

Road Trip U.S.A.



Climate: The Arctic Circle is one of the coldest places on earth with winters reaching -30°C . Central U.S.A. consists of deciduous forest but also grassland, with very hot summers and cold winters whilst western U.S.A. has a desert climate, reaching up to 45°C . The hottest place is Death Valley in California.

Population

U.S.A.
(334 million people)

Longest Rivers

Missouri (U.S.A.) - 3767km
It flows through 7 states.

Mississippi (U.S.A.) - 3734km

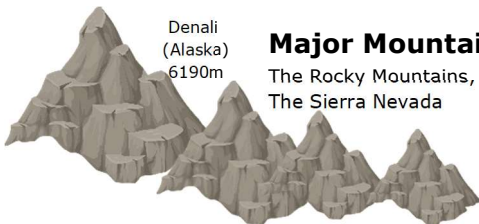


Tallest Mountain

Denali
(Alaska)
6190m

Major Mountain ranges:

The Rocky Mountains, The Appalachian Mountains, The Sierra Nevada



Physical Features

The Arctic Circle



One of the two polar circles on Earth. This one is in the north and consists of the Arctic Ocean and extends to Canada, Greenland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, the U.S.A. (Alaska), Denmark, Iceland and Russia. Conditions are freezing cold creating large sheets of ice.

The Grand Canyon



An enormous carved canyon in the ground formed by the Colorado River, which began 5-6 million years ago. It runs 1800m deep and 18 miles wide and is in Arizona in western U.S.A.

The Rocky Mountains



'The Rockies' are a major mountain range, spanning 3000km, in the west running through Canada and the United States. The range offers dramatic wilderness, diverse wildlife/alpine lakes.

Human Features

The 50 States.



The United States of America has the largest economy in the world and, because of its enormous size, is divided into 50 different states. Each state has their own laws. This is why there are 50 stars on the national flag.

Sports and Recreation

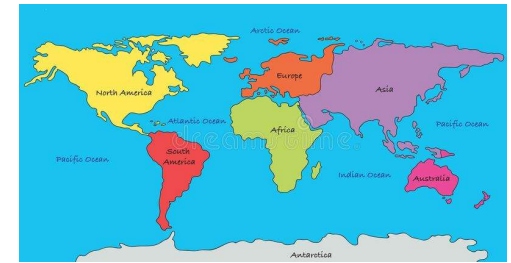


Sports in the U.S.A. define much of its culture and many sports are played exclusively to the country including American Football, baseball, ice hockey and basketball. Many more countries have since developed these too.

Colonisation



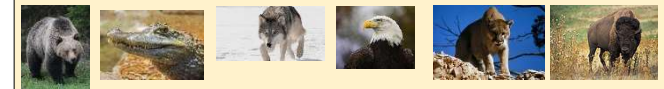
When Christopher Columbus arrived in 1492, humans had been in North America for over 30,000 years. The Europeans settled on the land but disease and war meant most of the natives were killed. The U.S.A. declared its independence from Britain in 1776.



Key Vocabulary

blizzard	a severe snow storm with low temperatures, fast winds and lots of blowing snow
coniferous	trees which do not lose their leaves
deciduous	trees which lose their leaves annually
Disney	Florida, U.S.A. is famous for its Disney parks
earthquake	earthquakes happen when the Earth's tectonic plates get jammed together
Everglades	tropical wetlands in southern Florida, U.S.A.
geyser	a hot spring which boils intermittently, sending a tall column of water and steam into the air
glacier	slow moving river of ice in the Arctic Circle
Great Plains	flat grasslands through central U.S.A. between the Rocky Mountains and the Mississippi River
hurricane	a storm with a violent wind
Indigenous Americans	descendants of peoples already living in North America before European colonisation.
Inuit	native settlers from Alaska (Eskimos)
swamp	Atchafalaya Swamp is the largest in the U.S.A. and is in Louisiana near the Gulf of Mexico
tornado	A spiralling funnel of air which descends from a storm cloud to the ground. Tornado alley is a large area of land near the Great Plains where tornados are very common.
totem pole	monumental carving on trees by natives
Yellowstone	The first national park in U.S.A.

Fauna (animals)



Grizzly bear alligator grey wolf bald eagle cougar bison

Flora (plants)



Giant Sequoia Maple leaf Pine tree Oak tree Organ Pipe cactus Dogwood