

# A fascinating country, 'Australia'

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Australia is a country worth visiting at least once in your lifetime. I stayed in Australia for two weeks on a home stay last year and Australia became my favorite country. Today, I'll tell you about Australia, its climate, wildlife, food and attitudes towards social media. These are all reasons why Australia is so appealing to me.

First of all, Australia is located in the Southern Hemisphere, which means the seasons are the opposite. When it's very hot in Japan, you can experience the coolness in Australia. When it's cold in Japan, you can feel the hotness in Australia. It's interesting that you can enjoy a hot Christmas too! Santa Claus will ride on a surfboard instead of a sleigh, and kangaroos will appear instead of a reindeer.

The time difference between Australia and Japan is only an hour. It takes about 8 hours by airplane from Japan, so if you leave at night and sleep on a plane, you can arrive in Australia in the morning. You won't feel very tired and it'll be an enjoyable trip.

After arriving in Australia, you can enjoy its nature and many cute animals. You can feel the ocean breeze while walking in the park, see koalas and kangaroos, and be in touch with nature which is very relaxing. You can hold a koala and take a photo, too! There are kangaroo signs in areas where you might see a kangaroo jumping out while driving. There are no kangaroos in Japan, so these signs are very interesting. Please try and find them!

The food is also very tasty. I'm not a big eater, but I could eat everything at my home stay in Australia. Fresh fish and shrimp, meatballs in tomato sauce and Australian beef were delicious. And as you know, Australian oranges are popular in Japan because of their vibrant color and sweetness. Australia is a multi-ethnic country, so you can enjoy a variety of tastes in the food.

Furthermore, Australia is an innovative country. Recently, a law has been passed that will prohibit children under the age of 16 from using social media. Children will no longer be able to create accounts for social media applications such as TIKTOK or Instagram. The family I stayed with had elementary school-aged children, so I think it'll be inconvenient for them if they can no longer use social media. However, there are also risks involved for children using social media too much. I expect Australians innovative decisions will have a big impact on other countries.

There are many fascinating things to see and do in Australia such as experiencing the opposite season, interacting with animals, enjoying Australian food and knowing that Australia is an innovative country. Whether you've been abroad or not, you're sure to love your trip to Australia. When I become a university student, I definitely want to go to Australia again. Come and experience this wonderful country for yourself!