

05. United States

Geography

the Southern part of North America

Capital **Washington D.C.**

Between **Mexico** (in the south) and **Canada** (in the north)
and **Russia** (by Alaska)

Mountains: The Appalachian Mountains (in the east),
Rocky Mountains (in the west)

Mount Mc Kinley – the highest mountain (Alaska)

Rivers: The Missouri, the Mississippi, the Ohio, the Colorado (the Grand Canyon)

5 huge lakes on the border with Canada: **Michigan, Ontario, Superior, Ere and Huron**

National parks: Yellowstone, Yosemite, Sequoia

Niagara Falls: Two parts – American Falls (USA), Horseshoe Falls (Canada)



Climate

The Pacific Coast – warm summers; mild winters

The Atlantic Coast – cold; warm, humid summers

Death Valley – the hottest place in the world; lowest point of the US

Alaska – -40 °C in winter

Important cities

- New York
 - Central park
 - The Statue of liberty
 - Manhattan Island
 - The Empire state building
 - 9 / 11 / 2001
 - ...
- Washington
 - The White House
 - The Capitol
 - The Pentagon
 - The Washington Monument
 - The Lincoln Memorial
 - ...
- San Francisco
 - The Golden Gate bridge
 - Lombard Street
 - Cable cars
- Detroit
 - Ford; Chrysler
- Houston
 - NASA
- Las Vegas
 - Quick marriage
 - Gamblers paradise
- Los Angeles
 - Hollywood

Government and Political system

Federal republic

50 states (48 + Hawaii + Alaska + Washington)

President = Barrack Obama

Government

Each state has own government, laws, education system, taxes...

Federal government is responsible for matters concerning the whole country (foreign affairs, defence and finance)

Government is divided into three branches – Legislative (congress – make laws), executive (president) and judicial (supreme court – watch over congress and president)

Congress = Senate (100 members) House of Representatives (435 members)

People, languages

About 275 million inhabitants

Main languages: American English (little bit different from British English); French; Spanish

Other

Flag

6 white stripes + 7 red stripes = 13 original states

50 white stars = 50 states

Since 1777

Anthem

The Star-Spangled Banner