

# Longest royal record holders

Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, poised to celebrate her Diamond Jubilee, still has some way to go to match other royal record holders 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 reign of any monarch in history

**Bhumibol Adulyadej**

84-year-old Thai ruler is world's longest-serving current head of state – he became King over **65 years** ago, in June 1946

**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 Elizabeth II holds record as longest-reigning British monarch, ruling for nearly **64 years** (1837-1901)

**Elizabeth II:** Ascended throne **60 years** ago, putting her second on list of both longest-ruling British sovereigns, and current living monarchs