening dress or you may not be allowed entry; this means a black suit and black tie for men.

If unsuccessful for a ticket, some screenings also have a last minute entry where you can line up with your badge - and if places are available you might be lucky enough to attend.

The International Critics' Week and Directors' Fortnight sidebars do offer a small public ticket allocation.

The latest information can be seen here: <https://www.festival-cannes.com/en/take-part/your-festival-experience/admission-to-screenings/>

In addition to the above, every evening from 9:30pm onwards the Cinéma de la Plage provides open-air screenings for all to enjoy.

*Cinéma de la Plage*





# Tips for first-timers

Make the most of the festival:

- **Set up your meetings in advance.** Do your research in the weeks leading up to the festival and make contact with those you'd like to meet before you arrive in Cannes. Cinando provides contact information for accredited professionals attending the Marché du Film, details on their films and projects, as well as the screening schedule. A login to Cinando is provided with your accreditation. Once you have registered for the Marché du Film you can use Cinando to present your company and projects, and connect with fellow producers, distributors and sales agents from around the world.
- **Read the trades every morning.** Daily issues of Variety, The Hollywood Reporter, Screen International, Le Film Francais and other magazines provide invaluable information on the latest business news and reviews, what's happening and market trends. Track the activities and marketing campaigns of the distributors and sales agents with whom you'd like to work. Pay attention to the fortunes of debut feature filmmakers with films screening in any sections of the festival, including the market.
- **Don't arrange formal meetings with distributors or sales agents if your project is not ready to finance.** If you meet someone at a social function, don't just launch in with your pitch, but first have a conversation and if it seems to be going well, tell them about the project. The festival is a very stressful place for acquisitions executives. Their focus is on finished movies and projects they are

tracking. It's far more important for you to make a connection with someone with whom you might do business in the future, than to pitch a project that isn't ready.

- **Try to avoid spending all your time with your friends** – it might be comforting but you haven't spent all those dollars to hang around with people you already know. The festival is huge but it has a very singular focus: films and filmmakers.

Armed with your knowledge of what's going on (from the trades) and your opinion of the films that are screening (from your viewing) you are well placed to make connections with the many other festival participants.

- **The Festival Daily** and all the major trades provide the screening schedules for the day and the following day, as well as key events organised by the festival. The Festival Daily is distributed each morning at the main entrances of the Palais, information points and select hotels.
- **Track the companies in which you are interested.** Look at their ads in the trades, keep up to date with their acquisitions and sales, and see their movies. Don't forget, our [Directory of International Sales Agents](#) has a list of sellers handling Australian movies and other more detailed tips for setting up and meeting with sales agents at the market.
- **Keep a diary** so that you have a clear record of any follow-ups you need to make after the festival (eg to send a showreel, short film or the outline of the project you have discussed).

- **Keep your business cards with you** at all times, along with your Market Accreditation (also referred to as your 'badge').
- Keep your expectations in check. Your first few trips to the festival will be research, and after each you will understand more about how everything works and how to build relationships with other filmmakers.
- Ensure you **leave plenty of time to get to screenings** as most are heavily subscribed – this applies to market screenings as well as screenings in the festival selection.
- Remember that while parties are fun in Cannes, **they are absolutely about business**. It doesn't pay to spend all your time trying to score invites to parties or to harass people for invitations. You will only annoy your contacts. **Cannes is a means to introduce yourself to people in companies based outside your home turf**. You can make appointments with local companies at any time of the year and Australian companies won't want to spend time in Cannes meeting with filmmakers who live down the road from them. Every serious film company in the world is in one place – and so are you.
- **The Marché du Film Daily Screening Program** lists both market and festival screenings. It's available from 4pm one day

in advance, at press counters and information points, inside the Marché du Film screening rooms, as well as in select hotels.

- To assist parents and families attending the market & festival, **Le Ballon Rouge** offer family-friendly services such as child care. To learn more, email [redballoonalliance@gmail.com](mailto:redballoonalliance@gmail.com)
- The **Screen Australia office** is located at Level 3, Le Gray d'Albion, 4 Rue des Serbes, Cannes 6400. Enter at 4 Rue des Serbes, turn right once inside the building, and elevator to the 3rd floor is on the left.
- As there is high demand for these tables and very limited capacity, we recommend you try to set your meetings around the market - like the casual areas in the Palais, at sales agents' offices, the many cafes, and great outdoor areas that hotels offer like Mondrian (was The Grand) and other popular meeting spots.
- Priority to meeting tables at Screen Australia's office is given to key creatives with films screening in Cannes, and those with a track record of commercially released and internationally recognised long form Australian content. These facilities are only available to Australian-based citizens or permanent residents.





# Practical Info

## GETTING TO CANNES

### By plane

Nice Cote d'Azur International Airport  
[nice.aeroport.fr](http://nice.aeroport.fr)

Tel. (in France): 0820 423 333

Tel. (from abroad): +33 8 20 42 33 33

### By train

Cannes Railway Station

Approx five-hour high speed train journey from Paris

[snCF.com/en](http://snCF.com/en)

Tel. (in France): 36 35

Tel. (from abroad): +33 8 92 35 35 35

## TRANSPORTATION FROM THE AIRPORT TO CANNES

### By bus

One-way: €22 A/R : €33

50 min ride, every half an hour from 9am to 7pm

1st ride 8am, last 8pm

**Tickets** are available at the counters at the bus stop.

### By taxi

Around €80/trip (daytime rate: 7am to 7pm)

Around €90/trip (nighttime rate: 7pm to 7am)

Located at: Gate A1 (Terminal 1), Gate A3 (Terminal 2)

Central Taxi Riviera Nice: +33 (0)4 93 13 78 78

### Car hire

All of France and Europe's major car rental companies (Advantage, Avis, Budget, Europcar, Hertz, Entreprise, FireFly, Goldcar and Sixt) have branches at Nice Airport. Click [here](#) for car hire information.

