

INTRODUCTION

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LONGITUDE
-180°/-120°

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DISCOVER
disappearing islands
and a one-eyed troll
lurking beneath a bridge



CON

LONGITUDE
-120°/-60°

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ENCOUNTER
a cave of giant crystals
and a museum at the
bottom of the sea

LONGITUDE
-60°/0°

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FIND
an island teeming
with snakes and a
shimmering pink lake



LONGITUDE
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STROLL
through a grove of
curved trees and witness
a voodoo ceremony

LONGITUDE
60°/120°

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UNCOVER
ancient city ruins and
hang out with thousands of
garden gnomes



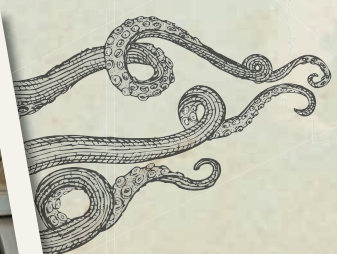
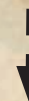
LONGITUDE
120°/180°

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WITNESS
coffins clinging to a cliffside
and a cave illuminated
by glowworms

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NEAR MAGELANG, INDONESIA

GEREJA AYAM

In 1990 Daniel Alamsjah felt a divine calling to build a house of worship for all faiths. He decided to construct it in the shape of a dove, the everlasting symbol of peace. If you tilt your head and use your imagination, it *could* look like a dove. But the crown on the top of its head and the open red beak definitely make it look more like a rooster. Unfortunately the building was never finished, and the place was abandoned in 2000.

Now it's been downgraded from both a dove and a rooster, and is just referred to as the "Chicken Church". Moss covers the outside, like green feathers. The tail is crumbling and sections are covered in graffiti. The building has decayed so much that it's in danger of collapse. Perhaps soon this dove will fly away to make its nest somewhere else.



SOUTH AUSTRALIA COOBER PEDY

Coober Pedy is no ordinary town. It is, quite literally, a town beneath your feet. What drove the people underground? Coober Pedy is the world's largest supplier of opal stones. Deep shafts lead down to mines where the gemstones are collected. The majority of residents work under the ground and live in man-made caves dug into the hillsides. The dugouts maintain a comfortable temperature year-round, unlike the sweltering out-back weather aboveground. Homes, churches and shops are all carved out beneath the earth.

But the biggest attraction is actually aboveground: a grassless golf course. The course is all dirt except for a little piece of artificial turf that golfers carry around with them to tee off from. And for some who find the daytime heat too much to handle, you can play golf at night with a glow-in-the-dark ball. This surreal landscape is the one golf club where "Keep Off The Grass" signs aren't needed!



JOSHINETSU KOGEN
NATIONAL PARK, JAPAN

JIGOKUDANI MONKEY PARK

MONKEYS DO HAVE A

lot of human habits . . . including soaking in a nice hot bath. Japanese snow monkeys like to warm up at these hot springs, particularly during the coldest months of the year. The baths are open to the human public as well. People can step into the steaming water and end up sharing their bath with these sweet red-faced monkeys, who have also been caught at another familiar human activity: having a snowball fight!



TASHIROJIMA, JAPAN

CAT ISLAND

CAT LOVERS, REJOICE!

There is an entire island devoted to your favourite feline friend. On Tashirojima Island, cats outnumber people six to one. They're believed to be lucky, and keeping them as pets is considered bad taste. So the wild cats roam the island as they please. But don't worry. Taking care of the cats is also thought to bring good fortune, and so these cats are very well taken care of.

Tashirojima was made rich by silk and fishing over the centuries, and

the cats were a big part of both. Cats were encouraged to chase mice away from silkworms, keeping the worms safe to spin their silk. Later, fishermen kept the cats happy by feeding them from their daily haul. Now the human population of the island is dwindling, and the cats are taking over, so there's plenty of room for you to move in and live out your ultimate cat-crazy dream.



MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

COW UP A TREE SCULPTURE

It isn't every day you see a cow up a tree. But artist John Kelly was inspired to create an art sculpture based on two Australian themes: flooding and camouflage cows. Why are those themes Australian? Floods are a common occurrence in this part of Australia. As for camouflage cows, well, that's known to *not* be a common find. During WWII, artist William Dobell built life-sized papier-mâché cows and moved them around airfields, thinking that they would distract Japanese pilots. Spoiler alert: they didn't.

