

2026

First Nations Calendar

January

1 Jan 1994	Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) commenced
25 Jan 2014	Adam Goodes named Australian of the Year
26 Jan 1838	Waterloo Creek massacre (Kamilaroi people, NSW)
26 Jan 1938	William Cooper organises Day of Mourning
26 Jan 1972	Aboriginal Tent Embassy established in Canberra
26 Jan 1988	Bicentennial Protest – 40,000 march in Sydney
26 Jan	Survival Day, Invasion Day, Australia Day, Yabun Festival

February

5 Feb 1972	Tent Embassy Petition to Parliament
12 Feb 1965	Freedom Ride bus leaves Sydney
13 Feb 2008	Anniversary of the National Apology to the Stolen Generations
14 Feb 2004	TJ Hickey dies, sparking Redfern riots
26 Feb 1968	Lionel Rose wins World Bantamweight Title

March

19 Mar	National Close the Gap Day (3rd Thursday of March)
21 Mar	International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
21 Mar 1829	Aboriginal warrior Windradyne dies (Bathurst, NSW)

April

1 Apr 1897	Aboriginal resistance leader Jandamarra killed (WA)
5 Apr 1997	Bringing them home report launched
15 Apr 1991	Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody final report
17 Apr 1816	Appin Massacre of men, women and children (Dharawal people)

May

1 May 1838	Slaughterhouse Creek massacre (Kamilaroi people)
1 May 1946	Anniversary of the Pilbara Strike
24 May 2020	Destruction of Juukan Gorge rock shelters by Rio Tinto
26 May 1997	Bringing them home report tabled in Federal Parliament
26 May	National Sorry Day
26 May 2017	Uluru Statement of the Heart issued
27 May 1967	Referendum on Indigenous recognition in the Australian constitution
27 May – 3 Jun	National Reconciliation Week
28 May 2000	Reconciliation Walk over Harbour Bridge (250,000 attend)
29 May 1992	Torres Strait Islander flag launched

June

3 Jun	Mabo Day (High Court Mabo Decision 1992)
5 Jun 1831	Resistance warrior Tarenorerer (Walyer) dies (Tas)
10 Jun 1838	Myall Creek Massacre
10 Jun 1957	Palm Island Strike
11 Jun 1975	Racial Discrimination Act 1975 (Cth) enacted
12 Jun 1988	Burunga Statement presented to Prime Minister Bob Hawke

July

1 Jul	The Coming of the Light festival (Torres Strait Islands)
2 Jul 1971	Evonne Goolagong-Cawley wins Wimbledon
5-12 Jul	NAIDOC Week 2026
9 Jul 1971	Aboriginal flag first flown in Adelaide

August

4 Aug	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day
9 Aug	International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples
14 & 28 Aug 1963	Yirrkalá Bark Petitions presented to Parliament
14 Aug – 18 Oct 1928	Coniston Massacre on Warlpiri/Anmatyerr/Kaytetye lands
15 Aug 1971	Neville Bonner becomes first Aboriginal person in Parliament
16 Aug 1975	Return of Gurindji land to the traditional owners (NT)
23 Aug 1966	Wave Hill Walk-Off (Gurindji Strike)
25 Aug 1994	Prime Minister Paul Keating officially recognises South Sea Islanders as a distinct cultural group.

September

2 Sep	Indigenous Literacy Day
13 Sep 2007	Anniversary of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People
16 Sep 1963	Indigenous activists and their allies persuaded the ACTU to adopt a policy supporting equal pay for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workers
25 Sep 2000	Cathy Freeman wins gold in the 400m final at the Sydney Olympic Games.

October

14 Oct 2023	Voice to Parliament referendum
26 Oct 1985	Uluru-Kata Tjuta title deeds returned to the Anangu people
28 Oct 1834	Pinjarra Massacre (WA)
31 Oct 1975	Proclamation of the Racial Discrimination Act

November

19 Nov 2004	Cameron Doomadgee dies in custody (Palm Island)
28 Nov 2023	Senator Pat Dodson ("Father of Reconciliation") retires from Parliament

December

1 Dec 1976	Sir Douglas Ralph Nicholls appointed Governor of South Australia
4 Dec 2000	Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation Final Report released
10 Dec 1992	Redfern Park Speech delivered by Prime Minister Paul Keating
12 Dec 2025	Commencement of Australia's first Treaty in Victoria
16 Dec 1976	Aboriginal Land Rights (NT) Act passed
23 Dec 1996	High Court handed down Wik Peoples v Queensland decision



Artwork credit: **Women Dreaming**

This painting is about women hunting. They are hunting for bush foods. Women are hunting around the waterholes, so they can look for witchety grubs, bush berries, bush onions and bush plums. Painting: April Campbell Language: Anmatyerr Community: Ti Tree Date: 5/11/2018