



wildlife



natural
wonders

transportation



Children's Illustrated World Atlas

culture



nature



festivals



flags



NEW EDITION

Children's Illustrated World Atlas

Consultant

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Senior Lecturer in Geography, King's College London (retired)

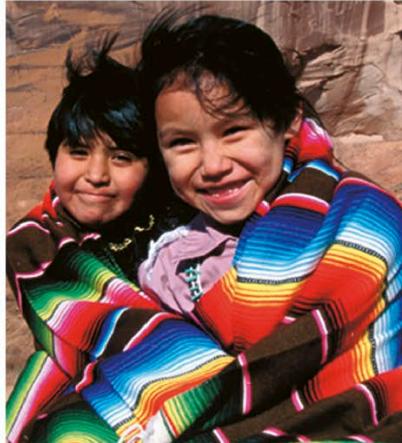
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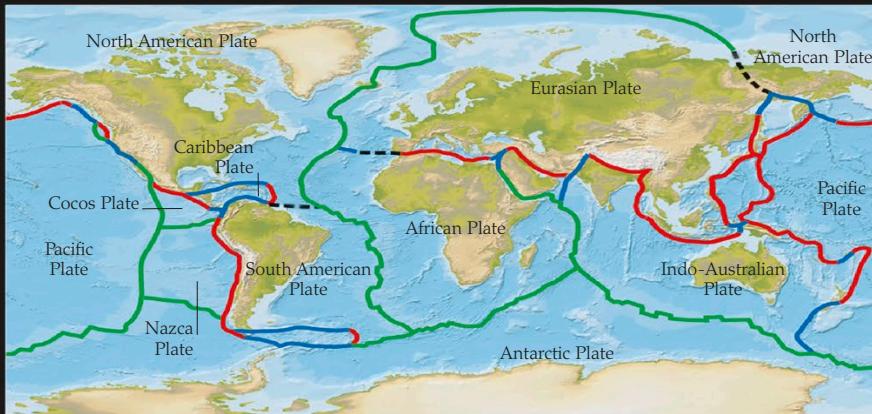
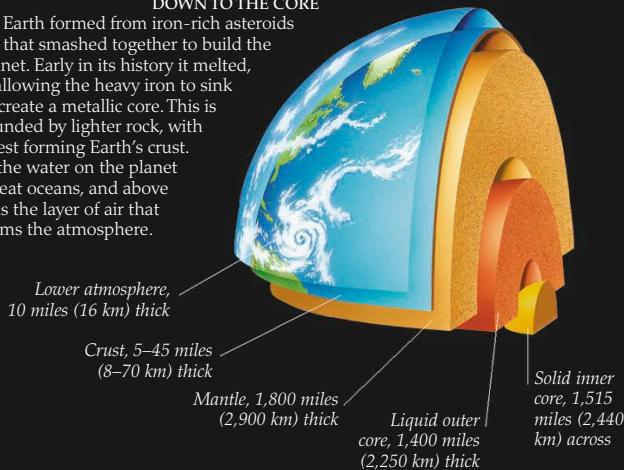
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Active Planet

EARTH IS A DYNAMIC PLANET that is always changing its form. Heat generated by nuclear reactions deep below the surface creates hugely powerful currents that keep Earth's rocks on the move, triggering earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. Meanwhile, solar energy striking the planet in different ways creates currents in the air, driving the atmospheric turmoil of the weather. This changes with the seasons and from place to place, creating an enormous range of climates and habitats for the most dynamic element of all—life.

DOWN TO THE CORE
Earth formed from iron-rich asteroids that smashed together to build the planet. Early in its history it melted, allowing the heavy iron to sink and create a metallic core. This is surrounded by lighter rock, with the lightest forming Earth's crust. Most of the water on the planet lies in great oceans, and above them is the layer of air that forms the atmosphere.



THE PLATES OF EARTH'S CRUST

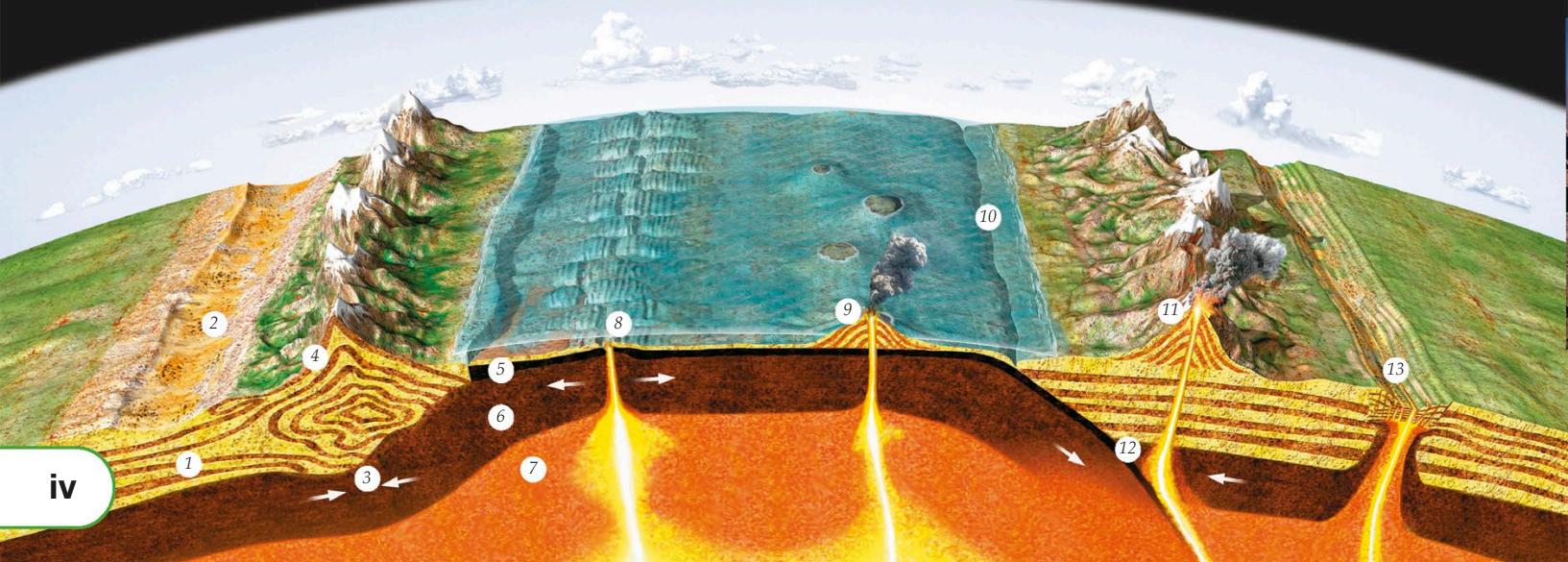
Heat generated deep within the planet creates currents in the mobile mantle rock beneath the crust. These currents drag some sections of the cool, brittle crust apart while pushing other parts together, fracturing the crust into separate plates. The biggest of these span oceans and continents, but there are many smaller plates. At their boundaries the plates may be diverging (pulling apart), converging (pushing together), or sliding past each other at transform faults.

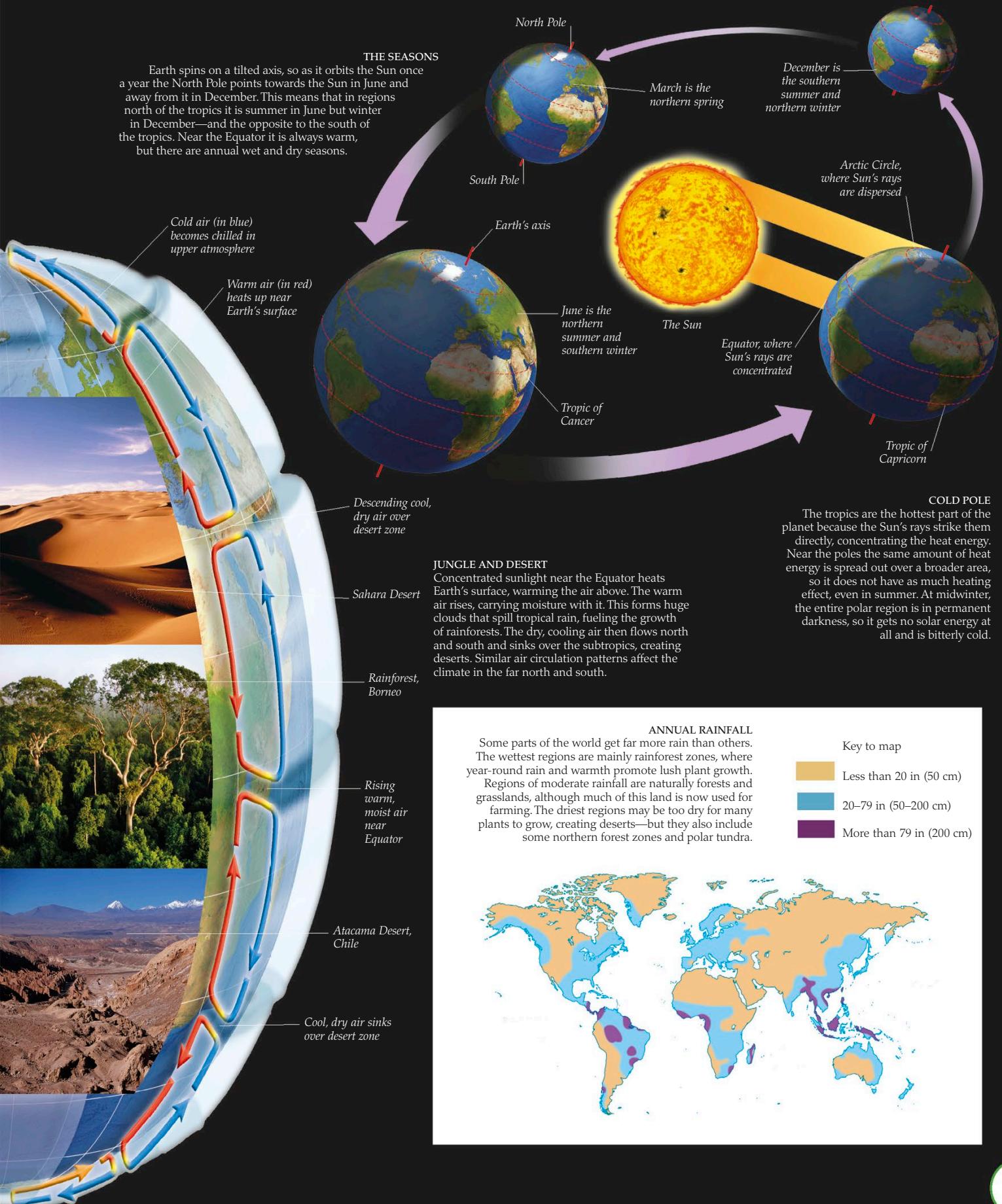
Key to map

Transform fault	—	Divergent boundary
Uncertain boundary	- - -	Convergent boundary

WHERE MOVING PLATES MEET
The boundaries between the plates are volcanic earthquake zones. The plates move very slowly, pulling apart at divergent boundaries. This allows hot rock below to melt, erupt, and cool to form new crust—especially at the spreading rifts that form mid-ocean ridges. Meanwhile at convergent boundaries, one plate slides beneath another, pushing up mountain ranges and making volcanoes erupt. Other volcanoes erupt over hot spots in the mantle below the crust.

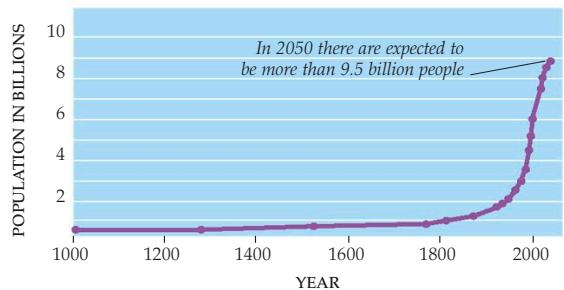
- 1 Continental crust, much thicker than oceanic crust
- 2 Broad basin formed near uplifted area
- 3 Ancient converging boundary, now inactive
- 4 Mountains created when plate boundary was active
- 5 Oceanic crust formed from heavy basalt rock
- 6 Upper mantle, mainly solid but very hot
- 7 Mantle, solid but mobile owing to heat currents
- 8 Spreading rift forming a mid-ocean ridge
- 9 Hot-spot volcano erupting over mantle plume
- 10 Ocean trench marking convergent plate boundary
- 11 Volcano erupting over convergent boundary
- 12 Earthquake zone—one plate grinding under another
- 13 Plates pulling apart, creating a rift valley





Planet People

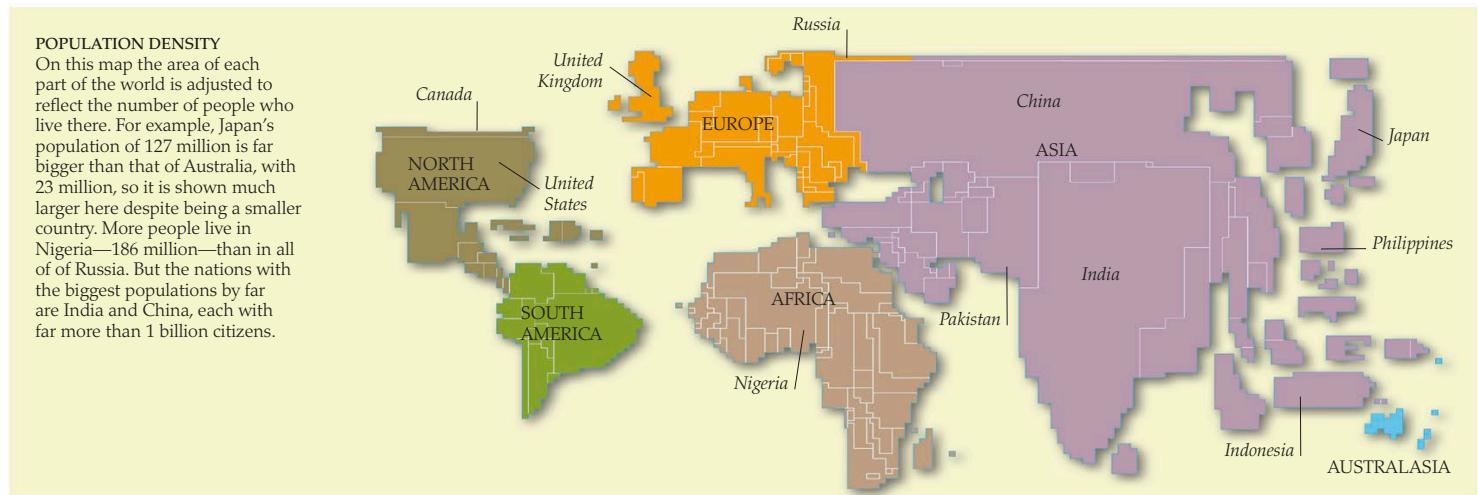
THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE ON THE PLANET has quadrupled since 1900. Much of this growth has taken place in the developing world, which is now home to more than 80 percent of the population. Many of these people are very poor and do not experience the living conditions that most citizens of the developed world take for granted. This is changing, however, especially in nations such as China, India, and Brazil. Here, new technology and international trade are fueling rapid economic growth that is transforming how people live. But as more of the planet's people demand more of its scarce resources, there may be some difficult challenges ahead.



YEAR

POPULATION INCREASE

For centuries, the number of people on the planet stayed the same, at roughly 300 million. But since the 1750s, better living conditions and health care have allowed more babies to survive, causing a population explosion. Since 1950, the population has soared from 2.5 billion to nearly 7.5 billion today. It will keep growing, but probably not quite so fast.

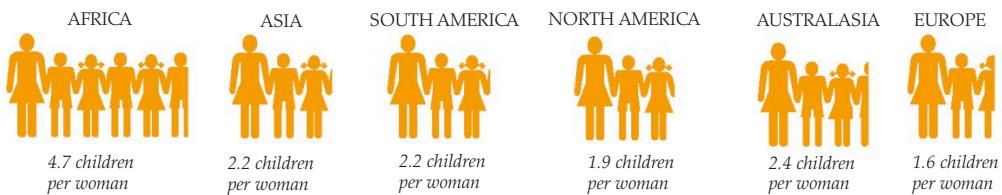


POPULATION DENSITY

On this map the area of each part of the world is adjusted to reflect the number of people who live there. For example, Japan's population of 127 million is far bigger than that of Australia, with 23 million, so it is shown much larger here despite being a smaller country. More people live in Nigeria—186 million—than in all of Russia. But the nations with the biggest populations by far are India and China, each with far more than 1 billion citizens.

