

Programme Information Highlights

May 2016



Happening this month...

Tuesday 3rd May

Olympic Torch Relay, Brasilia, Brazil

The Olympic flame will embark on a 95-day tour around Brazil, visiting 83 cities and 500 towns. The relay will conclude on 5th August when the last torchbearer will light the Olympic cauldron during the Rio 2016 Opening Ceremony at the Maracanã Stadium.

Thursday 5th May

The Charlemagne Prize, Aachen, Germany

The oldest and best-known prize for work done in the service of European unification is this year awarded to Pope Francis.

Sunday 8th – Thursday 12th May

Invictus Games, Orlanda, Florida

Prince Harry will attend the international sporting event for wounded, ill and injured Service men and women – both active duty and veteran. Over 500 military competitors will take part in 10 sporting events.

Sunday 8th May

Victory in Europe Day (VE Day) 2016

71st anniversary of the end of World War Two in Europe.

Tuesday 10th May

One of the police officers involved in Freddie Gray's initial arrest, Edward M. Nero will be tried on this date. Freddie Gray died on 19th April 2015 from injuries sustained during police custody.

Wednesday 11th – Sunday 22nd May

Cannes Film Festival

The 69th Festival International du Film de Cannes will be presided over by Australian director, screenwriter and producer George Miller. The festival launches with a screening of Woody Allen's new film 'Café Society'.



CANNES, FRANCE - MAY 23: Mallika Sherawat attends the Premiere of 'Macbeth' during the 68th annual Cannes Film Festival on May 23, 2015 in Cannes, France. (Photo by Pascal Le Segretain/Getty Images)

Thursday 12th – Sunday 15th May

The Queen's 90th Birthday Celebration, Windsor Castle

Visitors can expect to enjoy a spectacular programme of music, song, dance and equestrian displays in the private grounds of the castle. Each evening the event will be attended by a member of The Royal Family, with HM The Queen attending on the final evening. The participants will reflect The Queen's private and public interests. Performers will come from a number of countries including Oman, Chile, New Zealand, Canada, Fiji, Australia, Azerbaijan and the UK.

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Saturday 14th May

Eurovision Song Contest Final, Stockholm, Sweden

The Grand Final of the 61st edition of the Eurovision Song Contest will take place at Stockholm's Globe Arena. The competition is one of the longest running television shows in the world and a typical European tradition.

Monday 23rd – Tuesday 24th May

World Humanitarian Summit, Istanbul, Turkey

The summit is a call to action by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon to reduce human loss and suffering from crises. The summit will bring together Heads of State and Government, humanitarian organisations, people affected by humanitarian crises and the private sector to propose solutions to the world's most pressing challenges.

Thursday 26th May

G7 Summit, Ise-Shima, Japan

Head of state and government officials from the Group of Seven will focus on key global challenges and opportunities. The main agenda for the summit covers the global economy and trade, foreign policy, climate change and energy, development, health and women.

Saturday 28th May

UEFA 2016 Champions League Final, Milan, Italy

Milan's Stadio Giuseppe Meazza – otherwise known as San Siro - will host the final. It will be the fourth time the European Cup has been decided at the stadium after 1965, 1970 and 2001. The arena is home to both AC Milan and Internazionale Milano.

Sunday 29th May

Centenary of Battle of Verdun

Verdun was one of deadliest conflicts of the Great War. It was fought between France and Germany. It was also the longest battle of World War One, lasting 300 days. 800,000 soldiers were left dead, wounded or missing. At the end of the bloodshed, France emerged as the victor.



EIBAR, SPAIN - MARCH 06: Lionel Messi of FC Barcelona reacts during the La Liga match between SD Eibar and FC Barcelona at Ipurua Municipal Stadium on March 6, 2016 in Eibar, Spain. (Photo by Juan Manuel Serrano Arce/Getty Images)

Tuesday 31st May

The tax trial of Argentine footballer Lionel Messi and his father takes place at a court in Barcelona. Messi and his father Jorge have been charged with tax fraud for allegedly failing to declare around £3.2 million in taxes related to his image rights between 2007 and 2009 through companies in Belize and Uruguay. Both men deny the charges. If convicted, it is unlikely either man will go to prison as sentences of less than two years are usually suspended for first offences in Spain.