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Pacific on Shortwave



**Guide to shortwave
broadcasting in the Pacific**

October 2024 (A24)

Pacific on Shortwave

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The latest edition of this guide is always available at www.dxguides.info

Whilst there may be errors and omissions, the strong point of the guides is the ability to correct and update quickly. Please do not hesitate to let me know if you see something that doesn't look right. Thanks!

Descriptions used in this guide may have been taken from radio station websites and/or Wikipedia.

Australia

Australian Broadcasting Corporation

The Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) is Australia's national broadcaster. The ABC now provides radio, television, online, and mobile services throughout metropolitan and regional Australia and overseas through ABC Australia and Radio Australia. However, all domestic and external broadcasting on shortwave has been discontinued

ABC Radio Australia - Wantok programme

Although Radio Australia's shortwave service has been discontinued, the ABC Wantok programme is broadcast on shortwave by RNZ Pacific three times a day, Monday to Friday. The Wantok programme is 30 minutes of news and current affairs broadcast in Papua New Guinea Tok Pisin, Solomon Islands Pijin and Vanuatu Bislama pidgin languages:

<i>Time/UTC</i>	<i>Days</i>	<i>Relayed by</i>	<i>kHz</i>	<i>Transmitter site</i>	<i>kW</i>	<i>Target area</i>
0800-0830	Mon-Fri	RNZ Pacific	13690	Rangitaiki, NZ	50	Pacific
1228-1300	Mon-Fri	RNZ Pacific	13690	Rangitaiki, NZ	50	Pacific
2210-2240	Mon-Thu	RNZ Pacific	15720	Rangitaiki, NZ	50	Pacific

Domestic HF Licences

Changes were made to Australia's Broadcasting Act in December 2000 to permit Christian Voice International to begin using the Radio Australia shortwave transmitters in Darwin, and to allow HCJB Australia to build a new facility at Kununurra in Western Australia. If a broadcaster wants to target a domestic audience within Australia, all they need do is apply to the Australian Communications Authority for a Domestic HF Licence (DHFL). It costs a few hundred dollars and the lower range frequency allocations are specifically exempt from ITU Regulations.

The frequencies available are anywhere in the range 2300-26100 for broadcasting 'within Australia and its territories' and the following frequency blocks are only available for the DHFL broadcasters: 2300-2495, 3200-3400, 3950-4000, 4750-4995 and 5005-5060 kHz. The power of these stations is typically 1 kW.

Shortwave Australia

Shortwave Australia is an operation run by David Stuart in Victoria. They have a Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/p/Shortwave-Australia-100087235748332/> (with thanks to Peter Parker for this information).

Frequencies: 2310 and 4835 kHz (low power)

Station X

Station X is operated by Peter Tate in Wee Waa, New South Wales. The current antenna on 4970 is an inverted-L with 100w out. However, Peter is constantly doing antenna design experiments to get out the best signal and has an active page on Facebook with further information: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/123554367678571>

Frequencies: 2325 and 4970 kHz (low power)

Symban World Radio

SWR is based in Sydney, New South Wales, and established in 1997 to serve the Greek community of the city. It operates on MW 1692 kHz and FM, and irregularly on SW 2368.5 kHz. The transmitter site is Leppington, Sydney, NSW

Frequency: 2368.5 kHz (0.5 kW)

Unique Radio Australia

Unique Radio Australia is located in Moree NSW and has been operating since 2016. Owner Tim Gaynor has a background in community radio and his station provides a variety of programming not necessarily heard on mainstream media. More at <https://www.uniqueradio.biz>, where URA also streams via the website. Tim points out that the correct name of his station is "Unique Radio Australia", so as not to confuse with the "Unique Radio" online station in London UK. As of 10 April 2024, Tim advises that "Unique Radio Australia is currently off air till further notice" (usual frequency is 5035 kHz with 3210 kHz as an alternative)

Bay Islands Radio

Bay Islands Radio broadcasts from a low-power shortwave transmitter at Russell Island, Queensland.

