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.

**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 Islanders mark this day by holding cultural ceremonies.

**National 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.

**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.

**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.

**International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples**
9 AUGUST
This day affirms the importance of protesting and promoting the rights of Indigenous peoples all around the world. It also celebrates their unique contributions and diverse, rich cultures.

**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.