



Theme – Continents

## Description

Conventionally regarded as collective regions, continents are the Earth's main divisions of lands. Right now, we have a total of seven continents. These are Asia, Africa, North America, South America, Antarctica, Europe, and Australia. However, according to theory, we used to have a supercontinent called Pangaea which geologists believed existed during the late Paleozoic and early Mesozoic eras and began to break apart about 175 million years ago.

Can you imagine how it would have been like if that supercontinent did not break apart? I'm imagining that traveling from one country to another would have been much easier! Now I'm getting curious. How many continents have you explored and which one would you like to visit again once you can finally travel without any worries?

I know some of you already missed going to your favorite places abroad so for this month's theme, we decided to show you some cool layouts that represent the beauty of the different continents of the world as well as the countries they have.

## North & South America

Often called the Americas, North and South America are actually two separate continents. North America can be found in the northern hemisphere, between the Pacific Ocean and the Atlantic Ocean, and to the north of South America. It consists of 23 countries and 22 dependent territories. Meanwhile, South America, which can be found in the Western Hemisphere and mostly in the Southern Hemisphere, with a relatively small portion in the Northern Hemisphere, has 12 independent countries and 3 dependent territories.

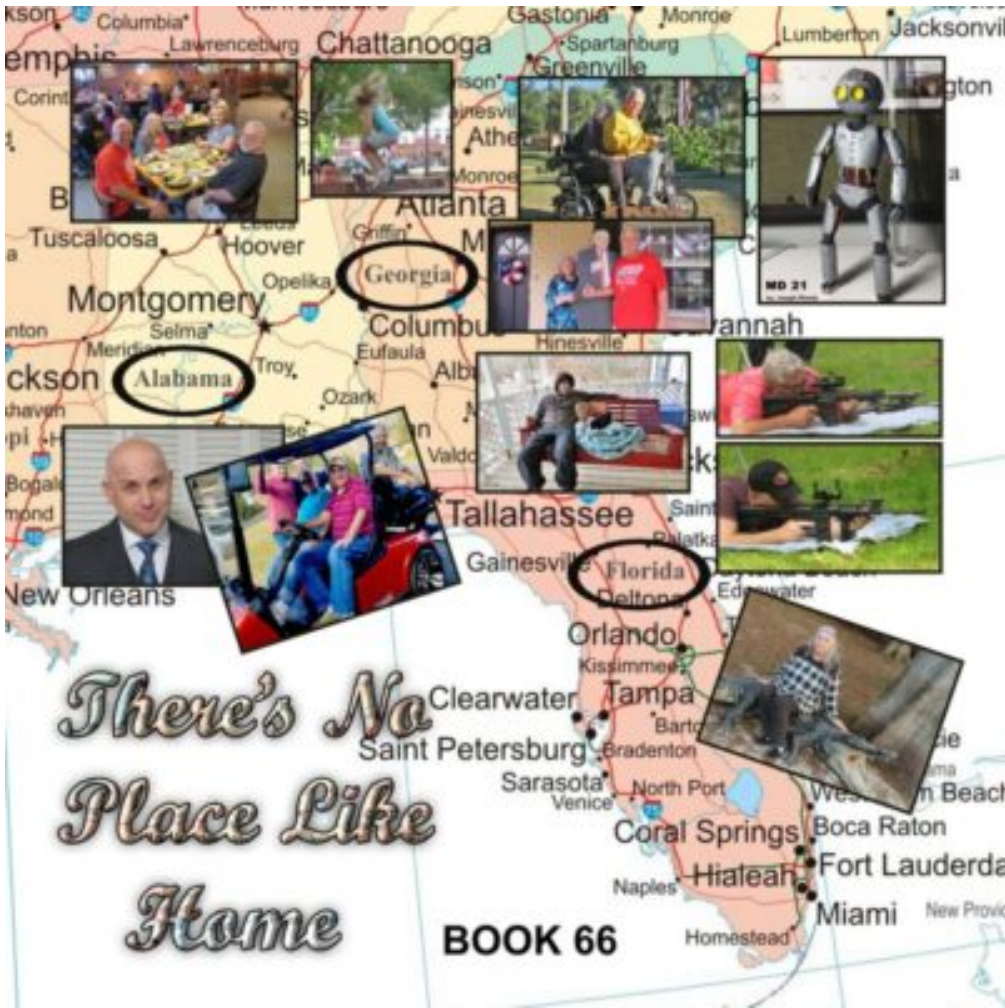
What countries on these two continents do you wish to travel to?



