



Australian Government

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Coronation of His Majesty The King – Information pack

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KEY BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Coronation events in London

- The Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III, and of Her Majesty The Queen Consort, will take place at Westminster Abbey, London on 6 May 2023.
- At the invitation of Buckingham Palace, the Prime Minister and the Governor-General, together with their partners, will travel to London to attend the Coronation. They will also be joined by State Governors.
- [Outstanding Australians](#) have been chosen to attend the Coronation and show the world the best of our values: caring for others, serving community and championing progress.
- There will be representation from First Nations people, a holder of the Victoria Cross for Australia, the Cross of Valour, and an Order of Australia recipient, as well as representatives of the Australian Defence Force.
- The Prime Minister will also attend a Reception with Their Majesties The King and The Queen Consort as well as events with Realm and Commonwealth countries on 5 May.

Coronation – General information

- On 11 September 2022, Prince Charles Philip Arthur George was proclaimed to be King Charles the Third, by the Grace of God King of Australia and his other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth.
 - The Proclamation formally announced the accession of the King, which occurred automatically upon the passing of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on 8 September 2022.
- The Proclamation was signed by His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd), the Governor-General, at a special meeting of the Federal Executive Council on 11 September 2022, and subsequently read at Parliament House alongside a 21-gun salute.
 - A copy of the Proclamation is published on PM&C's website [here](#).
- The Coronation of a new Sovereign takes place in the months after their accession to the throne, following a period of mourning.
- The Coronation is centred around a religious ceremony, and has remained largely unchanged for over a thousand years. During the ceremony, the Sovereign takes the coronation oath, and is then 'anointed, blessed and consecrated' by the Archbishop of Canterbury. After receiving the orb and sceptres, St Edward's Crown is placed on the Sovereign's head.
- Further information about the Coronation, including [historical information](#), is available on the [UK Government](#) and [Royal Family](#) Coronation pages.

Domestic Events

At a national level, the following events will be held in Australia, and will be coordinated by the Australian Government:

- The illumination of significant buildings and monuments around Australia (in Royal purple) on Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 May 2023.
- A flag notice will be issued through the Commonwealth Flag Network to encourage the flying of the Australian National Flag, Australian Aboriginal Flag and the Torres Strait Islander Flag on 6 and 7 May 2023.
- A National 21-Gun Salute, by Australia's Federation Guard, will be held on the forecourt of Parliament House, Canberra at 3 pm on Sunday 7 May 2023. Weather permitting, the National Salute will be followed by a flypast from the Royal Australian Air Force.

- An Address of Congratulations in Parliament when the House of Representatives returns in early May

Australian State and Territory Governments may also look to hold separate events or join some of the activities such as the illuminations

Gift from the Australian Government on behalf of the people of Australia

Similar to the gift given to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II for her Platinum Jubilee, the Australian Government plans to offer a gift on behalf of the people of Australia to His Majesty on the occasion of his Coronation.

Defence support

In support of the Coronation of His Majesty The King and The Queen Consort, approximately 40 personnel from all Services, represented by Australia's Federation Guard, will travel to the United Kingdom and undertake duties including participating in The Coronation Procession for Their Majesties during the Coronation ceremony.

In Australia, Defence will support events marking the occasion including a National 21 Gun Salute on the forecourt of Parliament House followed by a flypast by the Royal Australian Air Force.

Facts about The King

- His Majesty The King became King on 8 September 2022, following the passing of his mother Her Majesty The Queen.
- The King is the Head of State of the United Kingdom and 14 other Commonwealth realms, including Australia.
- The King has visited Australia 16 times, including spending two terms studying at the Timbertop Campus at Geelong Grammar School as a 17 year-old.
- His Majesty was the longest serving heir apparent in British history.
- He was the first British Royal heir to earn a degree – studying at Cambridge University from 1967-1970.
- The King, as Prince of Wales, has founded 17 charities.
- The King married The Queen Consort on 9 April 2005, with their wedding taking place at Windsor Guildhall, followed by a Service at St George's Chapel.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Quick links

- [Prime Minister and Cabinet Coronation website](#)
- [Coronation frequently asked questions](#)

Plans for Coronation

How will Australia be represented at the Coronation of His Majesty The King?

- The Australian Government will be represented at the Coronation by the Hon Anthony Albanese MP, the Prime Minister, and Ms Jodie Haydon, and by His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd), the Governor-General, and Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley.
 - They will be joined by State Governors, and a number of other notable Australians.

How were the Australian invitees for the Coronation determined?

- Australian representatives have been drawn from a wide range of outstanding people to show the world the best of our values.
 - These values include caring for others, serving community, and championing progress.
 - There will be representation from First Nations peoples, a holder of the Victoria Cross for Australia, and the Cross of Valour.
 - These will also be representatives from the Australian Defence Force.

