

down under by bill bryson

Down Under by Bill Bryson: A Journey Through Australia's Heart and Humor

down under by bill bryson is more than just a travelogue; it's a witty, insightful exploration of Australia that captures the essence of the vast continent with humor, curiosity, and a keen eye for detail. Bill Bryson, known for his engaging storytelling and sharp observations, takes readers on an unforgettable journey through one of the world's most fascinating countries, blending history, nature, and cultural reflections into a narrative that feels personal and entertaining.

Exploring the Charm of Down Under by Bill Bryson

Bill Bryson's approach to writing about Australia in **down under by bill bryson** is distinctively approachable. Instead of a dry travel guide, the book reads like a friendly conversation, filled with anecdotes and surprising facts that invite readers to see Australia through his eyes. The author's knack for mixing humor with information makes the book accessible to all kinds of readers—whether you're planning a trip to Australia or simply curious about the land "down under."

The Unique Blend of Humor and Insight

One of the standout features of **down under by bill bryson** is its comedic tone. Bryson's dry wit and self-deprecating humor bring the narrative to life, making even the most mundane topics amusing. For example, his encounters with Australian wildlife, from the iconic kangaroo to the more dangerous creatures lurking in the bush, are described with both fascination and a healthy dose of irony. This lighthearted approach helps demystify the often intimidating image of Australia's natural world.

At the same time, Bryson doesn't shy away from providing thoughtful commentary on Australia's history and culture. His reflections on the country's indigenous peoples, colonial past, and evolving identity add depth to the travel narrative, offering readers a richer understanding beyond the typical tourist experience.

Key Themes in Down Under by Bill Bryson

The book touches on several themes that resonate throughout Bryson's journey, each contributing to a comprehensive picture of Australia.

Nature and Wildlife

Australia's unique flora and fauna are central to *Down Under* by Bill Bryson. Bryson vividly describes the landscapes he traverses—from the arid Outback to lush rainforests and bustling cities. His encounters with animals, such as the quirky wombat or the elusive platypus, highlight the continent's biodiversity. These descriptions not only entertain but also educate readers about the ecological richness that makes Australia special.

History and Culture

Bryson's narrative delves into Australia's colonial history, touching on the early European settlers, the impact on Aboriginal communities, and the development of modern Australian society. He presents these topics with sensitivity, balancing humor with respect for the complexities involved. His observations on Australian attitudes, slang, and social quirks add a cultural layer that enriches the reader's understanding of the people behind the landscapes.

Travel and Adventure

Down Under by Bill Bryson is, at its core, a travel adventure. Bryson's journey takes him through iconic locations like Sydney, Melbourne, and the Great Barrier Reef, as well as lesser-known spots that reveal the country's hidden gems. His travel tips and candid reflections on the challenges and joys of exploring Australia provide practical value for readers considering their own trips.

The Writing Style That Makes *Down Under* by Bill Bryson Stand Out

Bryson's storytelling style is a significant reason why *Down Under* by Bill Bryson remains a beloved book among travel enthusiasts and casual readers alike.

Engaging and Relatable Narration

The book's conversational tone invites readers to join Bryson on his journey. He shares his thoughts and feelings openly, often poking fun at himself and the situations he finds himself in. This relatability makes the narrative feel less like a formal report and more like a shared experience with a knowledgeable friend.

Meticulous Research Coupled with Personal Experience

While humor is a key element, Bryson backs his anecdotes with well-researched facts. This combination ensures that the book is informative without being overwhelming. Readers gain insights into Australia's geology, wildlife, and social fabric, all woven seamlessly into the travel narrative.

Why Down Under by Bill Bryson Appeals to a Wide Audience

What makes down under by bill bryson resonate beyond just travel lovers is its universal appeal through storytelling.

For Travel Enthusiasts

The book serves as an excellent primer for anyone interested in visiting Australia. Bryson's detailed descriptions of landmarks, local customs, and travel logistics provide a valuable resource for planning a trip. His honest account of both the wonders and challenges of traveling "down under" helps set realistic expectations.

