

# Australia

Australia is huge! It is more than 30 times bigger than the U.K. It's got six states: the Northern Territory, Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia, plus the Australian Capital Territory and the Island of Tasmania. The dry interior of Australia is called the outback. Most Australians live in or near cities along the coasts. Australia attracts tourists from all over the world. Here are some of the most popular destinations:

1-Sydney is Australia's largest city. It's in New South Wales. Its most famous landmarks are the Opera House and the Sydney Harbour Bridge. Visitors can climb the Sydney Harbour Bridge. The climb takes three hours.

2-The Great Barrier reef is 2,025 kilometres long. It's in the sea of the coast of Queensland. It's the biggest natural structure in the world and it is home to lots of different fish and sea life. It is the only living thing you can see from space!

3-Uluru or Ayers Rock is in the centre of Australia in the Northern Territory. The area is a desert and in summer the temperature reaches 45 C. Uluru is sacred to the aboriginal people. The rock is famous for its colour changes. It is dark red at sunrise and sunset, and black after rain.

4-Kakadu National Park is near Darwin in the Northern Territory. It has beautiful scenery and aboriginal rock art. The aborigines lived in Australia for 24,000 years before the first of Europeans arrived. Some of their paintings are over 20,000 years old.

5-Australia is home to many unusual animals including the koala and the kangaroo. Koalas live in the mountains of New South Wales. The red kangaroo is the largest kangaroo and it can jump 12 meters in one hop. Red kangaroos live in the deserts in Western Australia.

## I-Comprehension:

**Read the text and answer the questions:**

**(5marks)**

1- What is the outback?

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2- In which states are these tourist attractions?

- The Sydney Opera House: .....
- Uluru: .....

3- What can people see in kaKadu?

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4- What living thing can you see from space?

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5- What is special about the red kangaroo?

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