FAMILY SIZE

All over the world, some women have more children than others, but the average varies from continent to continent. European women have 1.6 children on average, so two families may have three children between them. This is far fewer than in Africa, where the population is growing faster despite higher death rates among children. Worldwide the average is 2.5—more than enough to replace both parents.

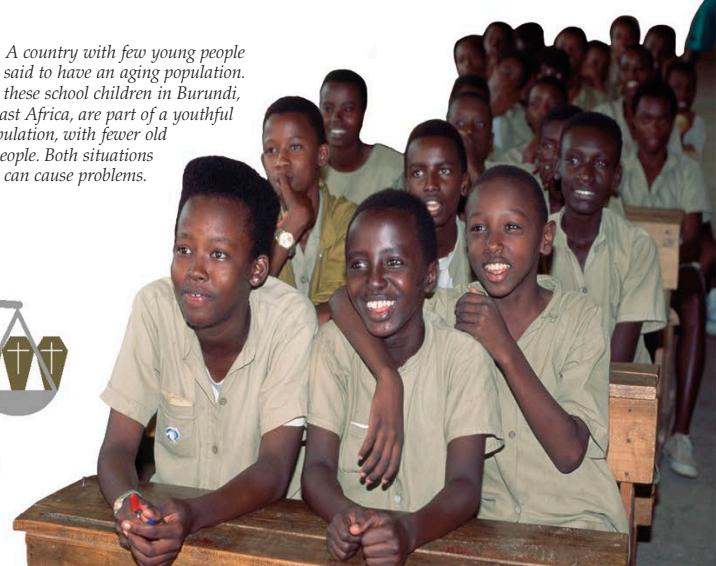


BIRTH AND DEATH RATES

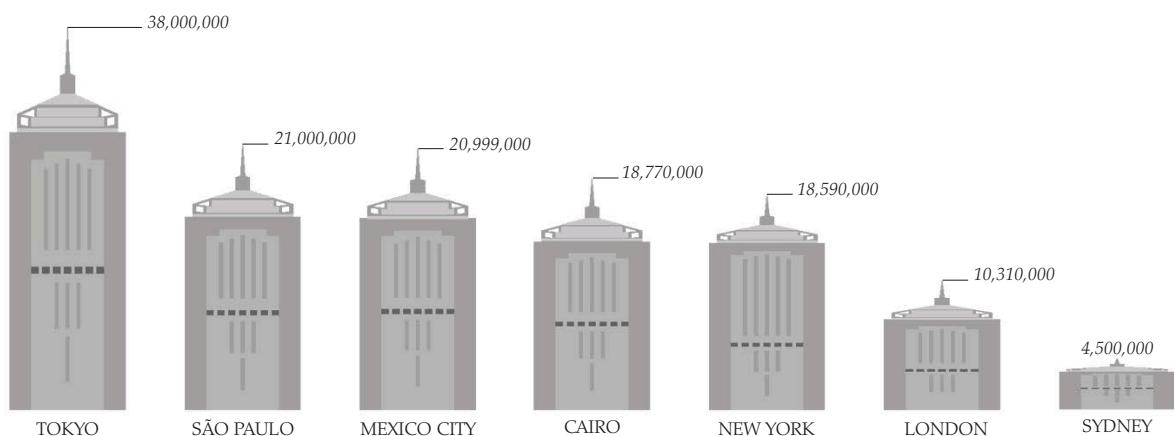
If the birth rate is the same as the death rate, the population stays the same. But in most countries, the birth rate is higher. In Niger, west Africa, there are 44.8 births but only 12.1 deaths per 1,000 people, and the population is growing at 3.2 per cent a year. Brazil's population is also growing, with 14.3 births against 6.6 deaths. By contrast, Lithuania has a shrinking population, with 10 births outweighed by 14.5 deaths.



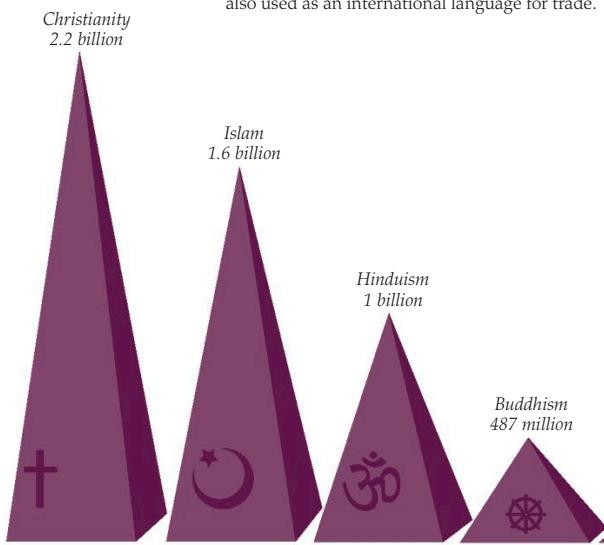
A country with few young people is said to have an aging population. But these school children in Burundi, east Africa, are part of a youthful population, with fewer old people. Both situations can cause problems.



CITY POPULATIONS
As populations grow, people tend to move from the country to a city to find work. Today, one-third of the world's people live in cities, which grow bigger every year. Some are colossal, like Tokyo—the largest city in Asia. The other cities shown here are the most populous on each continent. They are vibrant centers of civilization, but some cities are fringed by sprawling shantytowns, where poor people live in makeshift shacks with no proper services such as clean water.



LANGUAGES
These are the 10 most common languages worldwide, sized in proportion to the number of native speakers. Chinese outruns the others because China has such a huge population. But Spanish comes next because it is the main language of many Latin American countries, such as Mexico. English is almost as common, thanks mainly to being the language of the United States. It is also used as an international language for trade.

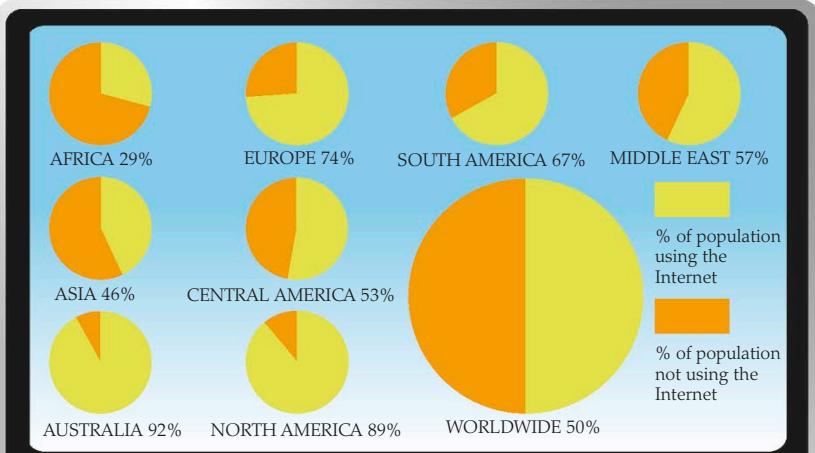


RELIGIONS AND BELIEFS

Almost three-quarters of the world's population are followers of Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, or Buddhism. But many people follow other faiths, particularly in China where the traditional folk religion, Shenism, is practised by nearly one-fifth of the huge population. The "indigenous" and "African traditional religions" data points are both groupings of different, but similar, religions. Others are listed at far right, in order of popularity.

Others	
Sikhism	23 million
Juche	19 million
Spiritism	15 million
Judaism	14 million
Baha'i	7 million
Jainism	4.2 million
Shinto	4 million
Cao Đài	4 million
Zoroastrianism	2.6 million
Tenrikyo	2 million
Neo-Paganism	1 million
Unitarian	
Universalism	800,000
Rastafarianism	600,000
Scientology	500,000

ONLINE ACCESS
Over the last decades, the Internet has become a vital tool for global business, education, and politics, so the more people who can use it, the better. These charts show the percentage of people with Internet access both worldwide and in particular regions. Australia, North America, and Europe lead the field, but the number of Internet users is growing fastest in the Middle East and Africa.



» Planet People

WEALTH

A country's wealth is often measured in terms of the money it earns in a year divided by its number of inhabitants. This is called its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per capita. Both Norway and Qatar make lots of money from exporting oil and gas, and since they have small populations their GDP per capita are very high. Burundi in east Africa has only one-twentyfifth of the income of Qatar divided between five times as many people, so its GDP per capita is very low.



BUSIEST AIRPORTS

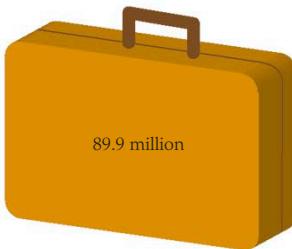
Air travel has expanded enormously since the 1950s, when international air travel was a luxury enjoyed by a few wealthy people known as the "jet set." Today, flying is often the most economical way to travel, as well as the quickest. This is reflected in the vast number of passengers who pass through the world's airports as they travel for business or pleasure. The world's busiest airport is Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport in Atlanta, with more than 100 million people arriving and departing each year. The graphics below show the busiest airport in each continent, and number of passengers.



N. AMERICA:
Hartsfield-Jackson, Atlanta, USA



ASIA:
Beijing Capital, China



EUROPE:
Heathrow, London, UK



AIRBUS A380

The growth in air travel has led to the development of giant airliners such as the Airbus A380. When it entered service in 2007, this was the world's largest passenger plane, capable of carrying up to 853 people.

AUSTRALIA & OCEANIA:
Kingsford Smith, Sydney, Australia



S. AMERICA:
Guarulhos, São Paulo, Brazil



AFRICA:
Tambo, Jo'Burg, South Africa

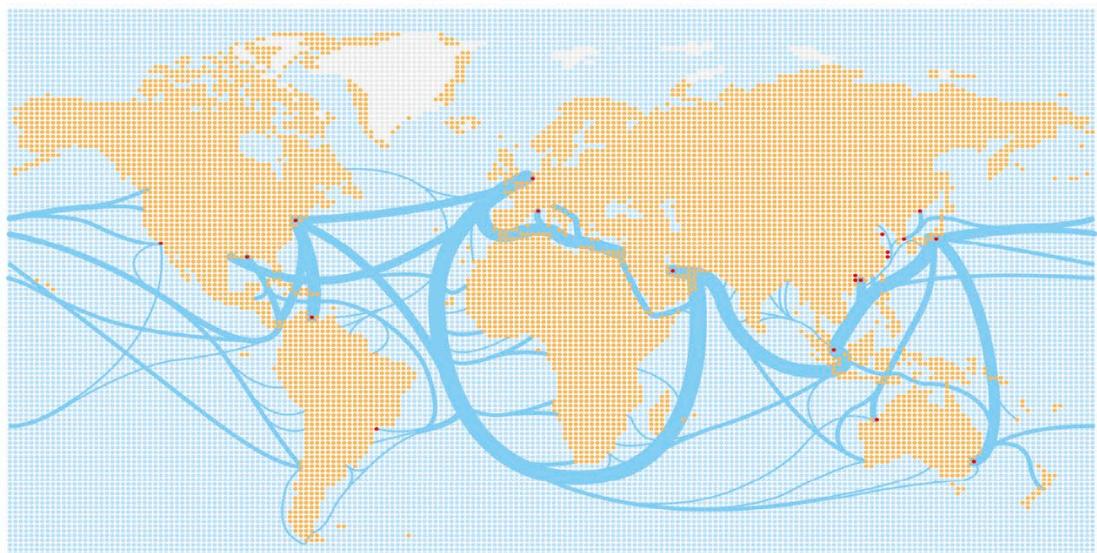
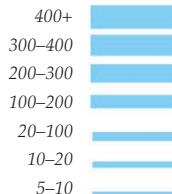


TRADE

Although air freight is an important element of international trade, about

90 percent of cargo by weight is transported by sea. Altogether, this adds up to around 11 billion tons of freight. Much of this is transported in containers, carried by more than 5,000 container ships. The busiest shipping routes link Europe and North America with the Middle East and Far East, with ports such as Singapore, Shanghai, Dubai, and Rotterdam handling most of the trade.

Traffic in millions of tons



Mapping the World

ABOUT THE ATLAS

This atlas is divided into six continental sections—North America, South America, Africa, Europe, Asia, and Australasia and Oceania. Each country, or group of countries, then has its own map that shows cities, towns, and main geographical features such as rivers, lakes, and mountain ranges. Photographs and text provide detailed information about life in that country—it's people, traditions, politics, and economy. Each continental section has a different color border to help you locate that section. There is also a gazetteer and an index to help you access information.



Asia

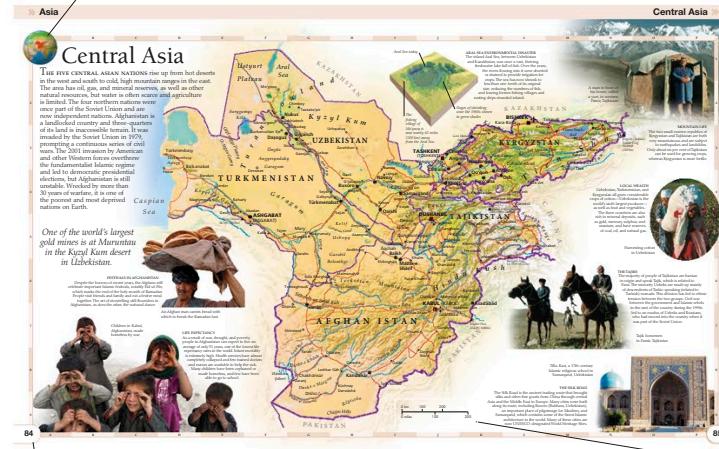
MAP LOCATOR

This map shows, in red, the location of each country, part of a country, or group of countries in relation to the whole planet. There is a locator for each map in the book.

FOREIGN NAMES

Features on the maps are generally labeled in the language of that country. For example, it would be:

Lake on English-speaking countries
Lago on Spanish-speaking countries
Lac on French-speaking countries
However, if a feature is well-known or mentioned in the main text on the page, it will appear there in English so that readers can find it easily.



84



A

USING THE GRID REFERENCES

The letters and numbers around the outside of the page form a grid to help you find places on the map. For example, to find Kabul, look up its name in the gazetteer (see pp.112–133), and you'll find the reference 85 J7. The first number is the page, the letter and number refer to the square made by following up or down from J and across from 7 to form J7.

KEY TO MAP SYMBOLS

BORDERS
International border: Border between countries, which is mutually recognized.
State border: Border used in some large countries to show internal divisions.
Disputed border: Border used in practice, but not mutually agreed between two countries.
Claimed border: Border that is not mutually recognized—where territory belonging to one country is claimed by another.
Ceasefire line
Undefined boundary

PHYSICAL FEATURES

▲	Mountain
▼	Depression
▲	Volcano
×	Pass/Tunnel

DRAINAGE FEATURES

—	Major river
—	Minor river
—	Seasonal river
—	Dam
—	Canal
—	Waterfall
—	Seasonal lake

MISCELLANEOUS FEATURES

◊	Site of interest
—	Ancient wall

COMMUNICATIONS

—	Highway
—	Major road
—	Minor road
—	Rail
—	Airport

TOWNS & CITIES

□	More than 500,000
○	100,000–500,000
○	50,000–100,000
○	Less than 50,000
●	National capital
●	Internal administrative capital
●	Polar research station

LATITUDE & LONGITUDE

—	Equator
—	Tropics/Circles

NAMES

REGIONS

FRANCE

Country

JERSEY (British Crown Dependency)	Dependent territory
KANSAS	Administrative region

Dordogne Cultural region

TOWNS & CITIES

PARIS	National capital
SAN JUAN	Dependent territory capital city

Seattle

Limón

Genk

San José

Other towns & cities

NAMES *continued*

PHYSICAL

Andes

Landscape features

Ardenne

Island group

Balearic Islands

Island

Majorca

Lake/River /Canal

Lake Baikal

Sea features

PACIFIC OCEAN

Gulf of Mexico

Sea features

Bay of Campeche

Undersea feature

Chile Rise

OTHER FEATURES

Tropic of Cancer

Graticule text

MAP COLORS

The colors shown on the maps are built up from numerous satellite photographs and reflect the true colors of the land, averaged over the seasons. Certain colors give clues to what the land is like—whether it is forested or farmland, mountains or desert.

