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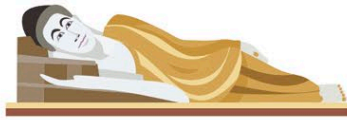
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A WORLD OF IDEAS:
SEE ALL THERE IS TO KNOW
www.dk.com

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HOW TO READ THE MAPS

A map is a drawing that gives an instant impression of a place. The maps in this book show many of the world's countries plotted with rivers, mountains, forests, and plains.

Picture symbols

You will find picture symbols of a country's produce, industry, sports, and activities plotted on each country map. Look at the key to find what each symbol means.

Picture features

Pictures with text pick out a country's special features, including historic sites, animals, and natural wonders.

Capital

A country's capital city is marked with a red outline.

Bordering countries

Around the edges of the map you can see all the bordering countries.

Flag

On every country, you'll find the country's flag.

History and culture

These photographs show historical and cultural features that are unique to that country.

Places of interest

These photographs zoom in on a city, building, or landscape and show where it is on the map.

Produce

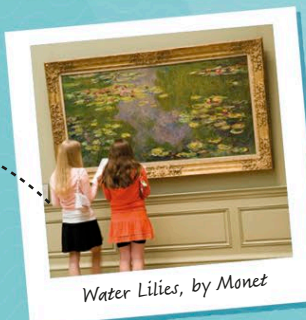
Close-up photographs show food, drink, and other goods that a country produces.

Page numbers

The color of the circle matches the continent opener and tells you which continent you are in.

FRANCE

France is known worldwide for its food, wine, and beautiful countryside. Today, most French people live in towns and cities. France is highly industrialized and has one of the fastest train networks, the TGV. The arts, such as painting, and sports, particularly cycling, are very popular.



Art
Millions of people visit France's museums every year to see paintings and sculptures by artists such as Claude Monet and Auguste Rodin.



Cheese and wine
More than 400 different cheeses are made in France. Almost every area has its own type, ranging from soft cheeses, such as Camembert, to hard and even blue cheeses. France also produces some of the world's best wines, made from the juice of black or white grapes. Sunflowers are also grown in the south. Their seeds are pressed to make oil.

Loire châteaux

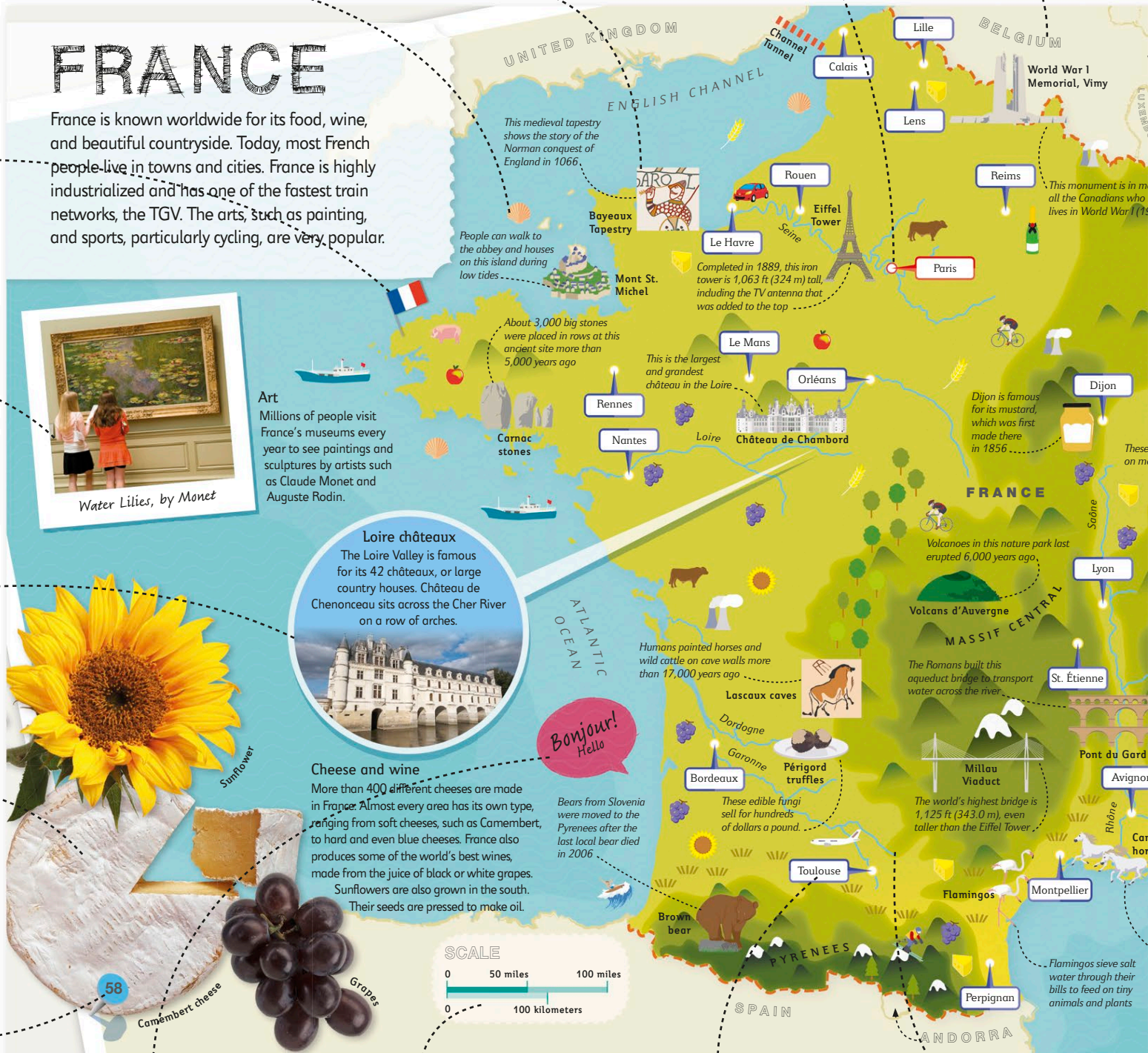
The Loire Valley is famous for its 42 châteaux, or large country houses. Château de Chenonceau sits across the Cher River on a row of arches.

SCALE



Bonjour!
Hello

Bears from Slovenia were moved to the Pyrenees after the last local bear died in 2006.



This medieval tapestry shows the story of the Norman conquest of England in 1066.

People can walk to the abbey and houses on this island during low tides.

About 3,000 big stones were placed in rows at this ancient site more than 5,000 years ago.

This is the largest and grandest château in the Loire.

Humans painted horses and wild cattle on cave walls more than 17,000 years ago.

Lascaux caves

These edible fungi sell for hundreds of dollars a pound.

These brown bears are native to the Pyrenees.

Flamingos sieve salt water through their bills to feed on tiny animals and plants.

Completed in 1889, this iron tower is 1,063 ft (324 m) tall, including the TV antenna that was added to the top.

Volcanoes in this nature park last erupted 6,000 years ago.

The world's highest bridge is 1,125 ft (343.0 m), even taller than the Eiffel Tower.

Dijon is famous for its mustard, which was first made there in 1856.

This monument is in memory of all the Canadians who lived in World War I.

These on m...

St. Étienne

Avignon

Perpignan

Montpellier

Flamingos

Toulouse

Bordeaux

Périgord truffles

Lascaux caves

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Perpignan

Mont

Country borders



Borders

The borders between countries are shown with a red broken line.

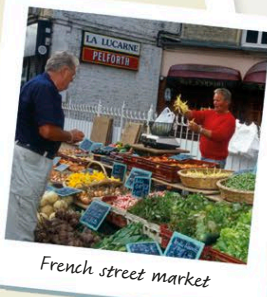


Disputed borders

Some countries disagree about where the border between them should be. These borders are shown with a dotted line.

Compass

The compass always points north (N) in line with the map and also shows the direction of south (S), east (E), and west (W)



French street market



A popular café in Paris

KEY	
PRODUCE	INDUSTRY
Vineyards	Nuclear power
Sunflowers	Aircraft manufacture
Beef cattle	Fishing
Wheat	Cars
Apples	Mountain climbing
Cheese	Skiing
Champagne	Cycling
Shellfish	Surfing
Pigs	

Independent states

Small independent states, such as Monaco, are shown with a red border and a solid red dot, and the name is in capital letters.

Key

Every country map has a key listing major features, such as produce and industry, that relate to the picture symbols on the map

NORTH AMERICA

The landscape of North America ranges from the icy, snow-covered wilderness of northern Canada to the tropical countries of Central America and the sunny islands of the Caribbean. In between are vast areas of open grasslands, steep mountains, and hot, dry deserts.



Continent maps

The continent maps are colored to show every country in each continent. Photographs show the continent's major features.

Habitats

These colors and symbols show the different habitats, or landscapes, of each country.



Hot deserts

Hot deserts are dry and sandy areas and few plants grow here.



Cold deserts

Cold deserts, such as the Gobi in Asia, are cold, dry stretches of land.



Snow and ice

Frozen areas are found high in the mountains and at the North and South poles.



Mountains

High, rugged mountainous areas are often covered with snow.



Oceans and seas

Huge stretches of water surround the seven continents.



Scrubland

Low-lying plants and grasses grow in scrubland areas, such as in southern Spain.



Wetland

Wetlands are marshy, swampy areas, such as the Pantanal in Brazil.



Grassland

Grasslands are flat, grassy plains with few trees, such as the savanna of Africa



Tropical

Green rain forests, such as the Amazon, get a lot of rain and so trees grow very tall.



Deciduous forests

These forests have trees that lose their leaves in the fall and winter.



Coniferous forests

Evergreen trees that do not lose their leaves in winter are found in coniferous forests.

ARCTIC OCEAN

NORTH AMERICA

North America
This huge continent lies wholly in the northern half (hemisphere) of the world. It includes Greenland, which lies above the Arctic Circle.

ATLANTIC OCEAN

PACIFIC OCEAN

Equator
This continent lies mainly in the southern hemisphere of the world. North, Central, and South America are together known as the Americas.

South America
This continent lies mainly in the southern hemisphere of the world. North, Central, and South America are together known as the Americas.

SOUTH AMERICA

ATLANTIC OCEAN

THE WORLD

This is a flat map of our round Earth. Land covers about a third of Earth's surface. This land is broken up into seven large blocks called continents. Water makes up the rest of the Earth and is divided into five major areas, called oceans.

SOUTHERN OCEAN

Antarctica
This is the most southern of all the continents. It is covered in frozen ice and hardly anybody lives here.

ARCTIC OCEAN

Europe
Europe is the second smallest continent, yet has the third biggest population.

EUROPE

ASIA

Asia
This is the largest continent in the world and the one with the biggest population.

PACIFIC OCEAN

AFRICA

INDIAN OCEAN

Africa
Africa is the world's second largest continent and the second most populated one.

AUSTRALASIA

Australasia
This is the world's smallest continent. It includes the world's biggest island, Australia, and the many small islands of the Pacific Ocean.

SOUTHERN OCEAN

ANTARCTICA

2. The merengue is the national dance of which Caribbean country?



3. In which Canadian city is the CN Tower found?



1. Into which mountain is this sculpture carved?



4. In which country would you find this ancient Pyramid of the Sun?



NORTH AMERICA

Canada, the United States of America (USA), Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean islands make up North America. This vast continent was first settled by American Indian people before the arrival of Europeans and people from other parts of the world.

8. Which canal connects the world's two biggest oceans?

7. Who were the first people to settle in northern Canada?

6. Which river flows through the Grand Canyon?

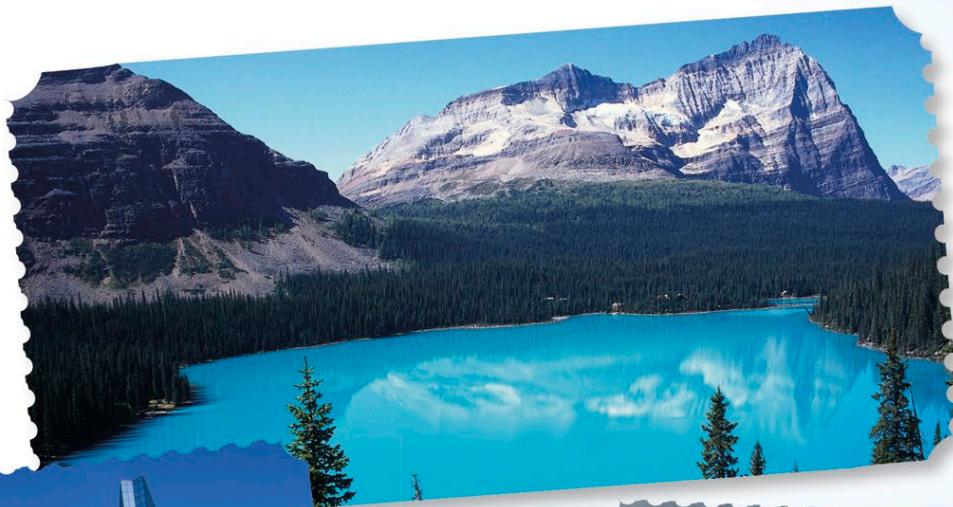
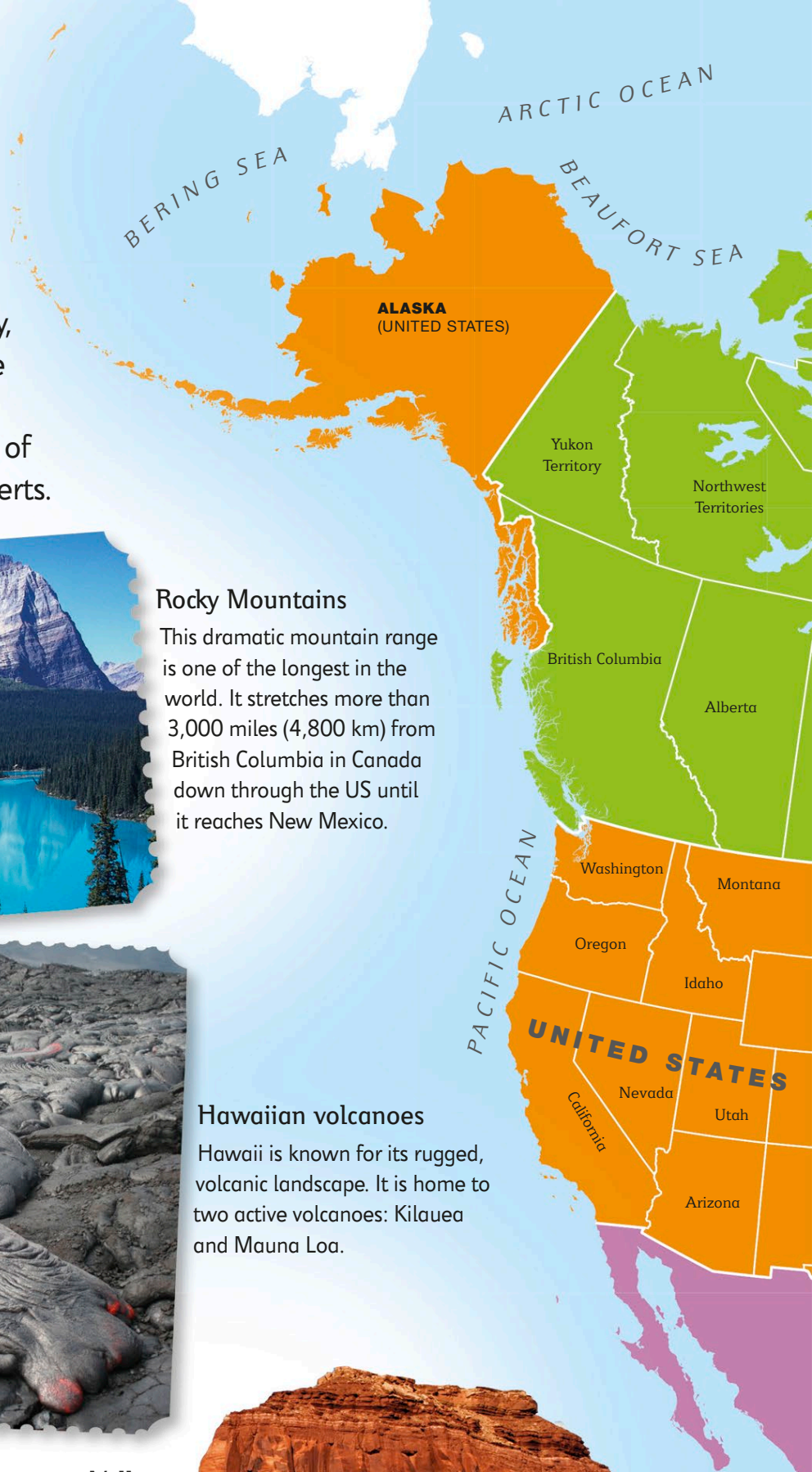
5. In which American city will you see yellow taxis?

You can find all the answers and more quizzes on pages 120-121.



NORTH AMERICA

The landscape of North America ranges from the icy, snow-covered wilderness of northern Canada to the tropical countries of Central America and the sunny islands of the Caribbean. In between are vast areas of open grasslands, steep mountains, and hot, dry deserts.



Rocky Mountains

This dramatic mountain range is one of the longest in the world. It stretches more than 3,000 miles (4,800 km) from British Columbia in Canada down through the US until it reaches New Mexico.



Mexico City

This vibrant, modern city was built on the ruins of an ancient Aztec settlement. It is one of the world's biggest cities.



Hawaiian volcanoes

Hawaii is known for its rugged, volcanic landscape. It is home to two active volcanoes: Kilauea and Mauna Loa.

Monument Valley

This valley, which is famous for its amazing rock formations, lies on the border line between the states of Arizona and Utah in the US. It has appeared in many Hollywood Westerns.





New York

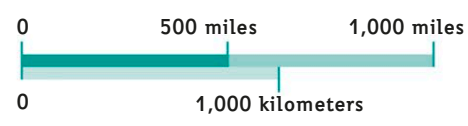
The city of New York is the largest in the US. Many people who live here travel from the suburbs to work in the high-rise office buildings of Manhattan in the center of the city.



Caribbean beach

With white sand and warm blue waters, many of the islands of the Caribbean are huge tourist attractions.

SCALE



CANADA AND ALASKA

Canada is the world's second largest country. It has huge mountain ranges, wide and vast forests, and bustling cities. It is also rich in oil and mineral resources, as is Alaska, the biggest state in the US.



Defending the net

Ice hockey

This fast-moving sport is very popular in Canada and can be played on ice rinks or frozen lakes. Both the women's and men's teams have won more Olympic gold medals than any other nation.

ARCTIC OCEAN

Grizzly bear

In the rivers of Alaska and western Canada, grizzly bears catch salmon as the fish swim and leap upstream in the fall.



The Inuit were the first people to settle in north Canada; they play drums at special events and celebrations.



KEY

PRODUCE



INDUSTRY



ACTIVITIES



At 20,310 ft (6,190 m) Denali is the highest mountain in North America

Oil is carried across Alaska from the north coast to the south by the Trans-Alaska Pipeline

Alaskan rivers are full of trout and other fish

The Alaskan coast is home to groups of sea otters, which rest floating on their backs

The Mounties police force wear red jackets on special occasions

The first people of Canada carved wooden totem poles to show their cultural beliefs

More than one million people come to this big rodeo festival every July

This sport is played with sliding stones on a sheet of ice

Well-preserved dinosaur fossils have been found in this park



Vancouver coast
Vancouver is an exciting, international city that is surrounded by nature. It is often voted as one of the best places in the world to live.

First people

The Haida were among the first people to live in Canada before the arrival of Europeans. "Haida" means "person," and they live on the Pacific Northwest Coast.



Haida portrait figures made from wood

Haida figurines

SCALE



Canadian goods

Canada is famous for its maple syrup, which is made from the sap of the sugar maple tree. Canola oil is used for cooking, flax is grown for its seeds and fibers, and lobsters live in the cool waters off the east coast.



CANADA

The Arctic Circle marks the edge of the Arctic region

Arctic Circle

Iqaluit

Beaver

Beavers fell trees and build dams across rivers

Moose

This popular sport is similar to football in the US, but played by teams of 12

Lacrosse

Canadian football

Hello!

Bonjour!
Hello

Regina

Winnipeg

This Toronto landmark gives fantastic views of the city

London

CN Tower

Toronto

Ottawa

Montréal

Québec City

This grand hotel stands just inside the walls of Old Québec City. It opened in 1893

Château Frontenac

Lucy Maud Montgomery

This author wrote children's books about the orphan girl Anne of Green Gables, and most were set in Prince Edward Island

Fredericton

Charlottetown

Prince Edward Island

St. John's

Halifax

Bay of Fundy

Niagara Falls

On the border of Canada and the US are the huge Niagara Falls. Water flows over the Horseshoe, American, and Bridal Veil waterfalls.



This bay has the highest tides in the world, which have created amazing rock shapes

Tour de l'Île de Montréal

Every year the French Canadian city of Montréal celebrates the Tour de l'Île de Montréal, a series of major street cycling events.



Street cycling



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Golden Gate Bridge

This huge suspension bridge spans the Golden Gate strait (narrow sea channel) between San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean. It is San Francisco's most famous landmark.



Cable cars run up and down the steep hills of San Francisco

San Francisco

Cable cars

Stars fitted into the sidewalks of Hollywood celebrate famous entertainers

Hollywood's Walk of Fame

Los Angeles

This is Walt Disney's original theme park; it features rides, displays, and characters from Disney films

Disneyland Park

San Diego

American Indians

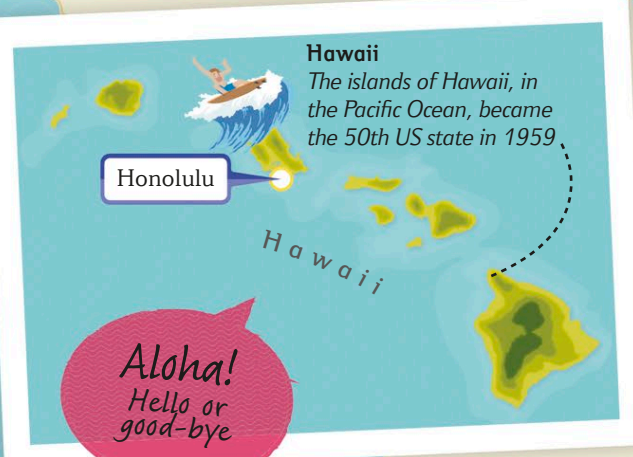
American Indians were the first people to live in America. The Navajo, from Arizona and New Mexico, are the largest tribe.

Navajo girls in traditional clothes



USA

The United States of America (USA) is a huge and powerful country with 50 states. It has wide stretches of wilderness as well as big, modern cities. The landscape is a mix of vast plains, high mountain ranges, dry deserts, and wetlands. Many people from all over the world have made their home here.



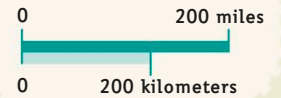
Hawaii

The islands of Hawaii, in the Pacific Ocean, became the 50th US state in 1959

Honolulu

Aloha!
Hello or good-bye

SCALE



Seattle

Bald eagle

This large majestic eagle is a symbol of the US

CANADA



Yellowstone is the world's oldest national park and inside the park is a huge geyser called "Old Faithful"

Yellowstone National Park

This sculpture carved into a mountain shows the faces of four US presidents



Mount Rushmore

GREAT BASIN DESERT

Big powerful bison once roamed the plains in large herds

American Bison

This is the highest waterfall in Yosemite National Park

Yosemite Falls

Giant sequoia trees grow in this national park

Sequoia National Park

These golden-leaved trees grow throughout North America

Quaking aspen

Grand Canyon

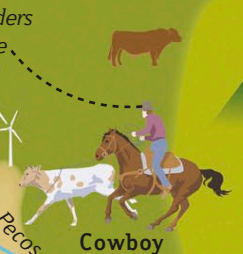
This steep-sided canyon was carved by the Colorado River

Phoenix

Santa Fe

Cowboys are skilled horse riders who herd cattle

Tornado Alley



Pueblo Eagle Dance

This dance performed by the Pueblo people of Colorado represents the flight of eagles

Pecos

Cowboy

MEXICO



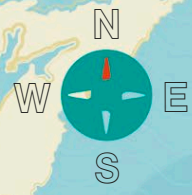
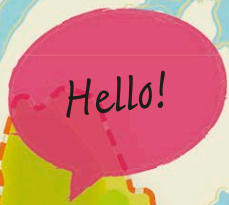
Baseball mitt and ball
Lake Superior



Independence Day celebrations

Independence Day

The Fourth of July is a holiday that marks the day in 1776 when the US became independent from Britain. People celebrate with firework displays.



Baseball

This is one of the most popular sports in the US. It is played between two teams that take turns batting and fielding.

The US Open tennis tournament is played at Flushing Meadows in New York

Boston



This statue in New York Harbor was a gift from France

Statue of Liberty

New York

Tennis



Yellow taxi

Philadelphia



Liberty Bell

Philadelphia's Liberty Bell stands as a symbol of America's fight for independence

Washington, DC



The White House

This is the official home of the US president

Chicago

Chicago is known for its skyscrapers. The 108-story Willis Tower is the world's 13th tallest building

Willis Tower

Chicago

St. Louis



Mark Twain

Twain wrote several novels set by the Mississippi River, including The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.

OF AMERICA

This is the world's tallest arch and is a symbol of St. Louis

Gateway Arch

In this tough sport the players wear protective equipment and score touchdowns

Football

Mississippi steamboat



Boats with paddle wheels powered by steam travel down the Mississippi

Dallas

Basketball

This sport is played by two teams of five; points are awarded for shooting the ball into a basket

Atlanta

Grand Ole Opry

This popular country music concert is held every week in Nashville

Nashville

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS

ATLANTIC OCEAN

US space missions are launched from here

Kennedy Space Center

The Everglades

Miami

Tourists travel in airboats to explore the tropical wetlands of South Florida

This jazz trumpeter and singer was born in New Orleans and became popular worldwide

Louis Armstrong

New Orleans

Houston

San Antonio

GULF OF MEXICO

KEY

PRODUCE	INDUSTRY
Oranges	Fishing
Wheat	Coal
Corn	Oil
Vineyards	Gold
Almonds	Wind farms
Peanuts	Cars
Watermelons	Electronics
Apples	Nuclear
Cotton	ACTIVITIES
Cattle	Golf
Raisins	Skiing
Rice	Surfing
NATURAL FEATURES	
Volcanoes	Earthquakes

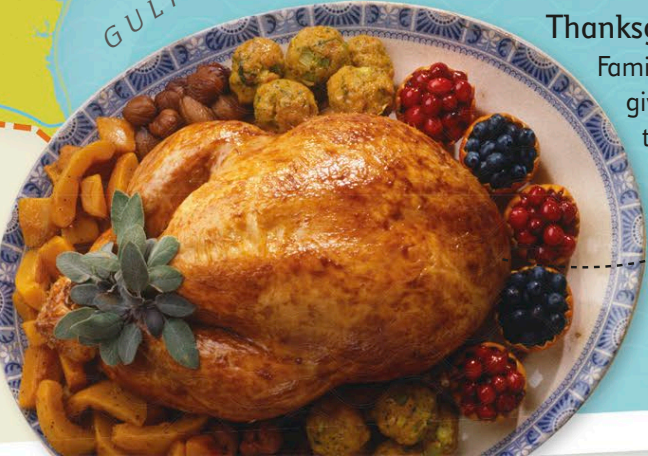
Halloween

The festival of Halloween is celebrated every year on October 31, when children dress up in costumes and go from house to house "trick-or-treating" for candy and other treats.

Thanksgiving

Family and friends gather to give thanks for the blessing of the harvest at Thanksgiving in November.

Turkey is traditionally eaten at Thanksgiving as part of a big meal



Jack-o'-lantern

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Tijuana

SONORAN DESERT

This treelike cactus can live in the desert for more than 150 years.

Saguaro cactus

Brown pelican

This small species of pelican is found on coastal areas of the Americas

Ciudad Juárez

Hola!
Hello

Chihuahua

SIERRA MADRE OCCIDENTAL

CHIHUAHUA DESERT

Rio Conchos

Rio Fuerte

Los Mochis

GULF OF CALIFORNIA

PACIFIC OCEAN

Rio San Pedro

La Paz

Durango

Aztec ornament

The Aztecs lived in Central Mexico during the 14th to 16th centuries. They made beautiful jewelry and ornaments.



Aztec ornament covered with turquoise

El Arco

If you sail directly south from this rock formation, the first land you reach will be Antarctica

Guadalajara

Blue Agave

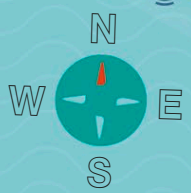
The heart of this plant is used to make the alcoholic drink tequila

MEXICO

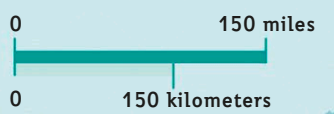
The Aztec and Mayan peoples originated in Mexico. The ruins of their temples still stand. Today, this Spanish-speaking country is home to fiery, chili-flavored foods. The landscape is a mix of desert, mountains, and tropical forests. The capital, Mexico City, is one of the largest cities in the world.

KEY

- | PRODUCE | INDUSTRY |
|---------------|--------------------------|
| Corn | Fishing |
| Chili peppers | Oil |
| Limes | Cars |
| Oranges | NATURAL RESOURCES |
| Grapefruit | Gold |
| Coffee | Silver |
| Cocoa | Copper |
| Cotton | NATURAL FEATURES |
| Avocados | Volcanoes |
| | Earthquakes |

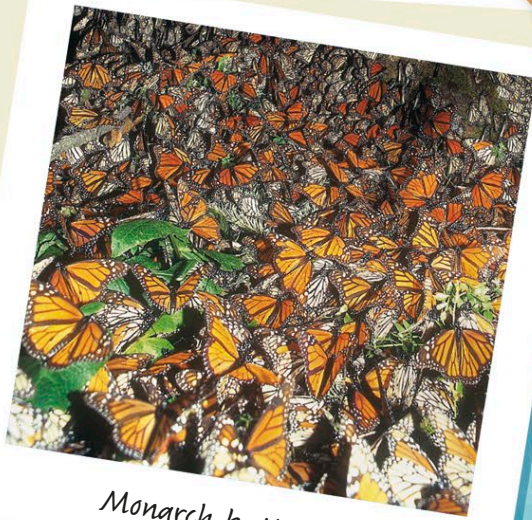


SCALE



Butterfly reserve

Every year in the fall, thousands of monarch butterflies migrate (move) from northern North America to Mexico. The Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve, northwest of Mexico City, protects these butterflies during the winter.



Monarch butterflies



Tacos

Avocados

Limes

Spicy food

Mexican food is often very spicy and includes tacos, which are corn tortillas (flatbread) filled with meat or seafood. Refreshing limes and creamy avocados are grown in many parts of Mexico.

Lucha Libre

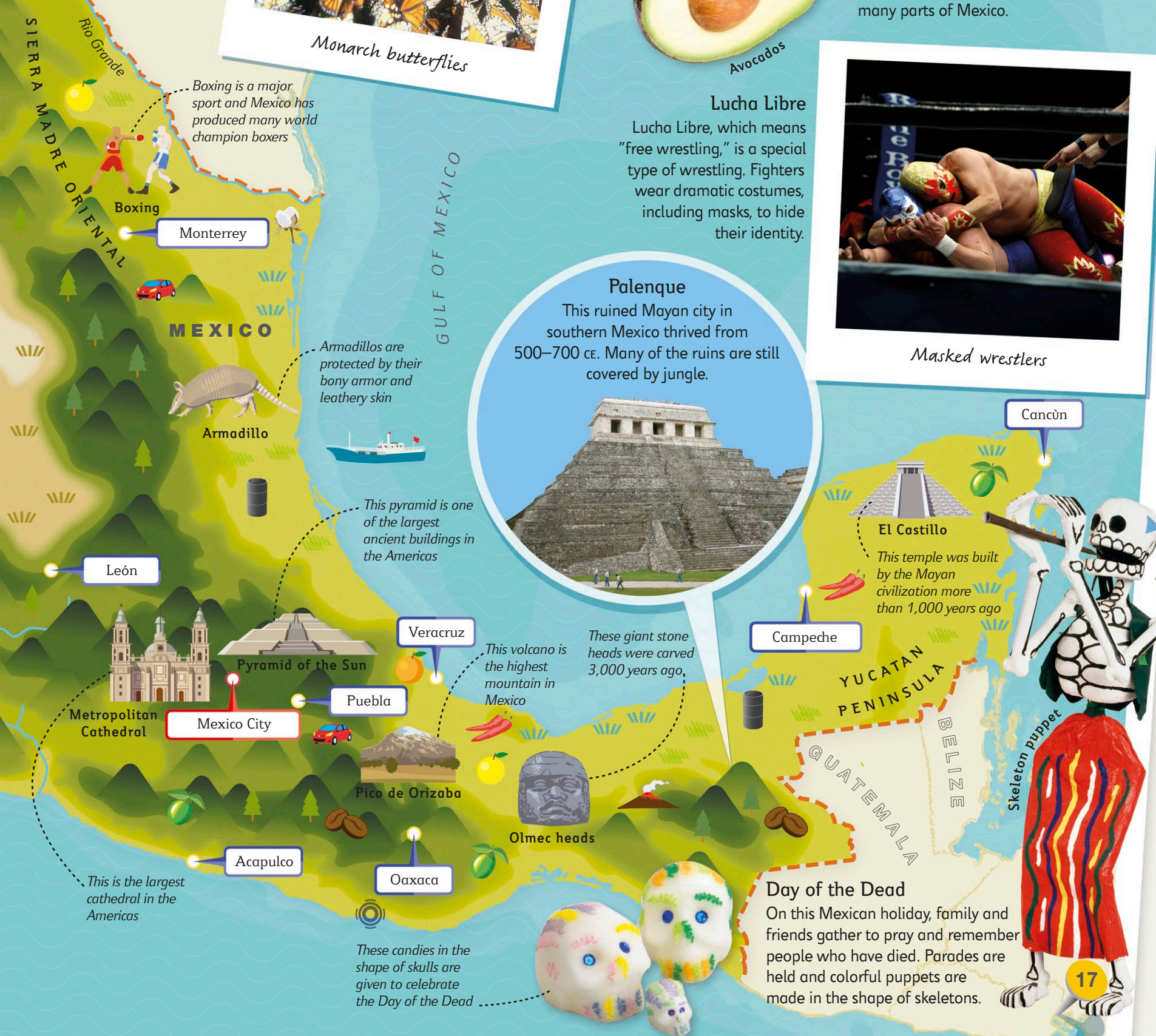
Lucha Libre, which means "free wrestling," is a special type of wrestling. Fighters wear dramatic costumes, including masks, to hide their identity.



Masked wrestlers

Palenque

This ruined Mayan city in southern Mexico thrived from 500–700 CE. Many of the ruins are still covered by jungle.



Boxing is a major sport and Mexico has produced many world champion boxers

Monterrey

MEXICO

Armadillos are protected by their bony armor and leathery skin

Armadillo

This pyramid is one of the largest ancient buildings in the Americas

León

El Castillo

This temple was built by the Mayan civilization more than 1,000 years ago

Metropolitan Cathedral

Mexico City

Pyramid of the Sun

Veracruz

These giant stone heads were carved 3,000 years ago,

Puebla

This volcano is the highest mountain in Mexico

Pico de Orizaba

Olmec heads

Campeche

YUCATAN PENINSULA

Cancun

Skeleton puppet

This is the largest cathedral in the Americas

Acapulco

Oaxaca

These candies in the shape of skulls are given to celebrate the Day of the Dead

Day of the Dead

On this Mexican holiday, family and friends gather to pray and remember people who have died. Parades are held and colorful puppets are made in the shape of skeletons.





Chichicastenango

Street markets

The town of Chichicastenango in Guatemala holds a street market that draws in crowds of people. Market stalls sell traditional Mayan crafts, including colorful textiles.

KEY

PRODUCE

- Bananas
- Cattle
- Cocoa
- Coconuts
- Coffee beans
- Sugar cane

INDUSTRY

- Gold

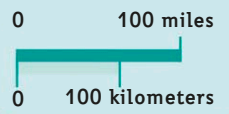
ACTIVITIES

- Baseball

NATURAL FEATURES

- Green turtles

SCALE



GUATEMALA

Guatemala City

San Pedro Sula

San Salvador

Tegucigalpa

León

Managua

Grand Cathedral, Granada

Granada

Monteverde Forest Reserve

San José

COSTA RICA

Hola!
Hello

PANAMA

Panama City

These musical instruments have wooden bars that the player hits with small mallets

Resplendent quetzal
Quetzals live in the mountainous forests of Central and South America. The brilliantly colored quetzal is the national bird of Guatemala.

Nimble spider monkeys live in tropical rain forests and use their long arms to swing between trees

Here visitors can learn all about wet, tropical cloud forests by walking along hanging bridges high up in the trees

Festival of Poetry
Masked dancers take part in this festival in Granada in Nicaragua, which attracts poets from all over the world.



Masked dancers

River rapids in Honduras are popular for white water rafting

White water rafting

These shy animals feed on rain forest foods of leaves, fruits, and grasses

Baird's tapir

This cathedral has a series of underground tunnels that connect to other churches around the city

These bright green tree frogs are only found in Central America's rain forests

Red-eyed tree frog

These agile eagles hunt monkeys and other rain forest animals

Harpy eagle

This canal connects the world's two biggest oceans, the Pacific and the Atlantic

Panama Canal

CENTRAL AMERICA

Central America is a narrow strip of land that links North and South America. The climate is warm and wet, and the lush fertile land is ideal for growing crops, such as bananas and coffee beans. Most of the people in Central America speak Spanish.

Fruit and nuts

Large farms, called plantations, are found throughout Central America. They grow tropical fruits and nuts such as juicy pineapples and delicious coconuts.



Pineapple



Coconut





Swimming pigs
Wild pigs live on the beach on an island in the Bahamas. They sometimes go swimming in the crystal-clear waters.



Tasty food
Caribbean food is full of flavor. Barbecued jerk chicken is a spicy dish, and plantains (bananas) are fried and eaten with savory meals.



Blue marlin
This fish is a popular source of food in the Caribbean.

Havana Ballet Festival
Cuban and other dancers from all over the world take part in this festival in Havana. It is one of the longest-running ballet festivals in the world.



