

# Australia and New Zealand



01 The **Great Barrier Reef** is the world's longest coral reef. It is very popular with tourists, who come to visit the islands and beaches, swim in the warm water, and see the fish.



02 The **outback** makes up more than two-thirds of Australia, but its population is very sparse. Children in the outback use '**Schools of the Air**', and communicate with their teachers over the internet.



03 One of the most beautiful things you can see in Australia is **Uluru**, an enormous rock alone in the middle of the desert. Uluru is 600 million years old, and thousands of tourists come each year to walk round it.



04 **Perth** is a long way from the other cities, in Western Australia by the Indian Ocean. The land in the west has plenty of gold, oil, and valuable minerals, so Perth is a rich city.



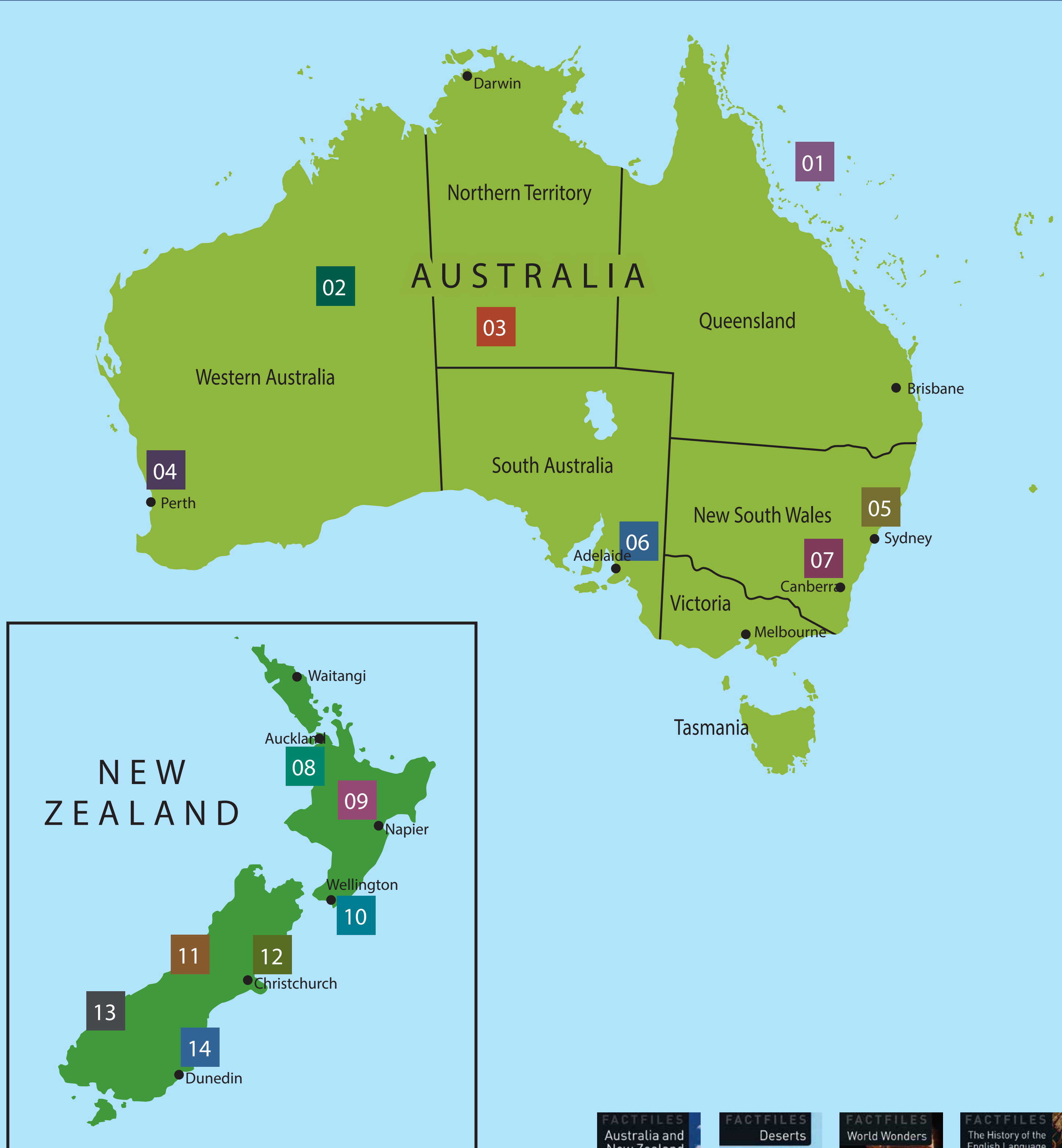
05 **Sydney**, in New South Wales, is the oldest and biggest city in Australia. Many people know of **Sydney Opera House**. The roof of this beautiful building looks like sails.



