

## The West Region

### Landmarks

Landmarks are important places. They can be man-made things such as a monument. They can be historical locations that help to remind us of important events that happened there. They can also be things created by nature that are unique in some way. There are many landmarks in the eleven states that make up the West region. Here, we will take a look at just a few of them.

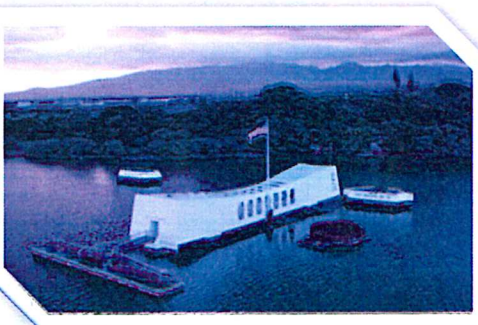
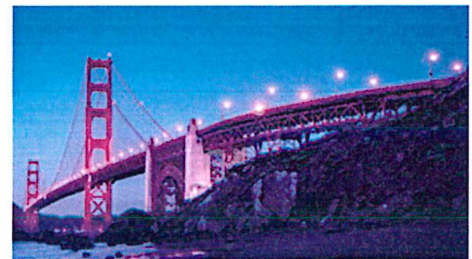


#### Old Faithful (Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming)

Old Faithful is a geyser. A geyser is a spring that shoots hot water and steam up from the ground. The name Old Faithful was given to the geyser because it faithfully erupts at regular time intervals. With a margin of error of 10 minutes, Old Faithful will erupt 65 minutes after an eruption lasting less than 2.5 minutes or 91 minutes after an eruption lasting more than 2.5 minutes. When it erupts, it shoots boiling water into the air to a height of up to 185 feet!

#### Golden Gate Bridge (San Francisco, California)

The Golden Gate Bridge is a suspension bridge located in Northern California. The bridge is about 1.7 miles long. The suspension design allows the bridge to move, swaying slightly in strong winds. Allowing movement in the bridge is a good thing in earthquake prone California. The design lets the bridge flex, if it needs to during an earthquake, rather than break. The bridge is very recognizable because of its orange coloring. That color was chosen because it blends well with the natural surroundings but it also stands out in the fog. San Francisco has very heavy fog at times.



#### USS Arizona Memorial (Honolulu, Hawaii)

This memorial, located at Pearl Harbor, marks the final resting place of 1,102 of the 1,177 sailors and marines killed aboard the USS Arizona battleship. They died when the Japanese military planes bombed Pearl Harbor in a surprise attack. The ship was sunk and the people on board were trapped inside. This memorial is accessible only by boat. It is located on the water above where the USS Arizona still rests.