**Bastille Day** is the name given in English-speaking countries to the [French](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/France) [National Day](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Day), which is celebrated on the 14th of July each year. In France, it is formally called **La Fête Nationale** (French pronunciation: [[la.fɛt.na.sjɔ'nal]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia%3AIPA_for_French) ; *The National Celebration*) and commonly **Le quatorze juillet** (French pronunciation: [[lə.ka.tɔʁz.ʒɥi'jɛ]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia%3AIPA_for_French) ; *the fourteenth of July*). It commemorates the 1790 [Fête de la Fédération](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/F%C3%AAte_de_la_F%C3%A9d%C3%A9ration), held on the first anniversary of the [storming of the Bastille](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Storming_of_the_Bastille) on 14 July 1789; the anniversary of the storming of the[Bastille](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bastille) fortress-prison was seen as a symbol of the uprising of the modern nation, and of the reconciliation of all the French inside the constitutional monarchy which preceded the[First Republic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/First_Republic_%28France%29), during the [French Revolution](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French_Revolution). Festivities and official ceremonies are held all over France. The oldest and largest regular [military parade](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bastille_Day_Military_Parade) in Europe is held on the morning of 14 July, on the [Champs-Élysées](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Champs-%C3%89lys%C3%A9es) avenue in [Paris](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paris) in front of the [President of the Republic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/President_of_France), French officials and foreign guests.[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bastille_Day#cite_note-paris1-0)[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bastille_Day#cite_note-paris-attractions1-1)