

# Longest reigning monarchs

DIAMOND WEDDING  
ANNIVERSARY



1947-2007

Queen Elizabeth II, poised to celebrate her 60th wedding anniversary, still has some way to go to catch other royal recordholders past and present

**Pepi II:** Ancient Egyptian pharaoh succeeded to throne around 2278 BC at age six following premature death of father. Believed to have ruled for **94 years**, longest of any monarch in history

**Louis XIV:** King of France for **72 years** (1643-1715), presided over period of great cultural and military expansion – longest reign in European history

**Queen Victoria:** Great-great-grandmother of Queen Elizabeth II was longest reigning British monarch, ruling for nearly **64 years** (1837-1901)

**Bhumibol Adulyadej**  
79-year-old Thai King is world's longest serving current head of state, having ascended to throne **61 years** ago in 1946

**Elizabeth II:** Britain's Queen has notched up **55 years** on the throne. Her 60-year marriage is the longest of any British monarch