

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

AUSTRALIAN FACTS	NZ FACTS
<p>Capital: Canberra</p> <p>Official Language(s): English</p> <p>Population: 20 million</p> <p>Ethnic Groups: 92% Caucasian, 7% Asian, 1% aboriginal</p> <p>Religions: 26% Catholic, 20% Anglican, 20% 'other Christian', 2% Buddhist, 1.5% Muslim, 30.5% unspecified</p> <p>Currency: Australian Dollar</p> <p>Time: Sydney +11 hours GMT</p>	<p>Capital: Wellington</p> <p>Official Language(s): English and Maori</p> <p>Population: 4 million</p> <p>Ethnic Groups: 70% Caucasian, 8% Maori, 6% Asian, 5% Pacific islander, 11% other</p> <p>Religions: 15% Anglican, 12% Roman Catholic, 26% 'other Christian', 47% none/unspecified</p> <p>Currency: New Zealand Dollar</p> <p>Time: +13 hours GMT</p>

Some tips about these countries

Modern Australia and New Zealand are just over 200 years old, but their indigenous history stretches back tens of thousands of years - and it is quite different in each case.

Although there are differences between the two countries, there are lots of similarities too. Business is quite informal and friendly, and people make an effort to get along.

But if you thought Antipodeans were crude, beer-drinking chauvinists—you may be in for a surprise. Today's Australia and New Zealand are sophisticated, hi-tech economies, and per head, New Zealanders are some of the highest mobile phone and internet users in the world. Australia is now one of the world's most multicultural societies, with around 220 nationalities. In New Zealand, the indigenous Maori population is asserting itself, both economically and culturally. The Maori language has official status, alongside English.



Brief History of Australia:

Australia was first inhabited perhaps 40,000 years ago by **aboriginal people**. It was discovered and mapped by many Europeans including the Spanish, Dutch and English. It wasn't really explored until 1770 when Captain James Cook explored the east coast and requested it for Great Britain. He named it **New South Wales**.



The first colony was established in Sydney by Captain Arthur Phillip on January 26, 1788. It was initially considered a penal colony. This was because many of the first settlers were criminals and Britain would send their criminals to the penal colony. Slowly, more and more settlers were not convicts. Sometimes you

will still hear people refer to Australia as being started by a penal colony.

Six colonies were formed in Australia: New South Wales, 1788; Tasmania, 1825; Western Australia, 1829; South Australia, 1836; Victoria, 1851; and Queensland, 1859. These same colonies later became the states of the Australian Commonwealth.

On October 9, 1942 Australia became a fully independent country. Australia took part in both World War I and World War II allied with Great Britain and the United States.

Brief History of New Zealand:

New Zealand was one of the last major bodies of land to be settled by man. The first inhabitants arrived in the year 1000 AD. They were the Mōa hunters and were people of Polynesian ancestry.

The first European to discover New Zealand was the Dutch navigator Abel Tasman, and the British explorer James Cook began to explore the coastline in 1769. New Zealand became a British colony in 1840. The initial settlers warred with the **Maori** tribe's people, but today the ancestors of the Maori and the colonists are fully integrated and all people have had the right to vote in the elections and participate in government since the late 1800s.

New Zealand officially became an independent country in 1947 through the Statute of Westminster Adoption Act.

Did you know??

- In 1893, New Zealand became the first country to give women the right to vote.
- Notable New Zealand filmmakers include 'The Piano' director Jane Campion and Peter Jackson, who made King Kong and the 'Lord of the Rings' trilogy.
- There are also no nuclear power stations in New Zealand.
- The Maori name for New Zealand is 'Aotearoa'. It means "the land of the long white cloud".
- Australia is the only continent without an active volcano.
- The Sydney Harbour Bridge was opened in 1932 and is the widest steel arch bridge in the world.
- In converting kilometres to miles the conversion goes approximately like this; 1 kilometre = 0.62 of a mile, 10 kilometres = 6.21 miles.
- Why Canberra is the capital of Australia? The capital city is Canberra, but Sydney is the most populous city followed by Melbourne. The city was chosen as the capital after the fierce rivalry between Sydney and Melbourne 'fighting' to obtain the title. Eventually, as an obligation, the capital was chosen this city which is 248km from Sydney and 483km from Melbourne.
- People from NZ are usually called Kiwi for the strange animal that actually looks like the famous fruit.