Frequency: 505 kHz (low power)

Rob Wagner comments "The schedule is pretty loose and is missing on some nights. The correct location is Russell Island (not nearby Macleay Island), about 35 km southeast of Brisbane City. As confirmed recently by one of the operators, Shannon Shuttleworth. The website doesn't get much love. For more current updates, see Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Bayislandsradiofm88>." (RW, August 2023)

Radio 4KZ

Radio 4KZ no longer operates on shortwave. Located in Innisfail since 1967, Radio 4KZ covers the tropical coast of Far North Queensland on 531 kHz and FM. Its SW transmitter was launched on 20 December 2017 to serve the remote areas of north Queensland on 5055 kHz. However, enquiries by Ron Howard in March 2024 as to its absence on shortwave, brought a reply from Craig Seager who said "5055 has apparently been off for six months, and removed from the 4KZ site. Al Kirton (formerly at the helm of 4KZ for 38 years, but now semi-retired) tells me that he will eventually be back on air as 4DX (oldies format), but needs to buy some land first to accommodate it. Future plans include 2485 kHz local evenings with 2 kW"

International broadcasting on shortwave

Reach Beyond Australia

Since 2003, Reach Beyond (formerly HCJB) has been broadcasting on shortwave to Asia.

Transmitter site: Kununurra, in the Kimberley in far North Western Australia

Time/UTC	Days	Language	kHz	kW	Target (as per RBA)
0930-0945	Tue-Thu	Korean	9580	100	Korea
0930-1000	Fri-Mon	Korean	9580	100	Korea
0945-1000	Tue-Thu	English	9580	100	Korea
1100-1130	Sat/Sun	Japanese	15460	100	Japan
1130-1145	Daily	Rohingya	11905	100	Myanmar
1145-1200	Daily	Burmese	11905	100	Myanmar
1200-1215	Tue-Thu/Sat	Dzongka	12010	100	Bhutan
1200-1215	Mon-Fri	Kannada	15460	100	India (South)
1200-1215	Sat/Sun	Tamil	15460	100	India (South)
1200-1230	Daily	Matu	11875	100	Myanmar
1200-1230	Mon/Fri/Sun	Dzongka	12010	100	Bhutan
1215-1230	Tue-Thu/Sat	Tsangla	12010	100	Bhutan
1215-1230	Tue/Thu/Fri	Hindi	15460	100	India (South)
1215-1230	Sat/Sun	Rohingya	15460	100	India (South)
1215-1245	Mon/Wed	Hindi	15460	100	India (South)
1230-1245	Tue/Thu/Sat	Hindi	15460	100	India (South)
1230-1245	Fri	Punjabi	15460	100	India (South)
1230-1300	Tue	English	11900	100	India (North)
1230-1300	Wed	Hindi	11900	100	India (North)
1230-1300	Thu	Tamil	11900	100	India (North)
1230-1300	Sun	English	15460	100	India (South)
1245-1300	Mon/Wed/Sat	Telugu	15460	100	India (South)
1245-1300	Tue	Kurux	15460	100	India (South)
1245-1300	Thu	Bengali	15460	100	India (South)
1245-1300	Fri	Gujarati	15460	100	India (South)
1245-1300	Fri-Mon	Hindi	11900	100	India (North)
1300-1315	Daily	Tamil	15460	100	India (South)
1300-1330	Daily	Hindi	11900	100	India (North)
1315-1330	Mon/Wed-Fri	English	15460	100	India (South)
1315-1330	Tue/Sat/Sun	Tamil	15460	100	India (South)
1330-1345	Daily	English/Hindi	15460	100	India (South)
1330-1345	Mon	Punjabi	11900	100	India (North)
1330-1345	Tue	Kurux	11900	100	India (North)
1330-1345	Wed	Bhojpuri	11900	100	India (North)
1330-1345	Thu	Himachali	11900	100	India (North)
1330-1345	Fri	Nepali	11900	100	India (North)
1330-1345	Sat/Sun	Chattisgarhi	11900	100	India (North)
1345-1400	Daily	English	15460	100	India (South)
1345-1400	Mon/Fri/Sun	Oriya	11900	100	India (North)
1345-1400	Tue	Telugu	11900	100	India (North)
1345-1400	Wed	Hindi	11900	100	India (North)
1345-1400	Thu	Marathi	11900	100	India (North)
1345-1400	Sat	Punjabi	11900	100	India (North)
1400-1415	Mon-Fri	Nepali	11870	100	India (North)
1400-1415	Sat/Sun	Tibetan	11870	100	India (North)