For Readers Interested in Cultural Exploration

Beyond the travel tips, Bryson's insights into Australian culture and history offer readers a deeper perspective. His reflections on the land's indigenous heritage, colonial legacy, and multicultural present encourage thoughtful consideration of Australia's identity.

For Fans of Humor and Storytelling

Anyone who appreciates well-crafted narrative and humor will find down under by bill bryson a rewarding read. Bryson's ability to blend factual content with amusing storytelling makes the book entertaining from start to finish.

Tips for Readers Inspired by Down Under by Bill Bryson

If down under by bill bryson sparks your interest in Australia, here are a few tips to enhance your experience:

- **Plan your itinerary with diversity:** Australia is vast, so consider visiting a mix of cities, natural parks, and coastal areas to capture the full spectrum Bryson describes.
- **Learn some Aussie slang:** Picking up local expressions can enrich your interactions and add fun to your travels.
- **Respect indigenous cultures:** Take time to learn about and honor Aboriginal history and traditions, a theme Bryson touches on thoughtfully.
- **Prepare for wildlife encounters:** Whether it's spotting a kangaroo or avoiding dangerous critters, understanding Australia's wildlife is key for a safe and memorable experience.
- **Embrace the unexpected:** Bryson's adventures show that the best travel stories often come from unplanned moments and mishaps.

How Down Under by Bill Bryson Influenced Travel Literature

Bill Bryson's work, including *Down Under* by Bill Bryson, has helped redefine travel writing by blending humor, personal narrative, and cultural insight. His style encourages readers to see travel not just as sightseeing but as an immersive experience filled with learning and laughter. Many contemporary travel writers cite Bryson as an inspiration for making travel literature more engaging and accessible.

Overall, *Down Under* by Bill Bryson remains a timeless piece that continues to inspire curiosity about Australia. Whether you seek to understand its vast landscapes, meet its unique wildlife, or laugh along with Bryson's quirky observations, this book offers a rich and rewarding journey through one of the world's most captivating destinations.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the main theme of 'Down Under' by Bill Bryson?

The main theme of 'Down Under' is Bill Bryson's exploration and humorous account of his travels and experiences in Australia, highlighting the country's unique culture, history, and natural environment.

When was 'Down Under' by Bill Bryson first published?

'Down Under' was first published in 2000.

How does Bill Bryson describe Australia's wildlife in 'Down Under'?

Bill Bryson describes Australia's wildlife with a mix of fascination and humor, emphasizing the uniqueness and sometimes dangerous nature of its animals, such as kangaroos, koalas, and various venomous creatures.

What makes 'Down Under' different from other travel books about Australia?

'Down Under' stands out due to Bill Bryson's witty and engaging writing style, combining informative content with personal anecdotes and humor, making the travel narrative both educational and entertaining.

Does 'Down Under' cover the Aboriginal culture in Australia?

Yes, 'Down Under' touches on Aboriginal culture and history, providing insights into the indigenous peoples of Australia and their significant impact on the country's heritage.

Is 'Down Under' suitable for readers who have never been to Australia?

Absolutely, 'Down Under' is written for a broad audience and provides an accessible and entertaining introduction to Australia, making it suitable for readers unfamiliar with the country.

Additional Resources

Down Under by Bill Bryson: A Literary Journey Through Australia's Unique Landscape

down under by bill bryson is a captivating travelogue that combines humor, insight, and thorough observation to paint a vivid picture of Australia's vast and varied continents. Published in 2000, this work stands as one of Bill Bryson's most cherished explorations, where the celebrated author takes readers on an immersive journey through the cultural quirks, natural wonders, and peculiarities of "the land down under." Unlike a traditional travel guide, Bryson's narrative melds historical facts, personal anecdotes, and sharp wit, creating a compelling and informative read that appeals to both

armchair travelers and those intrigued by Australia's unique identity.

In-depth Analysis of Down Under by Bill Bryson

Bill Bryson's approach in *Down Under* is not merely to document a geographical tour but to investigate Australia's essence through a blend of humor and meticulous research. The book captures the country's enormous scale, from its sprawling deserts and tropical rainforests to cosmopolitan cities like Sydney and Melbourne. Bryson's writing style is analytical yet accessible, inviting readers to reflect on Australia's environmental challenges, colonial history, and social dynamics without feeling overwhelmed by dense exposition.

