TRAVEL

Journey or travel is movement of people from one destination to other place. Have a journey or travel can increase mental health and can bring stamina back

ADVENTURE LIFE

Life is Journey

MARK RONNEL D, ELCHICO
BSHM

AUSTRALIA FAMOUS FOR

AUSTRALIA IS KNOWN FOR MANY THINGS, INCLUDING SWATHES OF TROPICAL BEACHES, MARINE RESERVES, ABORIGINAL CULTURE, CUTE KOALAS, ROLLING WINE COUNTRY, AND LUSH RAINFORESTS

AUSTRALIA, THE SMALLEST CONTINENT AND ONE OF THE LARGEST COUNTRIES ON EARTH, LYING BETWEEN THE PACIFIC AND INDIAN OCEANS IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE. AUSTRALIA'S CAPITAL IS CANBERRA, LOCATED IN THE SOUTHEAST BETWEEN THE LARGER AND MORE IMPORTANT ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL CENTRES OF SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.THE AUSTRALIAN MAINLAND EXTENDS FROM WEST TO EAST FOR NEARLY 2,500 MILES (4,000 KM) AND FROM CAPE YORK PENINSULA IN THE NORTHEAST TO WILSONS PROMONTORY IN THE SOUTHEAST FOR NEARLY 2,000 MILES (3,200 KM). TO THE SOUTH, AUSTRALIAN JURISDICTION EXTENDS A FURTHER 310 MILES (500 KM) TO THE SOUTHERN EXTREMITY OF THE ISLAND OF TASMANIA, AND IN THE NORTH IT EXTENDS TO THE SOUTHERN SHORES OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA. AUSTRALIA IS SEPARATED FROM INDONESIA TO THE NORTHWEST BY THE TIMOR AND ARAFURA SEAS, FROM PAPUA NEW GUINEA TO THE NORTHEAST BY THE CORAL SEA AND THE TORRES STRAIT, FROM THE CORAL SEA ISLANDS TERRITORY BY THE GREAT BARRIER REEF, FROM NEW ZEALAND TO THE SOUTHEAST BY THE TASMAN SEA, AND FROM ANTARCTICA IN THE FAR SOUTH BY THE INDIAN OCEAN.AUSTRALIA HAS BEEN CALLED "THE OLDEST CONTINENT," "THE LAST OF LANDS," AND "THE LAST FRONTIER." THOSE DESCRIPTIONS TYPIFY THE WORLD'S FASCINATION WITH AUSTRALIA, BUT THEY ARE SOMEWHAT UNSATISFACTORY. IN SIMPLE PHYSICAL TERMS, THE AGE OF MUCH OF THE CONTINENT IS CERTAINLY IMPRESSIVE—MOST OF THE ROCKS PROVIDING THE FOUNDATION OF AUSTRALIAN LANDFORMS WERE FORMED DURING PRECAMBRIAN AND PALEOZOIC TIME (SOME 4.6 BILLION TO 252 MILLION YEARS AGO)—BUT THE AGES OF THE CORES OF ALL THE CONTINENTS ARE APPROXIMATELY THE SAME. ON THE OTHER HAND, WHEREAS THE LANDSCAPE HISTORY OF EXTENSIVE AREAS IN EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA HAS BEEN PROFOUNDLY INFLUENCED BY EVENTS AND PROCESSES THAT OCCURRED SINCE LATE IN THE LAST ICE AGE—ROUGHLY THE PAST 25,000 YEARS—IN AUSTRALIA SCIENTISTS USE A MORE EXTENSIVE TIMESCALE THAT TAKES INTO ACCOUNT THE GREAT ANTIQUITY OF THE CONTINENT'S LANDSCAPE.

AUSTRALIA IS THE LAST OF LANDS ONLY IN THE SENSE THAT IT WAS THE LAST CONTINENT, APART FROM ANTARCTICA, TO BE EXPLORED BY EUROPEANS. AT LEAST 60,000 YEARS BEFORE EUROPEAN EXPLORERS SAILED INTO THE SOUTH PACIFIC, THE FIRST ABORIGINAL EXPLORERS HAD ARRIVED FROM ASIA, AND BY 20,000 YEARS AGO THEY HAD SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE MAINLAND AND ITS CHIEF ISLAND OUTLIER, TASMANIA. WHEN CAPTAIN ARTHUR PHILLIP OF THE BRITISH ROYAL NAVY LANDED WITH THE FIRST FLEET AT BOTANY BAY IN 1788, THERE MAY HAVE BEEN BETWEEN 250,000 AND 500,000 ABORIGINALS, THOUGH SOME ESTIMATES ARE MUCH HIGHER. LARGELY NOMADIC HUNTERS AND GATHERERS, THE ABORIGINALS HAD ALREADY TRANSFORMED THE PRIMEVAL LANDSCAPE, PRINCIPALLY BY THE USE OF FIRE, AND, CONTRARY TO COMMON EUROPEAN PERCEPTIONS, THEY HAD ESTABLISHED ROBUST, SEMIPERMANENT SETTLEMENTS IN WELL-FAVOURED LOCALITIES.

DOVE LAKE, TASMANIA, AUSTRALIADOVE LAKE IN CRADLE MOUNTAIN–LAKE ST. CLAIR NATIONAL PARK, TASMANIA, AUSTRALIA. THE AMERICAN-STYLE CONCEPT OF A NATIONAL “FRONTIER” MOVING OUTWARD ALONG A LINE OF SETTLEMENT IS ALSO INAPPROPRIATE. THERE WAS, RATHER, A SERIES OF COMPARATIVELY INDEPENDENT EXPANSIONS FROM THE MARGINS OF THE VARIOUS COLONIES, WHICH WERE NOT JOINED IN AN INDEPENDENT FEDERATED UNION UNTIL 1901. FRONTIER METAPHORS WERE LONG EMPLOYED TO SUGGEST THE EXISTENCE OF YET ANOTHER EXTENSION OF EUROPE AND ESPECIALLY OF AN OUTPOST OF ANGLO-CELTIC CULTURE IN THE DISTANT “ANTIPODES.”

TOURIST DESTINATION

GREAT OCEAN ROAD

LOCATED IN VICTORIA, THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD IS CONSIDERED TO BE ONE OF THE MOST SCENIC AND BEST-DRIVING ROADS IN THE WORLD. DON'T MISS TWELVE APOSTLES, THE SPECTACULAR FORMATIONS OF LIMESTONE STACKS BESIDE THE STUNNING TURQUOISE OCEAN. THE 243 KM RIDE FROM TORQUAY TO ALLANSFORD IS ITSELF A BLISSFUL DRIVE. AS NATURE LOVERS AND RIDERS, YOU CAN HAVE A GREAT EXPERIENCE AT GREAT OCEAN ROAD, AMONG THE TOP 10 TOURIST ATTRACTIONS IN AUSTRALIA.
THINGS TO DO: CAMPING, BEACH SPORTS, HIKING, WILDLIFE SPOTTING

\KAKADU NATIONAL PARK

KAKADU NATIONAL PARK, A WORLD HERITAGE SITE, IS AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST NATIONAL PARK. SECOND LARGEST IN THE WORLD, KAKADU IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST PLACES FOR WITNESSING WILDERNESS AND IS ONE OF THE TOP MOST VISITED AUSTRALIA TOURIST PLACES.
THINGS TO DO: VISIT THE JIM JIM FALLS, BIRDWATCHING, HIKING, WILDLIDE SPOTTING

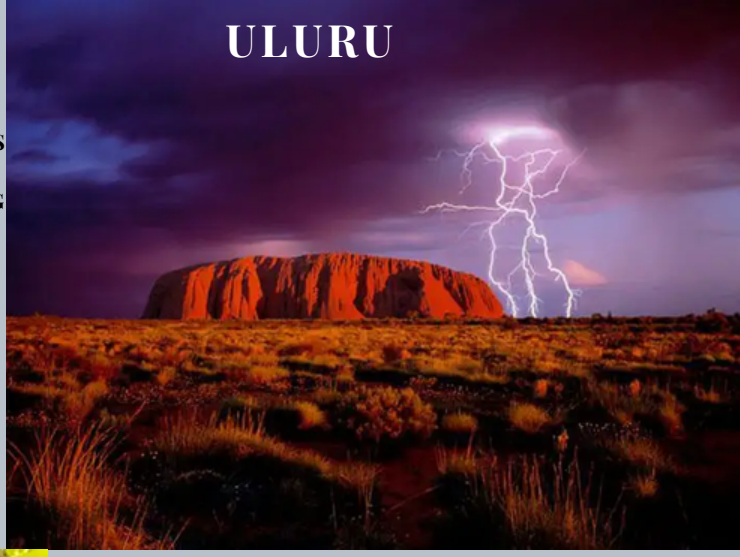
BLUE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK

THE BEAUTIFUL BLUE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK – ANOTHER UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE – IS A POPULAR DAY TRIP FROM SYDNEY. IT IS NAMED AFTER THE BLUE HAZE EMANATING FROM THE MANY EUCALYPTUS TREES, WHICH IS A SPECTACULAR PANORAMIC VIEW TO BEHOLD! ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS PLACES IN AUSTRALIA, YOU MUST VISIT THIS PARK.
THINGS TO DO: HIKING, ROCK CLIMBING, MOUNTAIN BIKING & HORSEBACK RIDING

FRASER ISLAND

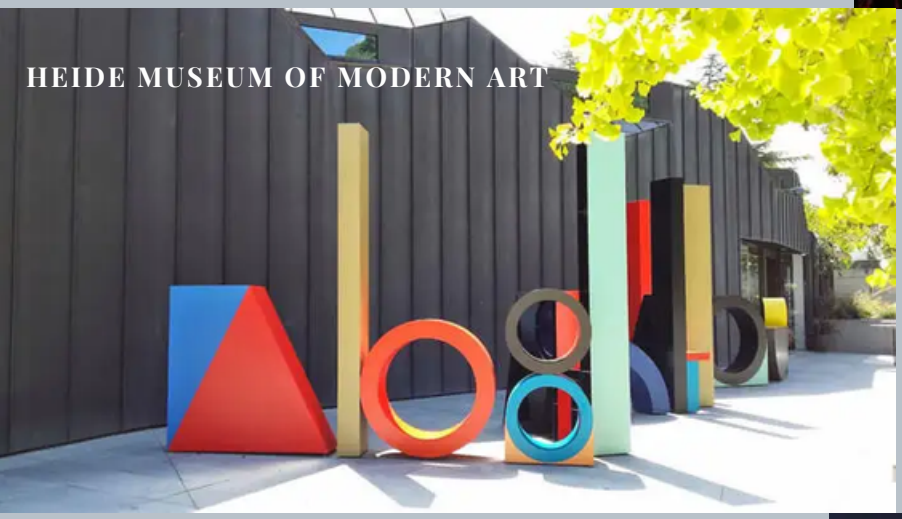
FRASER ISLAND, JUST A SHORT FERRY TRIP FROM HERVEY BAY, IS THE LARGEST SAND ISLAND IN THE WORLD AND A MAJOR PART OF AUSTRALIA SIGHTSEEING. IT OFFERS ONE OF AUSTRALIA'S MOST UNIQUE FOUR-WHEEL-DRIVE ADVENTURES. YOU CAN ALSO TRAVEL BY FERRY FROM RAINBOW BEACH AND HERVEY BAY. IN FACT, IT IS AMONG THE BEST PLACES TO VISIT IN AUSTRALIA IN MARCH OWING TO ITS PLEASANT WEATHER AT THAT TIME.
THINGS TO DO: SCUBA DIVING AT LAKE MCKENZIE, SWIMMING , CAMPING, WILDLIFE SPOTTING

ULURU



ONE OF THE LARGEST MONOLITHS IN THE WORLD, ULURU OR AYERS ROCK IS ANOTHER IMPORTANT AUSTRALIA TOURIST PLACES. LOCATED WITHIN THE KATA TJUTA NATIONAL PARK, THIS STRIKING RED MONOLITH SANDSTONE FORMATION, MEANING 'SHADOWY PLACE', STANDS MORE THAN 348 METERS HIGH. THIS IS ONE OF THE BEST PLACE FOR HITCHHIKING IN AUSTRALIA. IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR AUSTRALIA DESTINATIONS THAT OFFER AN OFFBEAT EXPERIENCE, FAR AWAY FROM THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE OF THE CITY, THIS IS THE IDEAL PLACE FOR YOU.
THINGS TO DO: TRIBAL TOUR, VIEWING SUNSETS & OTHER SERENE LANDSCAPES

HEIDE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART



HEIDE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART IS A COMBINATION OF A CONTEMPORARY ART GALLERY, HISTORICAL ART MUSEUM, AND HERITAGE PARK. THE BEST REASON TO VISIT THIS UNIQUE MUSEUM IS ITS BEAUTIFUL LOCATION; IT'S SET UPON A VAST LUSH FARMLAND. A MAJOR PART OF AUSTRALIA TOURISM, IT IS A MUST-VISIT PLACE! AS ARCHITECTURE AND ART & LITERATURE ENTHUSIASTS ALIKE, YOU CAN HAVE A MESMERIZING EXPERIENCE BY VISITING ONE OF THE BEST PLACES TO TRAVEL IN AUSTRALIA.
THINGS TO DO: GET MESMERIZED BY THE LIVING HISTORY OF MELBOURNE IN HEIDE, TAKE A STROLL ACROSS HEIDE'S VAST SERENE AREA AND JOURNEY INTO THE PAST.

