



# THE ROYAL COLLECTION TRUST

## The Queen's Year

### Facts & Figures

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1. In 2009 The Queen carried out almost 400 engagements in the UK and abroad.
2. Around 2,000 people a year receive their awards personally from The Queen at an Investiture. Since 1952, The Queen has conferred around 400,000 honours.
3. Around 10,000 recipients and guests are invited to Investitures each year. The Queen has personally held over almost 600 Investitures during her reign.
4. The Queen receives between 200 and 300 letters from the public a day and has received over 3 million items of correspondence during her reign.
5. Each year over 40,000 guests attend The Queen's Garden Parties at Buckingham Palace and the Palace of Holyroodhouse. Over the course of Her Majesty's reign, over one million people have attended Garden Parties hosted by The Queen.
6. The Queen is patron of more than 620 charities and organisations.
7. During her reign, The Queen has undertaken over 250 official overseas visits to 131 different countries.
8. Since 1952, The Queen has undertaken 78 State Visits accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh. The most recent was to Trinidad and Tobago in November 2009.
9. The Queen has given over 100 State Banquets during her reign.
10. The Queen has sent around 725,000 congratulatory messages to citizens of the UK and of her Realms and UK Overseas Territories. This includes 182,000 birthday messages and just over 543,000 wedding anniversary messages.
11. The Queen has sent more than 169,000 telegrams to centenarians in the UK and of her Realms and UK Overseas Territories.
12. The Queen has launched 24 ships in her lifetime. The first was HMS Vanguard, which she launched, as Princess Elizabeth, in Clydebank on 30 November 1944.
13. The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh have sent about around 40,000 Christmas cards during The Queen's reign.
14. The Queen has made a Christmas Broadcast to the Commonwealth every year of her reign except 1969, when a repeat of the film 'Royal Family' was shown and a written message from The Queen issued. In 2009 the Christmas message was watched on the BBC and ITV by a total of 8.1 million people.

15. The Queen has attended 55 Royal Maundy services during her reign at more than 44 different cathedrals. The Queen has only missed four services – two for official tours and two for the births of Prince Andrew and Prince Edward.