What sets *Down Under* apart is Bryson's ability to balance affection and critique. His observations on Australia's distinctive wildlife, for example, range from fascination with its diversity to candid remarks about the dangers posed by creatures such as the infamous box jellyfish or the venomous funnel-web spider. This duality enriches the narrative, providing a realistic portrayal that neither romanticizes nor disparages the country.

Additionally, Bryson's exploration of Australia's indigenous heritage and colonial past adds layers of complexity to the book. He delves into the impact of European settlement on Aboriginal communities, offering readers a nuanced perspective on historical injustices and ongoing cultural tensions. This aspect of the writing distinguishes *Down Under* from many other travel memoirs, which often focus solely on tourist-friendly highlights.

Thematic Exploration: Nature, History, and Society

The thematic richness of *Down Under* is one of its strongest features. Bryson's deep dives into Australia's natural environment are not only descriptive but also educational. For instance, he discusses the Great Barrier Reef's ecological significance and the precarious state of its health due to climate change and human activity. This environmental consciousness resonates with readers interested in sustainability and conservation.

In terms of history, Bryson weaves stories of early explorers, convicts, and settlers with contemporary insights, creating a timeline that helps readers understand Australia's transformation over centuries. His portrayal of urban life touches on Australia's multicultural makeup and the country's evolving identity in the global context.

Another notable theme is Bryson's focus on Australian humor and character. His encounters with locals reveal a laid-back yet resilient population, often using self-deprecating humor and storytelling as means of cultural expression. This human element brings warmth to the book and complements its factual content.

Comparison with Other Travel Literature on Australia

When compared to other notable works centered on Australia, such as Tim Winton's evocative novels or Robyn Davidson's *Tracks*, Bryson's *Down Under* offers a more comprehensive and lighter-toned perspective. While Davidson's memoir focuses on a solitary journey across the desert and Winton's fiction reflects the Australian psyche, Bryson provides a broad survey that spans geography, culture, and history with a journalistic flair.

Travel books like *In a Sunburned Country* by Bill Bryson himself – which is often used interchangeably with *Down Under* as the US title – have set a benchmark for combining entertainment and education. The strength of Bryson's narrative lies in its ability to appeal to diverse readerships, including those unfamiliar with Australia and seasoned travelers looking for fresh insights.

Pros and Cons of Down Under by Bill Bryson

• Pros:

- Engaging and humorous writing style that makes complex topics approachable.
- Extensive research and factual accuracy enhance the book's credibility.
- Balanced portrayal of Australia's natural beauty and environmental issues.
- Insightful commentary on social and historical contexts.
- Accessible to readers with varying levels of prior knowledge about Australia.

• Cons:

- Some readers may find the episodic structure less cohesive than a linear travel narrative.
- Occasional humor may not resonate with all audiences, particularly those sensitive to cultural stereotypes.
- Focus on environmental and historical critique might overshadow personal travel experiences.

Impact and Legacy in Travel Writing

Down Under by Bill Bryson has had a significant influence on contemporary travel writing by demonstrating that travel narratives can be both entertaining and intellectually stimulating. Bryson's blending of humor and investigative reporting has inspired a new generation of travel authors who seek to provide readers with more than just a checklist of destinations.

The book also contributed to raising global awareness about Australia's environmental challenges at a time when issues like coral bleaching and habitat loss were gaining prominence. By presenting these concerns alongside vivid descriptions of the landscape and culture, Bryson encouraged readers to view travel as an opportunity for deeper engagement rather than superficial tourism.

Moreover, *Down Under* remains a valuable resource for educators, tourists, and literary enthusiasts interested in Australia. Its blend of accessibility and depth makes it suitable for classroom discussions about geography, ecology, and postcolonial studies.