Cuban ballerinas



The national dance of the Dominican Republic is the merengue

Merengue dancing

KEY

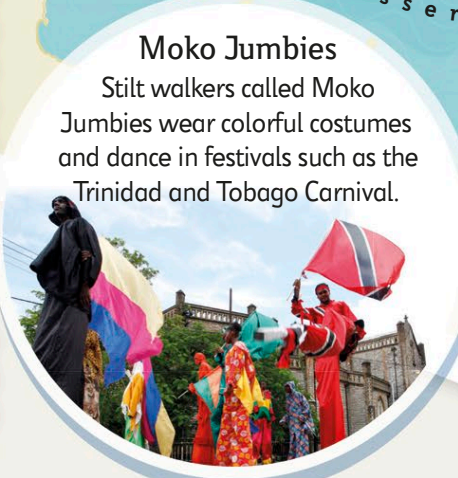
PRODUCE	INDUSTRY
Cattle	Finance
Corn	ACTIVITIES
Sugar cane	Cricket
NATURAL FEATURES	Sailing
Coral reef	Baseball
Green turtles	Scuba diving

This landmark was rebuilt after it was damaged in an earthquake in 2010



THE CARIBBEAN

Golden beaches, coral reefs, carnivals, and festivals are all part of life in the Caribbean. This group of small island nations lies between North and South America. The islands have a tropical climate and warm seas that attract thousands of tourists.



Moko Jumbies
Stilt walkers called Moko Jumbies wear colorful costumes and dance in festivals such as the Trinidad and Tobago Carnival.

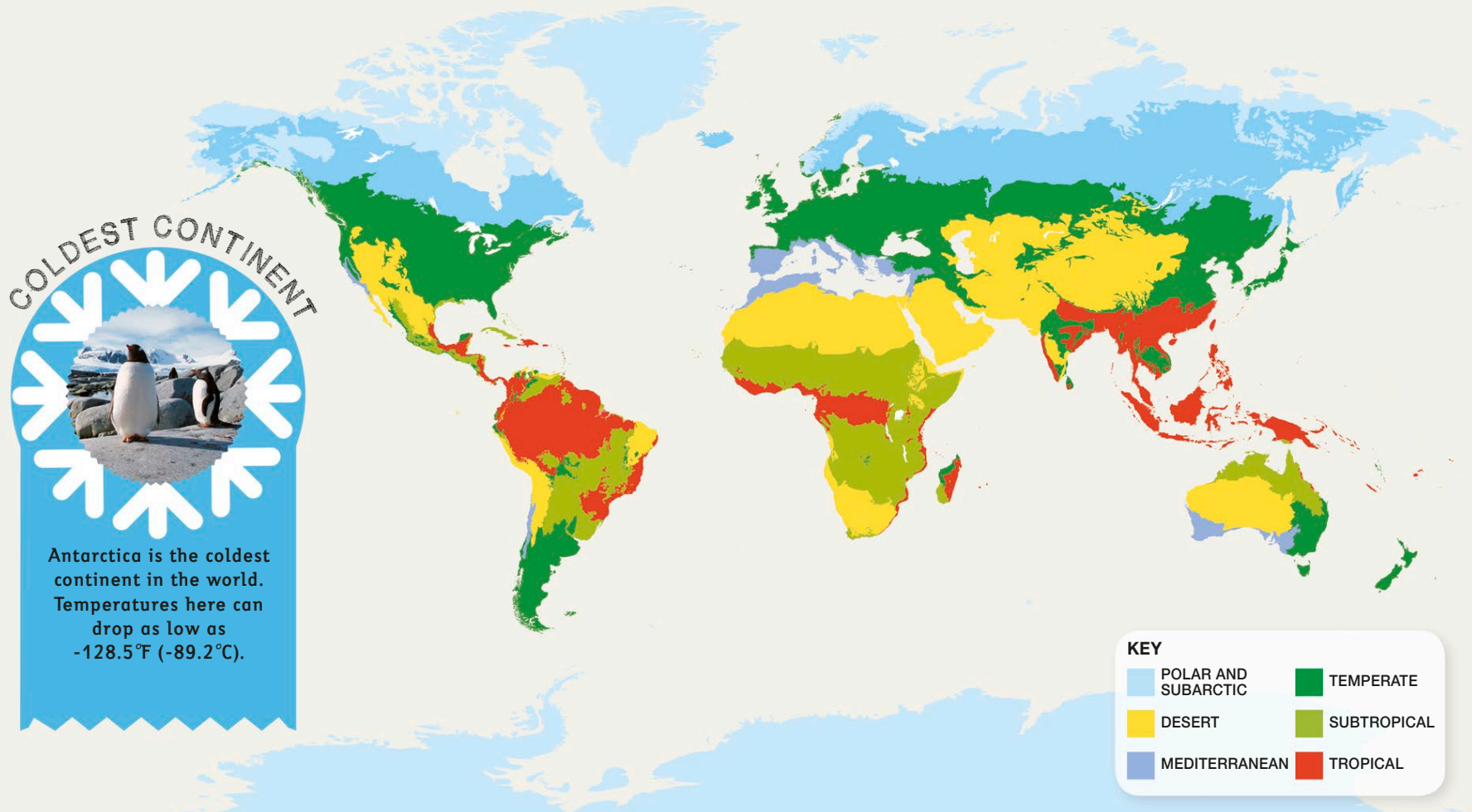


TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

CLIMATES

The weather that is typical of an area is called a climate. Climates vary around the world. The polar regions at the top and bottom of the Earth are the coldest places. Moving toward the equator, the climate gets warmer. Different animals and plants are suited to different types of climate.

The world is getting warmer. The average temperature has risen by 1.4°F (0.8°C) since 1880.



<h3>POLAR AND SUBARCTIC</h3> <p>The climate around the North and South Poles is freezing cold and icy. Subarctic regions lie south of the North Pole, where the climate is a little warmer and some plants can survive.</p>	<h3>DESERT</h3> <p>A desert climate is dry, with very little rainfall each year. Many deserts are very hot in the day and cold at night. Only a few plants and animals can survive in this harsh climate.</p>	<h3>MEDITERRANEAN</h3> <p>Regions close to the Mediterranean Sea have hot, dry summers and cool, wet winters. This type of climate also describes places with similar weather patterns, such as California.</p>
<h3>TEMPERATE</h3> <p>Areas with a temperate climate, such as the British Isles, have warm summers and cool winters. This kind of climate suits deciduous trees, which lose their leaves in winter.</p>	<h3>SUBTROPICAL</h3> <p>Hot regions of the world with dry and rainy seasons have a subtropical climate. African savannas, which are large grasslands with few trees, have this kind of climate.</p>	<h3>TROPICAL</h3> <p>A tropical climate is hot and rainy. Regions with this kind of climate are near the equator. Dense rain forests grow here. The Amazon rain forest is an example of a tropical region.</p>



Death Valley, California
134°F (56.7°C)

Kebili, Tunisia
131°F (55°C)

Tirat Tsvi, Israel
129°F (54°C)

Sulaibiya, Kuwait
128.3°F (53.5°C)
Mohenjo-daro, Pakistan
128.3°F (53.5°C)

Snag, Yukon, Canada
-81.4°F (-63°C)

Oymyakon, Russia
-90°F (-67.7°C)

Klinck, Greenland
-93.3°F (-69.6°C)

South Pole, Antarctica
-117°F (-82.8°C)

Vostok Station, Antarctica
-128.5°F (-89.2°C)



Hot and cold places

The hottest places on Earth are in desert regions. They are hotter than tropical areas, because there are no clouds to block the Sun. The coldest places are polar regions. They get less sunlight than other places.

Five rainiest places

A state called Meghalaya in India has the world's highest rainfall each year. Here, seasonal winds called monsoons bring heavy rains. Other very wet places in the world are in rain forests or lush, hilly countryside.



411½ in (10,450 mm)



453½ in (11,516 mm)



458½ in (11,640 mm)



463½ in (11,770 mm)

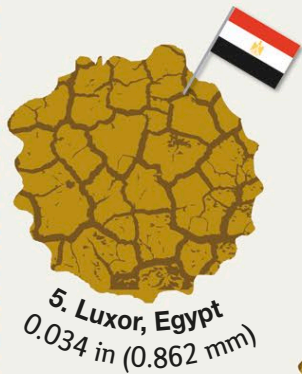


467½ in (11,872 mm)

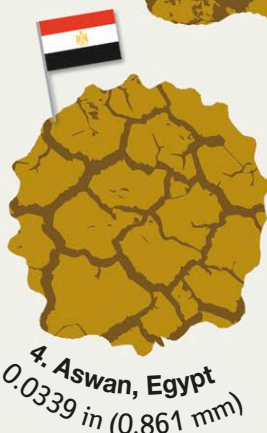
Five driest places

Nothing grows in very dry areas because there is so little rain each year. Antarctica is the driest continent, and it is also the coldest and windiest.

1. Dry Valleys, Antarctica
No rain at all



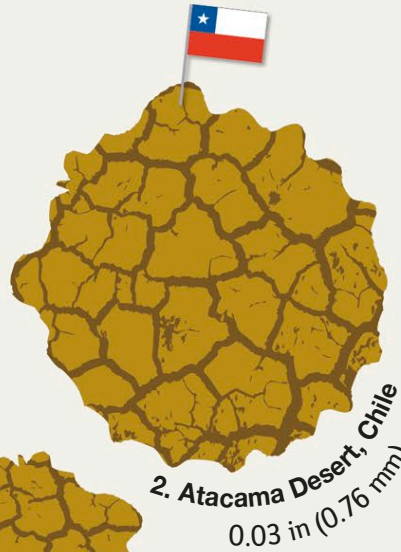
5. Luxor, Egypt
0.034 in (0.862 mm)



4. Aswan, Egypt
0.0339 in (0.861 mm)



3. Al-Kufrah, Libya
0.0338 in (0.860 mm)



2. Atacama Desert, Chile
0.03 in (0.76 mm)



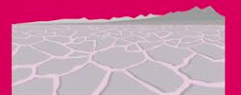
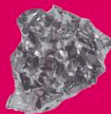
4. Huaso rodeo is very popular in which long, thin country?



1. In which city would you find this giant statue?



3. This cathedral is found in which country?



2. Which range of mountains does this bird soar over?



5. Which country has won the soccer World Cup the most times?

You can find all the answers and more quizzes on pages 120-121.

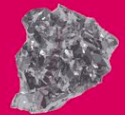
6. In which country can you see this flightless bird?

8. Which country is this popular pet a native of?

7. What is the name of this Peruvian bear?

SOUTH AMERICA

South America blends together Latin culture and the traditions of its native peoples. Spanish is the main language of most countries, because the first Europeans to arrive came from Spain. The exception is Brazil, where Portuguese people settled, bringing their own language.



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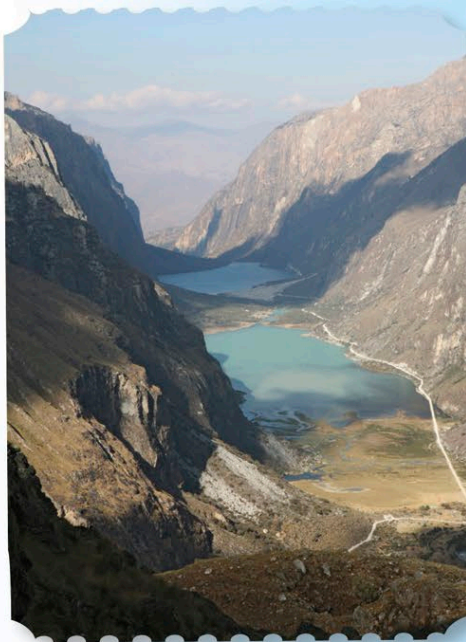
SOUTH AMERICA

South America stretches from the tropical Caribbean Sea in the north to the icy Southern Ocean in the south. The world's largest forest, the Amazon rain forest, covers most of Brazil and the northern part of the continent.



Lake Titicaca

This deep lake, high up in the Andes mountains, sits on the border between Bolivia and Peru. There are several inhabited islands on the lake, including some floating, man-made islands, built from reeds. The way of life here has changed little over the centuries.



Andes mountains

This mountain range runs like a spine down the west side of South America. It is the world's longest mountain range, stretching from the north of Colombia to the southern tip of Chile.



Amazon river

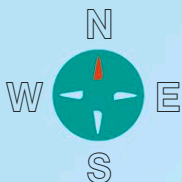
This giant river flows through the Amazon rain forest, out into the Atlantic Ocean. It carries more water than any other river in the world.





São Paulo

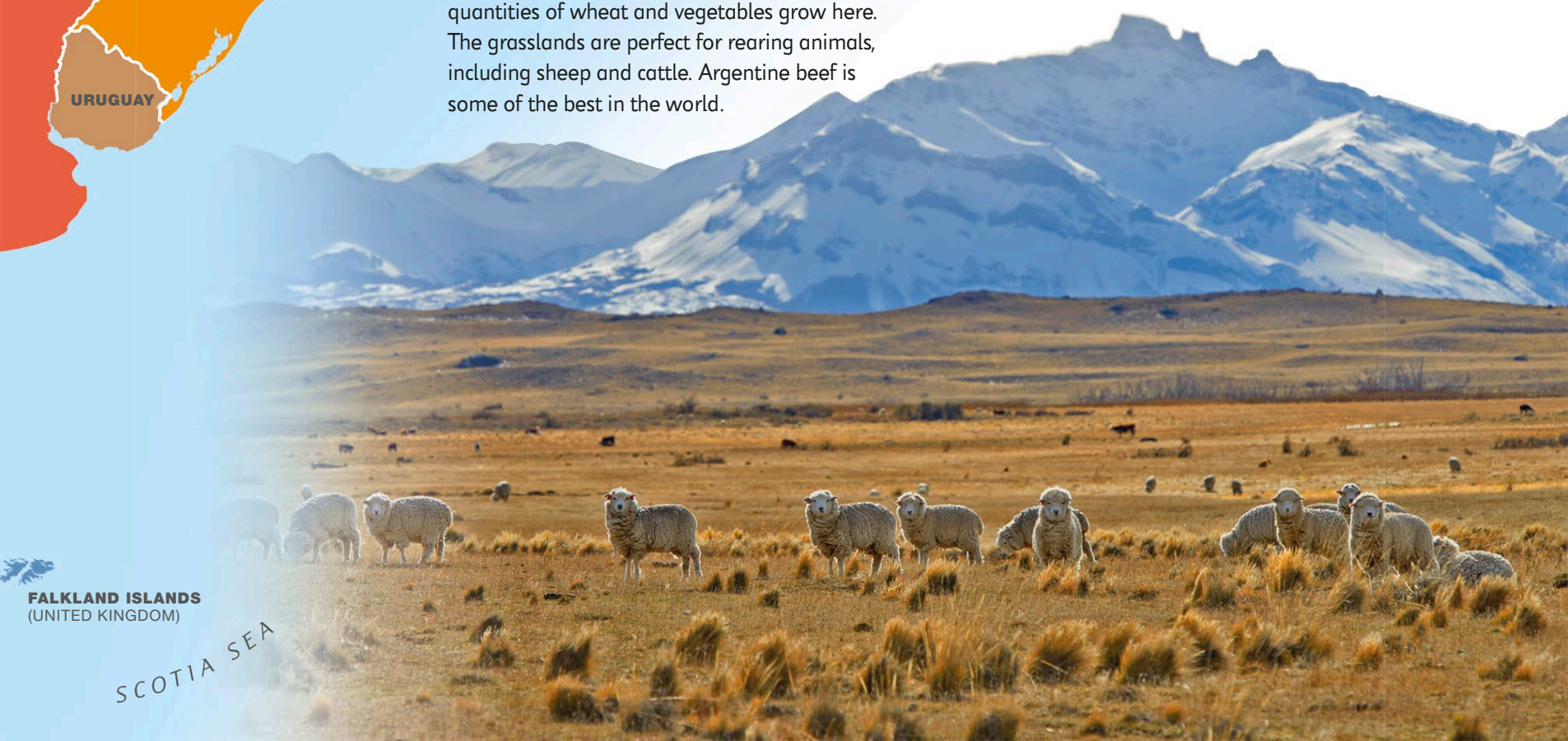
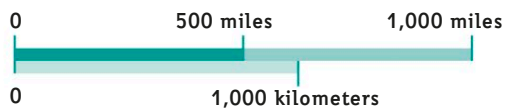
More people live in São Paulo than in any other city in South America. It started as a tiny, isolated village, which was founded by Portuguese settlers in the 16th century. After gold was discovered nearby in the 1690s, it grew, and this bustling city is now Brazil's main business center.



Pampas

This vast, grassy plain stretches over the eastern part of Argentina, most of Uruguay and the extreme south of Brazil. Parts are now farmed and huge quantities of wheat and vegetables grow here. The grasslands are perfect for rearing animals, including sheep and cattle. Argentine beef is some of the best in the world.

SCALE



FALKLAND ISLANDS (UNITED KINGDOM)

SCOTIA SEA

COLOMBIA AND VENEZUELA

Colombia and Venezuela lie in the northwest corner of South America. To the north is the Caribbean Sea and to the south is the Amazon rain forest. These Spanish-speaking countries are rich in emeralds, diamonds, and gold.



Scarlet macaw

This large, noisy parrot lives in the rain forests of both Colombia and Venezuela. It eats nuts, seeds, and fruit.

Angel Falls

The Angel Falls is the world's highest waterfall. Water plunges 3,212 ft (979 m) into the rain forest.



Bolívar helped several South American countries, including his home country of Venezuela, gain independence



Caracas

Valencia

Simón Bolívar

Barranquilla

Maracaibo

Lake Maracaibo

This huge statue of the Virgin Mary symbolizes world peace

San Cristóbal

Cuidad Bolívar

VENEZUELA

Giant anteater

Anteaters feed on ants and termites, lapping them up with their long, sticky tongue

Puerto Ayacucho

Insects that land on this plant are trapped and eaten

Pitcher plant

Medellín

Bogotá

This cathedral sits in the center of Bogotá

Puerto Inírida

Bogotá Cathedral

Santiago de Cali

Tumaco

Pasto

This is the world's largest snake. It can swallow a deer whole.

Anaconda

Mitú

Hola!
Hello

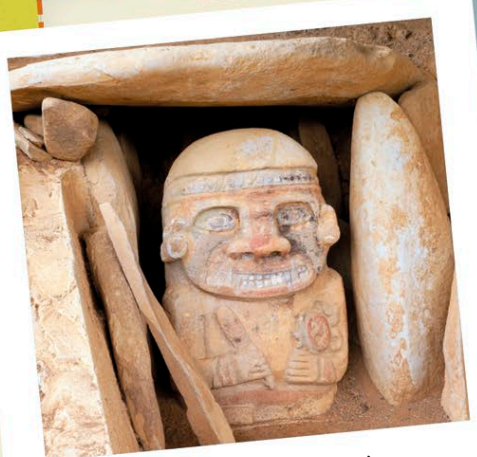
COLOMBIA

SCALE



San Agustín Park

This park is home to the largest group of ancient religious monuments in South America. Some of them are nearly 2,000 years old.



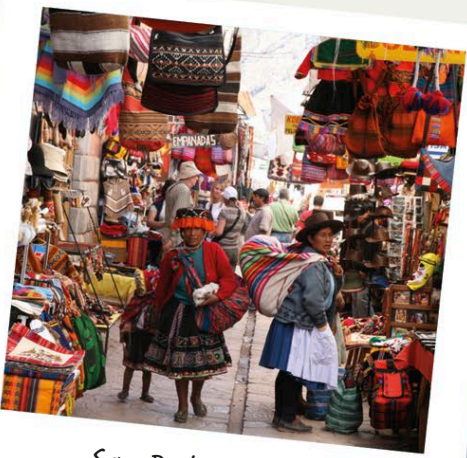
Pre-Columbian statue

KEY

PRODUCE	INDUSTRY
Bananas	Oil
Coffee	Gas
Cut flowers	Nickel
Rice	Diamonds
Sugar cane	Pearls
Corn	Gold
Baseball	Emeralds
Volcanoes	Iron ore
Earthquakes	Palm oil

PERU

Peru has some stunning scenery, ranging from dense rain forest to snow-capped peaks. The Andes mountain range runs the length of the country and is a popular destination for hiking. Peru is known for its brightly colored, traditional textiles and its delicious fish and potato dishes.



San Pedro market

Craft market

The native Quechua people live on traditional farms high up in the Andes. Cuzco's San Pedro market sells colorful Quechua textiles.

Adiós!
Goodbye



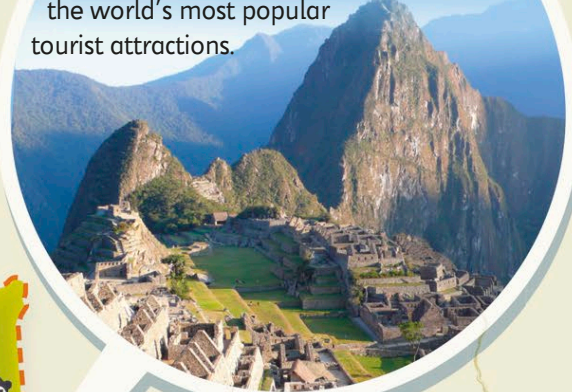
Emperor tamarin

This monkey lives in the Amazon rain forest. Both male and female adults have long, white mustaches.



Machu Picchu

Machu Picchu is an ancient Inca city in the Andes. Its ruins are one of the world's most popular tourist attractions.



PRODUCE

Asparagus Sugar cane

Coffee Quinoa

INDUSTRY

Fishing Copper

Lumber Cotton

Gold Iron ore

Silver

ACTIVITIES

Hiking

NATURAL FEATURES

Earthquakes

Potatoes

Potatoes are native to Peru. More than 4,000 varieties grow here and come in many different sizes, shapes, and colors, including pink, purple, orange, and yellow.

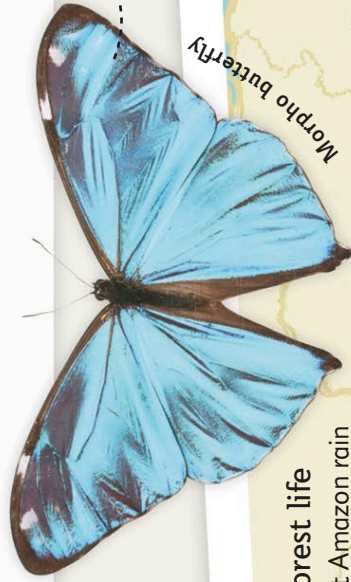


SCALE



BRAZIL

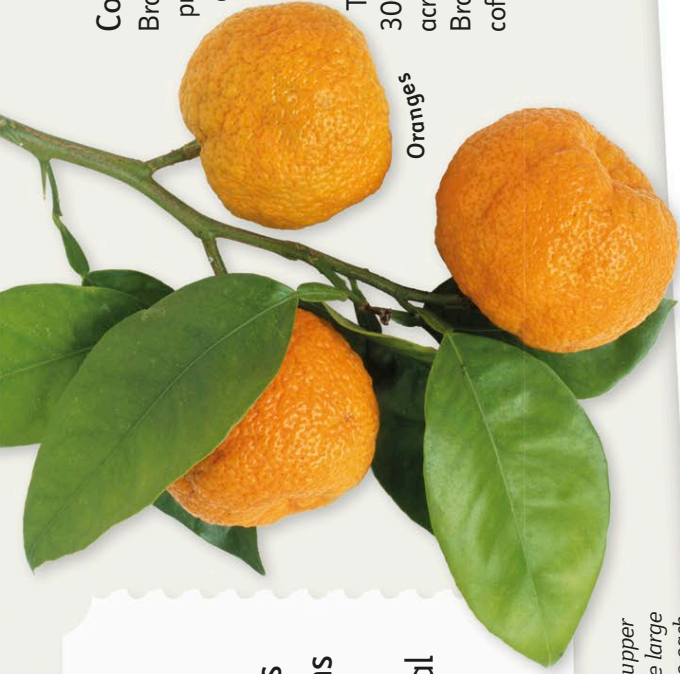
Brazil is the largest country in South America and has a great variety of people and cultures. Most Brazilians live in big, crowded cities and speak Portuguese, the country's official language, while more than 200 tribal groups have their own unique languages.



The bright blue upper wings help these large butterflies to see each other in the dark forest

Rain forest life

The vast Amazon rain forest is packed with plant and animal life. An amazing number of insect species live there—about 2.5 million!



Oranges

Coffee and oranges

Brazil is the world's largest producer of oranges and coffee beans. About 75 percent of the orange crop is turned into juice and exported. There are about 300,000 coffee farms across the country, and Brazilians drink half of the coffee they produce.



Coffee beans

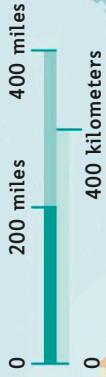
Rain forest people

People have lived in the Amazon rain forest for thousands of years. The Yanomami are one of the largest tribes. They live in large, circular huts with palm leaf roofs.



Some people use canoes to travel along the Amazon. Larger boats are used for tourists and trade

SCALE



Manaus, in the heart of the jungle, opened its opera house in 1896

Amazon Theater

Belém

São Luís

Porto Velho

Pink river dolphin

This rare dolphin likes clean rivers with plenty of fish to eat

Piranha

These fish use their razor-sharp teeth to eat meat. Local people catch them for food

Toco toucan

A toucan's huge, colorful bill has many uses, including picking forest fruit.

Qualea grandiflora

This tree grows in Brazil's Cerrado, a vast grassland region

Sao Francisco

Fortaleza

Recife

Maceió

Salvador

ATLANTIC OCEAN

N
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W



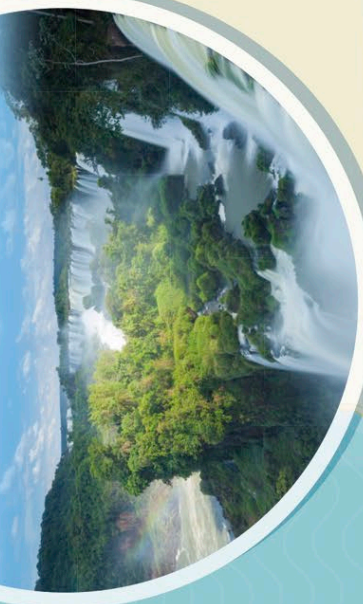
Soccer on the beach

Soccer

Brazilians love soccer. Brazil has won the World Cup more times (five) than any other country. Many famous players come from Brazil, including Pelé, one of the greatest players of all time.

Iguaçu Falls

This spectacular series of waterfalls stretches across the border between Brazil and Argentina. The forests surrounding the falls are protected by two national parks.



Sugar Loaf Mountain

This domed mountain rises above Rio. Stunning views of the city can be enjoyed by people who take a cable car to the top. Rio was chosen to host the Summer Olympics in 2016.



PRODUCE	RESOURCES
Coffee	Gold
Oranges	Iron
Bananas	Diamonds
Soybeans	Oil
Dried beans	Hydroelectric power
Sugar cane	ACTIVITIES
Rice	Soccer

KEY

Capoeira

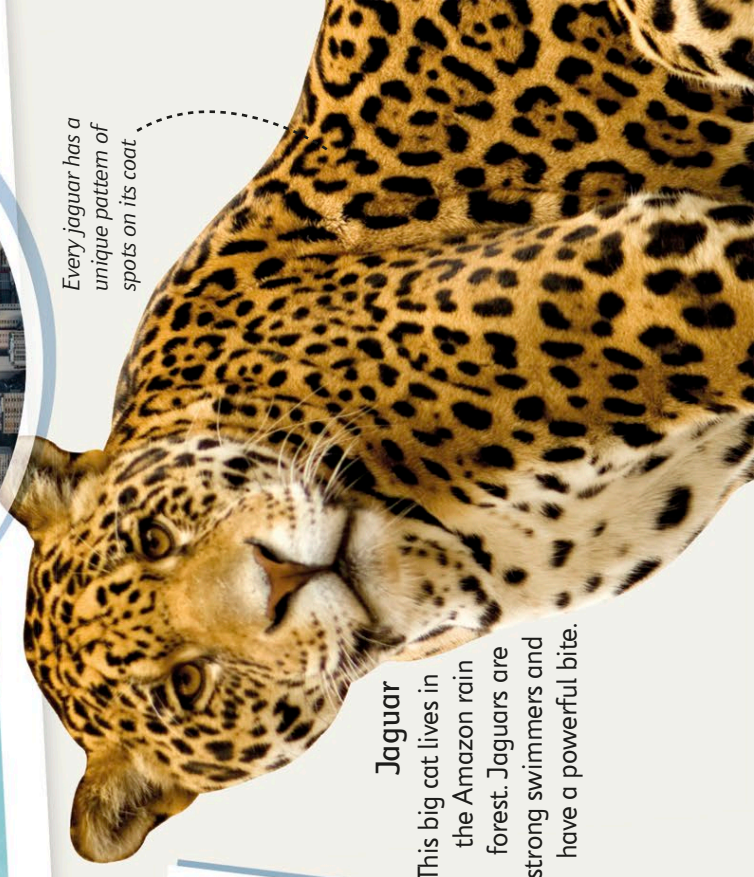
This martial art involves music, dance, and acrobatics. Capoeira was developed in Brazil 500 years ago by people from West Africa, and it is a fun form of exercise.



Acrobatic moves

Jaguar

This big cat lives in the Amazon rain forest. Jaguars are strong swimmers and have a powerful bite.



Every jaguar has a unique pattern of spots on its coat

Brasília replaced Rio as the capital in 1960. The modern cathedral looks like a crown of thorns

Brasília Cathedral

Brasília

Belo Horizonte

This giant statue overlooks the city and is one of Rio's main landmarks

Rio de Janeiro

São Paulo

Curitiba

Porto Alegre

Olá!
Hello

São Miguel Mission

Built in 1687, this Catholic church is now a ruin

Lagoa dos Patos

ARGENTINA

URUGUAY

ATLANTIC OCEAN

This rodent is as big as a large dog and lives in marshy areas like the Pantanal

Capybara

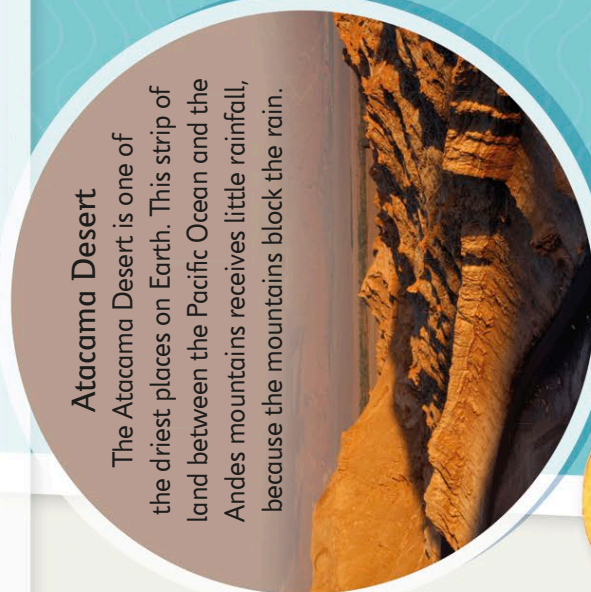
PANTANAL

BOLIVIA

PARAGUAY

ARGENTINA AND CHILE

These two countries stretch across the southern part of South America. Between them lie the Andes mountains. Argentina's dramatic landscape includes the rugged hills of Patagonia, while Chile is a long, thin country with both desert and fertile farmland.



Atacama Desert

The Atacama Desert is one of the driest places on Earth. This strip of land between the Pacific Ocean and the Andes mountains receives little rainfall, because the mountains block the rain.

One of the world's most powerful observatories, which captures images of objects in outer space, is based in the Atacama Desert.

Antofagasta

Salt lakes and other deposits formed in the Atacama Desert when lakes dried out.



Fertile land

The land of Central Chile is rich and fertile. Here, fruits, such as juicy peaches, are grown in orchards. Grapes also flourish, and Chilean wine is exported all over the world.



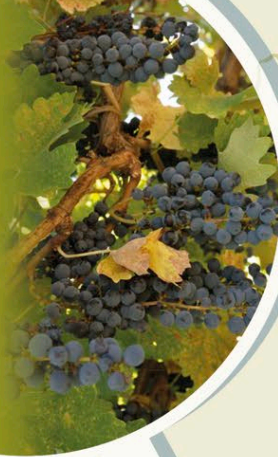
Tango dancers

Argentine tango

This Latin American style of dance originated in Buenos Aires. Dancers hold one another close and walk together in time to the music, with one partner taking the lead.

Highest vineyard

The highest vineyard in the world lies at 10,200 ft (3,111 m) in the Calchaquí Valley in northern Argentina.



Maned wolves look like a small wolf or a large red fox, but are a different species, unique to the grasslands of South America.



This mine is one of the largest open-cast (surface) copper mines in the world.

Chiquicamata copper mine

ALMA space observatory

Salt lakes

San Miguel de Tucumán

The successful Argentinean soccer team has a big rivalry with neighboring Brazil.

Soccer

Tall species of flowering grass grow in the lowland grasslands of the Pampas.

Rodeo is Chile's national sport—pairs of riders known as "Huasos" work together to round up cattle.

Huaso rodeo

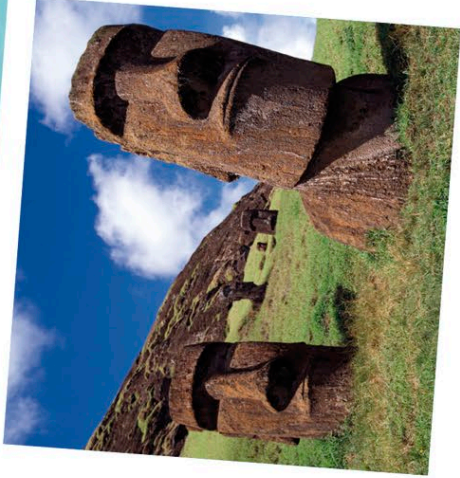
Valparaíso

Mendoza

Córdoba

Rosario

SCALE



Stone heads

Easter Island

This Chilean island lies in the Pacific Ocean, 2,290 miles (3,686 km) west of the mainland. It is known for its huge stone statues, called moai, that were carved by local people hundreds of years ago.



Alpacas

Alpacas are kept in herds high in the mountains of northern Chile. Their thick hair can be woven to make blankets, hats, and sweaters.



Buenos Aires

Rio de la Plata

MALBA Museum of Modern Art

Polo

This large, flightless bird hunts for reptiles and insects in the grasslands

Polo players compete in teams on horseback to score goals against each other by hitting a ball with a mallet.



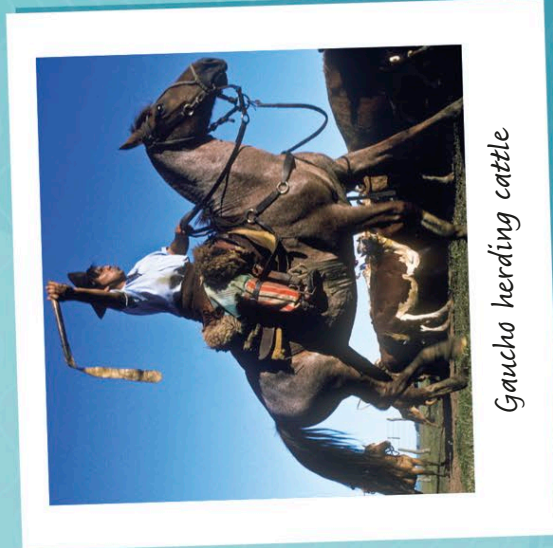
Beef steak and sauce

Argentina is well known for producing top-quality beef. Chimichurri sauce, made from fresh herbs, garlic, and olive oil, is often served with steak.



This museum in Buenos Aires features many spectacular art exhibits

Welsh people settled in the remote region of Patagonia in the 1800s. They speak their own special dialect of Welsh.



Gaucha herding cattle

Cattle herding

Beef cattle is an important industry on the flat, treeless plains of the Pampas. Argentine cowboys, known as "gauchos," herd the cattle on huge ranches.

Hola!
Hello

Perito Moreno Glacier
Ice flows into Lake Argentino from the Perito Moreno Glacier

Magellanic penguins
This is one of seven species of penguin that live in South America

Punta Arenas

KEY

PRODUCE	Vineyards	Onions	Corn	Beef cattle	Sunflowers	Peaches	Soybeans	Sheep	Apples and pears	Wheat
INDUSTRY	Hydroelectric power	Copper	Lumber	Zinc	Lead	Iron	Fishing	Oil	Tin	
NATURAL FEATURES	Volcanoes	Earthquakes								

POPULATION

The number of people living in the world is growing fast. In 1800, the world's population was about 1 billion. Today, there are more than 7.3 billion people worldwide. More than half of these people live in cities, rather than in the countryside. The population is growing because of healthier eating and better health care, which means that people are living longer.

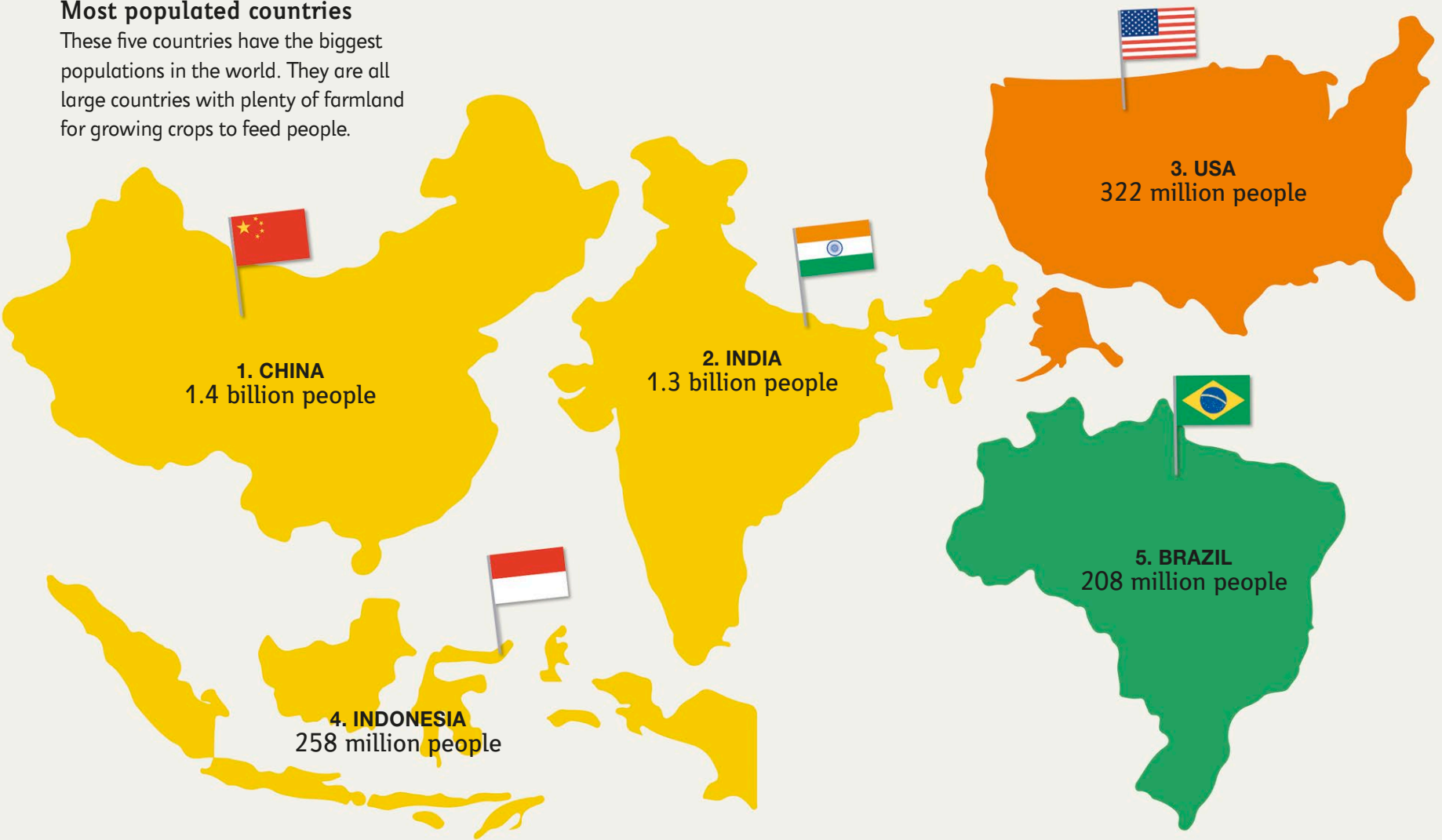
Emptiest country

The emptiest country in the world is Mongolia, with an average of about five people for every square mile of land (about two people per square kilometer).



