



## PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

8 MAY 1987

I am pleased to announce there will be three Royal Visits in 1988 to Australia as part of our Bicentennial celebrations.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh have accepted my invitation, on behalf of the Government and people of Australia to visit for approximately three weeks in late April and early May. The tour is expected to include visits to Western Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, Queensland, New South Wales and the ACT.

Her Majesty has kindly agreed to perform the opening ceremony at the new Parliament House in Canberra during her visit as well as opening World Expo '88 in Brisbane on 30 April.

In addition to The Queen's visit, visits by the The Prince and Princess of Wales and The Duke and Duchess of York are also planned.

The Prince and Princess of Wales will be in Australia in late January and early February and highlights of their visit will be the Australia Day celebrations and the International Wool Cloth of the Year Awards and Fashion Show in Sydney.

I expect that it will be possible for The Queen, The Duke of Edinburgh and The Prince and Princess of Wales between them to visit all States and Territories during their visits.

Possible dates for the visit by The Duke and Duchess of York are mid-September to early October. The Duke of York, as The Queen's personal representative, will be the Reviewing Officer at the International Naval Review in Sydney on 1 October 1988.

1988 will be a landmark in the history of Australia and our Bicentenary will be celebrated by Australians in all States and Territories with a year-long program of festive and commemorative events.

It is especially appropriate that our Royal Visitors share in these celebrations and I know I speak for all Australians when I say that they will be given an especially warm and sincere welcome.