HARBOR BRIDGE

AMONG THE MOST CELEBRATED AUSTRALIA TOURIST ATTRACTIONS, THE SYDNEY HARBOR BRIDGE IS A MUST-VISIT. RISING 134 M ABOVE THE HARBOR, THE BRIDGE IS AFFECTIONATELY CALLED "THE COAT HANGER". THIS ENGINEERING MARVEL IS ALSO THE LARGEST STEEL ARCH BRIDGE IN THE WORLD.
THINGS TO DO: ENJOY THE SCINTILLATING CITYSCAPE FROM THE BRIDGE, CLIMB THE BRIDGE WITH A GUIDE, VISIT THE MUSEUM IN THE SOUTHEASTERN PIER

SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE

FLANKED BY THE SCENIC HARBOR BRIDGE AND THE BEAUTIFUL ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS, THE SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE IS ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR AUSTRALIAN TOURIST ATTRACTIONS. CONSIDERED AS AN ARCHITECTURAL MASTERPIECE OF THE CENTURY, THIS FEAT BY MANKIND, HOSTS MULTIPLE VENUES DESIGNED TO REFLECT THE IMAGE OF A HUGE SAILING SHIP AND RESEMBLES BILLOWING SAILS OR SHELLS.
THINGS TO DO: ENJOY A SCRUMPTIOUS AUSTRALIAN MEAL, TAKE A TOUR OF THE BUILDING WHICH ENCOMPASSES THEATRES, STUDIOS, A CONCERT HALL, EXHIBITION ROOMS & A CINEMA.

TASMANIA'S MUSEUM OF OLD AND NEW ART

TASMANIA MUSEUM OF OLD AND NEW ART IS ONE OF AUSTRALIA'S QUIRKIEST MUSEUMS. WHILE IT IS ACCESSIBLE BY ROAD OR BY PLANE, A 30 MINUTE FERRY RIDE FROM HOBART IS THE POPULAR WAY TO THIS MUSEUM. IT'S KNOWN FOR SOME OF THE UNIQUE, RARE AND EXCLUSIVELY OWNED COLLECTIONS OF THE ABORIGINAL TRIBES.
THINGS TO DO: ENJOY ART WORK COLLECTION, RELISH THE DELECTABLE DELICACIES

CARLTON GARDENS

CARLTON BUILDINGS AND THE ROYAL EXHIBITION BUILDING ARE THE TWO AUSTRALIA TOURIST ATTRACTIONS LISTED AMONG WORLD HERITAGE SITES. BUILT-IN THE 18TH CENTURY, THEY ARE ALSO ONE OF THE OLDEST SITES EXISTING AS AUSTRALIA TOURIST PLACES. THIS SURELY TOPS THE LIST OF UNIQUE AUSTRALIA TOURIST ATTRACTIONS!
THINGS TO DO: ENJOY THE FLOWER BEDS, ORNAMENTAL LAKES & ARTISTIC FOUNTAINS, WALK THROUGH THE COLLECTION OF MORTAN BAY FIG TREES, VISIT THE MELBOURNE MUSEUM

ONE OF THE SEVEN WONDERS OF THE NATURAL WORLD, THE WORLD'S LARGEST BARRIER REEF SYSTEM IS THE GREAT BARRIER REEF. LOCATED IN THE CORAL SEA, THIS WORLD HERITAGE-LISTED SITE IS VISIBLE FROM OUTER SPACE AND IS ONE OF THE LARGEST LIVING STRUCTURES ON THE PLANET. IT OCCUPIES A MAMMOTH AREA INCLUDING MORE THAN 3000 CORAL REEFS AND HUNDREDS OF SCENIC ISLANDS. SO, ARE YOU EXCITED TO HEAD TO ONE OF THE MOST AMAZING AUSTRALIA TOURIST ATTRACTIONS WITH YOUR LOVED ONES?
THINGS TO DO: DIVING INTO THE CRYSTAL CLEAR TURQUOISE WATERS, WITNESS MARINE LIFE

GREAT BARRIER REEF

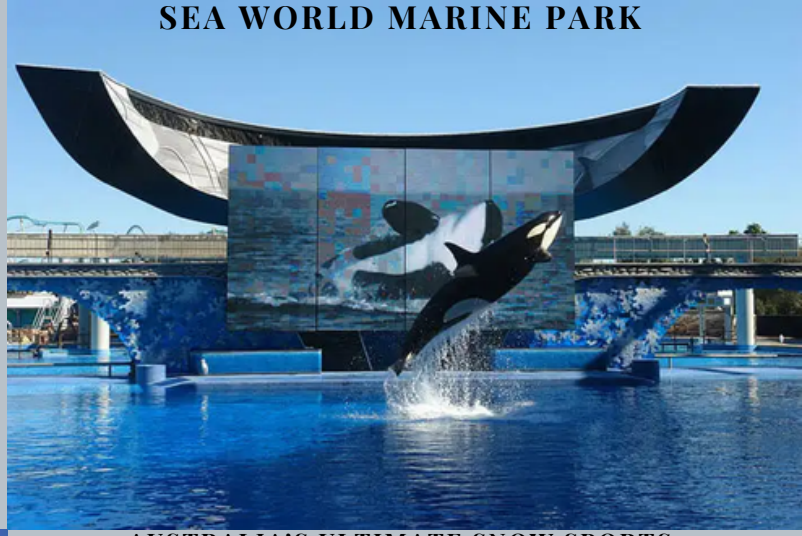
YARRA VALLEY

MELBOURNE IS ONE OF THE VERY FEW CITIES IN THE WORLD THAT CAN BE TRAVERSED IN A HOT AIR BALLOON AND YARRA VALLEY IS THE PLACE TO DO THAT. BALLOONING OVER THE YARRA VALLEY TAKES YOU ABOVE ONE OF VICTORIA'S MOST SPECTACULAR WINERY REGIONS, OFFERING BREATHTAKING VIEWS OF THE LUSH LANDSCAPES AND VINEYARDS. ESCAPE FROM THE DAILY HUSTLE AND BUSTLE BY VISITING MESMERIZING YARRA VALLEY, ONE OF THE AMAZING AUSTRALIA TOURIST ATTRACTIONS FOR NATURE LOVERS & ADVENTURERS ALIKE.
THINGS TO DO: GREET THE ASTOUNDING MORNING SUN AS YOU FLY OVER THE YARRA VALLEY AND ITS VINEYARDS ON A HOT AIR BALLOON FOR AN HOUR.

SEA WORLD MARINE PARK

SEA WORLD IS THE LARGEST MARINE PARK IN AUSTRALIA, WHICH ENTERTAINS ADULTS AS MUCH AS KIDS. IT'S A GREAT AMUSEMENT PARK TO KEEP YOU OCCUPIED FOR A DAY EASILY. YOU COULD SPOT POLAR BEARS, PENGUINS, AND SMALL SHARKS. SO, IF YOU ARE A FAN OF MARINE LIFE OR WISH TO INDULGE IN ADVENTUROUS ACTIVITIES, DO NOT FORGET TO ADD ONE OF THE MOST THRILLING AUSTRALIA TOURIST ATTRACTIONS, SEA WORLD MARINE PARK.

THINGS TO DO: HOP ABOARD THE MONORAIL TO GET A BIRD EYE OVERVIEW OF THE PARK; BUY THE TICKETS FOR SOME OF THE ENTHRALLING PERFORMANCES BY DOLPHINS, SEA LIONS, AND WATER-SKI BALLET. TRY SEA-THEMED RIDES LIKE A ROLLER COASTER.



SKIING AT SNOWY MOUNTAINS

AUSTRALIA'S ULTIMATE SNOW SPORTS PLAYGROUND IS THE SNOWY MOUNTAINS REGION. AMONG THE BEST AUSTRALIA TOURIST ATTRACTIONS, SNOWY MOUNTAINS ARE HIGHLY KNOWN FOR THEIR TRUE ALPINE WILDERNESS. YOU MAY NOT BELIEVE THAT THIS IS WHERE YOU FIND MT KOSCIUSZKO – ONE OF THE CONTINENT'S HIGHEST PEAKS AND ITS ONLY GLACIAL LAKE. YOU HAVE PLENTY OF OPTIONS TO HAVE FUN OFF AND ON THE SNOW FIELDS HERE. SO, HEAD STRAIGHT TO ONE OF THE BEST PLACES TO SEE IN AUSTRALIA FOR AN ADVENTUROUS OUTING ON YOUR HOLIDAY!

THINGS TO DO: SKIING, SNOWBOARDING, SNOW TUBING & SNOW SHOEING

SKY DIVING IN MELBOURNE

IF YOU'RE AN ADVENTUROUS SOUL ROAMING AROUND MELBOURNE, YOU'D CERTAINLY WANT TO CHECK OUT THE NUMEROUS SKYDIVING SCHOOLS HERE. IT'S A MIND-BLOWING EXPERIENCE AS YOU FREE FALL OVER TO SOME OF THE GORGEOUS LANDSCAPES LOOKING AMAZING RIGHT BELOW YOU.

THINGS TO DO: SKY DIVING OVER THE YARRA VALLEY OR THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD.

MELBOURNE CHAPEL STREET

A SHOPPER'S PARADISE, MELBOURNE BECKONS THE SHOPAHOLICS AND THE TOURISTS ALIKE WITH ITS MAGNIFICENT SHOPPING PLACES WHICH SPEAK OF ELEGANCE, STYLE, AND LUXURY. IF YOU'RE IN THE MOOD FOR SOME EXQUISITE SHOPPING TIME, THIS IS SURELY ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS PLACES IN AUSTRALIA. SO, UNLEASH YOUR IMAGINATION BY PICKING THE BEST OUTFITS AND ACCESSORIES AT ONE OF THE WORLD-FAMOUS SHOPPING AUSTRALIA TOURIST ATTRACTIONS, MELBOURNE CHAPEL STREET.