Most populated countries

These five countries have the biggest populations in the world. They are all large countries with plenty of farmland for growing crops to feed people.

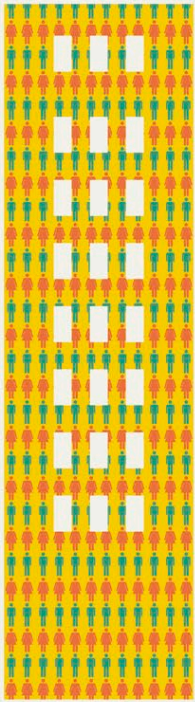


Who lives where?

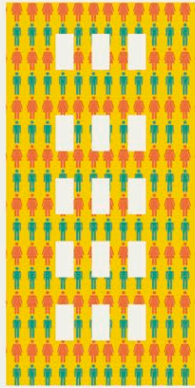
This chart shows the percentage of the world's population in each continent. Asia is by far the world's most populated continent.

ASIA
60%

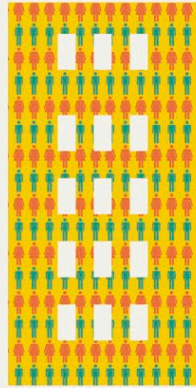




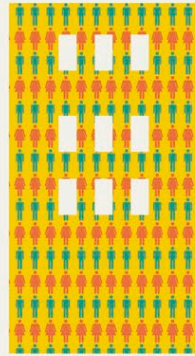
Tokyo, Japan, Asia
38 million people



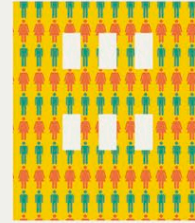
Mexico City, Mexico, North America
21 million people



São Paulo, Brazil, South America
21 million people



Cairo, Egypt, Africa
19 million people



Moscow, Russia, Europe
12 million people

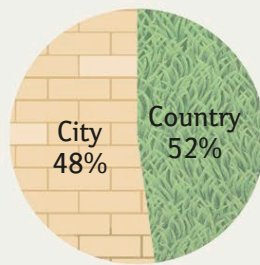


Sydney, Australia, Australasia
5 million people

The Greater Tokyo area has nearly the same population as the whole of Canada!

City versus countryside

In many parts of the world, cities are growing fast. People are moving, or migrating, from rural areas (the countryside) into towns and cities. Worldwide, about 54 percent of people live in cities and about 46 percent live in the countryside.



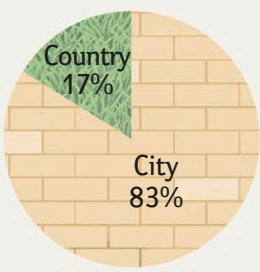
ASIA



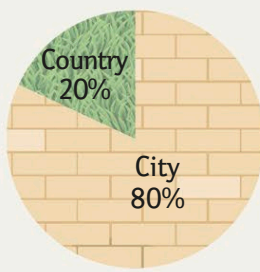
AUSTRALASIA



AFRICA



SOUTH AMERICA



NORTH AMERICA



EUROPE

LARGEST CHILD POPULATION



India is the country with the most children. It has about 450 million children. This is about 40 percent of India's population.



4. What are Egypt's white-sailed river boats called?



3. In which country is the Temple of Zeus found?



1. Which North African desert people wear blue robes?



2. From which country do many great long-distance runners come?





6. In which country is Kruger National Park?



5. Where might you spot a bonobo?



AFRICA

Africa is a land of contrasts, with hundreds of different cultural groups. From Cairo in Egypt to Cape Town in South Africa, Africa is developing fast. There is a large population of young people who are bringing major changes to society.



You can find all the answers and more quizzes on pages 120-121.



8. The baobab is the national tree of which country?



7. In which country would you find a museum of steam trains?



AFRICA

Africa is the world's second largest continent. The dry countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea in the north are cut off from the rest of Africa by the Sahara Desert. South of the Sahara are grassy plains and tropical rain forests, where many unique wild animals live.



West African market

Busy markets are found all over West Africa. They are a good source of income for many people, who will travel long distances to sell their goods and produce.

Sahara Desert

The Sahara is the world's largest hot desert. It stretches from Mauritania in the west to Sudan in the east. Camels are still used to carry goods across the sandy dunes.





Nile River

This is the world's longest river. It flows north through 11 countries, from Tanzania to Egypt's Mediterranean coast. Many early civilizations flourished along the Nile's banks, using its waters to grow crops and as a trading route.



Table Mountain

This magnificent mountain overlooks the city of Cape Town in South Africa. Its large, flat top makes it look like a table, and it is often covered by white clouds, which are nicknamed "the tablecloth."



Game reserve

Many African countries have set up game reserves to protect their wild animals, such as lions, elephants, and wildebeest, from hunters.

NORTH AFRICA

The four countries of Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, and Libya sit side by side at the northern end of Africa. Towns and cities are dotted along the Mediterranean coast, where lively markets are found alongside ancient ruins. Vast areas of North Africa are sandy desert, with rich oil reserves in some places.



Markets all over Morocco sell traditional leather goods

Leather goods

These monkeys mainly live in the Atlas Mountains

These small, venomous snakes live in the deserts of North Africa

The Tuareg are a desert people, who traditionally wear blue robes



Medina

Many North African cities have ancient walled areas, with mazelike, narrow alleyways, called medinas. The Marrakesh medina contains Morocco's largest traditional market.

Hassan II Mosque
This huge mosque stands on the edge of the city of Casablanca in Morocco. More than 100,000 worshippers can gather here for prayer. Its 689-ft (210-m) minaret tower is the tallest in the world.



North African cuisine

Tagine, a type of stew usually made with lamb, is eaten in many parts of North Africa. Refreshing mint tea is the most popular drink.



Striped hyena
These hyenas are found throughout North Africa. They live in caves or dig dens, coming out to search for food at night.



KEY

- PRODUCE**
- Cattle
 - Dates
 - Goat
 - Sheep
 - Olives
 - Oranges
 - Potatoes
 - Vineyards
 - Wheat
- INDUSTRY**
- Phosphorite
 - Oil
- ACTIVITIES**
- Basketball
 - Soccer
 - Skiing



Roman amphitheater

El Jem
The Roman amphitheater of El Jem in central Tunisia was the largest in North Africa. Up to 35,000 people could watch gladiators fight here.

Algiers

Constantine

Tunis

Sfax

Tripoli

Benghazi

ALGERIA

TUNISIA

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

LIBYA

SAHARA DESERT

NIGER

LIBYAN DESERT

CHAD

EGYPT

SUDAN

Roman theater at Djémila

About 3,000 people could sit in this theater, which is one of the best-preserved ruins in North Africa

Roman ruins at Carthage

Ruins of ancient villas, theaters, and baths lie near Tunis

Deathstalker scorpion

Though very painful, the sting from this scorpion would not usually be fatal

Athel tamarisk

These trees can survive in dry areas, because their long roots can reach water that is deep underground

Bedouin camel train

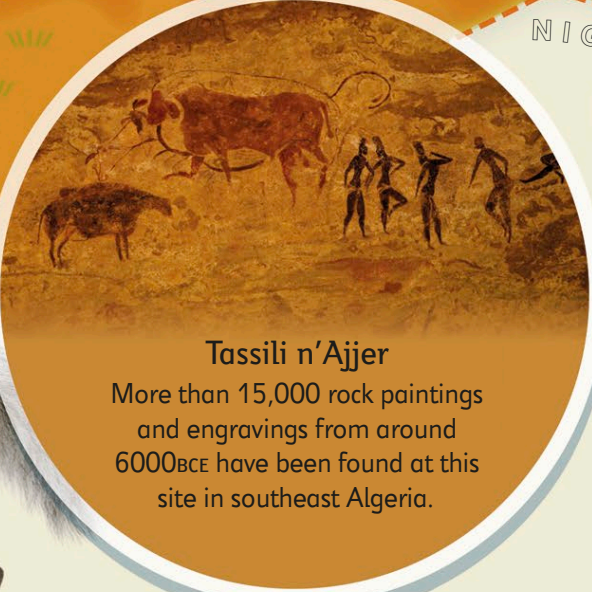
Bedouin means "desert dweller," and some still use camels to carry goods across the Sahara

Sabha

Jerboa

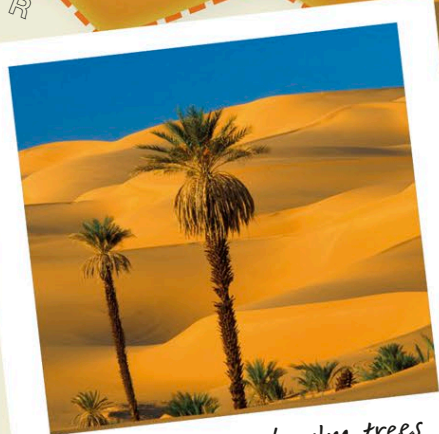
These big-eared rodents hop around the desert on their long hind legs at night, when it is cooler

Al Kufra



Tassili n'Ajjer

More than 15,000 rock paintings and engravings from around 6000 BCE have been found at this site in southeast Algeria.



Sand dunes and palm trees

Sahara Desert

The sands of the Sahara cover 3,600,000 sq miles (9,400,000 sq km), from the Atlantic Ocean in the west to the Red Sea in the east. It is the world's largest hot desert.

EGYPT

Much of Egypt is made up of dry, sandy desert, and so most people live along the banks of the Nile River. This river, the longest in the world, is a vital source of water for drinking and farming. Thousands of years ago, pharaohs (kings) built pyramids along the Nile, some of which are still standing.

Mummy case
Ancient Egyptians preserved, or mummified, bodies. The specially treated body was wrapped in bandages and the mummy was then placed in a decorated case.

KEY

PRODUCE	INDUSTRY
Rice	Oil
Wheat	Fishing
Oranges	ACTIVITIES Scuba diving
Dates	NATURAL FEATURES Coral reef
Cotton	



Pyramids

These massive structures were built as tombs for the bodies of dead pharaohs and their queens. The three most famous pyramids are at Giza.



SCALE



This huge sandstone statue has a lion's body and a human head

Large crocodiles live in the Nile, eating all kinds of animals, from fish to cattle

Some pharaohs were buried in tombs in the Valley of the Kings near Luxor

This snake is one of the most venomous in Africa. One bite can kill a human in minutes

These two huge temples were important places of worship in Ancient Egypt

Feluccas are traditional wooden sailing boats, still used along the Nile

This dam opened in 1970; it generates hydroelectricity and controls flood water

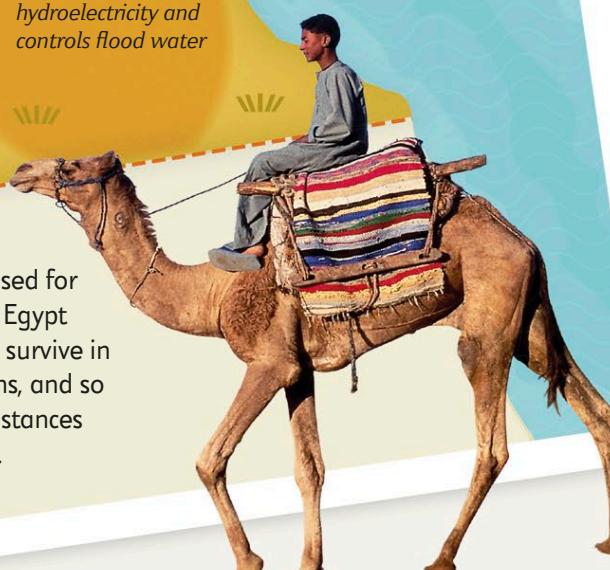
Salam!
Hello

Rescued ruins
When the Aswan Dam was built, it created a large reservoir called Lake Nasser. Two ancient temples had to be moved from the area that was flooded.



Cotton
Cool and comfortable cotton tunics are a common form of dress in this hot country. Egyptian cotton is known for its high quality.

Camels
Camels are still used for transportation in Egypt because they can survive in very dry conditions, and so can travel long distances across the desert.

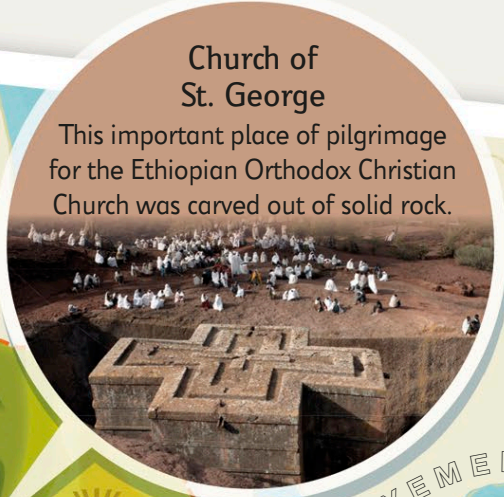




Yellowfin tuna

Huge yellowfin tuna swim in the Indian Ocean, off the coast of Kenya. Large numbers are caught and exported to markets all over the world.

Yellowfin tuna



Church of St. George

This important place of pilgrimage for the Ethiopian Orthodox Christian Church was carved out of solid rock.

KEY

PRODUCE

- Wheat
- Coconuts
- Corn
- Ensete
- Teff
- Cattle
- Coffee
- Sheep
- Tea
- Goats

ACTIVITIES

- Safari

Ethiopian food

Ethiopians eat lots of injera. This spongy bread is an important part of most meals and is used, instead of a spoon or fork, to scoop up food.



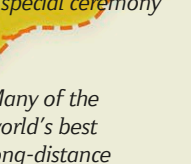
Injera

SCALE

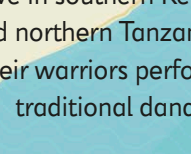
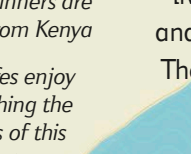
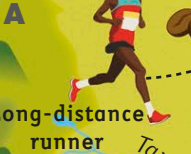


UGANDA

Huge flocks of pink flamingos gather to feed in Kenya's lakes



Roses and other flowers grown in Kenya are exported for sale in Europe



Giraffe Manor

Giraffes roam the grounds of this hotel, which looks after endangered species. The giraffes often poke their heads through the hotel's windows, hoping to receive a tasty snack.



Jambo!
Hello

The Maasai

The Maasai people live in southern Kenya and northern Tanzania. Their warriors perform traditional dances.



Maasai warriors

ETHIOPIA AND KENYA

Some of Africa's most spectacular scenery is found in Ethiopia and Kenya. Ethiopia has high mountains where coffee is grown. Thousands of tourists visit Kenya every year to view the many different types of wildlife that live on the plains.

NIGERIA

About 175 million people live in Nigeria, more than in any other African country. Many different tribal groups live here, each with its own colorful traditions, handicrafts, and music. Nigeria is also Africa's largest producer of oil, and has several oil rigs in the Gulf of Guinea.

Tribal traditions

The Yoruba are one of Nigeria's largest tribal groups. Their traditional dress includes brightly patterned fabrics and beautiful, finely carved ivory bracelets.



Ivory bracelet

Yoruba cloth

© HAD

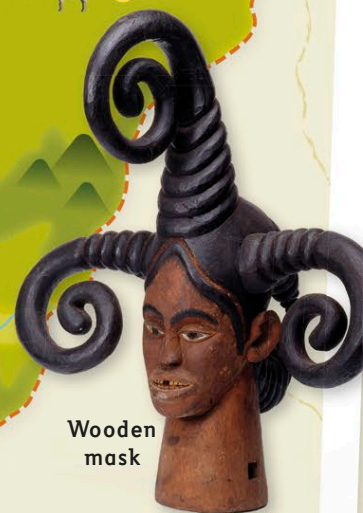
KEY

PRODUCE

- Cocoa
- Yams
- Rubber
- Cotton
- Palm oil
- Cattle
- Peanuts
- Goats

INDUSTRY

- Oil
- Hydroelectric power



Wooden mask

Ritual masks
Wooden masks are traditionally worn in parts of Nigeria to ward off evil spirits.

Street food

Nigerian street food includes some spicy dishes. Jollof rice contains chili, and suya is strips of barbecued meat on a stick with different spices in the seasoning.



Pepper sauce

Suya

GHANA AND THE IVORY COAST

Ghana was once known as the Gold Coast because of its plentiful gold; the Ivory Coast used to be a center for the trade in ivory (elephant tusks). Today, both countries grow cocoa beans, which are used to make some of the world's finest chocolate.

Plantain and okra
West Africa has lots of fertile farming land. Plantains, a type of banana used in cooking, are grown. Another common crop is okra. This is a long, thin vegetable that is often known as "ladies' fingers."



KEY

PRODUCE	
Coffee	Corn
Cocoa	Coconuts
Bananas	Yams
Pineapples	Cassavas
Rubber	Cattle
Palm oil	Goats
Rice	
INDUSTRY	
Iron	Oil
Gold	Natural gas
Bauxite	Diamonds

SCALE



Bonjour!
Hello

Hello!

This is a protected area of tropical rain forest and pygmy hippopotamuses make their home here

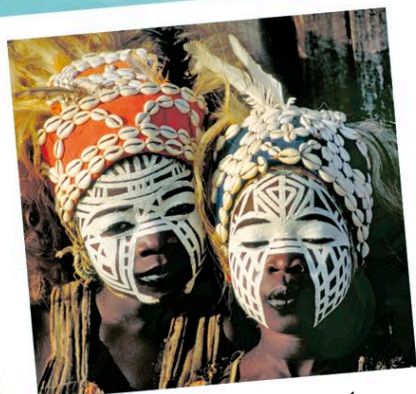


Ivory Coast's soccer team is one of the best in Africa

This colorful cloth is made from cotton and silk

Nkrumah led Ghana to independence in 1957

Large numbers of tuna are fished in the Gulf of Guinea



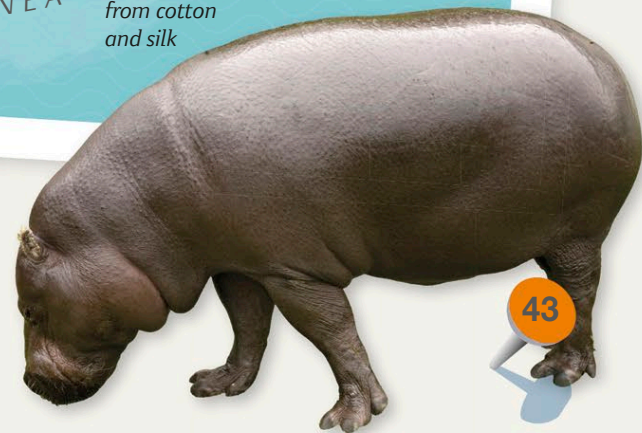
Typical voodoo facepaint

Voodoo festivals

Festivals celebrating the traditional voodoo religion take place in southern Ghana. People paint patterns on their faces using white paint.

Pygmy hippopotamus

This small hippopotamus lives in the forests and swamps of West Africa. It only ventures out at night, so is rarely seen.



KEY

PRODUCE



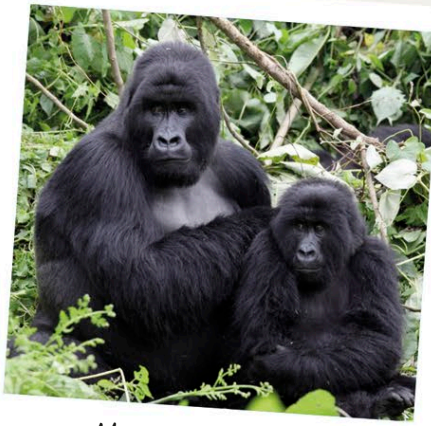
INDUSTRY



ACTIVITIES



NATURAL FEATURES



Mountain gorillas

Virunga National Park

Africa's oldest national park was created in 1925, mainly to provide a safe home for mountain gorillas and other local wildlife. Years of war nearly destroyed the park, but it is now back in safe hands. Thousands of tourists visit the park every year.

Bonjour!
Hello

Sapeurs

The sapeurs are a group who like to wear finely tailored clothes. They live by a gentlemanly code of conduct, in keeping with their stylish dress.



CONGO (DRC)

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) is the largest African country south of the Sahara Desert. The world's deepest river, the Congo, runs all across the country, and some of Africa's Great Lakes lie on its eastern border. The Congo rain forest is the second largest in the world.



Cobalt mine

Mining

Many valuable minerals are mined in the Congo area, including cobalt. Cobalt has been used since ancient times to give a rich blue color to paints. It is also used in medicine, batteries, and electronic equipment.

ZAMBIA AND ZIMBABWE

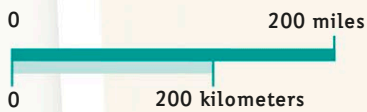
Zambia and Zimbabwe are famous for their spectacular scenery and wildlife. Africa's fourth longest river, the Zambezi, flows down through Zambia, then curves along the border with Zimbabwe on its journey to the Indian Ocean.

Southern yellow-billed hornbill

This bird uses its huge beak to snatch up insects, spiders, and even scorpions from the ground. It sleeps in trees at night to avoid predators.



SCALE



KEY

PRODUCE

- Corn
- Cassavas
- Sweet potatoes
- Millet
- Peanuts
- Roses
- Soybeans
- Cotton

INDUSTRY

- Coal
- Chromium
- Copper
- Platinum
- Nickel
- Hydroelectric power

ACTIVITIES

- Soccer
- Cricket
- White-water rafting
- Safari

Victoria Falls

The world's largest waterfall is 354 ft (108 m) high and 5,604 ft (1,708 m) wide. The local name is Mosi-oa-Tunya ("the smoke that thunders").

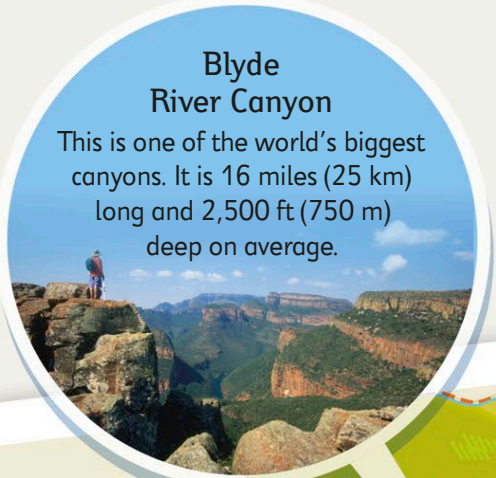


Root vegetables

Cassavas and sweet potatoes are a main part of people's diet here. Cassava root may be cooked or made into flour that is used to make bread. Sweet potatoes are often boiled or roasted.

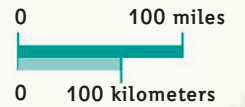
SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa is home to people from many different cultures, which is why it has 11 official languages. The landscape is equally varied, ranging from forests to deserts, and the 1,750-mile (2,800-km) coastline has many lovely beaches.

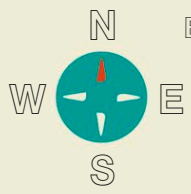


Blyde River Canyon
This is one of the world's biggest canyons. It is 16 miles (25 km) long and 2,500 ft (750 m) deep on average.

SCALE



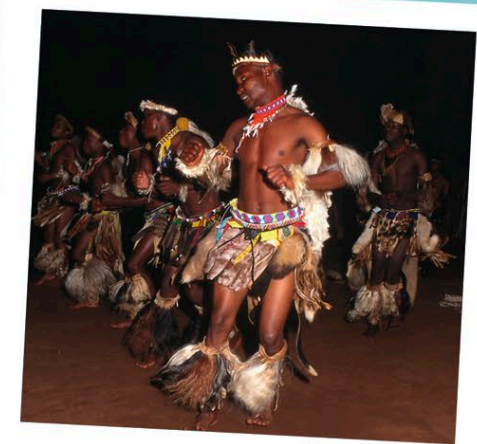
KEY	
PRODUCE	ACTIVITIES
Wheat	Rugby
Corn	Soccer
Vineyards	Hiking
Grapefruit	Mountain biking
Cattle	INDUSTRY
Sheep	Gold
	Diamonds
	Chromium



South African food
Food reflects the country's cultural mix. Popular dishes include bunny chow, a hollowed-out loaf filled with curry, and bobotie, minced beef with an egg topping.



Zulus
The Zulus are the largest ethnic group in South Africa. They have a proud warrior heritage. Ritual dances are an important part of their culture.



Zulu dancer

KEY

PRODUCE



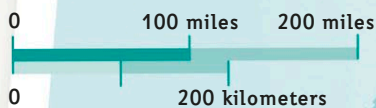
INDUSTRY



NATURAL FEATURES



SCALE



Lemurs

Lemurs are only found in the wild in Madagascar. Some species are tiny, weighing just 1 oz (30 g), while others weigh up to 20 lb (9 kg).



Ring-tailed lemur

Two-thirds of the world's species of chameleon live in Madagascar.

Chameleon

This is the world's rarest tortoise. Only 200 adults are left in the wild.

Plowshare tortoise

This tiny flower is used to make drugs for treating cancer.

Rosy periwinkle



Queen's Summer Palace

This is Madagascar's national tree. Six different species of baobab are found on the island.

Baobab

Tourists visit this protected rain forest to see the unique animals and plants.

Andasibe rain forest

Ambohimanga

This protected royal compound sits high on a hill northeast of the capital Antananarivo. It contains a number of palaces and tombs of the island's former royal family, as well as sites of religious importance to the island's native people.

Tomato frog

This bright red frog puffs itself up if threatened to scare off attackers. This makes it look like a tomato.



MADAGASCAR

Madagascar is the world's fourth largest island. Because it is cut off from the rest of Africa, it has many plants and animals that are found nowhere else on Earth. These include lemurs and other forest animals, many colorful frogs and birds, and around 900 types of orchid, several of which are very rare.

Madagascan vanilla

Vanilla is used to flavor ice cream, cookies, and chocolate, and is used in perfume. It is made from the beans of a type of orchid. Some of the best vanilla orchids are grown in Madagascar.



NATURAL WONDERS

The world is full of wonderful natural features that are part of the landscape around us. Across the world, there are lush green rain forests, colorful coral reefs, jagged mountains, smouldering volcanoes, and rushing waterfalls. While under the surface of the Earth there are dark caves, from tiny grottos to huge caverns.

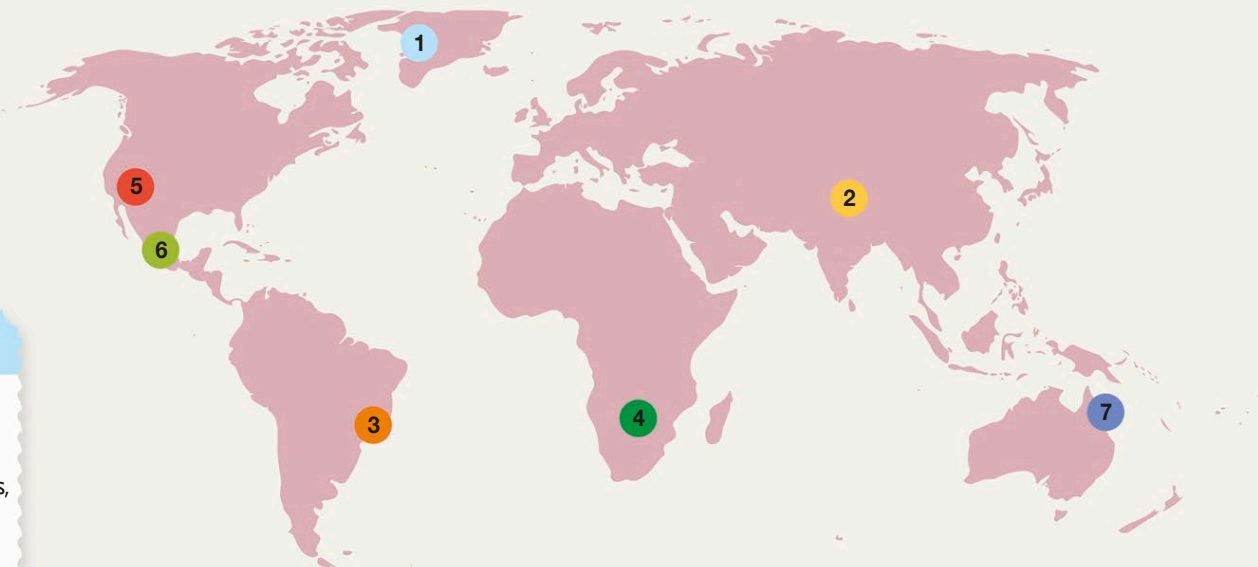
LARGEST RAIN FOREST



The largest rain forest in the world is the Amazon in South America. It covers almost half of the continent.

Seven Natural Wonders

The Seven Natural Wonders of the World are a group of spectacular natural features. They are favorite sites for adventurous people to visit and explore.



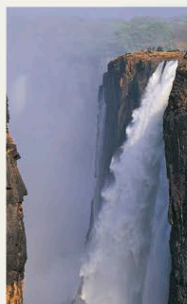
1. NORTHERN LIGHTS

Near the Arctic Circle, amazing light effects known as the Northern Lights, or Aurora Borealis, can be seen in the night sky.



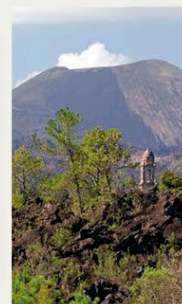
2. MOUNT EVEREST

The world's highest mountain is on the border of Nepal and China. The peak of Mount Everest is a dark pyramid shape.



4. VICTORIA FALLS

Between Zambia and Zimbabwe are the Victoria Falls. The waters of the Zambezi River thunder over these falls.



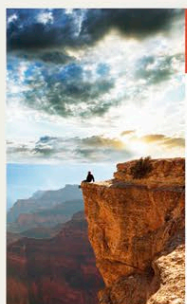
6. PARÍCUTIN VOLCANO

This volcano rose up and erupted in a farmer's cornfield in Mexico in 1943. Today, people can climb the dormant (inactive) volcano.



3. RIO DE JANEIRO HARBOR

Here, the Brazilian Highlands meet the Atlantic Ocean. Sugar Loaf Mountain marks the entrance of the bay.



5. GRAND CANYON

In Arizona, the Colorado River has formed the massive and majestic Grand Canyon. This is the largest canyon in the world.



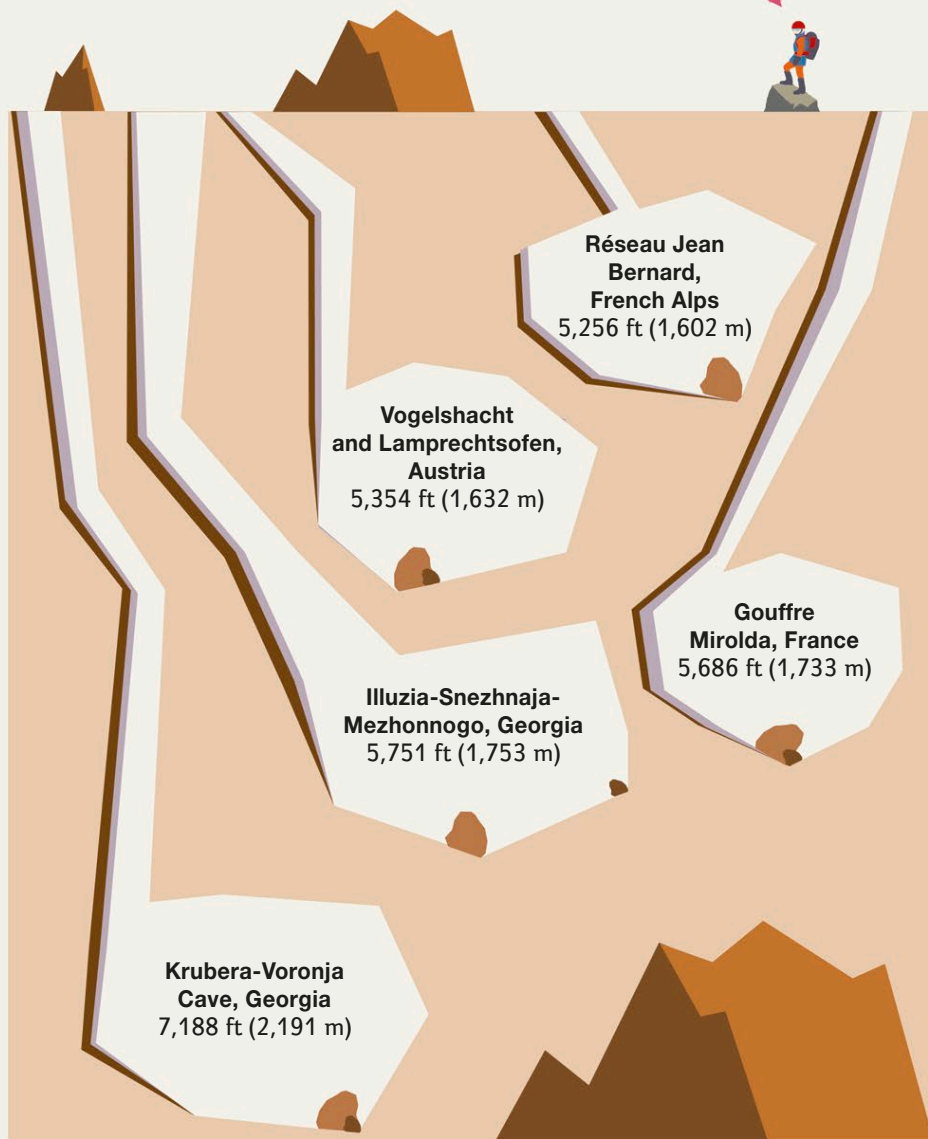
7. GREAT BARRIER REEF

The world's largest coral reef is off the western coast of Australia. Thousands of types of fish and coral live here.

Deepest caves

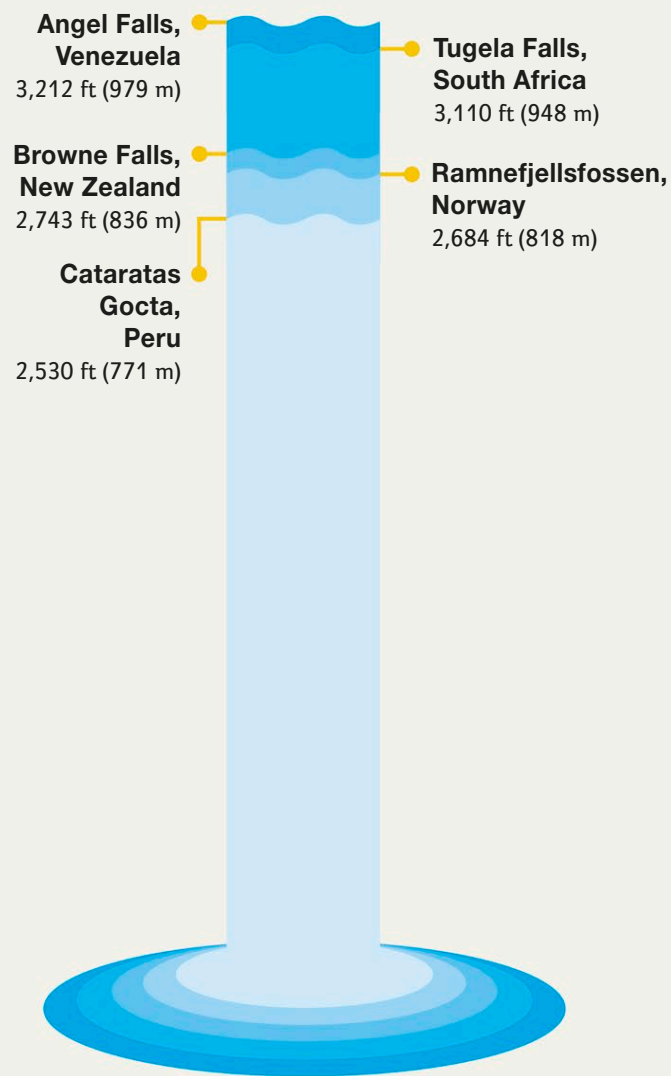
Caves are underground spaces below the surface of the Earth. They form when water wears away some types of rock in the ground. This illustration shows some of the deepest caves in the world.

The longest cave is Mammoth Cave, Kentucky. It is 405 miles (651.8 km) long.



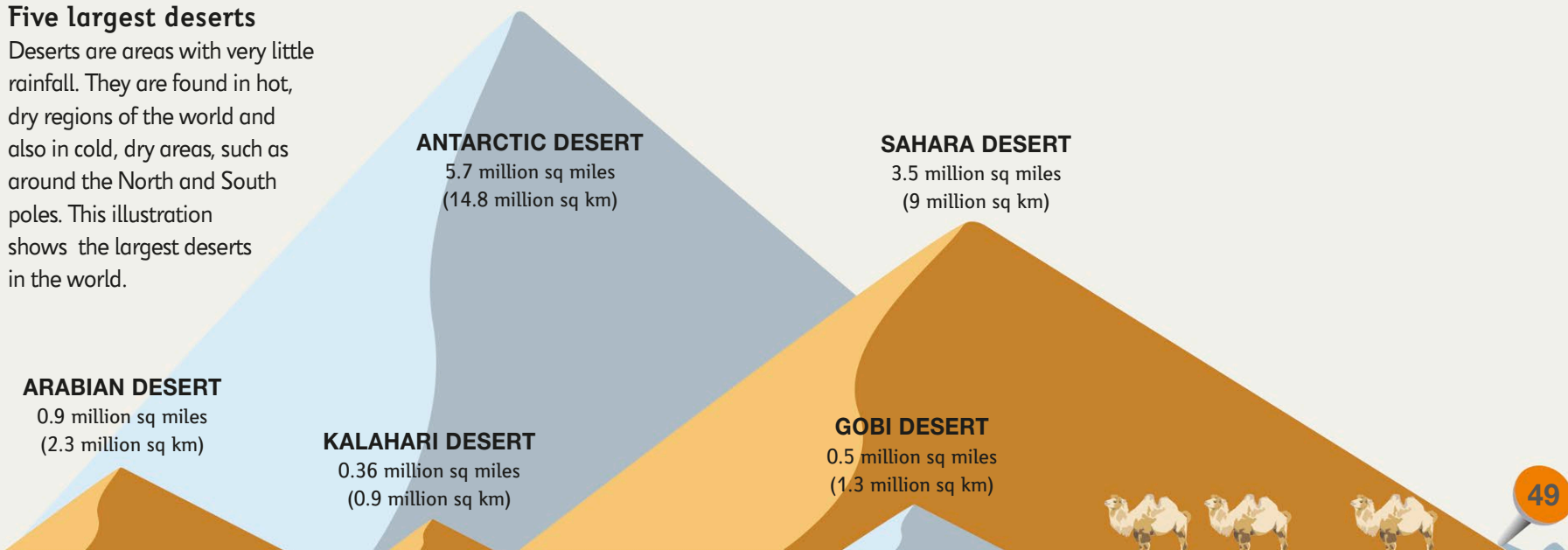
Highest waterfalls

Waterfalls are places where streams of water have a steep drop. They are formed when streams or rivers flow over different types of rock and softer rock is worn away. The five shown below are among the highest waterfalls in the world.