In sum, Bill Bryson's *Down Under* offers a multifaceted exploration of Australia that goes beyond traditional travel writing. It invites readers to appreciate the country's complexity through a lens that is simultaneously humorous, critical, and affectionate—qualities that have cemented the book's place as a seminal work in the genre.

Down Under By Bill Bryson

down under by bill bryson: Down Under Bill Bryson, 2010-03-02 It is the driest, flattest, hottest, most desiccated, infertile and climatically aggressive of all the inhabited continents and still Australia teems with life – a large portion of it quite deadly. In fact, Australia has more things that can kill you in a very nasty way than anywhere else. Ignoring such dangers – and yet curiously obsessed by them – Bill Bryson journeyed to Australia and promptly fell in love with the country. And who can blame him? The people are cheerful, extrovert, quick-witted and unfailingly obliging: their cities are safe and clean and nearly always built on water; the food is excellent; the beer is cold and the sun nearly always shines. Life doesn't get much better than this...

down under by bill bryson: Down Under Bill Bryson, 2001 Forget Crocodile Dundee, Castlemaine XXXX and the 2000 Sydney Olympics - Bill Bryson is the man to put Australia on the map. Bill Bryson has traversed the length and breadth of Australia to bring us his first major new book since the bestselling *A Walk in the Woods*. Bryson is a household name, synonymous with laugh-out-loud humour, uncontrolled sniggering and spontaneous outbursts of chortling. UNTITLED will reinforce his reputation as the best-loved travel writer and humorist of our day. No worries!

down under by bill bryson: *Down Under* Bill Bryson, 2015 It is the driest, flattest, hottest, most desiccated, infertile and climatically aggressive of all the inhabited continents and still

Australia teems with life - a large portion of it quite deadly. In fact, Australia has more things that can kill you in a very nasty way than anywhere else. Ignoring such dangers - and yet curiously obsessed by them - Bill Bryson journeyed to Australia and promptly fell in love with the country. And who can blame him? The people are cheerful, extrovert, quick-witted and unfailingly obliging: their cities are safe and clean and nearly always built on water; the food is excellent; the beer is cold and the sun nearly always shines. Life doesn't get much better than this...

down under by bill bryson: Down Under Bill Bryson, 2000

down under by bill bryson: In a Sunburned Country Bill Bryson, 2000 Compared to his Australian excursions, Bill Bryson had it easy on the Appalachian Trail. Nonetheless, Bryson has on several occasions embarked on seemingly endless flights bound for a land where Little Debbies are scarce but insects are abundant (up to 220,000 species of them), not to mention the crocodiles. Taking readers on a rollicking ride far beyond packaged-tour routes, IN A SUNBURNED COUNTRY introduces a country where interesting things happen all the time, from a Prime Minister who was lost at sea while swimming at a Victoria beach to Japanese cult members who managed to set off an atomic bomb unnoticed on their 500,000-acre property. Leaving no Vegemite unsavored, readers will accompany Bryson as he dodges jellyfish while learning to surf at Bondi Beach, discovers a fish that can climb trees, dehydrates in deserts where the temperatures leap to 140 degrees, and tells the true story of the rejected Danish architect who designed the Sydney Opera House. Published just in time for the Olympics, IN A SUNBURNED COUNTRY provides a singularly intriguing, wonderfully wacky take on a glorious, adventure-filled locale.

down under by bill bryson: Down Under by Bill Bryson Therese Burgess, 2001

down under by bill bryson: MARATHON TOURISM DOWN UNDER Jim Manford, 2018-09-20 As part of a long-standing ambition to complete the Australian 100 Marathon Club's 'Anzac Sweep'(a marathon in all States and Territories in Australia plus the North and South Islands of New Zealand)Jim has taken a close look at the marathons available in each location. As always, his meticulously researched accounts, written from the perspective of a dedicated Marathon Tourist, are sure to appeal to all those who enjoy combining their love of running with a love of travel. This is the 9th book in Jim's 'Marathon Tourism' series.

