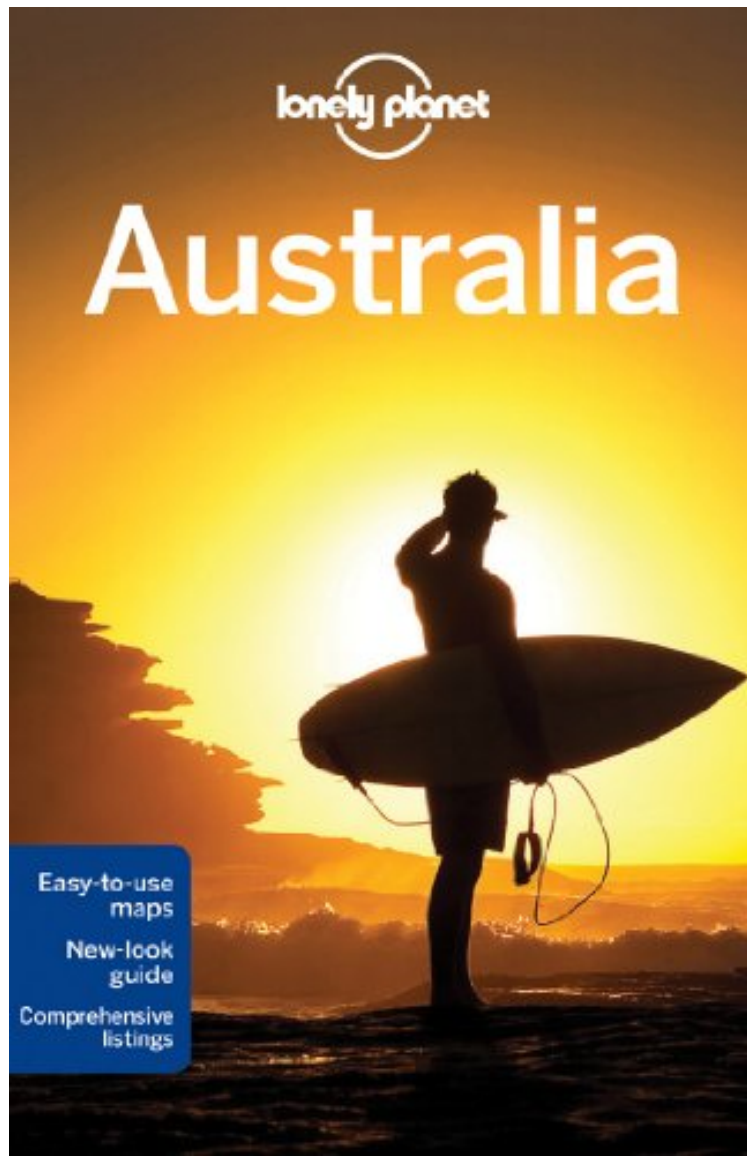


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## Lonely Planet Australia (Travel Guide)

*Lonely Planet, Charles Rawlings-Way, Brett Atkinson, Lindsay Brown, Jayne D'Arcy, Anthony Ham, Paul Harding, Virginia Maxwell, Tom Spurling, Meg Worby*  
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**Lonely Planet, Charles Rawlings-Way, Brett Atkinson, Lindsay Brown, Jayne D'Arcy, Anthony Ham, Paul Harding, Virginia Maxwell, Tom Spurling, Meg Worby : Lonely Planet Australia (Travel Guide)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lonely Planet Australia (Travel Guide):

29 of 30 people found the following review helpful. A big book for a big country. More breadth than depth. By Jon L

