

It's Post Time for Australia Post



Australia collectors are racing toward a photo-finish to collect a new stamp issue featuring four major metropolitan horseracing courses: Eagle Farm (Queensland), Royal Randwick (New South Wales), Morphetville (South Australia) and Flemington (Victoria).

Australia Post Philatelic Manager Michael Zsolt said, “Horseracing is one of the country’s most popular spectator sports, and this stamp issue comes just in time for spring racing season. We trust collectors and horseracing enthusiasts will jump at the opportunity to collect these racecourse stamps and the associated products.”

The Australian metropolitan racecourses, on which the lion’s share of Group 1 races are run, include:

- Eagle Farm, Queensland. Established in the Brisbane suburb of Ascot in 1863, Queensland’s premier racing track is home to the Brisbane Racing Club. Its major racing event is the Brisbane Racing Carnival, held annually each May–June.

- Royal Randwick, New South Wales. Located in Sydney’s eastern suburbs, Royal Randwick is Australia’s oldest major racing venue, established in 1833. Royal Randwick is the home of the Australian Turf Club and it has recently undergone major redevelopment.

- Morphetville, South Australia. This venue hosted its first race meeting in 1875 and is home to the South Australian Jockey Club.

Located in Adelaide, Morphetville is the state’s largest and leading racecourse. The track features a world-first, hydraulically operated retractable winning post.

- Flemington, Victoria. Flemington is the oldest continuing metropolitan racecourse in the country, with races run annually since 1840. The Melbourne Cup, the richest and most famous Australian horse race, was first run on the course in 1861. Flemington is also home to the Victoria Racing Club, which celebrates its 150th anniversary this year.

Issued on October 7, the Australian Racecourses domestic base-rate (70c) stamps are designed by Sonia Young of the Australia Post Design Studio, using photographs by Ross Stevenson (Eagle Farm, Qld), Steve White (Royal Randwick, NSW), Bruno Cannatelli (Morphetville, SA) and Quinn Rooney/Getty Images (Flemington, Vic).

The stamp issue’s associated products include a first day cover, stamp pack, maxicard set of four, booklet of 10 x 70c self-adhesive stamps and a designed gutter strip of 10 x 70c stamps.

The Australian Racecourses stamps and associated products are available at www.auspost.com.au/stamps or contact Australia Stamp Agency in North America toll free (USA and Canada) on 1-800-443-4225 while stocks last.