

# Coronation of King Charles III



The coronation of King Charles III will take place on Saturday 6th May 2023.

King Charles automatically became King the moment his mother, Queen Elizabeth II died, because he was her first-born son. The coronation is the ceremony where he is crowned.

A coronation is a Christian church service and ceremony. It will take place at Westminster Abbey in London.

The coronation is where the monarch publicly accepts the responsibilities of being King and is crowned.



Photo: Chris Jackson

# What happens during the Coronation Service and ceremony?

The service and ceremony is led by the Archbishop of Canterbury, who is the leader of the Church of England.

It will start with a procession where the King walks into Westminster Abbey



## **The recognition**

The Archbishop will stand next to the Coronation chair and present the King-to-be to the congregation. They will then chant 'God save the King!' This will be followed by a fanfare of trumpets.

## **The Coronation Oath**

The King will recite the Coronation oath, which is where he promises to uphold the laws of the Church of England.

## **The Anointing**

The King will sit in the Coronation Chair and he will be hidden from view by a canopy held over the chair by four knights. The King will be anointed with holy oil on his hands, chest and head, and be blessed and consecrated by the Archbishop.

## **The investiture and Crowning**

The King will be dressed in robes and given the Sovereign's orb, the Sovereign's Sceptre, and a gold rod. The Archbishop places St Edward's crown on the King's head.

## **The Enthronement and Homage**

King Charles will move from the Coronation Chair and sit on the throne. People will then pay their respects to the king.

Camilla, The Queen Consort, will also be anointed and crowned during the ceremony. She will be crowned with Queen Mary's crown.

**Find out more about what a queen consort is here:**

<https://www.rct.uk/collection/themes/Trails/what-is-a-queen-consort>



After the ceremony there will be a Coronation procession, where King Charles and Queen Camilla will travel to Buckingham Palace. They will then appear on the balcony of Buckingham palace with some of their family members to greet and wave to the crowds of people.

**Find out more about the procession here:** <https://www.royal.uk/coronation-procession>

# Things you will see during the Coronation

## The Coronation Emblem

The Coronation Emblem pays tribute to The King's love of the natural world, depicting the flora of the four nations in the shape of St Edward's Crown.

Find out more about the emblem here: <https://www.royal.uk/coronation-emblem>



## The Gold State Coach

This has been used in every coronation since 1831. King Charles III and Queen Camilla will travel in it from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Abbey.

It is a very heavy coach that has leather straps for suspension, so the ride is very bumpy and uncomfortable.

Find out more about the coach here:

<https://www.rct.uk/visit/the-royal-mews-buckingham-palace/the-gold-state-coach#/>



## The Diamond Jubilee State Coach

After the ceremony King Charles III and Queen Camilla will take part in a procession through London, travelling in the Diamond Jubilee State Coach. The coach has had a few upgrades recently which include, air conditioning, shock absorbers and electric windows.

## **The Orb and Sceptres**

The Orb was made in 1661 and is a cross above a globe. It is a symbol of Godly power.

The Sovereign's sceptre is held in one hand and represents Kingly power. It has a cross to represent Kingly power and is associated with good governance.

The Rod of the Dove is held in the other hand and represents the King's spiritual role. It is sometimes called the Rod of Equity and Mercy.

Find out more about the crown jewels here: <https://www.hrp.org.uk/tower-of-london/history-and-stories/the-crown-jewels/#gs.vkm6l0>



## **Crowns**

King Charles will be crowned with St Edwards Crown. However, immediately after the ceremony this is returned to the tower of London where the crown jewels are kept.


At the end of the coronation the king will wear the Imperial State crown.

