

Island Places! The Torres Strait

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Australia has some amazing places!
One of these is the Torres Strait. You
can find the Torres Strait off the
northern tip of Australia between
Cape York and Papua New Guinea.





The Torres Strait is a narrow sea with lots of islands. It connects the Indian Ocean (Arafura Sea) in the west with the Pacific Ocean (Coral Sea) in the east. The Spanish navigator, Torres, sailed through the strait in 1606. This is how it got its name.



Torres Strait Islanders are First Nations people. They came from islands in the north thousands of years ago. The sea level was much lower back then. They could walk between New Guinea and Australia. When the sea level rose, the Torres Strait islands were formed.



People live on 17 of these islands.
They also live on the mainland.
Torres Strait Islanders have different
histories and cultures to Aboriginal
Australians. They also have different
languages. Their culture is very
special too! They call it Ailan
Kastom.



Island Places! The Torres Strait

Come on a journey of discovery as we explore what makes the Torres Strait and its First Nations people so special...from their seafaring way of life and skillful fishing abilities to their traditional music and dance customs. Australia has some special places full of history and culture, and the Torres Strait is one of them!

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The First Australians