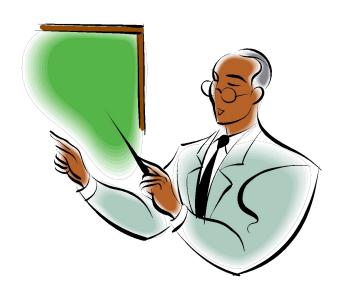
## «AUSTRALIA»



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stanitsa Bryukhovetskaya 2010





## MELGOME

Australia is a fascinating country. It is full of strange and wonderful places, unusual animals and amazing culture.

Australia is called "the upside down world", because it lies in the Southern Hemisphere where winter comes in July and summer begins in December.

# Discovery of Australia





It was discovered by the Dutch in 1606, but the continent was not settled till Captain Cook discovered the east coast in 1770. It was first used as colony for convicts.



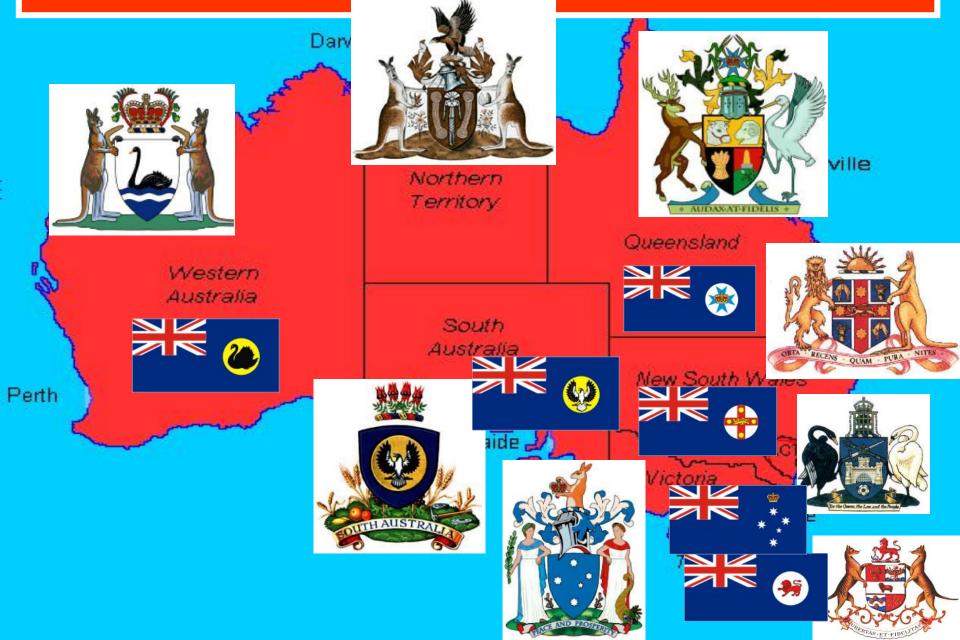




Until 1901 Australia was a British colony. Now Australia is an independent federal state within the Commonwealth headed by the British Queen. The Queen is represented by Governor General. The Head of Government is Prime Minister.