Land appearing sandy tends to be desert, semi-desert, or scrub.

Mountainous desert looks like this, with shadows on the sandy background color.

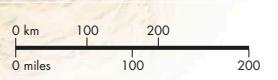
Pale green is usually grassland or crop land.

Darker greens usually indicate wooded land or pasture.

White shows land under permanent cover by snow and ice.

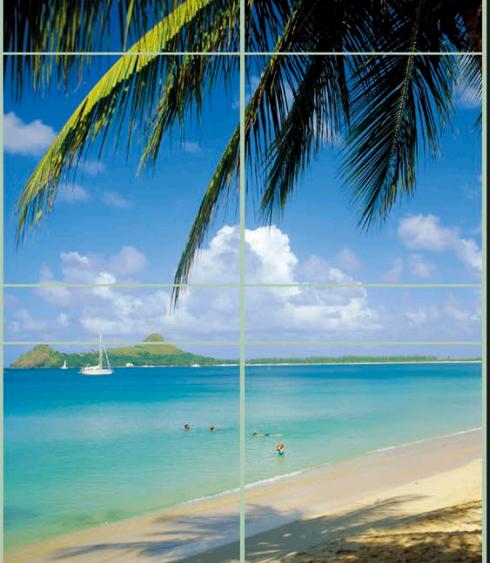
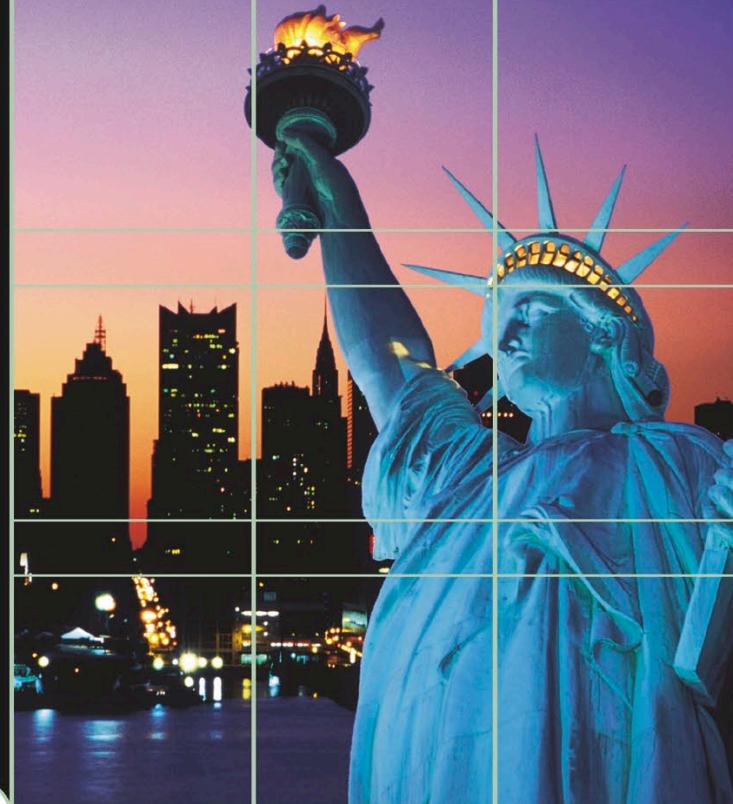
SCALE

Each map features a scale that shows how distances on the map relate to miles and kilometers. The scale guide can be used to see how big a country is. Not all maps in the book are drawn to the same scale.



NORTH AMERICA

The North American continent extends from the frozen wastes of Arctic Canada to the Caribbean islands and the tropical jungles of Panama. It is dominated politically by the United States, the richest nation on Earth, yet life in countries such as Mexico and Nicaragua is still a struggle. The data below is arranged in order of each nation's size.

Canada		Mexico			Honduras		
3,855,103 sq miles 9,984,670 sq km		758,449 sq miles 1,964,375 sq km			43,278 sq miles 112,090 sq km		
35,363,000		123,167,000			8,893,000		
Ottawa		Mexico City			Tegucigalpa		
English, French, Punjabi, Italian, Spanish, German, Cantonese, Tagalog, Arabic, Inuktitut, Cree		Spanish, Nahuatl, Mayan, Zapotec, Mixtec, Otomi, Totonac, Tzotzil, Tzeltal			Spanish, Garífuna (Carib), English Creole		
United States of America				Nicaragua			
3,796,742 sq miles 9,833,517 sq km				50,336 sq miles 130,370 sq km			
323,996,000				5,967,000			
Washington, DC				Managua			
English, Spanish, Chinese, French, German, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Italian, Korean, Russian, Polish				Spanish, English Creole, Miskito			
				Cuba		Panama	
				42,803 sq miles 110,860 sq km		29,120 sq miles 75,420 sq km	
				11,180,000		3,705,000	
				Havana		Panama City	
				Spanish		English Creole, Spanish, Amerindian languages, Chibchan languages	
				Guatemala		Haiti	
				42,042 sq miles 108,889 sq km		10,714 sq miles 27,750 sq km	
				15,190,000		10,486,000	
				Guatemala City		Port-au-Prince	
				Quiché, Mam, Kakchiquel, Kekchí, Spanish		French Creole, French	
				Costa Rica		Belize	
				19,730 sq miles 51,100 sq km		8,867 sq miles 22,966 sq km	
				4,873,000		353,800	
				San José		Belmopan	
				Spanish, English Creole, Bri bri, Cabecar		English Creole, Spanish, English, Mayan, Garífuna (Carib)	



El Salvador		Dominica			
El Salvador 8,124 sq miles 21,041 sq km 6,157,000 San Salvador Spanish	Dominica 290 sq miles 751 sq km 73,700 Roseau French Creole, English				
The Bahamas		St Lucia		Antigua and Barbuda	
The Bahamas 5,359 sq miles 13,880 sq km 327,300 Nassau English, English Creole, French Creole	St Lucia 238 sq miles 616 sq km 164,500 Castries English, French Creole	Antigua and Barbuda 171 sq miles 443 sq km 93,600 St John's English, English Patois			
Jamaica					
Jamaica 4,244 sq miles 10,991 sq km 2,970,000 Kingston English Creole, English					
Much of Canada is still untamed wilderness—a land of huge, dramatic landscapes like this lake high up in the rugged, frost-shattered Rocky Mountains.					
Trinidad and Tobago		Barbados		St Vincent and the Grenadines	
Trinidad and Tobago 1,980 sq miles 5,128 sq km 1,220,000 Port-of-Spain English Creole, English, Hindi, French, Spanish		Barbados 166 sq miles 430 sq km 291,500 Bridgetown Bajan (Barbadian English), English		St Vincent and the Grenadines 150 sq miles 389 sq km 102,300 Kingstown English, English Creole	St Kitts and Nevis 101 sq miles 261 sq km 52,300 Basseterre English, English Creole



B C D E F G H

Western Canada and Alaska

CANADA IS A HUGE COUNTRY—its western half stretches from the flat prairies in the east to the towering Rocky Mountains in the west, and from the relatively mild south to the permanently frozen area north of the Arctic Circle. Harsh conditions over much of the region mean that most of the population is concentrated in cities in the south, such as Vancouver, Calgary, and Winnipeg. The Prairies—once a vast expanse of grassland—are now used mainly for growing wheat on huge mechanized farms. Oil and natural gas are found there as well. These natural resources are also important in Alaska, a part of the United States. The majority of Alaska's people moved there to work in these lucrative industries.

Near Islands
Rat Islands

TOTEM POLES
The native peoples of British Columbia use totem poles to record their clan history. Each carved and painted totem describes a real or mythical event and often features animals that the clan has a close connection with, such as the eagle (left).



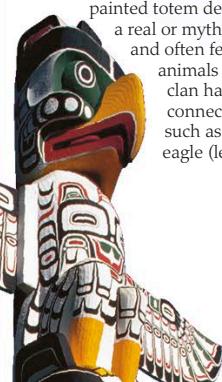
VANCOUVER
This city's vibrant cultural mix is typical of Canada's diversity. Many South Asian, Chinese, as well as other ethnic groups live here and reflect Vancouver's historic role as a destination for migrants. Hosting the 2010 Winter Olympics raised its profile and its bustling economy, mild climate, and cultural links make it an attractive place to live.



FORESTRY

Large parts of western Canada are covered in forests and lumbering is a major part of the local economy. The trees are used to make buildings, furniture, and paper. In the past, whole areas of trees were cleared but now sustainable methods, such as selective cutting and replanting, are practiced.

Felled trees transported down a river near Vancouver



DOGSLED RACING
The state sport of Alaska is dogsled racing. Here, competitors take part in the annual Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, a grueling run across the rugged landscape for drivers and their teams of dogs.



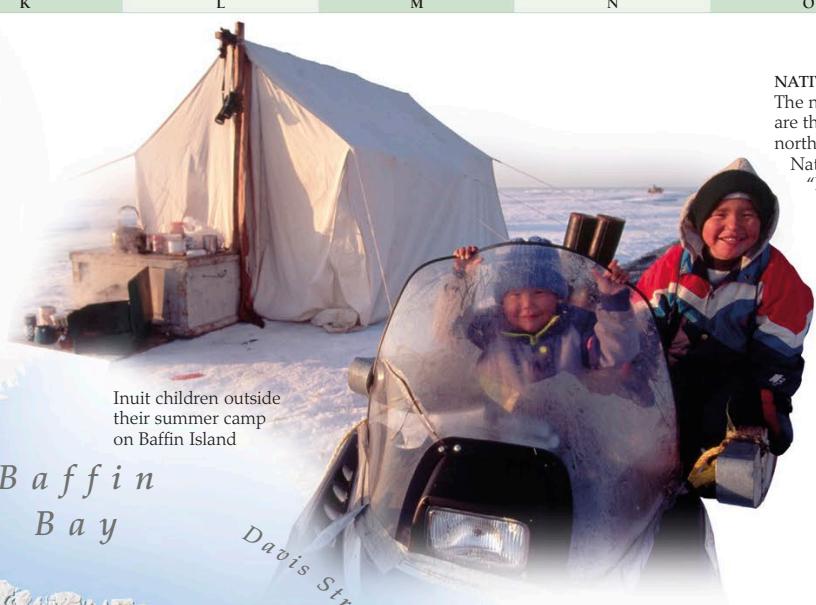
B C D E F G H

Western Canada and Alaska >>

A horizontal number line representing distance. It starts at 0 km (0 miles) and ends at 400 km (400 miles). The line is divided into four equal segments by tick marks at 0, 200, and 400. Above the line, the letters 'I' and 'J' are positioned above the 0 and 400 marks respectively. Below the line, the labels '0 km' and '0 miles' are at the start, '200' is in the middle segment, '400' is at the end, and '200' and '400' are repeated below the first and last segments respectively.



ROCKY MOUNTAINS
The rugged Rocky Mountains stretch south through western Canada and into the US. Every year they attract millions of visitors who enjoy walking, hiking, and canoeing in the dramatic scenery. Tourists sometimes see wildlife such as the grizzly bear, black bear, elk, moose, and wolf.



Inuit children outside their summer camp on Baffin Island

NATIVE PEOPLES

The native peoples of Alaska are the Aleut, and those in the north of Canada are the Inuit.

Native peoples are often called "First Nations" because they were the first to live in North America. Much of their land was later taken by European settlers. First Nation culture has revived and Nunavut is now a self-governing Inuit territory. The Inuit have adapted to the harsh environment and often combine modern technology with their traditional lifestyle.

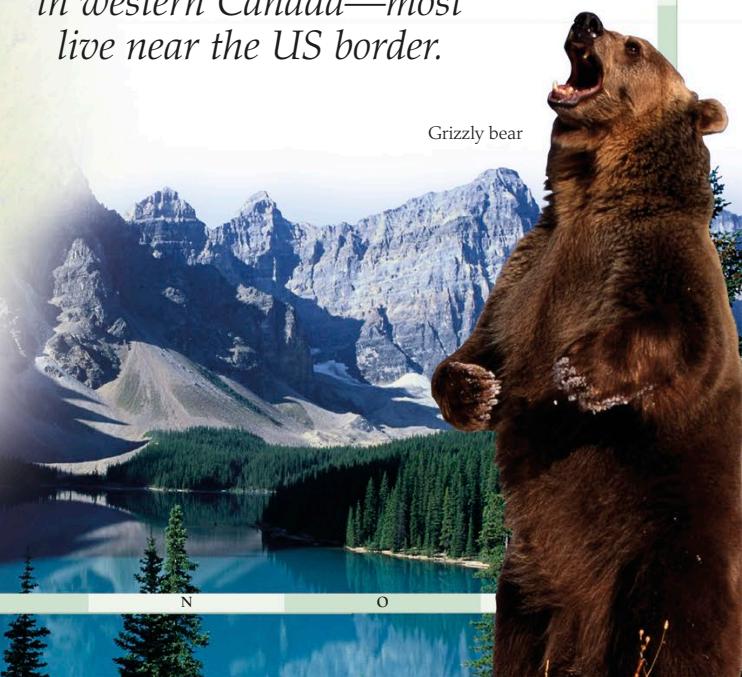


Grain elevators dominate the skyline of the prairies.

CENTRAL STATES

CENTRAL STATES
Large parts of Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba have rich soils and form one of the greatest wheat-growing areas in the world. More wheat is grown here than Canadians can consume, so vast amounts are exported. Wheat is used to make flour for staple foods such as bread. Once harvested, wheat is stored in grain elevators, waiting to be transported by truck or train.

Canada has a population of 35 million people, but only about 30 percent of them live in western Canada—most live near the US border.





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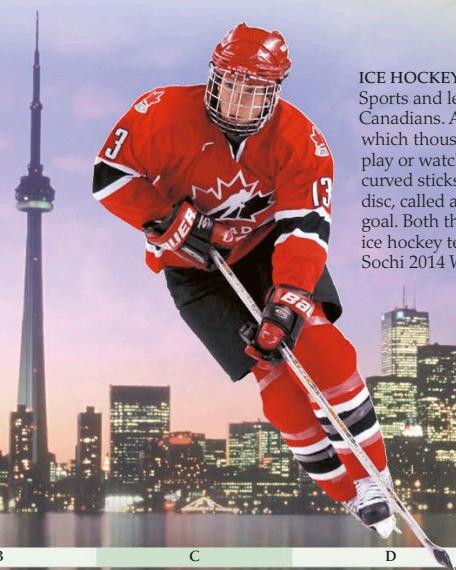
Eastern Canada

THE MOST INDUSTRIALIZED AND HEAVILY populated parts of Canada are in its eastern half. Ottawa, the capital, is located here, along with other important cities, such as Toronto, Montreal, and Québec. Some of the earliest settlers were French, and many people speak French as their first language. The Great Lakes—the largest system of lakes in the world—and the St Lawrence Seaway link the interior to the coast. The most easterly parts of Canada, the Atlantic Provinces, have rugged coastlines and dramatic scenery. However, soils are thin, so commercial agriculture is limited to a few areas. Fishing used to be the main activity, but fish stocks have been so depleted that few people are now employed in the industry, despite recent environmental efforts to rebuild the stocks. A growing oil and gas industry and new high-tech businesses are attracting younger workers, although many people still migrate to the bustling cities further inland.

Canadians have a high life expectancy—the average person lives to be 82 years old.

TORONTO

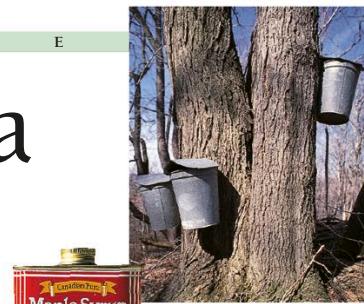
Toronto is Canada's most important economic center. Located on Lake Ontario, close to the US border, it is not only an industrial and commercial center but is also home to a wide diversity of ethnic and cultural groups. The Canadian National (CN) Tower, which dominates the Toronto skyline, is one of the world's tallest towers at 1,815 ft (553.33 m), and locals and tourists can get an impressive view of the city and Lake Ontario from the top.



