

Roam Around the World Roam Around the World
世界漫游小丛书

漫游澳大利亚

Roam Around Australia

叶定国 康建明



大象出版社

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前 言

在改革开放的今天,中国青年的目光已不再是仅仅盯着我国的长城内外,大江南北。他们渴望了解世界,尤其是发达国家。他们想了解那些国家的历史、现状、政治制度、生活习俗、文学艺术、自然风貌。看到中国的长江,他们就会想起美国的密西西比河;看到中国的黄果树,他们就会想起加拿大的尼亚加拉瀑布;看到中国的洞庭湖,他们就会想起新西兰的陶波湖;看到中国的苏州,他们就会想起意大利的威尼斯;看到上海的东方明珠,他们就会想起法国的埃菲尔铁塔。特里尔的马克思故居,伦敦的威斯敏斯特教堂,纽约港的自由女神像,巴黎的凡尔赛宫,罗马的斗兽场,悉尼的歌剧院,温哥华的唐人街,蓝山的三姊妹峰……这些闻名遐迩的世界名胜无不吸引着他们年轻的心灵。他们的兴趣广泛得很,想象力丰富得很。他们迫切需要营养丰富的精神食粮,来满足他们如饥似渴的求知欲。

“我们何不编一套英汉对照世界漫游丛书呢?”大象出版社编辑贺凡、董涛二位女士建议道。“一则可以扩大青年人的视野,二则可以帮助他们学习英语。两全其美,何乐而不为呢?”

此言不谬。于是,经领导批准,她们便委托我组织编写。这可是个苦差使,因为她们要求十分苛刻:丛书内容要广泛,语言要浅显,既有趣味性,又有资料性,情趣盎然,图文并茂,每个分册 10 万字左右,三个月交稿。

领了将令,我不敢怠慢,立即组织一批编写人员。其中有教授,副教授,讲师,还有在校硕士研究生。在统一了格式之后,两人一分册,分头编写。具体分工如下:

美国分册:刘云波,虎松菊

英国分册:刘榜离,吴 真

法国分册:靳 锐,王大智

德国分册:王 东,陈异慧

加拿大分册:王云英,葛丙辰

意大利分册:黄 燕,陈保蓉

新西兰分册:索成秀

澳大利亚分册:叶定国,康建明

经过几个月紧锣密鼓的工作,第一批八个分册终于完成。其间编写人员查资料,找图片,编写及翻译的辛苦自不待言。尽管如此,由于时间仓促,资料匮乏,加之编写者文风各异,书中难免有诸多不尽人意之处。令人宽慰的是,精美的印刷与装帧将给这套丛书增色不少。究竟内容如何?还是请我们的青年朋友读读看吧。

刘云波

1997 年 12 月 1 日于郑州大学

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A SURVEY OF AUSTRALIA

Australia is an independent western democracy with a population of more than 17.6 million. It is one of the world's most urbanized countries, with about 70 percent of the population living in the 10 largest cities. Most of the population is concentrated along the eastern seaboard and the south-eastern corner of the continent.

Australia's lifestyle reflects its mainly Western origins, but Australia is also a multicultural society which has been enriched by nearly five million settlers from almost 200 nations. Four out of ten Australians are migrants or the first-generation children of migrants, half of them from non-English speaking backgrounds. In 1991-1992, East Asia contributed 41 percent of settler arrivals.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

totalled 265, 378 at the last census, nearly 1. 5 percent of the population. Two thirds of the indigenous people live in towns and cities. Many others live in rural and remote areas, and some still have a broadly traditional way of life. It is generally thought that Aboriginal people began living on the continent 50, 000 to 60, 000 years ago, and some authorities believe their occupation may date back 100, 000 years.