#### There are 6 states and 2 territories in Australia.

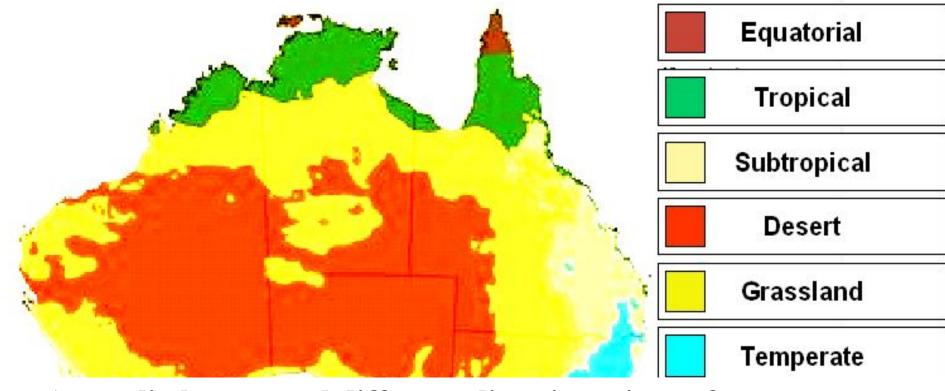




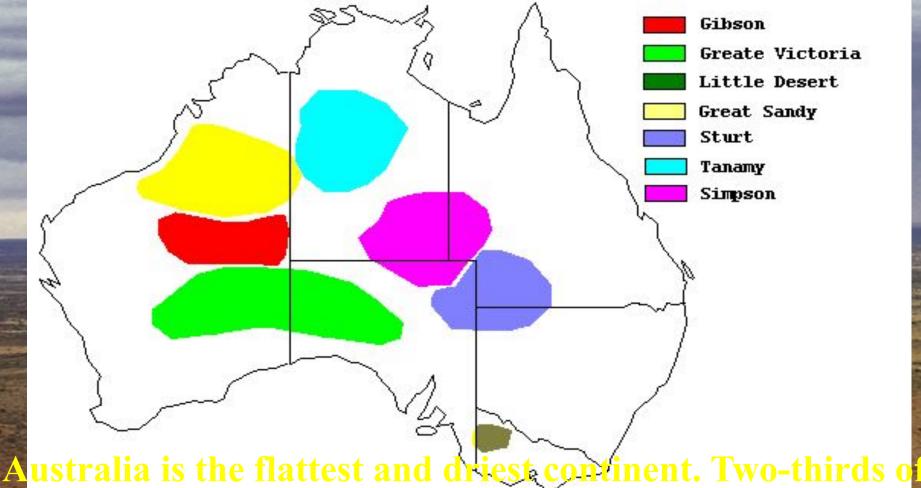


The population of the country is more than 20 million people. It is mainly of British origin. Most of them live in the eight large cities. There are about 200000 aborigines (native inhabitants) in Australia.