CN Tower

ICE HOCKEY

Sports and leisure are important to Canadians. A popular sport is ice hockey, which thousands of people enthusiastically play or watch. Teams of skaters use long, curved sticks to try to get a hard rubber disc, called a puck, into the opposing team's goal. Both the men's and women's national ice hockey teams won gold medals at the Sochi 2014 Winter Olympics.



MAPLE SYRUP

The colorful maple trees of Québec and Ontario are tapped for maple syrup, a major export, and a popular topping on pancakes. The maple leaf is the national symbol of Canada and is featured on the nation's flag.



UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA





B C D E F G H

USA: Northeast

THE NORTHEASTERN UNITED STATES is a heavily populated area that is steeped in history. This is traditionally the main immigration point into the States, with the Statue of Liberty lighting the way for those arriving into New York by boat.

People from all over the world have settled in this region to live and work, creating a “melting pot” of cultures and ethnic groups. Important historical events, such as the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, took place in Philadelphia. These documents set the foundations for American life today. It is also here that the capital and center of government were established. Today, while industry and agriculture are still important, finance and commerce are the driving forces of the economy.

The White House in Washington, D.C. has been home to every president except George Washington, after whom the city is named.

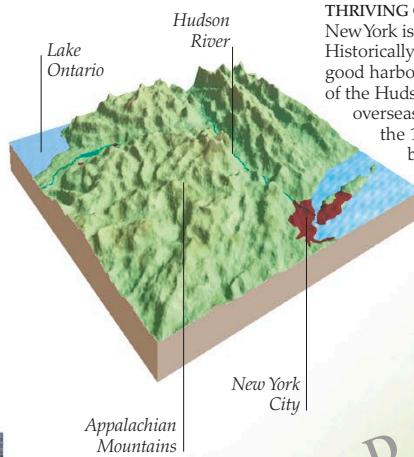


PITTSBURGH

Once a major steel manufacturing center with a polluted environment, Pittsburgh is now a thriving financial center with a large number of corporate headquarters. Bridges span the three rivers that run through the city, connecting the core downtown area (above) to the suburbs.

CENTER OF GOVERNMENT
All three branches of the federal government, the executive, legislative, and judicial, reside in Washington, D.C. The United States Congress (the legislative branch) meets here in the Capitol building. Many of the city's residents work for the government.

Capitol building,
the seat of
government



THRIVING CITY

New York is the largest city in the US. Historically it grew because it has a good harbor and sits at the mouth of the Hudson River. Immigrants from overseas flooded into the city in the 19th and 20th centuries, boosting its population and economy. Today, it is the main financial center, not just of the US, but of the world.





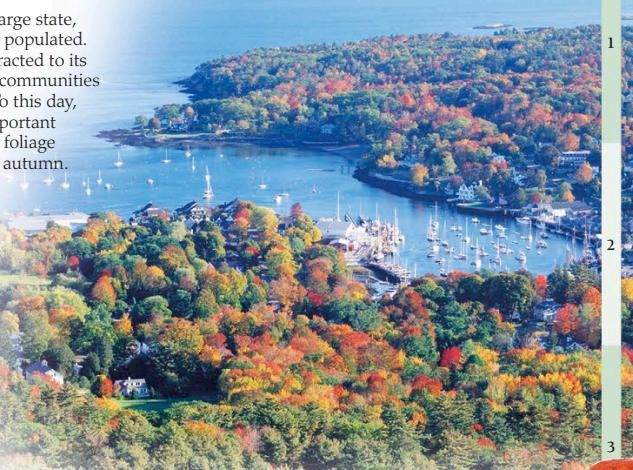
CRANBERRIES

The northeast USA is a major cranberry-growing region. Cranberries grow in flooded bogs, and once harvested—often with high-tech equipment (above)—they can be eaten in pies and sauces.



MAINE

Although Maine is a large state, it is relatively sparsely populated. Early settlers were attracted to its coastline, and fishing communities gradually sprang up. To this day, fishing remains an important activity, while colorful foliage attracts tourists in the autumn.



Maine (above), famous for its clam chowder and lobsters (right)



THANKSGIVING-

THANKSGIVING
The first Thanksgiving was held in 1621 as a gesture of friendship between American Indians and the Pilgrims after the Pilgrims' first successful harvest. Americans honor that tradition every November by gathering with family and friends to give thanks for life's blessings and to share a meal.



HIGHER EDUCATION

HIGHER EDUCATION
A large number of universities are located in this region, including two of the most famous—Harvard (above) and Yale. As well as studying, students enjoy a full campus life, including taking part in sports. Links between industry and education are strong, so many high-tech companies have been established here.



The Statue of Liberty
has stood in New York
Harbor since 1886.



NEW YORK CITY

NEW YORK CITY
The center of US commerce and business is New York City. People living here have a fast-paced lifestyle, and many travel by train or ferry from the suburbs to work in the towering high-rise office blocks of Manhattan. People traveling by boat across the harbor pass the Statue of Liberty, a huge monument that represents freedom and opportunity to Americans.



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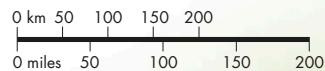
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USA: South



THE SOUTHERN STATES of the US have a varied landscape and an interesting mix of people, both culturally and economically. Some areas of the region are poor, especially the Appalachian Mountain communities, while other parts, such as the Florida coast, are wealthy and attract many people from other states and countries. The cultural mix includes people of Latin American origin, African Americans, Cajuns (French Canadians), and European Americans, giving rise to diverse music styles, dialects, pastimes, and food. While coal mining in the Appalachian Mountains has declined in recent years, agriculture is still important, as are tourism and industry. Tourism is particularly important in Florida and in New Orleans near the mouth of the mighty Mississippi River.



COTTON CROPS
Cotton was once the mainstay crop of the south and was grown by African-American slaves. Today, cotton is still important for the economy of the region and is grown in large fields and harvested with huge machinery. Cotton has many uses, primarily as the raw material for textiles.

*The Mississippi
is the largest river in
North America and
the third largest in
the world.*



MUSICAL ORIGINS
The southern US is famous for its music, much of which reflects the cultural mix of the region. New Orleans and other parts of Louisiana are the birthplaces of jazz and Cajun music, while bluegrass and country have origins in Nashville and Memphis. These music styles started here, but quickly spread throughout the country and developed even further in the cities.



Jazz musician on
Bourbon Street,
New Orleans

Chef holding
a skillet of
jambalaya, a
Cajun dish



CAJUN CULTURE
The Cajuns in this region are French-speaking people who were expelled from Canada in the 18th century. They mixed with other cultures in Louisiana, but their French influence can be seen in the music, food, and place names, such as Lafayette.

FLORIDA EVERGLADES
The increasing population of Florida means that the Everglades, swampy plains inhabited by alligators and other wildlife, are under threat as land is needed for houses and farms. However, the Everglades National Park protects part of this important ecosystem.



KENTUCKY DERBY

Every year on the first Saturday of May, the Kentucky Derby takes place in Louisville. This horse race, and the festivities based around it, mark the beginning of spring for people in the area. The best horses and jockeys, as well as massive crowds of spectators from around the country, travel here for the event.

TOURISM

Tourism is an important industry in the south, especially for Florida. As well as warm weather and appealing scenery, tourists are attracted to the theme parks around Orlando. Jobs and income are generated by tourism, with many people working in retail outlets, restaurants, hotels, and theme parks.

Kumba roller coaster, a popular ride at Busch Gardens Tampa Bay, Florida

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR

Martin Luther King, Jr (left) was born in Atlanta in 1929. In the 1960s, he led many peaceful protests to end the laws that discriminated against black Americans. King was assassinated in 1969 and has since been seen as a symbol of the struggle for racial equality. Many African Americans live in the southern US where, before the Civil War (1861–65), their ancestors were forced to work on cotton plantations and farms.

Martin Luther King, Jr, speaking at the final rally of the March Against Fear, Mississippi, 1966

FLORIDA'S SUNSHINE COAST

Florida's sunny weather and sandy beaches have traditionally attracted many retired people, many of whom live in apartments along the coast in resorts such as Miami Beach (right). Florida also attracts young people, particularly to the vibrant city of Miami, where many immigrants from Central America, Cuba, and other Caribbean islands live, and Spanish is spoken by half the population. The Florida Keys, an island chain in the south of the peninsula, is also popular with tourists, and contains some of the largest living coral formations in North America.





B C D E F G H

USA: Midwest

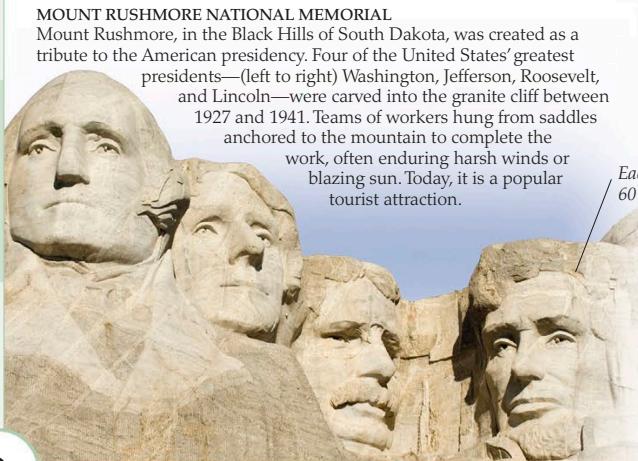
THE AMERICAN MIDWEST is dominated by the Great Plains, once the home of cattle ranches, cowboys, and American Indian peoples. However, the discovery of gold in South Dakota brought a rush of settlers to the area. This, combined with a decline in buffalo numbers, led to the eventual displacement of the American Indians from the Plains. The area is prone to dramatic weather—tornadoes, freezing blizzards, and blazing hot summers. To the west, vast areas of farmland generate more wheat and corn than anywhere else in the world. East of the Mississippi the landscape varies and, although farming is still important, it is an industrial heartland. The greater Detroit area and other parts of Michigan make up a big manufacturing center, with other hubs in Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois.



BUFFALO ON THE PLAINS

Up to 100 million buffalo once grazed on the Great Plains. They provided local American Indians with food for the family, and skin for clothes and tepees. The Dakota people used buffalo bones to make shields and tools, and the animal's bladder into a bag for carrying water. But over-hunting and the destruction of the buffalo's habitat by early European settlers drastically reduced the number of animals. The buffalo is now a protected species and lives in reserves.

Buffalo herd on a reserve,
South Dakota



MOUNT RUSHMORE NATIONAL MEMORIAL

Mount Rushmore, in the Black Hills of South Dakota, was created as a tribute to the American presidency. Four of the United States' greatest presidents—(left to right) Washington, Jefferson, Roosevelt, and Lincoln—were carved into the granite cliff between 1927 and 1941. Teams of workers hung from saddles anchored to the mountain to complete the work, often enduring harsh winds or blazing sun. Today, it is a popular tourist attraction.

Each carved face is about
60 ft (18 m) high.



TORNADO ALLEY

Dramatic tornadoes, or "twisters," regularly tear through the states of Kansas and Oklahoma along a path known as Tornado Alley. Tornadoes occur when warm and cold air masses meet. As the warm air rises it cools, and under the right conditions it can suck in more and more air until a whirling twister develops. The more air that is drawn in, the greater the power of the tornado.



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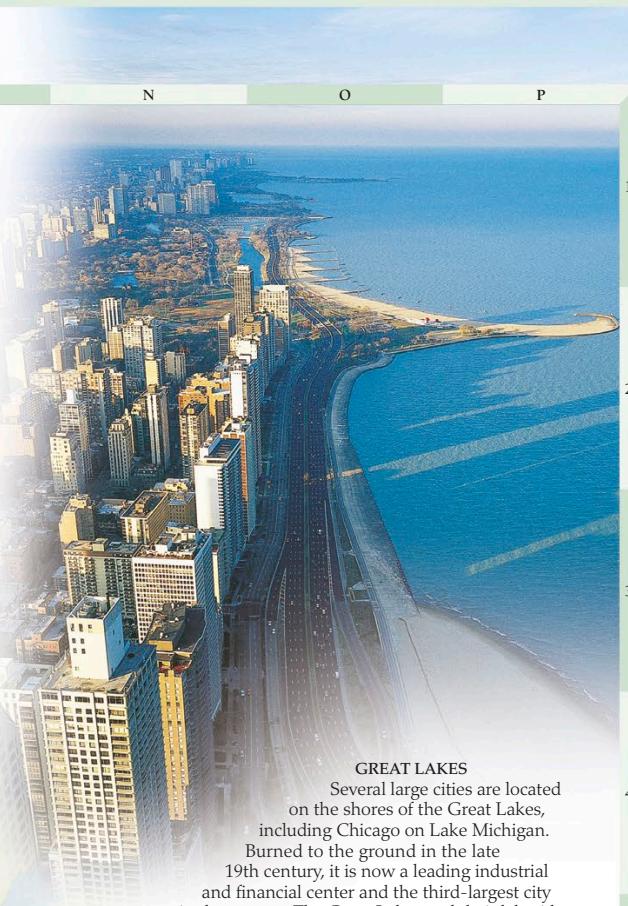
**RURAL AMERICA**

Although most Americans today live in cities and large towns, there are still many small towns with populations of less than 10,000 people. These towns are often in farming communities and are where people go to shop or to attend church. Children, such as these boys from Iowa (left), often have to be taken to and from school by bus.



AGRICULTURE
The Great Plains extend across the west of this region and are important for agriculture. Rich soils support crops of wheat and corn, while livestock grazes on the extensive grassland. Millions of people live on the Great Plains, many on family-owned and -run farms.

The Great Lakes contain one-fifth of Earth's fresh water.

**GREAT LAKES**

Several large cities are located on the shores of the Great Lakes, including Chicago on Lake Michigan.

Burned to the ground in the late

19th century, it is now a leading industrial and financial center and the third-largest city in the country. The Great Lakes and their lakeside retreats are also a popular tourist destination for vacationers who like watersports.

**FOOTBALL**

The first official game of football was played between Princeton and Rutgers universities in New Jersey on November 6, 1869. Since then, college and professional teams have been founded all over the country, and playing and watching football has become one of America's favorite pastimes.





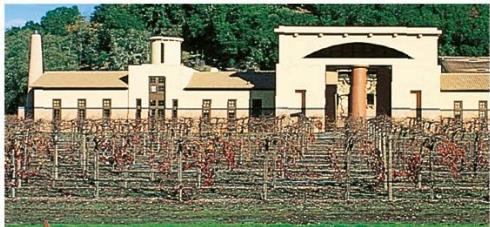
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USA: West

THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS separate the coastal region from the drier inland states. Large and fast-growing cities such as San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego hug the Pacific coast, and have attracted many migrants because of good job opportunities. Inland, blazing desert and towering mountains provide some of the most dramatic landscapes in the country. National parks such as Yellowstone in northwestern Wyoming and Montana and Yosemite in central California protect some of these wilderness areas. Further east, the foothills of the Rockies give way to vast plains grazed by large herds of cattle.



NORTHERN FORESTS
The coastal areas of Oregon and Washington contain large forests. These produce economically important timber, but much land is also left in its natural state and is popular with hikers. Most people here live in large cities like Seattle, and in the fertile inland valleys.



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURE
California is warm, fertile, and, with irrigation, ideal for agriculture. Grapes are an important crop north of San Francisco in the Napa Valley.

Further south, citrus crops such as oranges also flourish. Premium farming land is under threat, however, as the population expands.



The American Indian name for Death Valley is Tomesha, which means "land where the ground is on fire."



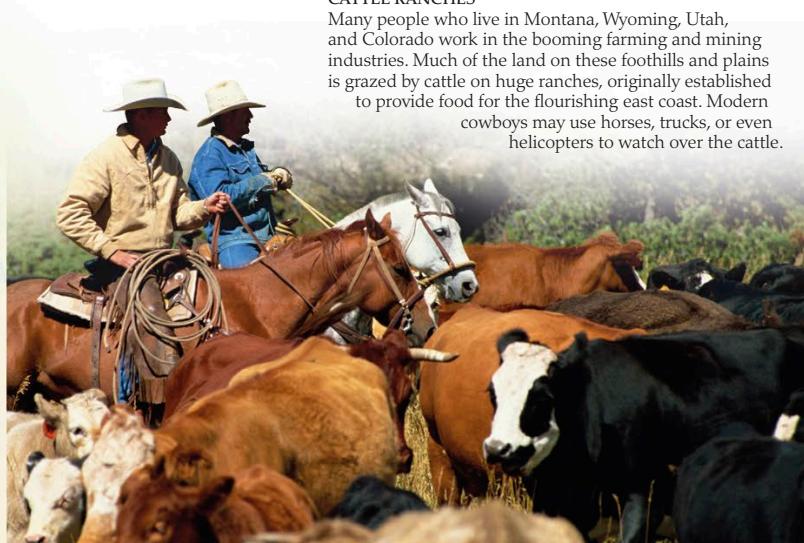
LOS ANGELES

This sprawling city—the second largest in the USA—is home to migrants from all over the world, as well as from other states in the country. Sandwiched between the coast and the mountains, the city has massive air pollution problems. This mostly arises from the exhaust fumes from the high number of cars used by commuters on the city's highways.

