



# Licensing Act 2003

## 2003 CHAPTER 17

### PART 9

#### MISCELLANEOUS AND SUPPLEMENTARY

##### *Special occasions*

#### **172 Relaxation of opening hours for special occasions**

- (1) Where the Secretary of State considers that a period (“the celebration period”) marks an occasion of exceptional international, national, or local significance, he may make a licensing hours order.
- (2) A licensing hours order is an order which provides that during the specified relaxation period premises licences and club premises certificates have effect (to the extent that it is not already the case) as if specified times were included in the opening hours.
- (3) An order under this section may—
  - (a) make provision generally or only in relation to premises in one or more specified areas;
  - (b) make different provision in respect of different days during the specified relaxation period;
  - (c) make different provision in respect of different licensable activities.
- (4) Before making an order under this section, the Secretary of State must consult such persons as he considers appropriate.
- (5) In this section—

“opening hours” means—

  - (a) in relation to a premises licence, the times during which the premises may be used for licensable activities in accordance with the licence, and
  - (b) in relation to a club premises certificate, the times during which the premises may be used for qualifying club activities in accordance with the certificate;

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**Changes to legislation:** Licensing Act 2003, Cross Heading: Special occasions is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 07 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

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“relaxation period” means—

- (a) if the celebration period does not exceed four days, that period, or
- (b) any part of that period not exceeding four days; and

“specified”, in relation to a licensing hours order, means specified in the order.

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:**

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- Pt. 5A inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(2\)](#)Sch. 17
- s. 2(1A) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(1\)](#)
- s. 10(4)(e) and word inserted by [2011 c. 13 s. 121\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 140(2)(e) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 141(2)(e) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(5\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 143(2)(e) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(6\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 144(2)(e) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(7\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 147A(4)(c) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(8\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 153(4)(d) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(9\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 197(3)(cza) inserted by [2015 c. 20 s. 67\(12\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 197A197B inserted by [2011 c. 13 s. 121\(2\)](#)