Qantas’ Reconciliation Journey

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and First People of Australia. We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

1770 Captain James Cook arrives and builds a settlement at Port Jackson in Sydney, New South Wales.

1788 Captain Cook enters Botany Bay on the Endeavour.

1801 Captain James Cook sails past Possession Island.

1802 Captain James Cook sails past Possession Island.

1803 The First Fleet arrives and builds a settlement at Port Jackson in Sydney, New South Wales.

1804 Captain James Cook sails past Possession Island.

1818 The High Court hands down the decision in New South Wales v. Woods. The High Court rules that Australia is terra nullius — land belonging to nobody.

1851 The Commonwealth Nationality and Citizenship Act gives the power to make laws for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples for the first time.

1901 Qantas, later known as Qantas Airways, is formed.

1948 Qantas introduces Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander school-based trainee.

1960 Based Traineeship program.

1962 Qantas signs a 10-year agreement with the Indigenous Marathon Foundation (IMF) to provide employment training.

1972 Qantas joins 13 Elevate RAP Program for contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander school-based trainee.

1975 Australia is the third organisation to launch Recognition of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the Constitution.

1984 Qantas signs a 10-year agreement with the IMF to provide employment training.

1990 Qantas signs a 10-year agreement with the IMF to provide employment training.

1991 Qantas signs a 10-year agreement with the IMF to provide employment training.

1994 Qantas signs a 10-year agreement with the IMF to provide employment training.


2000 Qantas introduces Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander school-based trainee.

2007 Qantas introduces Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander school-based trainee.

2008 This is the second ever Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander school-based trainee.


2013 Qantas joins the Indigenous Arts and Artists of Australia program.

2015 Qantas joins the Indigenous Arts and Artists of Australia program.

2016 Qantas joins the Indigenous Arts and Artists of Australia program.

2017 Qantas joins the Indigenous Arts and Artists of Australia program.

2018 Qantas joins the Indigenous Arts and Artists of Australia program.

2021 Qantas’ Reconciliation Journey