

ULURU

Uluru, also known as Ayers Rock is a large sandstone rock formation in the southern part of the Northern Territory in central Australia. It is 335 km south west of the nearest large town, Alice Springs, 450 km by road.

Uluru is one of Australia's most recognisable natural landmarks. The sandstone (=pietra arenaria) formation stands 348 m high. Both Uluru and the nearby Kata Tjuta formation have great cultural significance for the Anangu people, the traditional inhabitants of the area, who lead walking tours to inform visitors about the local flora and fauna, bush foods and the Aboriginal dreamtime stories of the area. Uluru is also often referred to as a monolith; it is composed of coarse-grained arkose (a type of sandstone characterized by an abundance of feldspar) and some conglomerate. The rock was originally sand, deposited as part of an extensive alluvial fan.

MYTHS AND LEGENDS

There are a lot of legends about ULURU for example:

-The world was once a featureless place. None of the places we know existed until creator beings, in the forms of people, plants and animals, travelled widely across the land. Then, in a process of creation and destruction, they formed the landscape as we know it today. Anangu land is still inhabited by the spirits of dozens of these ancestral creator beings which are referred to as Tjukuritja or Waparitja.-

-Uluru was built up during the creation period by two boys who played in the mud after rain. When they finished their game they travelled south to Wiputa ... Fighting together, the two boys made their way to the table topped Mount Conner, on top of which their bodies are preserved as boulders (=rocce)-

OUTBACK

The Outback is the vast, remote, arid area of Australia. The term "outback" is generally used to refer to locations that are comparatively more remote than those areas named "the bush" which, colloquially, can refer to any lands outside the main urban areas.

The Australian Outback is full of very important well-adapted wildlife, although much of it may not be immediately visible to the casual observer. Early European exploration of inland Australia was sporadic. Many aboriginal communities live in the Outback, in areas such as the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara lands in northern South Australia.