**Australia**

**Sydney Opera House**

* **Sydney Opera is an opera house in Sydney built from 1957 to 1973 when it opened. It was created by a young architect called Jørn Utzon. He was 38 years old at that time, and came from Denmark. He created the cool forms and the people who judged his work says he was the one understanding what would fit in to the environment of the Sydney harbour and the parks and the streets around. Jørn Utzon died in 2008, 90 years old.**
* **The Sydney Opera has been inscribed UNESCO’s World Heritage list. It is described as a masterpiece in both creativity and architectural form and structural design. “It is a great urban sculpture carefully set in a remarkable waterscape and a world famous iconic building”, said the represent of UNESCO.**
* **The history of the design is that the in 1956 the NSW Government called an open-ended international design competition and the results would be judged by an independent jury. The competition didn’t have any special restrictions. It only said that it had the building had to have two large halls, one hall for operas and one for symphony orchestras. They meant Jørn Utzon’s design was unexpected, visionary and bold.**

**The Great Barrier Reef**

* **The Great Barrier Reef is the world’s largest coral reef. It is located at Australia’s east cost in Queensland. The reef is built up by billions of tiny, tiny living organisms, and is the largest structure built by living organisms. It consists of 2 900 individual reef and 900 islands. Most of it is 2 million years old, but there are parts that are up to 18 million years.**
* **The reef is one of the biggest tourist attractions of the whole Australia. It is far known for its clear water, beautiful fish and corals, few sharks and scuba diving possibilities. Large parts of the reef are under protection of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, which limits the human use, but there are still parts for us to swim in.**
* **The reef was in 1981 on UNESCO’s World Heritage list for its 1 500 species of fish and 4 000 types of mollusc. It also has some threated sea creatures, like the green sea turtle and dugong (a sea cow).**

**Melbourne**

* **Melbourne is Australia’s second most populated city and the capital of the Victorian part of Australia. The city was established on the 30 of August 1835 but there was Europeans there already in 1803. It has about 4 170 thousand inhabitants in the city centre. It has very many tourists visiting it every year.**
* **Melbourne is located in the south eastern part of Australia. It is built along the Yarra River. It is also built on the edge of Port Phillip. There some beaches in Melbourne, but this are not ideal for surfing. Melbourne has a moderate climate and a year consisting of all the four seasons. That is not normal in the northern and middle parts of Australia.**
* **The city is famous for the Royal Exhibition Building, where the world’s fair was hold in 1880 and 1888, The Melbourne Museum, one of the biggest museums in the southern part of the earth, The 12 Apostles, 12 huge stone pillars along the Great Ocean Road, Many shopping streets and over 100 art galleries**

**Perth**

* **Perth is Western Australia’s largest city and capital, and Perth is the fourth most populated city in Australia. It has about 1 million 740 thousand inhabitants. The city was established in 1829 by George Pitt Morison.**
* **Perth is located in the southwest of Australia, and is built on the Swan River. Most of the city and its centre is located on this river’s sandy plain. The climate is subtropical and it has very sunny days, but still having four seasons. The summer is from December to late March and is very hot. Winter is still relatively cold and very wet.**
* **Perth is famous for many large shopping streets, an underground hotel, a water labyrinth, Galleries, museums and much more.**