1415-1430	Mon/Sat	Urdu	11870	100	India (North)
1415-1430	Tue	Bhojpuri	11870	100	India (North)
1415-1430	Wed	Punjabi	11870	100	India (North)
1415-1430	Thu	Nepali	11870	100	India (North)
1415-1430	Fri	Bengali	11870	100	India (North)
1415-1430	Sun	Gujarati	11870	100	India (North)
1500-1530	Daily	Burmese	11825	100	Myanmar
2230-2300	Daily	Japanese	17650	100	Japan

Hobart Radio International

Hobart Radio International (The Voice of Tasmania) is a shortwave community service relayed across the globe via shortwave and FM in New Zealand. They describe themselves as "the voice for Tasmania, and will always be developing and different. Crossing the borders since 2004, telling the unknown and investigating on what's important".

Time/UTC	Days	Language	kHz	Transmitter site	kW	Target
0800-0830	Wed	English	5850	WRMI Okeechobee FL	100	North America
2230-2300	Sun	English	9955	WRMI Okeechobee FL	100	South America
2330-0000	Sun	English	7570	WRMI Okeechobee FL	100	North America

Guam

International broadcasting on shortwave

KSDA - AWR Asia/Pacific

KSDA is the AWR Asia/Pacific relay station based on Guam, which started shortwave broadcasting in 1987.

Transmitter site: Facpi Point, Agat

Time/UTC	Days	Language	kHz	kW	Target area
1000-1100	Daily	Chinese	15450	100	East Asia
			17710	100	East Asia
1100-1130	Daily	Hakka	15210	100	East Asia
1100-1200	Daily	Chinese	11855	100	East Asia
1130-1200	Daily	Shan	15610	100	South-East Asia
1200-1230	Fri/Sat	Chinese	15710	100	East Asia
1200-1230	Sun-Thu	Min Nan	15710	100	East Asia
1230-1300	Daily	Meitei	15430	100	South Asia
1230-1300	Sat-Thu	Cantonese	15710	100	East Asia
1230-1300	Fri	Chinese	15710	100	East Asia
1300-1330	Daily	Khmer	15550	100	South-East Asia
1300-1330	Sat/Sun	Uighur	15600	100	East Asia
1300-1330	Daily	Kachin	12055	100	South-East Asia
1300-1330	Mon-Fri	Chinese	15600	100	East Asia
1330-1400	Daily	Kokborok	15255	100	South Asia
1400-1430	Daily	Asho Chin	15430	100	South-East Asia
1400-1430	Daily	Chinese	15440	100	East Asia
1400-1500	Daily	Chinese	12105	100	East Asia
1500-1530	Daily	Kannada	15215	100	South Asia
1530-1600	Sat-Wed	English	12060	100	Tibet & environs
1530-1600	Thu/Fri	Tibetan	12060	100	Tibet & environs
1530-1600	Daily	Oriya	15215	100	South Asia
1530-1600	Daily	Gujarati	15710	100	South Asia
1600-1630	Daily	Telugu	15670	100	South Asia
1630-1730	Daily	Korean	9455	100	East Asia
1630-1700	Mon/Wed/Fri	Pashto	15360	100	Afghanistan
1630-1700	Tue/Thu/Sat/Sun	Sindhi	15360	100	South Asia
1800-1900	Daily	Korean	9900	100	East Asia
1830-1930	Daily	Korean	15530	100	East Asia
2000-2100	Daily	Korean	9900	100	East Asia
2100-2200	Daily	Chinese	11750	100	East Asia
2200-2300	Daily	Chinese	15625	100	East Asia

KTWR - Trans World Radio

KTWR is the TWR relay station based on Guam, which began broadcasting on shortwave in September 1977.

Transmitter site: Merizo.