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## Asia

Located primarily in the Eastern and Northern Hemispheres, Asia is regarded as the Earth's largest continent. It is subdivided into 49 countries, and five of them (Georgia, Azerbaijan, Russia, Kazakhstan, and Turkey) are transcontinental countries lying partly in Europe. Asia is said to be the most populous continent but that's not all! It is also the cradle of the world's oldest civilizations and has played a leading role in the history of human development.

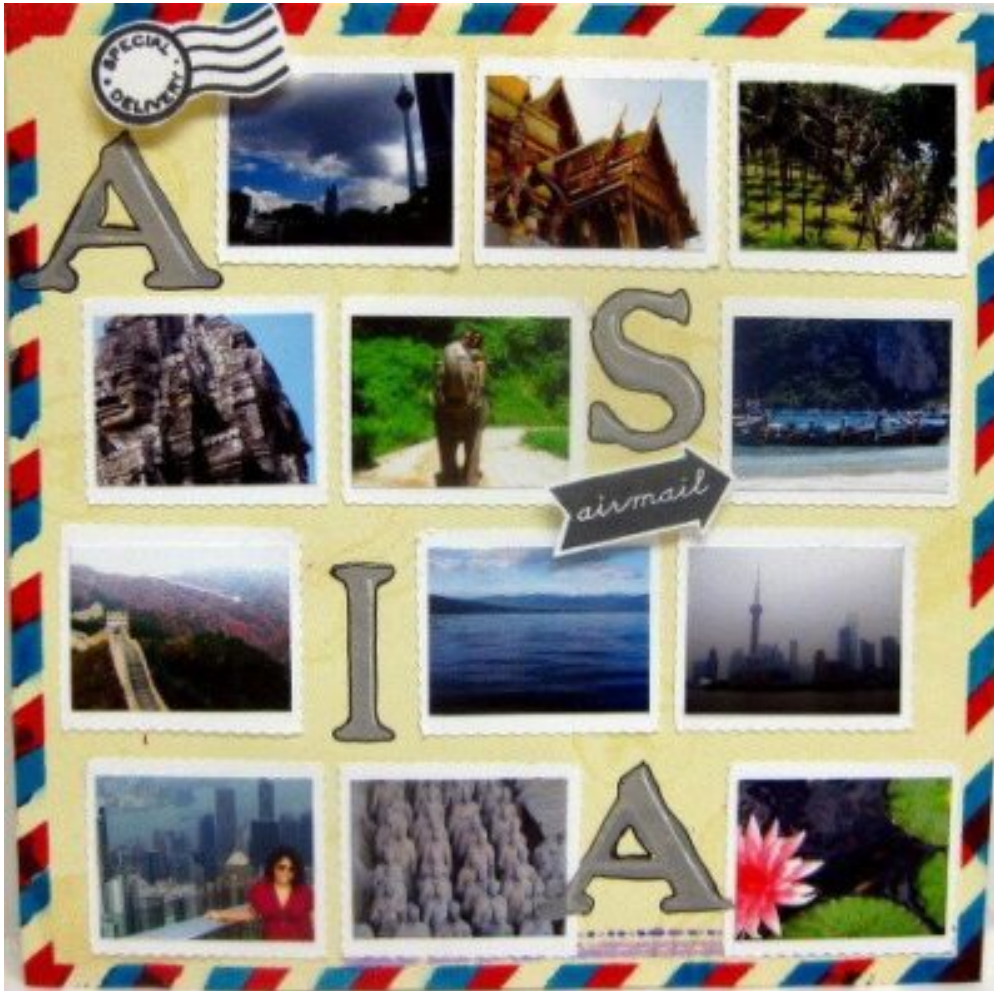
Were you able to visit any Asian country before the pandemic?