Will there be a public holiday for the Coronation?

- There are no plans to declare a public holiday as Coronation celebrations will occur over the weekend of 6 and 7 May 2023.

How will Australia observe the Coronation?

There will be events in Australia to mark the Coronation of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen Consort.

- Illumination of significant buildings and monuments across Australia in Royal Purple on 6 and 7 May 2023.
- Flying of the Australian National Flag, Australian Aboriginal Flag and the Torres Strait Islander Flag on 6 and 7 May 2023.
 - A flag notice will be issued through the Commonwealth Flag Network to encourage flying of the Flags.
- A National 21 Gun salute will be conducted on the forecourt of Parliament House in Canberra, and weather permitting, followed by a flypast from the Royal Australian Air Force. The National Salute commences at 3 pm on Sunday 7 May 2023.

Can we participate in the illuminations?

Significant buildings and monuments around Australia will illuminate in Royal purple on 6 and 7 May 2023

- You are welcomed to participate.
- As a guide you may wish to use Pantone 3515C and this can be adjusted in tone depending on the requirements of site to be illuminated.
- Lighting will be from dusk to 10 pm each night but you may operate outside these hours if permitted.

Will a flag notice be issued for the Coronation?

- A flag notice will be issued via the [Commonwealth Flag Network](#).

Is Australia giving a gift to The King to mark his Coronation?

- Yes. Australia's Coronation gift to The King will be announced in due course.

How can Australians send messages of congratulations to The King?

- Correspondence can be sent to The King at:
His Majesty The King
Buckingham Palace
London SW1A 1AA

The King and Australia

Where can I find an official portrait of The King?

- While a photograph of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen Consort was recently unveiled, an official Australian portrait of The King will be released at a later date.
- The Australian portrait will be announced in due course and distributed through Federal MPs and Senators via the Nationhood Material Program.
- In the interim, portraits of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II may continue to be displayed.

What is The King's title in Australia?

- It is still correct to refer to The King in the following ways:
 - His Majesty King Charles III
 - His Majesty The King
 - The King
 - His Majesty
- If required, The King's formal Royal style and title in Australia is: ***King Charles the Third, by the Grace of God King of Australia and His other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth.***
- Further information about The Queen Consort can be viewed on the [Royal website](#).

How many times has The King visited Australia?

- The King has visited Australia 16 times. He has made 15 official visits to Australia as The Prince of Wales and also attended Timbertop campus of Geelong Grammar School in 1966.

The 15 official visits were;

1. 22 to 23 December 1967 - Attended Prime Minister Holt's Memorial Service,
2. 30 March to 8 April 1970 - Accompanied Her Majesty The Queen's Royal Visit
3. 12 to 30 October 1974 - Visit by His Royal Highness The Prince Charles, K.G
4. 1 to 11 November 1977 - Visit by His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales
5. 18 to 19 May 1978 - Attended Funeral of The Late The Right Honourable Sir Robert Menzies K.T., A.K., C.H., F.R.S., Q.C. -
6. 8 March to 1 April 1979 - Visit by His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales
7. 12 to 28 April 1981 - Visit by His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales
8. 20 March to 17 April 1983 - Royal Visit by Their Royal Highnesses The Prince and Princess of Wales
9. 27 October to 8 November 1985 - Royal Visit by Their Royal Highnesses The Prince and Princess of Wales

10. 25 January to 3 February 1988 - Royal Visit by Their Royal Highnesses The Prince and Princess of Wales
11. 24 January to 5 February 1994 - Visit by His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales
12. 28 February to 5 March 2005 - Visit by His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales
13. 5 to 10 November 2012 - Visit by His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales and Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cornwall
14. 10 to 15 November 2015 – Royal Visit by His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales and Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cornwall
15. 2 to 10 April 2018 – Royal Visit by His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales and Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Cornwall

Accession and Coronation

Accession

- Accession describes the event of a new Sovereign taking the throne upon the death of the previous King or Queen.
- The accession of a new Sovereign is automatic.
- The King acceded to the throne on 8 September 2022.

Coronation

- The Coronation of a new Sovereign follows some months after his or her accession, following a period of mourning.
- The Coronation is centred around a religious ceremony, and has remained largely unchanged for over a thousand years.
- Further information about the history of the Coronation can be viewed on the [Royal website](#).

What is the role of the Governor-General following the Coronation?

- The Governor-General's role does not change.
- The Governor-General is His Majesty The King's representative in Australia.

