



## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Inclusion Hub

### Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Dates of Significance

Survival Day	26th January	Celebrates the survival of First Nations people since British colonisation in 1788. Survival Day concert first held in 1992 and is now celebrated across the nation. Also recognised as Invasion Day.
Anniversary date of the National Apology to Stolen Generation Survivors	13th February	This is a significant event for survivors of the Stolen Generations, their families and communities across the nation. <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RThkO3XBThs">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RThkO3XBThs</a>
National Close the Gap Day	16 <sup>th</sup> March	All Australian governments are working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, their communities, organisations, and businesses to implement the new National Agreement on Closing the Gap at the national, state and territory, and local levels. <a href="https://www.closingthegap.gov.au/national-agreement">https://www.closingthegap.gov.au/national-agreement</a>
Harmony Day	21 <sup>st</sup> March	Harmony Day is celebrated annually on 21 March in Australia. Harmony Day began in 1999, coinciding with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.
National Sorry Day	26 <sup>th</sup> May	The first National Sorry Day was held on 26 May 1998, one year after the <b>Bringing Them Home report</b> was tabled in Parliament. The Bringing Them Home report is a result of a Government Inquiry into the past policies which caused children to be removed from their families and communities in the 20th century.
National Reconciliation Week	27 <sup>th</sup> May – 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures, and achievements, and to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation in Australia. The dates for NRW remain the same each year; 27 May to 3 June. These dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey— the successful 1967 referendum, and the High Court Mabo decision respectively.

		<a href="https://www.reconciliation.org.au/our-work/national-reconciliation-week/">https://www.reconciliation.org.au/our-work/national-reconciliation-week/</a>
1967 Referendum	27 <sup>th</sup> May	The 1967 Referendum sought to change two sections of the Constitution in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. 90.77 per cent of Australian voters voted 'Yes' to the changes.
Mabo Day	3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Mabo Day is marked annually on 3 June. It commemorates Mer Island man Eddie Koiki Mabo and his successful efforts to overturn the legal fiction of terra nullius, or 'land belonging to no-one'.
Coming of the Light	1 <sup>st</sup> July	The Coming of the Light is a holiday celebrated by Torres Strait Islanders on 1 July each year. It recognises the adoption of Christianity through island communities during the late nineteenth century.
Naidoc Week	Beginning of July	NAIDOC Week celebrations are held across Australia each July to celebrate the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. <a href="https://www.naidoc.org.au/">https://www.naidoc.org.au/</a>
National Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Children's Day	4 <sup>th</sup> August	On or around 4 August, all Australians have the opportunity to show their support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, as well as learn about the crucial impact that culture, family and community play in the life of every Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander child. <a href="https://www.aboriginalchildrensday.com.au/">https://www.aboriginalchildrensday.com.au/</a>
International Day of the World's Indigenous People	9 <sup>th</sup> August	Indigenous peoples are the holders of a vast diversity of unique cultures, traditions, languages and knowledge systems. They have a special relationship with their lands and hold diverse concepts of development based on their own worldviews and priorities. <a href="https://www.un.org/en/observances/indigenous-day">https://www.un.org/en/observances/indigenous-day</a>
Indigenous Literacy Day	1 <sup>st</sup> September	Celebrating stories and language. <a href="https://www.ild.org.au/">https://www.ild.org.au/</a>
The Voice Referendum	14th October 2023	The voice referendum was a proposal to the Australian people to:  1.To recognise Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Peoples of Australia.

		<p>2.Establish a body that would be called the Aboriginal &amp; Torres Strait Islander Voice.</p> <p>3.The Voice would be an advisory to Government on matters relating to Aboriginal &amp; Torres Strait Islander people and;</p> <p>4.Alter the constitution to include the Voice.</p> <p>The referendum did not pass. 60.36% of Australia voted no to this proposal.</p> <p><a href="https://www.aec.gov.au/">https://www.aec.gov.au/</a></p>
Anniversary of Uluru handback	26 Oct	<p>Uluru is sacred to Anangu people. It is central to their Dreaming stories and Lore (Tjukurpa). Anangu people lobbied for the return of their ancestral lands for decades. The Uluru handback took place at the base of Uluru on October 26 1985. Hundreds of First Nations and non-Indigenous people looked on as the Governor-General passed over the title deeds for Uluru-Kata Tjuta to Anangu people. The Uluru climb was closed permanently on October 26 2019, on the 34th anniversary of the handback.</p>