Australia is the only nation to occupy an entire continent. Its land mass of nearly 7. 7 million square kilometers is the flattest and (after Antarctica) driest of continents, yet it has extremes of climate and topography. There are rainforests and vast plains in the north, snowfields in the southeast, desert in the centre and fertile croplands in the east, south and southwest. About one third of the country lies in the tropics. Australia has a coastline of 36, 735 kilometers.

Isolation of the Australian island-continent for 55 million years created a sanctuary for the flora and fauna. Marsupials were saved from competition with more highly developed mammals. Birds unique to Australia also survived, and distinctive trees and plants developed. Australia's best-known animals are the kangaroo, koala, platypus and spiny anteater. Of more than 700 bird species listed in Australia, 400 — including the large, flightless emu — are found nowhere else. Australia has 20, 000 species of plants, including living fossils such as the cycad palm and the grass tree, and brilliant wildflowers such as the waratah, Sturt's desert pea, the flowering cones of banksia trees, and the red and green kangaroo paw. The continent has 700 species of acacia, which Australians call wattle,

and 1,200 species in the Myrtaceae family which includes eucalypts or gum trees.

Australia's national anthem, *Advance Australia Fair*, is a revised version of a late 19th-century patriotic song. It was declared the national anthem in April 1984, replacing *God Save the Queen*, which was designated the royal anthem. In the same year, Australia officially adopted green and gold as its national colours.

Australia's official language is English, by common usage rather than law. Australian English does not differ significantly from other forms of English, although some colloquial and slang expressions are unique.

The flag of Australia is the only one to fly over a whole continent. The small Union Jack represents the historical link with Britain, the large seven-pointed star represents the six States and the Territories, and the small stars form the Southern Cross — a prominent feature of the southern hemisphere night sky.

Australia's coat of arms — the official emblem of the Australian Government — was granted by King George V in 1912. The arms consist of a shield containing the badges of the six States. The supporters are native Australian fauna — a kangaroo and an emu. A yellow-flower-red native plant wattle also appears in the design.

Australia's national day, Australia Day, on 26 January, marks the date in 1788 when Captain Arthur Phillip, of the British Royal Navy, commanding a fleet of 11 ships, sailed into Port Jackson

(Sydney Cove). Phillip formally took possession of the east part of the continent for England and established a settlement, now Australia's largest city, Sydney.

The Australian economy is diverse with a well-developed tertiary or services sector, a full range of secondary manufacturing and an expanding base of new technology, large-scale resource development, and productive primary industries.

Australia's gross domestic product (GDP) in the 12 months ended 30 June 1993 was \$ 401 billion in current price unadjusted terms. Australia had the ninth-largest GDP of OECD member countries in 1992. At 1.0 percent in 1992 Australia's inflation rate was one of the lowest in the OECD.

Air travel and the great variety of Australia's attractions are combining to bring more international tourists to Australia every year. Overseas tourists are drawn by Australia's sunshine, sandy beaches, the vast outback, rainforests, the Great Barrier Reef, unique flora and fauna, the Gold Coast of Queensland, and the attractions of the cities, Australia's friendly, multicultural society, and the safe and welcoming environment. Tourism is one of Australia's largest and fastest-growing industries. In 1992, 2.6 million international tourists visited Australia, a quarter of them from Japan, another quarter of them from other countries of East Asia.

Australian workers have achieved one of the lowest rates of industrial disputation in OECD countries. In 1992, the level of industrial disputes was the lowest for 50 years. Wage restraint has delivered real unit labour costs almost eight per cent lower than 10

years ago. Moderate wage outcomes have also been a major factor in achieving low inflation. Average weekly earnings for full-time employed adult people in February 1993 was \$ 628.30.

More than 60 per cent of Australia's merchandise exports go to the Asia region. Eight of Australia's 12 largest export markets are in East Asia. East Asia accounts for 39 per cent of Australia's imports. Japan accounts for 25 per cent of Australia's merchandise exports, and supplies 19 per cent of imports. Exports to the ASEAN countries exceed those to either the EC or the Americas. Countries in the Asia region are the fastest growing source for Australia's imports.