06 **Adelaide**, in South Australia, is called the City of Churches, and it is also famous for its WOMAdelaide festival of world music and dance.



07 **Canberra** is the newest of the Australian cities, and its name is an **Aboriginal** word meaning 'meeting place'. It is the home of many important national buildings, like **Parliament House**.



08 **Auckland**, the most northern of New Zealand's major cities, has a modern business area with many tall buildings. Visitors like to go to the top of the **Sky Tower**.



The strangest place in New Zealand is surely **Rotorua**. Here the air smells like eggs and hot water explodes out of the ground.



Although **Wellington** is not the largest city, it is the capital. It is built on high hills and parts of *The Lord of the Rings* were filmed in and around Wellington.



New Zealand is a great place for farms. This means there are a lot of animals. For every person living in New Zealand there are ten sheep and two cows.



**Christchurch** is a flat, green place. One third of the city is parks and gardens, and it is called the 'Garden City'.



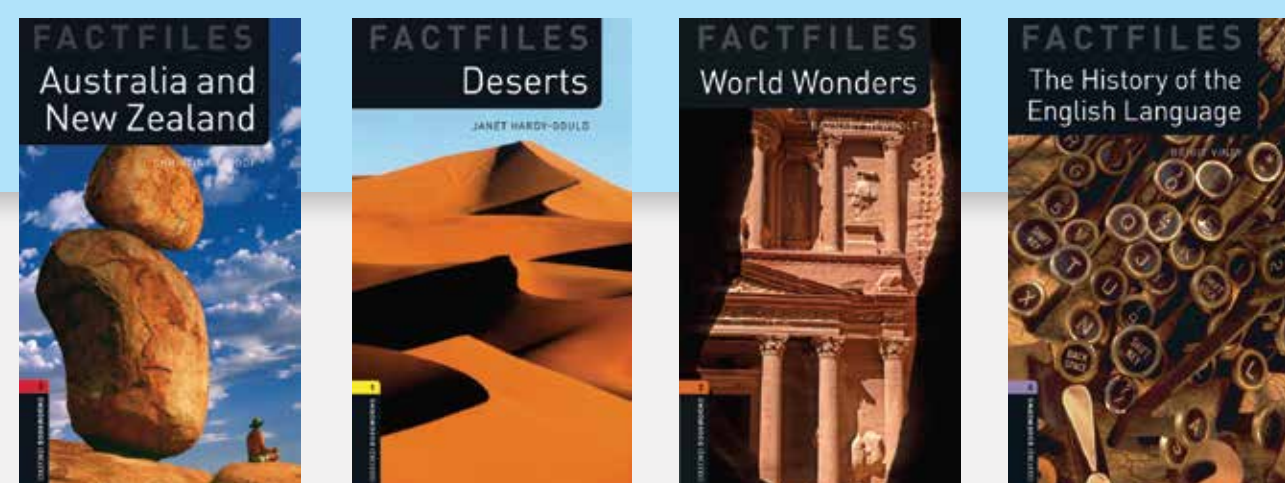
In the south-west of the South Island is **Fiordland**, where land and sea meet in deep valleys. At **Milford Sound** you can take a boat trip and see the mountains and forests from the water.



The most southern city is **Dunedin**, which is the old name for Edinburgh in Scotland. In the nineteenth century it was the hub of New Zealand's business and its largest city.



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