down under by bill bryson: Level Best Michael Ross, Keith West, 2001-09 Responding to the demands of the Framework for Teaching English, Years 7-9, within the context of the revised National Curriculum, the Level Best series offers a carefully structured and motivating approach to English for 11 to 14 year-olds. Making clear the purpose and structure of each unit and the skills being developed, the books offer opening questions for discussion in small groups and provide opportunities throughout to learn in a variety of ways. Encouraging students throughout to examine and explain how they reached their conclusions, the series provides plenty of support in order to increase confidence and achievement. It aims to guide students towards realistic targets by encouraging reflection on what has been learnt during the course of each unit before moving on to the next level. The Teacher Resource Books provide extensive support, including suggestions for teaching styles, model answers and photocopiable worksheets.

down under by bill bryson: Green Urbanism Down Under Timothy Beatley, Peter Newman, 2012-09-26 In this immensely practical book, Timothy Beatley sets out to answer a simple question: what can Americans learn from Australians about “greening” city life? Green Urbanism Down Under reports on the current state of “sustainability practice” in Australia and the many lessons that U.S. residents can learn from the best Australian programs and initiatives. Australia is similar to the United States in many ways, especially in its “energy footprint.” For example, Australia’s per capita greenhouse gas emissions are second only to those of the United States. A similar percentage of its residents live in cities (85 percent in Australia vs. 80 percent in the United States). And it suffers from parallel problems of air and water pollution, a national dependence on automobiles, and high fossil fuel consumption. Still, after traveling throughout Australia, Beatley finds that there are myriad creative responses to these problems—and that they offer instructive examples for the United States. Green Urbanism Down Under is a very readable collection of solutions. Although

many of these innovative solutions are little-known outside Australia, they all present practical possibilities for U.S. cities. Beatley describes "green transport" projects, "city farms," renewable energy plans, green living programs, and much more. He considers a host of public policy initiatives and scrutinizes regional and state planning efforts for answers. In closing, he shares his impressions about how Australian results might be applied to U.S. problems. This is a unique book: hopeful, constructive, and filled with ideas that have been proven to work. It is a "must read" for anyone who cares about the future of American cities.

down under by bill bryson: Excel Selective Schools and Scholarship Tests John Moir, 2013
The aim of Excel Test Skills - Selective Schools & Scholarship Tests Skills & Strategies Years 5-6 is to identify, develop and practise the skills useful in test situations, in particular the Selective Schools and Scholarship Tests. Recognition of these skills and strategies, and confidence in applying them, will lead to better test results. In this book students will find: an introduction with advice to parents and students an explanation page for each skill with sample questions and strategies a page of practice test questions for each different type of skill a detailed Written Expression section on how best to compose essays in test answers to all multiple choice questions explanations that outline the thinking skills required for each question

down under by bill bryson: A/AS Level English Language for AQA Student Book Marcello Giovanelli, Gary Ives, John Keen, Raj Rana, Rachel Rudman, 2015-06-04 A new series of bespoke, full-coverage resources developed for the 2015 A Level English qualifications. Endorsed for the AQA A/AS Level English Language specifications for first teaching from 2015, this print Student Book is suitable for all abilities, providing stretch opportunities for the more able and additional scaffolding for those who need it. Helping bridge the gap between GCSE and A Level, the unique three-part structure provides essential knowledge and allows students to develop their skills through a deeper study of key topics, whilst encouraging independent learning. An enhanced digital version and free Teacher's Resource are also available.

down under by bill bryson: Bill Bryson Scott P. Richert, Carmen Bredeson, 2011-01-15 A biography of writer Bill Bryson that describes his era, major works, and life.

down under by bill bryson: Underwear Or Socks? an Overland Odyssey Alan Lush, 2012-03-01 In a series of blog-like sound-bites, Underwear or Socks? An Overland Odyssey tells the story of a journey that starts in Turkey and covers more than 40,000 kilometres to end in Australia. Travel with the author as he scales the slopes of the highest mountain in the world; endures 50-degree heat and 90-percent humidity; stands face to face with a wild tiger; descends into an underground city; flies across a barren landscape in a hot-air balloon; skis the slopes of a volcano; battles stinging insects, spiders, snakes and rats; camps out in desert storms; fords flooding rivers; and swims with crocodiles. Viewed through the wide and often incredulous eyes of an armchair traveler finally doing it for real, it turns out that the world really is a weird, wonderful and often very amusing place.

