The **Italian riviera** is composed of 5 interconnected fishing villages in the Liguria region of Italy - Manarola, Riomaggiore, Vernazza, Corniglia & Monterosso.

A UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1997, what is this region popularly known as?

#

Along a lonely stretch of highway in Alliance, Nebraska sits a mysterious monument to America's rich history of putting the pedal to the metal.

Conceived in 1987 by Jim Reinders, it is formed from vintage American automobiles, all covered with gray spray paint. It consists of 38 automobiles arranged in a circle measuring about 96 feet (29 m) in diameter. Some are held upright in pits 5 feet (1.5 m), trunk end down, and arches have been formed by welding automobiles.

Identify the structure, a homage to its more famous counterpart. The name of this structure is a play on the name of the more famous counterpart.

#

In early Europe, farmers watched keenly for signs of spring at the end of a cold winter. The 2nd day of February was a turning point when badgers emerging from their burrows might herald spring, if they hung around, or another bout of winter if they were scared by their shadows into scurrying back inside.

The legend travelled with German settlers to parts of the New World, and a different animal took up the role of the badger, and this activity is especially popular in a town called Punxsutawney in the USA.

Quite well known after becoming part of popular culture in 1993, what is this activity known as?

#

A few excerpts from "The Last Continent" by Bill Bryson -

"I decided on an impulse drive on to Tupelo, \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_'s hometown, thirty five miles to the east. In the morning, I went to the \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ birthplace. The house, tidy and white, stood in a patch of shade in a city park. Of the dozen or so people there, I was the only one under the age of sixty. I'm not sure if this was because \_\_\_\_\_ was so burned out by the end of his career that his fans were all old people or whether it is just that old people are the only ones with the time and inclination to visit the homes of dead celebrities."

"A path behind the house led to a gift shop where you could buy \_\_\_\_\_ memorabilia - albums, badges, plates, posters. Everywhere you looked his handsome, boyish face was beaming down at you."

"The \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ house is in \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Park on \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Drive, just off the \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Memorial Highway. You may gather from this that Tupelo is proud of its most famous native son."

Who is this famous native son if Tupelo, Mississippi?

#

Every year during the first week of July/last week of June, conspiracy theorists, debaters and geeks of a specific genre gather at the city of X for this unique festival.

The theme of the festival is an unresolved mystery of a 1947 incident, which continues to inspire popular culture even today. Debates, costume parades and fun contests are organized, and kids can be seen wearing cute green costumes.

Name the city X.

(For brownie points, name the festival.)

#

-> Kamari Beach, Santorini, Greece

-> Miho no Matsubara, Shizuoka, Japan

-> Vik Beach, Vik, Iceland

-> Lovina Beach, Bali

-> Punalu'u Beach, Hawaii

-> Muriwai Beach, New Zealand

Beaches of all kinds exist around the world, but there is something particularly breathtaking about the above (inexhaustive) that makes them stand out.

What?

#

The Wadi Bunder railway yard, which was once the epicenter of freight traffic for the railways has now been reduced to handling coach maintenance and parcel booking.

Owing to the high demand of a particular industry, Railways is planning to construct a dedicated railway station at Wadi Bunder that will be used exclusively for this purpose. The authorities have finalized Wadi Bunder as it houses a stock of coaches from the 1950s and 1960s and even old locomotives, which, if required, can be used for representational purposes.

Identify the industry or the purpose of this initiative.

#

Rovaniemi is the capital of the Lapland region of Finland, and the official hometown of X. X is also known by the name Joulupukki in Finnish.

The X village, lying 8 km north of the city is a very popular tourist attraction, and has now grown into a resort.

The main attractions are

-> a house

-> an office

-> a post office (operated by Finnish postal service, Posti)

ID X.

#

Musa Al Big or Mussa Ibn Malik was an Arab trader from the Middle East during the late 1400s and early 1500s, who first visited an island off the southeast coast of Africa, and established himself as the ruler there.

He was the first ever ruler in this region and the last as well, until Portuguese invaders arrived in the 1550s.

Other than the island itself, another larger place also derived its name from his. Which place?

#

In 1929, US Army Air Corps Colonel John A. Macready worked with Bausch & Lomb, a New York-based medical equipment manufacturer, to create something that would reduce the distraction for pilots cause by the intense blue and white hues of the sky.

The product they created have birth to a brand which is now one of the most iconic lifestyle brands of the world.

Identify the brand.

#

The Danvers State Hospital (pictured) was a massive multi-acre psychiatric complex built in Danvers, Massachusetts in the late 19th century.

The design plans focused on buildings that had long and meandering wings with plenty of small private rooms, ample sunlight, and very little direct views from one patient's room to another.

The emphasis in this design was to provide private and removed spaces for patients to recover without being packed in with other patients, removed from natural light and airflow, or otherwise made to feel constrained and caged.

