



GIBRALTAR REGULATORY
AUTHORITY

THE IMPORTANCE OF RADIO IN OUR SOCIETY

Advances in technology have given people more ways to access an increasing amount of information. However, radio still plays a vital role in today's world. Radio is more than just announcers, news and songs. Radio is about companionship and the emotional connection with the listener.

Radio broadcasts provide real-time information, and some that broadcast 24 hours a day, can provide the most recent updates to listeners. Radio has the ability to reach across borders and can become a valuable source of information where reliable news is scarce.

Radio has proved its worth in times of emergency such as when access to the mobile network is down as a result of an overload, or phone lines are cut. Even when there is no electricity, most radio sets can be battery operated or have the ability to be hand-cranked.

Radio is not just important for reception of emergency announcements and communications during disasters. In small communities like Gibraltar, it provides an outlet for regular community messaging and activities such as local sports, community events, special events, local business advertising, etc.

More importantly, radio is easy to use, it's live and it's human. For more than 80 years, radio has survived and prospered by being the easiest of media to use. Wake up in the morning, have a shower, get in the car, turn on the radio.

Why not tune your radio to the following local stations?

Radio Station	FM	AM	DAB+
GBC Radio Gibraltar	91.30 & 92.60	-----	12B
GBC Radio Gibraltar Plus	100.50	1458	12B
GBC Radio Gib Talk	-----	-----	12C
Rock Radio	99.20	-----	12C
BFBS Gibraltar	93.50 & 97.80	-----	-----
BFBS Radio 2	89.40 & 99.50	-----	-----

Feeling lonely? Turn on the radio.



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THE HISTORY OF RADIO IN GIBRALTAR

GBC Radio Gibraltar

Radio Gibraltar went on air on the 16th February 1958. Radio Gibraltar's first premises were located in a casemate in Wellington Front with a small production studio set-up in a small room located under the Queen's Hotel near Grand Parade. Programming was pre-recorded in these studios and later transmitted via telephone to the Wellington Front studios for subsequent transmission.

Throughout these early years, Radio Gibraltar, despite its limited budget and poor surroundings, became a success and continued to inform and entertain the community. Transmissions were broadcast via a Medium Wave antenna erected on top of Wellington Front.

It was several years later, in 1962, when Gibraltar Television arrived that it was decided to run these two separate services as one. The two services were established in law on the 12th December 1963 as the Gibraltar Broadcasting Corporation (GBC).



In 1981, Radio Gibraltar relocated from Wellington Front to Broadcasting House in South Barrack Road. The move coincided with the expansion of FM broadcasts as well as the revamping of programming from the pre-recorded format to the current format which exists today.

More recently, Radio Gibraltar has kept up with advances in technology and is now fully computerised which means that all material is recorded and edited digitally. Radio Gibraltar made the move to digital in 2012 broadcasting on DAB+ and is also available online and via their dedicated mobile apps.

“The Public Service Broadcaster”



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THE HISTORY OF RADIO IN GIBRALTAR

BFBS Gibraltar

BFBS Gibraltar began broadcasting locally in 1961. However, the Forces' Radio has its roots in North Africa during the Second World War, when the British Army in Algiers set up an experimental radio station. At the end of the Second World War, the British Forces Network (BFN) was established in Hamburg, with the intention of informing and entertaining military personnel in the Rhineland area of Germany and linking them with home. BFN became BFBS (the British Forces Broadcasting Service) in 1965.



BFBS Radio presenters live and work alongside their audience with most of their team having done operational tours in Iraq or the Balkans, detachments to the Falklands and been posted to permanent stations from Germany to Gibraltar.

Their "demographic" is unlike that of any other radio station given that their serving listeners range from 16 to 55, while their families and friends cover the whole age spectrum. Because of this, they play a wide range of music, from the sixties to now, and cover the entire musical spectrum from pop to rock and urban.



BFBS also specialise in "on-air blueys" (messages and dedications for the British Forces), and have their own in-house and editorially independent news service which cover Forces sports events.

"The Forces' Radio"



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Rock Radio

The station launched on Monday 1st October 2018, and is the first independent commercial radio station licensed in Gibraltar.

Rock Radio broadcast from their purpose-built offices and studio in the heart of Gibraltar at 61 Governor's Street. The programming is varied offering an upbeat mix of music plus the latest local news, weather and travel info.



Rock Radio is on air 24 hours a day on 99.2 FM & DAB+ digital radio across Gibraltar, as well as being available online and via their dedicated mobile apps.

"The new kid on the Rock"



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