

# Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander QLS Cultural Calendar 2021

## JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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## FEBRUARY

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## MARCH

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## APRIL

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## MAY

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## JUNE

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## SEPTEMBER

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## OCTOBER

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## NOVEMBER

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## DECEMBER

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## KEY CULTURAL DATES

13 February	National Apology Anniversary
18 March	National Close the Gap Day
21 March	National Harmony Day
26 May	National Sorry Day
27 May	Anniversary of the 1967 Referendum
27 May-3 June	National Reconciliation Week
3 June	MABO Day
1 July	First Nations Cultural Outreach Strategy 2020-25
1 July	Coming of the Light
4-11 July	National NAIDOC Week
4 August	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day
9 August	International Day of the World's Indigenous People
1 September	Indigenous Literacy Day
13 September	Anniversary of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People
October	Indigenous Business Month

<b>Booin Gari Festival (Come This Way)</b>	Started in 2008 in Tewantin, Sunshine Coast. The Murri gathering is a family day to celebrate local Indigenous culture and history through a range of creative events and performances. Source: <a href="http://www.creativespirits.info/aboriginalculture/arts/aboriginal-cultural-festivals#toc2">www.creativespirits.info/aboriginalculture/arts/aboriginal-cultural-festivals#toc2</a>
<b>Cairns Indigenous Art Fair (CIAF) 10-14 July</b>	Started in 2009 and goes for 3 days in July. It features dance, music, fashion parades, dramatic performances, workshops and artists' talks. Web: <a href="http://www.ciaf.com.au">www.ciaf.com.au</a> Source: <a href="http://www.creativespirits.info/aboriginalculture/arts/aboriginal-cultural-festivals#toc2">www.creativespirits.info/aboriginalculture/arts/aboriginal-cultural-festivals#toc2</a>
<b>Clancestry</b>	Celebrates arts and cultures of the world's First Nations Peoples with a focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Scheduled in February or October, the festival started in 2013 and is hosted by the Queensland Performing Arts Centre. Web: <a href="http://www.ticketing.qpac.com.au/clancestry">www.ticketing.qpac.com.au/clancestry</a> Source: <a href="http://www.creativespirits.info/aboriginalculture/arts/aboriginal-cultural-festivals#toc2">www.creativespirits.info/aboriginalculture/arts/aboriginal-cultural-festivals#toc2</a>
<b>Cully Fest 13-14 October</b>	In Cunnamulla, south-west QLD, in 2016 but changes venues. Cully Fest is a 3-day outback and Aboriginal cultural festival that offers traditional Aboriginal dance and language, bush yarns, didgeridoo making and other workshops including song writing and ukulele, a cabaret with bush tucker dinner, a school excursion program, National Finals Rodeo and headline musical acts. Web: <a href="http://www.cullyfest.com">www.cullyfest.com</a> Source: <a href="http://www.creativespirits.info/aboriginalculture/arts/aboriginal-cultural-festivals#toc2">www.creativespirits.info/aboriginalculture/arts/aboriginal-cultural-festivals#toc2</a>
<b>Cultural Fest</b>	Despite the simple name this festival is held in Townsville since 1994. It is believed to be the biggest of its kind in Australia. Source: <a href="http://www.creativespirits.info/aboriginalculture/arts/aboriginal-cultural-festivals#toc2">www.creativespirits.info/aboriginalculture/arts/aboriginal-cultural-festivals#toc2</a>
<b>Dreaming Festival</b>	Woodford (one hour north of Brisbane) is the largest Aboriginal cultural festival in Australia showcasing the wide variety of cultural expression. The festival started in 2004 and features performing arts venues, bars, Ceremony grounds, traditional healing, galleries, rituals, campfire story circles and a mass of stalls, workshop avenue and food outlets. Source: <a href="http://www.creativespirits.info/aboriginalculture/arts/aboriginal-cultural-festivals#toc2">www.creativespirits.info/aboriginalculture/arts/aboriginal-cultural-festivals#toc2</a>
