

Great Barrier Reef

Designed and built by: Ryan McNaight, Mitchell Kruik, Mark Curnow and Clayton Mellington

Piece count: 75.000

Build hours: 62 hours

Wonders of the Great Barrier Reef

Date: The Great Barrier Reef formed around 600,000 years ago.

Size: approximately 350,000 square kilometres, stretching over 2,000 kilometres long.

Place: Queensland, North-eastern Australia

The Great Barrier Reef is the largest complex of coral reefs, shoals and islets in the world. Thousands of types of soft and hard corals grow on the Great Barrier Reef, which attract vast numbers of living creatures including more than 3000 types of molluscs, 1600 species of fish, 130 different sharks and rays, 100 types of jellyfish and over 30 species of whales and dolphins. This abundant biodiversity makes the reef a hugely significant scientific and natural heritage site. The Great Barrier Reef draws scientists from around the world focussed on marine ecology, biodiversity and conservation, while tourists flock to see the stunning colours and wondrous natural beauty of the reef's coral and creatures.

Designer & builder notes

Building and designing the coral and sealife of the reef was a fantastic change to really use some of the bright colours we normally don't get to, like bright pink, glow-in-the-dark tiles and azure blue! Being organic, building the reef gave us a lot of freedom to build some crazy shapes and arches. We also had a lot of fun building the coloured fish to populate the reef – how many orange Nemo fish can you spot?

Bonus facts:

The Great Barrier Reef is not a singular reef; it is actually made up of over 2,000 individual reefs, making it the largest living structure on earth.

The reef covers the same area as 70 million football fields, and is roughly the same size as some entire countries, including Italy, Germany, Japan and Malaysia.

The Great Barrier Reef is so large, it can be seen from space.