



# First Nations calendar of significant dates 2026

## JANUARY

- 1: Native Title proclaimed [1993]
- 26: Australia Day, Invasion Day, Survival Day, Tent Embassy established in Canberra [1972]

## APRIL

- 1: Resistance leader Jandamarra killed in WA [1897]
- 15: Aboriginal Deaths in Custody Royal Commission Report [1991]

## JULY

- 1: Coming of the Light – Torres Strait Islands
- 2: Evonne Goolagong-Cawley wins Wimbledon [1971]
- 5 – 12: NAIDOC Week 2026
- 8: Discriminatory Native Title amendments passed [1998]
- 12: Aboriginal flag first flown [1971]
- 14: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags proclaimed as Flags of Australia [1996]
- 23: Walk for Reconciliation, Hobart [2000]

## OCTOBER

- 12: First Sea of Hands, Canberra [1997]
- 26: Uluru returned to Traditional Owners [1985]
- 28: Pinjarra Massacre, WA [1834]

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## FEBRUARY

- 6: Tent Embassy Petition to Parliament [1972]
- 8: Woodward Land Rights Inquiry [1973]
- 12: Freedom Ride bus left Sydney [1965]
- 13: Anniversary of the National Apology [2008]

## MAY

- 1: Pilbara Aboriginal Stockmen's Strike [1946]
- 8: Wik 10-Point-Plan announced [1997]
- 26: National Sorry Day/Uluru Statement from the Heart made by First Nations leaders [2017]
- 27: 1967 Referendum/National Reconciliation Convention [1997]
- 27 – 3 Jun: National Reconciliation Week
- 28: Walk for Reconciliation, Sydney [2000]
- 29: Torres Strait Islander flag launched [1992]
- 30: Tiwi people receive title to Tiwi Islands [1980]

## AUGUST

- 4: National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Childrens' Day
- 9: International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples
- 14: Bark Petition from Yirrkala to Parliament [1963]
- 15 – 31: Coniston Massacre, NT [1928]
- 16: Return of Land to Gurindji, NT [1975]
- 18: Tiwi Land Council established [1978]
- 23: Gurindji walk-off, NT [1966]

## NOVEMBER

- 19: Palm Island death in custody event [2004]
- 29: Pope John Paul II addresses Aboriginal people in Alice Springs [1986]

## MARCH

- 5: ATSIC established [1990]
- 19: Close the Gap Day 2026
- 20: Anniversary of Close the Gap Statement of Intent on Indigenous Health Equality signing [2008]
- 24: ATSIC abolished [2005]

## JUNE

- 3: High Court Mabo decision [1992]
- 4: Walk for Reconciliation, Brisbane [2000]
- 10: Myall Creek Massacre, NSW [1838]/Palm Island Strike [1957]
- 11: Racial Discrimination Act Takes effect [1975]/Barunga statement presented to Prime Minister Hawke [1988]

## SEPTEMBER

- 1: Sea of Hands, Uluru [1998]
- 2: Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation est. [1991]/Indigenous Literacy Day 2026
- 13: Anniversary of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People [2007]
- 25: Cathy Freeman's Olympic Gold Medal [2000]
- 28: John Pat dies in police custody [1983]

## DECEMBER

- 3: Walk for Reconciliation in Melbourne and Perth [2000]
- 4: Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation Final Report [2000]
- 16: Aboriginal Land Rights (NT) Act passed [1976]
- 23: High Court Wik Native Title decision [1996]



Artwork: Taleah Stirling-Gutt  
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