Trade with the rest of the world is Australia's economic lifeblood. Australia ranks about 19th in the world in value of its international trade. In the year ended 30 June 1993, Australia's two-way merchandise trade totalled \$ 120,360 million.

European settlement of Australia began in 1788 when a British penal colony was established on the east coast of the continent. Six British colonies were eventually established. In 1901, these colonies joined as a federation. The years following saw Australia becoming increasingly independent of Britain.

Australia is the only continent with a single nation. The country is divided mainly into six states and two territories. Except for the border between New South Wales and Victoria, part of the New South Wales-Queensland border, and the borders of the Australian Capital Territory (ACT), the Australian political division borders are drawn along straight lines of latitude and longitude instead of along natural features. Each of the six main states and two territories has an

independent access to sea. Even the Australian Capital Territory has a sea access of 72.5 square-kilometres on Jervis Bay.

NEW SOUTH WALES

The oldest of the Australian States, New South Wales is the fourth in size, but it also has the largest population. It leads the country in industry, shipping and agriculture. It has more factories than any other state. They mostly lie along the coastal plain and make everything from textiles to motor vehicles and from plastic toys to agricultural machinery.

New South Wales has great iron and steel centers and a considerable mining industry. It also produces sugar and timber in the coastal areas while wheat, fruit and grapes for wines are grown inland.

VICTORIA

Though the smallest mainland state, Victoria has an importance in the country's economy, far greater than its size might indicate. Almost one-fourth of the people of Australia live there.

Victoria has snowcapped mountains in the Australian Alps, lovely valleys and volcanic plains. Cattle graze in the eastern highlands of the state, while sheep and wheat are growing in the

west. On lands along the Murray River, fruits are grown and then trucked to the markets in the cities.

The Australian Gold Rush of the 1850s changed Victoria from a quiet, pastoral colony into a prosperous, vital place. Large towns were established, many of which continued to grow after the diggers no longer showed interest in them. Ballarat and Bendigo, both born as goldfields, have now become agricultural and manufacturing centers.

Coal is mined in Victoria. Brown coal from Latrobe Valley, the world's largest known brown coal deposit, is used to make cheap electricity for the cities. Oil and natural gas were found off the coast of Victoria and may, in the end, replace coal as the great mineral source of Victoria.

QUEENSLAND

The second largest and youngest state, Queensland occupies the tropical northeastern corner of Australia. It is more than three times the size of France. Yet about two million people live in this vast area. Most of them are crowded along the narrow coastal plain in the east.

It is off this coast that the Great Barrier Reef stretches for 1,250 miles (2,010kilometres). It is the world's largest coral reef. Though thought to be 30 million years old, the Great Barrier Reef is still growing. People come from all over the world to this part of Queensland to snorkel, skin dive, fish or just relax. The reef provides

an unending field of research for marine life.

In contrast to the beauty of the coast, most of inland Queensland is hot and dry. In the north, life becomes difficult in the dry season with the lack of water. In some areas, water for sheep and cattle comes from the deep underground Great Artesian Basin. Queensland is also Australia's leading beef producer and huge amounts of beef and dairy products are exported.

Above all, Queensland has great mineral wealth. The gold rush of 1867 greatly helped the development of the state. Today gold continues to be mined out but other metals like silver, lead, copper are more important to Queensland.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

South Australia is the third largest state in Australia. Its agriculture is most prosperous in the fertile southeastern corner. It is there that almost all of the people of the state live.

The gentle Murray River flows westward and southward. It provides water for the irrigated land. The Barossa Valley is the largest wine-producing area of Australia. It was largely settled by emigrant German Lutherans in the mid-19th century. To the west are the wheat fields of Yorke Peninsula.

The entire northern part of South Australia consists of dry or desert land. Many of the sunken areas are really sand flats that flood only after an occasional heavy rain.