Time/UTC	Days	Language	kHz	kW	Target area
1015-1030	Sun	Balinese	11965	100	South-East Asia
1030-1100	Sat/Sun	Indonesian	11965	100	South-East Asia
1045-1100	Mon-Sat	Mongolian	15310	200	East Asia
1100-1115	Sun	English	11965	100	South-East Asia
1115-1130	Sat	Malay	11965	100	South-East Asia

1100-1115	Daily	Mongolian	15310	200	East Asia
1100-1130	Sun/Mon	Korean	9910	200	East Asia
1100-1130	Mon-Fri	English	11965	100	South-East Asia
1100-1200	Tue-Fri	Korean	9910	200	East Asia
1115-1145	Mon-Fri	Chinese	12160	200	East Asia
1130-1145	Sun	English	9910	200	East Asia
1145-1150	Daily	Chinese	12160	200	East Asia
1145-1200	Sun	Chinese	9910	200	East Asia
1150-1200	Daily	Hakka	12160	200	East Asia
1200-1215	Mon-Fri	Yunnanese	9910	200	East Asia
1200-1215	Sun	Chinese	9910	200	East Asia
1200-1215	Daily	Chinese	12160	200	East Asia
1200-1230	Sat	Burmese	12040	100	South-East Asia
1215-1230	Mon-Sat	Nosu Yi	12160	200	East Asia
1215-1245	Sun	Chinese	9910	200	East Asia
1215-1245	Sun	Japanese	9975	100	East Asia
1230-1245	Sun	Sgaw-Karen	12040	100	South-East Asia
1230-1245	Mon-Fri	Chinese	12160	200	East Asia
1230-1315	Sat	Vietnamese	11550	100	South-East Asia
1245-1300	Daily	Hui	9910	200	East Asia
1245-1300	Sun	Manipuri	15400	250	South Asia
1245-1300	Mon-Fri	English	15400	250	South Asia
1245-1315	Sun	Hmong Hjua	11550	100	South-East Asia
1300-1301	Mon-Fri	English	15400	250	South Asia
1300-1315	Sat	Desiya	15400	250	South Asia
1300-1315	Sun	Bhatri	15400	250	South Asia
1300-1335	Mon-Fri	Chinese	9975	200	East Asia
1300-1345	Sun	Chinese	9975	200	East Asia
1300-1400	Sat	Chinese	9975	200	East Asia
1301-1308	Mon-Fri	Hindi	15400	250	South Asia
1315-1345	Mon-Fri	Korean	9320	200	East Asia
1335-1345	Mon-Fri	Cantonese	9975	200	East Asia
1345-1515	Daily	Korean	9320	200	East Asia
1400-1415	Mon	Bondo	15400	250	South Asia
1400-1415	Tue	Kurukh	15400	250	South Asia
1400-1415	Wed	Kui	15400	250	South Asia
1400-1415	Thu	Santhali	15400	250	South Asia
1400-1415	Fri	Dzonka	15400	250	South Asia
1400-1415	Sat	Bengali	15400	250	South Asia
1400-1415	Sun	Ho	15400	250	South Asia
1415-1445	Mon-Thu	Uighur	11590	250	Central Asia
1445-1500	Daily	Kazakh	11590	250	Central Asia
1500-1600	Mon-Sat	Korean	9900	250	East Asia
1900-2000	Daily	Korean	9320	200	East Asia

KTWR Digital schedule for A24

Transmitter site: Merizo - DRM operating at 50 or 90 kW.

Day	Time (UTC)	Frequency	kW	Coverage Area	Language
Monday	1215-1245	9910 kHz	90	China	Chinese
Saturday	1100-1130	12120 kHz	90	China	Chinese
Saturday	1130-1200	11590 kHz	50	Japan	Japanese
Saturday	1200-1230	11590 kHz	50	Japan	English
Sunday	1500-1545	15390 kHz	90	India	English
Sunday	1545-1615	15390 kHz	90	India	South Indian languages

The schedule for broadcasts in South Indian languages at 1545-1615 is:

1st/3rd Sundays: Tamil, Malayalam and Kannada

2nd/4th Sundays: Tamil, Telugu and Hindi

5th Sunday: Tamil

For latest updates see: <https://ktwrdrm.blogspot.com/>

Federated States of Micronesia

The Cross

The Cross is the radio station of Pacific Missionary Aviation. Their website says that the shortwave service "is currently down as we are awaiting an engineer and parts". Paul Walker commented to DX Guides on 26 April 2024 that he emailed the station a while ago and asked about the status since that "parts and engineer" message has been up for a while and got this response: "The Cross Radio is a local station on the island of Pohnpei. We found it too costly to continue to run the SW station. Thank you for your understanding". Its assigned frequency was 4755 kHz.