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## Europe

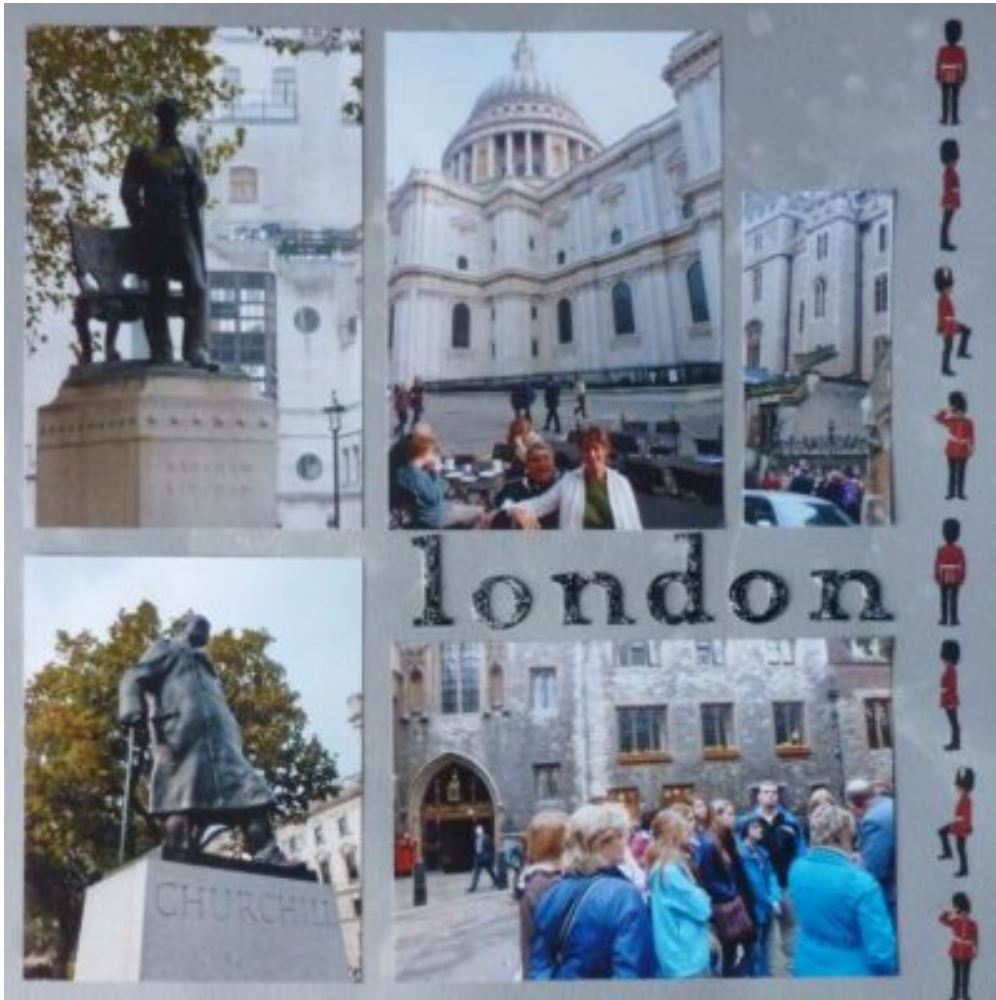
Europe is located entirely in the Northern Hemisphere and mostly in the Eastern Hemisphere. It is the second smallest continent based on geographic size, measuring a total of 3,997,929 square miles. About 50 countries form this continent. Aside from having some of the most beautiful and famous sites in the world, it is also home to the birthplace of democracy and Western culture in the ancient civilizations.

What's your dream European destination?

