

# Australia – Glossary

**capital** noun [count]

the city where a country or region has its government

*Madrid is the capital of Spain.*

**celebrity** noun [count]

a famous person, especially in entertainment or sport

*The hotel is well known for its celebrity guests.*

**century** noun [count]

a period of 100 years, usually counted from a year ending in –00. For example, the 20th century is the period from 1900 to 1999

**champion** noun [count]

someone who has won an important competition, especially in sport

*the world heavyweight boxing champion*

**coast** noun [count]

an area of land beside a sea

*the east coast of England*

**coral** noun [count/uncount]

a very small sea creature that lives in large groups that look like plants, in places where the water is warm

**coral reef** noun [count]

a hard natural structure under the sea that is formed from coral

**cricket** noun [uncount]

a game played by two teams of 11 players who get points by hitting a ball with a bat and running between two sets of sticks called stumps.

**desert** noun [count/uncount]

a large area of land with few plants and little water and where the weather is always dry

**emigrate** verb

to leave your country in order to live in another country

*We're thinking of emigrating to New Zealand.*

**kangaroo** noun [count]

a large Australian animal that moves by jumping, has strong back legs, and carries its baby in a pouch (= pocket on the front of its body)

**koala bear** noun [count]

an Australian animal with grey fur, large ears, and no tail. Koalas live in trees and eat eucalyptus leaves.

**mammal** noun [count]

an animal that is born from its mother's body, not from an egg, and drinks its mother's milk as a baby

**medal** noun [count]

a small flat piece of metal that you are given for winning a competition or doing something very brave

*She won a silver medal in swimming.*

**population** noun [singular]

all the people who live in a particular area

*Less than 40% of the population voted in the last election*

**rainforest** noun [count/uncount]

a forest in a tropical region of the world where it rains a lot.

*areas of rainforest*

**rugby** noun [uncount]

a game played by two teams of players with a ball shaped like an egg. Goals are scored by kicking the ball over a high bar, and points called tries are scored by putting the ball behind the goal line.

**scenery** noun [uncount]

natural things such as trees, hills, and lakes that you can see in a particular place

*Switzerland has some spectacular scenery.*

**snake** noun [count]

a long thin animal with no legs and a smooth skin. Some snakes have a poisonous bite that can kill.

**spectacular** adjective

extremely impressive

*We had a spectacular view of the coastline from the plane.*

**sportsman / sportswoman** noun [count]

a man / woman who plays sport, especially a professional player

**table** noun [count]

a list that shows how well an organization, team, or player has been performing

**talented** adjective

someone who is talented is very good at something

*a highly talented young designer*

**wildlife** noun [uncount]

animals, birds, and plants that live in natural conditions

*laws to protect wildlife and their habitats*