THINGS TO DO: VISIT FASHION BOUTIQUES & WORLD-CLASS RESTAURANTS

ONE OF THE FAMOUS PLACES IN AUSTRALIA, SYDNEY HOLDS MANY RECORDS FOR BEING THE MOST FAMOUS ICON OF AUSTRALIA TOURIST ATTRACTIONS AND ONE OF THEM INCLUDES BEING VERY KNOWN FOR SHOPPING. YOU COULD SHOP ALL YOU WANT WHILE YOU ARE HERE. THE SHOPPING STREETS ARE ADDED DELIGHTS!
THINGS TO DO: CHECK OUT THE PITT STREET MALL, CENTRE POINT, IMPERIAL ARCADE, SKY GARDEN

PITT STREET MALL IN SYDNEY

QUEEN STREET MALL IN BRISBANE

IF YOU'RE IN ONE OF THE FAMOUS CITIES OF AUSTRALIA, LIKE BRISBANE, DON'T FORGET TO HEAD TO THE QUEEN MALL – HOME TO SOME OF THE TOP FASHION BRANDS IN THE WORLD INCLUDING THE LIKES OF MYER CENTRE. IF YOU'RE A FASHION DIVA, YOU WOULD ABSOLUTELY FALL IN LOVE WITH THIS CITY OF DELIGHT INSTANTLY! A SHOPPING HAVEN FOR ALL, QUEEN STREET MALL OFFERS EVERYTHING YOU CAN DREAM OF. SO, ON YOUR WAY TO THE COUNTRY, DO NOT FORGET TO ADD ONE OF THE ICONIC AUSTRALIA TOURIST DESTINATIONS, QUEEN STREET MALL, TO YOUR ITINERARY.
THINGS TO DO: SHOP FOR ALL TYPES OF CLOTHING, VISIT QUEEN MALL & THE SURROUNDING STREETS

PERTH OFFERS A NUMBER OF OPTIONS TO THE TOURISTS IN TERMS OF THE OVERALL SHOPPING EXPERIENCE. BE IT THE NUMBER OF BRANDS OR THE PLETHORA OF CHOICES IN VARIOUS THINGS, INCLUDING SOME SPLENDID SOUVENIRS, PERTH ENCOMPASSES IT ALL.
THINGS TO DO: HARBOR TOWN, VISIT FABULOUS STREETS OF MURRAY AND HAY TO FIND THE LEADING BRANDS OF THE WORLD

KING STREET IN PERTH

RUNDLE MALL IN ADELAIDE

THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL CITY, ADELAIDE HAS PLENTY IN STORE FOR THE SHOPPING ENTHUSIASTS WITH THE RUNDLE MALL ALONE HOUSING MORE THAN 600 SHOPS OF DIFFERENT TYPES AND BRANDS. AS FASHIONISTAS, YOU CAN SOAK YOURSELF INTO THE TRANQUIL OPULENCE AT THE SHOPPING HAVEN. AMONG THE EXCLUSIVE SHOPPING AUSTRALIA TOURIST ATTRACTIONS, YOU CAN HAVE A WONDERFUL TIME WITH LOVED ONES OR SOLO. SO, MIX AND MATCH CLOTHES THAT APPEAL TO YOU, AND ELEVATE YOUR FASHION GAME.
THINGS TO DO: HEAD TO RUNDLE MALL TO FIND SOME OF THE LEADING AUSTRALIAN RETAILERS, SHOP SOME LOVELY THINGS TO TAKE BACK HOME FROM THE EXCLUSIVE SHOPS SELLING THE BEST SPECIALTY PRODUCTS

BONDI BEACH

IF BONDI HAS TO BE DESCRIBED IN A SHORT SENTENCE THEN THE PHRASE – THIS IS REALLY HEAVEN ON EARTH, WOULD SUFFICE. FULL OF SURF, SAND, AND BRONZED BODIES, BONDI BEACH IS ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS BEACHES IN THE WORLD. AMONG THE SPECTACULAR AUSTRALIA TOURIST ATTRACTIONS, BONDI BEACH IS HOME TO ONE OF THE OLDEST LIFE-SAVING CLUBS IN THE WHOLE WORLD. FROM STROLLING AT THE SEASIDE TO HAVING A PICNIC WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS, THIS IS AN AMAZING PLACE TO SEEK COMFORT FROM THE DAILY CITY LIFE. THIS IS ALSO THE SPOT WHERE THE LOCALS AND TOURISTS ALIKE GATHER TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR. DO NOT FORGET TO HAVE AN EXCEPTIONAL DINING EXPERIENCE AT THE BEACH, WHERE WORLD-CLASS RESTAURANTS AND CAFES OFFER LIP-SMACKING FOOD & BEVERAGES.

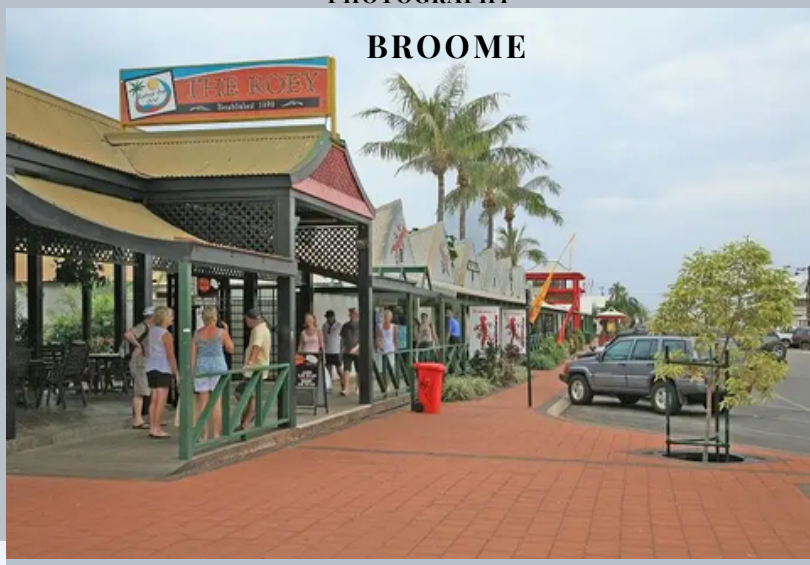
THINGS TO DO: STROLL ALONG THE BRONTE COASTAL WALK ALONG SHEER SANDSTONE CLIFFS, VISIT OCEAN POOL, SUNDAY MARKETS & SKATE PARK

DAINTREE NATIONAL PARK

LOCATED IN FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND, THE AREA OF THIS NATIONAL PARK BELONGS TO THE EASTERN KUKU YALANJI ABORIGINAL PEOPLE. RICH IN EXOTIC FLORA AND FAUNA, THIS MARVELOUS DESTINATION OFFERS AN ECSTATIC VIBE TO ALL ENTHUSIASTS, INCLUDING NATURE AND WILDLIFE. AMONG AUSTRALIA TOURIST ATTRACTIONS, THIS PLACE IS ONE OF THE FEW SPOTS IN THE WORLD THAT CONTAINS TWO OF THE RICHEST ECOSYSTEMS IN THE ENTIRE PLANET. ONE IS THE MOSSMAN GORGE WHERE VERY CRYSTAL CLEAR WATERS JUST GUSH ALL OVER THE SMOOTH GRANITE BOULDERS AND THE OTHER IS CAPE TRIBULATION WHERE RAINFORESTS CONNECT WITH THE REEF ALONG THE BEAUTIFUL STRETCHES OF WHITE COAST. UNLEASH YOUR INNER EXPLORER BY VISITING THIS HIDDEN GEM AND HAVE A THRILLING ADVENTURE.

THINGS TO DO: GUIDED TOUR, WILDLIFE SAFARIS & PHOTOGRAPHY

BROOME



ONCE CALLED THE PEARL CAPITAL OF THE WORLD, BROOME IS NESTLED IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA. OFTEN CONSIDERED ONE OF THE BOOMING AUSTRALIA TOURIST ATTRACTIONS, BROOME OFFERS A ROMANTIC AND FAMILY RETREAT. ITS MAIN ATTRACTION, CABLE BEACH, MAKES ONE FEEL ON CLOUD NINE DUE TO ITS TURQUOISE WATERS AND ENDLESS SIMMERING WHITE SANDS. DO NOT FORGET TO WITNESS A SPECIAL PHENOMENON CALLED THE STAIRCASE TO THE MOON BETWEEN MARCH AND OCTOBER, AS IT IS A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EXPERIENCE.

THINGS TO DO: CAMEL RIDING, VISIT BROOME CROCODILE PARK & BROOME HISTORICAL MUSEUM, HORIZONTAL WATERFALL, PURNULULU, MITCHELL FALLS

THE ROCKS

SITUATED IN A SLIP OF LAND JUTTING INTO THE SYDNEY HARBOR, THE ROCKS IS A FAMOUS HISTORICAL AREA WHICH WAS HOME TO THE GADIGAL ABORIGINAL PEOPLE ONCE. IT LATER BECAME THE FIRST SITE IN THE COUNTRY FOR EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT. THE NAME COMES FROM THE RUGGED ROCKY COAST SITUATED ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE SYDNEY COVE. IT WAS IN THE SYDNEY COVE THAT THE EUROPEAN CONVICTS PITCHED THEIR FIRST TENTS. PRESENTLY, IT INCLUDES MORE THAN A HUNDRED HERITAGE SITES WHICH ARE LOCATED ON THE NARROW STREETS. STROLL AROUND THE COBBLED STREETS AND VISIT VARIOUS CAFES, SOUVENIR SHOPS, RESTAURANTS, CONTEMPORARY AND ABORIGINAL ART GALLERIES TO UNDERSTAND THE PLACE BETTER.

THINGS TO DO: VISIT THE OLDEST SURVIVING RESIDENCE IN SYDNEY BUILT IN THE YEAR 1816 AND CALLED THE CADMAN'S COTTAGE, VISIT ROCKS DISCOVERY MUSEUM, GUIDED TOURS WHICH WILL ALLOW YOU TO SEE THE ABORIGINAL HERITAGE AND ALSO TAKE YOU ON GHOST TOURS AT NIGHT.

CIRCULAR QUAY

CONSTRUCTED AS A RESULT OF CONVICT LABOR IN THE SYDNEY COVES, THE NOW FAMOUS CIRCULAR QUAY IS HOME TO THE TOWN'S CENTRAL FERRY TERMINAL. AT PEAK HOURS, THE RESTAURANTS, CAFES AND EVERYTHING WHICH LINES THE WATERFRONT IS JAM-PACKED. COME HERE TO SEE THE STREET PERFORMERS ENTERTAIN THE VISITORS AND LOCALS ALIKE. THIS IS A NICE PLACE TO HEAD TO IF YOU WANT TO SEE SOME AMAZING VIEWS OF THE SHIMMERING SEA WHILE ALSO CLEARING YOUR HEAD A LITTLE.
THINGS TO DO: GO ON A HARBOR CRUISE, TAKE FERRIES, VISIT THE TARONGA PARK ZOO

CRADLE MOUNTAIN

IT IS A NATIONAL PARK WHICH HAS BEEN A SANCTUARY AND A TREASURE FOR NATURE LOVERS. THE WILDERNESS OF THE PARK IS RAW AND RUGGED COMPRISING OF SERRATED DOLERITE SUMMITS, SPARKLING LAKES, DENSE FORESTS, AND ALPINE HEATHLANDS. THIS VENUE JUST OFFERS UP AMAZING VIEWS OF THE LUSH GREENERY NO MATTER WHERE YOU TURN. IF YOU TRULY WANT A CHALLENGE THEN TACKLE AND HIKE ON THE 80 KM LONG OVERLAND TRACK WHICH GOES FROM SOUTH TO CRADLE VALLEY AND THEN TO LAKE ST. CLAIR. KEEP YOUR CAMERA CLOSE BECAUSE YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO CATCH VIEWS OF THE TASMANIAN DEVIL, WALLABIES, WOMBATS, PLATYPUS, PADEMELONS AND MORE.
THINGS TO DO: VISIT THE HIGHEST POINT IN THE PARK, MOUNT OSSA (1,616 METERS); HIKING, CLIMBING CRADLE MOUNTAIN

DARLING HARBOR

IT IS A VERY POPULAR HUB FOR BOTH LOCALS AND TOURISTS ALIKE. DARLING HARBOR IS ACTUALLY A WATERFRONT PEDESTRIAN VENUE WHICH IS PACKED UP WITH RESTAURANT, SHOPS, MUSEUMS, ENTERTAINMENT SPOTS, AND EXHIBITIONS. THE SEA LIFE OFFERS A COMPLETE ENTERTAINMENT EXPERIENCE AND THE ENTRANCE TICKET IS A VERY GREAT WAY TO MOVE AHEAD OF THE CROWDS.
THINGS TO DO: VISIT MADAME TUSSAUD'S SEA LIFE, WILDLIFE SPOTTING, VISIT POWERHOUSE MUSEUM, VISIT THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL MARITIME MUSEUM

THE SYDNEY TOWER

OCATED HIGH ABOVE THE CITY SKYLINES IS THE SYDNEY TOWER EYE SOARING TO THE HEIGHT OF 309 METERS. IT IS THE CITY'S HIGHEST BUILDING AND IS ALSO ONE OF ITS MAJOR LANDMARKS. THE TOWER EYE IS A GOLDEN SPIRE TOPPED TURRET WHICH RISES FROM THE CENTER POINT SHOPPING MALL. ENJOY PANORAMIC VIEWS FROM HERE AND AFTER IT'S ALL SAID AND DONE, GET A BITE TO ENJOY AND EAT AT ONE OF THE FASCINATING REVOLVING RESTAURANTS OR THE CHARMING CAFES.
THINGS TO DO: GO ON THE EXPRESS LIFT TO REACH THE UNIQUELY DESIGNED OBSERVATION DECK, EXPERIENCE 4D CINEMA.

