

Top Facts about the Pacific Ocean

- 1. Location:** Where is the Pacific Ocean?
Pacific Ocean is located between Americas to the East of the Pacific Ocean basin and the Asian and Australian continents to the West
- 2. Name:** What does pacific mean?
Pacific means "peaceful", coming from the Latin "pace" for peace
- 3. Size:** How big is the Pacific Ocean?
The Pacific is the biggest ocean on earth and covers more than 30% of the earth's surface. 169,479,000sqkm/65,436,200sqmiles it provides almost half of the Earth's water area.
- 4. Depth:** How deep is the Pacific Ocean?
The Pacific is not only the biggest but also the deepest ocean with the deepest trenches. **The average depth is about 3,800 m.** The Challenger Deep in the Marina Trench s the deepest point in the Pacific Ocean with 10,920m/35,827ft. It is the lowest part of the earth crust and was formed by the collision of two tectonic plates.
- 5. Volcanoes:** What is the ring of fire?
Most of the volcanoes (actually 75%) on earth are located in the Pacific Ocean basin
- 6. Temperature:** How warm are the waters of the Pacific Ocean?
The temperatures of the Pacific Ocean depend on the location. The nearer to the Equator the warm the water tends to be. So some regions the water is up to 30degC/86F, while near to the poles the water temperature decreases to freezing point. The lowest temperature measured was -2degC.
- 7. Islands in the Pacific:**
There are actually more than 25,000 islands in the Pacific and most of them are found south of the Equator in the Southern Pacific.
- 8. Archipelagos**
Many beautiful groups of islands are found in the Pacific Oceans. These islands form an archipelago, like the Fiji Archepelago or the Hawaiian Archipelago.
- 9. Pacific Ocean Facts: The Great Barrier Reef:**
The Great Barrier Reef in Australia is the largest reef in the world stretching over more than 2,300km/1,429miles and including more than 1,000 islands. It was proclaimed in 1981 a World Heritage Site and is now a protected area. Corals, tiny marine animals, also form many atolls in the Pacific Oceans.