A B C D E F G H



Silicon, an element, is used in many computer products.



CATTLE RANCHES

Many people who live in Montana, Wyoming, Utah, and Colorado work in the booming farming and mining industries. Much of the land on these foothills and plains is grazed by cattle on huge ranches, originally established to provide food for the flourishing east coast. Modern cowboys may use horses, trucks, or even helicopters to watch over the cattle.



COLORADO

The Rocky Mountains cut through this region. The stunning terrain and the light, dry snow that falls here support the skiing industry in Colorado. Resorts such as Aspen are popular with Americans as well as with overseas visitors.



YELLOWSTONE
The first national park in the world, Yellowstone was established in 1827 in Wyoming and Montana to protect the abundant wildlife and hydrothermal activity. The United States now has 413 national parks, which attract millions of visitors every year.

Tourists watching Old Faithful geyser, Yellowstone National Park

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B C D E F G H

USA: Southwest

THE SOUTHWEST is an area of great contrasts. Much of Oklahoma and Texas consists of flat, rolling grasslands and huge farms, while both Arizona and New Mexico are hot, arid, and mountainous, with vast canyons and river valleys carving their way through the land. Since the discovery of oil in 1901, Texas has become the country's top oil producer with Houston as the center of the billion-dollar industry. Tourism is also important to the Southwest, as visitors flock to see the Grand Canyon, the Painted Desert, and other natural wonders. Buildings here reflect the mix of Latino, American Indian, European American, and modern American cultures.



DESERT LIFE
The saguaro cactus can reach up to 50 ft (15 m) tall, grow as many as 40 branches, and live for 200 years. Cacti, yucca, and other plants have all adapted to the hot, dry desert conditions found in the Southwest. So, too, have many animals, including the deadly rattlesnake.

Saguaro cacti in the Sonoran Desert

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THE GRAND CANYON

The Grand Canyon in northern Arizona is one of the natural wonders of the world. This incredibly deep gorge was slowly cut out of the rock, beginning 6 million years ago, by the Colorado River. People can hike around its edge or venture down into the canyon to camp for the night.



Suburbs of Phoenix, Arizona

HOT PLACE TO LIVE
The climate across much of the Southwest is hot and dry, with summer temperatures often reaching 100°F (38°C). Although water can be scarce, many people have a swimming pool in their backyard so they can cool off.



AMERICAN-INDIAN CULTURES

American Indians, including Navajo, Hopi, and Apache, used to live across the Southwest but are now concentrated in reservations set up by the US government. The largest of these is in Arizona and New Mexico, and is home to the Navajo people. The Navajo farm the land and produce crafts, like the woven blanket wrapped around these Navajo children.



Kachina doll made by the Hopi

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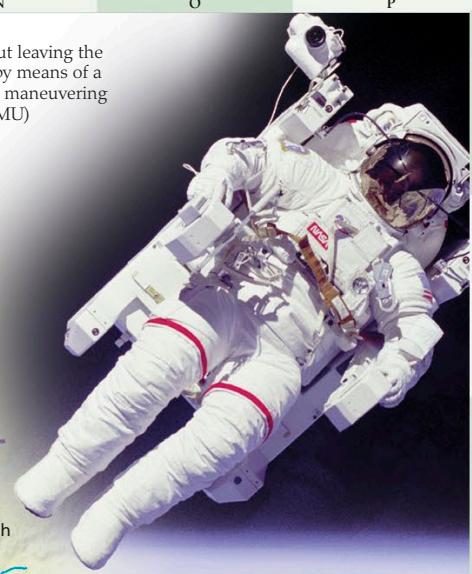
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**ADOBE HOUSES**

Traditional homes of the Pueblo peoples of the Southwest were made from adobe bricks of sun-baked earth and straw covered with plaster. Dwellings had a flat roof and smooth walls. Modern adobe-style buildings can still be seen in the Southwest, but are often made of concrete and then painted to look like adobe. Here, a woman demonstrates baking bread in an adobe oven.

Astronaut leaving the shuttle by means of a manned maneuvering unit (MMU)

**OIL FIELDS**

The oil industry has provided Texas with much of its wealth. Oil lies deep underground and is brought up to the surface by massive oil jacks, known as nodding donkeys.



B C D E F G H

Mexico

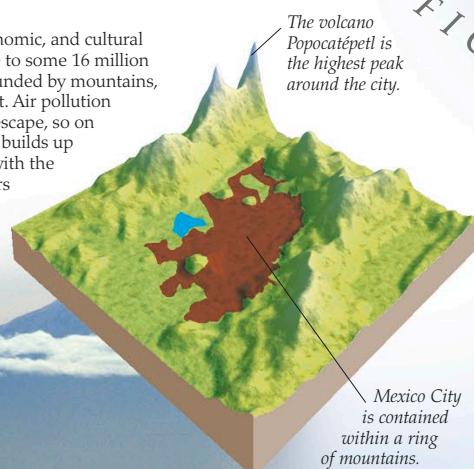
ONCE HOME TO THE GREAT Aztec and Mayan civilizations and then the focus of Spanish conquistadors who came in search of wealth, Mexico today reflects its colorful past through its culture and architecture. The majority of Mexicans is mestizo (mixed race), of Spanish and native Indian descent.

Mexico City, site of the ancient Aztec capital, is today one of the largest cities in the world, with a population of around 21 million. Despite oil and natural gas reserves, and a plentiful supply of labor, large numbers of Mexicans are still poor, especially in the rural areas and the urban slums.



DAY OF THE DEAD
One of the biggest festivals in Mexico is the Day of the Dead. It is believed that once a year the souls of the dead can come back and visit their loved ones. In celebration of this, special food is prepared to welcome the souls, and offerings of flowers, candles, and incense are made at the gravesides.

LIFE IN THE CITY
Mexico City is the political, economic, and cultural hub of the country, and is home to some 16 million people. Its site, in a basin surrounded by mountains, means that expansion is difficult. Air pollution from factories and cars cannot escape, so on most days a thick layer of smog builds up over the city. Attempts to deal with the pollution, including banning cars from some parts, have had limited success.



WORKING ON THE LAND
Agriculture employs 6.5 million people – about one-eighth of Mexico's work force. However, only 12 percent of the land is suitable for farming because it is so mountainous and dry. The peasant communities of the south rely on farming for their food, while communities in the north are more industrialized. Here, the agave plant is being harvested near the town of Tequila.



ALONG THE BORDER
In 1994, Mexico signed the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which effectively bound its economy to that of the US. A large industrial area has developed along the Mexican border with the US.



A B C D E F G H



Mexican selling baskets, Puerto Escondido

TOURIST INDUSTRY

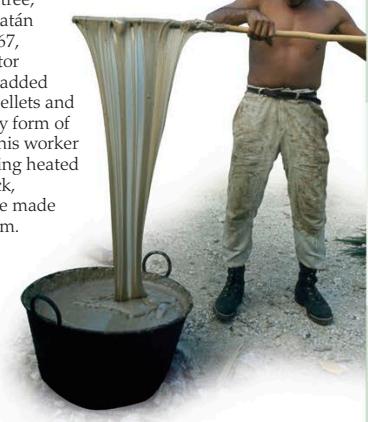
One of Mexico's largest employment sectors is tourism. The tourists are attracted by the numerous beautiful beaches on both the Pacific and Caribbean coasts, as well as Mexico's rich blend of history and culture. Popular tourist sites include the archaeological remains of the Aztec and Mayan civilizations, such as the Mayan ruins of the city of Palenque.



FAMILY TIES

Mexico has a large population, almost half of which are 24 years old or younger. Very often extended families live together in one house, with the mother at the center of the family. Mother's Day remains one of the most important dates in the Mexican calendar.

CHEWING GUM
Chicle is a latex produced by the sapodilla tree, native to the Yucatán Peninsula. In 1867, American inventor Thomas Adams added sugar to chicle pellets and invented an early form of chewing gum. This worker (right) is stretching heated chicle with a stick, preparing it to be made into chewing gum.



MEDIEVAL RULERS

The Aztecs ruled a large part of this region from about 1428 until 1521, when they were conquered by the Spanish. Their capital, Tenochtitlán, was located on the site that is now Mexico City. The influence of this great civilization has left its mark on Mexico – more than 1 million Mexicans speak Nahuatl, the native Aztec language. This feather headdress is thought to have belonged to Moctezuma, the last Aztec ruler.

Aztec headdress



Mexico is the world's main producer of silver, which is mined in the center of the country.



Gulf of Mexico

Bay of Campeche

Isthmus of Tehuantepec

Gulf of Tehuantepec

Puerto Angel

Puerto Escondido

Pinotepa Nacional

Monte Albán

Tehuantepec

Miahuatlán

Juchitán

Salina Cruz

Gulf of Tehuantepec

Puerto Angel

Puerto Escondido

Pinotepa Nacional

Monte Albán

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Juchitán

Salina Cruz

Gulf of Tehuantepec

Puerto Angel

Puerto Escondido

Pinotepa Nacional

Monte Albán

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B C D E F G H

Central America

VOLCANOES, EARTHQUAKES, and hurricanes threaten the livelihoods of people in the seven countries of Central America. People here have also struggled with poverty and civil war. In more recent years, however, peace and economic recovery have offered hope, and education is now free in all countries. Remains of the ancient Mayan civilization that flourished until the 16th century, when the Spanish invaded, can be seen throughout the region.

Large numbers of the native population died after the invasion, mostly from disease. Today, Spanish is the main language of the region.



FAUNA AND FLORA

Ecotourism, which encourages visitors but aims to protect and preserve the environment, is increasingly important in the region. In Belize, tourists can dive in the clear, warm waters off the world's second largest barrier reef, and there are wildlife treks to many forest areas. Animals include jaguars, howler monkeys, and butterflies.

TEMPLE PYRAMIDS

Between 250–900 CE, the Maya designed ceremonial centers filled with temples, courts, and plazas. Without metal, they shaped tools from the solid lava of volcanoes to carve the limestone buildings. One of the largest sites is at Tikal (left), in Guatemala, where temple remains lie in a huge area of tropical rainforest.

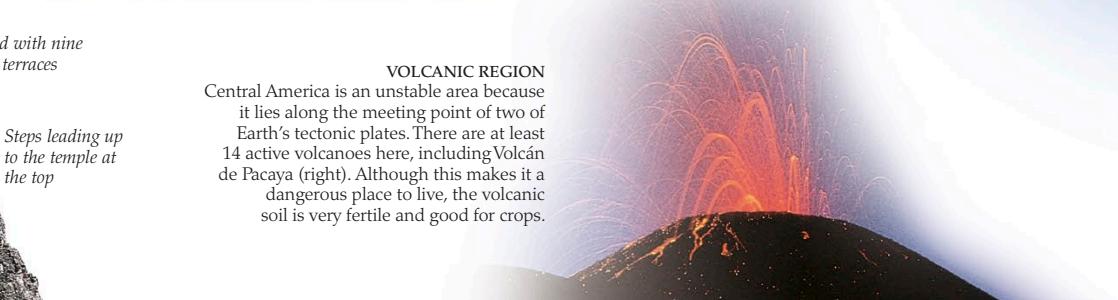


DECORATED CHURCHES

The Spanish colonizers of the 1500s, and the missionaries who came with them, converted the native population and established Roman Catholicism throughout Central America. They also built many fabulously decorated churches. The one shown here, El Merced, is built in a low, squat style to resist the ever-present threat of earthquakes. The majority of people still follow the Roman Catholic faith.

VOLCANIC REGION

Central America is an unstable area because it lies along the meeting point of two of Earth's tectonic plates. There are at least 14 active volcanoes here, including Volcán de Pacaya (right). Although this makes it a dangerous place to live, the volcanic soil is very fertile and good for crops.



Lake Nicaragua is the only freshwater lake in the world that contains sharks.



D E F G H



B C D E F G H

The Caribbean

THIS REGION CONSISTS of thousands of islands stretching from Cuba in the west to Trinidad and Tobago in the southeast. European colonists wanted control of the islands in the 1500s, but the diseases they brought wiped out most of the local Carib and Arawak peoples. African slaves, imported to work on plantations, replaced local peoples and today most of the population are descended from those Africans. English, Spanish, and French are spoken in different countries, depending on which European power claimed the territory. Tourism and agriculture are major sources of employment.

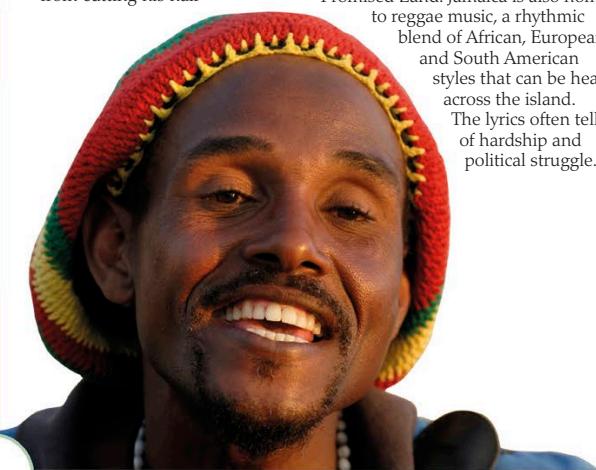
**CUBA**

Cuba is the largest island and the only communist country in the region. It was supported by the communist superpower, the USSR, until the USSR collapsed in 1991, at which time many Cubans suffered great economic hardship. The Cuban government invested its money in improving social services. The people benefit from a good health service and a high literacy rate. Children who complete pre-university education are awarded the *Bachillerato*.

JAMAICA

The Rastafarian religion began in Kingston, Jamaica, in the 1930s. Followers worship Haile Selassie, the former emperor of Ethiopia (Ras Tafari), and believe that God will lead black people back to Ethiopia, the Promised Land. Jamaica is also home to reggae music, a rhythmic blend of African, European, and South American styles that can be heard across the island. The lyrics often tell of hardship and political struggle.

Rastafarian, whose religion forbids him from cutting his hair

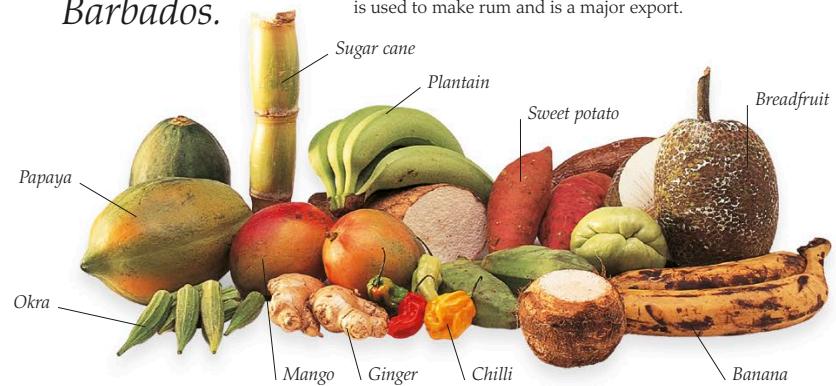


Cuba specializes in making top-quality cigars.

