Factsheet 10.2



# **Visiting Parliament House**

#### Visiting the Queensland Parliament

Queensland's Parliament House is one of the state's most beautiful and historically significant buildings. The foundation stone for Parliament House was laid by Governor George Bowen in 1865, with the Parliament then first meeting there in 1868.

#### How to get to Parliament House

Parliament House is located at the corner of George and Alice Streets in the City and is within easy walking distance of the Brisbane CBD.

Public transport options include busses and the CityCat ferry that have stops located close to Parliament House. For example, the free 'City Loop' council bus service which circles the CBD has a stop on George Street, near the intersection with Alice Street that is across the road from Parliament House. A CityCat ferry terminal (the QUT Gardens Point terminal) is located at the rear of the precinct. If you are driving to Parliament House, there are numerous public car parking stations within the CBD nearby, but please note that public parking is not available at Parliament House.

#### Watching parliament live

On parliamentary sitting days, members of the public are welcome to sit in the public gallery of the Legislative Assembly and view the Parliament. Entry is via the George Street visitor entrance to Parliament House.

Dates when the parliament is scheduled to sit are published online at-parliament.qld. gov.au/sittingdates

#### General public tours - Monday to Friday

Parliamentary attendants conduct free guided tours for members of the public. The maximum tour group size is 15 persons and the tour takes approximately 30 minutes. No booking is required and these tours operate on Monday to Friday throughout the year except on public holidays. On days when the Parliament is not sitting, tours commence at the following times: 1pm; 2pm; 3pm and 4pm.

On days that the Parliament is sitting, one tour is available and this commences at 2pm.

All visitors for tours should enter the parliamentary precinct via the Parliamentary Annexe Building,





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located on Alice Street (opposite William Street). Tours commence from the visitor information area which is located on the ground floor, inside the Annexe Building. During the tour, visitors will see the foyer with grand staircase, Legislative Council (Red Chamber), the honour boards, the Queen Victoria leadlight window, the Legislative Assembly (Green Chamber), the Mace, and the Wind Yarn (the Parliament's didgeridoo)..

## Booked tours for schools and other groups

Tours of Parliament House are available for primary and secondary schools groups, and other approved groups. Bookings are essential for these tours, and can be made by phoning (07) 3553 6470. Teachers can book a tour of Parliament House for their class group online at- www.parliament.qld.gov.au/tours or by phoning the number above.

### Enjoy high tea at Parliament House

The Queensland Parliament holds high tea in the Strangers' Dining Room to which members of the public are welcome to book a seat or table. High teas are held throughout the year, with the dates and further details published at- www. parliament.qld.gov.au/explore/visitors/ high-tea

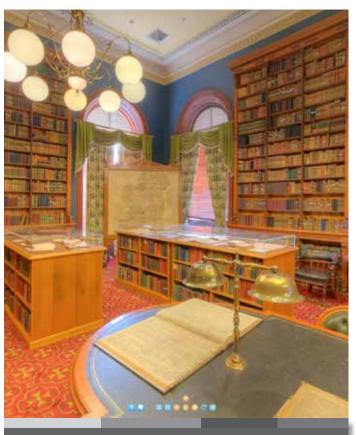
Attendees at each high tea are served a lovely selection of delicacies prepared by the parliament's chefs while taking in the beautiful surrounds of Parliament House.

Following the high tea, all guests are invited to undertake a guided tour of Parliament House that includes a visit to the heritage O'Donovan Library. The O'Donovan Library is a collection of 32,000 books and journals, covering subjects such as travel, geography and political science. These materials started being collated during the first Parliament in 1860.

Reservations for each high tea event are essential. To view dates or book, please visit our website here.

#### The gift shop

Parliament House has a gift shop located near the foyer entrance of the Parliamentary Annexe (Level 3). The gift shop carries an exclusive range of parliamentary souvenirs.



The O'Donovan Library, Parliament House Queensland.