



# COBB AND CO IN AUSTRALIA

Read the passage below and answer the questions to see how well you understood the text.

Cobb and Co coach company played a vital role in the development of transportation in Australia during the 19th century. Founded in 1853 by Freeman Cobb and three partners, the company initially started operations in Melbourne, Victoria. Cobb and Co coaches were crucial for transporting mail and passengers across the rugged terrain of Australia, significantly during the gold rush era.

The company expanded rapidly, establishing routes that connected not only major cities but also remote outback communities. Cobb and Co's coaches were known for their reliability and durability, essential qualities in a time and place where roads were often little more than dirt tracks. The coaches were pulled by teams of horses, which were changed at stations set about 30 kilometres apart, allowing them to maintain a relatively swift and regular service.

By the 1860s, Cobb and Co had become synonymous with travel in Australia however, rail transport in the late 19th and early 20th centuries led to a decline in coach services. The last Cobb and Co coach ran in 1924, marking the end of an era in Australian history.

Despite its demise, Cobb and Co remains an iconic symbol of Australia's colonial period, representing the spirit of adventure, the importance of connectivity, and the hardships of early Australian settlers.

1. When was Cobb and Co founded, and who were its founders?

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2. What was the primary purpose of Cobb and Co coaches in Australia during the 19th century?

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3. How did Cobb and Co contribute to the development of transportation in Australia?

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4. Why were Cobb and Co coaches considered reliable and durable?

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5. What led to the decline and eventual end of Cobb and Co coach services?

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Uses comprehension strategies to expand content knowledge.

