

CommonwealthVision Song Contest 2025

Vancouver, Canada

Official Rulebook

Courtesy of Las_faceplamas

Part 1: Available Countries

Unlike the previous edition of CommonwealthVision, this edition will include all member states of the Commonwealth and the nations that have participated in the Commonwealth Games in the past, along with British overseas territories, external territories of Australia and Realm of New Zealand. List of these nations is as follows, in alphabetical order and broken down by continent:

Africa:

- Botswana
- Cameroon
- Eswatini (borrows from South Africa)
- The Gambia
- Gabon
- Ghana
- Kenya
- Lesotho (borrows from South Africa)
- Malawi
- Mauritius
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Nigeria
- Rwanda

- Saint Helena (can send British artists of African descent)
- Seychelles (can send British artists of African descent)
- Sierra Leone
- South Africa
- Tanzania
- Togo
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

Americas & Caribbean

- Anguilla (can send British artists of Caribbean descent)
- Antigua and Barbuda (can send British artists of Caribbean descent)
- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belize
- Bermuda (can send British artists of Caribbean descent)
- British Virgin Islands (can send British artists of Caribbean descent)
- Canada
- Cayman Islands (can send British artists of Caribbean descent)
- Dominica (can send British artists of Caribbean descent)
- Falkland Islands (can send British artists of Caribbean descent)
- Grenada (can send British artists of Caribbean descent)
- Guyana
- Jamaica
- Montserrat (can send British artists of Caribbean descent)
- Saint Kitts and Nevis (can send British artists of Caribbean descent)
- Saint Lucia (can send British artists of Caribbean descent)
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (can send British artists of Caribbean descent)
- South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands (can send British artists of Caribbean descent)

- Trinidad and Tobago
- Turks and Caicos Islands (can send British artists of Caribbean descent)

Asia:

- Bangladesh
- British Indian Ocean Territories (can send British artists of Asian descent)
- Brunei
- Hong Kong
- India
- Malaysia
- Maldives (borrows from India)
- Pakistan
- Singapore
- Sri Lanka

Europe:

- Akrotiri and Dhekelia (borrows from Cyprus)
- Cyprus
- England
- Gibraltar (borrows from England)
- Guernsey (borrows from England)
- Ireland (can also send artists from Northern Ireland)
- Isle of Man (borrows from Ireland)
- Jersey (borrows from England)
- Malta
- Northern Ireland (can also send artists from Ireland)
- Scotland
- Wales

Oceania:

- Australia
- Christmas Island (borrows from Australia)
- Cocos (Keeling) Islands (borrows from Australia)
- Cook Islands (borrows from New Zealand)
- Fiji
- Kiribati (can send British artists of Oceanian descent)
- Nauru (can send British artists of Oceanian descent)
- New Zealand
- Niue (borrows from New Zealand)
- Norfolk Islands (borrows from Australia)
- Papua New Guinea
- Samoa (can send British artists of Oceanian descent)
- Solomon Islands
- Tokelau (borrows from New Zealand)
- Tonga (can send British artists of Oceanian descent)
- Tuvalu (can send British artists of Oceanian descent)
- Vanuatu (can send British artists of Oceanian descent)

Some countries (highlighted **red** in the list) have preferential claimants: these are the countries that placed top 6 in the previous edition. Users that have achieved this result are allowed preference in choosing whether they'll keep this country. List of preferential claimants and their countries:

- **u/las_facepalmas - Canada (Not keeping it, claimed Guernsey)**
- **u/YourLocalBirdLord - South Africa (Not keeping it)**
- **u/Pineapplepizza - Belize (Keeping it)**
- **u/LucarioGamesCZ - England (Keeping it)**
- **u/starczamora - Hong Kong (Keeping it)**
- **u/lionelmeesie - New Zealand (Keeping it)**

I, u/Nutthawut45, will have to take a 30 minutes timeout before claiming to avoid host advantage

Part 2: Artist eligibility and borrowing

To be eligible to represent a country, the artist needs to fulfill **at least one** of the following requirements:

- Have been born in the country
- Have resided in the country for over 5 years continuously at some point in time
- Resides in the country currently (and have for at least a year)
- Have at least one grandparent or parent from the country (at least 25% heritage)

And **all** of the following:

- Is alive currently
- Has never topped Billboard Hot 100/UK Singles Chart (for singles) or Billboard 200/UK Albums Chart (for albums) with any releases. Other national and/or genre-specific charts (i.e. UK Indie) are fine.

