

The Great Barrier Reef

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THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

The Great Barrier Reef is near the coast of Queensland in the north-east of Australia. The Great Barrier Reef is the largest in the world. The structure consists of organisms called coral polyps. The barrier became a World Heritage Site in 1981. The reef is one of the seven wonders of the world.





A part of the reef is protected by the Marine Park, to prevent overfishing and tourism. Other environmental pressures to the reef are the water quality of runoff, climate change together with coral bleaching.

HISTORY OF THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

In 1768, the English sailor James Cook set off on his first voyage to the Pacific, and south-west he discovered New Zealand. Then Cook approached the southeast coast of Australia. He approached by boat to the reef and, getting stuck with the ship, he studied the environment.