Five largest deserts

Deserts are areas with very little rainfall. They are found in hot, dry regions of the world and also in cold, dry areas, such as around the North and South poles. This illustration shows the largest deserts in the world.





2. What is the name of this colorful building in Moscow?



1. On which island was Napoleon born?



3. In which country would you find this angelic statue?



4. Which city was the composer Mozart born in?



8. Where would you find flamenco dancers?

7. Which river does this bridge go across?

5. Which country is the car maker Skoda based in?

6. Which country produces more than 400 kinds of cheese?

You can find all the answers and more quizzes on pages 120-121.

EUROPE

With many unique cultures and languages, Europe is a varied continent. It is the home of classical music, great literature, and fine art and architecture. It has medieval castles and cathedrals, as well as beautiful historic towns and cities.



EUROPE

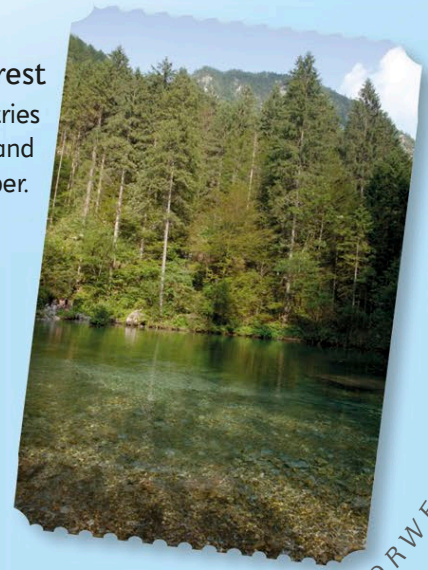
The landscape of Europe is very varied. It includes dense forests, high mountain ranges, broad plains, remote islands, and sun-soaked beaches. The continent is home to many fine historic buildings. Countries range in size from tiny Liechtenstein to Russia, the biggest country in the world.



Paris

Paris, the capital of France, is an elegant city that mixes old and new styles of architecture effortlessly. At its center is the Eiffel Tower, one of the most famous structures on Earth.

Northern European forest
The pine forests of Nordic countries such as Norway, Sweden, and Finland are an important source of lumber.

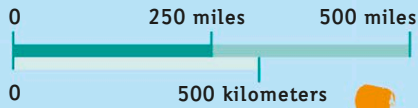


Mediterranean Sea

The countries that surround the warm waters of the Mediterranean Sea enjoy hot, dry summers and mild winters. Thousands of visitors are drawn to their sunny beaches every year.

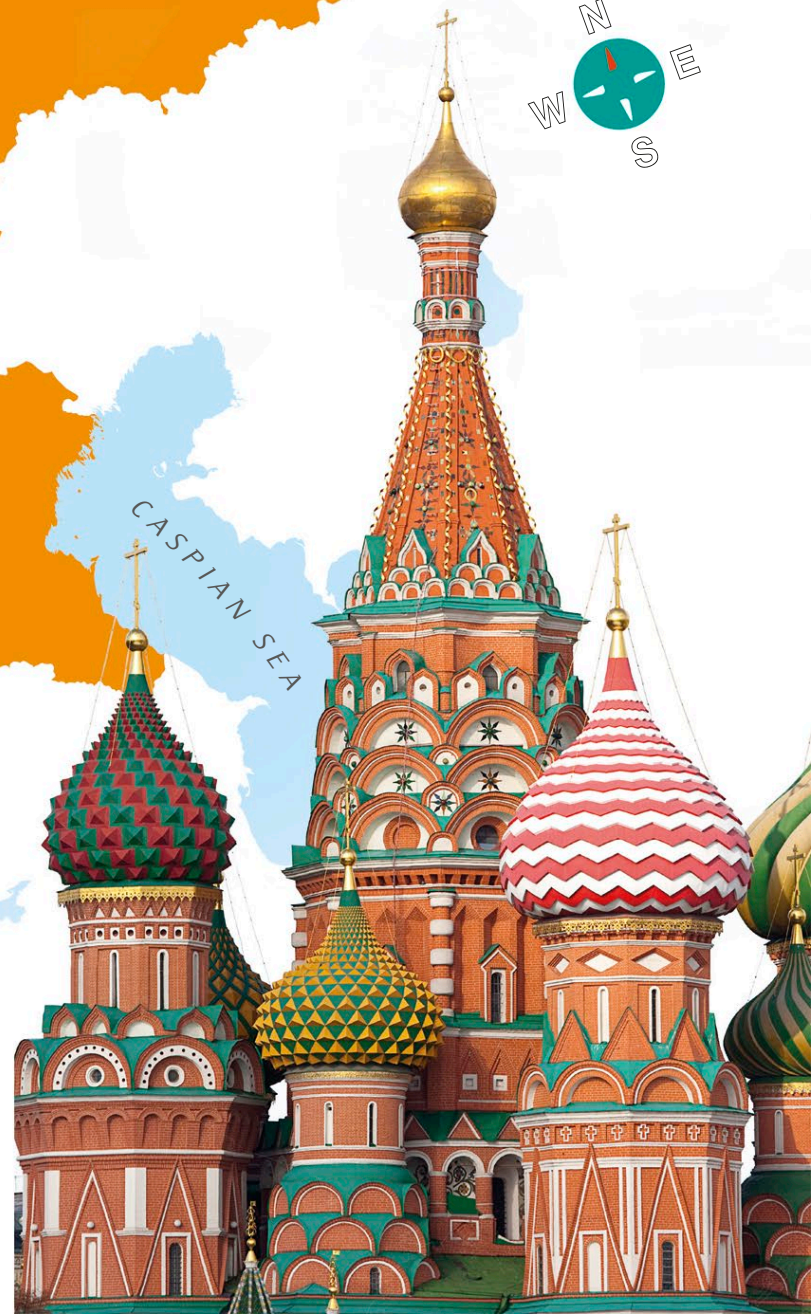


SCALE



The Alps

This mountain range stretches 750 miles (1,200 km) across the heart of Europe, through France, Monaco, Italy, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, and Slovenia. The highest peak is Mont Blanc, at 15,781 ft (4,810 m).



St. Basil's Cathedral

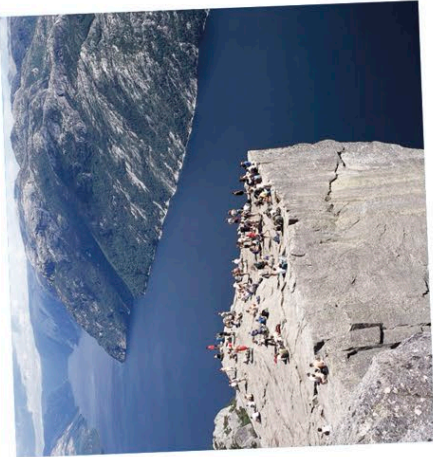
This spectacular building dominates Red Square in Moscow. It was built in the 16th century and is famous for its unique, brightly colored, onion-shaped domes. It has been a museum since 1928.

NORTHERN EUROPE

The northern European countries have fairly small populations, with most people living in towns and cities. There are also large areas of unspoiled countryside. Summers are generally warm, but winters are very cold, with limited daylight in the far north.

KEY

PRODUCE	INDUSTRY	NATURAL FEATURES
Sheep	Lumber	Ice hockey
Cattle	Shipbuilding	Soccer
Potatoes	Hydroelectric power	Cross-country skiing
Rye	Natural gas	
Wheat	Oil	
Sugar beets	Fishing	
Barley	Wind power	
Pigs	Iron ore	
	Electronics	



Pulpit Rock overlooking Lysefjord

Norway's fjords

Norway's coast is lined with hundreds of narrow inlets, called fjords, with steep cliffs on each side. The cliffs of Pulpit Rock rise a spectacular 1,982 ft (604 m) above the waters of Lysefjord.



Rollmop

These snacks are made from pickled herring fish filets rolled into a cylinder shape around a tasty filling, such as olives and pickled gherkins.



Eyjafjallajökull

This huge volcano in Iceland is covered by an ice cap. It erupted in 2010, producing a vast ash cloud that disrupted air travel across Europe.

This fox grows a white coat in winter to blend into the snow.

Arctic fox

Reykjavik

Blue Lagoon

The warm waters of this spa are one of Iceland's top tourist attractions

Halló!
Hello

This strong, ferocious animal can kill prey as big as deer.

Wolverine

Tromsø

These cars are very popular in Norway. They are plugged in to be recharged.

EV plug-in electric car

The elk is the largest type of deer in the world and lives in northern forests.

Elk

This park contains Trollsjön lake, the clearest lake in Sweden.

Abisko National Park

Kiruna

This wild cat lives in forests, where it hunts deer and other animals.

Lynx



Samis in traditional dress

Lapland

This large, snowy region in the far north of Norway, Sweden, and Finland is home to the Sami people. Some keep reindeer and ride around in sleighs.

This fast train tilts when it goes around corners.

Alstom Pendolino

Oulu

SCALE

0 100 miles

0 100 kilometers

This fast ferry service links towns up and down the Norwegian coast.

Coastal ferry express

NORWAY

Trondheim

Norway has several old wooden churches like this one, called stave churches

Urnes Stave Church

Hallo!
Hello

Bergen

Stavanger

Oslo

Fredrikstad

Aalborg

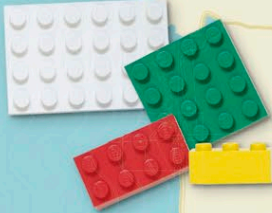
DENMARK

Århus

Jelling Stones

Odense

These carved rune stones from the 10th century tell stories of the Vikings.



LEGO

LEGO originated in Denmark. The interlocking bricks can be used to make all kinds of buildings, vehicles, and figures.

Hej!
Hello

This bronze statue of a mermaid is based on The Little Mermaid, a story by the Danish author Hans Christian Andersen

Little Mermaid

Copenhagen

Gothenburg

This Viking burial ground has stones arranged in the shape of a ship

Getlinge burial ground

BALTIC SEA

Stockholm

Drottningholm Palace

This palace is the home of the King and Queen of Sweden

Turku

This green-domed cathedral stands in Helsinki's Senate Square.

Espoo

Helsinki

Helsinki Cathedral

Paper and pulp mill

The Finns are the world's best rally drivers

Rally driving

Olavinlinna Castle

This 15th-century castle has three stone towers

Hei!
Hello

FINLAND

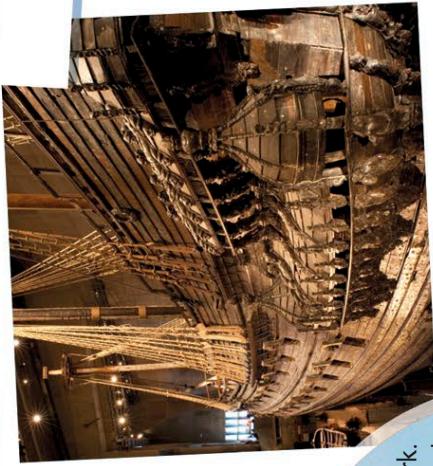
RUSSIAN FEDERATION



Traditional Finnish sauna

Saunas

Small wooden saunas are very popular in Finland and nearly every house has one. Water is thrown over hot stones to produce steam, which cleanses and relaxes the body.



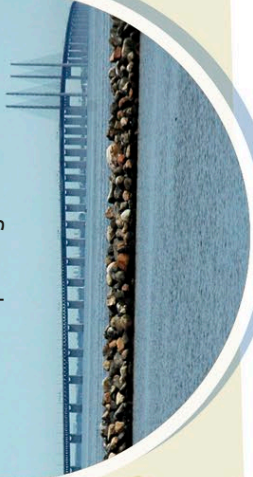
Vasa warship

Vasa Museum

This Swedish naval museum in Stockholm contains many great ships, including the 17th-century warship Vasa, which was salvaged from the seabed.

Oresund Bridge

This railroad and highway bridge links Sweden and Denmark. It is the longest combined road and rail bridge in Europe and connects the cities of Copenhagen and Malmö.



Bergen

Bergen is a busy, historic port in southern Norway. Colorful, traditional wooden houses line the harbor.

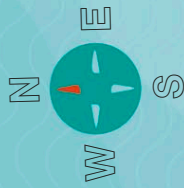


BRITISH ISLES

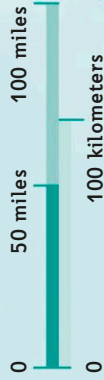
The British Isles is a group of islands off the northwest coast of Europe. They consist of the United Kingdom, or UK (England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland), and Ireland. These islands are rich in history and tradition. The weather is influenced by the sea and it often rains. Ireland is known as the "Emerald Isle," because the rain makes it so green.

KEY

PRODUCE	RESOURCES	ACTIVITIES	INDUSTRY
Wheat	Oil	Soccer	Cars
Fruit	Gas	Rock climbing	Fishing
Potatoes	Steel	Hiking	
Sheep		Surfing	
Shellfish		Cricket	
Cattle			
Vineyards			
Cheese			



SCALE



This unique rock formation is made up of hexagonal (six-sided) columns formed after an ancient volcanic eruption.

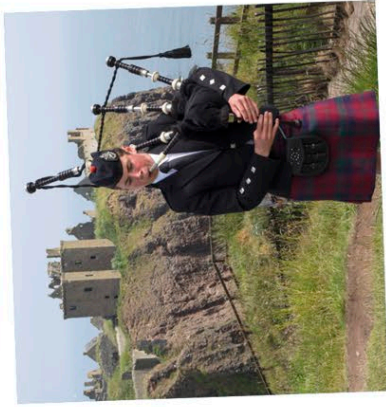
Giant's Causeway

Belfast

Northern Ireland

Scottish traditions

For special occasions, some Scots wear woollen kilts, woven from different colored threads to form a pattern called tartan. Different clans (groups) have their own design of tartan. Some Scots also play the bagpipes, a type of wind instrument.



Traditional Scottish dress

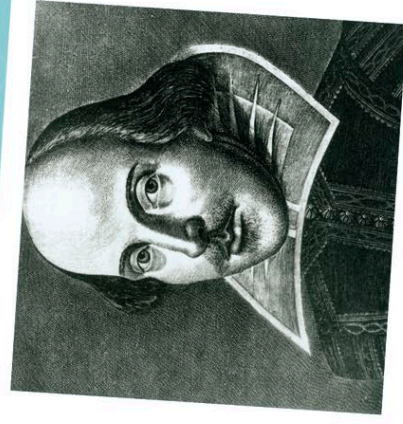
Food and drink

Fried fish and chips are a popular meal, especially by the coast. Tea is widely drunk, usually with milk and sometimes sugar.



Fish and chips

Tea



William Shakespeare

English playwright

William Shakespeare was one of the world's greatest writers. Born in Stratford-upon-Avon, England, in 1564, he wrote many poems and plays that are still performed today.

This ancient fortress is built on a prominent rock above the city of Edinburgh



The wings of this huge steel statue are 177 ft (54 m) across

Newcastle-upon-Tyne

Angel of the North

Edinburgh Castle

Edinburgh

Glasgow

Inverness

Aberdeen

Most of the UK's red squirrels live in the pine forests of Scotland

Red squirrel

This popular sport was developed in Scotland

Golf

Scotland

Clyde

GRAMPAN MOUNTAINS

Inner Hebrides

Outer Hebrides

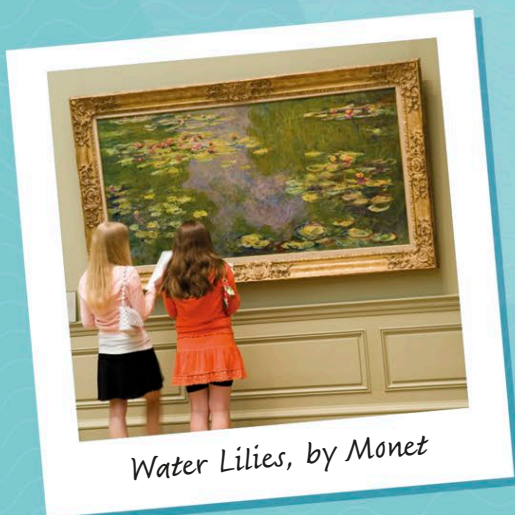
ATLANTIC OCEAN

Shetland Islands

Orkney Islands

FRANCE

France is known worldwide for its food, wine, and beautiful countryside. Today, most French people live in towns and cities. France is highly industrialized and has one of the fastest train networks, the TGV. The arts, such as painting, and sports, particularly cycling, are very popular.



Water Lilies, by Monet

Art

Millions of people visit France's museums every year to see paintings and sculptures by artists such as Claude Monet and Auguste Rodin.

Loire châteaux
The Loire Valley is famous for its 42 châteaux, or large country houses. Château de Chenonceau sits across the Cher River on a row of arches.

Cheese and wine

More than 400 different cheeses are made in France. Almost every area has its own type, ranging from soft cheeses, such as Camembert, to hard and even blue cheeses. France also produces some of the world's best wines, made from the juice of black or white grapes. Sunflowers are also grown in the south. Their seeds are pressed to make oil.



Sunflower

Camembert cheese

Grapes

SCALE



UNITED KINGDOM

ENGLISH CHANNEL

Channel Tunnel

Calais

Rouen

Le Havre

Mont-Saint-Michel

Carnac stones

Rennes

Nantes

Le Mans

Orléans

Château de Chambord

Bordeaux

Toulouse

ATLANTIC OCEAN

SPAIN

PYRENEES

Brown bear

Lascaux caves

Périgord truffles

Seine

Loire

Dordogne

Garonne

Bayeux Tapestry

Eiffel Tower

Completed in 1889, this iron tower is 1,063 ft (324 m) tall, including the TV antenna that was added to the top

This medieval tapestry shows the story of the Norman conquest of England in 1066.

People can walk to the abbey and houses on this island during low tides

About 3,000 big stones were placed in rows at this ancient site more than 5,000 years ago

This is the largest and grandest chateau in the Loire

Humans painted horses and wild cattle on cave walls more than 17,000 years ago

These edible fungi sell for hundreds of dollars a pound.

Bears from Slovenia were moved to the Pyrenees after the last local bear died in 2006

Bonjour! Hello



Lille

Lens

Paris

Reims

Dijon

Lyon

Grenoble

St. Étienne

Avignon

Nice

MONACO

Toulon

Marseille

Perpignan

Vimy Memorial

Au revoir!
Good-bye

This monument is in memory of all the Canadians who lost their lives in World War I (1914–18)

Strasbourg

Dijon is famous for its mustard, which was first made there in 1856

These wild goats live on mountain slopes

Volcanoes in this nature park last erupted 6,000 years ago.

Volcans d'Auvergne

MASSIF CENTRAL

The Romans built this aqueduct bridge to transport water across the river

Millau Viaduct

The world's highest bridge is 1,125 ft (343 m)—even taller than the Eiffel Tower

Flamingos

Montpellier

Camargue horses

These semi-wild horses live in the marshes of the Camargue

French Riviera

High-speed trains connect France's major cities

The southeast coast is famous for its seaside resorts and the Cannes Film Festival

Monaco is a small country that is independent from France

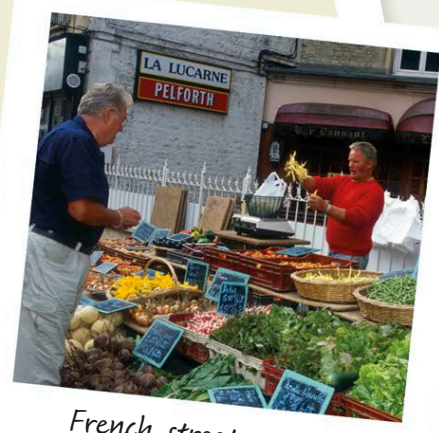
Napoleon Bonaparte was born in Corsica in 1769. He became Emperor of France in 1804 and died in 1821

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

Corsica

Outdoor markets

Every French village and town has an outdoor market that opens at least one day a week. People can buy fresh fruit and vegetables grown at nearby farms and local produce, such as cheese.



French street market

Café culture

French people enjoy meeting up with their friends in cafés. They often have a croissant (a flaky pastry) and coffee for breakfast. In the evenings, popular drinks include beer, wine, or champagne (a fizzy wine).



A popular café in Paris

Tour de France

The world's most famous bicycle race lasts for three weeks and passes through the Alps and Pyrenees before finishing in Paris.



KEY

PRODUCE	INDUSTRY
Vineyards	Nuclear power
Sunflowers	Aircraft manufacture
Beef cattle	Fishing
Wheat	Cars
Apples	ACTIVITIES
Cheese	Mountain climbing
Champagne	Skiing
Shellfish	Cycling
Pigs	Surfing

NETHERLANDS AND BELGIUM

The Netherlands and Belgium are also known as the Low Countries, because most of the land is very flat, with a lot of it at or below sea level. This flat land means cycling is popular. Both countries are among the wealthiest in Europe and are heavily populated.

Amsterdam

There are many canals in Amsterdam and lots of people live in waterfront apartments. Amsterdam also has several important art galleries.



This building in The Hague is the home of the Dutch government

Hockey is a major sport in the Netherlands

This medieval bell tower is in the historic city of Bruges

Red poppy flowers grow in the fields of Belgium

Belgian lace is known for its beauty and delicacy

Tintin
The Adventures of Tintin and his dog, Snowy, are told in the comic books written by the Belgian cartoonist Hergé.

Belgian food
Mussels and fries (called *moules and frites* in Belgium) is a favorite Belgian dish. Another specialty is rich and creamy Belgian chocolates.

The Netherlands is famous for its tulip farms, most of which are in the northeast of the country

Windmills pump water out of wet areas and help protect land from flooding

This brave girl went into hiding during World War II and kept a diary of her experiences

Amsterdam

Anne Frank

The Hague

Binnenhof

Utrecht

Arnhem

Rotterdam

Antwerp is a center of the diamond trade

Vincent van Gogh

This great artist was born in Zundert in the southern Netherlands in 1853

Eindhoven

Ostend

Belfry of Bruges

Bruges

Diamond trade

Antwerp

Ghent

Field poppy

Brussels

Belgian beer

Thousands of different types of beer are brewed across Belgium

Atomium

This unique building is the symbol of Brussels

Charleroi

Belgian lace

Meuse

Liège

BELGIUM

FRANCE

ARDENNES

LUXEMBOURG

Belgian chocolates



NORTH SEA

Wadden Islands

Groningen



Windmill

NETHERLANDS

SCALE



Safe cycling

Cycling

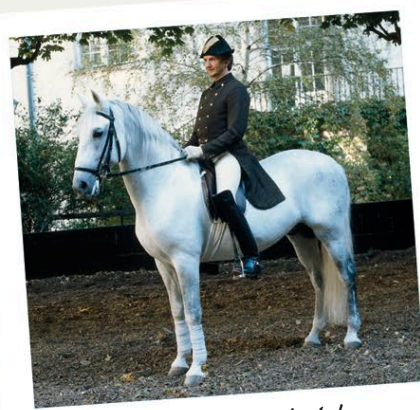
Cycle lanes are found throughout the Netherlands and Belgium, making it safe and quick for cyclists on the move.

KEY

PRODUCE	INDUSTRY
Potatoes	Steel
Cheese	Gas
Cattle	ACTIVITIES
Pigs	Soccer
Greenhouses	Hiking
Wheat	Cycling
Fruit	

SWITZERLAND AND AUSTRIA

Switzerland and Austria are mountainous countries in Central Europe. The Alps run through both countries, providing snow-covered slopes that are used for winter sports and beautiful alpine valleys, where hiking is popular in the summer.



Lipizzaner and rider

Spanish Riding School
The Spanish Riding School in Vienna teaches traditional horse-riding techniques and is home to the Lipizzaner, a breed of white horse.

This cathedral has a multicolored roof



Le Corbusier

This Swiss-French architect designed stylish modern buildings, often featuring straight lines and bright blocks of colors.

Sachertorte

This rich chocolate cake is served in coffee houses, where Austrians love to meet up. Coffee houses are an important part of Austrian social life, especially in Vienna.



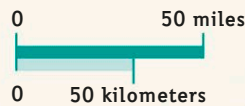
Liechtenstein is one of the smallest countries in the world and specializes in banking

This Swiss author wrote Heidi, a novel about a young girl who lives in the Alps

The finest watches and clocks are made in Switzerland



SCALE



KEY

- | PRODUCE | INDUSTRY |
|------------|---------------------|
| Cheese | Lumber |
| Cattle | Banking |
| Vineyards | Hydroelectric power |
| Apricots | |
| ACTIVITIES | |
| Skiing | Mountain climbing |
| Hiking | |

SWITZERLAND

Lausanne

Geneva

Red Cross

Geneva is home to the Red Cross, which provides care to people in need around the world

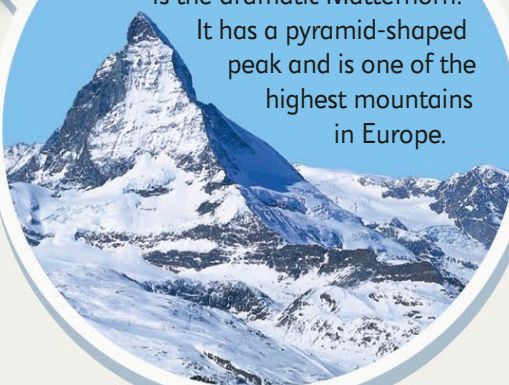
Alpine marmot

Marmots live high up in the Alps, eating grass and shrubs. They are sociable little animals, who whistle to each other. In winter, they hibernate in burrows.



Matterhorn

On the Swiss-Italian border is the dramatic Matterhorn. It has a pyramid-shaped peak and is one of the highest mountains in Europe.



Skiing in the Alps

The snowy Alps are great for winter sports, such as skiing and snowboarding. Competitions, such as downhill racing, are held for both children and adults.



Downhill racer

GERMANY

Germany is one of the largest and most important countries in Europe. The Rhine River cuts through mountainous landscape and passes pretty villages in southern Germany, while farther north there are large industrial cities. Germany is a major exporter of many quality goods, including cars.

Modern design
The Bauhaus was an art school in Germany. It promoted a clean, bold, modern look in art, architecture, and craft and had a huge influence throughout the world.



The Bauhaus

KEY

INDUSTRY



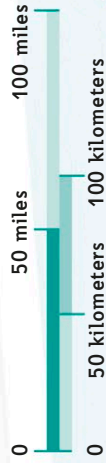
PRODUCE



ACTIVITIES



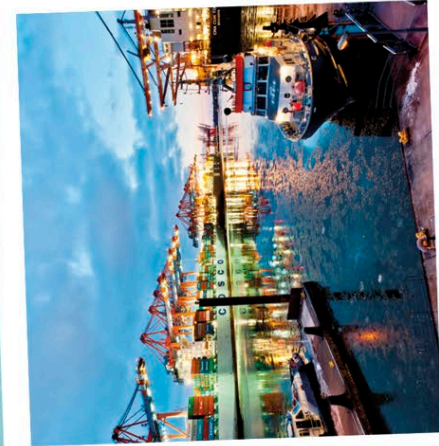
SCALE



BALTIC SEA

DENMARK

NORTH SEA



Canal in Hamburg

Hamburg

This key port in the north of the country is Germany's second largest city and a major cultural center. Hundreds of canals, many lined with restaurants and cafés, cross the city and there are lots of parks.



Hallo!
Hello

Handball is one of the most popular sports in Germany

Hundreds of gray seals live in the North Sea off the coast of Germany

Gray seal

East Frisian Islands

This medieval cathedral stands in the market square of Bremen

Bremen Cathedral

Beech tree
Small beech trees are protected in Muntz National Park

This church in Berlin was badly damaged in World War II and now stands as a memorial

Kaiser Wilhelm Memorial Church

Brandenburg Gate

The grand Brandenburg Gate in Berlin was built in the 18th century. Today, it is a symbol of how the country has been reunified after being divided into East and West Germany following World War II.

POLAND

GERMANY

HARZ FOREST

SPAIN AND PORTUGAL

Spain and Portugal are part of sunny southern Europe. Both countries have long coastlines and spectacular scenery, making them popular with vacationers. The sea is a major source of food, and fishing is an important industry in both countries.



Decorative tiles

Portuguese tiles

Decorative tiles are found on homes and churches and are sometimes used as street signs. They often show scenes including cities, flowers, and fishing boats.

These traditional boats from Aveiro have a half-moon shape and are painted in bright colors.



Dolphin watching

Many people visit the Azores to see dolphins

AZORES



Madeira

Madeira

Madeira is a strong type of wine made on the island of Madeira

Funchal

Madeira and the Azores

These islands in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean belong to Portugal. They are a popular destination for cruise ships to visit.

Canary Islands
These Spanish islands are found off North Africa's west coast.



Santa Cruz de Tenerife

Canary Islands

Las Palmas de Gran Canaria





Guggenheim Museum

Bilbao

San Sebastian

This art museum in Bilbao is as famous for its futuristic design as it is for the works of modern art it contains

FRANCE

ANDORRA

Figueres



Barcelona

This cathedral was designed by the Spanish architect Antoni Gaudí and is still being built today, although work first began in 1882

Sagrada Família Cathedral

Aqueducts, like this one in Segovia, carried fresh drinking water to towns and cities in Roman times.

Duero

Zaragoza

Hola!
Hello

Olive oil

Olives grow throughout Spain and Portugal. They are either eaten as snacks or pressed to make oil. Spain produces more olive oil than any other country.

This palace is the largest in Europe. It has 3,418 rooms

Roman aqueduct

Madrid

Royal Palace

Soccer is hugely popular in Spain and the national team won the World Cup in 2010

Paella is a big dish of rice, meat, and seafood that originated in Valencia

Spanish tapas

Tapas are small plates of food, served separately as snacks or eaten together as a full meal. Dishes can be hot or cold and include olives and fish, such as anchovies.

Balearic Islands

Palma

Valencia



Paella

SPAIN



Windmills

The magnificent windmills of central Spain feature in Don Quixote, a novel by the Spanish writer Miguel de Cervantes

This palace and fortress in Granada was built when Spain was ruled by the Moors (medieval Muslim people from North Africa)

Alicante

Cartagena

Fruit and vegetables are grown in thousands of large greenhouses at Almería

KEY

PRODUCE

- Cheese
- Vineyards
- Iberian black pigs
- Sunflowers
- Oranges
- Olives and oil
- Barley
- Cattle
- Wheat
- Rice
- Bananas

INDUSTRY

- Fishing
- Coal mining
- Iron ore

ACTIVITIES

- Skiing
- Surfing

Córdoba

Guadalquivir

Alhambra

Greenhouses

Granada

Almería

Flamenco

Málaga

Female flamenco dancers traditionally wear red or black dresses

Flamenco

Flamenco is a type of music and dance from southern Spain. A six-stringed Spanish guitar is used in flamenco and in classical music.



Spanish guitar

MEDITERRANEAN SEA



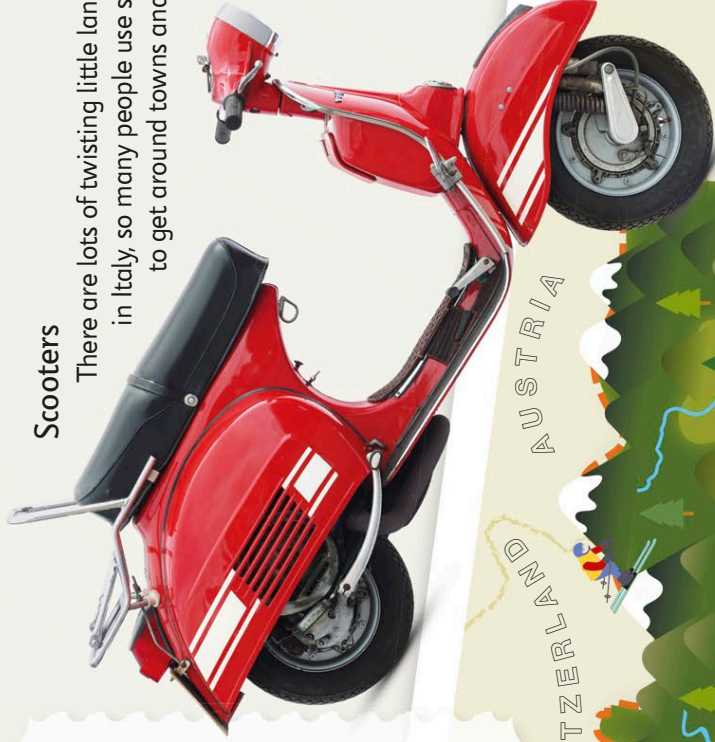
ALGERIA

ITALY

Italy stretches down from the Alps in the north to the Mediterranean island of Sicily in the south. The country is shaped like a boot, with its toe almost touching Sicily. In ancient times, the Romans built a great empire that was ruled from Rome. Italy is also famous for its art and architecture.

Scoters

There are lots of twisting little lanes and streets in Italy, so many people use small scooters to get around towns and cities.



The Last Supper

Leonardo da Vinci was one of the world's greatest artists and inventors. In the late 15th century he painted *The Last Supper*, an oil painting showing Jesus Christ's last meal with his apostles (followers).



This magnificent opera house in Milan hosts many classical performances.

Milan
La Scala opera house

Some of the finest violins are made in northern Italy.

Verona
Juliet's balcony
The play *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare is set in Verona, and "Juliet's balcony," where Romeo was said to woo Juliet, attracts many visitors

Verona
Violin

Italian marble is a hard, smooth stone used to make bright, white sculptures.

Pisa
White marble quarry

Gelato
Italian ice cream is called gelato and is soft and creamy. It comes in lots of delicious flavors, such as vanilla, strawberry, chocolate, and pistachio.

This bell tower tilts to one side because it was built on soft ground.

Pisa
Leaning Tower of Pisa

Florence
Michelangelo's sculpture of David

This famous statue in Florence, of the biblical character David, was created by the Italian artist Michelangelo

SAN MARINO
This tiny independent republic has an area of just over 24 sq miles (61 sq km)

Ferrari make sports and Formula One race cars in Maranello, northwest of Bologna

Bologna
Ferrari

Venice
Venice is a city of canals instead of streets. It is built on 118 small islands linked together by bridges. People travel around the city on boats called gondolas.

Venice

Venice is a city of canals instead of streets. It is built on 118 small islands linked together by bridges. People travel around the city on boats called gondolas.



Gelato

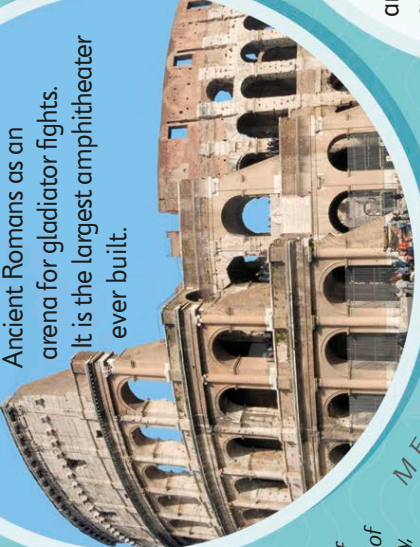
Rome

VATICAN CITY

The Vatican City in Rome is the home of the Pope, the head of the Roman Catholic Church. It is the world's smallest sovereign state

Colosseum

This large open-air amphitheater (circular theater) was built by the Ancient Romans as an arena for gladiator fights. It is the largest amphitheater ever built.



Naples

Mount Vesuvius is a volcano near Naples that erupted in Ancient Roman times, destroying the city of Pompeii. It is still erupting today

Cagliari

Spaghetti is one of hundreds of types of pasta made in Italy and spaghetti with tomato sauce is a classic dish.



SCALE



Sicily

Sicily is the largest island in the Mediterranean Sea. Its historic towns and cities, rugged coastline, ancient ruins, and natural wonders, such as the volcano Mount Etna, make it popular with tourists.



Palermo

Reggio di Calabria

Mount Etna

At 10,991 ft (3,350 m), Etna on the island of Sicily is Europe's highest active volcano

Catania

Margherita pizza

To start the day, Italians drink strong espresso coffee, often made in stovetop coffee pots



Stovetop coffee pot

Food and drink

Italian food and drink is enjoyed around the world. Italy is the home of the pizza and one of its most popular flavors is the simple margherita pizza, made with mozzarella cheese, tomato, and basil.



Arrivederci!
Good-bye

KEY

PRODUCE

- Vineyards
- Lemons
- Olives and oil
- Almonds
- Figs
- Goats
- Wheat
- Cheese
- Rice
- Tomatoes
- Shellfish

ACTIVITIES

- Soccer
- Scuba diving
- Skiing
- Hiking

INDUSTRY

- Fishing

CENTRAL EUROPE

Central Europe is a region of historic cities and ancient castles. Farming is important in Poland, as are industries such as coal mining and steel. To the south, people enjoy hiking and skiing in the rugged mountains of the Czech Republic and Slovakia.



Charles Bridge
One of Europe's finest bridges is the statue-lined Charles Bridge, which crosses the Vltava River in Prague.



Astronomical clock

Astronomical Clock

This 600-year-old clock is in the Old Town Square of Prague. Every hour, mechanical statues move and perform.



Bohemian glass

Glassmaking is a traditional craft in Bohemia, the eastern half of the Czech Republic. Hand-cut, colored and gold-plated glasses are made in studios across Bohemia.