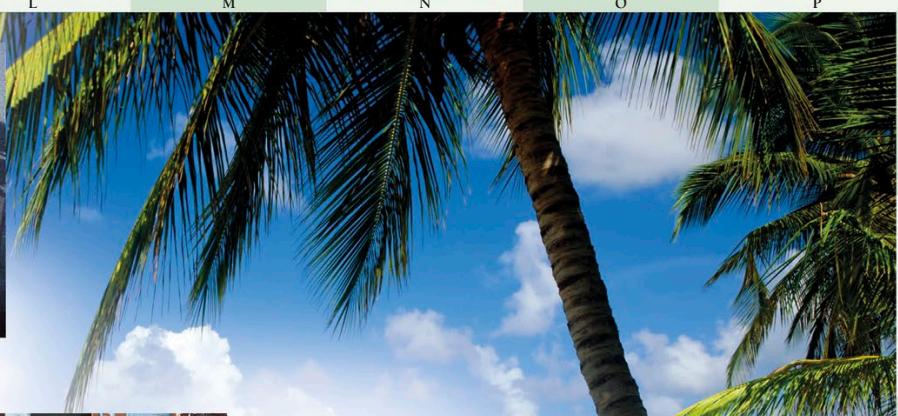
The most densely populated country in the Caribbean is Barbados.

CARIBBEAN CROPS

The semi-tropical climate here creates ideal conditions for many crops, especially sugar. The growing and processing of sugar is an important industry in Cuba, Jamaica, and many of the Lesser Antilles, providing jobs and income for the region. Fermented cane sugar is used to make rum and is a major export.



HURRICANES
The Caribbean islands can be devastated by hurricanes between May and October each year. These powerful and damaging storms occur when a normal storm builds up energy as it moves across the Atlantic Ocean. Eventually, violent winds and torrential rain are released on the islands.



FAMILY LIFE
Family is very important here, and is usually the center of everyday life. Some Caribbean people migrated to other countries, such as the UK, but return when they retire—often bringing considerable money back with them.



TROPICAL ISLES
White sands and warm seas attract vast numbers of visitors to these islands. Tourism is important to the economies of many countries including the Bahamas and the Dominican Republic. Many people work in tourism-related jobs, such as in hotels.



DOMINICAN REPUBLIC



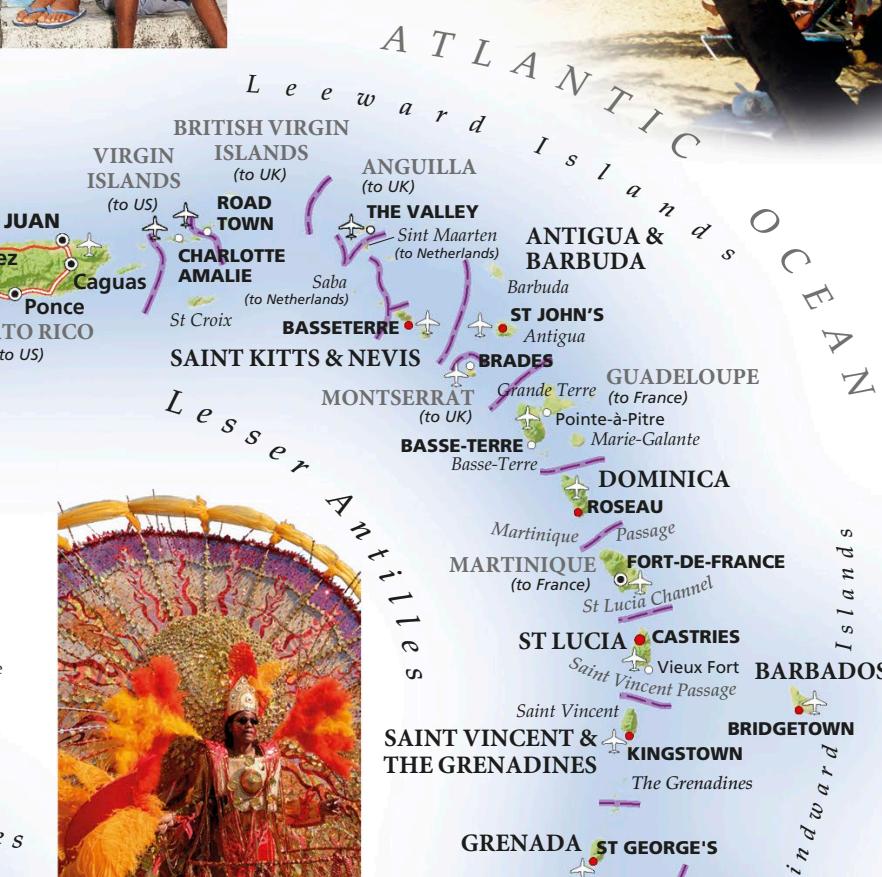
HAITI

Haiti was the first Caribbean country to become independent. However, political unrest, combined with poor soil and natural disasters, have made Haiti one of the poorest countries in the world. Health care and sanitation levels are poor and, as a result, life expectancy is low.

Haitian man selling flowers



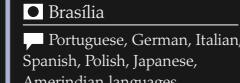
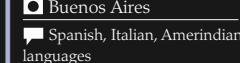
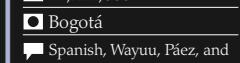
VENEZUELA

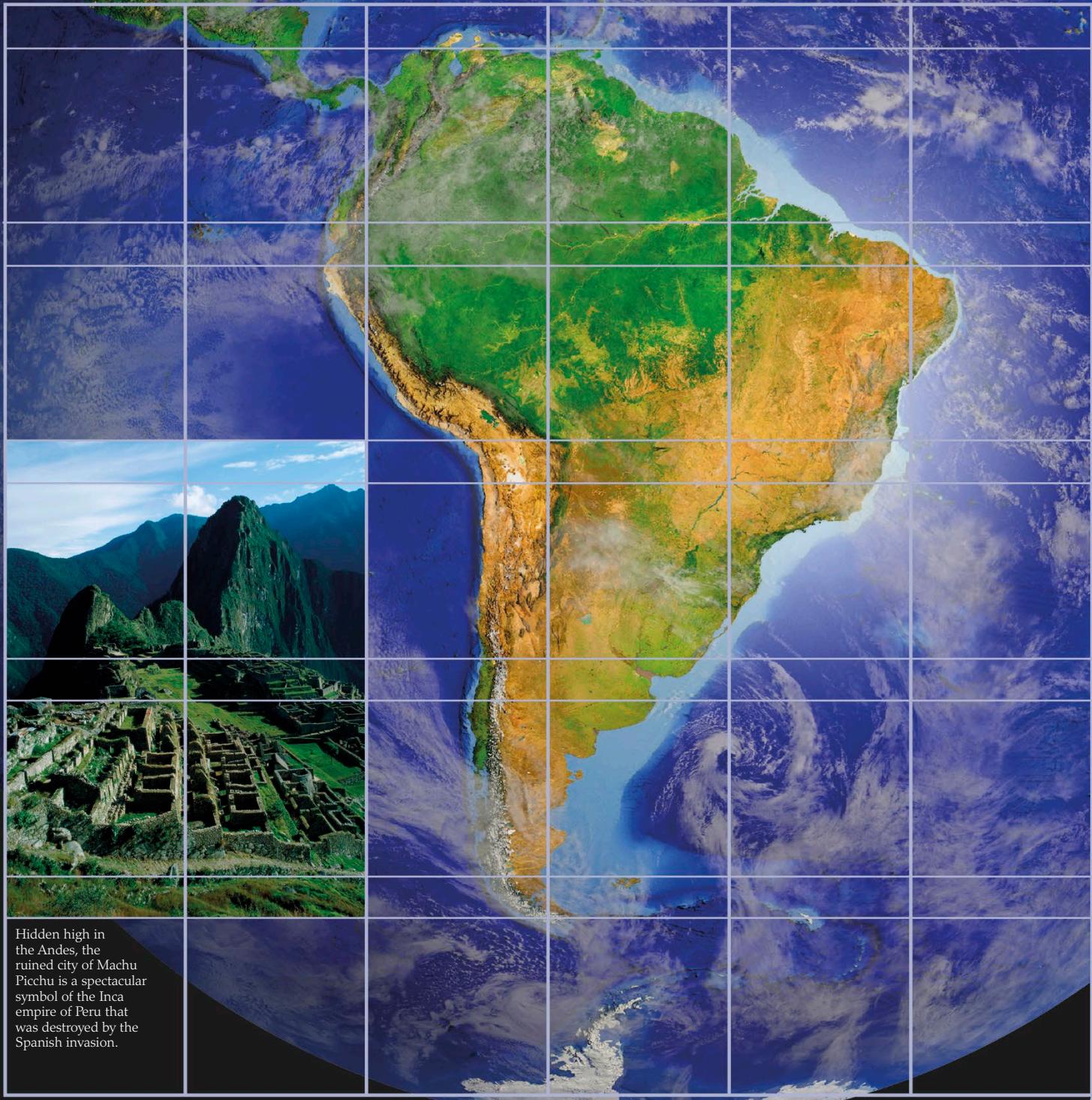


A TIME TO CELEBRATE
The celebration of Diwali (Hindu), Eid ul-Fitr (Muslim), and Christmas (Christian) reflect the varied religions of people in Trinidad and Tobago. The woman above is dressed for Carnival in Port of Spain to mark the beginning of the Christian season of Lent.

SOUTH AMERICA

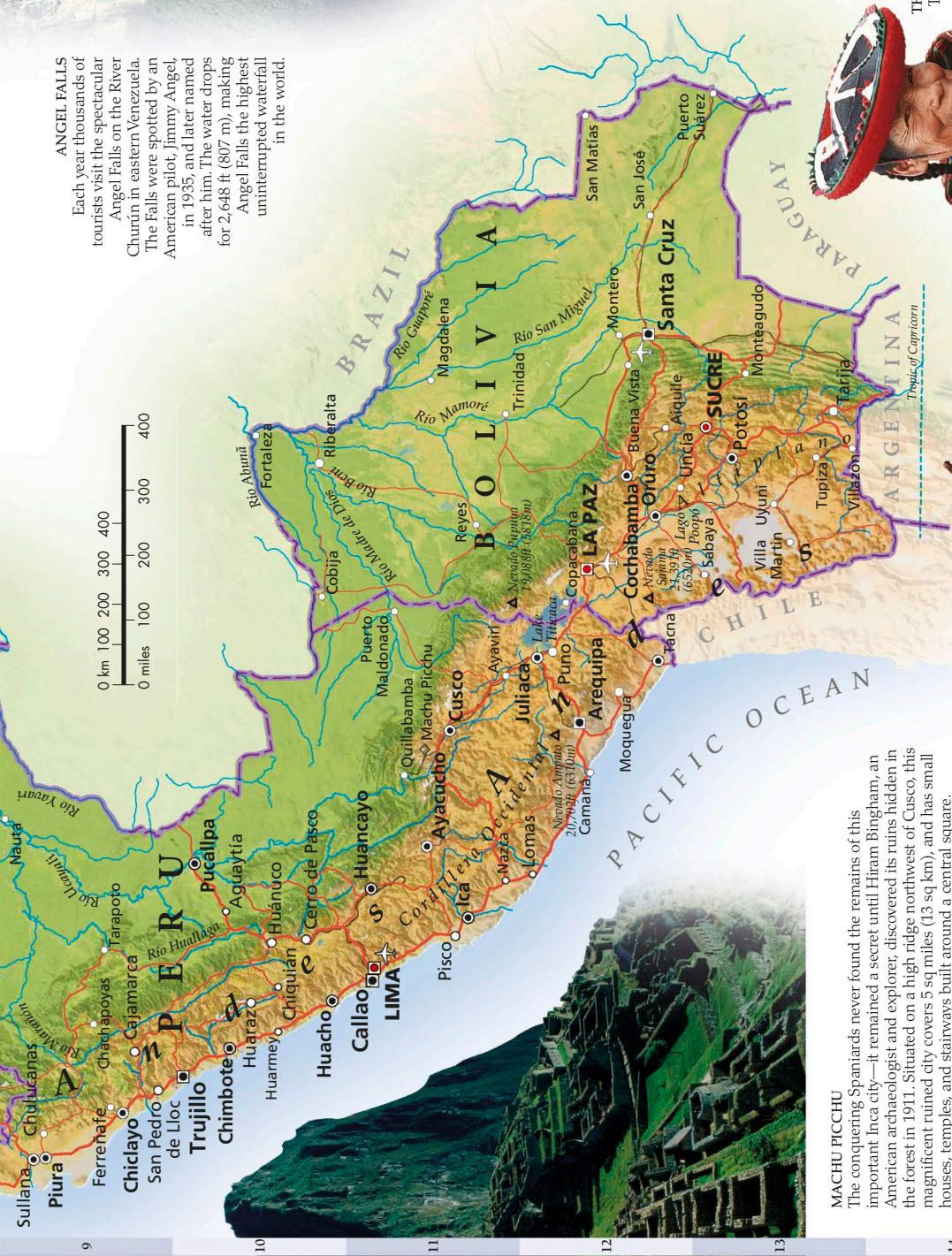
Although South America is much poorer than its northern neighbor, it is rich in natural resources. Its mineral wealth led to its invasion by the Portuguese and Spanish in the 1500s, and their languages and culture still shape the lives of the people here. The nations below are listed in order of area, headed by Brazil—the world's fifth largest country.

Brazil  3,287,957 sq miles 8,515,770 sq km 205,824,000  Brasília 		Venezuela  352,144 sq miles 912,050 sq km 30,912,000  Caracas 		Latin American culture is world famous, thanks to its infectious music and dance. Here a couple in Buenos Aires, Argentina, demonstrate the art of the tango.
	Bolivia  424,164 sq miles 1,098,581 sq km 10,970,000  La Paz 	Chile  291,933 sq miles 756,102 sq km 17,650,000  Santiago 		
Argentina  1,073,518 sq miles 2,780,400 sq km 43,887,000  Buenos Aires 	Paraguay  157,048 sq miles 406,752 sq km 6,863,000  Asunción 		Ecuador  109,484 sq miles 283,561 sq km 16,081,000  Quito 	
Peru  496,225 sq miles 1,285,216 sq km 30,741,000  Lima 		Guyana  83,000 sq miles 214,969 sq km 736,000  Georgetown 	Uruguay  68,037 sq miles 176,215 sq km 3,351,000  Montevideo 	
Colombia  439,736 sq miles 1,138,910 sq km 47,221,000  Bogotá 		Suriname  63,251 sq miles 163,820 sq km 585,800  Paramaribo 	Soccer is a national passion in Brazil. Most of these barefoot boys on Ipanema beach, Rio de Janeiro, will be dreaming of playing for Brazil in the World Cup.	





ANGEL FALLS Each year thousands of tourists visit the spectacular Angel Falls on the River Churün in eastern Venezuela. The Falls were spotted by an American pilot, Jimmy Angel, in 1935, and later named after him. The water drops for 2,648 ft (807 m), making Angel Falls the highest uninterrupted waterfall in the world.

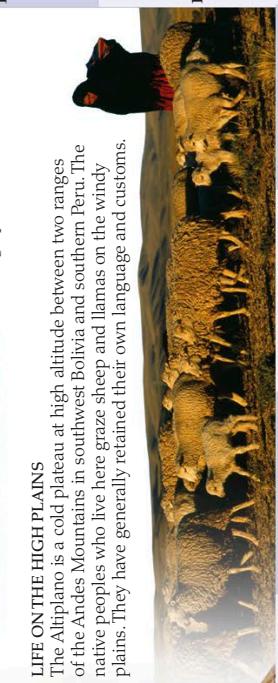


The railway from Lima climbs 15,807 ft (4,818 m) into the Andes and is the highest in the Americas.



Quechua
woman in
Peru

The Incas first lived in the mountainous area near Cusco in Peru. By the time of the Spanish invasion, the Inca Empire extended north into southern Colombia and south through Bolivia and into Argentina and Chile. The Quechua Indians were the most powerful group in the empire, and theirs was the official language. The Quechua and Aymara peoples now live on the high plains in the Andes.



LIFE ON THE HIGH PLAINS
The Altiplano is a cold plateau of the Andes Mountains in South America. There are many native peoples who live here.

MACHU PICCHU The conquering Spaniards never found the remains of this important Inca city—it remained a secret until Hiram Bingham, an American archaeologist and explorer, discovered its ruins during the forest in 1911. Situated on a high ridge northwest of Cusco, this significant ruined city covers 5 sq miles (13 sq km), and has numerous houses, temples, and stairways built around a central square.

LAKE TITICACA At 12,507 ft (3,812 m), Lake Titicaca is the highest navigable lake in the world. It is also South America's largest lake. The Uru people live in houses built on huge, floating reed islands. They grow potatoes, hunt birds and catch fish using boats made from tightly bound reeds.