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN

ITS TRANQUILITY IS JUST UNMATCHED AND IT STAYS AS AN OASIS OF CALM AMONGST THE HUSTLE AND BUSTLE OF DAILY LIFE WHICH HAS OVERTAKEN THE CITY. LOCATED AT THE FARM COVE, IT LIES JUST A SHORT DISTANCE AWAY FROM THE POPULAR SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE. THE GARDENS WERE ACTUALLY ESTABLISHED IN THE YEAR 1816 AND THEY ENCOMPASS 30 HECTARES OF UNIQUELY THEMED YARDS WHICH ARE FULL OF PALM GROVES, ORCHIDS, FERNS, TOWERING TREES AND ARE VISITED BY FLOCKS OF CUTE FRUIT BATS. THE FERNERY HERE HOLDS SOME AMAZING BEGONIAS, ORCHIDS, AND OTHER TROPICAL FOLIAGE. THE GARDENS ARE JUST A DELIGHT TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS WHERE YOU CAN ENJOY A PICNIC IN THE HILLS AS YOU TAKE IN SOME SCENIC VIEWS.

THINGS TO DO: SEE THE PALACE ROSE GARDEN WHICH CONTAINS 1,800 ROSES, VISIT THE GLASSHOUSE LATITUDE 23, TRAIN TOURS, VISIT THE DOMAIN.

TARONGA ZOO

GET READY TO EXPERIENCE UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL ENCOUNTERS WITH AMAZING AUSSIE WILDLIFE AS WELL AS WITH OTHER ANIMALS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD. LOCATED AT A POINT RIGHT ALONG THE NORTHERN PART OF THE HARBOR, THE ZOO IS ACTUALLY HOUSED IN A PRIME REAL ESTATE AREA WHICH ARE THE VERY LUXURIOUS SUBURBS OF MOSMAN. THE ZOO HOSTS LOTS OF AMAZING EVENTS WHICH INCLUDE THE ROAR AND SNORE THAT IS AN OVERNIGHT STAY AND ALSO INCLUDES A SUMMER CONCERT.

THINGS TO DO: EXPERIENCE THE LEMUR WALK-THROUGH, SEAL SHOW, KOALA ENCOUNTER, SKY SAFARI GONDOLA

AMIDST ALL THE DAILY GRIND OF THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT LIES THE SANCTUARY IS KNOWN AS THE HYDE PARK. IT IS A SPRAWLING PARK WHICH OFFERS PICNIC SPOTS, FOUNTAINS, FLOWERS, AND FIG TREES. IT'S LIKE A MINIATURE OF THE CENTRAL PARK. IT WAS ORIGINALLY NAMED AS HYDE PARK AFTER THE PARK OF THE SAME NAME IN LONDON. COME HERE TO RELAX AND ENGAGE IN CONVERSATION WITH PEOPLE. IF POSSIBLE, BRING ON A PICNIC BASKET FOR A LOVELY AFTERNOON LUNCH WITH YOUR LOVED ONES.

THINGS TO DO: SEE THE BRONZED ARCHIBALD FOUNTAIN, EXPLORE THE THREE GEORGIAN BUILDING ART DECO ANZAC WAR MEMORIAL & HYDE PARK BARRACKS

HYDE PARK

BARANGAROO RESERVE

AN AMAZING EXAMPLE OF HOW AN URBAN RENEWAL PROJECT SHOULD BE CARRIED, WHICH HAS RESULTED IN A BEAUTIFUL SPOT FOR ENJOYING A WALK ALONG THE HARBOR. IT IS NAMED AFTER THE FEMALE INDIGENOUS LEADER WHO PROVED TO BE INFLUENTIAL DURING THE TIME OF EUROPEAN COLONIZATION. IT WAS TRANSFORMED FROM A BITTER LOOKING CONTAINER TERMINAL TO A 22-HECTARE SPRAWLING WATERFRONT PRECINCT THAT WAS OPENED UP FOR PUBLIC VIEWING. PRESENTLY, IT IS HOME TO MORE THAN 75,000 NATIVE TREES AND SHRUBS. THERE ARE A LOT OF SHOPS, RESTAURANTS, AND EXHIBITION SPACES WHICH WILL KEEP YOUR ATTENTION ENGAGED WHILE YOU ARE HERE.

THINGS TO DO: WALK ALONG THE WATERFRONT PROMENDADE- WULUGUL WALK, GUIDED TOUR ON ABORIGINAL CULTURE, FERRY RIDES

ART GALLERY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

SURROUNDED BY STUNNING PARKLANDS, THE ART GALLERY OF NEW SOUTH WALES IS ONE OF THE NATION'S MAJOR DISTINGUISHED MUSEUMS. DATING BACK TO 1885, THE ART GALLERY HOUSES GRAND COURTS, RADIANT AND SPACIOUS GALLERIES WHICH ARE FULL OF COLLECTIONS THAT INCLUDE WORKS BY NOTABLE EUROPEAN ARTISTS AND ALSO BY THE BIGGEST CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS. THIS GALLERY ALSO HOUSES SOME OF THE BIGGEST COLLECTIONS OF HISTORIC ABORIGINAL ART IN THE COUNTRY.
THINGS TO DO: TOUR OF THE GALLERY, SEE THE VARIOUS STATIONS, BROWSE THE GIFT SHOP OF THE GALLERY

CHINATOWN

BREATHE IN THE AMAZING NOSE-TURNING FRAGRANCE OF SPICY SZECHUAN SPICES AND GO SHOPPING FOR SOME OF THOSE AMAZING CHINESE SPECIALTY THINGS. HERE BRING AN EMPTY STOMACH SO THAT YOU CAN FEAST UPON SOME AUTHENTIC ASIAN MEALS. YOU WILL BE GREETED BY THE LION GATES WHICH ARE LOCATED HERE AT EACH END AND THIS SMALL DISTRICT LIES SMACK IN THE PEDESTRIAN SPACE OF DOXON STREET BETWEEN THE CENTRAL STATION AND DARLING HARBOUR. COME HERE ON THE VERY FIRST FULL MOON NIGHT AFTER 21ST JANUARY BECAUSE THE STREETS HERE JUST BURST WITH LIFE FROM THE CHINESE NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION.
THINGS TO DO: TRY THE POPULAR YUM CHA, VISIT PADDY'S MARKET

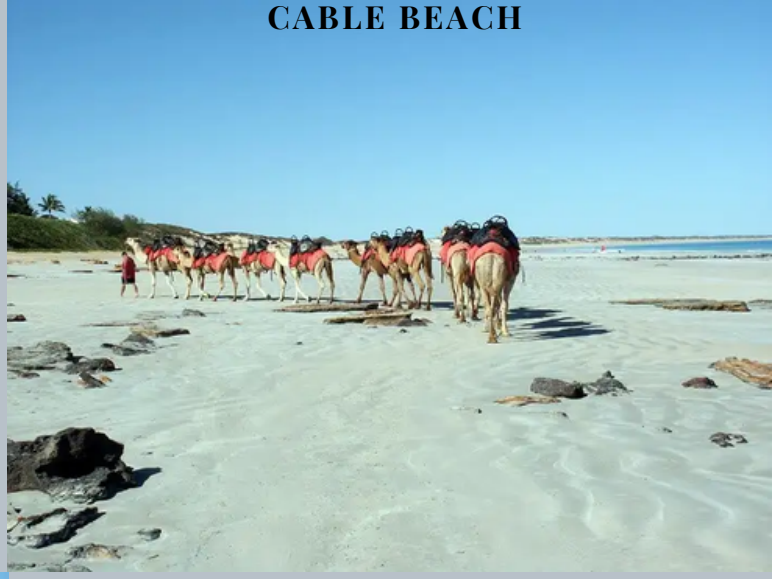
ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL

A SYMBOL OF THE SUSTAINED SPIRITUAL BEGINNINGS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL IS SITUATED JUST OPPOSITE OF HYDE PARK. THE ARCHITECTURE OF THE LANDMARK IS OF A STRIKING NEO-GOTHIC STYLE AND IT IS ALSO THE SEAT OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF SYDNEY. THIS VENUE IS MADE UP OF TWIN SPIRES AND THE BUILDING ITSELF WAS MODELED UPON THE LINCOLN CATHEDRAL. ITS FACADE ALSO BEARS A CLOSE RESEMBLANCE TO THE NOTRE-DAME IN PARIS. WHEN YOU GO INSIDE THE CATHEDRAL YOU WILL SEE VERY INTRICATE GLASS STAINED WINDOWS WHICH THROW AMAZING PATTERNS OF LIGHT. CHRISTMAS IS JUST THE PERFECT TIME TO VISIT SINCE THE BEAUTY OF THE CATHEDRAL IS ENHANCED WITH ALL THE DECORATIONS AND LIGHTS.
THINGS TO DO: ARCHITECTURE PHOTOGRAPHY, EXPERIENCE TRANQUILITY AND PEACE

HORIZONTAL FALLS SCENIC FLIGHT

IF YOU ARE HERE TO EXPERIENCE SOME ACTION, THEN THIS IS THE RIGHT PLACE TO HEAD TO. HERE YOU WILL GET TO CLIMB ON A SEAPLANE FOR A SCENIC RIDE TO THE AMAZING HORIZONTAL FALLS. THE FALLS ARE RUMBLING TIDES WHICH GO THROUGH TWO VERSIONS OF NARROW GORGES. A TYPICAL TRIP LASTS FOR ABOUT 90 MINUTES AND WILL TAKE YOU ALL ALONG THE ROCKY ISLETS AND RED CLIFFS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA'S NORTHERNMOST COAST TO CAPE LEVEQUE. THE RIDE ENDS WITH WATER LANDING OVER ON TALBOT BAY. NEXT UP, YOU CAN CATCH A JET BOARD RIDE TO GO ON A BREATHTAKING CRUISE RIGHT THROUGH THE SCREAMING FALLS.
THINGS TO DO: JET BOAT CRUISE, FEED SHARKS, SWIMMING, PICNIC

CABLE BEACH



CABLE BEACH WAS BRIEFLY MENTIONED BEFORE BUT IT DESERVES A SPOT IN THIS LIST BY ITSELF. SPRAWLING OVER A VAST 22 KM, CABLE BEACH IS A STUNNING PIECE OF DAZZLING TURQUOISE SEA AND WHITE SAND. THE BEACH WAS NAMED AFTER THE COMMUNICATION CABLE LINES WHICH WERE LAID FROM JAVA TO BROOME IN THE YEAR 1889. NOW YOU CAN ENJOY THE SUN IN HERE AND REST EASY ON JUST THE BEAUTIFUL PATCH OF GOLDEN SAND. HERE'S AN IMPORTANT TIP- FROM THE MONTHS OF NOVEMBER TILL MAY, THE DANGEROUS FOR HUMANS, IRUKANDJI JELLYFISH ARE FOUND IN THE WATERS. SO IT'S BEST TO AVOID THESE MONTHS. MOREOVER, KEEP IN MIND THAT THE BEACH BURNS IN THE HEAT AS THE SUN CLIMBS SO SUNSCREEN AND AN UMBRELLA IS A MUST.
THINGS TO DO: SUNSET CAMEL RIDES, PICNIC, EXQUISITE DINING EXPERIENCE