Brewing beer is a Czech specialty and hops are used in the process

Cars are made by Skoda in the Czech Republic

Racing motorcycles around sandy speedway circuits is a popular sport in Poland

Spicy ginger is added to sweet dough to make this delicious gingerbread

This hilltop fortress used to include a prison

This medieval fortress stands on a hill overlooking the city of Bratislava

*Ahoj!
Hello*

*Halo!
Hello*

SCALE





RUSSIAN FEDERATION

LITHUANIA

Bison once lived all over Europe. They survive today in this ancient forest

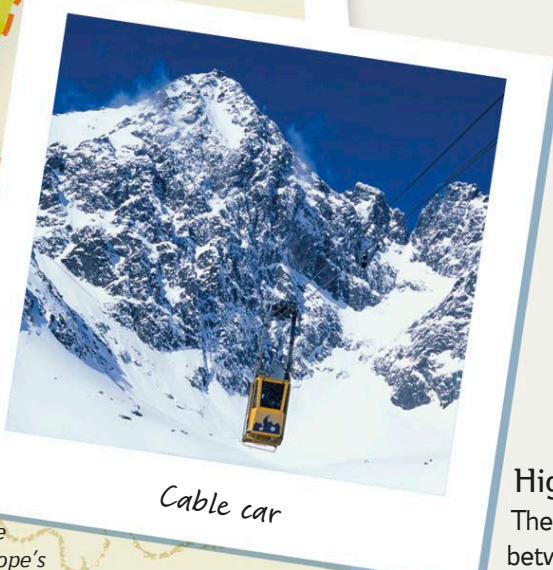
BIAŁOWIEŻA FOREST

BELARUS



Market square
Kraków medieval market square is the largest in Europe. The beautiful buildings and many bars and cafés attract lots of tourists.

KEY	
PRODUCE	
Cattle	Potatoes
Pigs	Wheat
Sugar beets	Corn
Strawberries	Apples
INDUSTRY	
Coal	Silver
Steel	
ACTIVITIES	
Hiking	Soccer
Ice hockey	Skiing
Rock climbing	Cycling
	Canoeing



Cable car

High Tatras
The High Tatra Mountains lie between Poland and Slovakia. Cable cars carry passengers to the top of Lomnický Peak, one of the highest mountains in Slovakia.



Local produce
Many different berries grow in the fields and forests of Central Europe. Milk from Polish cows is used in creamy cheeses, Slovakian pig meat makes Pressburg saláma sausage, and Chlebičky open sandwiches are a Czech delicacy.

Polish cheese

Slovakian Pressburg saláma

Czech Chlebičky

Malbork Castle
This medieval brick fortress is the largest in the world

European bison

Warsaw

This great Polish scientist was born in Warsaw

Marie Curie

Łódź

Lublin

This distinctive brick cathedral has two different towers

St. Mary's Basilica

Kraków

UKRAINE

CARPATHIAN MOUNTAINS

Prešov

Spiš Castle

Košice

Frozen waterfalls and ice columns fill this ice cave, the largest in Slovakia

These ruins were once one of Europe's biggest castles

Whitewater slalom
Canoeing and kayaking are very popular in Slovakia

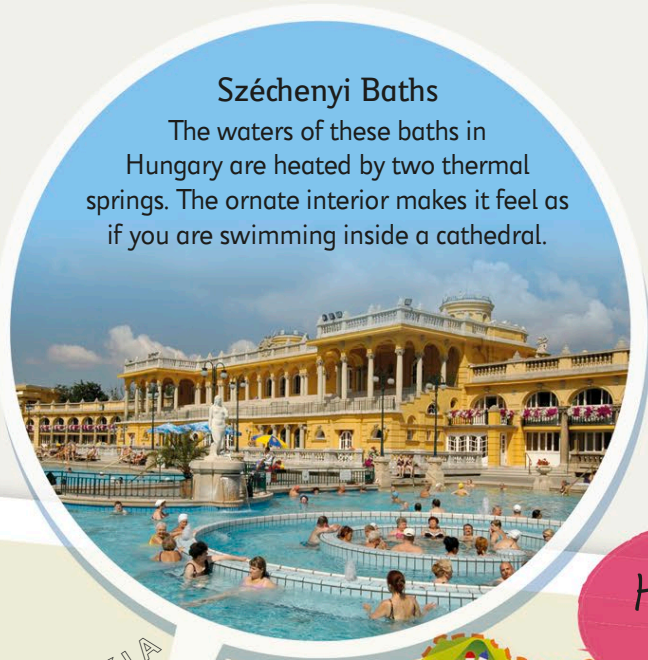
Ahoj!
Hello

HUNGARY

ROMANIA

HUNGARY AND CROATIA

Hungary's historic capital, Budapest, lies on the banks of the Danube River, which flows through the country. Many crops are grown on the fertile plains. Croatia's coastline is dotted with hundreds of small islands that are fun to sail around.



Széchenyi Baths

The waters of these baths in Hungary are heated by two thermal springs. The ornate interior makes it feel as if you are swimming inside a cathedral.

Helló!
Hello



Bok!
Hello

This team ball game is played in a swimming pool, and is one of Croatia's most popular sports.

This thermal lake is one of the largest in the world.

This suspension bridge lies over the Danube River in Budapest.

These unique beef cattle graze on the Hungarian plains.

These muscular, dark horses were once used in farming.

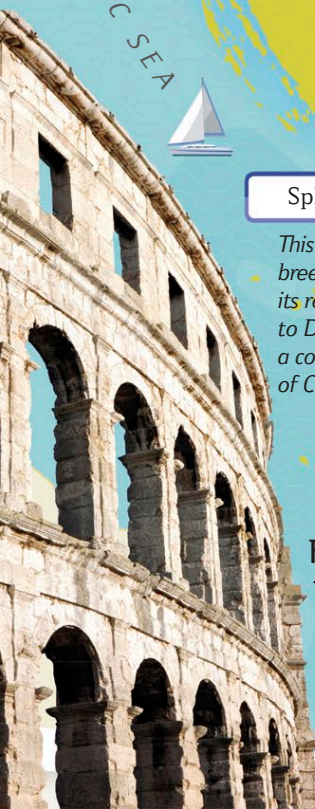
Hungarian food
Spicy paprika is made from dried chilis and is used in Hungarian dishes such as goulash, a flavorful beef stew. Sweet Dobos sponge cake is made with chocolate buttercream and caramel.



Waterfalls

The Skradinski Buk are a group of high, picturesque waterfalls in Croatia's Krka National Park. There are 17 different cascades.

Pula Amphitheater
This Roman amphitheater, or stadium, once hosted gladiator fights. It is Croatia's best-preserved ancient monument.



KEY	
PRODUCE	
Corn	Vineyards
Wheat	Sunflowers
Cheese	Pigs
ACTIVITIES	
Soccer	Handball
Hiking	Sailing
Chess	INDUSTRY
	Coal

UKRAINE

Ukraine is the second largest country in Europe after Russia, and is home to people from a variety of different ethnic groups. Fields of wheat and bright sunflowers cover large areas of the landscape. Industry is also important, with Ukraine being a major producer of hydroelectric power, steel, and coal.



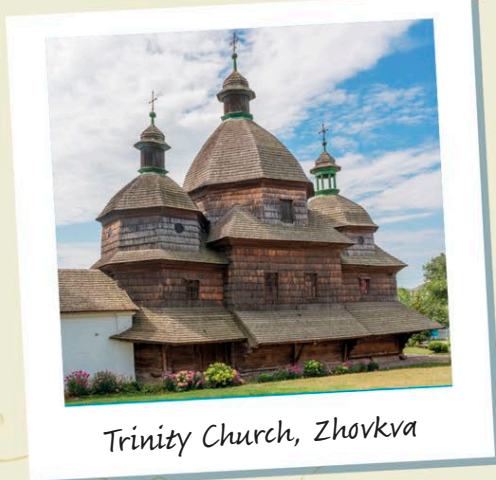
Children's Parade

Children's Day
Children's Day is a special day that honors all children around the world. It is celebrated by a parade on June 1 every year in Kiev, the capital of Ukraine.



KEY

- PRODUCE**
- Corn
 - Wheat
 - Vineyards
 - Sunflowers
 - Sugar beets
 - Cattle
- INDUSTRY**
- Steel
 - Nuclear power
 - Hydroelectric power
- ACTIVITIES**
- Chess
 - Hiking



Trinity Church, Zhovkva

Wooden churches
Ukraine is known for its traditional wooden churches. There is a range of styles, with churches in different parts of the country having their own unique shape and look.

Honey and walnuts
Bees are kept throughout Ukraine for their sweet, sticky honey. Crunchy walnuts are an important crop.



ROMANIA AND BULGARIA

Among the mountains and forests of Romania are dramatic castles and ancient stone churches. Bulgaria is also mountainous and on the sides of the valleys are vineyards that produce grapes for wine. In the summer months many tourists visit the Black Sea.

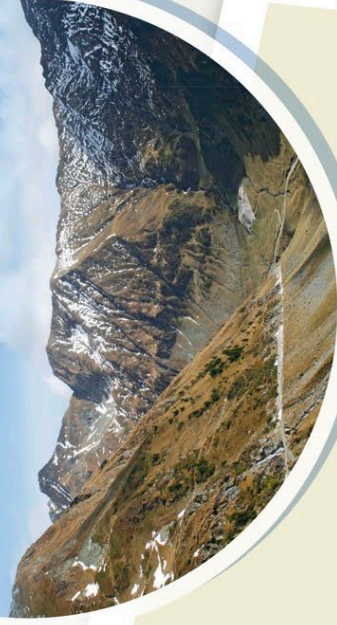


Horseshoe bat

Caves in the Carpathian Mountains are home to hundreds of horseshoe bats. They come out at night to feed on flying insects.

Carpathians

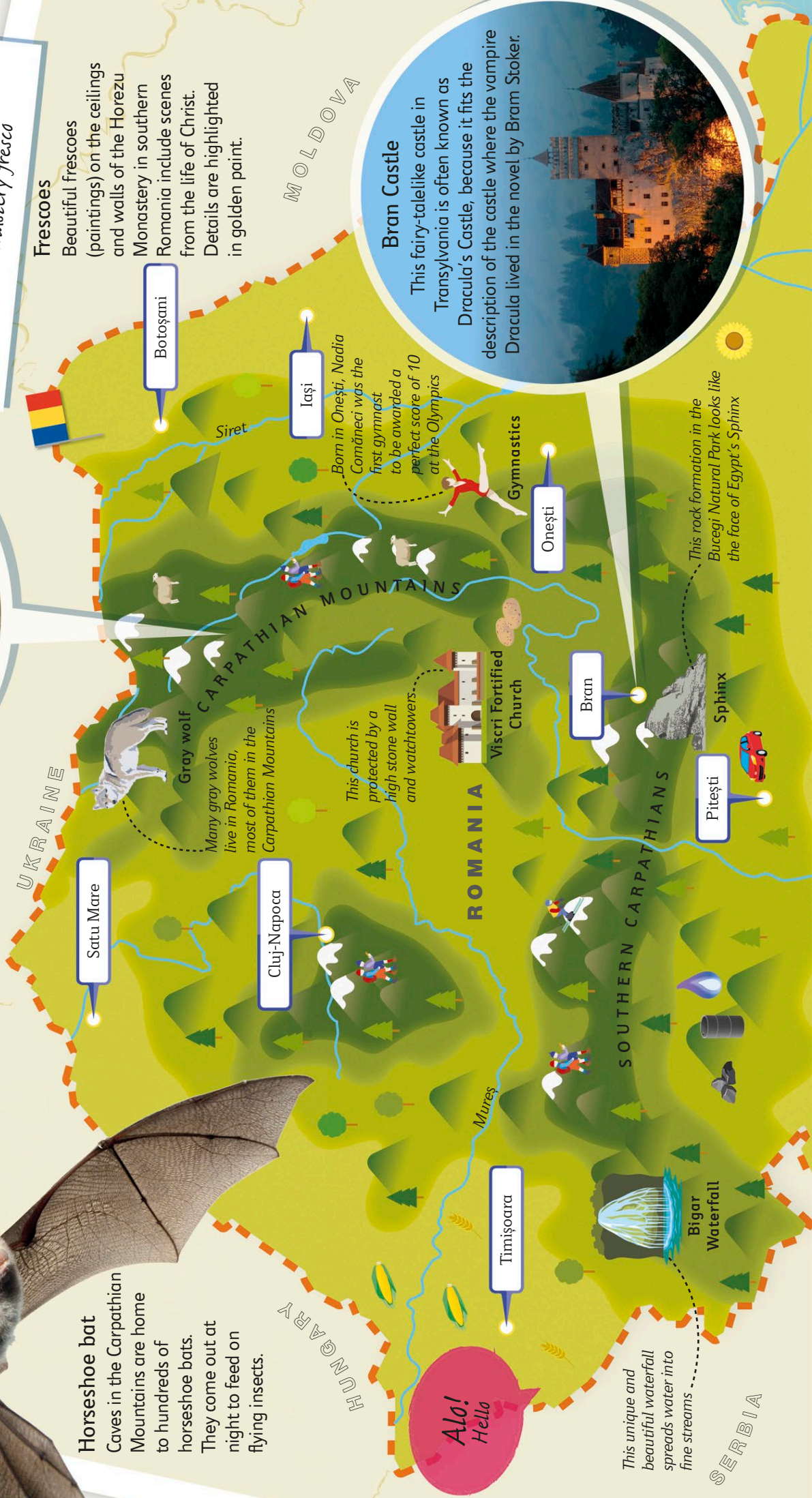
Rocky peaks and breathtaking scenery are features of the Carpathians, a chain of mountains that curves through the heart of Romania. In the valleys below the mountain tops are groves of pine forest.



Horezu Monastery fresco

Frescoes

Beautiful frescoes (paintings) on the ceilings and walls of the Horezu Monastery in southern Romania include scenes from the life of Christ. Details are highlighted in golden paint.



Satu Mare

Cluj-Napoca

Timișoara

Botoșani

Iași

Onești

Bran

Pitești

Many gray wolves live in Romania, most of them in the Carpathian Mountains

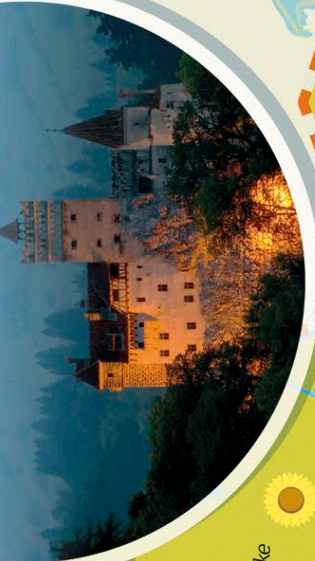
This church is protected by a high stone wall and watchtowers

Born in Onești, Nadia Comăneci was the first gymnast to be awarded a perfect score of 10 at the Olympics

Viscri Fortified Church

Bran Castle

This fairy-talelike castle in Transylvania is often known as Dracula's Castle, because it fits the description of the castle where the vampire Dracula lived in the novel by Bram Stoker.



This rock formation in the Bucegi Natural Park looks like the face of Egypt's Sphinx

Sphinx

This unique and beautiful waterfall spreads water into fine streams

Bigar Waterfall

SERBIA

UKRAINE

HUNGARY

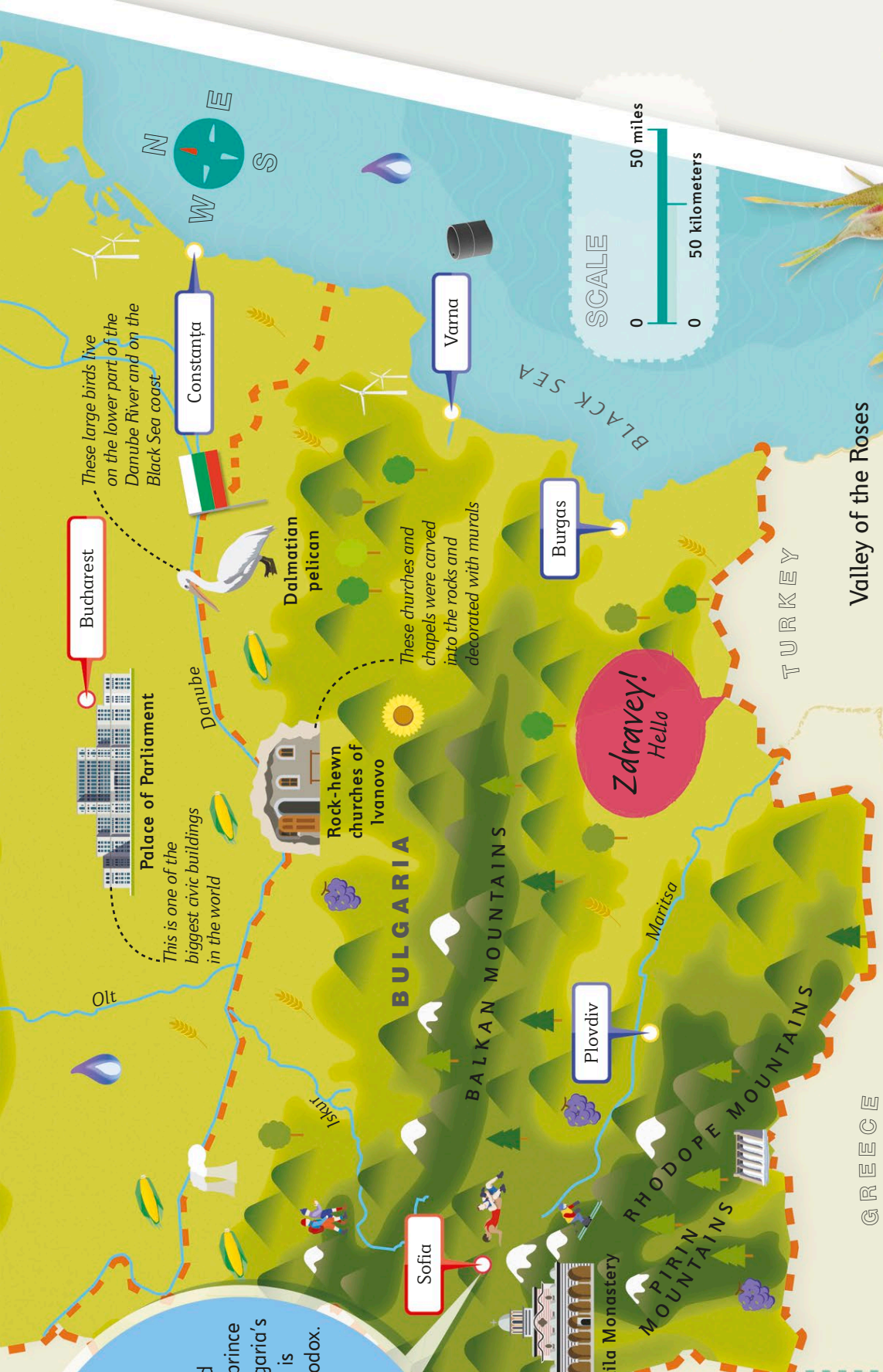
MOLDOVA

CARPATHIAN MOUNTAINS

SOUTHERN CARPATHIANS

Alexander Nevsky Cathedral

This cathedral in Sofia, Bulgaria's capital, is named after a Russian prince and saint. Bulgaria's main religion is Eastern Orthodox.



These large birds live on the lower part of the Danube River and on the Black Sea coast.

Constantia

Varna

SCALE
0 50 miles
0 50 kilometers

Bucharest

Palace of Parliament
This is one of the biggest civic buildings in the world

Danube

Dalmatian pelican

These churches and chapels were carved into the rocks and decorated with murals

Burgas

Zdravey!
Hello

TURKEY

Valley of the Roses

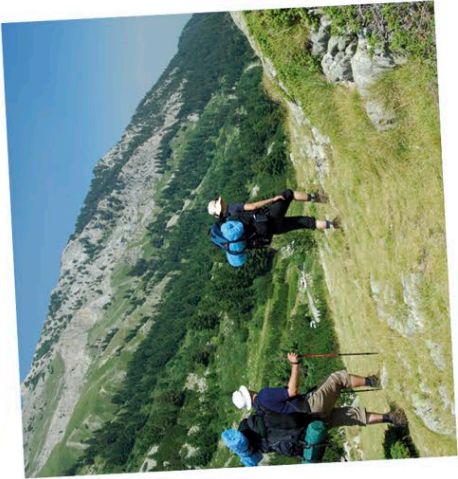
Pink Damask roses are grown in the center of Bulgaria. The petals are used to make rose oil, which is used in perfumes, and rosewater, which can be used to flavor food.

Hiking

Mountainous landscapes, such as the Carpathians of Romania and the Pirin Mountains in southwest Bulgaria, are popular places for hiking and exploring. The Pirin Mountains are known for their many beautiful, crystal-clear lakes.



Rose oil



Pirin Mountains, Bulgaria

KEY

PRODUCE

Wheat

Sunflowers

Corn

Vineyards

Sheep

Potatoes

INDUSTRY

Wind power

Coal

Oil

Nuclear power

Natural gas

Cars

Hydroelectric power

ACTIVITIES

Hiking

Skiing

Wrestling

The original Olympic Games were first held at Olympia around 776 BCE.

Ancient Olympics

Sparta

This is the largest tortoise in the Mediterranean. It can live more than 100 years.

Margined tortoise

The Parthenon

This temple is part of a group of ancient ruins on the Acropolis of Athens, a rocky hill overlooking the city. It dates from the 5th century BCE.



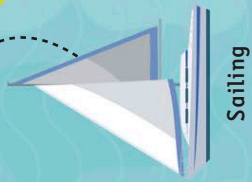
MEDITERRANEAN SEA

TURKEY

Lesbos

Mytilini

Sailing around the Greek islands is popular in summer.

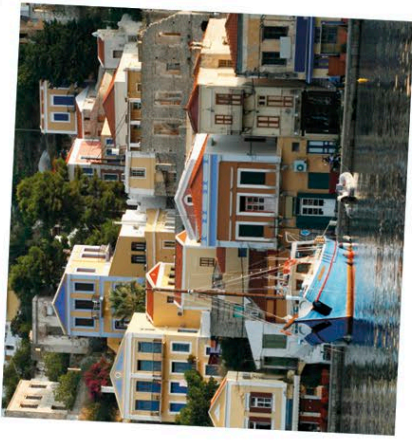


Sailing

Fishing trip

Island life

Fishing and farming were once the two main trades on the Greek islands. Tourism, however, is now taking over.



Diving for natural sponges is an important source of income for some islanders.



Naxos

Naxos

Santorini

Thira

This wall painting at the ancient Palace at Knossos shows people leaping over a bull as part of a ritual.

Chania



Bull-leaping fresco

These curved jars used for storing liquids, such as oil and wine, are decorated with the octopus found in the seas around Crete.



Minoan octopus stirrup jar

Greek buildings

Buildings on Greek islands are often painted white to reflect the heat of the summer sun and help keep them cool. Many church roofs are traditionally painted blue.



Blue-domed church

Rhodes

Knights of Rhodes Palace

This imposing medieval castle was once a fortress, but now houses a museum.



Karpathos

Traditional food

A typical Greek meal may start with several small dishes, such as tzatziki (yogurt dip) and pita bread, followed by meaty kebabs and a refreshing Greek salad with feta cheese.



Tzatziki and pita bread

Greek salad

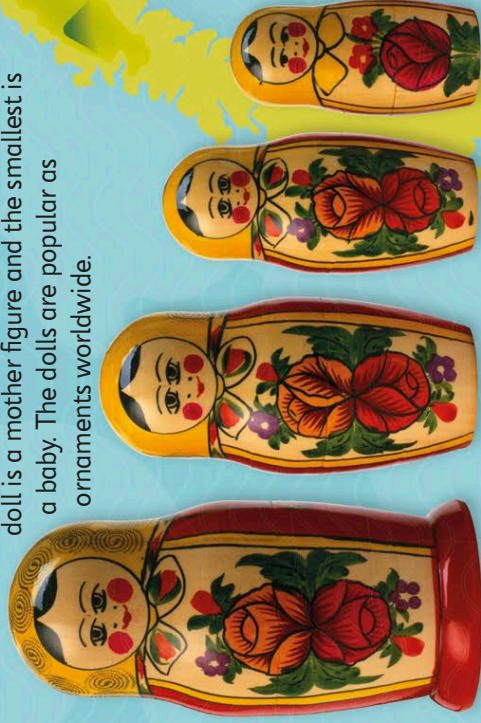
Kebabs

EUROPEAN RUSSIA

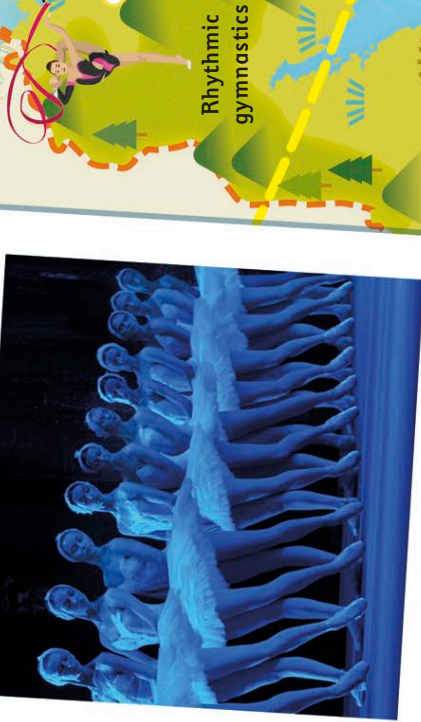
Russia is the largest country in the world and stretches across two continents: Europe and Asia. European Russia lies to the west of the Ural Mountains. The people of St. Petersburg and Moscow are proud of their history and culture.

Matryoshka doll

Wooden painted Matryoshka dolls are nested dolls that fit one inside the other. The largest doll is a mother figure and the smallest is a baby. The dolls are popular as ornaments worldwide.



This sport combines gymnastics and ballet, and Russia has produced several champion female gymnasts



Bolshoi ballet dancers

The Bolshoi
The Bolshoi is the world's oldest ballet company. Its classically trained dancers perform at the Bolshoi Theater in Moscow and at theaters in other parts of the world.

The Winter Palace was the home of Russian emperors, who were called Czars



Winter Palace

These beautifully jeweled eggs were made as Easter gifts for the Czars and their families



Fabergé egg

Cherepovets



This sport combines gymnastics and ballet, and Russia has produced several champion female gymnasts

PRODUCE	INDUSTRY
Vineyards	Oil
Watermelons	Gas
Strawberries	Aircraft
Raspberries	Coal
Potatoes	Cars
Sunflowers	Shipbuilding
SPORT	Pulp and paper
Soccer	Lumber
Chess	
Ice Hockey	

NORWAY

BARENTS SEA



Pechora

ARCTIC CIRCLE

WHITE SEA

Archangel

Zdravstvuyte!
Hello

Ukhta

Vorkuta



Shchi

This Russian cabbage soup also includes meat and other vegetables, such as tomatoes, carrots, and even nettles.

RUSSIA
(European Russia)

Kirov

FINLAND

ESTONIA

LATVIA

URAL MOUNTAINS

Racing troikas—carriages mounted on skis and pulled by three horses—is a popular sport in winter.

BELARUS

Tchaikovsky was one of the first Russian composers to become popular worldwide.



Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Moscow

St. Basil's Cathedral

This colorful cathedral in Moscow's Red Square has onion-shaped domes



Tolstoy wrote the classic novels *Anna Karenina* and *War and Peace*. He died at Astapovo railroad station, south of Moscow, which was later named after him

Leo Tolstoy

Voronezh

UKRAINE

Perm

Nizhny Novgorod

Kazan

Ufa

This strong alcoholic drink is a Russian specialty



Vodka

Subway station

The underground railroad system in Moscow is fast and efficient. Its stations are decorated with beautiful paintings and sculptures.



Rostov-on-Don

Figure skating is popular in Russia; skaters perform solo or in pairs



Figure skating

Sochi

Astrakhan

CAUCASUS MOUNTAINS

This Russian, triangular-shaped string instrument is similar to a guitar

Balalaika

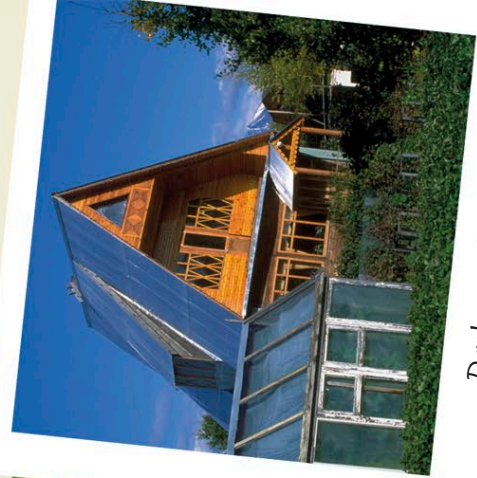
Raspberries and blinis

Blinis are small pancakes and are usually topped with caviar (fish eggs) and sour cream. Raspberries are another favorite delicacy. They are grown in southwestern Russia.



Raspberries

RUSSIA
(Asian Russia)



Dacha and garden

Dachas
Some people who live in big Russian cities have a second home in the country, known as a dacha. Here, they go to relax and grow fruit and vegetables in the garden.

SCALE



KAZAKHSTAN

CASPIAN SEA

Symbol of Russia

The brown bear represents the size and power of the country to Russians and the rest of the world.

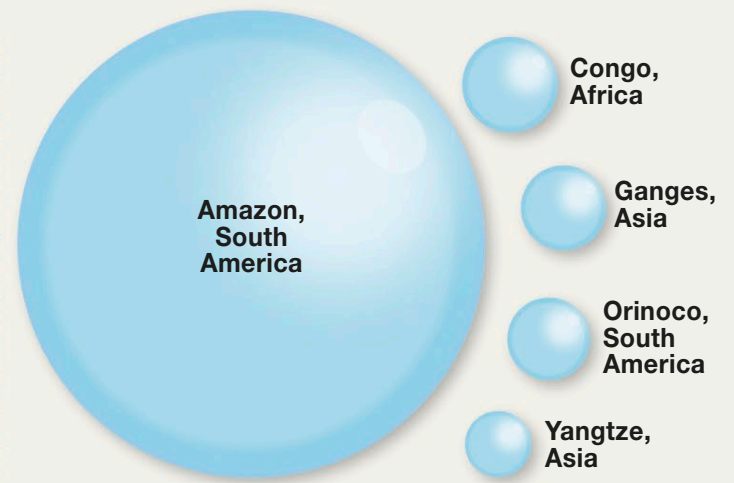


AZERBAIJAN

GEORGIA

RIVERS, LAKES, AND MOUNTAINS

Earth's surface is crisscrossed with streams and rivers, lakes, and high mountains. Many rivers begin as streams high up in the mountains, flow downhill through valleys to low-lying areas, and then pour out into seas. Lakes are large pools of water surrounded by land. Mountains are formed over millions of years, as huge areas of land push into each other, forcing the ground upward.

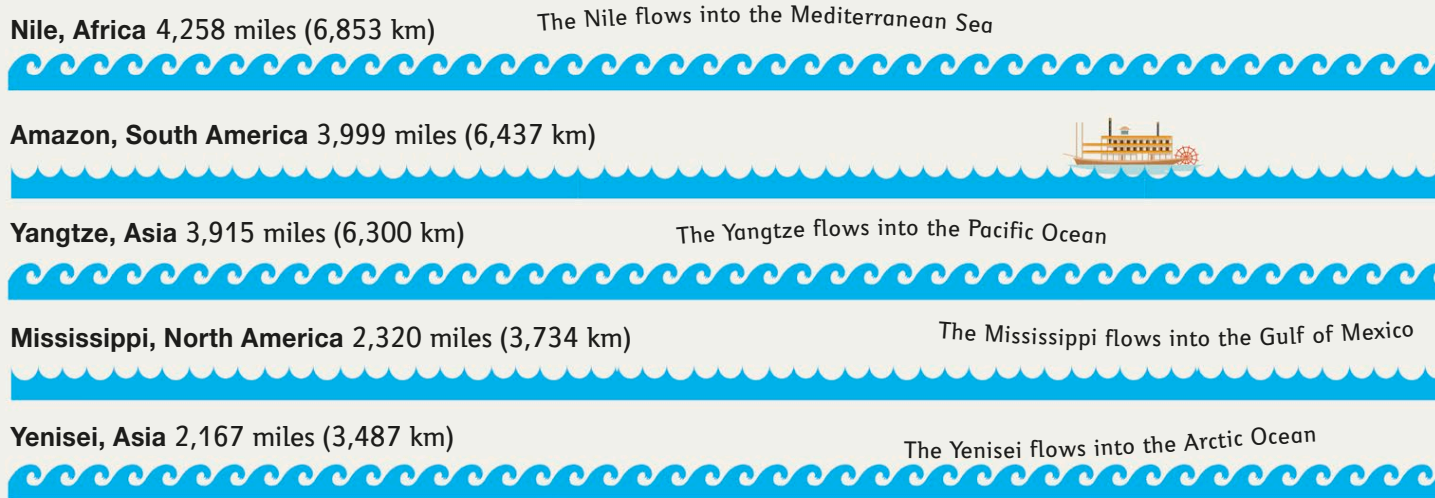


Five rivers with the most water

The Amazon has the most water by far. Its closest rivals each hold less than one-fifth of the water that flows along the Amazon. Rivers with the most water are formed in places with heavy rainfall, such as rain forests. They also have wide surface areas to catch the rain.

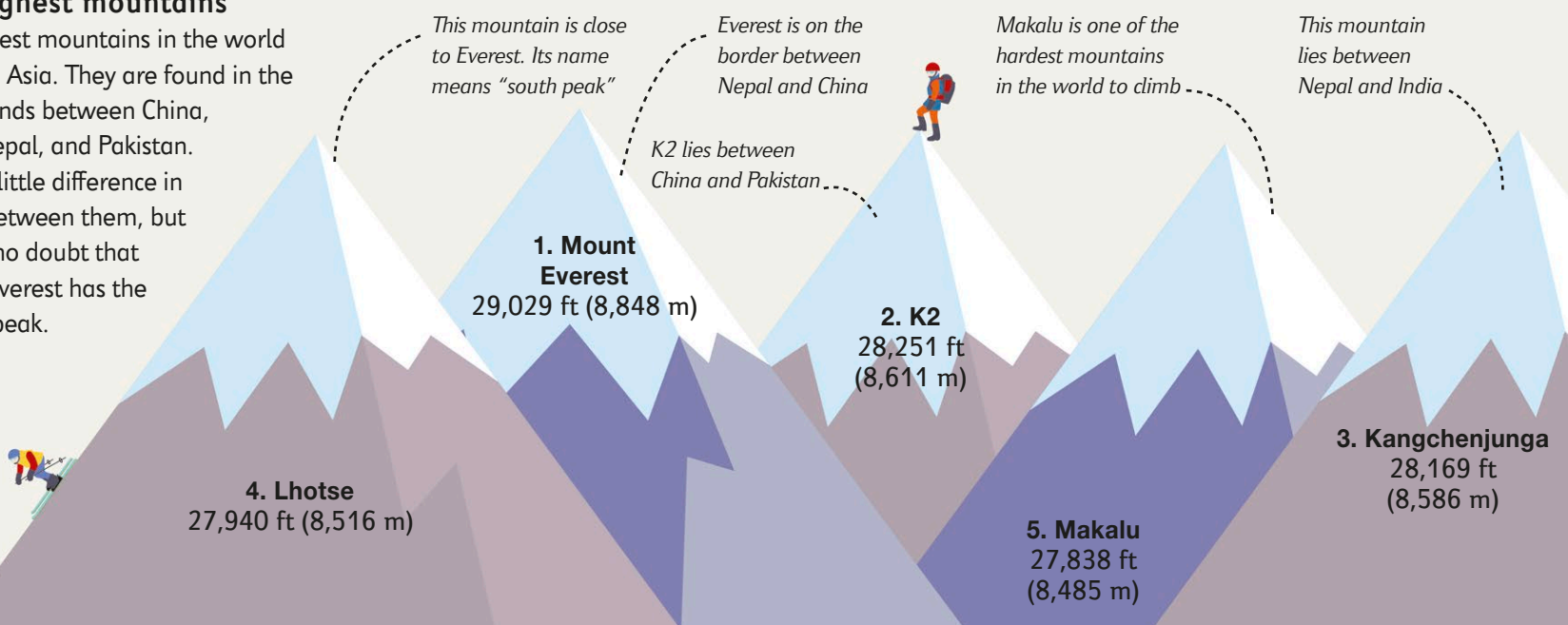
Five longest rivers

The longest rivers in the world flow across large continents. They begin in the mountains and flow all the way to the open sea.



Five highest mountains

The highest mountains in the world are all in Asia. They are found in the borderlands between China, India, Nepal, and Pakistan. There is little difference in height between them, but there is no doubt that Mount Everest has the highest peak.





Three largest lakes

The three biggest lakes are spread across four different continents. The largest is the Caspian Sea, which borders Asia and Europe. It has salty water and is both a sea and a lake. Lake Superior is the world's largest freshwater lake.

1. Caspian Sea, Asia and Europe
143,000 sq miles
(371,000 sq km)



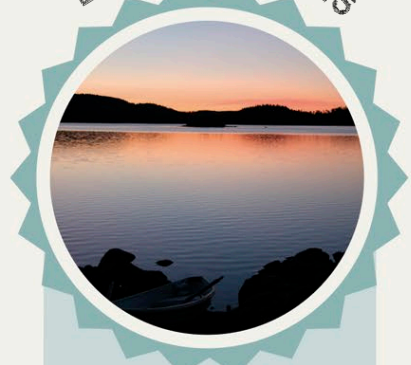
2. Lake Superior, North America
31,820 sq miles
(82,414 sq km)



3. Lake Victoria, Africa
26,828 sq miles
(69,485 sq km)

Victoria is the largest tropical lake and is the source of the Nile River.

LAND OF LAKES



There are more than 187,000 lakes in Finland, which gives the country the nickname "The Land of the Thousand Lakes."

The Amazon flows into the Atlantic Ocean



FASTEST-FLOWING RIVER



The Amazon is the fastest-flowing river in the world. Its waves are so strong that it is possible to surf down the river!

Mountains make up about one-fifth of the world's landscape.

1. Mount Tambora, Indonesia 1815 CE

2. Changbaishan Volcano, China 969 CE

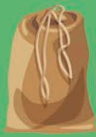
3. Mount Thera, Santorini, Greece 1610 BCE

Three powerful volcanic eruptions

Many volcanoes are also mountains. These are three of the most powerful volcanic eruptions in history. When they erupt, volcanoes can cause great damage and change the landscape.



1. In which country would you find the Taj Mahal?



2. Atatürk was the first president of which country?



3. Which country is known for its Terra-cotta Army?



4. In which country would you find tents called ghers?





8. Rose mallow is the national flower of which country?

7. What is Japan's tallest structure called?

ASIA
Asia is the world's largest, most crowded continent. China and India are big, bustling countries, where industry is growing rapidly. The main world religions all began in Asia. Many early civilizations flourished here, and the continent has many ancient sites.

You can find all the answers and more quizzes on pages 120-121.

