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Australia: a three-dimensional expanding country guide - illustrated by Charlotte Trounce

Publisher: Walker Books

RRP \$14.99

This is a visual delight with a difference. The double-sided, 1.5 metre expanding panorama showcases twelve famous places in Australia. Each vivid scene has three-dimensional lift-outs that bring the attractions within the area to life. It would make an interesting display for a classroom project on our neighbour 'across the ditch'.

The vibrant colours of the Australian continent are highlighted in the well-known Uluru landmark, the Ghan railway that crosses from Adelaide to Darwin, and the Great Barrier Reef. City sights, vast landscapes, rainforests, rivers and coastlines all provide fascinating contrast. Succinct text accompanies the illustrations giving a surprising amount of information about each featured place. A map of Australia pinpoints the location of all twelve sites. It is a diverse country.

When folded, the travel guide slides into a sturdy slipcase to make an attractive gift for visitors or families with links to Australia. Perhaps Walker Books will include a similar publication for New Zealand in this series.

**Reviewed by children's book author
Jean Bennett**

Illustrator's website:

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