

CANADA: COUNTRY PROFILE

Canada: geographic features. Canada is situated in the northern part of the American continent. It is the second largest country in the world by total area. It borders with the Atlantic Ocean in the east, the Arctic Ocean and Alaska in the north, the Pacific Ocean in the west and with the USA in the south. The border with the USA is the world's longest land border. The land is quite varied. The west of the country is occupied by the Rocky Mountain Range, also called "Canadian Rockies". This area is rich in glaciers, waterfalls and wildlife. In the central part of the country there are flat prairies, while the east is occupied by the "Canadian Shield", an area of ancient rocks. In Canada there are many rivers and lakes. The main rivers are the Mackenzie, the Yukon and St. Lawrence. Along the USA border there are four of the Great Lakes: Superior, Huron, Erie and Ontario. There are the Niagara Falls, a major source of hydroelectric power which offers a breathtaking view. The climate varies from arctic and subarctic in the north and temperate in the south. The Baffin Island is the largest Arctic island in Canada and the fifth-largest in the world.

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The political system Canada is a constitutional monarchy. The Head of State is Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. It is also a parliamentary democracy and a federal union of ten provinces and three territories. The Parliament consists of the Queen, represented by her Governor General, the Senate or Upper House and the House of Commons or Lower House. The seat of the Parliament of Canada, Parliament Hill, is in the capital city, Ottawa. Meet the Inuit People The Canadian population is multiethnic and multicultural, due to immigrants from Europe, Asia, West Indies and Latin America. The Inuit, meaning people, are famously known as Eskimos. In the past they were nomadic. Now, they live in permanent towns and villages and they speak English but to save the language they taught Inuktitut (Inuit language) at school. Other people don't understand their way of life. After years, Canada's Eastern Arctic returned to Inuit people and has become the territory of Nunavut that means "our land" in Inuktitut.

FILL IN

- 1 Canada is a _____ monarchy.
- 2 Canada is a _____ union of 10 _____ and 3 _____.
- 3 The Head of State is _____.
- 4 The Parliament is formed by the _____, the _____ and the _____.
- 5 The seat of Parliament, _____, is in the capital city, _____.
- 6 The federal police force of Canada is informally called _____.
- 7 The largest and most populated city is _____, famous for its Canadian National Tower and Sky dome.
- 8 Notre Dame Cathedral is in _____, the second city of Canada, founded by the French.
- 9 On the west coast, _____, Canada third city, is a major seaport.
- 10 The most European city in Canada is _____, with its ancient walls.
- 11 Canada has two official languages: _____ and _____.
- 12 The National Flag of Canada is called the _____. It is formed by three vertical bands of red, white and red with a stylized _____ pointed red maple leaf in the centre.
- 13 The _____ lived in Northwest Territories and Nunavut.
- 14 _____ means respecting other people's thoughts and feelings.