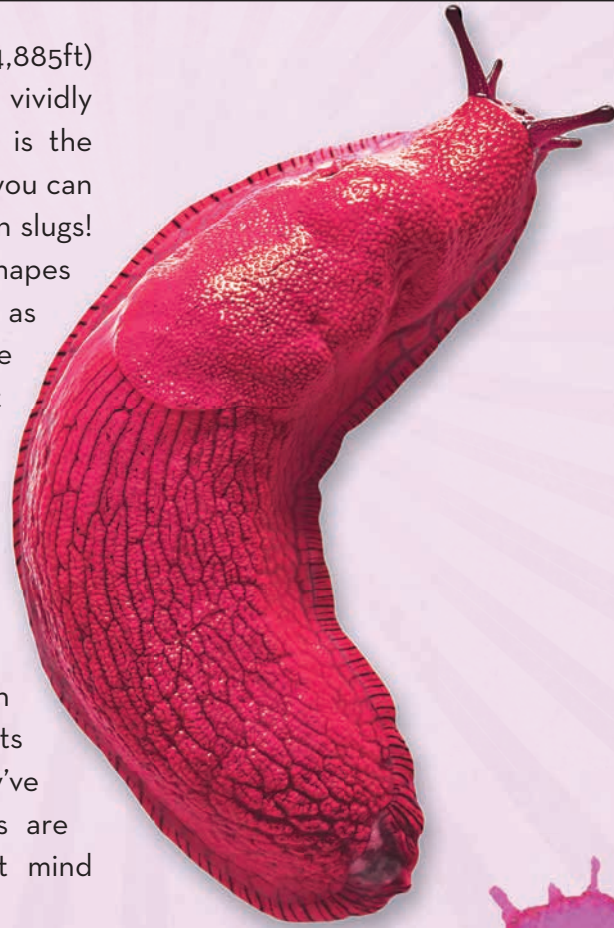
Inspired by the crafted cows, as well as the theme of flooding, Kelly came up with this bizarre sculpture. It's a cow that doesn't really look like a cow, stuck up in a tree. Because obviously that's where a cow would wind up during a flood, right? Real cows don't climb trees . . . but maybe papier-mâché ones do.



NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA

GIANT PINK SLUGS OF MT KAPUTAR

On a remote peak 1,500m (4,885ft) above sea level live some vividly coloured little creatures. This is the only place in the world where you can find them. They are bright neon slugs! The slugs come in various shapes and colours. Some are as long as a cucumber and hot pink, while others are triangular and bright red. After it rains, these guys crawl out from their underground lairs to feast on lichen and tree moss. They live in the remains of an extinct volcano, which was active 18 million years ago. Have the slugs been around that long? Scientists aren't sure. However long they've existed, their dazzling colours are captivating visitors who don't mind getting the creepy-crawlies.



KAMCHATKA PENINSULA, RUSSIA

VALLEY OF GEYSERS

JOURNEYING TO THE

Kamchatka Peninsula on Russia's far-flung eastern reaches is like entering another planet. The 8km (5mi) valley stretches towards Japan, and is fed by the mega-heat of the Kikhpinych stratovolcano, a volcano that's made

up of alternate layers of lava and ash. Not only that: the Valley of Geysers looks like it's smoking. But it's not fire – it's steam puffing into the cold air. Along one narrow creek, the volcanic gases are so thick that they can kill animals and birds that get too close.



WAITOMO, NEW ZEALAND

WAITOMO GLOWWORM CAVES

NEW ZEALAND IS BURST-
ing with natural oddities, but these
caves may just be the oddest of them
all. As you float down the under-
ground Waitomo River you'll enter a
glow-in-the-dark wonderland that's
unlike any Lite-Brite design you could
ever dream up. Inside the glowworm
grotto, you'll meet thousands of tiny
insects whose main job is to emit a
dazzling turquoise light. The "worms"
are actually fungus gnats that thrive in
damp, dark places. During their larval
and imago stages they become lumi-
nescent, giving us the coolest light
show on earth (or below it).

