

## Travel Text - Australian Road trips

### **1. Coastal views on the Great Ocean Road**

Staggering ocean views and easy access from Melbourne make this one of Australia's best-loved road trips. Pack an overnight bag and follow the dramatic coastline, stopping to view a series of coastal rock formations, holding their ground in the surf.

The magnificent Twelve Apostles – eight giant sea stacks – appear otherworldly at sunset, guarding the limestone cliffs. Among the other rocky highlights include London Bridge arch, the Bay of Islands and Loch Ard Gorge.

At Bells Beach, grab a wetsuit and do your best Keanu Reeves' impression. This was the famous surf setting for his film *Point Break*, but it was actually filmed in California.

If you're not a surfer you can hike in Great Otway National Park, say hello to the koalas at Kennett River or kayak out into Apollo Bay to observe a seal colony. Otherwise, take it easy at a beach restaurant in the seaside town of Lorne.

**Best for:** Weekenders seeking surf and sea stacks.

**How long:** 2 days.

**Need to know:** Starts at Torquay, a 1.5-hour drive from Melbourne, and ends at Warrnambool.

<https://www.roughguides.com/article/road-trip-australia/>



## Travel Text - Iceland

### **Fact file:**

Though geographically as big as England, Iceland's population is tiny – at barely 323,000, it's no bigger than many towns in other countries. Two out of three Icelanders live in and around the capital, Reykjavík.

- Iceland sits atop the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, the fault line where two of the Earth's tectonic plates are slowly drifting apart; as a result, Iceland is getting wider at a rate of roughly 1cm per year. Either side of this ridge, from the northeast to the southwest, earthquakes and volcanic activity are commonplace.
- There are no motorways or railways in Iceland. The country's only main road, the Ringroad which circumnavigates the island, was completed in the 1970s following several unsuccessful attempts to bridge treacherous glacial rivers on the south coast.
- Iceland is home to the third-biggest glacier in the world, Vatnajökull, covering an area equal to that of the English county of Yorkshire. One of the country's greatest sources of geothermal energy, the Grímsvötn caldera, sits directly beneath the ice cap.
- Thanks to the existence of countless medieval documents, many Icelanders can trace their ancestors back to the time of the Viking settlement, around 800 AD.



<https://www.roughguides.com/destinations/europe/iceland/fact-file/>

## Travel Text - Kenya

### The Masai Mara National Reserve

The Masai Mara National Reserve is Kenya's premier wildlife park. It was established in 1961 to protect wildlife from hunters. The Masai Mara is the reason many visitors come to Kenya and its beauty and abundant wildlife won't disappoint. This guide to the Masai Mara will tell you what animals you can expect to see, the geography of the area, where to stay, how to get there, and what there is to do beyond the game drives.



### Where is the Masai Mara National Reserve?

The Masai Mara is in southwestern Kenya on the border with Tanzania. The reserve is situated in the Rift Valley with Tanzania's Serengeti Plains running along its southern end. The Mara River runs through the reserve (north to south) hosting plenty of hippos and crocodiles and making the annual migration of over a million wildebeest and hundreds of thousands of zebras an extremely dangerous undertaking.

Most of the Masai Mara is made up of hilly grassland which is fed by plentiful rain, especially during the wet months between November and June.

## Things to Do in and around the Masai Mara Reserve

- Game Drives. If you have flown straight to the Masai Mara Reserve, then your safari package will usually include several daily game drives. If you've rented your own vehicle, then it is recommended you find a map of the reserve or take an askari (guard) with you.
- Walking Safaris. If you enjoy a little adventure, try a walking safari with a Maasai guide. The best ones are outside the reserve boundaries.
- Cultural Tours with the Maasai. Visiting a traditional Maasai village is frequently included in a safari package to the Masai Mara. While not really an authentic experience you may learn something about the Maasai. You can also take some excellent cultural tours to learn more about the Maasai.
- Hot Air Ballooning is a popular pastime that provides an expensive but unique experience. Every lodge and camp will be able to set up a flight for you. The balloons usually fly at dawn and last about an hour.

## Park Entry Fees

In 2015 the entry fee for the Masai Mara Reserve was £60 per adult per day (subject to change at any time!)

## How to Get There

The Masai Mara Reserve lies 168 miles from the capital city of Nairobi. The trip takes at least 6 hours by car because the roads are quite poor and should not be attempted unless you have a 4WD vehicle.

<http://goafrica.about.com/od/kenyatopattractions/a/masaimara.htm>

L.O: To identify some features of travel writing

Travel Writing Notes

Magpied Vocabulary	
General vocabulary	Specific country vocabulary
Ingredients /Features	
What Is the Purpose of Travel Writing?	