**American cities**

**Washington D.C.**

Moving south along the Atlantic coast we visit Washington D.C., the nation’s capital. D.C. stands for District of Columbia and the city is named Washington after the country’s first president, George Washington. All the country’s big federal offices are located here, including the Capitol and the White House. There are many monuments located along the National Mall, a large open area in the center of the city. Here you can find

the Washington Monument, Jefferson Memorial, and the National World War II Memorial.

**New York City**

The “city that never sleeps” is one of the most exciting, cosmopolitan cities in the US. More than 8 million people

live here, making it one of the largest cities in the country. The city is made up of 5 boroughs – Manhattan, The

Bronx, Staten Island, Brooklyn, and Queens. Boroughs are basically large neighborhoods used to governlarge

populations more easily. Carnegie Hall is a concert venue in Manhattan known not only for its beauty and history, but also for its artistic programming. About 100 concerts usually classical, but sometimes popular music, are performed there each year. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, the “Met” as it’s popularly known, is one of the

most important art institutions in the world.

**Los Angeles**

If you jump across the country to the west coast, you’ll find Los Angeles, California. Many people are familiar with L.A. because of Hollywood, but there are lots of other interesting things to see. Los Angeles has

more than 4 million people, and is ethnically diverse, with many residentsmoving to the city from Latin America and Asia. One popular tourist spot is Mann’s Chinese Theater, built in 1927 to be the world’s greatest cinema. It’s famous for the autographsof wellknown movie stars written in cement in the theater’s courtyard.

**San Francisco**

Built on a peninsulabetween the Pacific Ocean and San Francisco Bay, this city is known for its **steep** hills and foggydays. On a clear day you can see Golden Gate Bridge – a suspension bridge that marks the beginning of San Francisco Bay. When it was built in 1937, it was the largest suspension bridge in the US. More than 100,000 cars cross the bridge every day. In San Francisco Bay, you can take a ferry rideto visit Alcatraz Island.

Originally a lighthouse, then a military **fort**, it’s most best-known for being a prison. No prisoners have been imprisoned there since 1969, and now the island is a National Historic Monument where visitors can see the old prison, military ruins and the lighthouse.

**Las Vegas**

15. 5. 1905 an outpost named Las Vegas was founded near [Fort Baker](https://cs.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Fort_Baker&action=edit&redlink=1) in the state of Nevada. In year 1906 the fist hotel named Hotel Nevada is built (present name is Golden Gate), which was a foudation for the late Fremon Street. In year 1911 the outpost became a city. The first impulse for the development of the city was the planned construction of the nearby Hoover Dam, especially as a resting place for its builders. In 1931 Nevada legalized gambling and thus began the construction of casinos and hotels. After the ceremonial opening of the Hoover Dam in 1936, the population began to grow, as well as the tourism. In the '40s, organized crime groups became the owners of casinos and hotels and they have dominated the city for the next several decades. Much credit for this should go to Benjamin Siegel, who opened, on December 26, 1946 Hotel and Casino called Flamingo (named after his girlfriend). Flamingo was opened on The Strip street, where later began the construction of more casinos and hotels, and today it even overshadows the original leader – The Fremont Street.