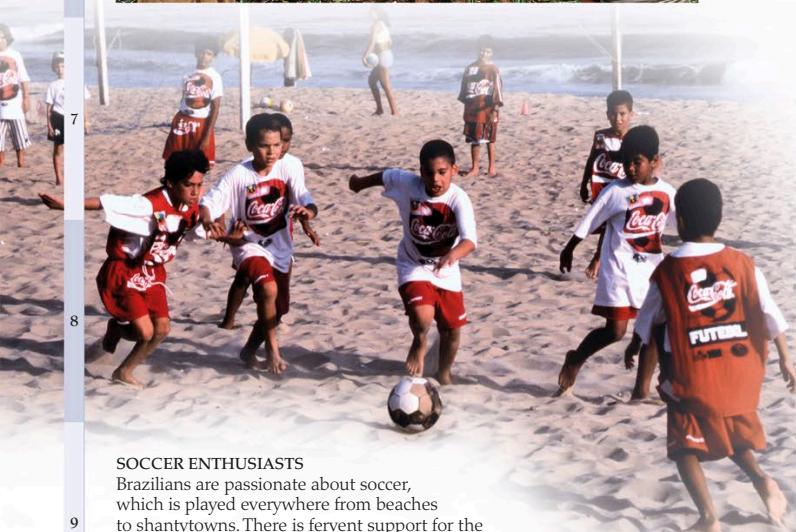


MINERALS Many countries in this area have extensive reserves of gold, silver, copper, and gemstones. Colombia produces more than half the world's emeralds. The Incas made good use of these resources and created many beautiful golden objects, such as this llama.



Brazil

THE VIBRANT CULTURE OF BRAZIL—with its fusion of music and dance—reflects the rich mix of its ethnic groups. The country also boasts immense natural resources with well-developed mining and manufacturing industries. Brazil grows all its own food and exports large quantities of coffee, sugar cane, soya beans, oranges, and cotton. However, the wealth is not evenly distributed, with some people living in luxury while most struggle with poverty. São Paulo is home to more than 21 million people, but poverty and lack of housing means that many live in shantytowns without running water or sanitation. Brazil was colonized in the 16th century by the Portuguese, who established their language and their Roman Catholic faith. It remains a deeply Catholic country with a strong emphasis on family life.



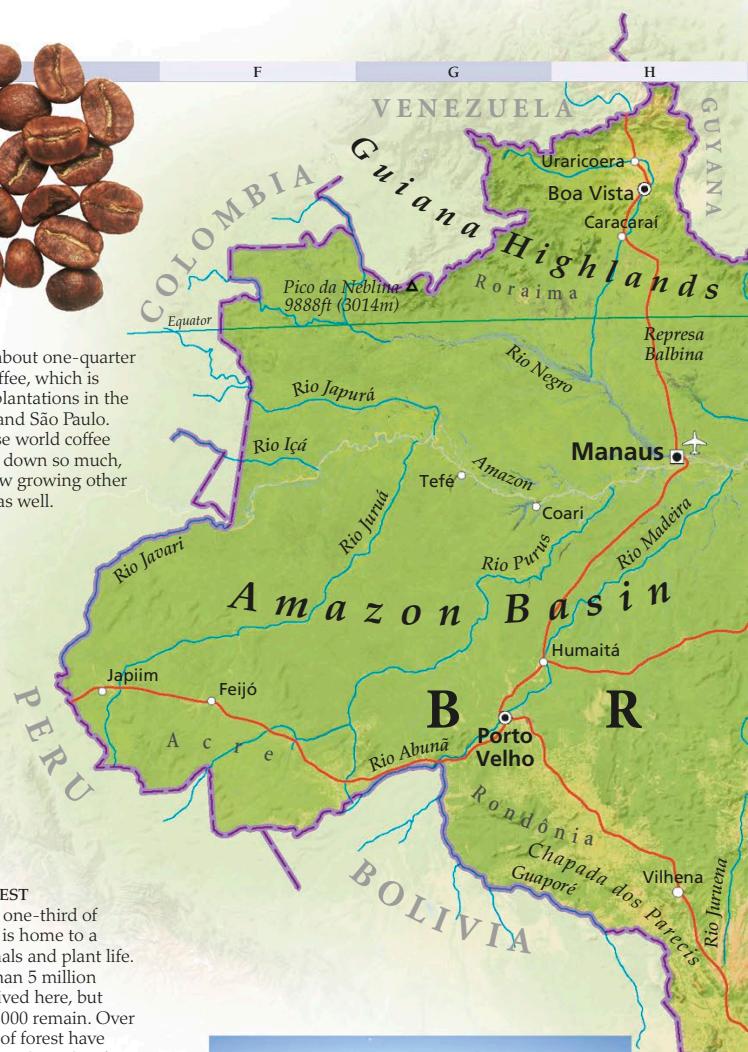
SOCER ENTHUSIASTS

Brazilians are passionate about soccer, which is played everywhere from beaches to shantytowns. There is fervent support for the national team, which has won the World Cup more times than any other country, most recently in 2002.



COFFEE

Brazil produces about one-quarter of the world's coffee, which is grown on large plantations in the states of Paraná and São Paulo. However, because world coffee prices go up and down so much, Brazilians are now growing other crops for export as well.



AMAZON RAINFOREST

Covering more than one-third of Brazil, the rainforest is home to a huge variety of animals and plant life. At one time, more than 5 million native Indians also lived here, but now only about 200,000 remain. Over the years, vast areas of forest have been cut down to provide timber for export, to make way for farmland, or to mine minerals such as gold, silver, and iron. The Kaxinawa Indians (left) still cultivate root vegetables as a food crop.



Brazilian morpho butterfly with brilliant blue wings lives in rainforests from Brazil to Venezuela.



BRASÍLIA

Brasília replaced Rio de Janeiro as Brazil's capital in 1960 as part of a scheme to develop the interior of the country. Situated on land that was once rainforest, the city is laid out in the shape of an airplane. Government buildings are in the "cockpit," and residential areas are in the "wings."



PEOPLE OF BRAZIL

Brazilians come from a variety of different ethnic groups, including descendants of the original native Indians, the Portuguese colonizers, African slaves brought over to work in the sugar plantations, and European migrants.

AMAZON TRANSPORT
The Amazon River provides Brazil with its most important transportation link, not only for tourists but also for trade. Large boats can travel as far inland as the city of Manaus.

RIO CARNIVAL
During the five days leading up to Lent, Rio de Janeiro celebrates Carnival. There are street parties, balls, and parades in the streets, and samba schools compete for awards for best costume and best float.

São Paulo has the world's largest Japanese community outside Japan.

BEACH CULTURE
Wide, sandy beaches along the eastern coast of Brazil provide a playground for large numbers of Brazilians who come here to relax, meet friends, and play volleyball or football. By far the most popular beach is Copacabana (right) in Rio de Janeiro. Only the strongest swimmers brave the strong tides of the Atlantic.

» South America

Southern South America



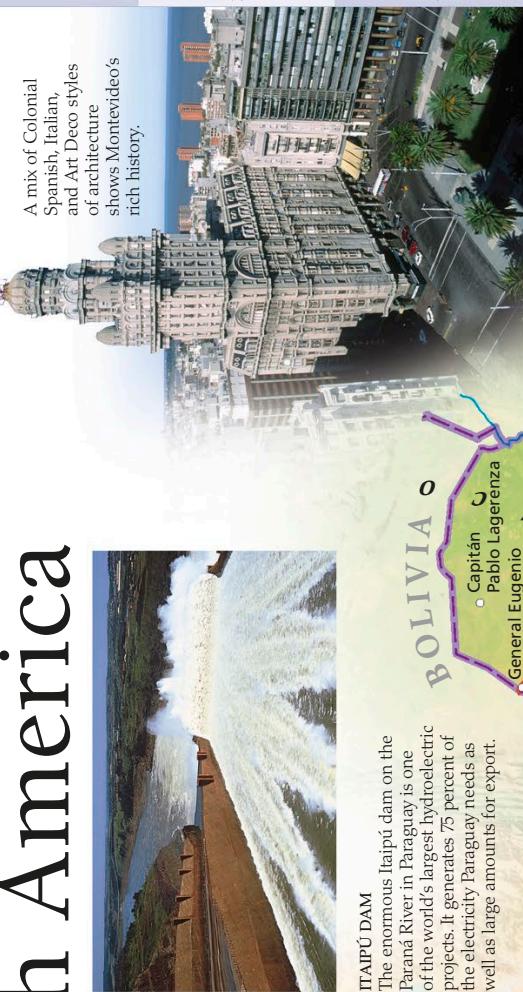
TOWERING MOUNTAINS, vast grassy plains, and hot deserts create a very diverse geographical landscape. The four countries in this region—Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Argentina—were once Spanish colonies but gained their independence in the early 1800s. Each country has an elected government but their economies remain fragile. Most of the population speak Spanish and are mestizo—of mixed Spanish and native Indian descent—except for Argentina, where up to 97 percent are descended from Europeans.

ATACAMA DESERT

Sandwiched between the high Andes and the sea, the Atacama Desert in northern Chile is one of the hottest and driest areas in the world. Rain hardly ever falls here. This harsh landscape, however, is rich in copper deposits.

URUGUAY

A mix of Colonial Spanish, Italian, and Art Deco styles of architecture shows Montevideo's rich history.



PARAGUAY

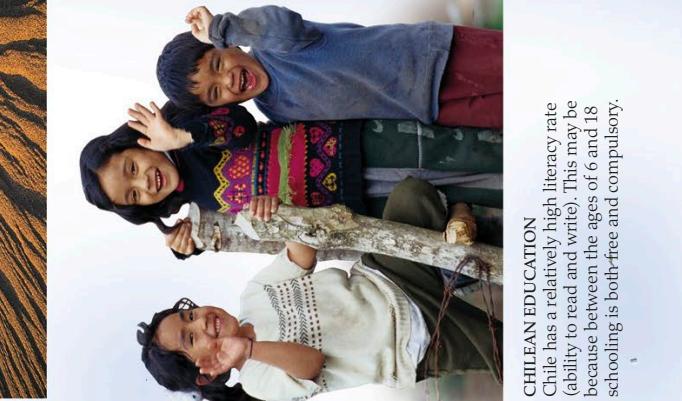
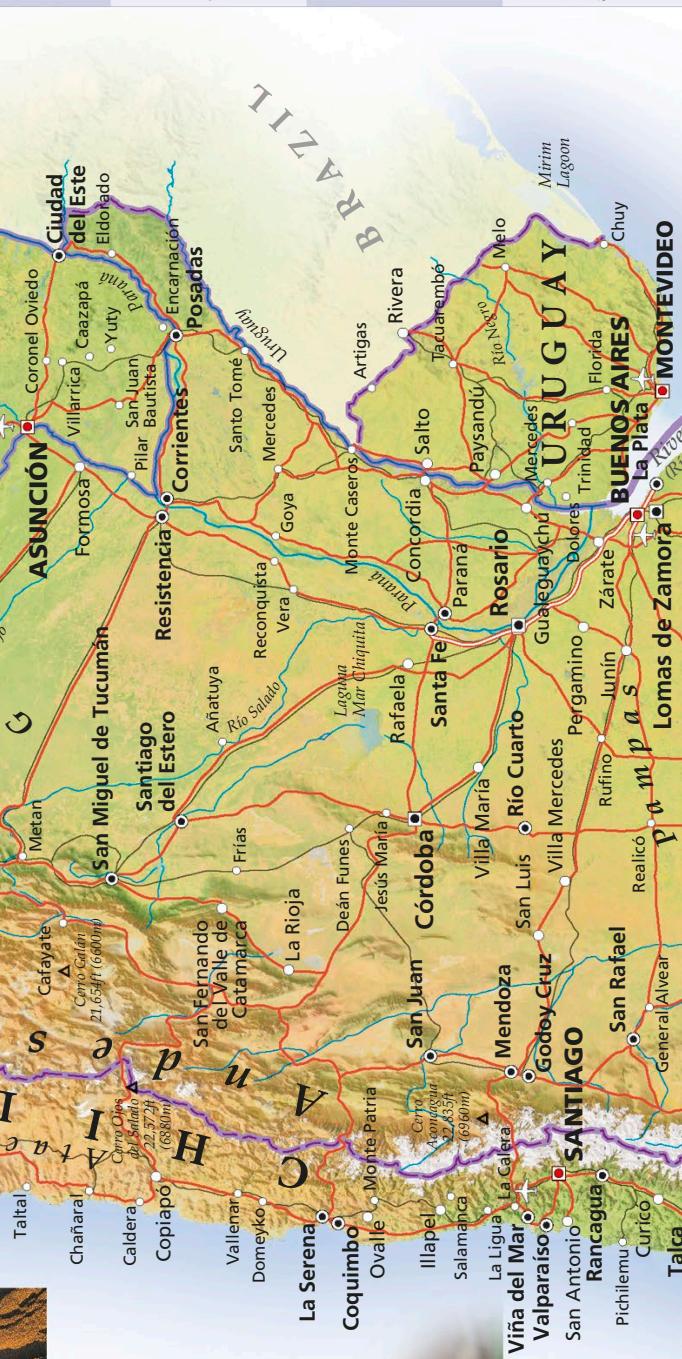
The enormous Itaipú dam on the Paraná River in Paraguay is one of the world's largest hydroelectric projects. It generates 75 percent of the electricity Paraguay needs as well as large amounts for export.

CHILE

Sandwiched between the high Andes and the sea, the Atacama Desert in northern Chile is one of the hottest and driest areas in the world. Rain hardly ever falls here. This harsh landscape, however, is rich in copper deposits.



URUGUAY'S CAPITAL
The capital of Uruguay, Montevideo, is home to nearly half the country's population. It is also the main port and economic center. This lively capital lies on the east bank of the Río de la Plata, and is a popular holiday resort because of its white sandy beaches.



CHILE

EDUCATION Chile has a relatively high literacy rate (ability to read and write). This may be because between the ages of 6 and 18 schooling is both free and compulsory.





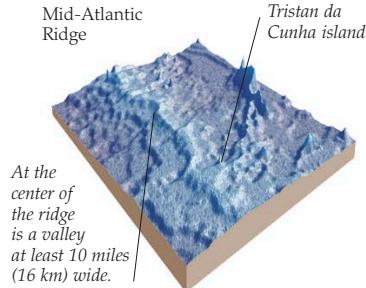


B C D E F G H

Atlantic Ocean

THE WORLD'S SECOND-LARGEST OCEAN, the Atlantic separates the Americas from Europe and Africa. The Atlantic is the world's youngest ocean, starting to form about 180 million years ago, as the continental plates began to separate. This movement continues today, as the oceanic plates that meet at the Mid-Atlantic Ridge continue to pull apart. The Atlantic is a major source of fish but, due to overfishing, stocks are now low. Many shipping routes cross the Atlantic, and pollution is an international problem as ships dump chemicals and waste. There are substantial reserves of oil and gas in the Gulf of Mexico, off the coast of west Africa, and in the north Atlantic.

WARM CURRENTS
The Gulf Stream flows up the east coast of North America and across the Atlantic. It brings warm water and a mild climate to northern Europe, which would otherwise be cooler.



UNDERWATER MOUNTAINS
The Mid-Atlantic Ridge is a great underwater mountain chain that runs the entire length of the Atlantic. It was formed by magma that oozed up from the sea bed, cooled to create solid rock, and gradually built up to form a ridge. Some peaks are so high that they break the surface to form volcanic islands, such as the country of Iceland.



WHALES
Many whales live in the Atlantic, migrating from summer feeding grounds in the cold polar regions to warmer waters in the Caribbean for the winter. They give birth and mate again before returning north.

