

Geography Knowledge Organizer - Canada and North America

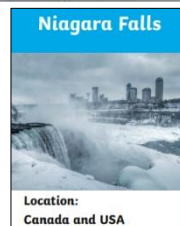
Continent - North America

Where is North America?

North America is the third largest continent in the world. It is located in the **Northern Hemisphere**. There are 23 countries in North America.

The north of the continent is within the Arctic Circle and the Tropic of Cancer passes through the south of North America.

The largest country in North America by land area is Canada, although the United States of America (USA) has the largest population.



Climate

It is very cold in the north, near the Arctic Circle and it is very warm in the south, close to the Equator.

The Atlantic hurricane season runs from around June to November. Hurricanes are very powerful storms. They need a lot of heat to form and a warm sea surface temperature, which is why they usually occur over tropical seas. The storms and high winds can damage homes and businesses and have a big economic impact.

Key Vocabulary

Physical Geography

- **Continent** - A large landmass (North America).
- **Country** - A nation within a continent (Canada, USA, Mexico).
- **Province / Territory** - Canadian regional divisions.
- **Mountain range** - e.g., **Rocky Mountains**.
- **River** - e.g., **St Lawrence River**.
- **Lake** - e.g., **Great Bear Lake**.
- **Climate** - Weather patterns over time.
- **Tundra** - Cold, treeless biome found in northern Canada.
- **Forest / Boreal forest** - Canada's large woodland areas.
- **Prairie** - Grassland regions.
- **Wildlife** - Animals such as **black bears, coyotes, prairie dogs**

Human Geography

- **Capital city** - Ottawa (Canada).
- **Population** - Number of people living in a place.
- **Official languages** - English and French (Canada).
- **Currency** - Canadian dollar.
- **Landmark** - Important human or physical feature (e.g., **CN Tower, Niagara Falls**).
- **Tourist attraction** - A place people visit for interest.
- **Settlement** - Where people live (towns, cities, villages).
- **Indigenous peoples** - First Nations, Inuit, Métis.

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Country - Canada



The national flag of Canada is red and white. In the centre of the flag is a red maple leaf with 11 points.

Canada is the second largest country in the world. It is so big that it spans six time zones. In such a large country, that there are many different landscapes, such as forests, prairies, mountains, blue rivers and lakes.

Feature	Canada	United Kingdom
Continent	North America	Europe
Capital city	Ottawa	London
Size	Very large (2nd largest country)	78th in the world
Climate	Mostly cold; Arctic in north	Temperate
Languages	English and French	English
Landscapes	Mountains, forests, tundra, lakes	Hills, rivers, farmland

There are many mountain ranges in Canada, including the Canadian Rockies, the Saint Elias Mountains, the Coast Mountains and the Laurentian Mountains. Canada's highest mountain is Mount Logan, which is 5959 metres (19,551ft) high and is in the Saint Elias mountains.

Capital City: Ottawa

Population: Approximately 38 million people (2021)

Official Languages: English and French

Currency: Canadian dollar (\$)

Government: Federal Parliamentary Democracy

Religion: There is no official religion but many people are either Roman Catholic or Protestant.



In the north of Canada, there are large forests which are home to many animals. These include black bears, wolves, moose, mountain lions (cougars) and beavers.

In the far north, where it is cold and bare, reindeer and musk ox roam.