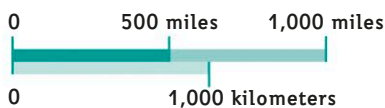
6. Which country is the home of table tennis?

5. On which island would you find the Taipei 101 tower?

ASIA

Asia is the world's largest continent and home to over half the world's population. Countries range from big, powerful nations, such as China, to the tiny state of Qatar. The landscape includes dry deserts, green forests, snowy mountains, and vast expanses of wild, open countryside.

SCALE



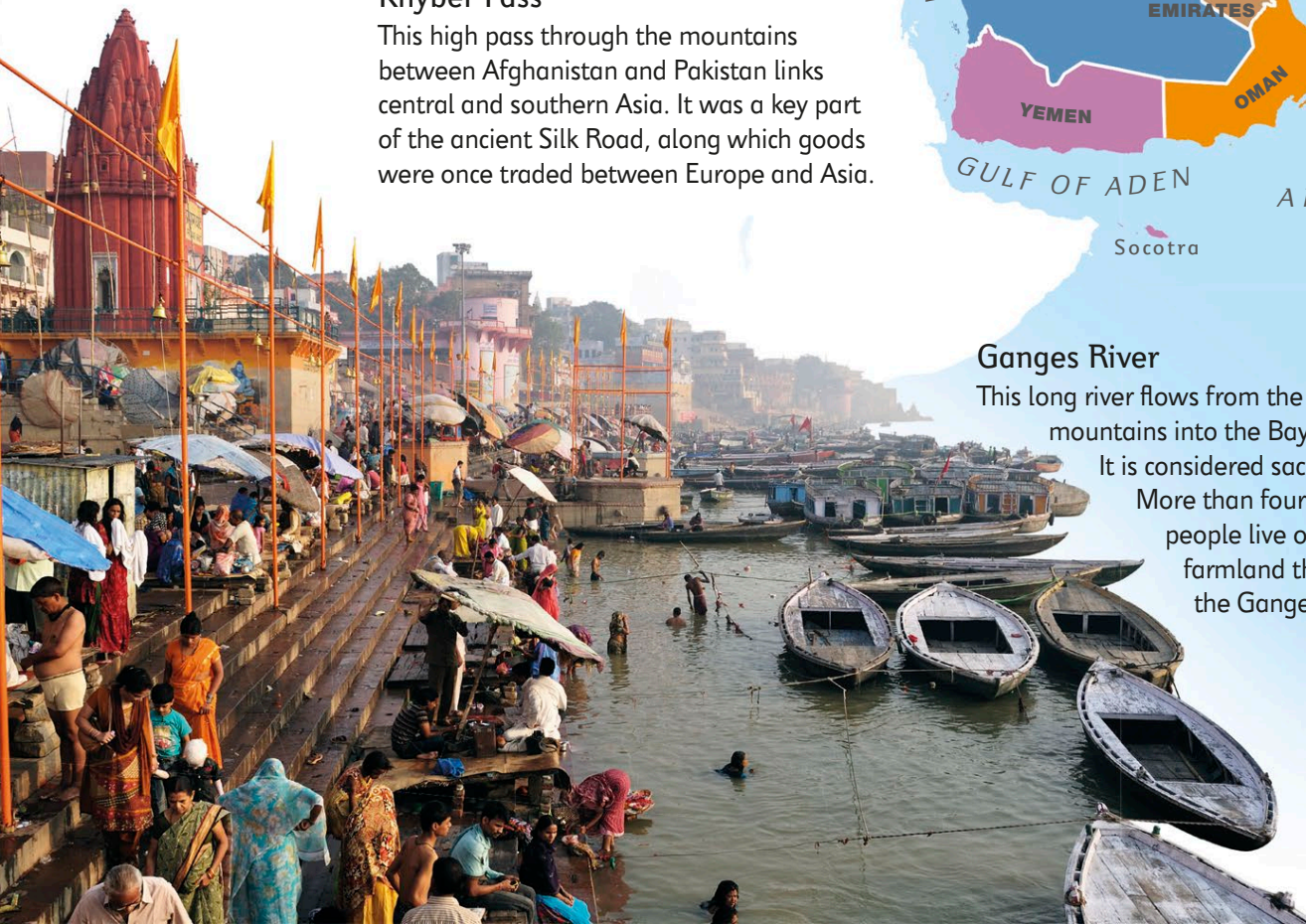
Dead Sea

The Dead Sea, on the borders of Israel, Jordan, and the West Bank, is a large salt lake. It gets its name because the water is too salty for any animal to live there. The salt, however, makes floating in the water easy, and is used in health and skin care products.



Khyber Pass

This high pass through the mountains between Afghanistan and Pakistan links central and southern Asia. It was a key part of the ancient Silk Road, along which goods were once traded between Europe and Asia.



Ganges River

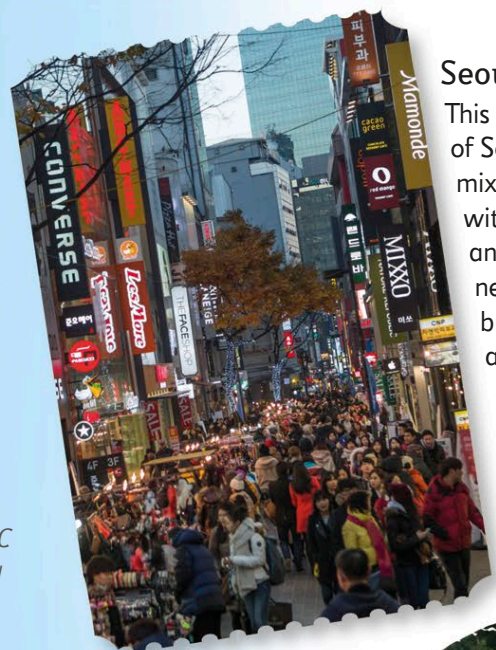
This long river flows from the Himalayan mountains into the Bay of Bengal. It is considered sacred by Hindus. More than four million people live on the fertile farmland that surrounds the Ganges.





Mongolian plains

Most of Mongolia is made up of wild, grassy plains. Around a third of the country's people live a nomadic life, roaming the plains on horseback and living in large tents called ghers.



Seoul

This crowded city is the capital of South Korea. It is an exciting mix of the old and the new, with traditional street markets and ancient Buddhist temples next to modern high-rise buildings and shops selling all the latest high-tech gadgets.

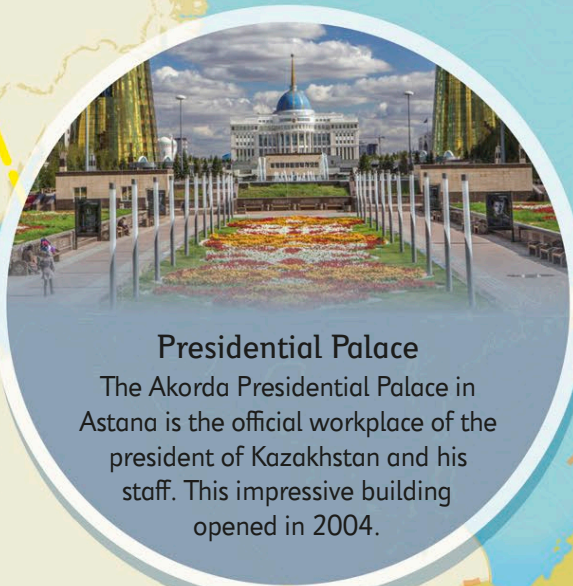


Rice fields

Rice is grown in many parts of Asia, including China, India, and Southeast Asia. Farmers grow the rice in fields that are flooded with water, called paddy fields.

ASIAN RUSSIA AND KAZAKHSTAN

Asian Russia stretches from Europe's border to the Pacific Ocean. Much of the landscape is rugged, with few people living there. Kazakhstan lies to the southwest. This country also has large open spaces, including the vast plains of the Kazakh Steppe.



Presidential Palace
The Akorda Presidential Palace in Astana is the official workplace of the president of Kazakhstan and his staff. This impressive building opened in 2004.



Kazakhs hunting

Hunting with golden eagles
Kazakhs are skilled horse riders. They hunt on horseback on the wide, open plains, using golden eagles to catch prey, such as foxes and hares.

KEY	
PRODUCE	INDUSTRY
Wheat	Natural gas
Sugar beets	Oil
Cattle	Coal
Salmon	Diamonds
Sheep	Gold
Bactrian camel	Lumber
SPORT	Aluminum
Ice hockey	Steel
NATURAL FEATURES	Iron
Volcanoes	Uranium
Earthquakes	Chromium



Hazrat Sultan Mosque
This huge mosque in Kazakhstan's capital, Astana, can hold more than 10,000 worshippers.

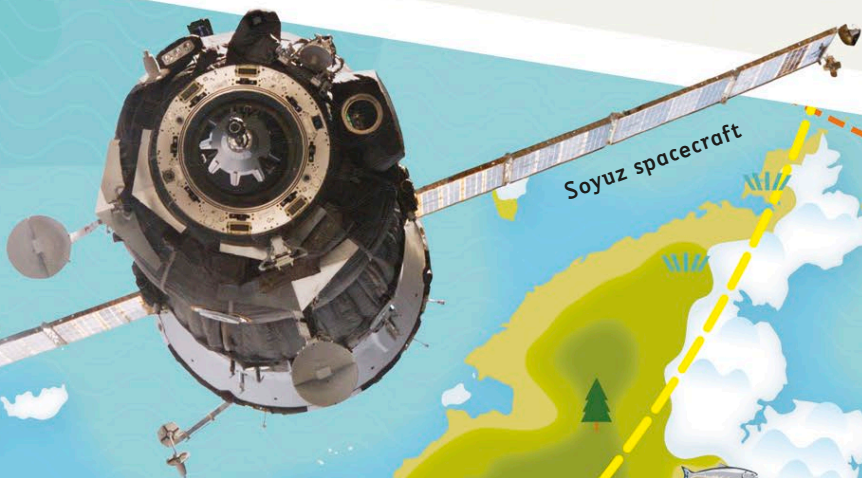


SCALE



International Space Station

The space station orbits the Earth and was built using Russian technology. Russia's Soyuz spacecraft carries people and supplies to the space station.



Soyuz spacecraft

USA

BERING SEA

LAPTEV SEA

Do svidaniya!
Good-bye

At 15,580 ft (4,750 m), this is the highest, active volcano in Europe and Asia

Klyuchevskaya Sopka

Magadan

Yakutsk

Yakuts

Yakut people live in the east of Russia. Those near the coast catch fish and breed reindeer, while Yakuts in the south raise cattle and horses

These hot thermal springs naturally heat water to a warming temperature of 104–140°F (40–60°C)

Kamchatka hot springs

Salmon farming

Pacific salmon are farmed off the eastern coast of Russia. They are kept in netted areas of the sea and fed on fishfood pellets and small fish.

Siberian tiger

The Siberian, or Amur, tiger lives in forests in the far east of Russia. These tigers are rare, and many live in protected conservation areas.

This small squirrel can glide from tree to tree using the skin stretched between its legs as a parachute

Siberian flying squirrel

This small seal lives only in Lake Baikal

Baikal seal

This is the longest railroad in the world, stretching 5,780 miles (9,300 km) from Moscow in Europe to the far east of Russia

Khabarovsk

Trans-Siberian Railroad

Vladivostok

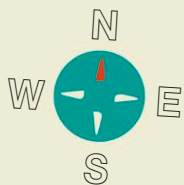
Lake Baikal

Lake Baikal is the world's oldest and deepest freshwater lake. The lake is home to more than 1,500 unique species of plants and animals.



YABLONOI MOUNTAINS

MONGOLIA



CHINA

Pacific salmon

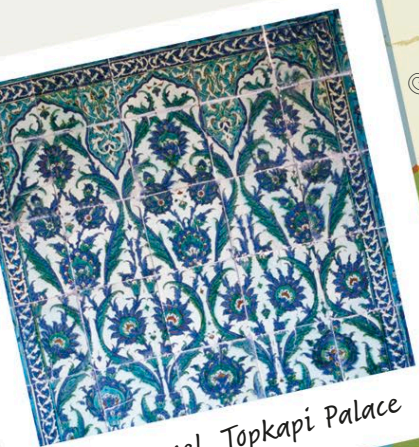


TURKEY

Turkey lies partly in Asia and partly in Europe and is influenced by both Eastern and Western culture. Istanbul, the historic city on the Bosphorus River, links the two continents. This huge country has a varied landscape, and its mountains, lakes, beaches, and ancient sites make it attractive to tourists.

Sultan Ahmed Mosque

This mosque in Istanbul is also called the Blue Mosque, because the walls of the interior are covered in light blue tiles. It has six tall minarets, or towers.



Tiles panel, Topkapi Palace

Iznik tiles

These beautiful painted tiles are named after the town where they were made. They decorate the walls of the Topkapi Palace in Istanbul.

Cotton Palace

This unique geological formation is called Pamukkale, or Cotton Palace. It has white limestone terraces, thermal pools, and hot springs, as well as Roman ruins.



These pine trees are important in the Turkish lumber industry

Turkish pine



Mustafa Kemal Atatürk

Atatürk was the first president of Turkey; he set up his government in Ankara, which replaced Istanbul as the capital in 1923

Built as a Christian church, the Hagia Sophia became a mosque and is now a museum

Merhaba!
Hello

This ancient Roman building in Ephesus was partly destroyed by an earthquake in 262 CE.

This ancient city was built on hot springs and so had Roman baths as well as an amphitheater

This group of waterfalls flows into the Mediterranean Sea

This stone castle once protected the port of Bodrum

Mersin

TURKEY

TAURUS MOUNTAINS

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

CYPRUS

KEY

PRODUCE

Wheat

Sunflowers

Barley

Cotton

Potatoes

Vineyards

Sheep

Goats

NATURAL FEATURES

Green turtle

Earthquakes

INDUSTRY

Cars

Shipbuilding

Electronics

Natural gas

SPORT

Basketball

Soccer

Scuba diving

Hiking



Black Sea folk dancers

Traditional dance

Folk dancing is popular throughout Turkey. In the Black Sea region, men and women dress in black and red outfits trimmed with gold and silver. They dance using short, quick steps accompanied by violins.

Turkish coffee is very strong

Turkish coffee

Dondurma

Kabab b'il karaz

Turkish food

The food of Turkey has rich flavors and aromas. Kabab b'il karaz (sour cherry kebab) is made from minced lamb and sour cherry. Dondurma is a thick, sweet ice cream.



Samsun

Trabzon

Cherries

Turkey is the world's largest producer of cherries

Alpine chough

This bird nests in Turkish mountains

Güle güle!
Good-bye

Kayseri

Malatya

The remains of large statues and a royal tomb are found on this mountain

Mount Nemrut

Diyarbakır

Batman

Lake Van

Van

Adana

Gaziantep

SCALE

0 50 miles 100 miles
0 100 kilometers

Green lizard

Large green lizards live among rocks and bushes. They like to bask in the Sun and eat insects.

SYRIA AND LEBANON

Syria is largely hot desert, but most people live in the cooler, fertile coastal areas by the Mediterranean Sea. Lebanon lies to the southwest of Syria and has a varied cultural history. The land covered by Syria and Lebanon was once part of the Roman Empire.



Woman weaving on a loom

Carpet weaving
Beautiful, handwoven carpets are produced in Syria. Their highly detailed, traditional patterns come in a mix of colors, with red and black being particularly popular.

SCALE



TURKEY

SYRIA

SYRIAN DESERT

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

LEBANON

ISRAEL

JORDAN

IRAQ

KEY

PRODUCE

Olives

Vineyards

Cotton

Wheat

Sheep

INDUSTRY

Oil



Fattoush salad

This salad is made from toasted pieces of bread mixed with lettuce and other vegetables

These are the only cats that can live in hot deserts. They hunt by night, when it is cooler



Sand cat

'Ahlaan!
Hello

Cedar of Lebanon

This tree is the national symbol of Lebanon and appears on the country's flag

Also known as the Umayyad Mosque, this is one of the oldest and largest mosques in the world

Great Mosque of Damascus

This modern mosque has a blue dome and four tall minarets (towers)

Mohammed Al-Amin Mosque

Roman ruins at Tyre

The ruins of the Roman city at Tyre in south Lebanon are some of the best preserved ancient monuments in the world.



Triumphal Arch at Tyre

Lebanese food

Lebanese food includes delicious snacks such as fatayer, which is a mini pie filled with meat, spinach, or cheese, and light dishes such as tabbouleh, a salad of bulgur wheat, tomatoes, onions, and herbs.



Fatayer



Tabbouleh



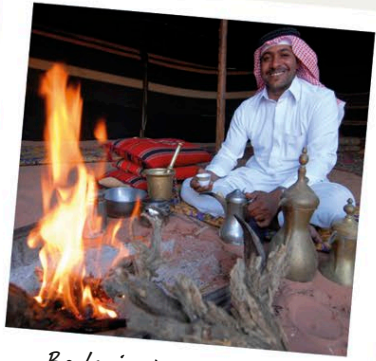
Mortuary statue

Syrian artifacts

Archeologists have uncovered many ancient artifacts in Syria. These include gold coins, such as Umayyad dinars, and mortuary statues, used to mark graves.



Umayyad dinar



Bedouin brewing coffee

Bedouin hospitality

The Bedouin tribes that roam the desert are known for their hospitality. Guests are welcomed and served food and drink, including freshly brewed coffee and spiced tea.

SCALE



Mae
alssama!
Good-bye

LEBANON

SYRIA

IRAQ

JORDAN

ISRAEL

SAUDI ARABIA

Haifa

This gallery contains a major collection of early 20th-century art

Crafts

Irbid

Traditional crafts of the region include pottery and colorful, handwoven carpets

Nazareth

Temple of Artemis

This Greek temple was dedicated to Artemis, the goddess of the Moon and of hunting

Zarqa

Tel Aviv

Tel Aviv Museum of Art

Jericho

Amman

This church in Bethlehem was built on what is believed to be the birthplace of Jesus

Bethlehem

Jerusalem

This sculpture is on Mount Nebo, where the Bible says Moses died and was buried

Brazen serpent sculpture

Gaza

Church of the Nativity

Dead Sea scrolls

These ancient scrolls were found in the Qumran caves, and are some of the oldest texts of the Hebrew Bible

Be'er Sheva

Jordan's national flower blooms briefly in spring and is a symbol of renewal

Black iris

Shalom!
Hello

Copper has been mined in this valley for centuries, and many ancient remains have been found here

Timna Valley

Petra

Oryx, a type of antelope, live in the desert. Their long horns can be up to 30 in (70 cm) long

Elat

Arabian Oryx

Aqaba

PRODUCE

- Wheat
- Olives and oil
- Vineyards
- Grapefruit
- Goats
- Oranges

- Figs
- Almonds
- Avocados
- Cattle
- Sheep

INDUSTRY

- Natural Gas
- Fishing

ACTIVITIES

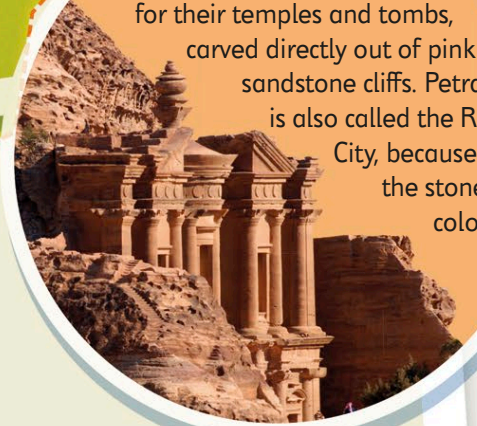
- Scuba diving

NATURAL FEATURES

- Coral reef

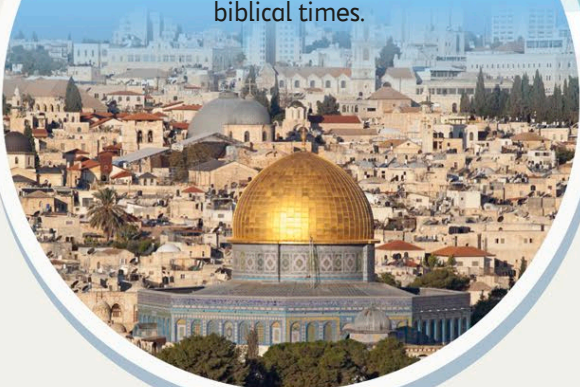
Petra

The ruins of Petra are famous for their temples and tombs, carved directly out of pink sandstone cliffs. Petra is also called the Rose City, because of the stone's color.



Jerusalem

The ancient city of Jerusalem has been a place of pilgrimage for Christians, Jews, and Muslims since biblical times.

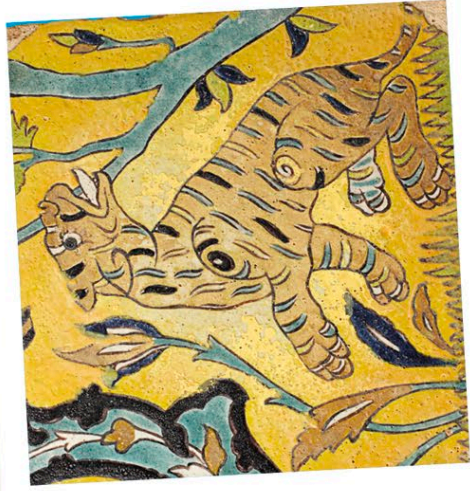


ISRAEL AND JORDAN

Israel and Jordan are part of an area often known as the Holy Land, and many sites are important to different faiths. There are vast areas of open desert, but also fertile farming land, where crops such as citrus fruit, grapes, dates, nuts, and olives are grown.

IRAN, IRAQ, AND SAUDI ARABIA

Iran, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia all contain large areas of hot, sandy desert, with huge reserves of oil and natural gas. Some of the world's earliest civilizations flourished in these lands, and all three countries have many ancient ruins and other treasures.



Isfahan tile

Colorful tiles

The Safavid Empire ruled Persia (modern-day Iran) from the 14th to the 18th century. The capital of this empire was Isfahan, which was known for its fine art, including colorful tiles.



Fine foods

This region is noted for producing some of the world's most prized delicacies. These include high-quality dates, the delicate spice saffron, and the best and most expensive caviar (fish eggs).



Ur treasure

Ur was an important ancient city in what is now Iraq. Many treasures were found in tombs there. These include intricate gold jewelry and a lyre (type of harp) decorated with a golden bull's head.



Queen's jewelry

The Bedouin people live in tents in the desert

Bedouin tent



Mada'in Saleh

The tombs carved into the rocks here date from the 1st century CE

Marsh Arabs live in the wetlands of south and east Iraq and build houses using reeds

ARABIAN DESERT

TURKEY

Bull's head lyre

IRAQ

SYRIA

Salam atakum!
Hello

This ancient temple stood near the city of Ur

Al Jawf

JORDAN

Tabriz

Erbil

Mosul

Baghdad

Najaf

Basra

Marsh Arab reed building

Ziggurat of Ur

Persepolis ruins

Shiraz

Pigeon Tower

Imam Mosque

Isfahan

Eggs from this large fish are made into caviar

Beluga sturgeon

ELBURZ MOUNTAINS

CASPIAN SEA

Tehran

This 17th-century Isfahan mosque is one of the most beautiful in Iran

Dung collected from these Safavid "homes" for pigeons was used as fertilizer

The ruins of the Persian city of Persepolis date back to 515 BCE

Backgammon

Zahedan

AFGHANISTAN

This board game has been played in Iraq and Iran for centuries

TURKMENISTAN

Mashhad

Turquoise

This gemstone has been mined in Iran for more than 5,000 years

IRAN

KAVIR DESERT

DESERT

Dorood!
Hello



Hunting with trained falcons is a popular sport in Saudi Arabia.

Riyadh

Falconry

SAUDI ARABIA

Mecca

Jedda

Prophet's Mosque

This is the second most holy Muslim site

The sand dunes of the Empty Quarter cover an area the size of France

Some of the best racehorses are bred in Saudi Arabia

Arabian Horse

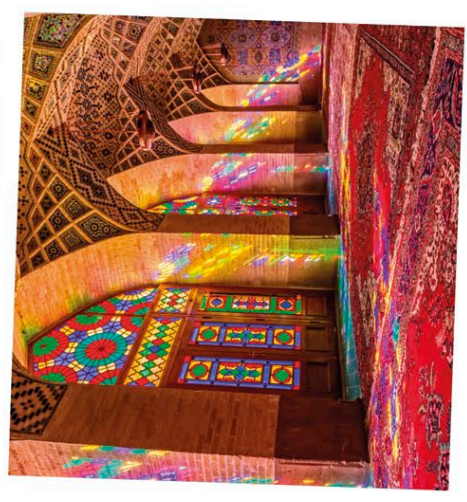
Sand Dunes

EMPTY QUARTER

Marhaba!
Hello

Mecca

Mecca is the birthplace of the prophet Muhammad and is the holiest city in the Muslim world. Muslims travel here every year to pray at the sacred Kaaba shrine.

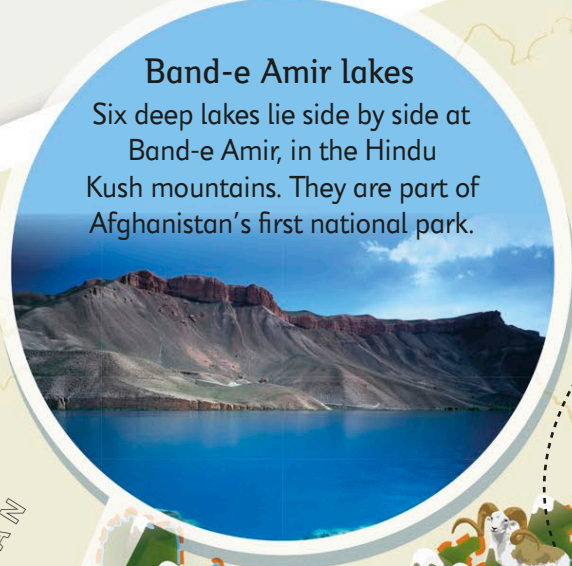


Nasir al-Mulk Mosque

Stained glass
Stained glass is widely used in mosques. The windows of the Nasir al-Mulk Mosque in Shiraz, Iran are some of the most colorful. As sunlight streams through them, the building is flooded with dazzling colors.

AFGHANISTAN

Afghanistan lies between Central Asia and China. In ancient times, Chinese silk and other goods were traded along the Silk Road that passed through the Hindu Kush mountains. Temperatures in the deserts and mountains of Afghanistan vary from very hot in summer to freezing cold in winter.



Band-e Amir lakes
Six deep lakes lie side by side at Band-e Amir, in the Hindu Kush mountains. They are part of Afghanistan's first national park.



These unusual sheep have huge, spiraling horns, which can be up to 27 in (70 cm) long

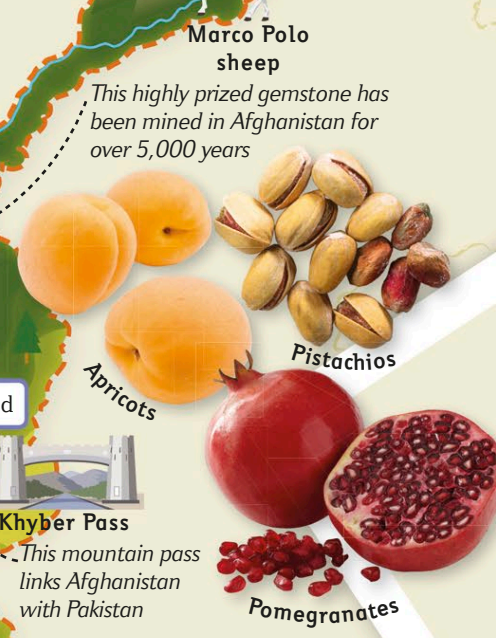
Citadel of Herat

This huge castle has 18 towers and 6½-ft (2-m) thick brick walls. It stands on the site of a fort built by Alexander the Great in 330 BCE.



Bactrian gold

This hoard of gold artifacts was discovered in ancient burial mounds in northern Afghanistan in 1978. It includes jewelry, coins, and figures.



Marco Polo sheep
This highly prized gemstone has been mined in Afghanistan for over 5,000 years

Lapis lazuli

Jalalabad

Khyber Pass
This mountain pass links Afghanistan with Pakistan

Pomegranates

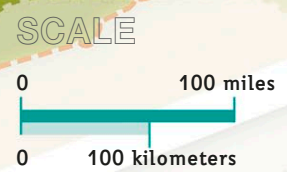
Fruit and nuts
Afghanistan's farms produce some of the tastiest nuts and fruit in the world. These include large quantities of pistachio nuts, apricots, and pomegranates.



Embroidered hat
Traditional clothes in Afghanistan have colorful, detailed embroidery, such as on this child's hat.

KEY

PRODUCE	
	Wheat
	Corn
	Barley
	Rice
	Potatoes
	Raisins
	Apricots
	Cotton
	Sheep
	Goats
	Pomegranates
ACTIVITIES	
	Basketball
	Soccer
	Cricket
NATURAL FEATURES	
	Sapphires
	Earthquakes



Salaam!
Hello

PAKISTAN

Pakistan has the world's sixth largest population. Many people live along the Indus River and its tributaries (streams), which flow down through the middle of the country, providing water to irrigate the fertile farmland along the riverbanks. Farming is Pakistan's main source of income.

Faisal Mosque

This modern mosque is in the capital, Islamabad. It is Pakistan's largest mosque and its distinctive design is in the shape of a Bedouin tent.



SCALE



KEY

PRODUCE

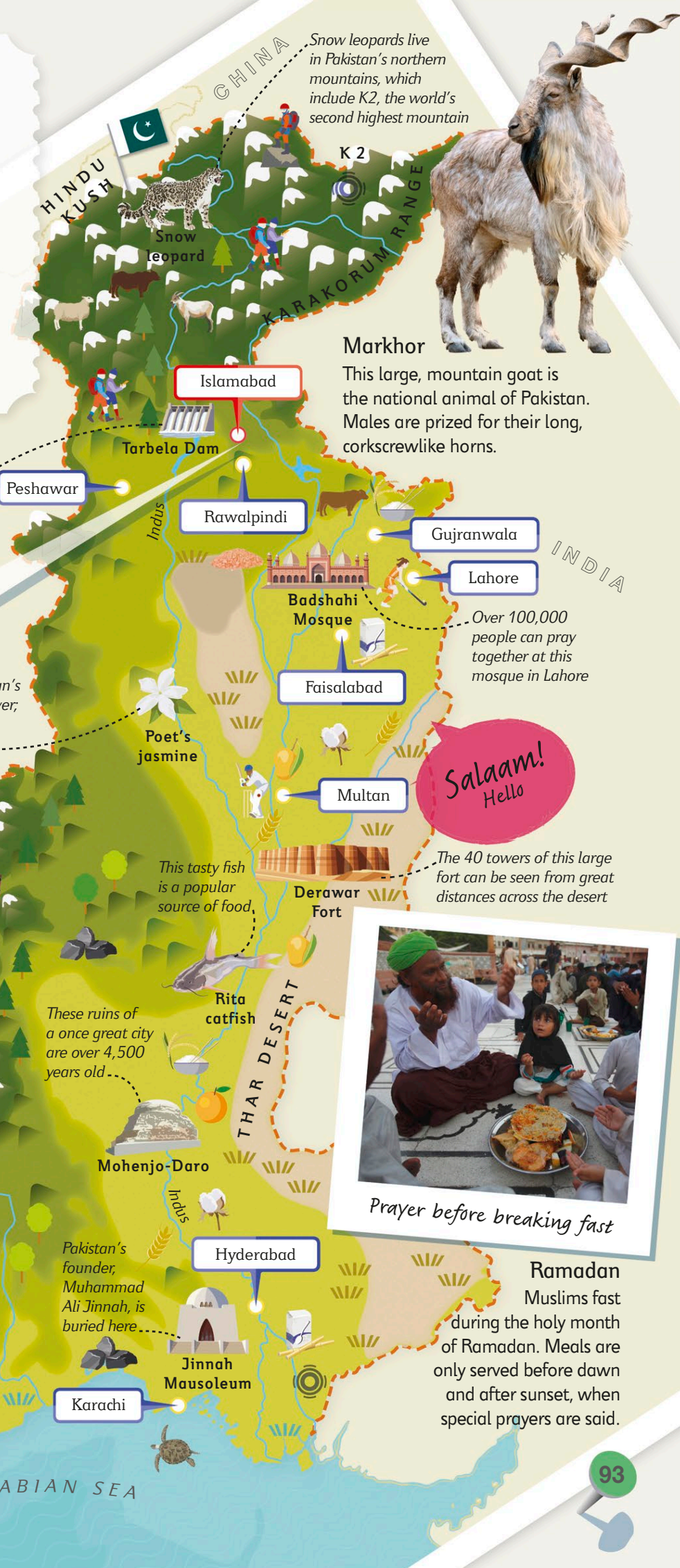
- Wheat
- Sugar cane
- Rice
- Cotton
- Mangoes
- Oranges
- Sheep
- Goats
- Buffalo
- Cattle

NATURAL FEATURES

- Coal
- Salt
- Green turtles
- Earthquakes

ACTIVITIES

- Cricket
- Mountain climbing
- Hiking
- Field hockey



Snow leopards live in Pakistan's northern mountains, which include K2, the world's second highest mountain



Markhor
This large, mountain goat is the national animal of Pakistan. Males are prized for their long, corkscrewlike horns.

This 485-ft (148-m) high dam generates hydroelectric power

Islamabad
Tarbela Dam

AFGHANISTAN

Rawalpindi

Gujranwala

Lahore

INDIA

Badshahi Mosque

Over 100,000 people can pray together at this mosque in Lahore

Faisalabad

This is Pakistan's national flower; it has a rich perfume

Poet's jasmine

Multan

Salaam!
Hello

Many people work in the textile industry in Pakistan

Textiles

This tasty fish is a popular source of food

Rita catfish

The 40 towers of this large fort can be seen from great distances across the desert

Derawar Fort

These ruins of a once great city are over 4,500 years old

Mohenjo-Daro

THAR DESERT



Prayer before breaking fast

Pakistan's founder, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, is buried here

Hyderabad

Jinnah Mausoleum

Karachi

Ramadan
Muslims fast during the holy month of Ramadan. Meals are only served before dawn and after sunset, when special prayers are said.

ARABIAN SEA

INDIA AND SRI LANKA

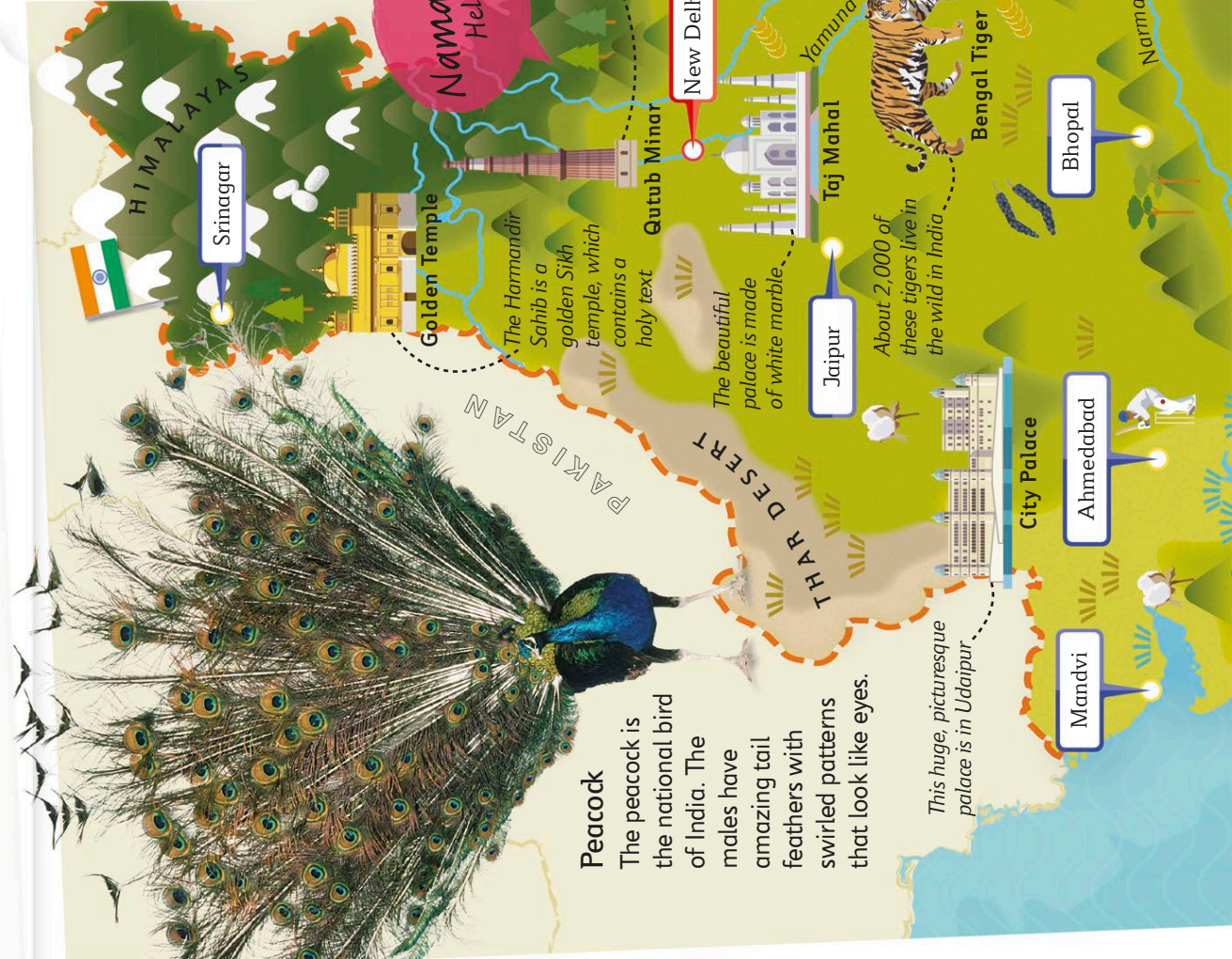
India is a colorful and crowded country. It stretches from the snowy Himalayan mountains to the warm waters of the Indian Ocean. Sri Lanka is a tropical island that is known for its tea plantations.



Peacock

The peacock is the national bird of India. The males have amazing tail feathers with swirled patterns that look like eyes.