GANTHEAUME POINT

THIS STANDS AS A STUNNING CONTRAST BETWEEN THE EYE-CATCHING RED CLIFFS AND THE EYE-POPPING CERULEAN BLUE SEA OF THE GANTHEAUME POINT. A GREAT PLACE TO ENGAGE IN PHOTOGRAPHY, THE POINT IS LOCATED TO THE SOUTH OF CABLE BEACH AND IT IS AROUND 6 KM FROM THE NEAREST TOWN. IF YOU GO HUNTING FOR PREHISTORIC DINOSAUR FOOTPRINTS, THEN MAKE SURE TO WEAR THE APPROPRIATE SHOES. THE POINT IS MADE COMPLETE WITH A LIGHTHOUSE THAT OVERLOOKS THE INDIAN OCEAN. A GREAT PLACE TO HAVE SOME SOLITARY EXPERIENCES AND THOUGHTS.
THINGS TO DO: DINOSAUR FOOTPRINTS, BATHING IN ANASTASIA'S POOL, FISHING

MALCOLM DOUGLAS WILDERNESS WILDLIFE PARK

ARE YOU AN ANIMAL LOVER OR AN ADVENTURER? STEP INTO ONE OF THE MOST WONDERFUL AUSTRALIA TOURIST ATTRACTIONS, MALCOLM DOUGLAS WILDERNESS WILDLIFE PARK. FROM CUDDLING UP WITH A BABY CROCODILE TO COMMUNICATING WITH THE KANGAROOS, YOU CAN HAVE A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EXPERIENCE. THE ANIMAL ENTHUSIASTS CAN ENJOY SOME CLOSE-UPS OF THE NATION'S FORMIDABLE AND ADORABLE CREATURES WHILE GETTING TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THEIR BEHAVIORS AND HABITATS. YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SEE DINGOES, WALLABIES, LIZARDS, SNAKES AND MORE WHO ALSO INHABIT THE PARK ALONG WITH A WHOLE RANGE OF CUTE FEATHERED CRITTERS WHICH INCLUDES KOOKABURRAS TO COCKATOOS.
THINGS TO DO: WILDLIFE SPOTTING, BIRDWATCHING, VISIT 12 MILE BIRD PARK

SUN PICTURES

GET LAZY AND RELAX IN A DECK CHAIR AS YOU TAKE IN THE STARRY NIGHT AND ENJOY A CLASSIC MOVIE AT THE OLDEST OUTDOOR CINEMA CURRENTLY IN OPERATION. SUN PICTURES IS LOCATED RIGHT AT THE HEART OF BROOME'S CHINATOWN IN CARNARVON STREET AND IT SCREENS SOME MOVIES PER NIGHT. BUT WHAT'S MORE INTERESTING ABOUT IT IS ITS OWN STORY. THE CINEMA WAS MADE IN THE EARLY 1900S AND IT WAS A STORE WHICH WAS OWNED BY THE YAMASAKI FAMILY. IT IS AMONG THE ICONIC DESTINATIONS OF AUSTRALIA, AND A MUST-VISIT, ESPECIALLY FOR MOVIE LOVERS.
THINGS TO DO: WATCH A HERITAGE LISTED MOVIE, CHECK THE SMALL MUSEUM FOR CINEMA MEMORABILIA.

PEARL FARM TOURS

BROOME WAS ONCE THE REIGNING CHAMPION IN THE WORLD WHEN IT CAME TO PEARLING. VISITORS HERE CAN TAKE A TOUR TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE LOCAL PEARL FARMS CULTURE THE HIGHLY SOUGHT AFTER AND HIGHLY ACCLAIMED SOUTH SEA PEARLS. YOU WILL KNOW EVERYTHING FROM OYSTER SEEDING TO HARVESTING AND GRADING THE PEARLS IN THIS TOUR. KEEP A NOTE THAT THERE ARE VARIOUS TYPES OF WAYS TO TAKE THE TOUR, AS IN YOU CAN OPT FOR AID, LAND OR SEA TOURS. IT ALL DEPENDS ON THE TOUR OPERATOR AS WELL THE TIME CONSTRAINTS WHICH MEMBERS OF THE TOUR GROUP MIGHT BE FACING.

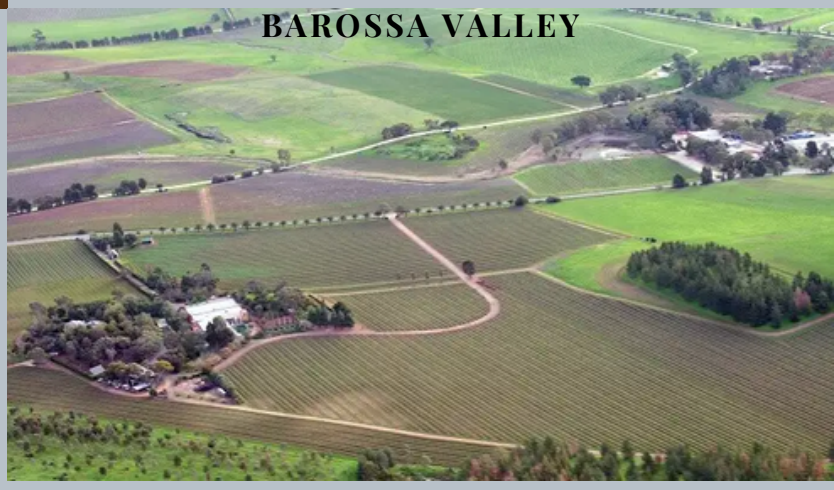
THINGS TO DO: VISIT CYGNET BAY AND WILLIE BAY FARMS, SHOP FOR PEARLS AS A SOUVENIR

BROOME HISTORICAL MUSEUM

THIS HISTORICAL MUSEUM GIVES AN OVERVIEW OF THE TOWN'S AMAZINGLY FASCINATING HISTORY. THE MUSEUM FEATURES LOTS OF INFORMATIVE EXHIBITS ON CYCLONES, PEARLING INDUSTRY, ABORIGINAL ARTIFACTS AND MORE. MAKE SURE YOU VISIT THIS PLACE WITH SOME TIME ON YOUR HANDS SO THAT YOU CAN SOAK IN ALL THIS PLACE HAS TO POSSIBLY OFFER. KIDS WILL ENJOY THIS VENUE CAUSE THE MUSEUM HOLDS A VERY INTERACTIVE QUIZ.

THINGS TO DO: TAKE A GUIDED TOUR OF THE MUSEUM, TAKE PART IN THE EXHIBITS, SEE THE JAPANESE CEMETERY WHERE THE JAPANESE PEARL-FISHERS WHO DIED DUE TO A CYCLONE HITTING THE PLACE IN 1908 ARE COMMEMORATED.

BAROSSA VALLEY



IF YOU LOVE WINE AND VINEYARDS, THEN YOU MUST VISIT BAROSSA VALLEY IN ADELAIDE. THIS PLACE IS MUSHROOMING WITH SOME OF THE FINEST WINERIES IN THE REGION. PEOPLE TAKE WINE TOURS ACROSS THE REGION TO SIP SOME OF THE FINEST WINES. THE REGION WAS FIRST OCCUPIED BY ENGLISHMEN IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY AND NOW THERE ARE MORE THAN 150 WINERIES AND CELLAR DOORS. YOU MAY HAVE TO TAKE PRIOR APPOINTMENT TO VISIT THE BEST OF THE VINEYARDS. IT IS ONE OF THE GREAT PLACES TO VISIT IN AUSTRALIA.

THINGS TO DO: TAKE WINE TOURS, ROAD TRIPS, HOT AIR BALLOON RIDE, TASTE SMOKED MEAT & BREAD

CLELAND CONSERVATION PARK

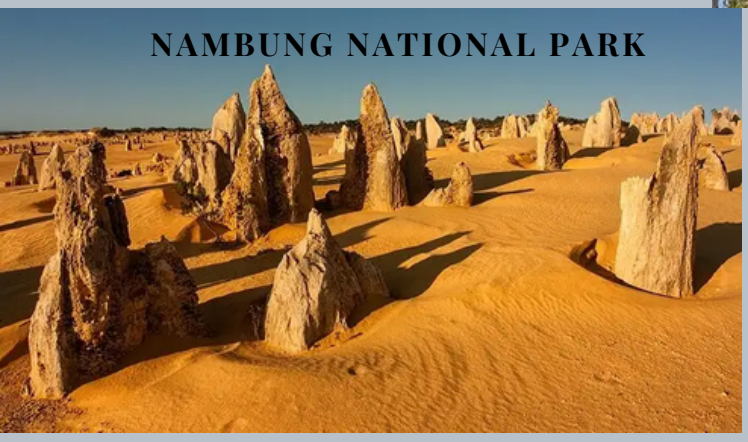
IF YOU WANT TO MEET KOALAS, CLELAND IS WHERE YOU WILL FIND THEM RELAXING IN THEIR NATURAL HABITAT. ONE OF THE GOOD PLACES TO VISIT IN AUSTRALIA, THE PLACE IS ABUNDANT WITH NATURAL AND CULTURAL BEAUTY. APART FROM RICH FLORA AND FAUNA, THIS PLACE HAS A LOT OF ADVENTURE TO OFFER TO VISITORS. THE CYCLING TRAILS ARE BEST TO ENJOY THE SCENIC BEAUTY OF THIS PLACE GET A BOOST OF ADRENALINE.

THINGS TO DO: BIKING, VISIT THE CLELAND CAFE FOR A REFRESHING MEAL AND COFFEE, PLAY WITH KANGAROOS & KOALAS

ROTTNEST ISLAND

ROTTNEST ISLAND NEAR PERTH IS ONE OF THE BEST PLACES YOU HAVE TO VISIT IN AUSTRALIA OWING TO ITS NATURAL BEAUTY. THIS IS WHERE YOU CAN HAVE A TROPICAL ISLAND TIME DURING YOUR VACATION IN AUSTRALIA. THE TURQUOISE WATERS OF THE SEA ARE PERFECT FOR FROLIC AND FUN. THERE ARE EVEN A NUMBER OF BIKING AND WALKING THAT YOU CAN EXPLORE ON THE ISLAND.
THINGS TO DO: BIKING, SURFING, SNORKELING, SCUBA DIVING

NAMBUNG NATIONAL PARK



ONE OF THE MOST ASTOUNDING TOURIST ATTRACTIONS OF AUSTRALIA, NAMBUNG NATIONAL PARK WILL LEAVE YOU STUNNED WITH ITS ETHEREAL BEAUTY AND THE LARGE STONE STRUCTURES CALLED PINNACLES. THESE PINNACLES ARE LIMESTONE FORMATIONS THAT DATE BACK TO MILLIONS OF YEARS AND ARE SCATTERED ALL OVER THE DESERT IN NAMBUNG NATIONAL PARK. AS ARCHITECTURE ENTHUSIASTS AND ADVENTURERS ALIKE, YOU CAN HAVE AN ADRENALINE-FILLED EXPERIENCE AT NAMBUNG NATIONAL PARK, ONE OF THE OFFBEAT AUSTRALIA TOURIST ATTRACTIONS.
THINGS TO DO: SUNSET WATCHING, PICNIC ON BEACHES, SNORKELING, SCUBA DIVING

BYRON BAY

SITUATED ON THE NORTHERNMOST COAST OF NEW SOUTH WALES, ONE OF THE MUST VISIT PLACES IN AUSTRALIA IS BYRON BAY. TEMPERATE CLIMATE HOVERS AROUND THE BAY WHICH HAS MULTIPLE BEACHES AND HINTERLAND. YOU WILL BE GREETED BY NATURE RESERVES, SECLUDED BEACHES, GUSHING WATERFALLS WITH A SWEET TOUCH OF NATURE TO PLEASE YOUR EYES. YOU CAN ALSO ENJOY KITESURFING, ONE OF THE TOP ADVENTURE SPORTS IN AUSTRALIA AT BYRON BAY. IN SHORT, WITH SO MANY THINGS TO EXPLORE, BYRON BAY BECOMES ONE OF THE TOP AUSTRALIA TOURIST ATTRACTIONS.
THINGS TO DO: BIRDWATCHING, WHALE WATCHING, NATURE WALKS, ROCK SCRAMBLING

MUDGEE

SIGHTSEEING IN AUSTRALIA HAS NEVER BEEN BETTER WITH EXPLORING MUDGEE, A NORTHWESTERN TOWN OF SYDNEY. IT IS A SMALL, ELEGANT TOWN THAT IS POPULAR AS A TOP WINE-MAKING REGION, HOUSING COLONIAL BUILDINGS, AND THE PRETTY CUDGEGONG RIVER. SOME AMAZING THINGS TO ENGAGE YOURSELF IN ONE OF THE AMAZING ATTRACTIONS OF AUSTRALIA, MUDGEE, INCLUDE PICNICKING AT ROBERTSON PARK, GETTING AMAZING VIEWS AT THE ROCK LOOKOUT, EXPLORING THE AVISFORD NATURE RESERVE JUST MAKES MUDGEE ONE OF THE TOP AUSTRALIA TOURIST ATTRACTIONS. THE TOWN AND ITS NATURAL RESERVES MAKE IT ONE OF THE TOP SPOTS FOR CAMPING NEAR SYDNEY, IF YOU ARE IN THE MOOD FOR THAT.
THINGS TO DO: SHOPPING, WINERIES' TOURS, STARGAZING AT THE MUDGEE OBSERVATORY

STEP-BY-STEP PASSPORT APPLICATION PROCESS

1. SET AN APPOINTMENT ONLINE.

Before anything else, the online appointment is FREE. What you are paying for is the passport processing fee. Now that it's clear, let's proceed. Walk-in applicants are normally not allowed EXCEPT for emergency and special cases. Regular and non-emergency applicants must secure their slots by setting an online appointment. As much as possible, do it months before your desired travel date to give you enough lead time. Due to the heavy volume of applications, available slots might be too late for you.