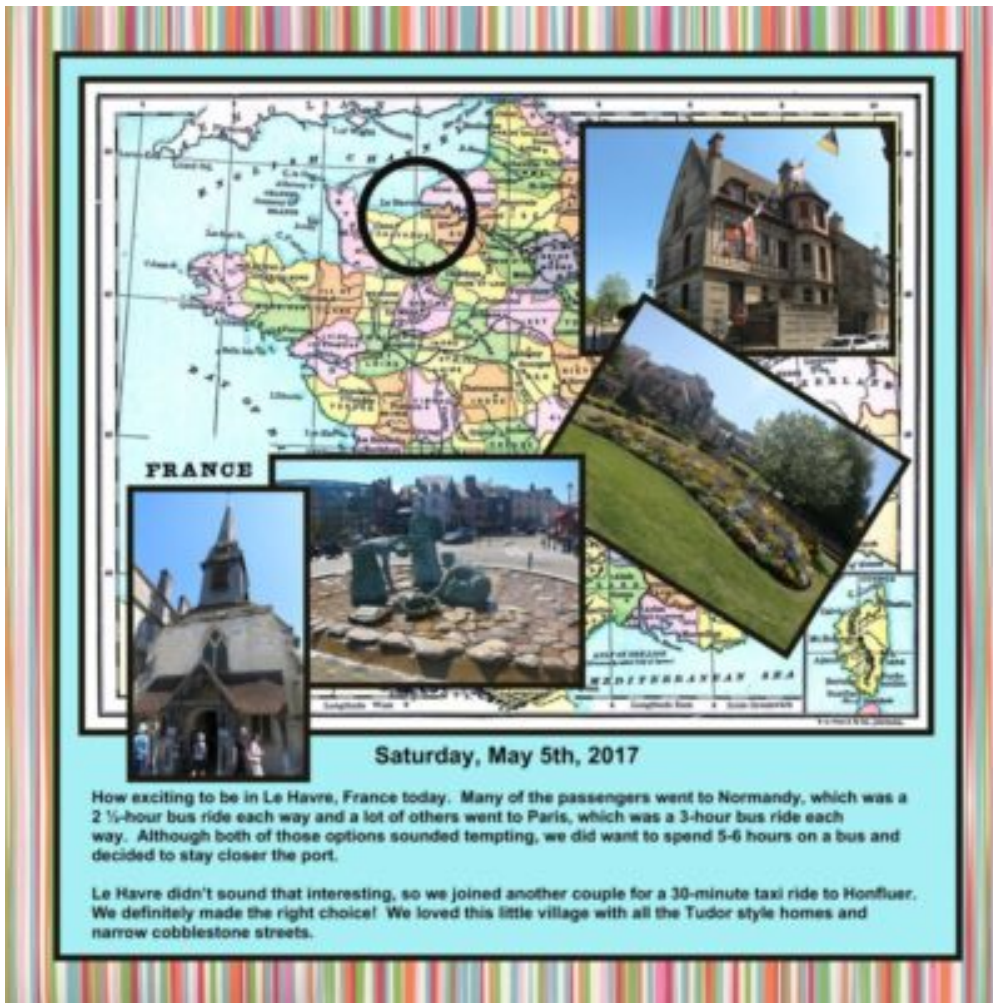




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## Africa

Africa is located to the south of Europe and to the southwest of Asia. It is the world's second-largest continent in both geographic size and population. There are about 48 countries that share the area of mainland Africa, plus six island nations that are considered to be part of the continent. It is known as the land of unlimited adventure because of the unique and exotic attractions it offers as well as the unimaginable natural beauty the continent possesses.


Have you ever went on an African safari adventure?

The hop-on hop-off bus was fun but it wasn't the kind of hop-on hop-off we are used to. Usually you get off the bus if a place interests you and you want to explore. In most places the buses run about every 20 minutes so you catch another one when you are ready and continue on until you want to get off again.

This one didn't allow people to get off and wait for the next bus. There were particular stops scheduled and the bus waited while everyone got off for 10 or 15 minutes to explore and take pictures. Then everyone got back on and the bus proceeded to the next stopping place when everyone got off again (unless you wanted to stay seated on the bus through the stop).

