



# Significant Dates

## Survival Day

**26 JANUARY**

This is a celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and peoples. Events are held all around Australia showcasing different aspects of culture including dance, literature, music, food, language and history.

## National Apology Day

**13 FEBRUARY**

To mark the anniversary of the formal apology by the Parliament of Australia to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, particularly the Stolen Generations, for past injustices.

## Harmony Day

**21 MARCH**

This is a day of cultural respect for everyone that calls Australia home. The purpose is to promote belonging and cultural diversity, and to reaffirm Australia as an inclusive nation.

## National Close the Gap Day

**20 MARCH**

This is the annual event held to raise awareness about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health crisis in Australia, and promote equality in life expectancy and health status between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people.

## National Sorry Day

**26 MAY**

On Sorry Day thousands of Australians from all walks of life participate in memorial services, commemorative meetings, survival celebrations and community gatherings to honour and commemorate the Stolen Generations.

## National Reconciliation Week

**27 MAY - 3 JUNE**

This week commemorates two significant milestones in the Reconciliation Journey - the anniversaries of the successful 1967 Referendum and the High Court Mabo Decision. It is a time to celebrate and learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements, and explore how each of us can contribute to the national Reconciliation effort.

## Mabo Day

**3 JUNE**

This marks the anniversary of the High Court's historic decision, led by Eddie Koiki Mabo, which overturned the legal fiction of *terra nullius* and recognised Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the original custodians of this land.

## Coming of the Light

**1 JULY**

The anniversary of the day the London Missionary Society arrived in the Torres Strait for the first time. Torres Strait Islander people mark this day by holding cultural ceremonies.

## National NAIDOC Week

**6 - 13 JULY**

NAIDOC stands for National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee. Held from the first Sunday to the second Sunday in July, this week celebrates the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

## National Aboriginal + Torres Strait Islander Children's Day

**4 AUGUST**

This is a day to reflect on the human rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children: their right to be educated, cared for, protected, and to have the opportunity to understand and practise their culture.

## International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples

**9 AUGUST**

This day affirms the importance of protecting and promoting the rights of Indigenous peoples all around the world. It also celebrates their unique contributions and diverse, rich cultures.