How to set an appointment online?

- Visit the DFA Online Passport Appointment System website.
- Read the Terms and Conditions, and then tick the box. This means that you have understood the terms.
- There are two options: INDIVIDUAL Appointment and GROUP Appointment. Choose the one that applies to you.
- Choose a DFA office/branch. Select the one nearest you or the one most convenient for you. Later on, you can change it and check other branches if you are having a hard time securing a slot with your first choice. Hit the Next button.
- Select a date and time from the provided calendar. The earliest open date is noted above the calendar. The dates in GREEN are AVAILABLE, while those in RED are FULL

2. FILL OUT THE APPLICATION FORM.

After you get a slot, you will be directed to the next step, which is filling out the four-page online application form. Remember, you only have 15 minutes to complete this. Prepare the following information before you schedule an online appointment to save more time.

- Personal Information: The first page contains your Personal Information such as Name, Birth Date, Contact Numbers, E-mail Address, etc. For your email address, input your free Gmail account. I tried using my custom email address at first, but I failed to receive a confirmation email that also contains the reference number for paying the passport processing fee. I had to wait for the schedule to expire after 24 hours to try to set an appointment again. On the second try, I used my free Gmail account and immediately got the email confirmation.
- Family Information: The second page requires your Family Information like your Parents' and Spouse's names and Citizenship.
- Application Information: The third page is all about your Application Information including Application Type, Citizenship, and Emergency Contact Person and his/her contact number.
- Contact Information. The fourth page asks for your home and office addresses and contact numbers.

3. PAY THE PASSPORT PROCESSING FEE.

- The next step after you submit the form is the payment for the passport processing fee. Choose one of the two processing options, depending on what applies to you:
- Regular Processing: This costs P950 and takes 10-15 days in Manila.
- Express Processing: This costs P1200 and takes 5-7 days in Manila.
- We heard that the processing time in the regional offices takes longer compared to Manila. They say the length of days for processing may take 20-30 days, but we haven't confirmed this yet.
- This is how the payment process goes:
- Select between regular or express processing.
- Then hit PAY NOW.
- A message will pop up. Click the "I agree" box, then hit PROCEED TO PAYMENT.
- You will land on the PAYMENT page where you will see the payment options, the total amount that you need to pay, and some reminders. A convenience fee of P50 per person is normally added on top of the total processing fee amount. Hit PROCEED.
- You will receive an email providing your Payment Reference Number and instructions on how to settle your payment. Hold on to your reference number.
- You need to pay the processing fee within 24 hours. Go to your chosen authorized payment center. You have to secure a copy of your reference number. Make sure you declare and pay the exact total amount.
- After settling your payment, an appointment confirmation will be sent to your email. You will find three files attached to the email: your application form, the receipt, and the checklist. You need to secure a hard copy of each file. Print them all out. Use A4 paper. You need to bring them on the day of your appointment.

REMINDERS:

These are the payment centers authorized by the DFA for the transaction of the passport processing fee:

– Bayad Center
– EcPay
– Pera Hub
– Robinsons Business Center and Department Stores
– Waltermart Department Store
– 7-Eleven
– USCC (Western Union)
– Villarica Pawnshop

4. Show up at your chosen DFA Office on your appointment date.

- The day finally arrives! You need to appear personally at your chosen DFA office on your scheduled date. Don't forget to bring all the requirements with you, plus the Application Form printout (hard copy), the checklist with your confirmed schedule, and your eReceipt (two copies).
- For my most recent passport renewal, I was fortunate to get a slot at the branch nearest to where I live — DFA NCR South. My appointment was at 5:00 PM, so I arrived at 4:30 PM. Here's my experience:
- Document Verification. Even at the entrance, the guard will ask for the checklist with your confirmed schedule. They will check if you bring all the requirements with you. Don't forget to bring a photocopy of your old passport (renewal) or valid ID (new application).
- Processing. They will review your documents/requirements. When they are done checking, they will stamp your receipt with a date of release.
- Data Encoding and Biometrics. This is the part where they will encode your personal information like your name, birth date, and other details. They will give you time to check the encoded details on the computer screen, so check those spelling and typos. After that, they will take your photo, fingerprints, and signature.
- Delivery. This is an additional step for those who want their passports to be delivered instead of personally picking them up at the DFA office. DFA partners with courier and forwarding service companies. I availed of this service and paid the delivery fee of P150. They will take your application receipt and then hand you their own delivery receipt. Expect your passport to arrive one to two days after the scheduled release date. You may skip this part if you want to personally pick up your brand new passport on the scheduled release date.
- NOTE: A team member applied at DFA ASEANA a couple of years ago. If you are also applying there, some touts will trick you into buying a long brown envelope or ballpen. You do not need them. You can put your documents in a folder or envelope if you want to keep them neat and organized. It won't hurt also to bring an extra pen just in case.
- REMINDERS:
- Don't be late. Be there at least 30 minutes before you confirmed schedule. Those who arrive late for their appointment will not be accommodated.
- Make sure to bring all the requirements — both the original and the photocopies.
- The DFA implements a "No Escort" policy. Companions, who are not applicants, are not permitted within the DFA premises UNLESS they are the guardian of a minor or they are assisting a person with special needs.
- Wear proper attire. The DFA enforces a strict dress code, which prohibits wearing spaghetti straps, sando, plunging neckline, sleeveless top, tube top, halter top, and see-through top. Colored contact lenses, eyeglasses, and accessories like earrings, necklaces, or other facial piercings must be removed during photo capturing.
- Make yourself presentable, looking your best. Remember that your photo will be taken for your passport with 10-year validity, so that image of you will stick with you for a long time. But please avoid applying too much makeup.

- **5. Pick up your passport.**
- If you did not avail of the passport delivery service during your application at the DFA office of your choice, you have to go back on the indicated release date of your passport. If there's a change in the schedule, the DFA will email you in advance. Make sure you bring your application receipt and other proof like the claim stub, if applicable. Check all the details on your passport before leaving the counter. Make sure your name is not misspelled and there are no typos.
- Can't claim the passport yourself?
- An immediate family member can claim your passport on your behalf, provided that she has an authorization letter prepared and signed by you and other requirements. An immediate family member can be your mother, father, brother, sister, husband, wife, or child of legal age. They must bring the following:
- Authorization Letter
- Original Receipt
- Applicant's Valid ID (original and photocopy)
- Representative's Valid ID (original and photocopy)
- No immediate family member available to claim your passport on your behalf?
- If no immediate family can claim it for you, the person must bring the following:
- A Special Power of Attorney
- Original Receipt
- Applicant's Valid ID (original and photocopy)
- Representative's Valid ID (original and photocopy)

AUSTRALIA VISA ONLINE APPLICATION STEPS

Create an Online Account

The first thing you need to do if you want to apply for an Australian visa is open an individual online account at the official website of the Australian Department of Home Affairs (ImmiAccount). You can open the account free of charge – all you have to do is put in your personal information, set up a password, and confirm your account via email.

There is also an option to open an organisational account if the applicant is:

- A migration agent (registered).
- From an organisation.
- From a sponsoring company.

Select the Visa Type

There are several Australian visa types you can choose from. These will mostly vary on the reason for your visit, you can apply for a tourist visa, a student visa, a work visa, etc.

Fill in the Australian Visa Form

For each type of visa, there is a different application form. Once you select the visa type you can continue with filling in the form. In the form you have to put down your personal information (name, birthdate, marriage status, etc.), the reason why you want to go to Australia, how long you plan on staying, and so on.

If you are applying with family members/friends every individual needs to have their own separate application form.

- Attach the Required Documents
- For the online application, this is how you attach documents:
- Select the option “attach a document”
- Select who you are attaching the document for.
- Select the reason why you are attaching this document.
- Select the type of document.
- Name the file.
- Select attach.
- There is a separate section for attaching pictures, all you have to do is initially select the option “attach a passport photo” when you want to upload photos.
- >>Australia Visa Photo Requirements.
- The required documents for an Australian visa are different according to your visa type, but, the general requirements include passport, identity pictures, travel insurance, financial statements, etc. Make sure your documents are scanned coloured copies.
- Pay the Application Fee
- The visa fees for Australia change depending on the visa. However, you have to pay the application fee before you submit your application, otherwise, your application won’t be processed.
- The online application allows you to pay the fee through various means. You can pay either with a credit card, debit card, or Paypal.
- Submit the Application
- Once you complete these steps you can go ahead and submit your application. The ImmiAccount allows you to go back and contact the Australian authorities if something has changed. For example, if your address has changed you can let the Department of Foreign Affairs know through the account.
- You can track the visa application process through the account, and while the processing time varies, as each application is different, if there are no issues you may receive a visa as soon as within a few days’ time.

AUSTRALIA VISA PAPER APPLICATION STEPS

Here are the steps you need to take for an Australia visa paper application:
Find the nearest Australian embassy/consulate.

- Set up a meeting at an Australian office.
- Verify the required documents.
- Fill in the application form.
- Pay the application fee.
- Submit the visa application.

Find the Nearest Australian Embassy
Before you begin your application process, find the nearest Australian embassy in your country or consular point. Paper applications have to be submitted to a representative office of the Australian government. Sometimes the nearest office may not be in your country at all, and for this reason, it's important to identify the embassy/consulate first. In addition to this, some paper applications can be sent by post or courier fax, you still have to consult with a local embassy to see if these options are available for you.
The Australian office nearest to you will help you identify what type of visa is most suited for you and which documents you have to submit when you apply.

Set Up an appointment At an Australian Office
Once you find where the nearest embassy is located then you can either email them or go in person to set up an appointment. Most of the time a prior appointment has to be recorded for when you can go and lodge your application.
As soon as your appointment has been confirmed you can start getting ready to apply for an Australia visa.
Verify the Required Documents
Verifying your documents has to be on top of your list of things to do. For your paper application, there is a list of required documents (passport, family certificates, insurance, visa application form, etc.) you must put together so you can attach them to your application form. These documents have to be verified copies of the originals.
You can verify your documents through someone who is:

- An Australian citizen.
- A citizen from your country of residence.
- An individual that is not related to you (by birth, marriage, or romantic relationship).
- An individual that works a profession accepted by the Australian authorities.

- The person who verifies your documents must declare on one-page documents that they recognize these copies of your original documents. On documents with more than one page, the declaration should be written on the first page and initials on every page.
- Fill in the Application Form
- Next, make sure you fill in the correct Australian visa application form and signed it. You will find instructions on how to fill it written in the form. Once you complete the application put it with the rest of the documents and submit all of them together.
- Pay the Application Fee
- You can use an ImmiAccount to pay the fee. There are cases where you can pay the fee the day you go to submit the application. However, since the payment has to be finished first it's always best to check in with the Australian visa application centre in your country.
- Submit Your Visa Application
- As soon as your payment has been verified all that's left is to submit your application at the local embassy. The processing time for your visa application is different for every applicant, but keep in mind that paper applications take longer to get processed than online applications.