## The climate of Australia

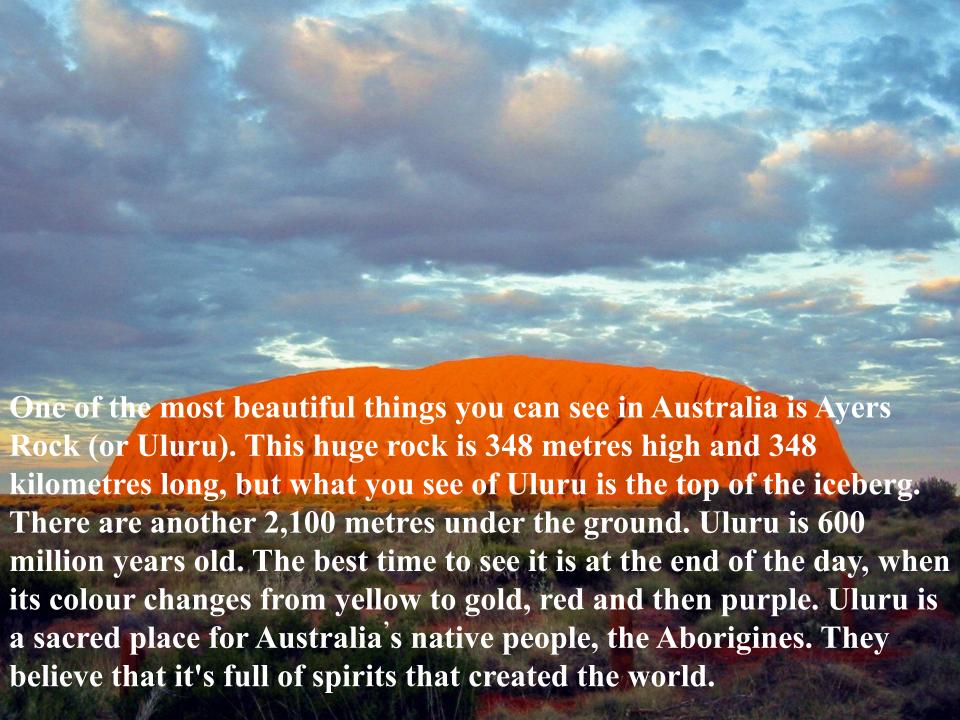


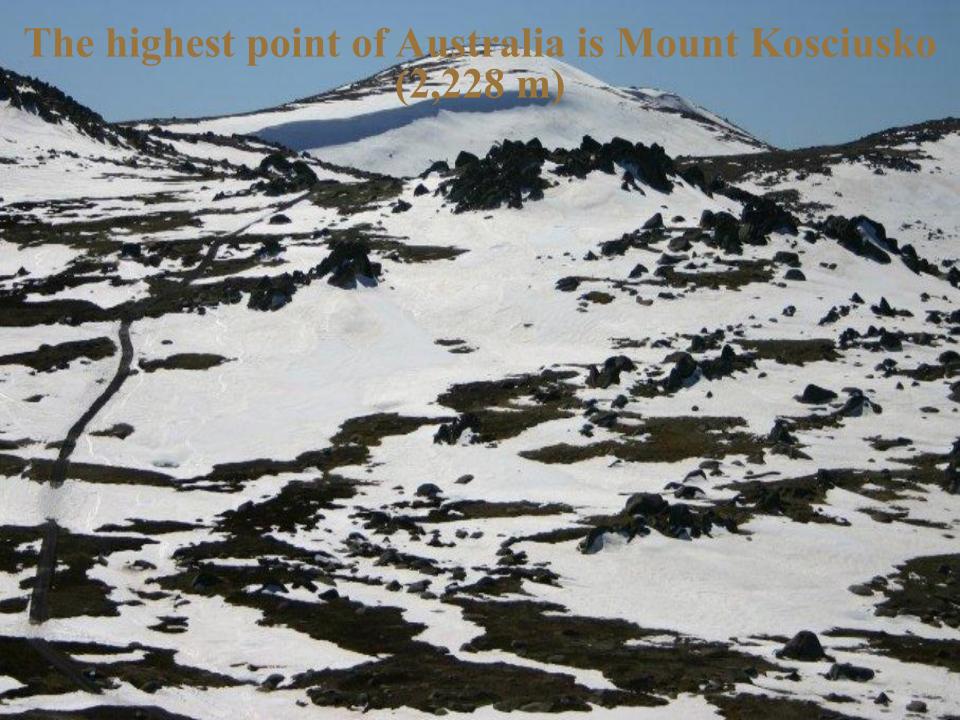
Australia has several different climatic regions, from warm to subtropical and tropical. There are tropical forests in the north- east because the winds from the sea bring heavy rainfalls. The climate in the west is very dry and more than half of Australia gets very little rain. In the south-west and east the winds bring rain in winter.

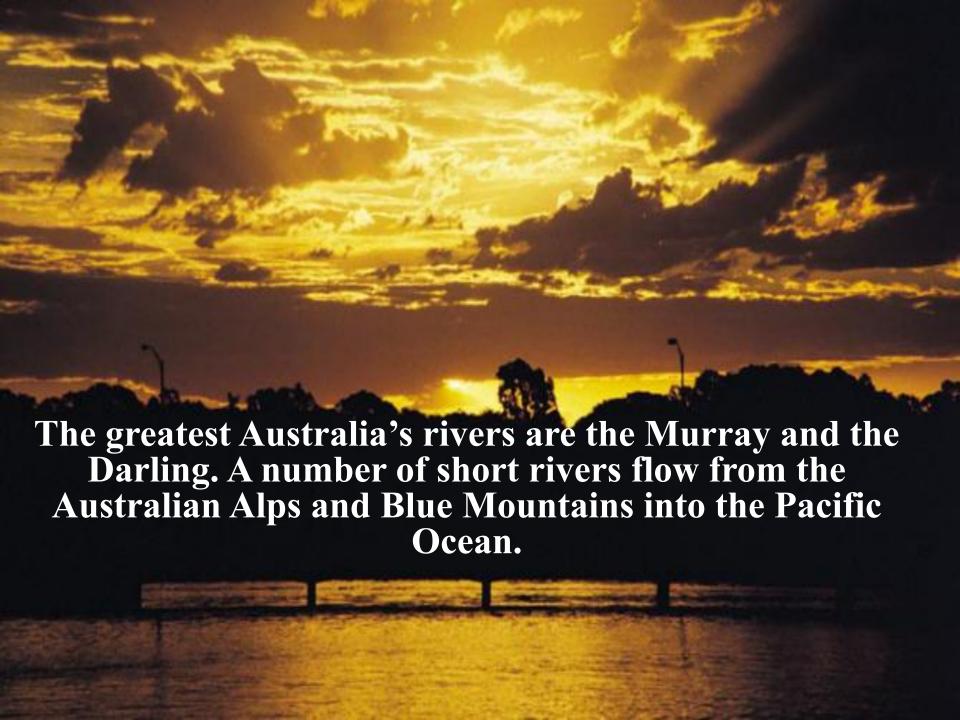


Australia is the flattest and driest continent. Two-thirds of the land is desert. In some places, it sometimes doesn't rain for years! The driest and hottest place in Australia is the

Simpson Desert. Summer temperatures here can be more than 50°C. The Simpson Desert is famous for its parallel sand dunes.







### The Great Barrier Reef



The Great Barrier Reef is the largest coral reef in the world and the only living thing on our planet that can be seen from space! There are more than 1,500 kinds of fish and 400 types of coral in the Great Barrier Reef. No place on land has a greater variety of sea life!



