

Fact Sheet - An American Adventure

Did you know?

- The border that separates Mexico from the United States of America is the busiest international boundary in the world - around 350 million people cross it (legally) every year. The world's longest land border is the one between the USA and Canada.
- Manhattan, the most crowded of New York City's five boroughs, is so cramped that it has over 200 zip (postal) codes. Skyscrapers like the Empire State Building and the Chrysler are so large that they have their own zip code!
- Death Valley, a desert in California, is the hottest place in the United States. The temperature there has reached 57°C.
- Yellowstone National Park, established in 1827, is the oldest national park in the world.



America is so vast that it has 8 different environmental regions.



America was the first country to land a man on the moon. Neil Armstrong was the first man on the moon in 1969.



A Native American.



Christopher Columbus is credited with discovering America; however, it had already been discovered!

America has borders with Canada to its north and borders Mexico and the Gulf of Mexico to the south. Alaska is situated in the extreme north west of America; because the islands of Hawaii are also part of the USA, the country extends into the Pacific Ocean too.

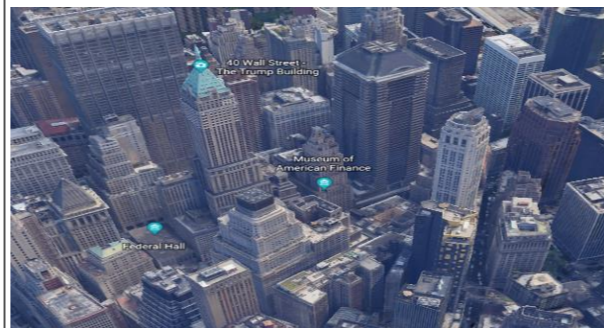
The United States of America is the fourth largest country in the world, but ranks third for population size. Each part of the country - the northeast, south, Midwest, southeast and western regions - has its own traditions, customs and landscapes, from the frozen north of Alaska to the desert south in Arizona, New Mexico and Texas.



Native American Totem Pole



Aerial view of New York



The Great Lakes in the American Midwest contain one fifth of the Earth's fresh water.



Music is a huge part of American culture. Jazz is a traditional American style of music, influenced by African music and culture. Other forms of music which originated in the US but are popular around the world include gospel, country and western, rap, rock and roll, bluegrass and rhythm and blues.

The USA (United States of America) is a rich and powerful country in the continent of North America. It is made up of 50 smaller states and the capital city is Washington DC.



Fun Facts

1. Although Washington DC is the USA's capital, the largest US city is New York, with a population of over 8 million people. The USA is home to a population of over 318 million people.
2. The currency is the US dollar. 'In God We Trust' (which is printed on dollar bills) is considered the national motto of America.
3. The United States is such a large country that it has many different climates and even three different time zones!
4. The US is home to spectacular landscapes, from snowy mountains to arid deserts, huge forests and vast grasslands.
5. The main religion is Christianity. After English, Spanish is the most-spoken language.
6. Native Americans, the first people to live in North America, crossed from Asia at least 10,000 years ago.
7. The United States of America was established as a country on July 4, 1776, when the Declaration of Independence was issued.
8. The first state in the USA was Delaware (ratified in 1787); the last was Hawaii, which became the fiftieth state in 1959.
9. Silicon Valley in California is the centre of the world's computer industry.
10. Baseball, American football, basketball and ice hockey are the most popular sports to watch (and play!).

The Mississippi is the longest river in North America and the third-largest in the world.



At Mount Rushmore in South Dakota the heads of four American presidents (George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt and Abraham Lincoln) are carved into the rock. Each head is 18 metres tall!

The White House in Washington DC has been home to every American president except George Washington.