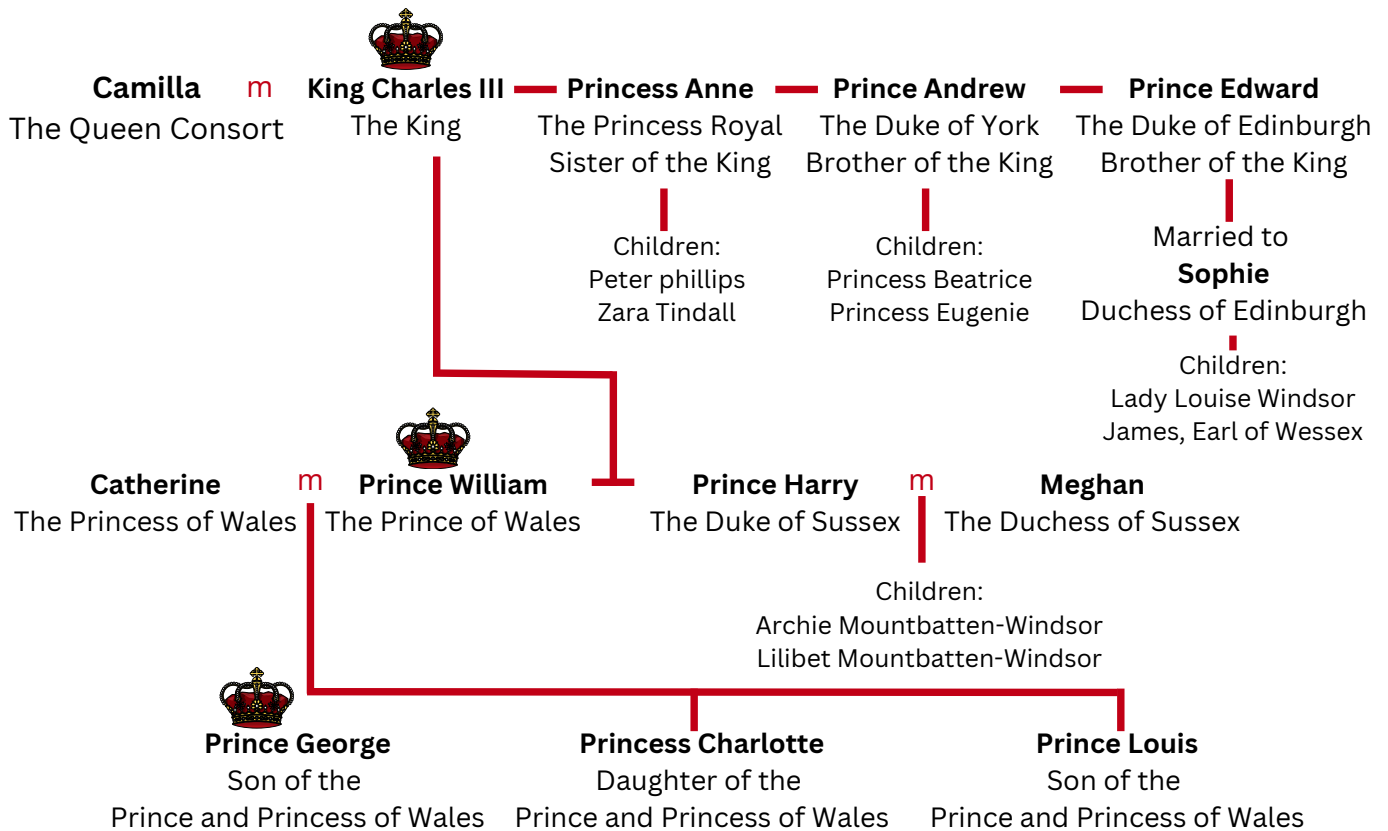
Find out more about the crowns here:

Imperial State Crown: <https://www.rct.uk/collection/themes/trails/the-crown-jewels/the-imperial-state-crown>

St Edwards Crown: <https://www.rct.uk/collection/themes/trails/the-crown-jewels/in-detail-st-edwards-crown>

# Who's who in the Royal Family?

 = line of succession



## Did you know?

The eldest child of a monarch is the heir to the throne.

Until recently, this would always have been the first-born son, regardless of whether they had an older sister.

The only time a female would succeed the monarch is if there was no elder brother, as was the case with Queen Elizabeth II.

Queen Elizabeth II had Succession Laws changed in 2011 when Prince William and Catherine, Princess of Wales, were expecting their first child. This was so that their first-born child would be heir to the throne, regardless of their gender.

Find out more here: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-15492607>

# Celebrations

The Coronation is an event for great celebration in the UK, and there is a special bank holiday so that people have an extra day off work, on Monday 8th May.

Over this long weekend there will be lots of events around the country to celebrate.

## **Street Parties**

Local communities set up tables and chairs in their street and decorate houses with flags and bunting. They have a party with their neighbours with food and drink.

## **The Big Lunch**

The Coronation Big Lunch is an opportunity for friends and neighbours to get together to share friendship and food over the Coronation weekend.

Find out more here: <https://www.edenprojectcommunities.com/the-big-lunch>

## **Big Help Out**

This will take place on Monday 8th May and is an opportunity to volunteer and help out in your local community.

Find out more here: <https://thebighelpout.org.uk/>

## **Coronation Concert**

There will be a big concert in the grounds of Windsor Castle on Sunday 7th May, which will include a variety of different music. The concert will be shown live on television and also broadcast on the radio.

Find out more here:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/3nLpThZvVm1gvZZkcVw3Glt/ticket-ballot-for-the-coronation-concert>