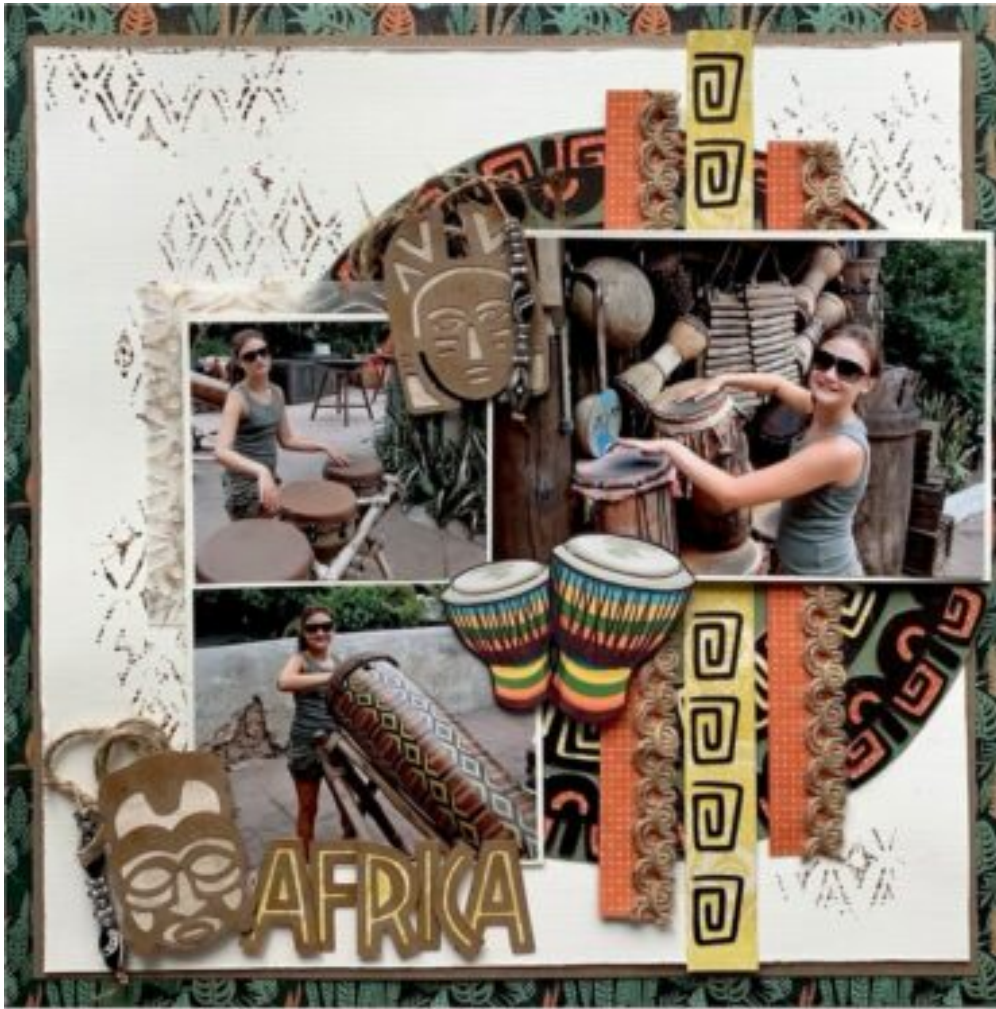
Durban, South Africa was a very pleasant surprise!

*Picture on right - before the bus left Bill got a pictures of me on the bus holding up one of the "contraband" license plates.*



The collage features a green map of South Africa with the words "SOUTH AFRICA" in a stylized font. To the left, there are two smaller photos: one showing the top deck of a blue double-decker bus with passengers, and another showing a blue and yellow double-decker bus with "RICKSHA BUS" written on its side. Below these is a large, wide-angle photo of a cemetery filled with numerous white headstones of various shapes and sizes, with a church building visible in the background under a clear blue sky.