The Commonwealth

- There are 56 members of the Commonwealth today, being its 15 realms and 41 other countries.
- The 15 Commonwealth Realms are:
 1. Antigua and Barbuda
 2. Australia
 3. The Bahamas
 4. Belize
 5. Canada
 6. Grenada
 7. Jamaica
 8. New Zealand
 9. Papua New Guinea
 10. Saint Christopher and Nevis
 11. Saint Lucia
 12. Saint Vincent and The Grenadines
 13. Solomon Islands
 14. Tuvalu
 15. United Kingdom
- The 41 additional countries are:

- **Africa:** 1. Botswana, 2. Cameroon, 3. Gabon, 4. The Gambia, 5. Ghana, 6. Kenya, 7. Kingdom of Eswatini, 8. Lesotho, 9. Malawi, 10. Mauritius, 11. Mozambique, 12. Namibia, 13. Nigeria, 14. Rwanda, 15. Seychelles, 16. Sierra Leone, 17. South Africa, 18. Togo, 19. Uganda, 20. United Republic of Tanzania, 21. Zambia.
- **Asia:** 22. Bangladesh, 23. Brunei Darussalam, 24. India, 25. Malaysia, 26. Maldives, 27. Pakistan, 28. Singapore, 29. Sri Lanka.
- **Caribbean and Americas:** 30. Dominica, 31. Guyana, 32. Trinidad and Tobago, 33. Barbados.
- **Europe:** 34. Cyprus, 35. Malta.
- **Pacific:** 36. Fiji, 37. Kiribati, 38. Nauru, 39. Samoa, 40. Tonga, 41. Vanuatu.

Australian charities and associations with a patronage from The King

- **Australian Wildlife Conservancy**
Website: <https://www.australianwildlife.org>
Dedicated to the conservation of Australia's threatened wildlife and ecosystems
- **Marine Rescue New South Wales**
Website: <https://www.marinerescuensw.com.au>
Provides coastguard services in Australia.
- **The Australian Music Foundation**
Website: <https://www.australianmusicfoundation.com>
Provides support for outstanding young Australian musicians.
- **The Australian Stock Horse Society**
Website: <https://www.ashs.com.au>
Aims to preserve and promote the bloodlines of the Australian stock horse.
- **The Australian Stockman's Hall of Fame and Outback Heritage Centre**
Website: <https://www.outbackheritage.com.au>
Heritage centre aiming to record the fast-disappearing culture and history of rural Australia.
- **The Geelong Grammar Foundation**
Alumni organisation for former pupils of Geelong Grammar, Australia
- **The Prince Charles Hospital Foundation**
Raises research funds for the Prince Charles Hospital in Brisbane, Queensland.
- **The Prince's Trust Australia**
Website: <https://www.princes-trust.org.au>
Supports the development and delivery of projects in Australia aligned with the charitable interests of The Prince of Wales as part of The Prince's Trust Group
- **The Returned & Services League of Australia**
Website: <https://www.rsl.org.au>
Provides advocacy and welfare services for serving and ex-service Defence Force members.
- **The Royal Australasian College of Surgeons**
Website: <https://www.surgeons.org>
Professional body providing surgical education, training, professional development and support.
- **The Royal Australian Armoured Corps**
Website: <https://www.defence.gov.au/Army>
Unit of the Australian Army.
- **The Royal Automobile Club of Victoria**

Website: <https://racv.com.au>




Members club in Victoria, Australia

- **The Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia, Friends in the United Kingdom**
Raises funds for Australia's flying doctor service.
- **Variety Australia**
Website: <https://www.varietyaustralia.org.au>
Raise funds for sick, disadvantaged and disabled children in Australia.

*Source: <https://www.royal.uk/charities-and-patronages>

COMMUNICATIONS

Emoji and Hashtags

Australia	UK	Hashtags
		 Twitter Official hashtags
AU	GB	#Coronation #CoronationConcert #TheBigHelpout #CoronationWeekend #CoronationBigLunch

Channels

PM&C	Australia.gov
Twitter: @pmc_gov_au	Twitter: @ausgov
Facebook: @DepartmentofthePrimeMinisterandCabinet	Facebook: @AustralianGovernment
LinkedIn: @DepartmentofthePrimeMinisterandCabinet	Instagram: @ausgov
Website: www.pmc.gov.au	

Timing

Date	Content focus	Channel
28 April	Domestic events	All
1 May	The King and Australia	PM&C: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LinkedIn - Facebook - Twitter AusGov: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Twitter News article on PM&C website

3 May	The Coronation process	PM&C: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LinkedIn - Facebook - Twitter News article on PM&C website
6 May	Coverage of the Coronation	All
7 May	Domestic celebrations	All
8 May	Wrap up and highlights	All