



## AUSTRALIA'S VIBRANT REGGAE SCENE: A RHYTHMIC JOURNEY ACROSS THE AIRWAVES

BY RAS BANAMUNGU

Australia's reggae music scene is thriving, and the airwaves are pulsating with the infectious beats of reggae, dancehall, and more. From community radio stations to long-standing programs, the country has embraced the rhythm, making reggae a significant part of its musical landscape.

One standout in the reggae radio scene is 2BOB Radio 104.7FM located in the Manning Valley, NSW. Embracing alternative grassroots radio, 2BOB brings diverse, new Australian music to the forefront, including roots and reggae. The station has become a hub for reggae enthusiasts, contributing to the genre's growth.

RTRFM proudly hosts Jamdown Vershun, Australia's longest-running reggae radio show. Recently celebrating a local reggae artist's release, Jamdown Vershun continues to be a cornerstone for reggae lovers, providing a platform for both established and emerging talents.



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PBS FM presents Babylon Burning, a reggae and dancehall show hosted by Jesse I. With a nationwide reach through the Community Radio Network, the show amplifies reggae's diverse sounds every Friday at 10 pm, bringing the community together through music.

The Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) adds to the reggae rhythm with Island Music, a weekly show hosted by leading Australian reggae DJ Rick Howe. Focused on reggae, dancehall, and RnB, the program offers a unique blend that resonates with audiences, connecting them to the Pacific region.

Australia's reggae roots run deep, and Jamdown Vershun stands testament to this, being the longest-running reggae radio show since July 1979. Broadcasting on 92.1 FM in Perth, selector General Justice has been shaping the reggae landscape for over four decades.



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Online platforms also play a crucial role in promoting reggae in Australia. Australia Reggae Radio (@australia\_reggae\_radio) on Instagram and their online radio station serve as a digital hub, reaching a global audience and showcasing the richness of reggae and dancehall music.

As reggae continues to make waves across Australia, from the Manning Valley to Perth, it's clear that this genre has found a home in the hearts of Australians. The beats, rhythms, and messages of reggae resonate, bringing people together on air and online, fostering a community bound by the love of this iconic music genre.