

## AUSTRALIA

Sr.Nu mber	Official Name	Capital	Currency	Estimated Population (2019)	Population Density	Religious Affiliation	Official Language
1	Australia	Sydney	Dollar	25.9 million	1.62 people /km <sup>2</sup>	52.1%christian 22.6 % Catholic 13.3%anglican	English, mandarin, Arabic, Italian
2	New Zealand	Auckland	Dollar	4,787,897	20/km <sup>2</sup>	Christianity is most common	New Zealand Sign Language
3	Papua New Guinea	Port Moresby	Kinna	8.567.535	15/km <sup>2</sup>	Christianity is most common	Tok Pisin

### Distinguishing Characteristics of Australia

The continent of Australia is the smallest of the seven continents. Australia is also referred to as Oceania and in conjunction with Zealandia. Experts are heavily studying this area of the world and the definitions on the countries and areas that define it are changing rapidly. Currently, there are 3 confirmed countries that divide the continent of Australia. It consists of the country of Australia by the same name, New Zealand, and Papua New Guinea. There many additional small nations, territories, and islands around the continent that extend to comprise Oceania such as the Melanesian, Polynesian, and Micronesian islands which can be found in the South Pacific Ocean. As an island nation, coastlines play an important role in **defining** national, state and territory boundaries. Nearly 20 per cent of **Australia's** land mass is classified as desert. The uniqueness of much of **Australia's** flora and fauna is thus at least partly due to these **features** of our climate. Australia is the world's 6th largest country by area. Due to its large size and isolation from the rest of the world, Australia is sometimes known as the 'island continent'. The largest **cities** in Australia are Sydney, **Melbourne**, Brisbane, Perth and Adelaide. A desert area known as the 'outback' covers much of the **land**.

### Major physical features

There are lots of features that count as landforms, including valleys, canyons, mountains, rivers, lakes, and coastlines. Between the **Eastern Highlands** and the **Western Plateau**, lie the **Central Lowlands**, which are made up of the Great Artesian Basin and Australia's largest river systems, Murray-Darling Basin and Lake Eyre Basin. Off the eastern coast of Australia is the world's largest coral reef complex, the Great Barrier Reef.

- Australia is a relatively flat landscape.
- The Eastern Highlands are made up of some smaller ranges such as the Snowy Mountains.
- The tallest mountain in Australia is Mount Kosciuszko in the Eastern Highlands.

- The Central Lowlands are home to the Simpson Desert and the Flinders Range.

**Region:** Oceania

**Area:** Ranked 6th

**Terrain:** mostly low plateau with deserts, rangelands and a fertile plain in the southeast

**Natural Resources:** minerals, coal, and timber

**Longest river:** Murray River, 2,375 km (1,476 mi)

**Largest lake:** Lake Eyre; 9,500 km<sup>2</sup> (3,668 sq mi)

**Lowest point:** Lake Eyre, -15 m (-49 ft)





## Social values of Australia

- The freedom and dignity of the individual
- Freedom of religion, commitment to the rule of law
- Parliamentary democracy
- Equality of men and women and a spirit of egalitarianism that embraces mutual respect
- Tolerance
- Fair play and compassion for those in need and pursuit of the



## Which things made Australia famous worldwide?

Australia is world famous for its natural wonders and wide open spaces, its beaches, deserts, "the bush", and "the Outback". Australia is one of the world's most highly urbanized countries; it is well known for the attractions of its large cities such as **Sydney**, Melbourne, **Brisbane**, and Perth.

Human characteristics on the **other** hand, are the features of a geographical area caused by humans, including cities, towns, dams, roads, and communication links. Oct 22, 2015

## The Australian Fishing Zone

Australia's territorial sea extends from the coast out to 12 nautical miles. Within the territorial sea, Australia has full sovereignty—including with respect to fisheries—subject only to the rights of foreign ships to 'innocent passage' through the territorial sea.

On 1 August 1994, Australia declared an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) extending from 12 nautical miles to 200 nautical miles from its coastline. Within its EEZ, Australia has sovereign rights to explore and exploit, conserve and manage the natural resources—both living (such as fisheries and genetic material) and non-living (such as oil, gas, minerals). It also has jurisdiction over offshore installations, marine scientific research and the protection and preservation of the marine environment.