New Zealand

International broadcasts on shortwave

RNZ Pacific

RNZ Pacific (formerly Radio New Zealand International) is a division of Radio New Zealand and the official international broadcasting station of New Zealand. It broadcasts a variety of news, current affairs and sport. The station's mission statement requires it to promote and reflect New Zealand in the Pacific and better relations with Pacific countries.

Transmitter site: Rangitaiki, Taupo District, Bay Of Plenty region of New Zealand's North Island.

Schedule effective 28 September 2024

Time/UTC	Days	mode	kHz	kW	Target area (as per RNZ Pacific)
0000-0658	Daily	AM	17675	50	Pacific
0659-1258	Daily	AM	13690	50	Pacific
1059-1258	Mon-Fri	AM	13690	50	Solomon Islands, PNG
1259-1650	Daily	AM	7440	50	Pacific
1651-1758	Sat	AM	9700	50	Pacific
1651-1858	Sun-Fri	AM	9700	50	Cook Islands, Tonga, Samoa
		DRM	9655	35	Cook Islands, Tonga, Samoa
1759-1858	Sat	AM	11725	35	Pacific
1859-2058	Sun-Fri	AM	15720	50	Cook Islands, Tonga, Samoa
		DRM	13840	35	Cook Islands, Tonga, Samoa
1859-2058	Sat	AM	15720	50	Pacific
2059-2258	Daily	AM	15720	50	Pacific
2259-0000	Sun-Fri	AM	17675	50	Pacific

Some variations to this schedule has been noted by listeners. It will be updated as necessary.

ABC Radio Australia and BBC programmes rebroadcast by RNZ Pacific

Time/UTC	Days	Programme	kHz
0600-0630	Mon-Fri	BBC WS	17675
0800-0830	Mon-Fri	ABC Wantok	13690
1230-1258	Mon-Fri	ABC Wantok	13690
2210-2240	Mon-Thu	ABC Wantok	15720

The latest frequency schedule for RNZ Pacific can be checked at www.rnz.co.nz/international/listen whilst the latest programme schedule can be found at www.rnz.co.nz/international/schedules

Norfolk Island

Radio DX, Norfolk Island

A new licensed broadcast station "Radio DX" tested on **5045 kHz** with around 200 Watts during April 2022, and was heard by DXers in NZ, Australia and West Coast USA. The station has a licence authorising up to 1 kW from Australia's ACMA. It has been set up by Nick Hacko VK9DX who moved to Norfolk Island In October 2021. The station operates with occasional tests only.

Northern Mariana Islands

International broadcasts on shortwave

USAGM Northern Marianas "Robert E Kamosa" Transmitting Station

The USAGM REKTS consisted of two sites located at Saipan and Tinian. It was operational until 28 July 2024, after which the two sites were closed.



The USAGM Northern Marianas "Robert E Kamosa" Transmitting Station at Saipan, which closed in July 2024

Palau

Hope Radio

The shortwave station on the island of Palau was founded by George Otis Sr. of Highmark Ministries and later sold to LeSEA Broadcasting under the late Dr. Lester Sumrall's ministry. As of September 2020, Joe Perozich became the CEO of the station and established Hope Radio. Hope Radio broadcasts to South East Asia with a mission to preach the gospel in the most populated parts of the world.

Angel 3: website says "Reaching China, Philippines, Laos, Thailand, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Mongolia, Japan, Vietnam, Cambodia, Myanmar (Burma), Nepal, North Korea, South Korea" (also note that website says "Launch TBA!" but this frequency is on air)

Transmitter site: Medorm, Babeldaob Island.

Time/UTC	Days	Language	kHz	kW	Note
0835-0905	Mon	English	9930	100	
0850-1000	Tue-Fri	English	9930	100	

Angel 4: website says "Reaching South China, Laos, Myanmar, Nepal, Indonesia, Philippines, Bhutan, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, India, Malaysia, and Bangladesh".