## GETTING AROUND CANNES

The majority of the festival and market takes place within approximately two square kilometres. Your best option to get around is by foot. It's a good idea to allow longer than you think, as the Croisette and Rue d'Antibes both get incredibly crowded with slow moving foot traffic and often the festival security unexpectedly change the traffic conditions depending on what is happening on the red carpet. Some people hire bicycles which is a quick way to get around.

### Taxi

Allô Taxi Cannes

[taxi-cannes.net](http://taxi-cannes.net)

Booking: +33 4 93 992 727

Email: [contact@taxi-cannes.net](mailto:contact@taxi-cannes.net)

Or they have a free [itunes app](#) you can download.

## EATING OUT

You won't have a problem finding a place to eat out in Cannes; it is filled with restaurants. You can find an array of places to eat along the Croisette. For cheaper restaurants head to the Port area past the Palais, where you'll find great pizza places.

The **official Cannes** tourism website has hints and tips on bistros, restaurants and wine bars.

## DAILY NEEDS

Morning **markets** like Forville, Gambetta and La Bocca have great fresh produce and ingredients on sale, while **supermarkets** like Monoprix and Carrefour can supply your daily needs.

## ACCOMMODATION

There are a variety of options for accommodation in and around Cannes. View a list of hotels [here](#). For apartment rentals the Marche du Film recommends booking with its partner [Immosol](#), which offers apartments with or without hotel services, depending on your budget. There are a number of other reputable agencies located in Cannes. If you need any advice or contacts in Cannes to help arrange accommodation, please email [business@screenaustralia.gov.au](mailto:business@screenaustralia.gov.au)

## ON ARRIVAL

It is a good idea to text or call whoever arranged your accommodation as soon as you're in a cab, bus or train from Nice. That way, they can meet you with the keys to enable immediate access to your apartment or hostel.

## BEWARE OF FRAUDULENT ACCOMMODATION

You may be contacted by organisations with attractive offers of hotel or apartment rentals for your stay in Cannes, sometimes using the logos of the Marché du Film, Festival de Cannes or the Palme d'Or.

Fraud can occur when you arrive at the hotel or residence where the booking was made, only to discover that a reservation does not exist. In these cases fraudulent companies can no longer be contacted and there is no possibility of having payment reimbursed.

Cannes participants have fallen victim to fraudulent accommodation providers presenting themselves as: **Premier Destinations, Euro-Events, Global Living Group, The Ultimate Living Group, Riviera Network, Business Travel International and Expo Travel Group**. If you receive requests or notifications from any of the aforementioned, please be extremely careful.

If you suspect any fraudulent activity, let the Marché du Film know at [marketinfo@festival-cannes.fr](mailto:marketinfo@festival-cannes.fr)

## WARNING

Take care with security in the office, your apartment and in the streets. There are always incidents of crime during the festival. We advise you not to leave windows open at night (if you're on a lower floor), as unfortunately there are burglaries every year. In case of lost or stolen passport please notify the Australian Embassy immediately [here](#).

## MEDICAL HELP AND ENGLISH SPEAKING DOCTORS

### Fire service and First Aid

Tel. 18 or + 33 (0)4 93 48 78 00

### Ambulance

Tel. 15

### Cannes Hospital ER

15, av des Broussailles

Tel. + 33 (0)810 850 505

### Doctor on call

+ 33 (0)810 850 505

The Australian Embassy keeps a list of English speaking doctors and chemists across different French regions at

[france.embassy.gov.au/pari/Engdoc.html](http://france.embassy.gov.au/pari/Engdoc.html)

Riviera Medical Services is an association run by local doctors who have a list of all local medical personnel who speak English. The list includes the names and contact numbers of GPs, specialists, physiotherapists, dentists, gynaecologists, paediatricians, nurses and ambulance services. Call to find the medical practitioner or medical assistance. Assistance in English guaranteed.

Tel. +33 (0) 4 93 26 12 70

**Note:** As this is a free service run voluntarily, very occasionally there is no one available to answer. Do try again later.

It is recommended that you take out appropriate travel and medical insurance that covers you for any unexpected costs.



## BANKING AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE

### Au change Miramar

57 bd de la Croisette

Tel. +33 (0) 4 93 94 45 20

### European Exchange Office

65 bd de la Croisette

Tel. + 33 (0) 4 93 94 45 20

### Travelex

8 rue d'Antibes - 06400 Cannes

Tel. +33 (0) 4 93 39 41 45

## POLICE STATIONS IN CANNES

For emergency dial 17

1, Avenue Grasse

Tel. +33 (0)4 93 06 22 22

### 122, Blvd de la Republique

Tel. +33 (0) 4 93 68 0101

### Municipal Police (Lost and Found)

Tel, +33 (0)8 00 117 118

## INFORMATION POINTS

Staff at information points will be able to answer your questions. These are located in the following Marché and festival zones:

### Outside the Palais

Entrance of the Village International Pantiero

### Inside the Palais

Level 01: Marché du Film entrance, centre aisle

Level 01: Puits de Lumière

Level 0: Hall Méditerranée (on the left of the main entry)

Level F+3: street entrance by the newspaper stands At the Riviera: seaside entrance



Village International Riviera