If the artist in question is a band, then at least 33% of the band members need to be eligible for the country in question. Additionally, artists that have participated in last year's CommonwealthVision are ineligible to participate this year. List of the artists that are ineligible to participate can be found below:

- Angel Maxine
- Balu Brigada
- bbno\$
- Didula Tharusara
- Dylan
- Elijah L
- ELIO
- Empire of the Sun
- Gin Lee
- Gina Jeanz
- GrisVer
- Jer
- Kezia

- Lous and The Yakuza
- Lucy Calcines
- Micra
- Midnight Fusic
- Narelle
- Overpass
- Pale Waves
- Paloma Faith
- Pauric O'Meara
- Running Touch
- Ryan Grech
- Saint Sappho
- Taltsie
- TCTS
- Maya B
- Ursine Vulpine
- W.i.S.H
- Zain Zohaib

Borrowing Country

Some small countries are allowed to *borrow* from other, bigger ones. This means that the country that borrows is allowed to send artists that are eligible for the country it borrows from, without necessarily being eligible for the borrowing country. However, stricter song submission rules also apply to the borrowed artists. Borrowing countries are highlighted **yellow** on the country list.

Descent Borrowing Country

Other small countries are allowed "*descent borrowing*". This means that the country that borrows is allowed to send an artist that has 25% heritage from **any country of the whole region**, without it necessarily being the country in question. Descent borrowing countries are highlighted **blue** on the country list.

Part 3: Song Eligibility

A country can be represented by any song from any eligible artist, as long as it adheres to these rules:

- Maximum of 30 000 000 plays on Spotify or views on YouTube
- Released after January 1st, 2020
- Has not participated in Eurovision Song Contest, Junior Eurovision Song Contest, American Song Contest or any related song contests (including National Selections of any kind)
- Has not participated in any previous contest held on the r/FantasyVisionContests subreddit
- Is between 30 seconds and 8 minutes in length

For borrowers, the following rules apply:

- Maximum of 15 000 000 plays on Spotify or views on YouTube
- Released after July 1st, 2021
- Has not participated in Eurovision Song Contest, Junior Eurovision Song Contest, American Song Contest or any related song contests (including National Selections of any kind)
- Has not participated in any previous contest held on the r/FantasyVisionContests subreddit
- Is between 30 seconds and 8 minutes in length

For descent borrowers, the following rules apply:

- Maximum of 5 000 000 plays on Spotify or views on YouTube
- Released after January 1st, 2023
- Has not participated in Eurovision Song Contest, Junior Eurovision Song Contest, American Song Contest or any related song contests (including National Selections of any kind)
- Has not participated in any previous contest held on the r/FantasyVisionContests subreddit
- Is between 30 seconds and 8 minutes in length

Part 4: Contest Format

Contest format is dependent on the number of participants. Consult the table below for more information:

Number of participants	Format rules
25 or less	• No AQs. Last edition's top 6 users still get preferential claims to their countries • One grand final
26-30	• Last edition's top 6 users are automatic qualifiers and gain preferential claims to their countries (they stay AQs no matter if they choose to exercise that preferential claim) • One big semifinal with 14 qualifiers for the rest of the participants
31-35	• Last edition's top 6 users are automatic qualifiers and gain preferential claims to their countries (they stay AQs no matter if they choose to exercise that preferential claim) • Two small semifinals with with 8 qualifiers each
36 or more	• Last edition's top 6 users are automatic qualifiers and gain preferential claims to their countries (they stay AQs no matter if they choose to exercise that preferential claim) • Two semifinals with 10 qualifiers each

Part 5: Voting

All stages of the contest use the standard Eurovision system of voting: 12, 10, 8-1 points assigned by the voter to the ten songs they preferred the most. These points are then added up and sorted.

See you in Vancouver!