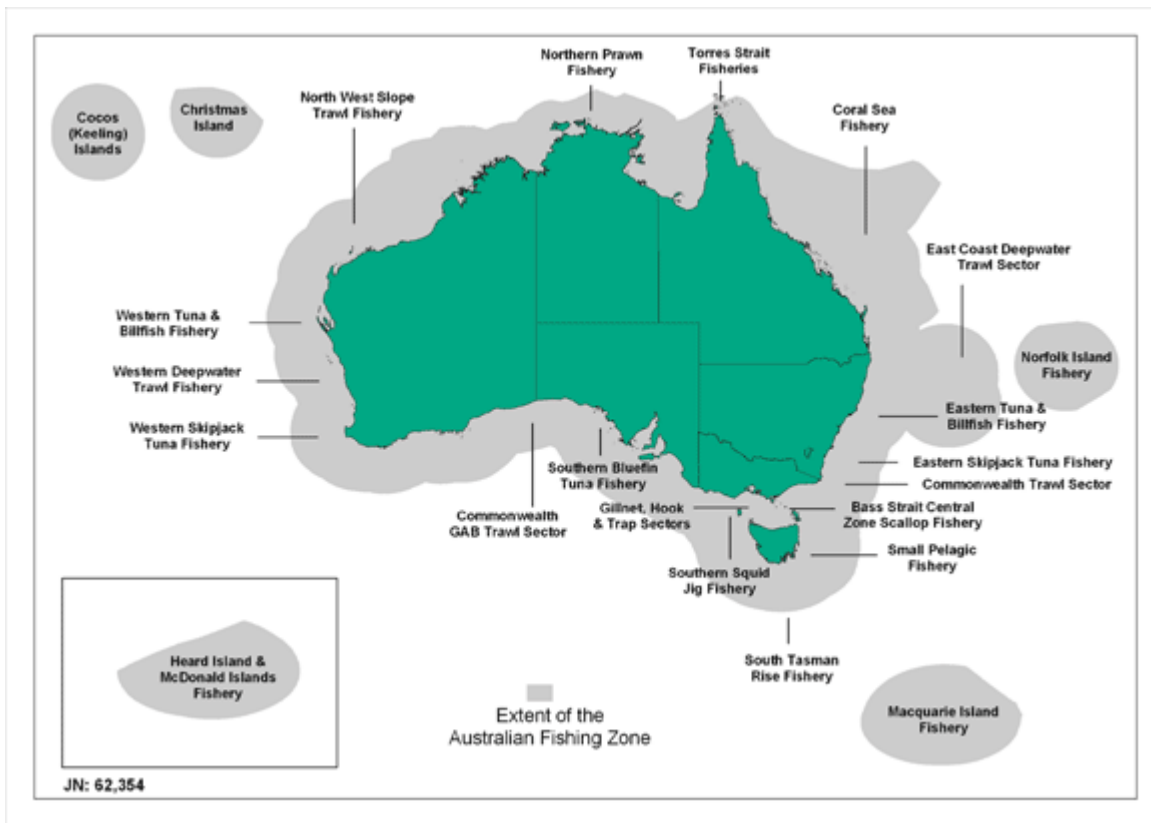
Consistent with international law, Australia has also claimed sovereign rights to explore and exploit the natural resources of the continental shelf (including sedentary species) where the shelf extends beyond 200 nautical miles.

As a matter of Australian domestic law, the [Offshore Constitutional Settlement](#) provides for the Australian states and the Northern Territory to manage fisheries out to 3 nautical miles from the coast, and for the Australian Government to manage fisheries from three to 200 nautical miles. However, these default arrangements are frequently varied through instruments known as offshore constitutional settlement arrangements.

The Australian Fishing Zone (AFZ), which was first declared in 1979, covers Commonwealth waters—generally those from three nautical miles to 200 nautical miles from the Australian coast. The AFZ is established through the *Fisheries Management Act 1991* and relates only to the use or protection of Commonwealth fisheries. The AFZ covers an area of over 8 million square kilometres.

[Geoscience Australia](#) has further information about the Australian maritime zones.

**Australian Fishing Zone showing the location of Commonwealth fisheries**



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