down under by bill bryson: The Guide to the All-Embracing Realm of the Ultimate Austin P. Torney, 2009-08-19 Is it that with grace, humor and style that we will describe all the realms of life, as well as answer the ultimate questions, some in seriously comedic adventures? We will it. Is the cause of the universe itself causeless? Yes, and we will learn why, just because. Did the laws of the universe come from Nothing? Just about, but there is some further ado about near 'nothing'. Does everything amount to a total Nothing except for the quantum fluctuations of uncertainty? Certainly. Will we disprove the Supernatural? Naturally. What does the sum total of the information content of Everything add up to? Nothing. Nil. Null. Not a thing. Do we really learn Everything here, such as what is the origin of the universe and also the explanation of that which produced it. Yes. Really? Yes, for sure; you can count on it. Are any other of your books kind of like this one? Yes, see 'Butterflies At the Edge of Forever'.

down under by bill bryson: The Global Politics of Contemporary Travel Writing Debbie Lisle, 2006-11-02 To what extent do best-selling travel books, such as those by Paul Theroux, Bill Bryson, Bruce Chatwin and Michael Palin, tell us as much about world politics as newspaper articles, policy

documents and press releases? Debbie Lisle argues that the formulations of genre, identity, geopolitics and history at work in contemporary travel writing are increasingly at odds with a cosmopolitan and multicultural world in which 'everybody travels'. Despite the forces of globalization, common stereotypes about 'foreignness' continue to shape the experience of modern travel. The *Global Politics of Contemporary Travel Writing* is concerned with the way contemporary travelogues engage with, and try to resolve, familiar struggles about global politics such as the protection of human rights, the promotion of democracy, the management of equality within multiculturalism and the reduction of inequality. This is a thoroughly interdisciplinary book that draws from international relations, literary theory, political theory, geography, anthropology and history.

down under by bill bryson: *Down Under ist nicht immer entspannter* Christina Danisio, 2018-06-14 Christina Danisio ist wieder zurück in ihrem Australien, diesmal mit Ehemann und Sohn. Wie bereits auf ihrer ersten Reise als Single (1. Buch: *Down Under ist alles entspannter*) muss sie sich allen möglichen und unmöglichen Situationen stellen, die so nicht geplant waren. Doch einen quirligen Neunjährigen dabei zu haben birgt ganz andere Herausforderungen. Gleichzeitig bietet es Chancen, neue Seiten des Reisens in Australien zu entdecken. Egal ob in Melbourne, an der Great Ocean Road oder mit dem Mietwagen von Brisbane nach Sydney: Immer wieder begegnen der Familie Menschen und Tiere, die sie zum Staunen bringen. Sie erfährt Neues über die Landrechte der Aborigines, deren Kunst und Legenden, besucht Nationalparks, ein Koalakennchen, lernt Goldschürfen und vieles mehr. Hintergrundinformationen und praktische Reisetipps begleiten die unterhaltsamen Geschichten. Australien-Sehnsucht inklusive!

down under by bill bryson: *Travel Writing from Black Australia* Robert Clarke, 2015-11-19 Over the past thirty years the Australian travel experience has been 'Aboriginalized'. Aboriginality has been appropriated to furnish the Australian nation with a unique and identifiable tourist brand. This is deeply ironic given the realities of life for many Aboriginal people in Australian society. On the one hand, Aboriginality in the form of artworks, literature, performances, landscapes, sport, and famous individuals is celebrated for the way it blends exoticism, mysticism, multiculturalism, nationalism, and reconciliation. On the other hand, in the media, cinema, and travel writing, Aboriginality in the form of the lived experiences of Aboriginal people has been exploited in the service of moral panic, patronized in the name of white benevolence, or simply ignored. For many travel writers, this irony - the clash between different regimes of valuing Aboriginality - is one of the great challenges to travelling in Australia. *Travel Writing from Black Australia* examines the ambivalence of contemporary travelers' engagements with Aboriginality. Concentrating on a period marked by the rise of discourses on Aboriginality championing indigenous empowerment, self-determination, and reconciliation, the author analyses how travel to Black Australia has become, for many travelers, a means of discovering 'new'—and potentially transformative—styles of interracial engagement.