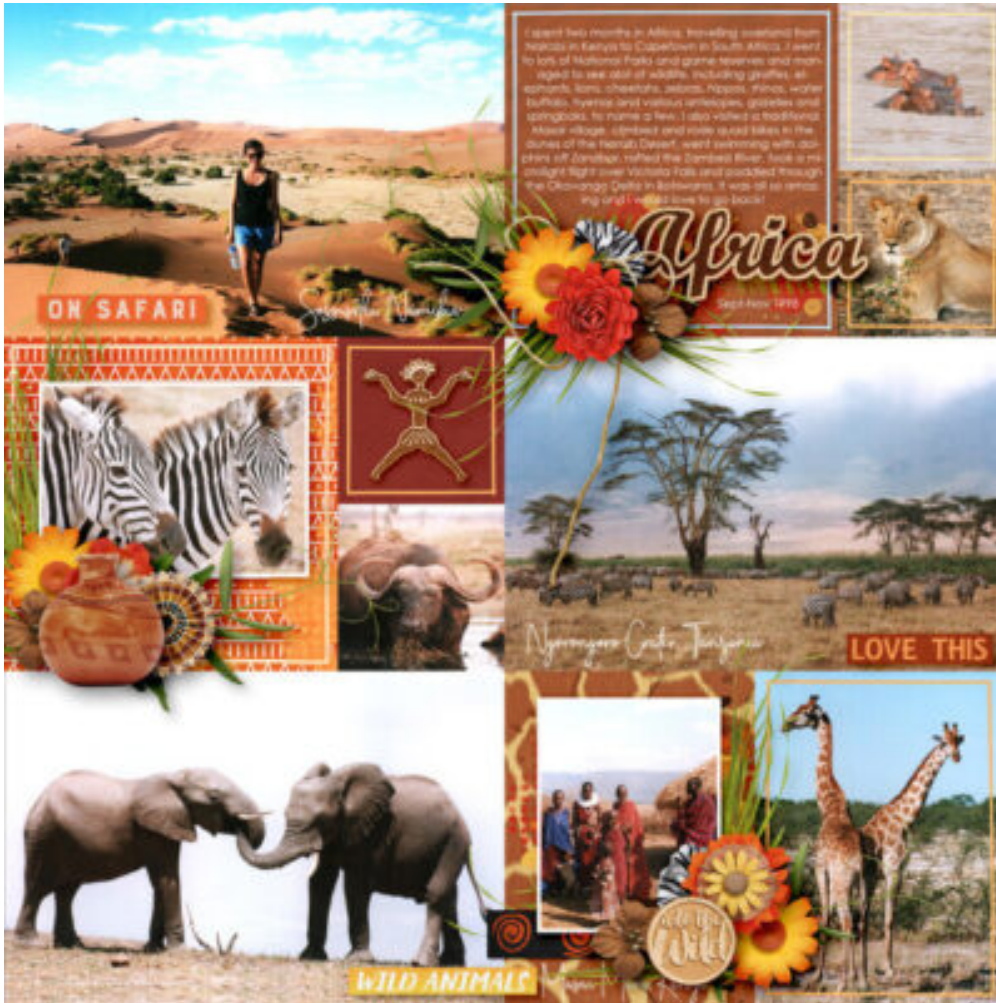
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## Australia/Oceania

Australia is sometimes called by the names Sahul, Australinea, or Meganesia to distinguish it from the country of Australia. It has a total land area of 8.56 million square kilometers (3,310,000 sq mi) which makes it the smallest and second-lowest human-inhabited continent on Earth. It is a part of Oceania which is a term used to denote the region encompassing the Australian continent, Zealandia, and various islands in the Pacific Ocean that are not included in the seven-continent model. There are about 14 independent countries and several dependent territories in Oceania.



Monday, February 17th 2014 – today we are in Cairns, Australia.

Bill has been snorkeling and diving on the Great Barrier Reef and he knew I would love it but we just weren't going to be in port long enough to make the trip to the reef, snorkel, and get back on the ship before it left. I was so disappointed but there was no way we could guarantee that we would be back by 5:30 that afternoon.

We don't mind cutting it close but that would have been cutting it ridiculous.