Transmitter site: Medorm, Babeldaob Island.

Time/UTC	Days	Language	kHz	kW	Note
0110-0230	Sat	English	15680	100	
0110-0330	Sun	English	15680	100	

Angel 5: website says "Reaching East China, Philippines, South Korea, Japan and North Korea"

Transmitter site: Medorm, Babeldaob Island.

Time/UTC	Days	Language	kHz	kW	Note
0807-0835	Mon	English	9965	100	transmitter switches to 9930 kHz at 0835 (see Angel 3 above)
0807-0850	Tue-Fri	English	9965	100	transmitter switches to 9930 kHz at 0850 (see Angel 3 above)
0810-1205	Sun	English	9965	100	
0840-1005	Sat	English	9965	100	

Thanks to Andy Lawendel for updates to this schedule.

Papua New Guinea

National Broadcasting Corporation

NBC is Papua New Guinea's state owned broadcaster. Its head office is in Boroko, Port Moresby, and has approximately 20 locations around the country.

NBC Madang

Madang (old German name: Friedrich-Wilhelmshafen) is the capital of Madang Province on the north coast of Papua New Guinea. It was first settled by the Germans in the 19th century. NBC Madang on 3260 kHz (4 kW) is currently inactive.

NBC Bougainville

Bougainville, officially the Autonomous Region of Bougainville, is an autonomous region in Papua New Guinea. The largest island is Bougainville Island, while the region also includes Buka Island and a number of outlying islands and atolls. The interim capital is Buka, though it is expected that major government services and buildings will be moved to Arawa, following reconstruction. NBC Bougainville on 3325 kHz (5 kW) is currently inactive.

Wantok Radio Light

Wantok Radio Light is a radio station operated by Papua New Guinea Christian Broadcasting Network, a non-profit, non-commercial Christian ministry. They broadcast on 93.9 FM in Port Moresby, 105.9 FM in other provinces and on shortwave 7325 kHz (1 kW) throughout PNG and overseas, although the latter has been reported off-air due to a transmitter problem.

Solomon Islands

Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation

Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation (SIBC) is the official radio broadcaster of Solomon Islands. SIBC is self-defined as a public service broadcaster "which facilitates educational programs, recording and promotion of local music, and the unity of diverse cultures in a scattered island nation".

Transmitter Site: Honiara - 10 kW.

Time/UTC	Days	Language	kHz	Notes
1900-1200	Daily	Tok Pisin/English	5020	may continue past 1200 with back-to-back music
1200-1900	irregular	back-to-back music	5020	no announcements etc during this period

SIBC's other frequency of 9545 kHz has seemingly not been reported since March 2022 when it was heard by Ron Howard in California with a strong carrier, but no audio at all detected.

Vanuatu

Radio Vanuatu

Radio Vanuatu is operated by the state-owned Vanuatu Broadcasting and Television Corporation.

Transmitter Site: Emten Lagoon, Efate - 10 kW.

Schedule observed as of 1 October 2024:

Languages: most programmes are in Bislama, with some English and French content as well.

Time/UTC	Days	kHz	Note
1845-1100	Daily	9960	see below

Starting from sign-on at 0545 Vanuatu Time on 1 October 2024 (this would be 1845 UTC on 31 September), Radio Vanuatu appears to be now using just 9960 kHz throughout its broadcast day to sign-off at 2200 Vanuatu Time (1100 UTC). However, this is based on initial observations and reports from other DXers and there may be other frequencies used instead at certain times between 1845-1100 UTC that have not yet been noted. Other frequencies to check are 3945, 5040 and 7260 kHz. The schedule above will be updated when it has been confirmed further.

Radio Vanuatu usually begins its daily transmission at approximately 1830 UTC (0530 local time) with 15 minutes or so of instrumental music, with the National Anthem at around 1845 followed by the opening announcement and the start of normal programming.

The [Radio Vanuatu Shortwave Report](#) is regularly updated. It consists of a timeline of events as reported by DXers since January 2022 (and acknowledging in particular those reports posted to the World of Radio IO Group).



Image from VBTC Facebook page