

# Maturita Card 34:

## Australian and New Zealand Cities

---

# Bridge

### ● What are the most famous cities in Australia?

Most of the cities can be found on / are situated along the coastline of Australia because the interior of the country is a desert. Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Canberra can be found in the east, Darwin in the north, and Perth in the west.

### ● What is the capital of Australia?

The capital city of Australia is Canberra, although most people think it is Sydney or Melbourne. The city is unusual because it was entirely planned and designed by an American architect, Walter Burley Griffin. It has a modern look and is sometimes compared to Washington D.C. because both cities are built around geometric shapes, like triangles and squares. In the centre of the city there is an artificial / man-made lake, Lake Burley Griffin, with The Captain James Cook Memorial Water Jet, a stream of water that reaches up to 150 m high. It was constructed to celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of James Cook's discovery of the Australian east coast.

### ● Why was Canberra chosen to be the capital city?

In 1901 the Federation joined the different parts of Australia into one state, and a capital city had to be founded. In 1908 the site of the future capital, Canberra, was chosen; it was decided that it should be located between the two rival cities: Sydney and Melbourne. The territory where the capital was constructed is called The Australian Capital Territory.

### ● What famous landmarks are there in Canberra?

Canberra is a political centre and has many of the main Australian institutions. On Capital Hill you can find the new Parliament House, which opened in 1988. Another spot frequented by tourists is the Australian War Memorial, which commemorates Australian soldiers who died in wars all over the world.

### ● What do you know about Sydney?

Sydney is Australia's oldest and largest city, the capital of New South Wales. It was founded in 1788 as a penal colony for the British. The city was built on the hills around Port Jackson, known as Sydney Harbour. Sydney is a popular destination with travellers and tourists because of its pleasant climate, the open nature of its inhabitants and the city's beach culture.

### ● What famous landmarks are in Sydney and what do you know about them?

One of the most famous buildings is the Sydney Opera House. The Opera House was designed by Danish architect Jørn Utzon. It was opened in 1973 and it has five performance areas. The Sydney Harbour Bridge is the fifth largest steel arch bridge in the world. It

stretches over a kilometer, and visitors can climb over it and admire the view of the harbour and the Opera House. The Rocks is the historic part of Sydney, with buildings from the 18<sup>th</sup> century. To enjoy the ocean, visit the most famous beach in Sydney: Bondi Beach.

### ● What do you know about Melbourne?

Melbourne is Australia's second largest city and the capital of Victoria province. It is also Australia's cultural capital because many musicians and comedians started there. Three major annual international sporting events take place there: the Australian Open (Grand Slam tennis tournament), the Melbourne Cup (horse racing) and the Australian Grand Prix (Formula One).

### ● What other Australian cities can you visit and why?

On the east coast, you can find Brisbane, the third largest city and the capital of Queensland. Its subtropical climate makes it a very outdoor city. Adelaide, the capital of South Australia, is called 'the city of churches' because its first inhabitants were religious emigrants from Germany. Adelaide is noted for its many cultural and sporting events as well as food, wine and long beachfronts. Perth in Western Australia is the fourth most populated city in Australia, but has the title of being the most isolated city in the world. Darwin is Australia's northernmost large city. It is the capital of the Northern Territory. It has a monsoon climate, which means there is a dry season (April to October) and a wet season (November to March). On the island of Tasmania, you can find Hobart, Australia's smallest and southernmost state capital. In the centre of the city is Mt. Wellington, which has snow on its peak in the winter. Another beautiful sight is the The Tasman Bridge, which is visible from many locations.

### ● What is the capital of New Zealand? Can you tell me something about it?

The capital of New Zealand is Wellington, which is the second largest city in the country. It is located on the North Island. It has many important buildings, such as parliament and the Supreme Court. The city suffers from many earthquakes.

### ● What is New Zealand's largest city? Can you tell me something about it?

The largest city in New Zealand is Auckland. It has 1.3 million people. Almost one third of the country's population lives in the city. Some famous landmarks within the city include Eden Park, where the country's national rugby team, the 'All Blacks', play and the Auckland Domain – the city's largest park. The city also has several volcanoes within its area. Mount Eden is the highest of these and allows a view of the city.

# Bridge



**01**  
Sydney



**02**  
Canberra



**03**  
Hobart



**04**  
Melbourne



**05**  
Darwin



**06**  
Brisbane



**07**  
Perth



**08**  
Wellington