


Australia in foreigners' eyes

A photograph of a brown kangaroo lying on a sandy beach. The kangaroo is facing right, looking towards the ocean. The background features a vibrant turquoise sea with white waves, and a range of brown, rounded hills under a clear blue sky.

Thanks to movies like *Crocodile Dundee* and the power of the internet, heaps of stereotypes about Australia have emerged throughout the years. Plenty of them are true, but many of them couldn't be further from reality.

Here some stereotypes:



Australia is just one big red desert.

Melbourne, Sydney, Canberra, Hobart, Darwin, Adelaide, Brisbane - and also pretty much every city in Australia - doesn't have "a big red desert" going through the middle of it.

Okay, Darwin does a little bit. So this stereotype is not true.

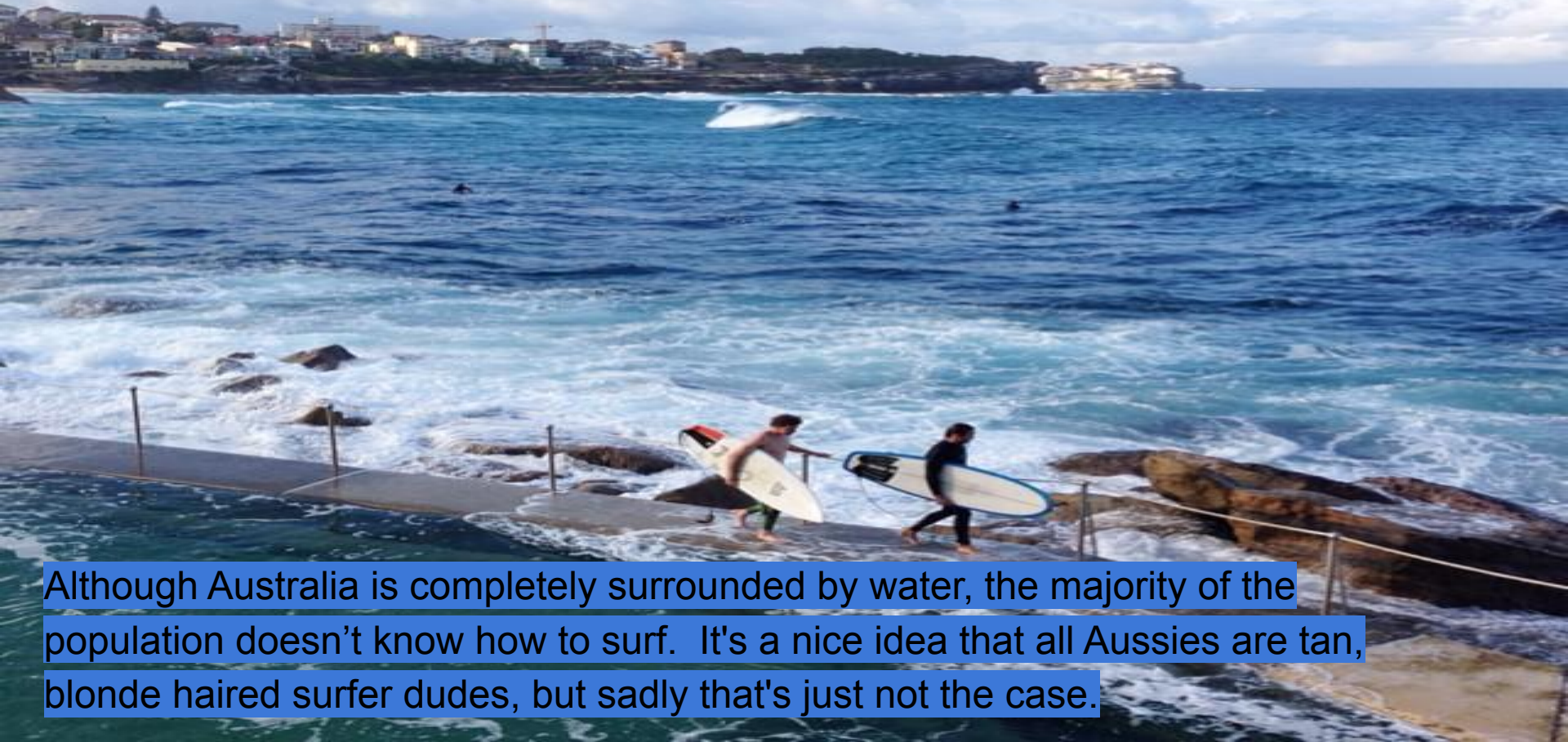
An aerial satellite view of a suburban residential area. The image shows a dense grid of houses with red-tiled roofs, interspersed with green trees and open spaces. A prominent road, Forest Way, runs vertically through the center-right. Other roads like Pringle Ave and Wyatt Reserve are visible. A yellow text box is overlaid at the top left.

All Australians live by the beach.

All Australians don't live by the beach and go surfing at 11 AM on a Monday morning. Going to the beach is indeed a luxury and an activity to be done on a holiday or a free weekend that people find difficult to arrange because of demanding work schedules.

Stereotypes certainly have some truth or history to it, but globalisation and development of cities have hazed these features over time.

Every Australian can surf.



Although Australia is completely surrounded by water, the majority of the population doesn't know how to surf. It's a nice idea that all Aussies are tan, blonde haired surfer dudes, but sadly that's just not the case.

Kangaroos and Koalas are everywhere



This one is partially true. While Koalas can be found throughout the wild in Australia, they hang out in trees so you just don't see them much. If you go to the country areas of Australia, such as Bathurst, Kangaroos really are just roaming in everyone's yards. They're mainly seen out at night and can be found in huge packs. Think of them as the deer of Australia. However, you'll rarely see them in the coastal areas and big cities

Australians cook all their food on a "barbie."

There is a common misconception that Australia only eats barbecue. While it's true that sunny weather has an open air meal, there are many different aspects of Australian cuisine that are often overlooked.

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Water is one of the advantages of Australia. Therefore, seafood is an integral part of Australian cooking. In addition, seafood is lower in calories than traditional meats. Fresh tuna, crabs, lobster, shrimp and salmon and more.