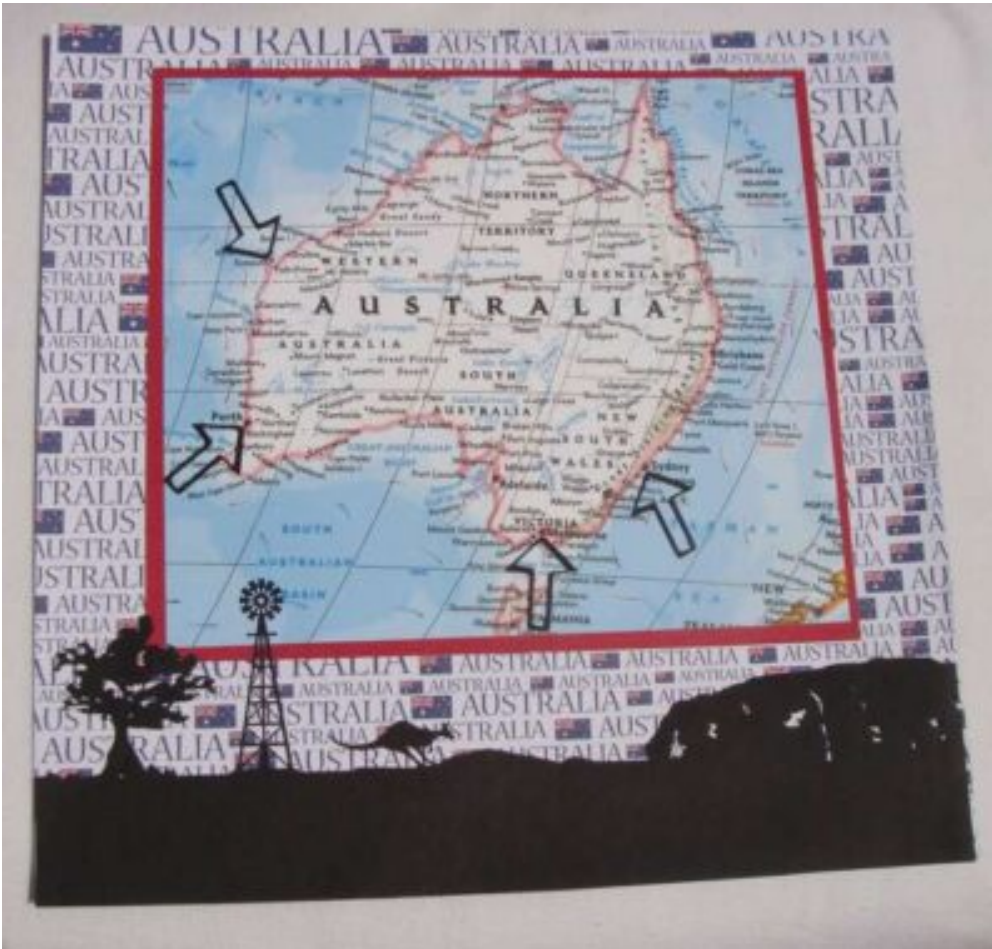
Then when it was time to get off the ship this morning they announced that because of the tides, the ship would have to stay another 2 hours before it could physically pull away from the dock – we didn't have to be back on board until 7:30!

As soon as we heard that we got off the ship and headed to the pier where the dive boats leave for the diving platforms on the Great Barrier Reef!

I snapped a few pictures in Cairns on the way to the pier where the boats and catamarans were docked and loading for trips to Great Barrier Reef.



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## Antarctica

Often described as a continent of superlatives, Antarctica is the coldest, driest, and windiest out of all the continents in the world. It is the Earth's southernmost continent and in fact, the last region to be discovered. It was left unseen until 1820 when the Russian expedition of Fabian Gottlieb von Bellingshausen and Mikhail Lazarev on Vostok and Mirny sighted the Fimbul ice shelf. There are no countries in Antarctica, although it is governed by parties to the Antarctic Treaty System, and seven nations claim different parts of it: New Zealand, Australia, France, Norway, the United Kingdom, Chile, and Argentina.



If you want inspiration for travels that are closer to home,

you can check [this post](#).

Maybe you want to track your travels, your dream vacation, or maybe other world events. You can use these wood cutouts for each continent. Each one is fairly large so they might be very prominent on your project, and you can have a chance to add pins or flags on them.

[Click HERE](#) to get these cutouts.

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