<b>Laura Aboriginal Dance and Cultural Festival</b>	A biennial three-day gathering dedicated to celebrating local dance and arts from across the Cape York region (far north Queensland). During the festival elders pass on the stories and meaning behind the dances and songs to the next generation. The festival was first celebrated in 1994. Source: <a href="http://www.anggnarra.org.au">www.anggnarra.org.au</a>   +61 418 757 888   <a href="mailto:lovejayproductions@gmail.com">lovejayproductions@gmail.com</a>
<b>Lockhart Festival</b>	A 4-day dance festival organised by the Aboriginal community of Lockhart River on the far north Queensland coast. Over 100 dancers from 8 tribal groups in Arnhem Land, Cape York, fly into Lockhart by light plane: far away from their homelands, many of the dancers are meeting other tribal groups for the first time, and new relationships are forged between communities. Source: <a href="http://www.creativespirits.info/aboriginalculture/arts/aboriginal-cultural-festivals#toc2">www.creativespirits.info/aboriginalculture/arts/aboriginal-cultural-festivals#toc2</a>
<b>Quandamooka Festival</b>	A full 3 month festival (June to August), includes traditional performances, dance, music and cultural tours and much more. See the following website when the 2021 festival is available. Source: <a href="http://www.quandamookafestival.com.au">www.quandamookafestival.com.au</a>
<b>Bunya Festival</b>	A 2 day festival with traditional dance and traditional methods of cooking with bush foods (Bunya nuts). This is a festival of coming together of sharing and learning in the Aboriginal context. Check the website to see if there is a 2021 event available. Source: <a href="http://www.cicadawoman.weebly.com/bunya-festival-2019.html">www.cicadawoman.weebly.com/bunya-festival-2019.html</a>
<b>Frontier Festival</b>	The Gulf Country Frontier Days Festival is overflowing with Country and Western and Indigenous culture. By day, all eyes are on the ring for the National Indigenous Rodeo Championships. By night, First Nations performers and musicians from around the world take to the stage. A true celebration of the diversity of culture with the "Kabarrjibi Wangkijibi Spectacular" – The Coming Together of Nations, taking centre stage for a 3 day event during August, refer to the website for more information. Source: <a href="http://www.queensland.com/au/en/things-to-do/events/arts-and-culture/indigenous-events-queensland.html">www.queensland.com/au/en/things-to-do/events/arts-and-culture/indigenous-events-queensland.html</a>
<b>Winds of Zenadth festival</b>	ZENADTH Celebrating diversity through dance Sharing "Zenadth Kes" – the Torres Strait Islands. A unity festival. "Winds of Zenadth" is an all-islands festival celebrating a proud living culture with ancient roots, originally Melanesian. It is one of the biggest celebrations of Indigenous culture in the region. Visitors can witness the unique nature of Torres Strait Islander culture at the place where Indigenous islanders gather to practice, revitalise and preserve the language, art and ceremonies of Zenadth Kes. Experience a diverse Indigenous island festival with every island represented through dance and culture. Winds of Zenadth is a bi-annual event, next held in 2022 on Thursday Island. Source: <a href="http://www.queensland.com/au/en/things-to-do/events/arts-and-culture/indigenous-events-queensland.html">www.queensland.com/au/en/things-to-do/events/arts-and-culture/indigenous-events-queensland.html</a>
<b>NPA Cultural Festival</b>	Five times the Flame of Culture will call a gathering of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities at Injinoo, Umagico, Seisia, New Mapoon and Bamaga. The carved fire torch is lit to signify peace, unity and the flame of culture. It travels across country to Bamaga for a 2-day celebration. Experience the different dance, art, food and crafts of two Indigenous nations, with traditional carving workshops and cultural walkabouts to ancient sites of the Northern Peninsula. See website for information of 2021 details. Source: <a href="http://www.capeyorkaustralia.com/npa-cultural-festival.html">www.capeyorkaustralia.com/npa-cultural-festival.html</a>

For more useful links please visit: [tourism.tropicalnorthqueensland.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/TTNQ-Indigenous-Experiences-Brochure-All-Product-web.pdf](http://tourism.tropicalnorthqueensland.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/TTNQ-Indigenous-Experiences-Brochure-All-Product-web.pdf) OR; [queensland.com/au/en/things-to-do/events/arts-and-culture/indigenous-events-queensland.html](http://queensland.com/au/en/things-to-do/events/arts-and-culture/indigenous-events-queensland.html)