

Where is Outback?

Outback is a large section of remote deserted and wild Australia which has been the subject of myths, legends, and fascination ever since Europeans arrived on this interesting and incredibly diverse continent. The name comes from the words “out in the back of the mountains and cities.” The weather here is very hot and dry, and the winds are strong. Sometimes there is no rain for many years. But when it rains, there is water everywhere! Not many people live in the Outback.

The people in the Outback have cattle or sheep farms. The farms are called stations. The stations are very big and some of them are as big as a small country. Life is difficult because everything is far away. Sometimes it takes a day or two to drive to the next station. Towns are usually far away, too. People go to town once a week or once a month.

The station homes are very large because they have many purposes. They must be big so visitors can sleep there. Houses also have large rooms to keep extra things. Families buy a lot of food and supplies in town.

Life in the Outback is different in other ways. People get mail once a week. Children don't go to school every day. They study with a school, called the School of the Air. The teacher and student talk to each other with a special radio. Most stations have an area for airplanes to land. It's like the station's own airport. Sick people call the Royal Flying Doctor service. A doctor gives advice over the radio. In an emergency, the doctor picks up the sick people in an airplane. Then they go to the nearest hospital.

Traveling in the Australian Outback can be dangerous. It is important to bring along ample supplies of water, as the Outback gets extremely hot. Before a farmer travels to town, he tells a friend. The friend knows what time the farmer is coming. If the farmer is late, his friend knows there is a problem. The friend will look for a farmer. People must know how to do many things. They must know how to fix their car if it breaks down. They always carry extra gasoline, water, and parts for their car.

Life in the Outback is very difficult, but it is good. Here you are close to nature, and there are many unusual animals. There are plenty of guided tours and trips for people who want a taste of the Australian Outback, and guides can also be arranged for more personalized, remote trips.

[Vocabulary list](#)
[Click here](#)

McMahon, M. (11 February 2021). *What is the Australian Outback?* Retrieved from InfoBloom:
<http://www.wisegeek.com/what-is-the-australian-outback.htm>