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EXPLORE PARLIAMENT THESE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS WITH FREE GUIDED TOURS FOR VISITORS

The Parliament of NSW has opened its doors this January offering families a behind-the-scenes glimpse into the workings of democracy at Australia's oldest parliament.

With beautifully restored chambers, the Parliament of NSW is excited to offer a free and family-friendly journey through the precinct's history dating back to 1816. From the intricately hand-carved Speaker's Chair to the prefabricated cast-iron structure that make up the inner structure of the Legislative Council chamber, there's a multitude of stories waiting for families to discover.

Free guided tours are offered every weekday in January at 11.30am and 1.30pm running for about an hour. You can [book your tour online](#) or simply show up on the day to learn first-hand about the history and work of the parliament.

In a feature article in [The Sunday Telegraph](#) this month, showcasing the favourite buildings of prominent Sydneysiders, former radio presenter Ray Hadley named NSW Parliament House as his top pick, describing it as "the foundation of democracy in this country and a wonderful example of early 19th-century architecture."

The Hon. Ben Franklin MLC, President of the NSW Legislative Council, is thrilled to welcome families back this summer.

"Join our guided tours to weave your way through Australia's first Parliament; uncover everything from the iconic chambers to hidden stories rarely told."

The Hon. Greg Piper MP, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly said:

"Where else in the world can you step onto the chamber floors and be this close to history?"

"Enjoy a day of discovery with your family at the Parliament of NSW on the free tour, and cap it off with a delicious treat at our [Public Cafe](#) or a picnic lunch in the beautiful Domain. It's the perfect way to round out the school holidays."

Also, at the Parliament of NSW:



- The [Public Cafe](#) is open every day offering a selection of handmade cakes, pastries, sandwiches, and salads, available from 11:30am to 2:15pm, with no booking required.
- Exclusive [Summer Special](#) showcasing seasonal produce sourced across NSW at Strangers' Restaurant
- ['Legacy and Evolution' Exhibition](#) commemorating the Bicentenary of the Legislative Council continues until 24 January 2025
- Unveiled in September 2024, the [mesmerising Bicentenary Aboriginal Artwork 'Ngurra Jagun'](#) can be viewed on the north wall of the Fountain Court
- The [Acknowledgement of Country Sculpture and Plaque](#) is on display in the Macquarie Street forecourt.

For more details, visit the [Parliament of NSW website](#), where you can explore the [accessibility and inclusion](#) information to help plan your visit.