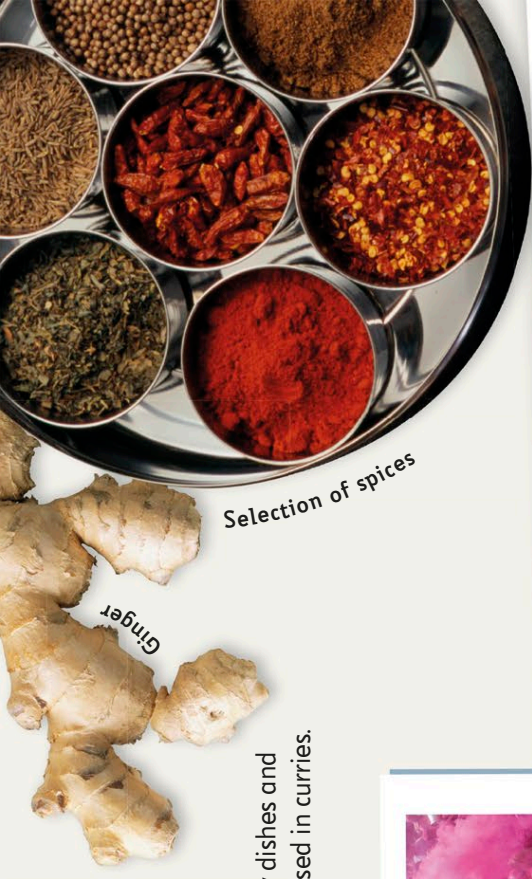
This huge, picturesque palace is in Udaipur



Namaste!
Hello

Land of spices

Rich and fragrant spices are grown in India and Sri Lanka. The ginger root adds warmth to sweet and savory dishes and several different spices are used in curries.



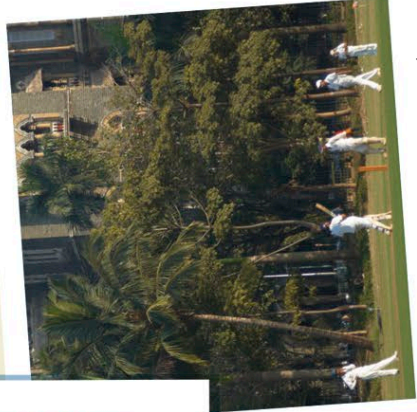
Selection of spices



Throwing colored paint

Holi Festival

The Hindu spring festival celebrates color and love. People throw paint powder and get covered in bright colors.



Cricketers in Mumbai

Cricket

Cricket is the most popular sport in India. It is played across the country on grass cricket grounds like this one in the city of Mumbai.

India has passed special laws to protect this rare rhino.

The Varanasi ghats are stone steps that lead down to the Ganges River and are used in bathing and religious ceremonies

This red sandstone tower was built in 1200 CE and is 243 ft (74 m) tall

This holy Buddhist site is built entirely from brick

Kolkata's largest cricket ground is a venue for international matches

Kolkata

Eden Gardens

Mahabodhi Temple

Ghats

Varanasi

Ganges

Ganges

Yamuna

NEPAL

BHUTAN

Brhmaputra

Bengal Tiger

About 2,000 of these tigers live in the wild in India.

Taj Mahal

The beautiful palace is made of white marble.

Qutub Minar

New Delhi

PAKISTAN

THAR DESERT

City Palace

Mandvi

Ahmedabad

Bhopal

Narmada

Indian rhinoceros

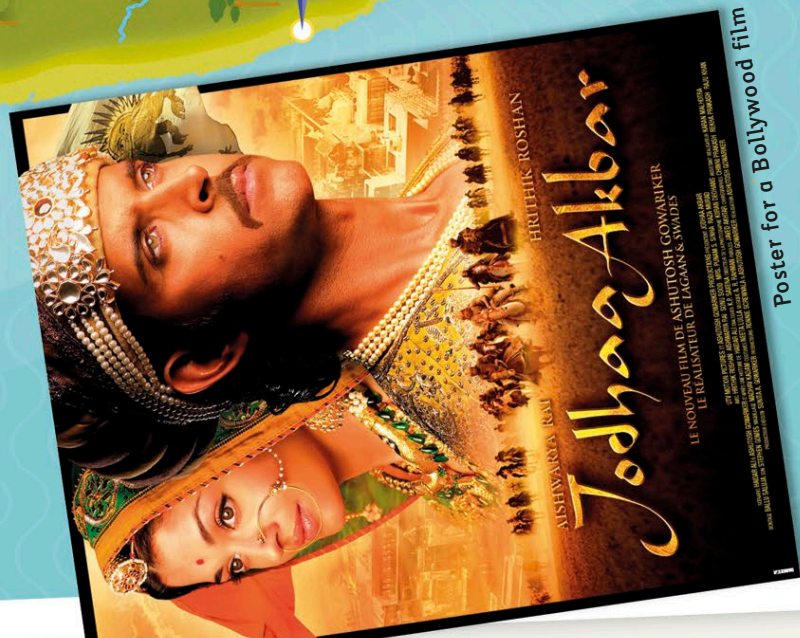
CHINA

MYANMAR (BURMA)

This lion is only found in the Gir Forest region of northwest India.



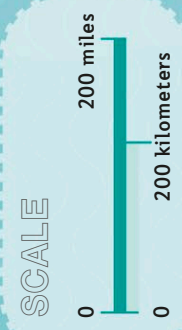
ARABIAN SEA



Poster for a Bollywood film

Bollywood

is one of the world's biggest film industries. It is based in Mumbai, India, and is popular at home and internationally. The films feature songs, dancing, romance, and adventure. They are shot in bright, bold colors, like the posters that advertise them.



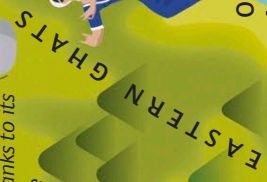
Ajanta and Ellora Caves

These Buddhist cave monuments contain rock carvings and paintings.



Indian cobra

This snake is extremely dangerous, thanks to its venomous bite.



Odissi dancer

The classical Indian dance Odissi features delicate hand and head movements.

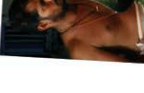


Godavari



Hampi

Hampi was once a rich and large city and is home to several important monuments.



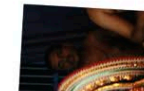
Goa



Bangalore



Chennai



Kovalam

INDIA

HYDERABAD



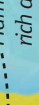
KRISHNA



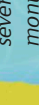
WESTERN GHATS



GOA



BANGALORE



CHENNAI



ASIAN ELEPHANT



KOVALAM



COLombo



SRI LANKA



INDIAN OCEAN



INDIAN OCEAN



INDIAN OCEAN



INDIAN OCEAN



INDIAN OCEAN



INDIAN OCEAN



INDIAN OCEAN



INDIAN OCEAN



INDIAN OCEAN



INDIAN OCEAN



Gemstones

Precious gemstones are mined in Sri Lanka, including unique blue sapphires. The island has some of the richest gem fields in the world.

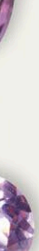


Kuhomadul Hello

Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte

Colombo

SRI LANKA



Cave temple

The Golden Temple of Dambulla is a sacred site that includes many golden Buddha statues and a monastery carved into the rock.



Kathakali

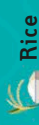
In Kerala state, South India, Kathakali performers wear face paint and costumes and perform dances that act out traditional stories.



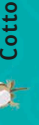
Kathakali performers

KEY

PRODUCE



Rice



Cotton



Tea



Mangoes



Black pepper



Wheat

INDUSTRY



Coal



Silk



Technology



Nuclear power



Fishing

ACTIVITIES



Cricket



Field hockey

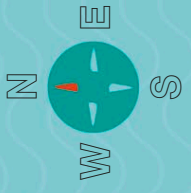
NATURAL FEATURES



Green turtles

Andaman Islands

Nicobar Islands



Namastē!
Hello

Gurung tribesmen collect honey from wild bees nesting in cliffs



Momos
These steamed dumplings are very popular in Nepal. Traditionally, they are filled with ground meat, but sometimes vegetables are used. They are served with a fiery chili sauce.



NEPAL AND BANGLADESH

Nepal and Bangladesh are two south Asian countries with very different landscapes. The high Himalayan mountains run through Nepal, while much of Bangladesh is only just above sea level, and large areas are flooded during the heavy monsoon rains.

Mount Everest

The world's highest mountain sits on Nepal's border with China. It is 29,029 ft (8,848 m) high. Mountaineers first reached Everest's peak in 1953.

KEY

PRODUCE	INDUSTRY
Mangoes	Textiles
Shellfish	Gas
Jute	Hydroelectric power
Coconuts	ACTIVITIES
Rice	Climbing
Tea	Hiking
NATURAL FEATURES	
Earthquakes	



The red panda lives in forests in the eastern Himalayas

This sacred Hindu temple stands in the heart of Kathmandu

Forests of blooming rhododendrons can be seen in the Himalayas. It is Nepal's national flower

Players ride elephants, not horses, in this version of polo

These ruins of a Buddhist monastery form one of the most important historical sites in Bangladesh

Although it is known as the Sixty Dome Mosque, this Muslim monument has 77 domes

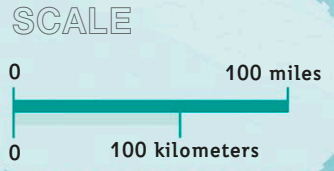
These massive crocodiles live in the Bay of Bengal



Embroidering a sari

Jamdani muslin
Jamdani is a fine muslin cloth that is produced in the Dhaka area of Bangladesh. It is dyed bright colors and embroidered, then used for saris.

Hyālō!
Hello



Fire balloons

The Festival of Lights is held every year in Myanmar to mark the end of the rainy season in November. Hot-air balloons, called fire balloons, are released into the sky. They are lit by candles and come in various fun shapes.



Rooster fire balloon

Maingalarpar!
Hello

These rare, round-headed dolphins hunt for fish in the Irrawaddy River.

Irrawaddy dolphin

Mandalay

Taunggyi

Nay Pyi Daw

Shwethalyaung Buddha

Shwedagon Paya

Yangon

Mawlamyaing

BAY OF BENGAL

THAILAND

Inle Lake

This lake in the mountains is home to some unique species of fish and snails. People live in houses raised on stilts around the edge of the lake.



SCALE



KEY

PRODUCE

Spices

Legumes

Shellfish

Sugar cane

Rice

INDUSTRY

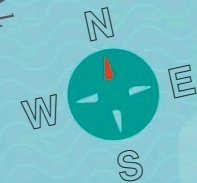
Jade

Rubies

Rubber

Lumber

Fishing



This tall, golden pagoda in Yangon is the most sacred Buddhist site in Myanmar.

This huge, reclining Buddha is 180 ft (55 m) long and 52 ft (16 m) high.

MYANMAR

Myanmar (formerly Burma) is a long, thin country that follows the Irrawaddy River and the coast of the Bay of Bengal. In the hills and forests of Myanmar, there are mines containing precious gemstones, such as jade and rubies. Its forests produce some of the world's finest teak wood, which is very strong and is used in shipbuilding and to make furniture.

Cobalt blue tarantula

This blue-legged spider lives in Myanmar's tropical forests. It uses deadly venom to catch its prey, including mice and frogs.



Shan noodles

This popular dish uses flat rice noodles, which are served in a spicy broth with chicken or pork. It is served topped with mustard greens and chopped peanuts.



Chinlone

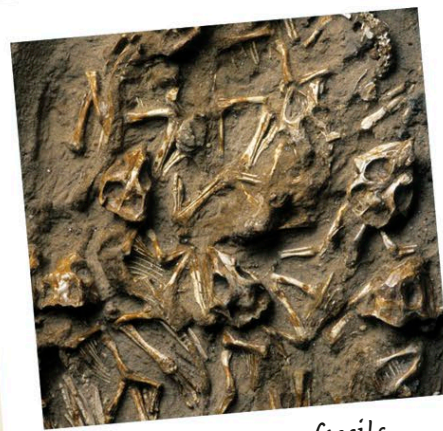
Chinlone

Chinlone, or cane ball, is a traditional sport in Myanmar. It is not competitive and there are no opposing teams. Players use their heads and knees to show how gracefully they can keep a cane ball in the air.



CHINA AND MONGOLIA

More than 1 billion people live in China. Most people live in the industrialized east of this vast and ancient land, which was once the home of a great empire. Mongolia has far fewer people and much of the country is desert or grassland, called steppe.



Baby dinosaur fossils

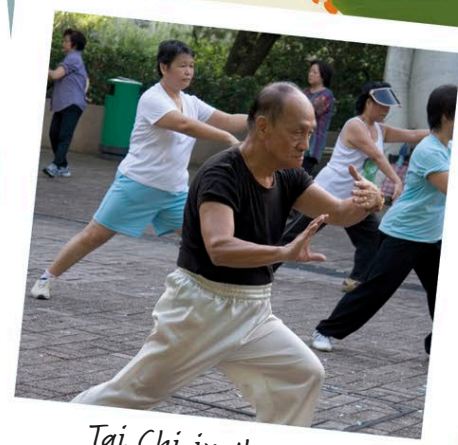
Dinosaurs in the Gobi
Dinosaurs lived in Mongolia and China millions of years ago. Many well preserved dinosaur fossils have been found in the Gobi desert.



Tibetan monk

Buddhism

Buddhism is a religion and a philosophy based on the teachings of the Buddha. In Tibet, Buddhist monks wear red robes.



Tai Chi in the park

Tai Chi

This popular group exercise involves a series of slow, controlled movements. People practice Tai Chi for defensive training and to keep healthy.

Giant panda

The giant panda lives in the mountainous forests of south-central China. It feeds on bamboo and is one of the rarest animals in the world.



Chinese New Year

This is China's most important festival, when people celebrate the coming of spring. People hold parades led by a huge dancing dragon, a symbol of China that is believed to bring good luck.



Mongolian horses

There are more horses in Mongolia than people. The Mongol horse is small, but very strong and sturdy. Many children learn to ride by the age of three.

Porcelain

China is famous for its high-quality, hardwearing pottery, called porcelain, which is made from kaolin, also known as China Clay.

KEY

Sheep	Rice
Goats	Cotton
Tea	Millet
INDUSTRY	
Coal	Copper
Iron	Tin
Steel	Gold
Lead	Nuclear power
Fishing	Manufacturing

Chinese food

Chinese cuisine is known for its variety of flavors. Meals often include rice or noodles and are eaten with chopsticks. Dim sum is a traditional Chinese food that consists of small bite-sized portions.

Taroko Gorge

The Leehow River carved through marble rock near Taiwan's east coast, creating this gorge, which is also called Marble Gorge.

Hong Kong

This region of China has a deep natural harbor and a dynamic skyline filled with tall skyscrapers. It is one of the most crowded areas in the world.

KOREA

Korea is a long peninsula that is divided into two countries: North Korea and South Korea, which are very different from each other. North Korea is mountainous and rural. Its society is ordered and closed off from the world. South Korea is more modern and has a thriving electronics industry.

Fruit and vegetables

The Asian pear is native to Korea and is commonly found in gardens. The pear has a yellow skin and a crisp texture.

Chinese cabbage, a green-leaf vegetable, is grown in Korea.

Chinese cabbage

Asian pear

CHINA

Kumsusan

Palace of the Sun

This palace in Pyongyang is a mausoleum (burial chamber) that contains the body of Kim Il-sung, the founding president of North Korea.



Sinuiju

Hamhung

Myohyang-san

This mountain is a sacred site and major tourist attraction

This 492-ft (150-m) high monument has a metal torch at the top, which is lit up at night

Juche Tower

Pyongyang

KOREA BAY

Taedong

This animal fattens up for the cold Korean winter by eating birds, frogs, and fruit

Raccoon dog

Annyeonghi gaseyo!
Good-bye

Chongjin

Sacred mountain

Mount Paektu is Korea's highest mountain and is sacred to the Korean people. It is also an active volcano and has a large lake at the top.



The internet

South Korea has the fastest internet connection rate in the world. Everyone uses the internet for work, school, and play. Many Korean teenagers enjoy playing games online.



Using the internet

SCALE



This beautiful mountain features in many Korean works of art

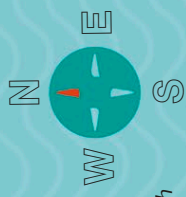
Mount Kumgang

SEA OF JAPAN/EAST SEA



KEY

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| PRODUCE | INDUSTRY |
| Rice | Fishing |
| Potatoes | Shipbuilding |
| Soybeans | Steel |
| Barley | Iron |
| Cabbages | Coal |
| Goats | Cars |
| Pigs | Uranium |
| Electronics | Copper |
| ACTIVITIES | |
| Hiking | Soccer |
| Hot springs | Scuba diving |
| Baseball | |
| ANIMALS | |
| Green Turtles | |



People go to watch the sunrise on New Year's Day at this popular tourist site

Modern seaside cabins provide shelter on beaches

A small herd of this rare, wild goat lives in mountains on the border between North and South Korea

This Korean martial art involves lots of fast kicking

Sat at the top of Namsan mountain, this tower offers fantastic views of Seoul

Long-tailed goral

Golf is a popular sport in Korea. South Korea has produced several champion women players

This is the national flower of South Korea

This is the main temple of Korean Buddhism

Floating festival
Every October, thousands of paper memorial lanterns, commemorating soldiers who died defending Korea, are lit and floated on the Nam River in Jinju.

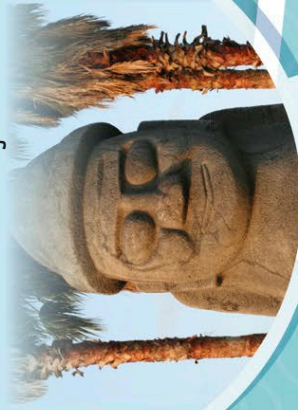
Jinju Lantern Festival

SOUTH KOREA

YELLOW SEA

Annyeonghaseyo!
Hello

Stone statues
Distinctive statues known as "dol hareubang," or stone grandfathers, are found on the island of Jeju.



The island of Jeju is south of the Korean mainland

This green-tea plantation in the mountain valleys of Boseong is a major tourist attraction

Boseong Daehan Dawon tea plantation

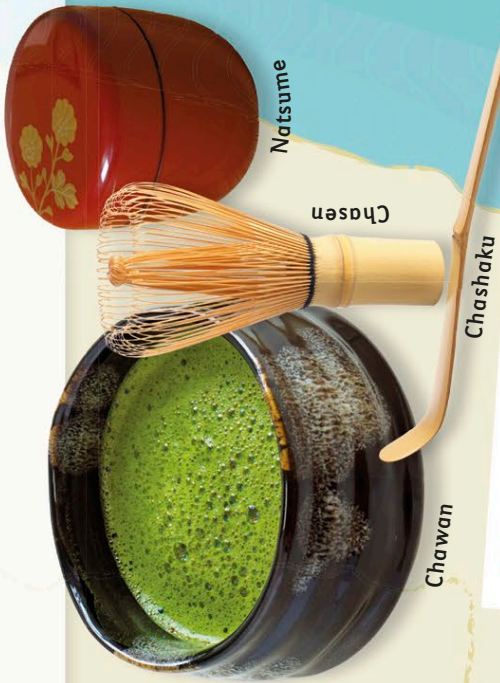
Korean food
The classic Korean dish called bibimbap is a hot bowl of rice with vegetables, chili, meat, and egg. Kimchee is a traditional side dish made of seasoned vegetables, including Chinese cabbage.



Kimchee

JAPAN

Japan is a modern, industrial country, but ancient traditions are still an important part of Japanese culture. Most people live in cities on one of the four main islands. Much of the country is mountainous, with many active volcanoes.

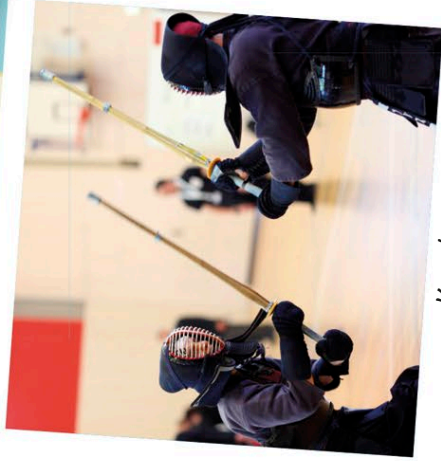


Tea ceremony

Matcha green tea is served in a chawan (special tea bowl) in a traditional ceremony that symbolizes friendship and respect between host and guest. Tea is placed in a small container (natsume). It is then added to hot water with a scoop (chashaku) and stirred with a bamboo whisk (chasen).

Martial arts

Kendo is one of the most popular martial arts in Japan. Fighters use bamboo swords and wear protective armor.



Kendo

Comics and cartoons

Cartoon drawings are very popular in Japan. Comics in the distinctive hand-drawn style are called manga, while moving cartoons are known as anime.



Anime



Lantern float

Aomori Nebuta festival
Festivals are held throughout Japan. Every summer, the city of Aomori holds a festival where huge paper lantern floats (nebutas), painted with pictures of mythical beasts and warriors, are carried through the streets.

This rare wetland bird is a symbol of long life in Japan

Pandas made from rice balls and pieces of seaweed



Bento

On special occasions, Japanese parents send their children to school with a lunch box, or bento, containing decorated food.



Asahikawa

Sapporo

Tomakomai

Hakodate

Aomori

Hirosaki

Sendai

Red-crowned crane

Kushiro

Two million people visit Sapporo every winter to see the snow and ice sculptures

Earthquakes are common in Japan and this earthquake was the most powerful ever recorded in Japan

Tohoku earthquake

Tokyo

The crosswalk near Shibuya Station is one of the busiest places in this crowded city. Often over 1,000 people, coming from all directions, will be on it at the same time.





Bullet trains

High-speed trains
 These superfast trains carry people between Japan's major cities at speeds of up to 200 mph (320 km/h). Trains that travel even faster are on their way.



This is one of the world's longest suspension bridges. It links Awaji Island to the mainland.

SOUTH KOREA

SEA OF JAPAN / EAST SEA

These monkeys are famous for keeping warm in hot springs.

This popular tourist attraction in Kyōto is also known as the Golden Temple

Shinto is Japan's state religion and this is one of its most sacred places

Pottery is one of Japan's oldest forms of art

Mount Aso is the largest active volcano in Japan

SCALE
 0 100 miles
 0 100 kilometers

Japan's tallest structure is the tower called Tokyo Skytree

Kon'nichiwa!
 Hello

Mount Fuji
 This active volcano is Japan's tallest mountain at 12,388 ft (3,776 m). Many people believe Mount Fuji to be sacred and more than 200,000 people visit it every year.



KEY

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| PRODUCE
Rice | INDUSTRY
Fishing | NATURAL FEATURES
Volcanoes |
| CARS
Electronics | ACTIVITIES
Hiking | Cherry blossom
Hot springs |

SCALE

0 100 miles
 0 100 kilometers

Yakushima Islands
 These islands are famous for their beautiful beaches

Okinawa

Naha

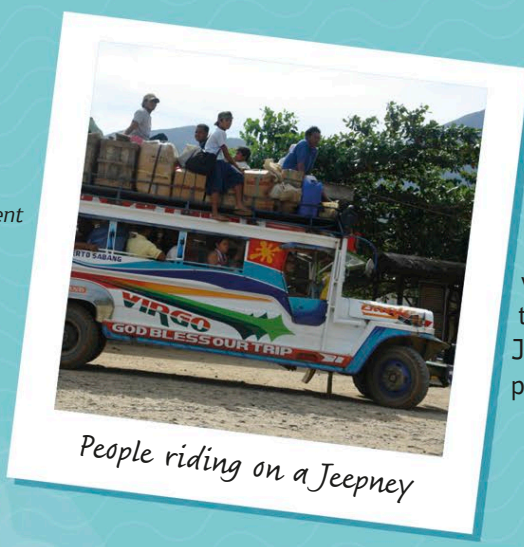
Osami Islands

SCALE

0 100 miles
 0 100 kilometers

KEY

PRODUCE	INDUSTRY
Coconuts	Rubies and sapphires
Coffee	Finance
Rice	Pearls
Tea	Gas
Cocoa	Oil
Pigs	Lumber
Palm oil	ACTIVITIES
Corn	Surfing
Sugar cane	Scuba diving
Rubber	Boxing
NATURAL FEATURES	
Coral reef	Turtles

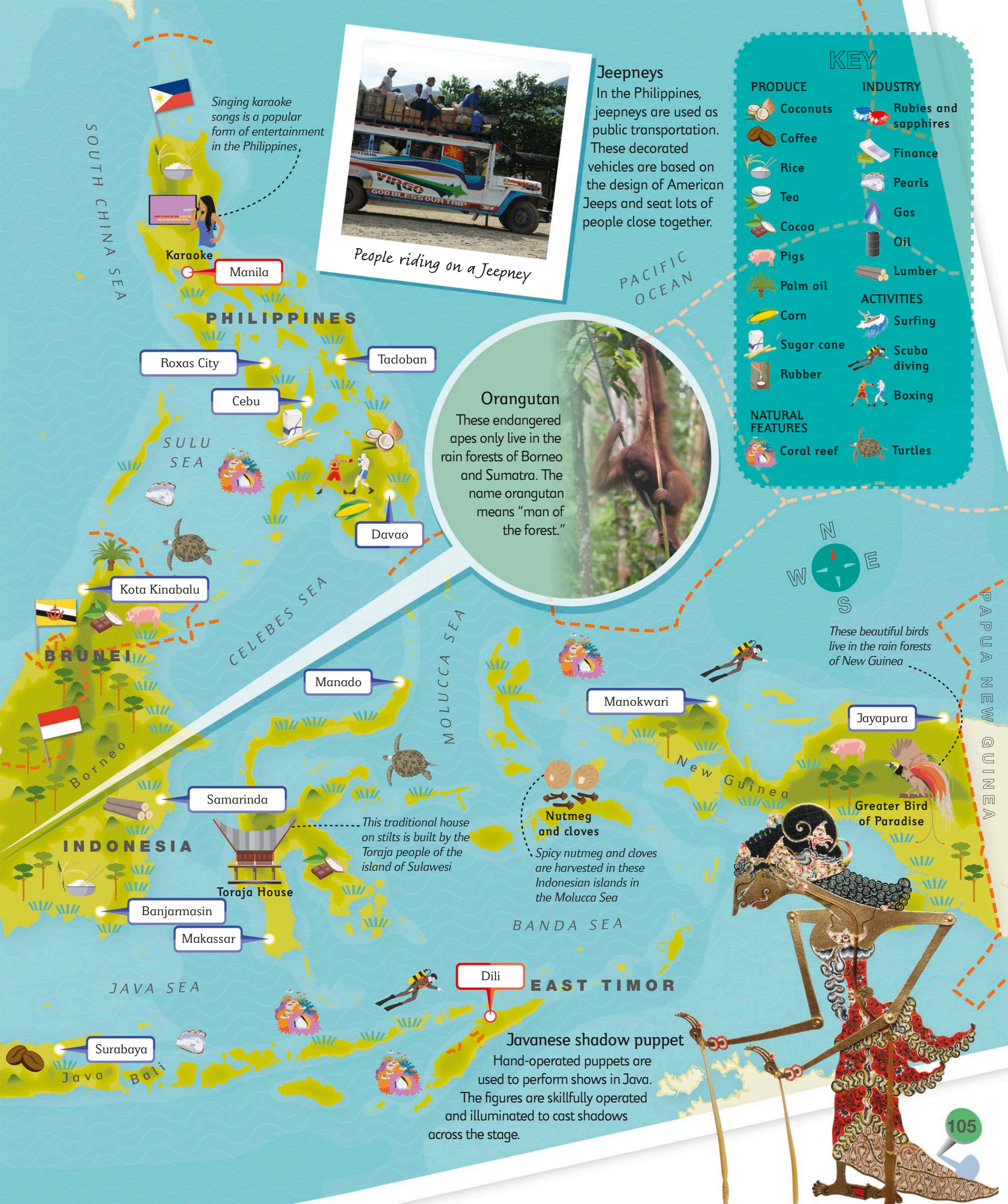


People riding on a Jeepney

Jeepneys
In the Philippines, jeepneys are used as public transportation. These decorated vehicles are based on the design of American Jeeps and seat lots of people close together.



Orangutan
These endangered apes only live in the rain forests of Borneo and Sumatra. The name orangutan means "man of the forest."



Singing karaoke songs is a popular form of entertainment in the Philippines.



Karaoke
Manila

Roxas City

Cebu

Tacloban

Davao

Kota Kinabalu

Manado

Manokwari

Jayapura

Samarinda

Banjarmasin

Makassar

Dili

Surabaya

This traditional house on stilts is built by the Toraja people of the island of Sulawesi

Toraja House

Spicy nutmeg and cloves are harvested in these Indonesian islands in the Molucca Sea

Nutmeg and cloves

Javanese shadow puppet
Hand-operated puppets are used to perform shows in Java. The figures are skillfully operated and illuminated to cast shadows across the stage.

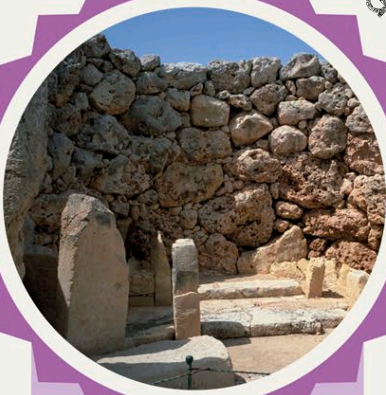
These beautiful birds live in the rain forests of New Guinea

Greater Bird of Paradise

GREAT SITES

Throughout history, humans have built amazing structures and buildings. These great sites were often built to impress people and as a display of power. In the past, cathedrals and castles were among the largest and most awe-inspiring buildings. Today's spectacular buildings and structures include towering skyscrapers and long bridges.

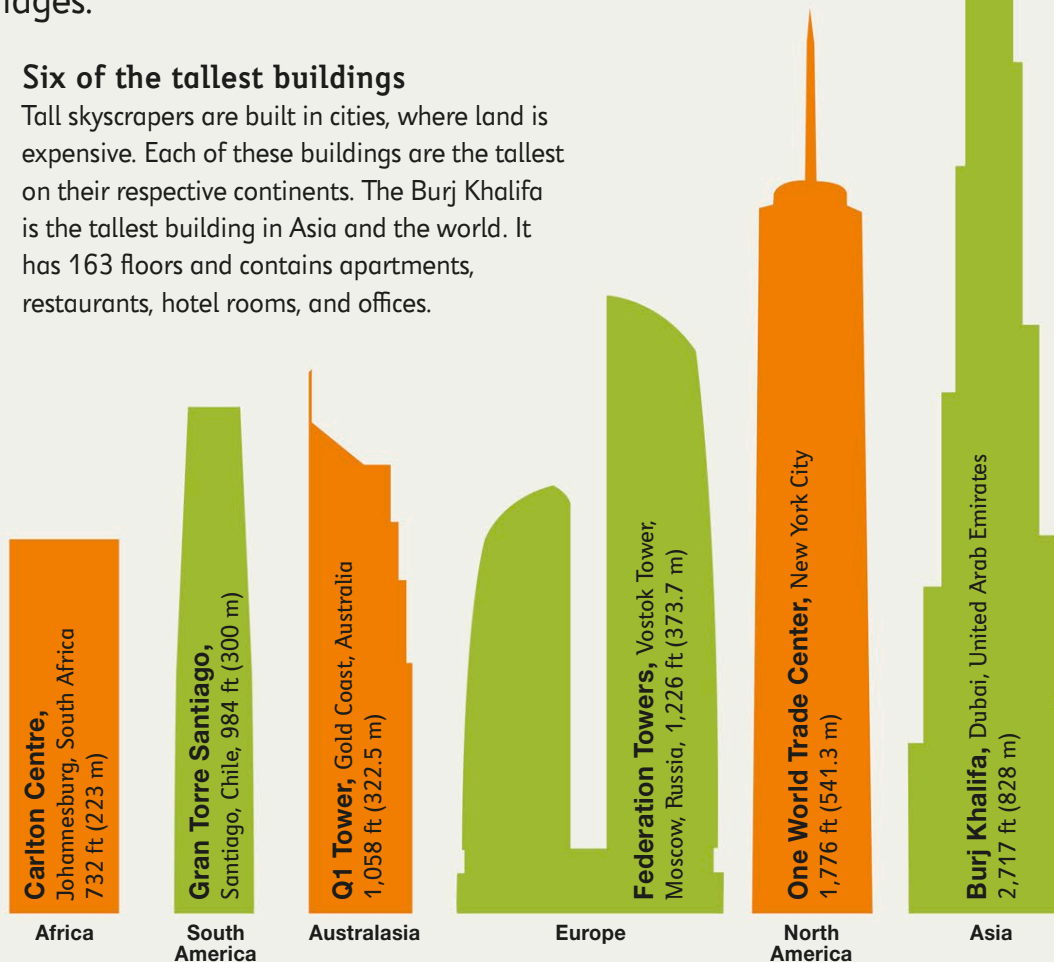
OLDEST BUILDING



The Megalithic Temples of Malta were constructed 5,500 years ago and are among the oldest buildings that still stand today. They were used for religious ceremonies.

Six of the tallest buildings

Tall skyscrapers are built in cities, where land is expensive. Each of these buildings are the tallest on their respective continents. The Burj Khalifa is the tallest building in Asia and the world. It has 163 floors and contains apartments, restaurants, hotel rooms, and offices.



Manchac Swamp Bridge, USA, 22.81 miles (36.71 km)



Lake Pontchartrain Causeway, USA, 23.83 miles (38.35 km)



Bang Na Expressway, Thailand, 34.2 miles (55 km)



Tianjin Grand Bridge, China, 70.6 miles (113.7 km)



Danyang-Kunshan Grand Bridge, China, 102.4 miles (164.8 km)

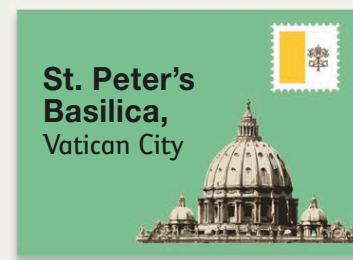
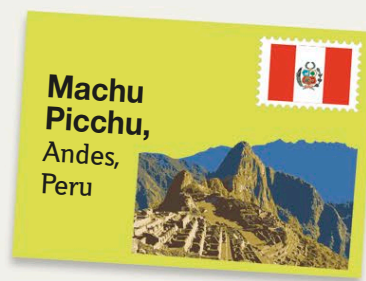
Five of the longest bridges

Long bridges are built across rivers, lakes, harbors, valleys, and even swamps. Bridges are an important way of connecting communities.

The Danyang-Kunshan Grand Bridge carries a high-speed railroad over rice paddies, rivers, and lakes.

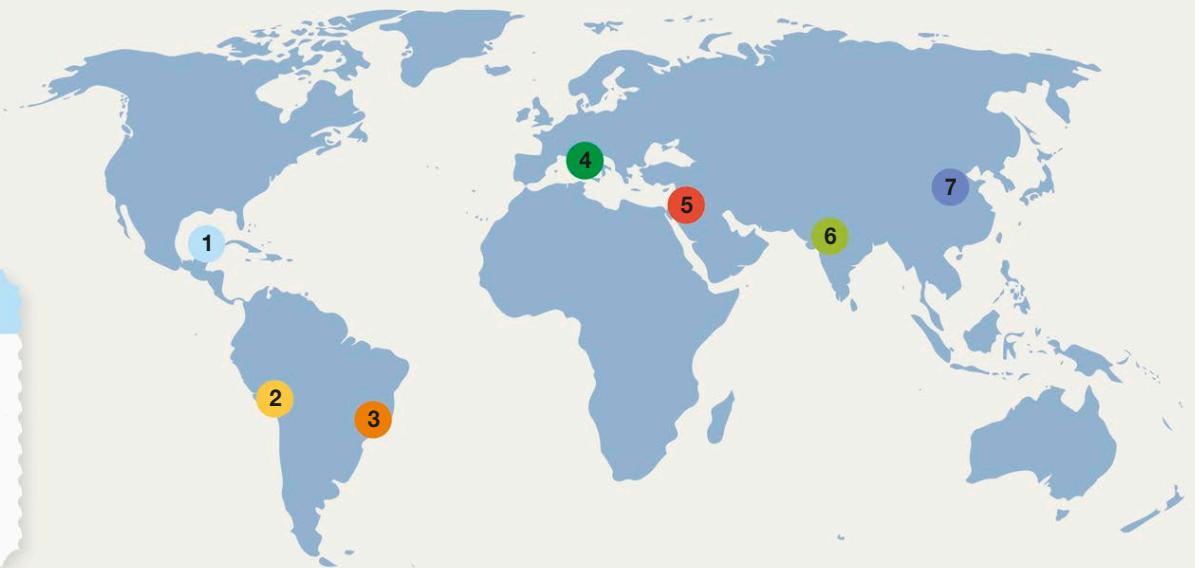

Ten popular tourist attractions

These 10 great sites are some of the most popular places for tourists to visit. They include historic buildings, religious sites, and ancient monuments.




New Seven Wonders of the World

In 2007, a worldwide survey voted the great sites shown here as being the New Seven Wonders of the World. The original Seven Wonders of the Ancient World included the Great Pyramid at Giza, Egypt.

1. CHICHEN ITZA, Mexico

This ancient city was built by the Mayans. It has many great stone buildings, including this pyramid, called El Castillo.




2. MACHU PICCHU, Peru

Nestled in the Andes, this stone city built by the Incas is now in ruins. The name Machu Picchu means "old mountain."



4. COLOSSEUM, Italy

The Romans built this massive, oval-shaped stadium. It could seat more than 50,000 people. Gladiators fought in it.




6. TAJ MAHAL, India

The Taj Mahal means "crown of palaces." It was built as a tomb for Mumtaz Mahal, wife of the Mogul emperor Shah Jahan.



3. CHRIST THE REDEEMER, Brazil

This huge statue of Jesus Christ is 100 ft (30 m) tall. It is carved out of soapstone and looms over Rio de Janeiro in Brazil.



5. PETRA, Jordan

The ancient city of Petra was carved out of rocky cliffs. It is also known as the "Rose City," because of the rock's pink color.



7. GREAT WALL OF CHINA, China

The longest man-made structure, the Great Wall is an amazing sight as it winds its way through the mountains of China.



4. What is the name of this rock formation in Australia?



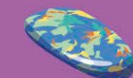
3. Flying doctors travel across the deserts of which country?



2. Nelson Falls is found on which remote island?



1. Which fox lives in the far north of the world?



AUSTRALASIA AND THE POLAR REGIONS

The countries of Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Island nations make up Australasia, in the southern half of the world. At the extreme north and south are the polar regions of the Arctic and Antarctic, where few people live because it is so cold.

