



**Otázka:** Other English-speaking countries

**Jazyk:** Angličtina

**Přidal(a):** zdvorak

# Australia (Commonwealth of Australia)

## 1. basic facts

- Australia is located in the Southern Hemisphere
- country comprises the mainland of the Australian continent, the island of Tasmania and numerous smaller islands in the Indian and Pacific Oceans
- capital – **Canberra**
- biggest – **Sydney**
- population: about 25 mil.
- area: 7,7 mil. km<sup>2</sup>
- language: English
- flag: consists of Union Flag (Jack) Southern Cross constellation Commonwealth Star
- currency – **Australian dollar**
- anthem – Advance Australia Fair
- original inhabitants – **Aborigines**

## 2. political system

- constitutional monarchy
- form – federal parliamentary democracy
- independence on the 1 st January 1901
- part of commonwealth



- monarch – **Queen Elizabeth II.**
- represented by **Governor-general – David Hurley**
- 2 houses of parliament
  - the senate
  - House of Representatives
- 6 states + 2 territories
  - each state- federal government
- 2 Territories
  - Australian Capital Territory (ACT)- Canberra
  - Northern territory- Darwin
- James Cook claimed Australia for Britain in 1770
  - during 18 century Australia served for prison

### 3. geography

- smallest continent – 6th biggest country by area
- surrounded by Indian and Pacific Ocean
- along the east coast **Great Barrier Reef** – the biggest coral reef on the Earth
- most of people live in big towns along the east coast
- the central parts are mostly deserts
- dry and hot climate
- highest point – **Kosciusko** (about 2,000 metres high).
- longest river – **Murray, Darling**
- **Uluru**, also known as **Ayers Rock**

## New Zealand

### 1. basic facts

- two islands in South Pacific
- 1600 km far from Australia
- original inhabitants – **Maori**
- population: 5 mil.
- capital – **Wellington**



- biggest – **Auckland**
  - population 1,3 million
- 88% of people live in cities
- official languages: English and Maori
- the flag – Union Jack + 4 stars (southern cross)
- currency – **NZ dollar**
- national symbol – **bird kiwi** (Kiwis)

### 2. political system

- part of Commonwealth
- constitutional monarchy – parliamentary democracy
- the head – **Queen Elizabeth II.**
  - her representative – Governor-General –
- head of government – prime minister – **Jacinda Ardern**
- parliament – 1 house – House of Representatives

### 3. geography

- 2 main islands – **The North Island** and **South Island** + several smaller islands
- **North island**
  - volcanoes, hot springs, subtropical climate
- **South Island**
  - larger than North Island, more mountainous, only  $\frac{1}{4}$  of country population
- separated by **Cook Strait**
- highest mt. – **Cook** (3700m) – South I.
- longest river – **Waikato** ( North I.)
- **endemics:**
  - a kiwi – flightless nocturnal bird, symbol of a country
  - a kea – a parrot in the mountains, destroys everything
  - a moa – flightless bird, has been hunted to extinction
- NZ suffers a lot from earthquakes
- more sheep than people