ARTICLE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION OF AUSTRALIA

The Bill has been introduced to accelerate major job-creating projects while maintaining Western Australia's world-class environmental standards. It delivers on a number of recommendations from the Independent Review of WA Environmental Approvals Processes and Procedures (Vogel-McFerran Review), which found approvals processes are overly complex, time consuming and costly — holding back projects without providing any additional environmental benefits.

This legislation follows a series of additional reforms being implemented by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation and the Environmental Protection Authority to cut green tape and improve WA's environmental approvals processes.

The Biodiversity Council is a non-profit and independent organisation that is at the forefront of addressing Australia's biodiversity crisis and aims to communicate "evidence-based solutions" (Biodiversity Council, 2024b). The council was founded in 2020 by 11 Australian universities (including the University of Western Australia) and was advocated for by the current Federal Minister for Environment and Water, Tanya Plibersek (Cox, 2022). The Biodiversity Council aims to promote recognition and solutions to the biodiversity crisis in the public, policy, government, and industry (Biodiversity Council, 2024b).

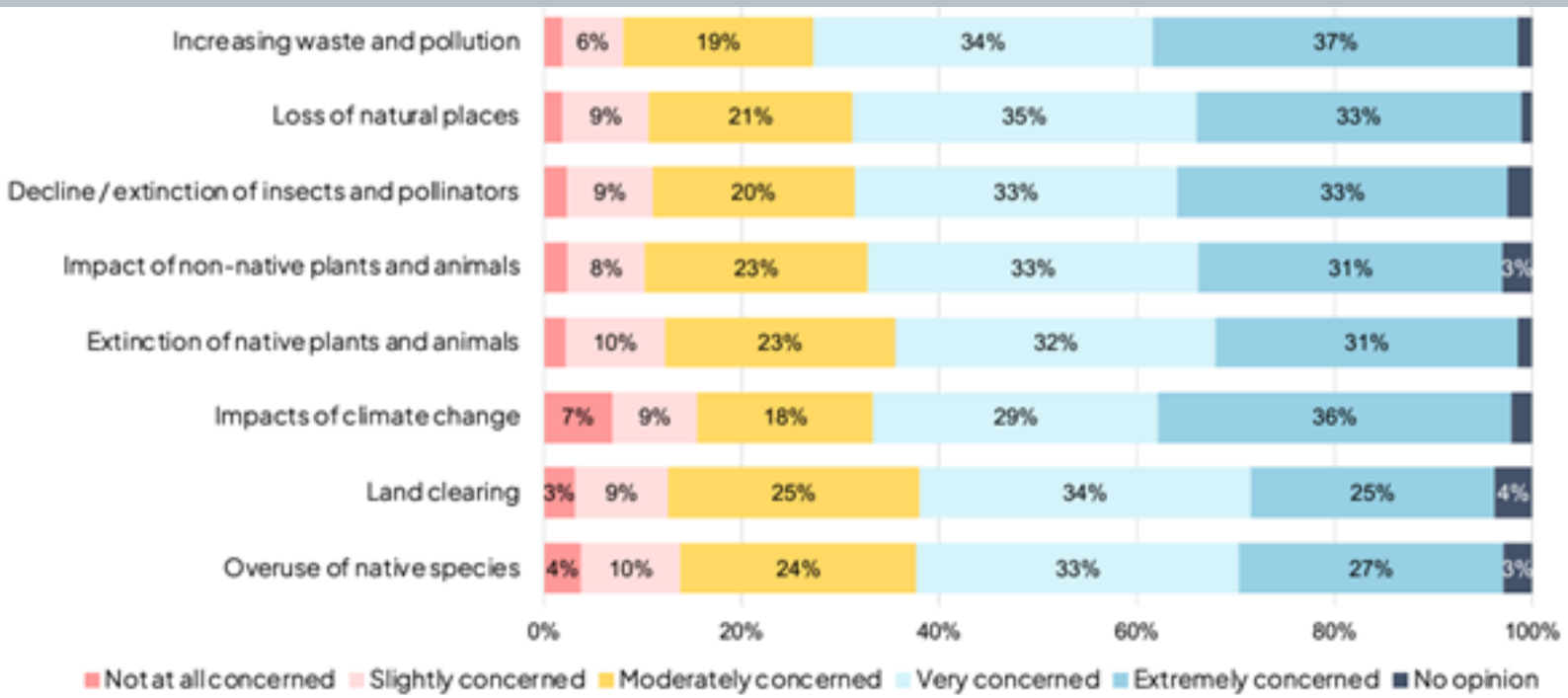
What is the Biodiversity Concerns Report, and who is the Biodiversity Council?

The 2024 Biodiversity Concerns Report (the BC Report) contains the results of the Biodiversity Council's second annual Biodiversity Concerns Survey. The report described the Australian public's concerns for biodiversity and support for environmental reforms. It represents what matters to the Australian public and encourages accountability for the Australian government to address the current biodiversity crisis and help influence government policies and actions.

In November and December 2023, 3421 individuals across Australia conducted a 10-minute online survey to provide their thoughts and feelings on the current state of Australia's biodiversity and attitudes towards the environment (Biodiversity Council, 2024a).

Outcomes of the Report

The BC Report covers several topics in relation to biodiversity: Australian perceptions of nature and public concerns, the government's role in protecting biodiversity and environmental reforms, species and wildlife management, and the responsibility of businesses to support nature (Biodiversity Council, 2024a). The 2024 report found that Australians do, in fact, care deeply about the state of the environment. It revealed that 87% of Australians are at least moderately concerned about biodiversity, and 59% are very or extremely concerned (Biodiversity Council, 2024a). It also found that Australians need to connect with nature in their lives. The majority of Australians enjoy spending time with nature, often using nature for personal recreation or relaxation, and knowing that the environment is looked after is important to them (Biodiversity Council, 2024a). The specific concerns Australians have range from animal extinction to impacts of climate change, and the BC Report surveyed these issues (Figure 2).



PROTECTING AUSTRALIA'S PRECIOUS NATURE BY 2030 IS POSSIBLE

- Recent narratives about the Earth's environment have been marred by gloom and a sense of impending doom. Australia is no stranger to this, with bushfires and floods making headlines several years in a row and another catastrophic summer looming. Amidst this cacophony, the signing of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in December 2022, though a historic milestone, went almost unnoticed.
- Yet the aim of this global framework is nothing short of revolutionary, tasking nations with a lofty science-based goal: to protect 30% of our planet's terrestrial and marine ecosystems by 2030, a goal known by the shorthand "30x30." Although the target is ambitious, Australia is perfectly poised to turn this challenge into a unique opportunity for a nation-building response, setting a precedent for others to draw on.
- Australia's geographical identity as both a country and a continent affords it vast and diverse stretches of terrain teeming with wildlife found nowhere else on the planet. This unique biodiversity—arguably one of the strongest characteristics of our national identity—is under threat. From rampant bushfires to less visible (but equally insidious) threats such as invasive species and habitat degradation, Australia is at an environmental tipping point. This urgency is precisely what can rally the nation into action.

WHAT IS TRADITIONAL AUSTRALIAN CUISINE

The Ultimate Guide to Australian Cooking & Traditional Australian Food

Trying to define Australian cuisine isn't always easy. Sure, we have meat pies, lamingtons, and pavlova, but there's so much more to our cooking than that. While we don't have a traditional dish or native ingredients that define our food, in recent years, we have started to forge a distinctly Aussie food culture, and it's on the rise.

There is a growing interest in seeking Australian food recipes that highlight traditional cooking methods and flavours unique to Australia's culinary identity.

The growing national interest in cooking and dining has put food in the spotlight, and with that, we're starting to carve out our unique twist on cooking. Aussie chefs are taking inspiration from our colonial history and multiculturalism, fusing them with native ingredients and the unique culture we've forged as a nation. The result is food that's distinctly Australian.

INFLUENCES ON AUSTRALIAN CUISINE

- Indigenous Australians have lived in this country for thousands of years, eating on the land and our native flora and fauna. Still, when the British settlers arrived, they did little to learn about the eating habits and ingredients of Australia's native people. They were completely oblivious to the plentiful foods Australia had to offer.
- English seafarer William Dampier wrote in 1697, "The earth affords [Aboriginals] no food at all. There is neither herb, root, pulse nor any sort of grain for them to eat that we saw". With no sign of 'Australian' foods to eat, the colonisers turned back to their British roots for cuisine, and native cooking took a backseat for a couple of hundred years.
- To understand Australian food, we must look at its history and evolution. Initially influenced by British and Irish cuisines, Australian food has also seen the adaptation of Aboriginal bush foods. The impact of multicultural migration has further diversified the culinary landscape, transitioning from traditional meat-and-vegetable meals to a diverse array of global cuisines. This transformation reflects societal changes and immigration patterns over time.
- Recently, Aussie chefs have turned back to Indigenous bush tucker and native ingredients as inspiration. With a whole country's worth of ingredients to discover, returning to using native ingredients and adopting Indigenous food practices is starting to help pin down a uniquely Australian cuisine. Until now, though, the influences on Australian cooking have come from all over the world.

The British influence

- When the British landed in 1788, they'd already considered Australia a barren land with nothing to offer in terms of food. So, they brought along their own traditional foods and ways of eating, forming the foundation of Australian cuisine. Back then, a typical diet consisted of bread, salted meat, oatmeal, cheese, dried peas, tea, and spirits. It was non-fussy British food that did the job but was not necessarily exciting.
- During the early settlement period, labourers were given food rations of 4.5kg meat, 4.5kg flour, 1kg sugar, and 100g tea weekly. With these humble ingredients came the classically Aussie damper, eaten with a slab of meat and some billy tea brewed with a gum leaf. Humanitarian and social reformer Caroline Chisholm made the most of these rations and published a set of recipes with seven different ways of combining meat and flour. These foods were the first sign of uniquely Australian cuisine, carrying hints of a unique emerging culture.
- As agriculture boomed within Australia, people had a wider range of ingredients to work with, and cooking became more popular. Aussie cookbooks were dedicated to using the few ingredients we had to create meals like shepherd's pie, Irish stews, and roasts on a Sunday. Based on traditional British & Irish recipes, these foods became staples in most Australian homes. Today, we can thank the Brits and Irish for our love of the meat pie, a good cuppa, biccies, and the Sunday roast.
- Typical Australian food, such as the iconic meat pie, holds significant cultural value and is widely popular. These dishes illustrate a blend of traditional British influences and contemporary culinary trends, showcasing the evolution of Australian cuisine.

The migration influence

The real changes to Australian cooking came with its many migrants, introducing new ingredients and flavours to the nation. The Gold Rush of 1851 brought with it an influx of Chinese immigrants to the country. Today, there's an undeniable Asian influence in modern Australian cooking, whether in restaurants or our homes. We can thank the Chinese for introducing Yum Cha and inspiring Melbourne's dim sims, while the rest of Asia has the country obsessed with sushi trains, Thai food, and banh mi.

Chinese dumplings have become a beloved traditional food in Australia.

The post-war migration from Europe and the Mediterranean had an even larger influence on Australian cooking. The country became home to big communities of Greeks, Italians, Turks, and Lebanese, each of whom introduced their flavours and food culture to Australia. We discovered capsicums, garlic, eggplants, zucchinis, pastries, and pasta. We can thank these communities for Australia's love of coffee, spag bol, good wine, hommus, and late-night kebab.

One notable example is the Chicken Parmigiana, a popular Australian pub classic. This dish features a chicken schnitzel topped with melted parmigiana cheese and an Italian-inspired tomato sauce. It has evolved from its Italian roots, where it originally used an eggplant base, to become a staple in Australian culinary culture.

The Aussie chef and cookbook influence

Australia's multicultural communities may have introduced their native ingredients and dishes, but they didn't just fall into popularity immediately. Aussie chefs and cookbooks helped spread the knowledge to households everywhere. Before Australian supermarkets blossomed into the wonderfully diverse stores we see today, it was hard to find things like lemongrass, coriander, and Greek yoghurt at your local. Cookbooks were crucial in spreading Australian food recipes, highlighting traditional cooking methods and flavours unique to Australia's culinary identity.