5. Which Arctic people cut holes in the ice to catch fish?



6. In which country is this building shaped like a beehive?



7. Penguins are found in which polar region?



8. What is the coral reef off Australia's coastline called?



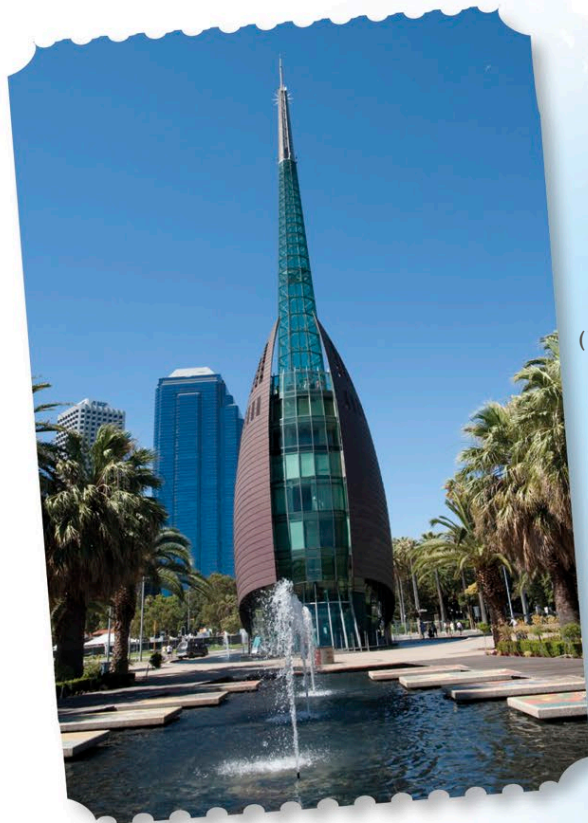
You can find all the answers and more quizzes on pages 120-121.



AUSTRALASIA

The vast region of Australasia contains a wide variety of different landscapes, ranging from the desert that covers most of Australia to tropical islands dotted around the Pacific Ocean, which are fringed with golden, sandy beaches and coral reefs. There are also large areas of dense rain forest in eastern Australia, Tasmania, Papua New Guinea, and New Zealand.

The dotted lines show where these island groups are, as many are too small to see with the naked eye.



Perth

This coastal city is the capital of the state of Western Australia. Its center is crammed with modern, high-rise buildings. Although it is one of the world's most isolated cities, Perth is home to people from many different countries and cultures.

SCALE



Uluru

This unique, sandstone rock formation rises up majestically from the desert of Australia's Northern Territory and is of great spiritual and cultural importance to Australia's Aboriginal people.



French Polynesia

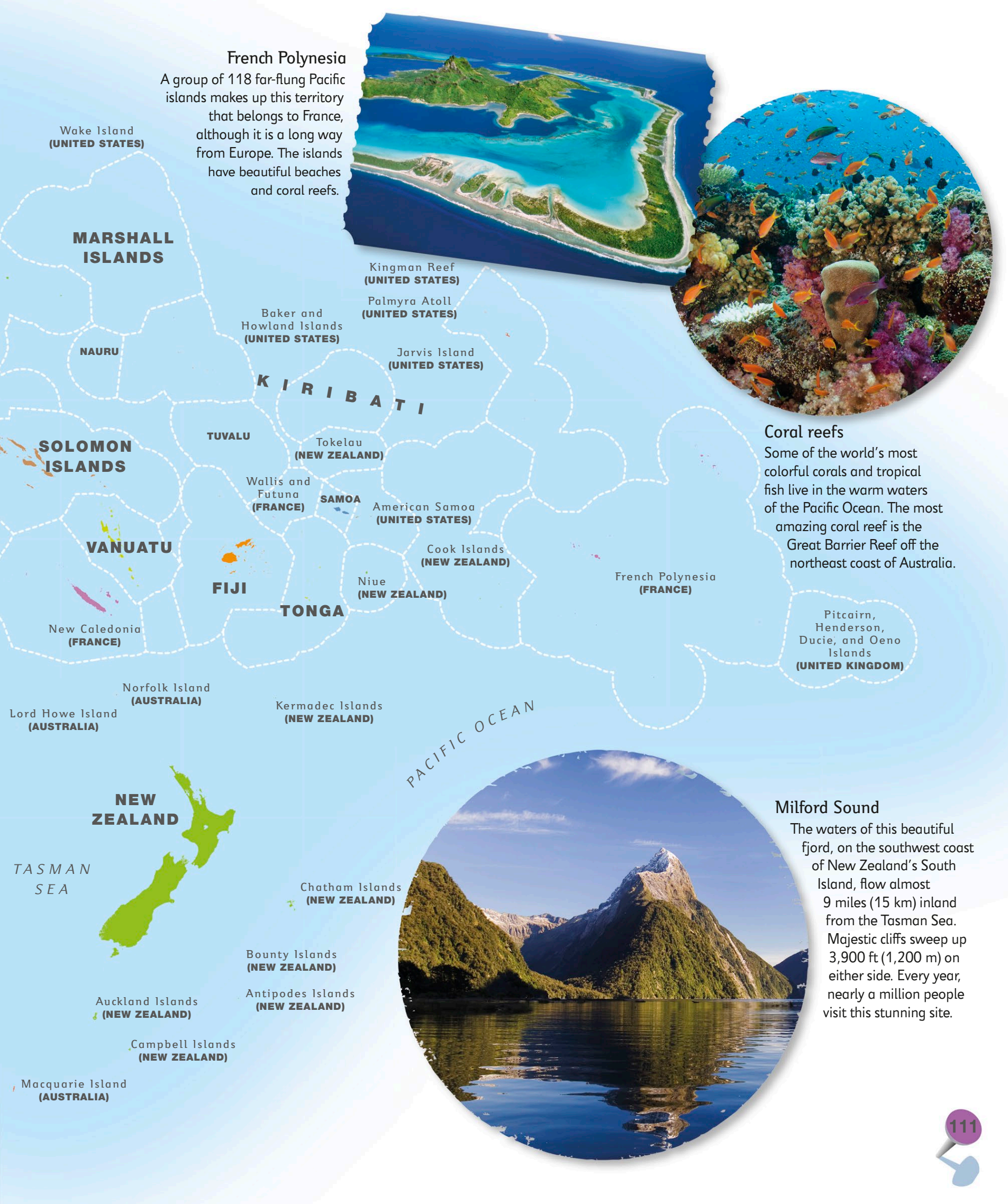
A group of 118 far-flung Pacific islands makes up this territory that belongs to France, although it is a long way from Europe. The islands have beautiful beaches and coral reefs.



Coral reefs

Some of the world's most colorful corals and tropical fish live in the warm waters of the Pacific Ocean. The most amazing coral reef is the Great Barrier Reef off the northeast coast of Australia.

Pitcairn, Henderson, Ducie, and Oeno Islands
(UNITED KINGDOM)



PACIFIC OCEAN



Milford Sound

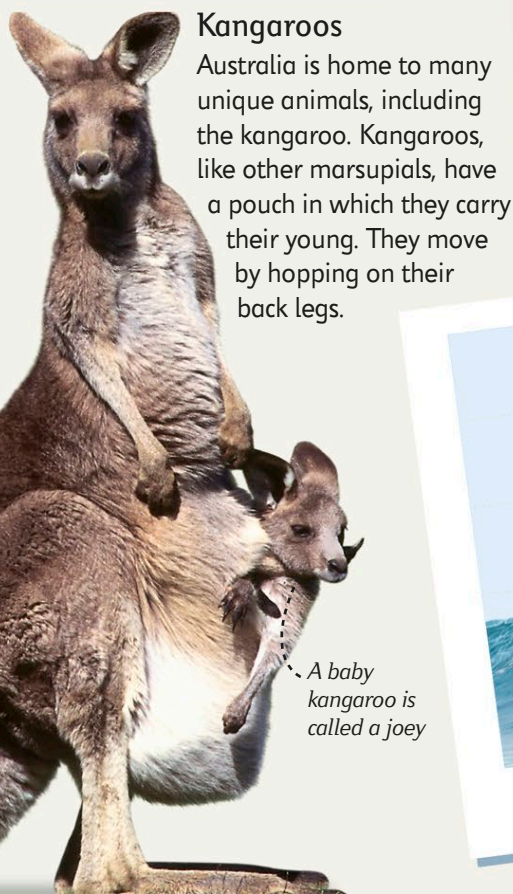
The waters of this beautiful fjord, on the southwest coast of New Zealand's South Island, flow almost 9 miles (15 km) inland from the Tasman Sea. Majestic cliffs sweep up 3,900 ft (1,200 m) on either side. Every year, nearly a million people visit this stunning site.

AUSTRALIA

Australia is a huge island between the Indian and Pacific oceans. The middle of Australia is a vast desert known as the "Outback," which is extremely hot and dry. Most Australians live around the coastal areas, where it is cooler. Here, many people enjoy outdoor activities, such as surfing.

KEY

PRODUCE	RESOURCES
Cotton	Coal
Vineyards	Iron Ore
Cattle	Bauxite
Sheep	Gold
Bananas	Silver
Wheat	Uranium
Sugar cane	Lumber
ACTIVITIES	
Surfing	Cricket
Skiing	Rugby
Scuba diving	



Kangaroos
Australia is home to many unique animals, including the kangaroo. Kangaroos, like other marsupials, have a pouch in which they carry their young. They move by hopping on their back legs.

A baby kangaroo is called a joey



Surfing



Sun, sand, surf
Australia has long stretches of sandy beaches. People enjoy surfing on some of the world's biggest waves.



Barbecues
Australians love to cook and eat outdoors and barbecuing food, such as juicy shrimp, is very popular. It is also a great way to cook tasty meals.



ARAFURA SEA

Aboriginal paintings of European ships arriving in the 18th century feature on rocks in this park

Kakadu National Park

This egg-laying mammal is only found in Australia

Duck-billed Platypus

All kinds of colorful fish make their home among the corals of the Great Barrier Reef

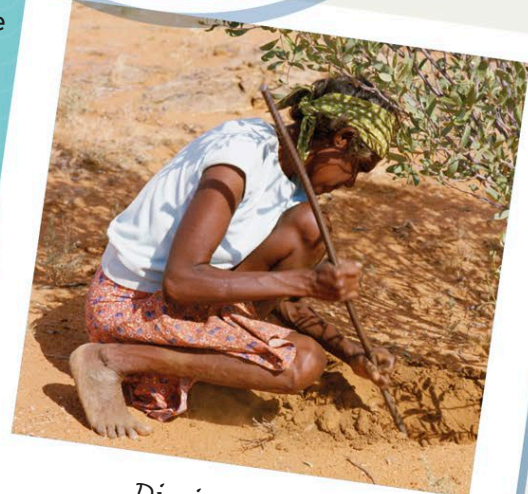
Great Barrier Reef

The world's largest coral reefs are off the northeastern coast of Australia. They cover about the same area as Japan and are a great site for scuba divers.



Aboriginals

The Aboriginals were the first people to live in Australia. Some have held onto their traditions and are skilled at finding food in the bush, such as witchetty grubs (larvae of moths).



Digging for food

These bearlike animals live in and eat the leaves of eucalyptus, or gum trees

Koala

This bright lighthouse on Australia's easternmost point helps keep ships safe

Cape Byron Lighthouse

Opera House

Sydney is Australia's oldest and largest city. Its opera house stands in the city's harbor. It is instantly recognizable because of its dramatic shape. The roofs look like the sails of a ship.



Tasmanian devil

These fierce animals are the size of a small dog and only live in the wild in Tasmania. They are named "devils" because of their aggressive character.

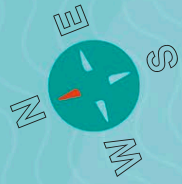




Kiwi

This flightless bird is native to New Zealand. It is the country's national symbol and appears on coins and badges. New Zealanders are often referred to as "Kiwis".

The Māori people built wooden meeting houses, often with detailed carving on the outside



Carved meeting house

This huge tree only grows on New Zealand's North Island. It can be up to 165 ft (50 m) tall with a 16 ft (5 m) diameter trunk

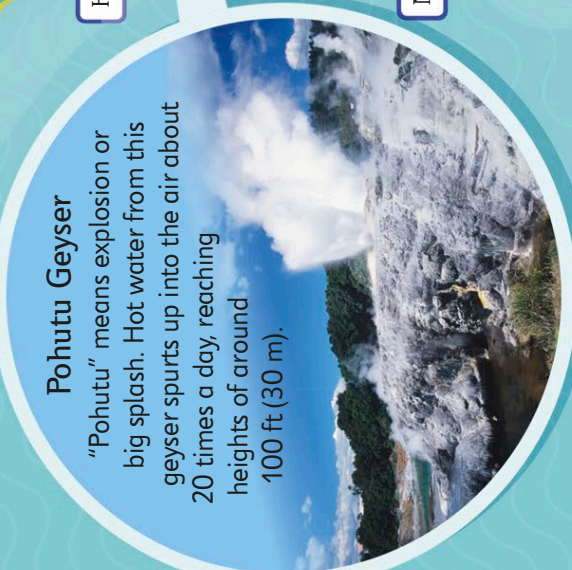
The haka



All Blacks rugby team
The All Blacks is the nickname of the national men's rugby union team. It is one of the best rugby teams in the world. The men perform a haka, a traditional Māori war dance, before each international match.

Pohutu Geyser

"Pohutu" means explosion or big splash. Hot water from this geyser spurts up into the air about 20 times a day, reaching heights of around 100 ft (30 m).

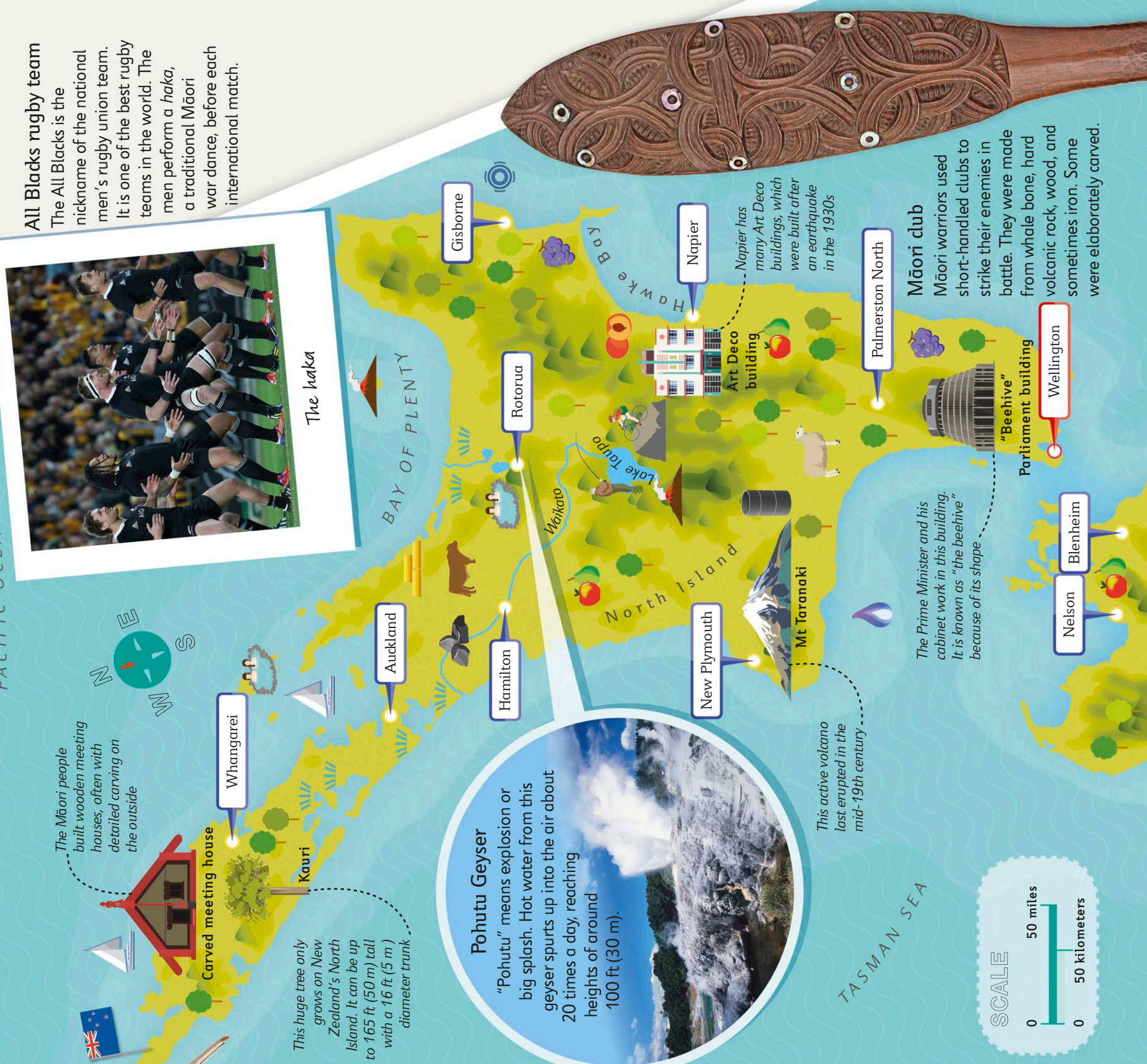


This active volcano last erupted in the mid-19th century

KEY

PRODUCE	INDUSTRY	ACTIVITIES	NATURAL FEATURES
Sheep	Hydroelectric power	Skiing	Earthquakes
Cattle	Oil	Hiking	Volcanoes
Vineyards	Gas	Fishing	
Apples and pears	Coal	Mountain biking	
Peaches	Gold	White-water rafting	
Wheat		Sailing	
		Hot springs	

SCALE



Māori club

Māori warriors used short-handled clubs to strike their enemies in battle. They were made from whale bone, hard volcanic rock, wood, and sometimes iron. Some were elaborately carved.

"Beehive"

The Prime Minister and his cabinet work in this building. It is known as "the beehive" because of its shape

Nelson
Blenheim

Wellington

Palmerston North

Napier has many Art Deco buildings, which were built after an earthquake in the 1930s

Art Deco building

New Plymouth

Mt Taranaki

Gisborne

Rotorua

Auckland

Hamilton

BAY OF PLENTY

Hawke Bay

North Island

TASMAN SEA



Hiking on Franz Josef glacier

Glaciers

New Zealand has many glaciers, mostly on South Island. One of the largest is the Franz Josef glacier, named after an Austrian emperor by a German explorer. This massive block of ice is 7½ miles (12 km) long.

Despite its remote location, this beautiful fjord is one of New Zealand's most visited sites.



Green-lipped mussels

Kiwi fruit

Farming and fishing

New Zealand exports its produce all over the world. It is famous for its lamb and juicy, green-fleshed kiwi fruit. Large, green-lipped mussels live around the coast and are also farmed.

New Zealand's climate is ideal for growing grapes for making wine, and the country is famous for its high-quality Sauvignon Blanc wine.

Greymouth

Hello!

Large numbers of sperm whales feed in the waters near Kaikoura.

Kaikoura



Sperm whale

Christchurch

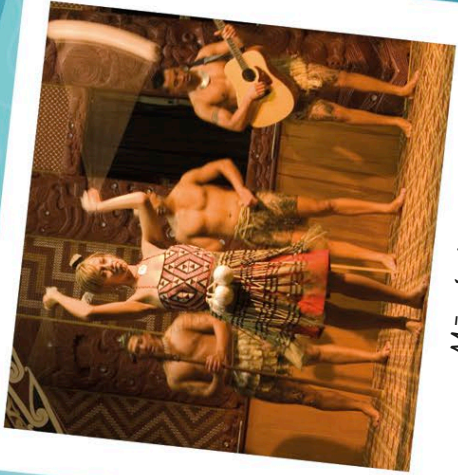
Cardboard Cathedral

An earthquake severely damaged Christchurch's cathedral in 2011. A cardboard, steel, and lumber replacement was built nearby to use while repairs are carried out.



Māori

Māori were the first people to arrive in New Zealand, nearly 1,000 years ago. Today, they make up less than a quarter of the population, but interest in their culture is growing. Children can now learn the Māori language in school.



Māori dancers

NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand is one of the world's most isolated countries, being nearly 930 miles (1,500 km) from its nearest neighbor, Australia. It is made up of two large islands and several smaller ones. Farmland and forests cover much of the country. Volcanic activity has created many high mountains and hot springs.

ANTARCTICA

Antarctica is the coldest and driest continent on Earth. More than 99 percent of the land is covered by a huge ice sheet, which is up to 2¾ miles (4.5 km) thick in places. No people live there permanently, but scientists and tourists visit to study this icy world and its unique animals and plants.

Krill

The cold waters of the Southern Ocean are full of krill. These little shrimplike animals are the main source of food for many birds and whales.



Halley VI dining unit

Antarctic stations

Scientists live and work in Antarctica in research stations. *Halley VI* is a British station that has eight units, which can be moved independently. Each unit sits above the ice on stilts with skis.

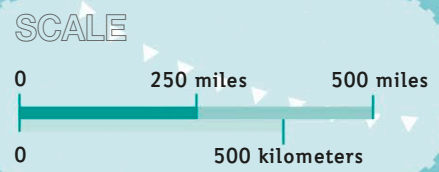
Larsen B Ice Shelf

This huge area of ice lying over the Weddell Sea is breaking up and melting. Scientists think this is because the Earth is getting warmer.



Emperor penguins

Penguins cannot fly. Instead, they use their wings to swim underwater to search for krill and fish. Emperor penguins breed on the ice during the winter, with each pair raising one chick.





These ships can break through ice up to 3 ft (1 m) thick



Research ship

Maitri (India)

Syowa (Japan)

SOUTHERN OCEAN

Zhongshan (China)

Taishan (China)

Davis (Australia)

East Antarctica

South Pole
Amundsen-Scott (USA)

Vostok (Russia)

South Geomagnetic Pole

TRANSANTARCTIC MOUNTAINS

ROSS ICE SHELF

Rugby

Scott (NZ)

McMurdo (USA)

Every summer, Scott station rugby club plays a game on the snow against a team from McMurdo station

The Ice Marathon has been held every summer since 2006, and even the penguins have been known to join in!

Ice Marathon

Mario Zucchelli (Italy)

Dumont d'Urville (France)

ROSS SEA

This powerful seal eats krill, penguins, and other seals

More than 2 million pairs of Adélie penguins breed around Antarctica every year, nesting on ice-free areas of rock

Adélie penguin

TO NEW ZEALAND

TO AUSTRALIA

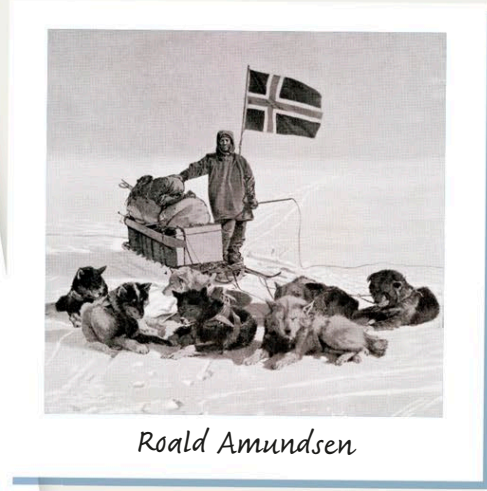
Leopard seal



Scientists examining a meteorite

Meteorites

Rocks from space that land on the Earth's surface are called meteorites. Thousands of meteorites have been collected from Antarctica, including ones from the Moon and the planet Mars.



Roald Amundsen

Race to the South Pole

Explorers competed to be the first people to reach the South Pole, the southernmost point on Earth. The Norwegian Roald Amundsen led the first successful team there in 1911.

KEY

NATURAL FEATURES	OTHER
Volcanoes	Research stations
ACTIVITIES	Fishing trawler
Cross-country skiing	

THE ARCTIC

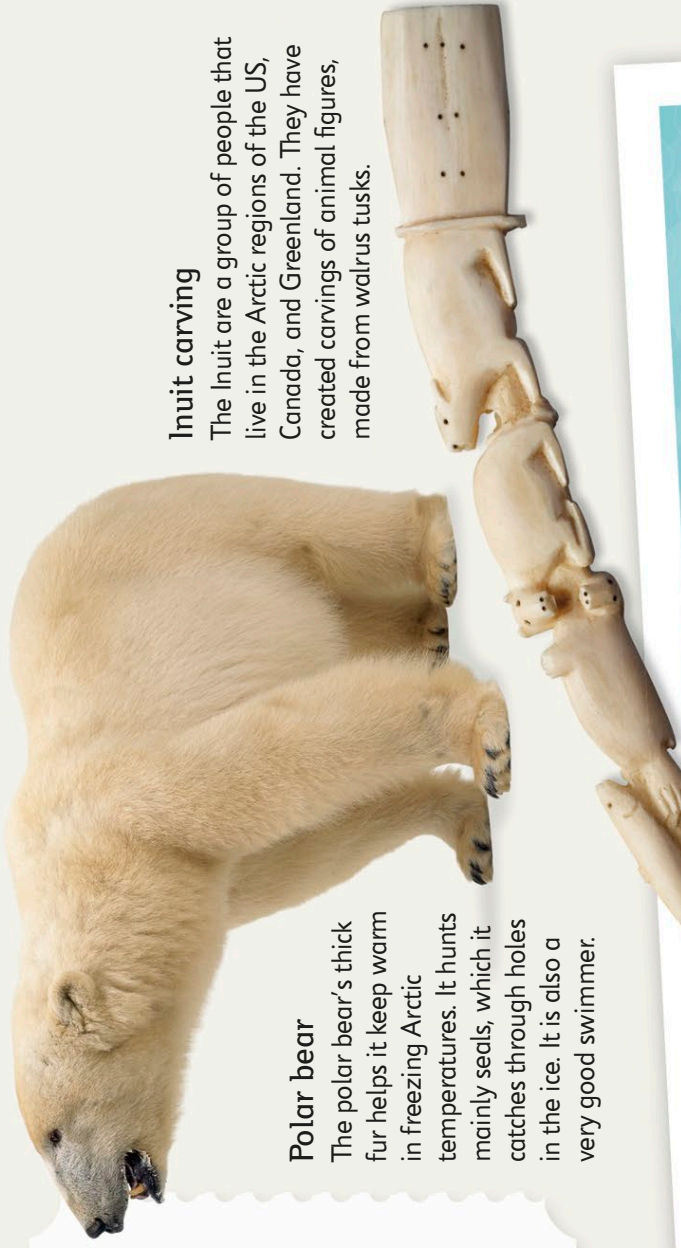
The extreme northern edges of the countries of Europe, Asia, and North America lie within the Arctic region. At its center lies the North Pole. Most of the Arctic is ice, floating above the Arctic Ocean. In summer, the ice shrinks and chunks break off into the ocean. In winter, the ice expands.

Polar bear

The polar bear's thick fur helps it keep warm in freezing Arctic temperatures. It hunts mainly seals, which it catches through holes in the ice. It is also a very good swimmer.

Inuit carving

The Inuit are a group of people that live in the Arctic regions of the US, Canada, and Greenland. They have created carvings of animal figures, made from walrus tusks.





Inuit coat

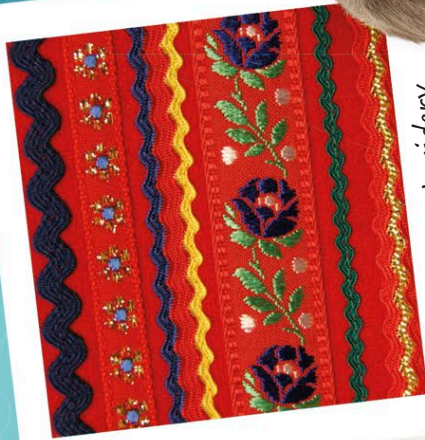
The Inuit need thick, warm clothing to survive in the freezing Arctic winters. Coats are traditionally made from animal furs, which help trap heat.



Sami embroidery

Sami embroidery and shoes

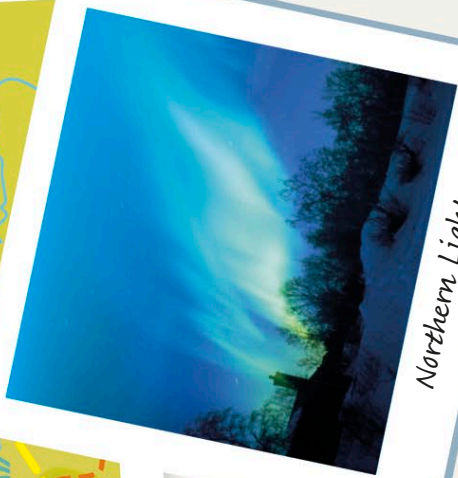
The Sami people are native to Lapland. Traditional Sami crafts include colorful embroidery and fur clothing, including footwear.



Northern Lights

Dark nights

The Arctic has long, dark nights in winter, and for many days the Sun does not rise at all. Some nights, the colorful Northern Lights, or Aurora Borealis, can be seen flashing across the sky.



ATLAS PICTURE QUIZ



This huge island has a vast hot and dry area in the middle known as "the Outback"



This large Asian country has contrasting landscapes



This sunny country lies on the edge of Western Europe



This icy country is in the far north of Europe



NAME THE COUNTRY

Here are the outlines of some of the countries that appear in this atlas. Can you name them? Look at the clues to help you. The answers are on page 121.



This Asian country is made up of four main islands



This long, thin South American country has mountains and deserts

This fertile country in the southern hemisphere is made up of two main islands



All kinds of amazing animals are unique to this African island



This long, thin country is shaped like a boot



This North American country is the second biggest in the world

GUESS THE ICON

All these colorful icons appear somewhere in this book. See if you can answer these questions about them. The answers are at the bottom of the page.

1. In which country would you find the Atacama desert?



2. In which North African country is this ancient theater?



3. In which country does the kakapo make its home?



7. Which Asian country is the black iris the symbol of?



6. Which country did the artist Vincent van Gogh come from?



5. In which region would you find this hare?



4. Which animal is this okapi related to?



8. Where would you find a poppy with yellow flowers?



9. In which country would you find the Forbidden City?



10. Where would you find stars fixed into the sidewalk?



11. In which country would you find Mt. Taranaki?



15. In which Asian country would you find the ziggurat of Ur?



14. In which country would you find the Shwethalyaung Buddha?



13. This seal lives in which huge lake in Russia?



12. In which mountainous country does the llama live?



16. In which country would you find this Odissi dancer?



17. On which continent is the Ice Marathon held?



18. In which African country is Nshima eaten?



19. What's the name of this Italian leaning tower?



23. What's the name of this strange-looking fish?



22. Which city in the US is famous for its cable cars?



21. The gymnast Nadia Comaneci came from which country?



20. In which country would you find the Little Mermaid?



Answers: Page 8-9 North America: 1. Mount Rushmore, 2. Dominican Republic, 3. Toronto, 4. Mexico, 5. New York, 6. Colorado River, 7. Inuit, 8. Panama Canal, Page 22-23 South America: 1. Rio de Janeiro, 2. Andes, 3. Colombia, 4. Chile, 5. Brazil, 6. Argentina, 7. Spectacled bear, 8. Peru, Page 34-35 Africa: 1. Tuareg, 2. Kenya, 3. Libya, 4. Feluccas, 5. Congo, 6. South Africa, 7. Zambia, 8. Madagascar, Page 50-51 Europe: 1. Corsica, 2. St. Basil's Cathedral, 3. England, 4. Salzburg, 5. Czech Republic, 6. France, 7. Danube River, 8. Spain, Page 80-81 Asia: 1. India, 2. Turkey, 3. China, 4. Mongolia, 5. Taiwan, 6. China, 7. Tokyo Skytree, 8. South Korea, Page 108-109 Australasia and the Polar Regions: 1. Arctic fox, 2. Tasmania, 3. Australia, 4. Uluru (Ayers Rock), 5. Inuit, 6. New Zealand, 7. Antarctica, 8. Great Barrier Reef, Page 120 Name the Country: 1. Australia, 2. India, 3. Portugal, 4. Chile, 5. Iceland, 6. Japan, 7. New Zealand, 8. Canada, 9. Italy, 10. Madagascar, Page 121 Guess the Icon: 1. Chile, 2. Algeria, 3. New Zealand, 4. Giraffe, 5. Arctic, 6. Netherlands, 7. Jordan, 8. Arctic, 9. China, 10. Los Angeles, 11. New Zealand, 12. Peru, 13. Lake Baikal, 14. Myanmar, 15. Iraq, 16. India, 17. Antarctica, 18. Zambia, 19. Tower of Pisa, 20. Denmark, 21. Romania, 22. San Francisco, 23. Patagonian toothfish.

GLOSSARY



aboriginals

Original or first-known inhabitants of a country. It is mainly used to refer to the native people of Australia

artifact

Man-made object, generally of historic or cultural interest, such as a painting or a vase

canyon

Deep, narrow valley with very steep, rocky sides. A stream or river usually flows through it

capital

Country's most important city. It is where the government usually meets and passes laws

climate

Normal weather pattern during the year in any part of the world

continents

Seven large areas of land that the world is divided into: Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Australasia, Europe, North America, and South America

coral reef

Rocklike structure formed by a group of corals (simple sea animals) in the warm waters along tropical coasts. Many fish and other sea creatures live around coral reefs

country

Area of Earth that is governed by the same leaders and has the same flag. Most continents are made up of many different countries

crops

Plants grown to feed people and animals. Crops need the right soil and climate to grow well

culture

Way of life and beliefs of the people of a region or country

delta

Flat land formed from material deposited by a river around the area where it enters the sea or flows into a lake. Soil in a delta area is usually very fertile

desert

Dry region that gets 10 in (25 cm) or less of rainfall in a year. Deserts can be hot or cold. Only a few animals and plants are able to live in desert areas

dunes

Small mounds or ridges of sand that are formed by the wind or flowing water pushing the sand together. They are usually found along beaches or in sandy deserts.

earthquake

Movement of large blocks of rock beneath the Earth's surface. Cracks may open up in the ground, causing buildings to collapse

endangered

Word used to describe a species of plant or animal with only a few living members left

equator

Imaginary line around the Earth, which is exactly halfway between the North and South Poles. Countries close to the equator are hotter than countries that are farther away from it

ethnic group

Group of people who share the same racial, religious, or cultural background

exports

Goods or services that are sold to another country

extinct

Word used to describe a plant or animal species that has no living members. All dinosaurs, for example, are now extinct

fertile land

Land where the soil is particularly good for growing crops on

fjord

Long, narrow bay or inlet, with steep, high, rocky sides. The word is Norwegian and was first used to describe the many deep inlets along Norway's rocky coast

fossil

Remains or shape of a prehistoric plant or animal that have been preserved in rock

game reserve

Area where wild animals are protected from hunters, or where hunting is limited by law. Africa has many game reserves

geyser

Fountain of hot water and steam that shoots up out of the ground. Geysers form when an underground stream flows over hot, volcanic rocks

glacier

Huge, thick sheet of ice moving very slowly, either down the side of a mountain or over an area of land. Glaciers help to shape and form the landscape

grasslands

Open land covered in grass and a few small bushes. Larger plants, such as trees, rarely grow on grasslands. Grasslands are called prairies in the United States

gulf

Large area of sea that is almost enclosed by land, such as the Gulf of Mexico and Persian Gulf

hot (thermal) spring

Place where hot water, heated by volcanic activity, flows out of cracks in the ground

hurricane

Very violent storm with extremely strong winds that can cause a great deal of damage

hydroelectric power

Electricity created by machinery driven by fast-flowing water. Water forced under high pressure through dams built across rivers is often used for this purpose

iceberg

Massive piece of ice that has broken off from a glacier or ice sheet and floated out to sea

imports

Goods or services bought from another country

irrigation

Supplying water to dry areas of land, so that crops can grow there. The water is carried or pumped along pipes or ditches

island

Piece of land that has water all around it. Islands occur in oceans, seas, lakes, and rivers

lake

Large body of water surrounded by land

migrate

Move from one country or region to go and live in another. People migrate for many reasons, such as to find work or escape war

mine

Place where naturally occurring resources (such as coal, iron ore, copper, and gold) and gemstones (such as diamonds and rubies) are dug out of the ground



mineral

Natural substance found in the Earth's rocks, such as metals and precious gemstones, which are removed by mining

monsoon

Strong wind that blows across south and Southeast Asia. It changes direction as the seasons change, causing very heavy rain from May to September.

mountain

Area of land that rises up much higher than the land around it to form a peak at the top. Some mountaintops are so high that they reach the icy cold air far above Earth, and so have snow on them even in summer.

national park

Area of countryside that has been preserved in its natural state by the government of a country to protect the wildlife there and for people to enjoy.

native

Person linked to a place by birth, or whose family are from the original inhabitants of an area.

nomads

People who do not live in one fixed place. Instead they move around an area in search of food, water, and land to graze their animals on

oasis

Area of fertile land in the desert. Plants can grow easily there, unlike in the rest of the desert, because water lies on or very close to the surface

ocean

Very large sea. There are five oceans: Pacific Ocean, Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean, Arctic Ocean, and Southern Ocean

pampas

Name given to the vast grasslands found in part of South America

peninsula

Strip of land that is surrounded by water on three of its sides

plain

Area of flat, open land with very few trees. Plains are often covered with grass

plateau

Large area of high, flat land. Some mountains, such as Table Mountain in Cape Town, South Africa, have a plateau at the top

polar region

Area near to the North or South Pole. Polar regions are covered in a thick layer of ice for most of the year and are extremely cold

population

Total number of people living in a given area of land.

port

Town or city on the coast with a harbor, where boats and ships can load or unload goods and let passengers board or get off

province

Officially recognized area of a country or state. Provinces often have their own leaders, although they are still governed by the laws of the country they are part of

rain forest

Dense forest with very high rainfall. Most are near the equator and are also very hot.

rapids

Part of a river that is moving at great speed, because it is flowing over very steep ground.

reservoir

Large natural or artificial lake, where water is collected and stored for people to use in homes, businesses, industry, and farming

river

Large stream of water that flows from a high place to a lower place. Rivers start as small streams high up in the mountains and flow down into the sea

safari

Journey that involves looking at wild animals in their natural surroundings. It usually refers to trips taken in Africa

savanna

Name given to open grasslands in tropical and subtropical countries

sea

Large body of saltwater. Seas (including oceans) cover most of the Earth's surface

sea level

Average level of the surface of the world's seas and oceans. The height of land is given as how far it is above sea level. The depth of a sea or ocean is given as how far it is below sea level

shrubland

Area of land covered in lots of small trees and bushes, as well as different types of grass

species

Distinct group of animals or plants that share similar features

state

Nation or territory that is organized as a community under one government

steppe

Name given to the vast, grassy plains that stretch from Eastern Europe right across central Asia

terrain

Area of land, usually with a particular feature, such as mountains or grassy plains

territory

Area of land that belongs to a particular country or state

tornado

Spinning cloud of very strong wind. Tornadoes will destroy almost anything in their path

tribe

Group of people who share the same culture and history. It usually refers to people who live together in traditional communities, far from cities and towns

tropical

Conditions found in areas near the Equator. Tropical weather, for example, is very hot and wet

valley

Low area of land between hills or mountains

vegetation

Type of plants found in an area of land

volcano

Mountain or hill that may erupt, pouring out hot lava (molten rock) from a crater in its top

wetlands

Land with wet, spongy soil, such as a marsh or swamp. Many animals and plants specialize in living in wetlands

wildlife

Wild animals that live in an area of land

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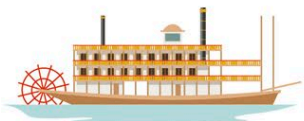
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