

# Australians flee as heat, winds fan bushfires

Australian authorities have urged almost a quarter of a million people to evacuate their homes as hot, windy conditions fuel deadly bushfires along the southeastern coast

**Bushfire crisis:** At least 10.3 million hectares of land burned in Australia since Oct 2019 – area equivalent in size to South Korea

Active fire /  
burned area  
As of Jan 10

SOUTH  
AUSTRALIA

Adelaide

Kangaroo Island  
At least one-third  
burned away

NEW SOUTH  
WALES

**Victoria / NSW**  
Two fires set to  
merge into mega-  
blaze covering  
almost 600,000  
hectares

VICTORIA

Melbourne

Hobart

TASMANIA

QUEENSLAND

Brisbane

Coffs Harbour

Wollemi  
National  
Park

Blue  
Mountains

Sydney

Canberra

Batemans  
Bay

PACIFIC  
OCEAN

**Victoria state**  
Authorities send  
emergency text  
messages to  
240,000 people,  
telling them to leave

Mallacoota

AUSTRALIA

200km

125 miles