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Holidays and public holidays

Holidays and public holidays in Australia

When are Australians on holiday?

Holiday (EN)	Holiday (AU)	2026	2027	2028
New Year's Day	New Year's Day	Thu 1 Jan	Fri 1 Jan	Sat 1 Jan
Australia Day	Australia Day	Mon 26 Jan	Tue 26 Jan	Wed 26 Jan
Good Friday	Good Friday	Fri 3 Apr	Fri 26 Mar	Fri 15 Mar
Easter Saturday	Day after Good Friday	Sat 4 Apr	Sat 27 Mar	Sat 16 Mar
Easter Sunday	Easter Sunday	Sun 5 Apr	Sun 28 Mar	Sun 17 Mar
Easter Monday	Easter Monday	Mon 6 Apr	Mon 29 Mar	Mon 18 Mar
Anzac Day	Anzac Day	Sat 25 Apr	Sun 25 Apr	Tue 25 Apr
King's Birthday*	King's Birthday	Mon 8 Jun	Mon 14 Jun	Mon 12 Jun
Labour Day**	Labour Day (varies by state)	Dates vary	Dates vary	Dates vary
Christmas Day	Christmas Day	Fri 25 Dec	Sat 25 Dec	Mon 25 Dec
Boxing Day	Boxing Day	Sat 26 Dec	Sun 26 Dec	Tue 26 Dec

5 Itineraries Around Australian Public Holidays

1. Australia Day (26 January) – <u>Sydney</u> & Coastal NSW

- Why go: Sydney Harbour is alive with ferries, tall ships, concerts, and fireworks. It's one of the most iconic days to experience Australian culture.
- Itinerary idea: Pick up your campervan in <u>Sydney</u>, enjoy the festivities, then drive south along the Grand Pacific Drive toward Jervis Bay for beaches and national parks.
- Tip: Book campsites early this is peak summer holiday season.

2.

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Easter (March/April, dates vary) - Great Ocean Road & Grampians

- Why go: Easter is a long weekend, so locals head out of the cities. The Great Ocean Road is stunning in early autumn, with cooler weather and fewer international tourists.
- Itinerary idea: Start in Melbourne, drive the Great Ocean Road, then loop inland to the Grampians for hiking and wildlife.
- Tip: Roads and campsites can be crowded travel just before or after Easter for a quieter experience.

ANZAC Day (25 April) - Canberra & Snowy Mountains

- Why go: Sydney hosts one of the largest ANZAC Day dawn services and parades in the country.
- Itinerary idea: Attend the dawn service in Sydney, then head west to the Blue Mountains for crisp autumn hikes.
- Tip: Secure campsites near Sydney early, as demand spikes.

King's Birthday (June, varies by state) – Red Centre Adventure

- Why go: This long weekend is the unofficial start of the winter travel season in the Outback, with cooler days perfect
 for exploring.
- Itinerary idea: Fly into Alice Springs, rent a motorhome, and explore Uluru, Kata Tjuta, and Kings Canyon.
- Tip: In WA and QLD the holiday falls later in the year, so check dates if you want to avoid local crowds.

Christmas & New Year (25 Dec - 1 Jan) - Tropical North Queensland

- Why go: While southern cities are packed, heading north offers a different festive experience with reef trips, rainforests, and warm evenings.
- Itinerary idea: Base yourself in <u>Cairns</u>, explore the Great Barrier Reef and Daintree Rainforest, then take a coastal drive north to Cape Tribulation.
- Tip: Expect higher prices and limited availability book motorhomes and campsites months in advance.

School Holidays in Australia

School holidays in Australia are divided into **four main periods** each year, but the exact dates vary slightly depending on the state or territory. These breaks are peak travel times, and tourist sites, campgrounds, and holiday parks are often very busy. **We recommend booking your motorhome or campervan** — **as well as campsites** — **well in advance.**

School Holidays by State & Territory

- Australian Capital Territory (ACT, including Canberra) Autumn: mid?April Winter: early—mid July Spring: late September—mid October • Summer: mid?December—late January
- New South Wales (NSW) Autumn: mid?April Winter: early-mid July Spring: late September-mid October Summer: mid?December-late January
- Northern Territory (NT) Autumn: early-mid April Winter: late June-mid July Spring: late September-mid October Summer: mid?December-late January
- Queensland (QLD) Autumn: early-mid April Winter: late June-mid July Spring: mid?September-early October Summer: mid?December-late January
- South Australia (SA) Autumn: mid?April Winter: early-mid July Spring: late September-mid October Summer: mid?December-late January
- Tasmania (TAS) Autumn: early-mid April Winter: early-mid July Spring: late September-mid October Summer: mid?December-early February
- Victoria (VIC) Autumn: late March-mid April Winter: late June-mid July Spring: mid?September-early October Summer: mid?December-late January
- Western Australia (WA) Autumn: mid?April Winter: early-mid July Spring: late September-mid October Summer: mid?December-late January