

Where in the world is Australia?



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Australia is located in the Southern Hemisphere and is the sixth largest country on earth. It forms part of the Oceania continent.

Due to its size, the landscapes and climates are incredibly diverse, ranging from tropical rainforest in the north of Queensland, the 'Outback' in the red centre (which consists of a dry desert) and mountainous regions in New South Wales, Victoria and on the island of Tasmania.

Major cities, such as Sydney, Melbourne and Perth are located along its coastline.








Fun facts about Australia

Population: Around 25.5 million

Currency: Australian dollar

Capital city: Canberra



Key Vocabulary	
Beach	The land at the edge of a lake, ocean, or other body of water. A beach slopes gently toward the water and usually has sand or pebbles.
Cliff 	A high, steep face of rock or earth.
Coast 	The land next to the ocean; seashore.
Forest 	A large area of land covered with many trees and plants.
Hill 	A raised area of land smaller than a mountain.
Mountain	A land mass with great height and steep sides that is higher than a hill.
Sea	The salt water covering most of the earth; ocean.
Ocean 	The vast body of salt water covering about three quarters of the earth's surface.
River 	A large natural stream of water flowing in a particular course toward a lake, ocean, or other body of water.
Arid	Extremely dry, from lack of rainfall.
Desert	Very dry, sandy area with little vegetation.
Aboriginal 	Groups of people who have lived in Australia for thousands of years.



What are some of the human features of Australia?

Sydney opera house: this is located in Sydney and is a performing Arts centre. It was designed by a Danish Architect called Jom Utzon as part of an international design competition in 1957 but completed by an Australian architectural team in 1973.

The Q1: the tallest building in Australia along the Gold coast. It is 322 m high.



What are some of the physical features of Australia?

The Great Barrier Reef: one of the world's largest coral reef systems, stretching for approximately 344,400 square kilometres. It contains over 400 types of coral, 1,500 species of fish and 400 types of mollusk.



Uluru: used to be known as Ayres Rock. It is made of sandstone which appears to change colour depending on how the sun shines on it. It is 348m high, 3.6km long and nearly 2km wide!



Blue mountains: these mountains get their name from the natural blue haze created by vast eucalypt forests.



The Twelve Apostles: these are a collection of limestone stacks by the Great Ocean Road in Victoria.

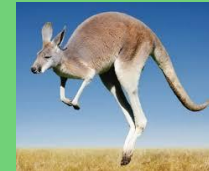


Australian animals.

As Australia is located in a relatively remote part of the world, there are a wide range of diverse animals located there.

Examples of these include:-

Kangaroo



Echidnas

Wombat



Possum

Koala



Platypus



Tasmanian devil