They also, inadvertently, set the stage for the kind of spooky trope that is firmly embedded in our culture today. The long rambling hallways, the prolific number of rooms, and the sense that one could get lost in the giant labyrinthine buildings was very unsettling to visitors.

The building was demolished in 2006.

What did the Danvers State Hospital serve as the inspiration for?

#

Near Porangahau in Hawke's Bay, New Zealand, is an unassuming hill locally known as "Taumata hill".

Its actual name in Maori translates into English as "the place where Tamatea, the man with the big knees, who slid, climbed and swallowed mountains, known as 'landeater', played his flute to his loved one".

Standing at 305 metres tall and named after a famous chief and warrior, what is the unique record that this structure holds?

#

This set of bars are a rage all over Budapest, and have been for around ten years. These bars are built in Budapest's old District VII neighbourhood, which a perfect for the bar scene.

From outside, these bars look like normal homes. They don't have large signs pointing the way, you don't hear any loud noise, and there's no line of people waiting to get in. But once you walk in and enter the inner courtyard, you find yourself in the middle of a hip, artsy and funky bar bustling with crowds talking, dancing and enjoying the laid back atmosphere.

They open, close and move frequently depending on whether the neighbours find out, the patrons get too loud, or an investor comes and buys the property to renovate it. This gives the whole concept an edge of excitement, as you never know when these places will come and go.

Where are these bars located?

#

If you're doing a certain activity in Iran, Saudi Arabia or Oman, you might hear someone using the word "Shah-mat".

While doing the same activity in England or the USA, the equivalent word is X, which is a derivation of "Shah-mat", but not a literal translation.

Give X.

#

Different US states have different names for it -

-> Maine - Longfellow

-> New Hampshire - White

-> Vermont - Green

-> New York - Catskill

-> Virginia and West Virginia - Blue Ridge

-> Tennessee and North Carolina - Great Smoky

What are these different names for?

#

Connect this exhaustive list:

-> Chapel of the Snows

-> San Francisco de Asis Chapel

-> St. Ivan Rilsky Chapel

-> Chilian Chapel of Santa Maria de la Paz

-> Chapel of Santisima Virgen de Lujan

What is common to these churches?

#

According to some texts, this event took place in Golgotha, which in Aramaic means "place of the skull". The Latin word for skull is calvaria, and in English many people refer to this site as Calvary.

The site of Golgotha was identified by Roman emperor Constantine's mother, Helena. However, scholars began to question this identification in the 19th century, as the site is inside the city walls of the present day Old City of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Golgotha would have to have been located outside the city in accordance with the customs of the time.

What earth shattering event took place at Calvary?

#

Representations of X in the formerly Stalinist, atheist and anti-Catholic Republic of Albania have played a prominent role in public sphere.

Figurines, cups and key rings are popular memorabilia, and the urban landscape is abound with statutes and memorials.

The University of Tirana has a square, featuring a statue, all named after X, who is also the patron saint of the Supreme Court of Tirana. The 14 judges sit facing a portrait, which covers the whole wall, with a poem titled "Prayer for the Judges" urging them "to implement justice/Like King Solomon" in the Old Testament.

ID X.

#

The Haiku Stairs is a steel staircase made up of 4000 steps that ascends a ridge up from the valley of Haiku near Kaneohe. The steps were built so that the military could access a radio station antenna 2000 ft up on the mountain during World War II.

Haiku Stairs isn't the most difficult hike in the island, but the most amazing views and the sheer drop offs on either side of the ridge make it one of the most memorable. However, the view comes with a price because it is actually illegal to climb.

Located on the Hawaiian island of Oahu, it reaches a peak of nearly 3000 ft, and is forbidden by the Hawaiian government due to liability issues and land access problems.

By what other name is it popularly referred to by most people?

#

Located on \*Mahatma Gandhi\* road, it is a landmark monument in the city of Guntur, Andhra Pradesh. \*Surprisingly\*, this monument is a symbol of peace and harmony.

Whom is it dedicated to?

Chelsea Piers was once one of New York's busiest shipping centres at the turn of the 20th century. Not only a docking point for passenger ships but also a commercial centre for travelers and foreigners, the place, opened in 1910, was the city's first port, a culmination of 30 years of discussion and 8 years of construction.

Today, all that remains of the pier building is a steel archway, formed of a rectangular box-shaped structure with a central clerestory archway. In the right light, visitors can still see the outline of lettering spelling out "Cunard Line" on the steelwork's pediment. The pier sub-structure remains, jutting out into the Hudson River. The structure is now used for open air events.

What is the historical significance of Chelsea Pier 54?

#

This is the only branch of McDonald's in the country since its inception in 1986. The native population does not have the option of visiting the same due to a trade embargo which is in place.

Further regulations in 2015 led to reduction in sales, in the best interest of health, sanitation, safety and force protection.

Identify the location.

#