down under by bill bryson: *Displays!* Susan P. Phillips, 2014-01-10 Just about any librarian needs new ideas for dynamic, topical library displays. This new second volume offers ideas on a wide range of subjects including women of note, news-worthy events, Mother Nature, great moments in time, prominent figures in history, global cultures and more. Each display topic includes a comprehensive background discussion along with detailed assembly instructions, an explanation of the genesis of the idea and suggestions on ways to adapt these designs to fit into larger spaces. The author includes everyday items, prized collectibles and authentic antiques in each of the 45 displays featured.

down under by bill bryson: *Quicklet on Bill Bryson's In a Sunburned Country* (CliffNotes-like Summary) Ben Mitchell Lewis, 2012-02-24 ABOUT THE BOOK "This is a country that loses a prime minister and that is so vast and empty that a band of amateur enthusiasts could conceivably set off the world's first non-governmental atomic bomb on its mainland almost four years would pass before anyone noticed. Clearly, this is a place worth getting to know." In a *Sunburned Country* is Bill Bryson's seventh book on travel. Published just five years after his

much-celebrated travelogue of Great Britain, *Notes from a Small Island*, the book takes on a much bigger topic: Australia. The book was published just before the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, and some later editions have an appendix chronicling Bryson's time spent as a spectator. Yet, the focus of the book is on Bryson's several trips to the massive island over the course of a year. Bryson finds himself hopping back and forth between various points in Australia, his home in New England, and a few other international locales. He never strays for long though, and much of the book is spent in the car and at dozens of hotels, pubs, and attractions along Australia's 23,000 mile coastline. EXCERPT FROM THE BOOK Next we meet Alan Howe, an old friend from London. Along with his wife, Carmel, Howe takes Bryson on several adventures to natural wonders, many of which are quite near his vacation home in the hills. After journeying with Howe for a few days, Bryson again strikes out on his own and heads north towards Brisbane. In the midst of his travels, he digresses into a chapter about Australia's native people—the Aborigines. The history is unbelievable. The Aborigines are an incredibly ancient tribe who still astound scientists today. After a short time walking the beaches of the Gold Coast and extolling the history of the area, Bryson departs, returns home for a time, then returns for the final leg of his trip. In part three, "Around the Edges," Bryson careens towards the wilder parts of the country. He is accompanied by Allan Sherwin, a friend from London. The most exciting leg of his journey begins as he travels to Great Barrier Reef and braves the sharks and waves native to the area. Buy a copy to keep reading!

down under by bill bryson: Bill Bryson the Complete Notes Bill Bryson, 2010-12 After nearly two decades in Britain, when Bryson took the decision to move Mrs Bryson, little Jimmy et al. back to the States, he made one last valedictory tour around old Blighty, resulting in *Notes from a Small Island*, a heartfelt eulogy to the country that produced Marmite, milky tea, Gardeners' Question Time and people who say, 'Mustn't grumble'. And while residing in New England to give his family a taste of the American way of life, he wrote the columns that became *Notes from a Big Country*, revealing the strange appeal of breakfast pizza, the jaw-slackening direness of US TV, and the answer to the puzzle of why nobody in America ever walks anywhere.

Related to down under by bill bryson

Namecheap vs Yahoo Small Business: Which Host Is Best For They've had a couple instances where my site was down for multiple hours, and that has ruined their overall average. But day-to-day they still have minor outages that annoy me

Namecheap vs Yahoo Small Business: Which Host Is Best For They've had a couple instances where my site was down for multiple hours, and that has ruined their overall average. But day-to-day they still have minor outages that annoy me

Related Articles

- [wheels on the bus and other songs](#)
- [the red queen by matt ridley](#)
- [special ed interview questions and answers](#)

[Back to Home](#)