

ECLIPSE 2028

Council Planning Brief

Five priorities for councils



1. Identify the best viewing locations



- ✓ Large accessible open spaces with clear views of the Sun
- ✓ Check horizon obstructions, trees, buildings and terrain
- ✓ Consider capacity, amenities, shade, toilets and disability access
- ✓ Assess sporting fixtures or competing events
- ✓ Provide multiple viewing sites where practical

2. Prepare for traffic and visitor demand



- ✓ Visitors usually arrive gradually but leave at the same time
- ✓ Traffic management, road closures and emergency access
- ✓ Public transport, shuttles and park-and-ride options
- ✓ Parking, crowd flow and protection of residential streets
- ✓ Encourage people to arrive early and stay longer

3. Put solar eye safety first



- ✓ Proper eclipse glasses or handheld viewers are essential whenever any part of the bright Sun is visible
- ✓ Use reputable suppliers and ISO 12312-2 compliant products
- ✓ Organise procurement and distribution well in advance
- ✓ Solar viewers may be removed only during complete totality, then replaced before the bright Sun reappears
- ✓ Ordinary sunglasses and improvised filters are not safe

4. Turn the eclipse into a regional experience



- ✓ Astronomy talks, science activities and school programs
- ✓ Partnerships with Traditional Owners, local businesses and tourism operators
- ✓ Markets, food, arts and family activities
- ✓ Guided observing and dark sky experiences
- ✓ Programs that encourage longer visitor stays

5. Establish your planning team now



- ✓ Events, tourism, roads, emergency management and communications teams
- ✓ Schools, libraries, community facilities and accessibility staff
- ✓ Neighbouring councils, transport providers and emergency services
- ✓ Regional collaboration and clear public messaging

Council readiness checklist



- ✓ Identify and assess potential viewing sites
- ✓ Confirm local eclipse timing and viewing conditions
- ✓ Begin transport and crowd planning
- ✓ Develop an eclipse glasses strategy
- ✓ Engage tourism operators, schools and local businesses
- ✓ Plan community activities and visitor information
- ✓ Explore regional partnerships and funding opportunities

How Dark Sky Tourism Australia can support your council



- ✓ Strategic planning and advice
- ✓ Eclipse event ideas and concepts
- ✓ Tourism and visitor experience development
- ✓ Safety messaging and community education
- ✓ Speaker, program and content development
- ✓ Dark sky tourism and legacy opportunities

Dark Sky Tourism Australia can help councils create safe, distinctive and memorable eclipse experiences that also deliver long-term benefits for community and tourism.



Need help planning for Eclipse 2028?

Talk to Marnie Ogg at Dark Sky Tourism Australia



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