People didn't know what those ingredients were, let alone how to use them! And so began the cookbook revolution, led by daring Aussie chefs learning to use these new and different ingredients. Charmaine Solomon introduced Asian basics to the country, Margaret Fulton taught us all about eggplant and asparagus, and Maggie Beer, Donna Hay, and Stephanie Alexander played their part in defining Aussie cooking at home.

Native Australian ingredients

We're just now starting to discover the wonderful world of new herbs, spices, fruits, vegetables, and grains available in our own backyard. The food Indigenous Australians have been eating for millennia before settlers arrived is finally making a comeback, and it's filling the gap that was missing from traditional Australian cuisine this whole time. Embracing these native ingredients is essential to understanding and appreciating traditional Australian dishes.

- 7 delicious native Australian foods to get to know:
- Warrigal Greens
- Finger Lime
- Kakadu Plum
- Lemon Myrtle
- Quandong
- Sea parsley
- Snowberries

First, we started experimenting with kangaroos, emu, and crocodiles. It was wild, but we ever-so-brave Aussies gave it a red hot go. These meats are now more popular than ever, kickstarting the native ingredient revolution. Now, we're seeing more and more native Australian ingredients used in restaurants. Chefs are introducing new flavours, fruits, and ingredients that exist right here in our backyard. It's reshaping how we look at the country around us and how we view Australian cuisine.

World-renowned Noma chef Rene Redzepi recently hosted a pop-up restaurant in Sydney featuring a 12-course degustation made entirely from native Australian ingredients. He popularised a wide spectrum of flavours we never knew in this country, including Mat-rush, wattleseed, desert oak seeds, fermented kangaroo, lantana, sandpaper fig, bunya nut, green ants, and more. Opening our eyes to a whole new world of ingredients available at our doorstep is exciting. If you thought you'd already experienced the full spectrum and flavours that food had to offer, there's a whole new world waiting out there. With the turn to native ingredients in our cooking, we're assembling the final pieces of the traditional Australian food puzzle.

THE AUSTRALIAN PAVLOVA IS A BELOVED MERINGUE-BASED DESSERT FROM AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

PAVLOVA, A POPULAR MERINGUE-BASED DESSERT FROM AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, IS TYPICALLY DECORATED AND SERVED WITH WHIPPED CREAM AND FRESH FRUIT. IT IS A FESTIVE TREAT OFTEN ENJOYED DURING CELEBRATIONS AND SPECIAL OCCASIONS.

FOOD AND DELICACIES OF AUSTRALIA

WITCHETTY GRUBS

THE MOST AUTHENTIC OF BUSH TUCKER, THE GRUB IS A NUTTY-FLAVORED BITE THAT HAS BEEN ENJOYED BY INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS. THE WIDER AUSTRALIAN NATION HAS OFTEN STRUGGLED WITH EATING IT RAW, BUT TWO FACTS REMAIN – IT ACTUALLY TASTES GOOD AND IT BELONGS TO THE LAND.

MACADAMIA NUTS

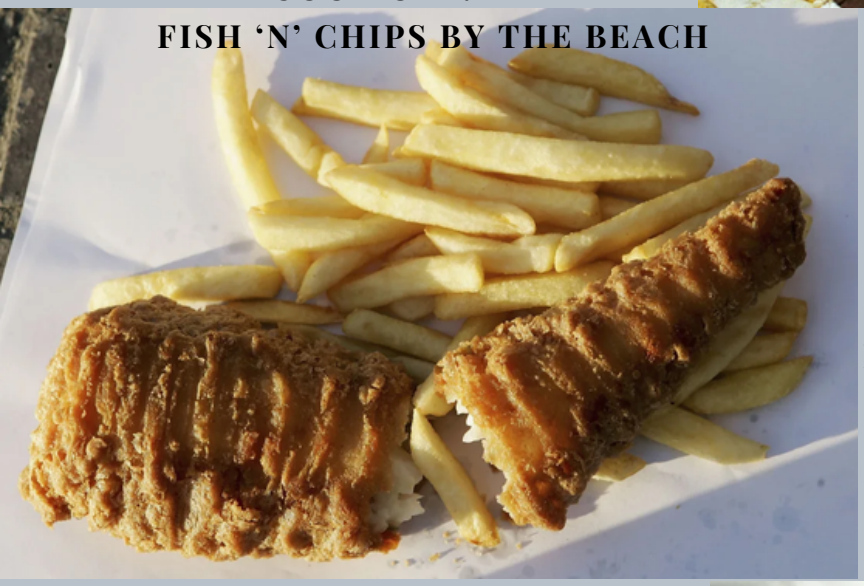
NATIVE TO EASTERN AUSTRALIA, THE MACADAMIA NUT IS EATEN RAW OR INCLUDED IN A VARIETY OF DISHES. FROM BREADS TO LAMB ROASTS AND CAKES, THIS IS A VERSATILE NUT. PICK SOME 'ROUND BYRON BAY DURING SPRING.

LAMINGTONS

THE LAMINGTON IS OFTEN REFERRED TO AS THE "NATIONAL CAKE OF AUSTRALIA." THE NATIONAL TRUST OF QUEENSLAND EVEN NAMED THE LAMINGTON ONE OF AUSTRALIA'S FAVORITE ICONS. THIS SQUARE-SHAPED SPONGE CAKE IS COATED IN A LAYER OF CHOCOLATE ICING AND DESICCATED COCONUT. IT SOMETIMES COMES IN TWO HALVES WITH A LAYER OF CREAM OR JAM IN THE MIDDLE. FOUND COMMONLY THROUGHOUT CAFES AS A PERFECT ACCOMPANIMENT TO TEA AND COFFEE, IT'S ALSO OFTEN BAKED FOR FUNDRAISERS.

MANY A WANDERING SON OR DAUGHTER RETURNS HOME FOR SUNDAY LUNCH WHEN MUM'S COOKING A LAMB ROAST. IT'S THE GARLIC, ROSEMARY AND OLIVE OIL THAT MAKE THIS PIECE OF MEAT DELICIOUS AND TENDER. IT'S THEN SERVED WITH ENOUGH BAKED POTATOES TO END ANY FAMILY FEUD. THOUGH ITS ORIGINS MAY BE BEYOND AUSTRALIAN BORDERS, AUSSIES WILL PROUDLY SAY ONLY THEY KNOW HOW TO PUT ON A GOOD ONE.

LAMB LEG ROAST



FISH 'N' CHIPS BY THE BEACH

IF IT'S WRAPPED IN YESTERDAY'S NEWS, IT'S AN AUSTRALIAN VERSION OF FISH 'N' CHIPS. THE SUN IS OUT, THE WATER'S CRISP AND YOU'RE HUNGRY. WHAT TO GO FOR? AUSTRALIA HAS SOME OF THE BEST SEAFOOD IN THE WORLD AND THAT MEANS YOU'RE ALMOST GUARANTEED FRESH FISH, SERVED WITH SALT AND LEMON, WRAPPED IN YESTERDAY'S NEWSPAPER OR WHITE WRAPPING.

NOTHING IS MORE AUSTRALIAN THAN GETTING FRIENDS OR FAMILY TOGETHER FOR A BARBECUE. AND AT THE HEART OF ANY GOOD BARBIE IS A SELECTION OF GOOD AUSTRALIAN SNAGS – FROM THE TRADITIONAL PORK OR BEEF, TO THOSE FLAVORED WITH HERBS AND SPICES FROM AROUND THE WORLD. THERE'S SOMETHING HOMEY ABOUT A SNAG IN A ROLL OR A SLICE OF BREAD COVERED IN YOUR FAVORITE SAUCE, PERHAPS WITH SOME FRIED ONION ON TOP AND SOME SPUDS ON THE SIDE. A SAUSAGE SIZZLE PUT ON OUTSIDE THE LOCAL HARDWARE STORE ON SUNDAYS MAKES A BIT OF DIY THAT MUCH MORE APPEALING.

BARBECUED SNAGS

CROCODILE

ALTHOUGH NOT UNIQUE TO AUSTRALIA, FILM CHARACTER MICK DUNDEE ENSURED THAT THE CROCODILE BECAME SYNONYMOUS WITH THE COUNTRY. ALTHOUGH CROCODILE LEATHER IS MADE INTO WALLETS, BELTS AND HANDBAGS, ITS MEAT IS CONSUMED BY LOCALS – THOUGH IT'S DEFINITELY MORE OF A DELICACY AND NOT WIDESPREAD.

MEAT PIES

YOU CAN'T TELL ANYONE YOU'RE AUSTRALIAN UNLESS YOU'VE EATEN A MEAT PIE. MORE THAN ONCE. THE FLAKY PACKAGE THAT CONTAINS THIS GUILTY PLEASURE IS THE EPITOME OF AUSTRALIAN FOOD. COLLOQUIALLY REFERRED TO AS A "DOG'S EYE," THE INGREDIENTS OF THE PARCEL HAVE LONG BEEN DEBATED IN AUSTRALIAN CUISINE. IT'S ON THE MENU AT EVERY HOUSE PARTY, SPORTING VENUE AND MORNING AFTER A BIG NIGHT. NOWADAYS, THE MEAT PIE HAS MANY UP-MARKET AND GOURMET VARIATIONS, BUT IF YOU LIKE TO KEEP IT REASONABLY SIMPLE HAVE THE ONE WITH MASHED POTATOES AND GRAVY.

TIM TAM

ARNOTT'S (WHICH PRODUCES TIM TAMS) SAY THAT AROUND 35 MILLION PACKS ARE SOLD EACH YEAR. THAT'S 400 MILLION BISCUITS AT AN AVERAGE OF 1.7 PACKS PER AUSTRALIAN. THE MUCH-LOVED CHOCOLATE BISCUIT IS MADE UP OF TWO LAYERS OF CHOCOLATE-MALTED BISCUIT, SEPARATED BY A LIGHT CHOCOLATE FILLING AND COATED IN MELTED CHOCOLATE. NO WONDER YOU CAN NOW FIND THEM IN SUPERMARKETS AROUND THE WORLD.

AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL SPORT

CRICKET

THE MOST POPULAR SPORT IN AUSTRALIA

RUGBY

HOCKEY

BASKETBALL

A HANDY GUIDE TO THE AUSTRALIAN LIFESTYLE

A "NO WORRIES" ATTITUDE

If there's one thing Aussies are known for, it's their easy-going attitude. Food, events, art and history are all vital parts of the Australian culture, but what really distinguishes an Aussie is his or her laid-back outlook on life. It's the way friends turn up unannounced (but always with a six-pack of beer in hand). It's the reason you'll hear the words "no worries, mate" exchanged between strangers on the street. Most of all, it's about putting aside stress to appreciate the good things in life.

A SPIRIT OF FRIENDSHIP

In Australia, a stranger is just a mate you haven't met yet. Mateship is the beating heart of the Australian spirit – it's practically a national trait. Aussies pride themselves on being good friends and neighbours, and not just to people they know. They tend to greet everyone from the mail carrier to the cab driver with a "g'day" or "how ya going?" For Australians, this emphasis on mateship creates a cheery, welcoming attitude that says anyone can be a mate.

A PASSIONATE SPORTING CULTURE

Australia's lifestyle is laidback, sure, but there's nothing that excites an Aussie more than sport. Australia's sporting culture has been passed through generations, making for a population deeply invested in cricket, rugby, Australian Rules Football, soccer, tennis and more. Locals pour into pubs for rugby games, spend all day in the sun at cricket matches, and use golden beaches as fields for casual games.

A LOVE OF BEING OUTDOORS

Australia is blessed with some of the most beautiful natural landscapes in the world – so it comes as no surprise that Australians love to be outdoors. This passion for nature seeps into the local lifestyle all across the country, and locals take full advantage of their own backyards. Sydneysiders enjoy ocean swims at sunrise, Canberrans take weekend bike rides around the lake, and Perth's King Park is the local's favourite for a picnic.

"EVERY DAY IS AN ADVENTURE!" "LIFE IS TOO SHORT TO NOT HAVE ADVENTURES." "ADVENTURE IS CALLING, AND I MUST GO!" "BE BRAVE AND TAKE RISKS."

MARK RONNEL D, ELCHICO
BSHM 302