

Package: timenow (via r-universe)

June 4, 2026

Title Quick Timezone-Aware Timestamps

Version 0.1.0.9001

Description Simple helpers to report the current time in UTC and your local timezone, with sensible detection heuristics when the system timezone is UTC. Supports fuzzy matching of timezone names like ``Perth Australia``.

License MIT + file LICENSE

Encoding UTF-8

Roxygen list(markdown = TRUE)

RoxygenNote 7.3.3

Imports clock

URL <https://github.com/hypertidy/timenow>

BugReports <https://github.com/hypertidy/timenow/issues>

Suggests location, lutz

Remotes hypertidy/location

Repository <https://hypertidy.r-universe.dev>

Date/Publication 2026-03-06 06:47:13 UTC

RemoteUrl <https://github.com/hypertidy/timenow>

RemoteRef HEAD

RemoteSha d7d6d375d4f7f6b36325071c56574a41ecb0d1e6

Contents

detect_timezone	2
resolve_timezone	2
timenow	3
timenow_help	4
timenow_set	4

Index	6
--------------	----------

detect_timezone	<i>Detect the local timezone</i>
-----------------	----------------------------------

Description

Uses a cascade of methods to determine the local timezone, useful when the system timezone is set to UTC.

Usage

```
detect_timezone(quiet = FALSE)
```

Arguments

quiet	Suppress messages about detection method used
-------	---

Value

A valid IANA timezone string

resolve_timezone	<i>Resolve a fuzzy timezone string</i>
------------------	--

Description

Matches partial or fuzzy timezone specifications against IANA timezone names. If the string cannot be matched directly, and the **location** package is installed, it will attempt to geocode the string via Nominatim and derive the timezone from the resulting coordinates.

Usage

```
resolve_timezone(tz)
```

Arguments

tz	A timezone string, possibly fuzzy like "Perth" or "US Eastern", or a place name like "Jackson, TN" (requires location).
----	---

Value

A valid IANA timezone string

Examples

```
resolve_timezone("Perth")
resolve_timezone("new york")
resolve_timezone("tokyo")
## Not run:
# requires location + lutz packages
resolve_timezone("Jackson, TN")
resolve_timezone("Davis Station, Antarctica")

## End(Not run)
```

timenow

Get current time with timezone awareness

Description

Reports the current timestamp in UTC and optionally in a local or specified timezone. Uses a detection cascade to find your local timezone when the system reports UTC.

Usage

```
timenow(tz = NULL, quiet = FALSE)
```

Arguments

tz	Optional timezone specification. Can be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NULL (default): show UTC and detected local timezone • A valid IANA timezone name: "Australia/Hobart" • A fuzzy string: "Perth Australia", "new york", "tokyo" • A place name: "Jackson, TN", "Davis Station, Antarctica" (requires the location package)
quiet	Suppress the local timezone detection message

Details

Timezone detection cascade:

When your system timezone is UTC (common on servers), timenow uses this cascade to find your actual local timezone:

1. `getOption("timenow.tz")` - set in `.Rprofile`
2. `Sys.getenv("R_TIMENOW_TZ")` - set in `.Renviron`
3. `/etc/timezone` file (Debian/Ubuntu)
4. `timedatectl` output (systemd)
5. `Sys.timezone()` - the R default

Setting your timezone:

In `~/Renviron`:

```
R_TIMENOW_TZ=Australia/Hobart
```

Or in ~/.Rprofile:

```
options(timenow.tz = "Australia/Hobart")
```

Value

A named list of class "timenow" with UTC and local times (invisibly)

Examples

```
timenow()
timenow("Perth")
timenow("US Eastern")
```

timenow_help	<i>Show timezone configuration help</i>
--------------	---

Description

Prints guidance on setting your local timezone for timenow.

Usage

```
timenow_help()
```

timenow_set	<i>Set your local timezone for timenow</i>
-------------	--

Description

Writes your timezone preference to ~/.Renviro so it persists across sessions. Supports fuzzy time-zone matching.

Usage

```
timenow_set(tz, renaviron = "~/Renviro", restart = TRUE)
```

Arguments

tz	Timezone string (can be fuzzy like "Hobart" or "Perth Australia")
renviron	Path to .Renviro file (default: ~/.Renviro)
restart	Prompt to restart R after setting (default: TRUE)

Value

The resolved timezone string (invisibly)

Examples

```
## Not run:  
timenow_set("Hobart")  
timenow_set("Perth Australia")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

Index

`detect_timezone`, 2
`resolve_timezone`, 2
`timenow`, 3
`timenow_help`, 4
`timenow_set`, 4