

Press Release

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LEGENDARY INTERVIEWER SIR MICHAEL PARKINSON ANNOUNCES FAREWELL AUSTRALIA TOUR – OCTOBER 2019

BBC Studios, Andrew Kay and Phil Bathols are proud to announce the return of Sir Michael Parkinson for his Farewell Australia tour in October 2019. *An Evening with Sir Michael Parkinson* is a celebration of the life and career of a man who has interviewed more than 2000 of the most important cultural figures of the 20th and 21st centuries.

"It gives me great joy to come back to Australia with this show and share some great stories with my Australian friends and fans," Sir Michael says.

Thursday, 10 October	Perth	Riverside Theatre
Tuesday, 15 October	Adelaide	Festival Theatre
Saturday, 19 October	Sydney	Concert Hall, Sydney Opera House
Tuesday, 22 October	Melbourne	Hamer Hall
Thursday, 24 October	Brisbane	QPAC

Sir Michael, affectionately known as "Parky", has had a long love affair with Australia and the tour coincides with the 40th anniversary of his first Australian TV series, the hit ABC show *Parkinson in Australia*. Then, in the '80s, Sir Michael hosted the top-rating talk show *Parkinson* on the 10 Network. And he has even appeared in *Neighbours*, playing himself.

In conversation with his son Mike and showing highlights from the Parkinson archive, *An Evening with Sir Michael Parkinson* is a unique opportunity to get an intimate, informative look at Sir Michael's remarkable journey from a pit village in Yorkshire to the BBC with a talk show that for many defined their Saturday night.

It will also be a chance for Sir Michael to fondly remember his time in Australia and some of the fascinating Australians he has met and interviewed over the years, including unforgettable encounters with Kerry Packer, Shane Warne, Max Gillies, Kylie Minogue, Ian Thorpe, Clive James, Dame Edna Everage, Hugh Jackman, Nicole Kidman, Paul Hogan and the late Bob Hawke.

"My son, Mike, and I look forward to imparting some great anecdotes about some wonderful people I have been fortunate enough to converse with over 40 years," Sir Michael says.



Sir Michael's international guests have included some of the biggest names in entertainment and popular culture. He famously sparred with Muhammad Ali (whom he interviewed four times), danced with Will Smith, kissed Lauren Bacall and flirted with Bette Davis. Other notable interviews include Billy Connolly, Peter Ustinov, Madonna, Sir Paul McCartney, Shirley MacLaine, Sir David Attenborough and many more.

As well as his long-running BBC television talk show *Parkinson* (on air from 1971 to 1982, and 1998 to 2007), Sir Michael is a noted author and radio broadcaster. He is also known for his unquenchable love of sport – in particular cricket.

"An Evening with Sir Michael Parkinson will be an unforgettable experience, both interactive and intimate. "There will be laughs and tears – but mostly laughs, I promise," Sir Michael says.

An Evening with Sir Michael Parkinson is proudly sponsored by luxury cruise ship company Cunard.

An Evening with Sir Michael Parkinson Farewell Australia tour 2019

Tickets on pre-sale from Tuesday, 4th June. General on sale from Tuesday, 11th June
Tickets and further information available at www.sirmichaelparkinson.com.au

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NOTES TO EDITORS

About BBC Studios in Australia & New Zealand

The BBC Studios business in Australia and New Zealand is primarily content sales and branded services, with a newly established production arm. It wholly owns seven channels: BBC First, BBC UKTV, BBC Knowledge and CBeebies on Foxtel and Fetch TV in Australia; BBC Living on Fetch TV; and BBC UKTV and BBC Earth on Sky TV in New Zealand. It distributes great British content from the BBC and other British producers to free-to-air, subscription channels and SVOD platforms and works with partners to bring BBC Studios DVDs, consumer products and live events to the local market. The new production arm in Sydney will produce BBC formats for the local market and create new IP.

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