



FACT SHEET

2021 Public Holidays

Updated: August 2021
Replaces: November 2020

The *Holidays Act 1983* (the 'Act') is Queensland legislation that legislates public holidays in Queensland. The confirmed public holidays to be observed in Queensland in 2021 are as follows:

New Year's Day	Friday, 1 January
Australia Day+	Tuesday, 26 January
Good Friday	Friday, 2 April
Easter Saturday*	Saturday, 3 April
Easter Sunday**	Sunday, 4 April
Easter Monday	Monday, 5 April
Anzac Day++	Monday, 26 April
Labour Day***	Monday, 3 May
Queen's Birthday***	Monday, 4 October
RNA Show [▽] (<i>Brisbane, Moreton Bay and Scenic Rim</i>)	Friday, 29 October
Christmas Eve**** (<i>6pm to Midnight only</i>)	Friday, 24 December
Christmas Day*****	Saturday, 25 December AND Monday, 27 December
Boxing Day*****	Sunday, 26 December AND Tuesday 28 December

GUIDE

- + When Australia Day falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the Monday after that is recognised as the public holiday.
- * Known as 'The day after Good Friday' in the Act.
- ** On 9 December 2016, the Queensland Government passed the *Industrial Relations Bill 2016* to amend the Act to include Easter Sunday as a public holiday.
- ++ When Anzac Day falls on a Sunday, the following Monday is observed as the public holiday. Sunday, 25 April is not a public holiday.

- *** On 13 October 2015 amendments to the Act were passed by Parliament prescribing that from 2016, the Labour Day public holiday is to be observed on the first Monday in May, and the Birthday of the Sovereign (Queen's Birthday) public holiday is to be observed on the first Monday in October.
- **** On 27 November 2019 amendments to the Act were passed by Parliament prescribing that from 2019, 6pm to Midnight on 24 December will be a part-day public holiday.
- ***** When Christmas Day or Boxing Day falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the Act provides for an extra public holiday to be added.
- ▼ Also referred to as the 'people's long weekend'; following the cancellation of the Royal Queensland Show due to COVID-19, the show public holidays for the Brisbane City Council area (11 August 2021), and the Moreton Bay and Scenic Rim Regional Council areas (9 August 2021) have been repealed, with Friday 29 October 2021 being appointed as an alternate public holiday for those areas.

REGIONAL SHOW HOLIDAYS

Other regional show holidays dates can be found on the Public Holidays page on the Queensland Government Justice and Attorney General website: <http://www.qld.gov.au/recreation/travel/holidays/show/>

Due to the number of show holidays in Queensland, they have not been listed in this Fact Sheet. Refer to the above link to determine the show day in your location.

GAZETTING OF PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Please note the Act no longer requires the Minister to Gazette standard public holidays, therefore the public holiday list on the first page may be subject to change.

PAYMENT FOR WORK AND OTHER ENTITLEMENTS ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Please contact the QHA if you have any questions about public holiday entitlements due to employees. The Employment Relations Department can assist with information on public holiday payments which may be owed to an employee when they work on a public holiday.

Additionally, depending on an employee's circumstances (such as whether a modern award or workplace agreement applies to their position, as well as their employment status i.e. casual or permanent, among other factors) they may be entitled to additional entitlements for a public holiday on which they were not required to work.

The Employment Relations Department has also produced a guide to entitlements on public holidays under the *Hospitality Industry (General) Award 2020* ('HIGA') which can also be provided upon request.

Further Assistance

Financial QHA members are encouraged to contact the QHA's Employment Relations Department (refer the contact details at the bottom of this page) for a confidential discussion about the information in this Fact Sheet, or to discuss any queries relating to specific workplace matters.

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