AlbeeAustralia is an enormous country that offers the perfect blend of urban sophistication, natural wonder, and rugged, rural beauty. In your reviewer's humble opinion, it is the world's best country. I love it. Always have. Always will. Australia is endlessly fascinating, as the authors of this book readily explain on multiple occasions. But all this Aussie loveliness also makes a good travel guide that much more difficult to prepare. As the authors of this book have said, they've been writing about Australia for 30 years, and they could spend another 30 and still not cover it all. A single-volume encyclopedia of all things Aussie, which this book attempts to be, is a very tall order. Any such book will be necessarily summarized, and this one is no exception. It's a good book, but its coverage of urban and suburban areas outside the major cities is thin. For example, Melbourne gets the kind of feature attention you would expect for a city of its size and importance, but the fascinating Victorian gold-rush towns of Ballarat and Bendigo get only the most summary review. Also, the authors do appeal to certain stale stereotypes when describing the cities in social context. Sydney is the easy-going beach town. Melbourne is the artsy London wannabe. Then there's progressive and snobby Adelaide; isolated, Mod-Oz boomtown Perth; sleepy Canberra, etc... While there's some truth to these observations, they become less obvious with each passing year, and few tourists are likely to understand, or even recognize these cultural traits. Areas that stand out in this book are its treatment of outdoor activities, natural exploration and indigenous culture. Australia is an absolute playground of all things natural, and this book is sure to bring your attention to that fact. There's excellent content featuring, for example, the Great Barrier Reef, the Snowy Mountains, the Atherton Tablelands, Uluru, the fantastic national parks around Sydney, and (literally) hundreds of other beautiful natural locations. The first time I saw the Blue Mountains, I was absolutely floored. Not-to-be-missed locations like this feature prominently in the guide. This is a brand new book, so listings are right up to date (as of late 2013). Hotel and restaurant listings are selective since it would be impossible to include everything, even everything good. What IS included runs the full range of most rustic to most luxurious lodgings, from bushtucker to ultra-refined Mod-Oz cuisine, and includes many listings that offer a unique and authentic experience. The listings of tour operators are particularly helpful, especially in tropical Queensland. Pragmatic information gives way to physical content in this book since Australia is an easy country to travel in. There are some nice suggestions on how to survive extended treks in the bush and outback. Historical and cultural contexts, likewise, are only there by necessity, and offer few real insights into the history and multi-ethnic culture of the country. Anyone looking for a meaningful history of Australia should consult other sources such as Robert Hughes' superb colonial history, "The Fatal Shore" or Bruce Chatwin's "The Songlines." This is a big, general guide book that covers the country well, particularly its natural wonders. 10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. Good information but... By Richard RI purchased the Kindle version of the LP Australia guide in preparation for a recent trip to Australia. I was attracted to the electronic version since I am a "Techie" at heart and the guide actually made good reading while on the long 15 hour flight to get from LA to Sydney. The guide covers the entire continent of Australia but my visit was limited to Sydney and surroundings, Blue Mountains, Melbourne and the Great Ocean Road; so there was a lot of unused material. The information provided in LP is useful but is also readily obtainable locally at Tourist Guide centers, concierges, tour desks etc. My GPS also was a great resource for Points Of Attractions and was more useful than the LP guide. Also, consider that without accessible wifi the expanded links within LP to maps etc are useless. In hindsight now that the initial excitement of the trip is over, I could have easily done without the LP Guide since I didn't refer to it at all once I got to Australia. A form of buyer's remorse. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Not useful. By OB Not helpful. Thick as a dictionary, and filled with lots of information the internet has made useless. But light on practical needs, such as "how does the subway work in Sydney," or "What's the weather like in June in Brisbane." I've returned mine, and will trust google, which is easier and continuously updated.

Lonely Planet: The world's leading travel guide publisher\* Lonely Planet Australia is your passport to all the most relevant and up-to-date advice on what to see, what to skip, and what hidden discoveries await you. Experience the magic of Sydney Opera House, snorkel with the tropical fish in the Great Barrier Reef, or watch the sunset over Ayers Rock; all with your trusted travel companion. Get to the heart of Australia and begin your journey now! Inside Lonely Planet Australia Travel Guide: Colour maps and images throughout Highlights and itineraries show you the simplest way to tailor your trip to your own personal needs and interests Insider tips save you time and money and help you get around like a local, avoiding crowds and trouble spots Essential info at your fingertips - including hours of operation, phone numbers, websites, transit tips, and prices Honest reviews for all budgets - including eating, sleeping, sight-seeing, going out, shopping, and hidden gems that most guidebooks miss Cultural insights give you a richer and more rewarding travel experience - including culture, history, art, film, music, politics, landscapes, wildlife, cuisine, and wine Free, convenient pull-out Sydney map (included in print version), plus over 150 local maps Useful features - including What's New, Month-by-Month (annual festival calendar), and Walking Tours Coverage of Melbourne, Sydney, the Great Barrier Reef, Darwin, Uluru, Perth, Queensland, Adelaide, New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, Canberra, Brisbane, Newcastle, Hunter Valley, Phillip Island, Launceston, and more The Perfect Choice: Lonely Planet Australia, our most comprehensive guide to Australia, is perfect for those planning to both explore the top sights and take the road less travelled. Looking for just the highlights of Australia? Check out Lonely Planet's

Discover Australia, a photo-rich guide to the country's most popular attractions. Looking for a guide focused on Sydney or Melbourne? Check out Lonely Planet's Sydney guide or Melbourne Victoria guide for a comprehensive look at all that each of these cities has to offer, or Lonely Planet's Pocket Sydney, a handy-sized guide focused on the can't-miss sights for a quick trip. Authors: Written and researched by Lonely Planet, Charles Rawlings-Way, Meg Worby, Brett Atkinson, Lindsay Brown, Jayne D'Arcy, Anthony Ham, Paul Harding, Shawn Low, Virginia Maxwell, Tom Spurling, and Steve Waters. About Lonely Planet: Started in 1973, Lonely Planet has become the world's leading travel guide publisher with guidebooks to every destination on the planet, as well as an award-winning website, a suite of mobile and digital travel products, and a dedicated traveller community. Lonely Planet's mission is to enable curious travellers to experience the world and to truly get to the heart of the places they find themselves in. TripAdvisor Travelers' Choice Awards 2012 and 2013 winner in Favorite Travel Guide category 'Lonely Planet guides are, quite simply, like no other.' - New York Times 'Lonely Planet. It's on everyone's bookshelves; it's in every traveller's hands. It's on mobile phones. It's on the Internet. It's everywhere, and it's telling entire generations of people how to travel the world.' - Fairfax Media (Australia) \*#1 in the world market share - source: Nielsen Bookscan. Australia, UK and USA. March 2012-January 2013