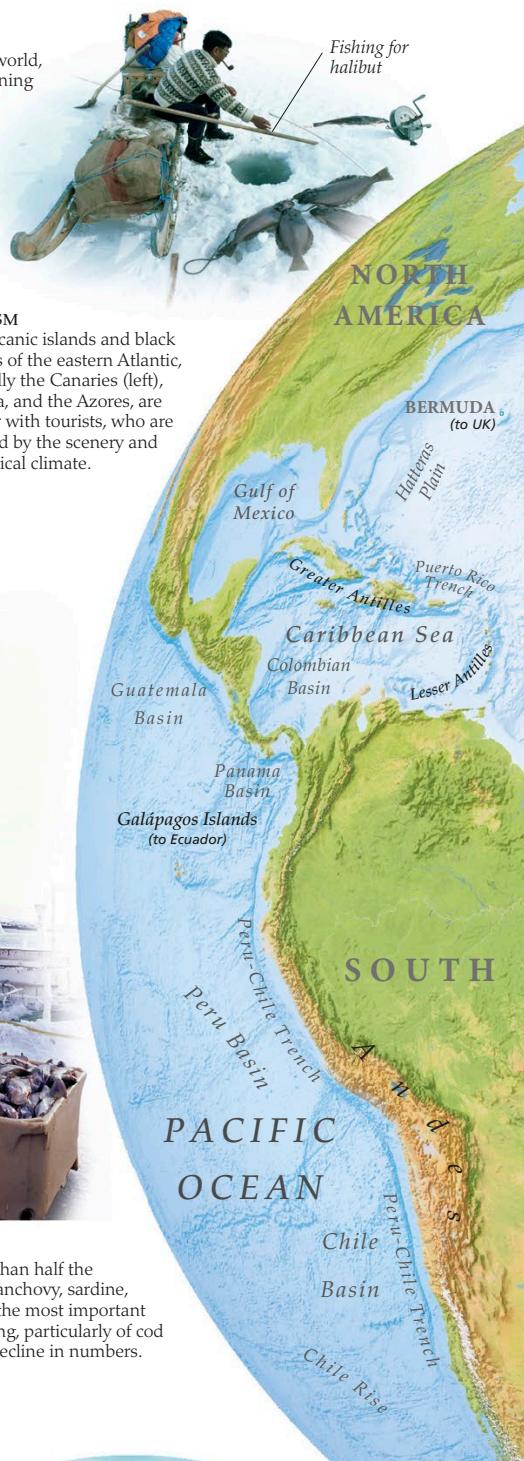


TOURISM
The volcanic islands and black beaches of the eastern Atlantic, especially the Canaries (left), Madeira, and the Azores, are popular with tourists, who are attracted by the scenery and subtropical climate.

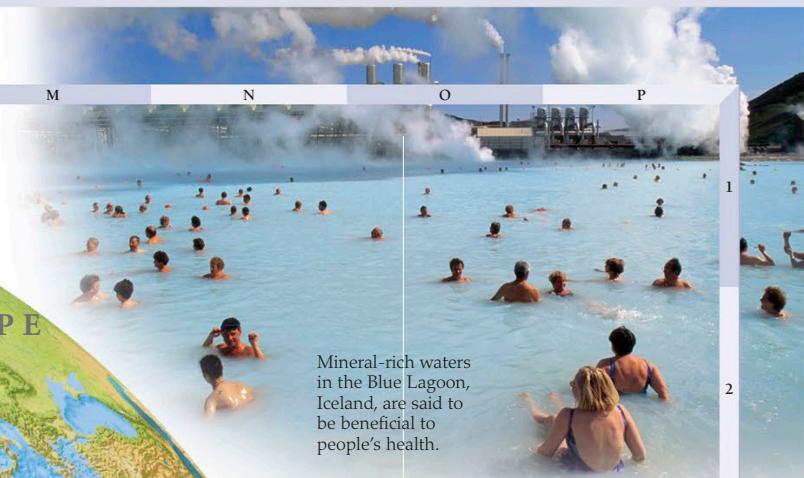


ATLANTIC FISHING INDUSTRY
The Atlantic Ocean contains more than half the world's total stock of fish. Herring, anchovy, sardine, cod, flounder, and tuna are among the most important fish found here. However, overfishing, particularly of cod and tuna, has caused a significant decline in numbers.

FALKLANDS
Set in the windy south Atlantic off the coast of Argentina, the Falkland Islands belong to the UK but are also claimed by Argentina. Fishing and sheep farming are important. The land is rocky, mountainous, boggy, and almost treeless.



Atlantic Ocean >>



ICELAND

Iceland is situated in the north Atlantic on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. As a result, it has at least 20 active volcanoes and suffers frequent earthquakes. There are numerous thermal springs with boiling mud lakes and geysers.

Water from hot springs (above) is used to provide hot water and heating for much of Iceland's population, most of whom live on the coast. The warm Gulf Stream ensures that the country's ports stay ice-free in winter.

The Atlantic covers one-fifth of Earth's surface.

ICEBERGS

Icebergs in the Atlantic Ocean are formed when icesheets and glaciers reach the sea. Parts break off and start to drift, driven by winds and currents.



AFRICA

Covering one-fifth of the world's land area, Africa has a rapidly growing population. Many of its 53 nations—listed below in order of size—are desperately poor. This is partly due to hostile climates, especially in and around the vast Sahara desert, but also because of a history of political turmoil, ethnic tension or conflict and, in some countries, war. Despite this, African culture is among the most vibrant on Earth.

Algeria	Chad	Ethiopia	Namibia	South Sudan	Morocco
919,595 sq miles 2,381,741 sq km 40,264,000 Algiers Arabic, Tamazight (Berber: Kabyle, Shawia, Tamashek), French	495,755 sq miles 1,284,000 sq km 11,852,000 N'Djamena French, Sara, Arabic, Maba	426,373 sq miles 1,104,300 sq km 102,374,000 Addis Ababa Amharic, Tigrinya, Galla, Sidamo, Somali, English, Arabic (Oromo)	318,261 sq miles 824,292 sq km 2,436,000 Windhoek Ovambo, Kavango, English, Bergdama, German, Afrikaans	248,777 sq miles 644,329 sq km 12,531,000 Juba Dinka, Nuer, Zande, Bari, Shilluk, Lotuko, Arabic	172,414 sq miles 446,550 sq km 33,656,000 Rabat Arabic, Tamazight (Berber), French, Spanish
Congo, Dem Rep of the	Niger	Mauritania	Mozambique	Madagascar	Zimbabwe
905,355 sq miles 2,344,858 sq km 81,331,000 Kinshasa Kiswahili, Tshiluba, Kikongo, Lingala, French	489,191 sq miles 1,267,000 sq km 18,639,000 Niamey Hausa, Djerma, Fula, Tuareg, Teda, French	397,955 sq miles 1,030,700 sq km 3,677,000 Nouakchott Hassaniyah Arabic, Wolof, French	308,642 sq miles 799,380 sq km 25,930,000 Maputo Makua, Xitsonga, Sena, Lomwe, Portuguese	226,658 sq miles 587,041 sq km 24,430,000 Antananarivo Malagasy, French	150,872 sq miles 390,757 sq km 14,547,000 Harare Shona, isiNdebele, English
Congo, Republic of	Angola	Egypt	Zambia	Botswana	Ivory Coast
132,946 sq miles 342,000 sq km 4,852,000 Brazzaville Kikongo, Teke, Lingala, French	481,354 sq miles 1,246,700 sq km 20,172,000 Luanda Portuguese, Umbundu, Kimbundu, Kikongo	386,662 sq miles 1,001,450 sq km 94,667,000 Cairo Arabic, French, English, Berber	290,587 sq miles 752,618 sq km 15,511,000 Lusaka Bemba, Tongan, Nyanja, Lozi, Lala-Bisa, Nsenga, English	224,607 sq miles 581,730 sq km 2,209,000 Gaborone Setswana, English, Shona, San, Khoikhoi, isiNdebele	124,504 sq miles 322,463 sq km 23,740,000 Yamoussoukro Akan, French, Kru, Voltaique
Sudan	Mali	Tanzania	Somalia	Kenya	Burkina Faso
718,723 sq miles 1,861,484 sq km 36,730,000 Khartoum Arabic, Nubian, Beja, Fur	478,841 sq miles 1,240,192 sq km 17,467,000 Bamako Bambara, Fula, Senufo, Soninke, French	365,755 sq miles 947,300 sq km 52,483,000 Dodoma Kiswahili, Sukuma, Kichagga, Nyamwezi, Hehe, Makonde, Yao, Sandawe, English	246,201 sq miles 637,657 sq km 10,817,000 Mogadishu Somali, Arabic, English, Italian	224,081 sq miles 580,367 sq km 46,791,000 Nairobi Kiswahili, English, Kikuyu, Luo, Kalenjin, Kamba	105,869 sq miles 274,200 sq km 19,513,000 Ouagadougou Mossi, Fulani, French, Tuareg, Diyula, Songhai
Libya	South Africa	Nigeria	Central African Republic	Cameroon	Gabon
679,362 sq miles 1,759,540 sq km 6,542,000 Tripoli Arabic, Tuareg	470,693 sq miles 1,219,090 sq km 54,301,000 Pretoria English, isiZulu, isiXhosa, Afrikaans, Sepedi, Setswana, Sesotho, Xitsonga, siSwati, Tshivenda, isiNdebele	356,669 sq miles 923,768 sq km 186,053,000 Abuja Hausa, English, Yoruba, Igbo	240,535 sq miles 622,984 sq km 5,507,000 Bangui Sango, Banda, Gbaya, French	183,568 sq miles 475,440 sq km 24,361,000 Yaoundé Bamileke, Fang, Ful, French, English	103,347 sq miles 267,667 sq km 1,739,000 Libreville Fang, French, Punu, Sira, Nzebi, Mpongwe

Guinea		Malawi									
<p>■ 94,926 sq miles 245,857 sq km</p> <p>■ 12,093,000</p> <p>■ Conakry</p> <p>■ Pulaar, Malinké, Sosou, French</p>	<p>■ 45,747 sq miles 118,484 sq km</p> <p>■ 18,570,000</p> <p>■ Lilongwe</p> <p>■ Chewa, Lomwe, Yao, Ngoni, English</p>										
Uganda		Eritrea		Togo							
<p>■ 93,065 sq miles 241,038 sq km</p> <p>■ 38,319,000</p> <p>■ Kampala</p> <p>■ Luganda, Nkole, Chiga, Lango, Acholi, Teso, Lugbara, English</p>	<p>■ 45,406 sq miles 117,600 sq km</p> <p>■ 5,870,000</p> <p>■ Asmara</p> <p>■ Tigrinya, English, Tigre, Afar, Arabic, Saho, Bilen, Kunama, Nara, Hedareb</p>	<p>■ 21,925 sq miles 56,785 sq km</p> <p>■ 7,757,000</p> <p>■ Lomé</p> <p>■ Ewe, Kabye, Gurma, French</p>									
Ghana		Benin		Guinea-Bissau		Burundi		Swaziland		Comoros	
<p>■ 92,098 sq miles 238,533 sq km</p> <p>■ 26,908,000</p> <p>■ Accra</p> <p>■ Twi-Fanti, Ewe, Ga, Adangbe, Gurma, Dagomba (Dagbani)</p>	<p>■ 43,484 sq miles 112,622 sq km</p> <p>■ 10,741,000</p> <p>■ Porto-Novo</p> <p>■ Fon, Bariba, Yorùbá, Adja, Houeda, Somba, French</p>	<p>■ 13,948 sq miles 36,125 sq km</p> <p>■ 1,759,000</p> <p>■ Bissau</p> <p>■ Portuguese Creole, Balante, Fula, Malinké, Portuguese</p>	<p>■ 10,745 sq miles 27,830 sq km</p> <p>■ 11,099,000</p> <p>■ Bujumbura</p> <p>■ Kirundi, French, Kiswahili</p>	<p>■ 6,704 sq miles 17,364 sq km</p> <p>■ 1,451,000</p> <p>■ Mbabane</p> <p>■ English, siSwati, isiZulu, Xitsonga</p>		<p>■ 863 sq miles 2,235 sq km</p> <p>■ 795,000</p> <p>■ Moroni</p> <p>■ Arabic, Comorian, French</p>					
Senegal		Liberia		Lesotho		Rwanda		Gambia, The		Mauritius	
<p>■ 75,955 sq miles 196,722 sq km</p> <p>■ 14,320,000</p> <p>■ Dakar</p> <p>■ Wolof, Pulaar, Serer, Diyula, Mandinka, Malinké, Soninke, French</p>	<p>■ 43,000 sq miles 111,369 sq km</p> <p>■ 4,300,000</p> <p>■ Monrovia</p> <p>■ Kpelle, Vai, Bassa, Kru, Grebo, Kissi, Gola, Loma, English</p>	<p>■ 11,720 sq miles 30,355 sq km</p> <p>■ 1,953,000</p> <p>■ Maseru</p> <p>■ English, Sesotho, isiZulu</p>	<p>■ 10,169 sq miles 26,338 sq km</p> <p>■ 12,988,000</p> <p>■ Kigali</p> <p>■ Kinyarwanda, French, Kiswahili, English</p>	<p>■ 4,363 sq miles 11,300 sq km</p> <p>■ 2,010,000</p> <p>■ Banjul</p> <p>■ Mandinka, Fula, Wolof, Jola, Soninke, English</p>		<p>■ 788 sq miles 2,040 sq km</p> <p>■ 1,348,000</p> <p>■ Port Louis</p> <p>■ French Creole, Hindi, Urdu, Tamil, Chinese, English, French</p>					
Tunisia		Sierra Leone		Equatorial Guinea		Djibouti		Cape Verde		São Tomé and Príncipe	
<p>■ 63,170 sq miles 163,610 sq km</p> <p>■ 11,135,000</p> <p>■ Tunis</p> <p>■ Arabic, French</p>	<p>■ 27,699 sq miles 71,740 sq km</p> <p>■ 6,019,000</p> <p>■ Freetown</p> <p>■ Mende, Temne, Krio, English</p>	<p>■ 10,831 sq miles 28,051 sq km</p> <p>■ 759,400</p> <p>■ Malabo</p> <p>■ Spanish, Fang, Bubi, French</p>	<p>■ 8,958 sq miles 23,200 sq km</p> <p>■ 846,700</p> <p>■ Djibouti City</p> <p>■ Somali, Afar, French, Arabic</p>	<p>■ 1,557 sq miles 4,033 sq km</p> <p>■ 553,400</p> <p>■ Praia</p> <p>■ Portuguese Creole, Portuguese</p>		<p>■ 372 sq miles 964 sq km</p> <p>■ 197,500</p> <p>■ São Tomé</p> <p>■ Portuguese Creole, Portuguese</p>					



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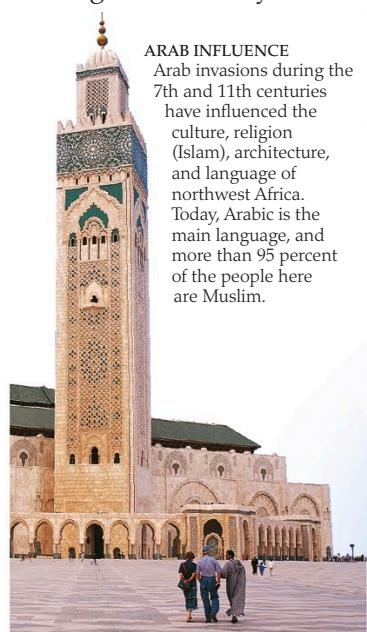
Northwest Africa

FOUR COUNTRIES, plus the disputed area of Western Sahara, make up this part of Africa. Algeria, Libya, and Tunisia have rich supplies of oil and natural gas that boost their economies. Morocco relies on tourism, phosphates used for chemicals and fertilizer, and agriculture. In the fertile valleys of the Atlas Mountains, farmers grow grapes, citrus fruit, dates, and olives. The area also attracts tourists to its colorful markets, historical sites, and sandy beaches. The Sahara Desert dominates the region, particularly in Algeria and Libya.

ARAB INFLUENCE
Arab invasions during the 7th and 11th centuries have influenced the culture, religion (Islam), architecture, and language of northwest Africa. Today, Arabic is the main language, and more than 95 percent of the people here are Muslim.



MOROCCAN MARKET
In a souk, or market, craftworkers sell handmade products to tourists. Goods are displayed in booths along the bustling streets.



Muslims going to worship at the Hassan II mosque in Casablanca, Morocco

BERBERS
The Berber people were the original inhabitants of northwest Africa. Most now live in the Atlas Mountains or the desert. Although most Berbers converted to Islam when the Arabs arrived, they kept their own language and way of life. In 2001, Algeria recognized Berber (Tamazight) as an official language.

Berber woman working on the land in the Atlas Mountains



SUN AND SEA

Many tourists visit Tunisia and Morocco each year to enjoy the warm climate and sandy beaches. Tourism provides jobs for the local people and brings much-needed income.



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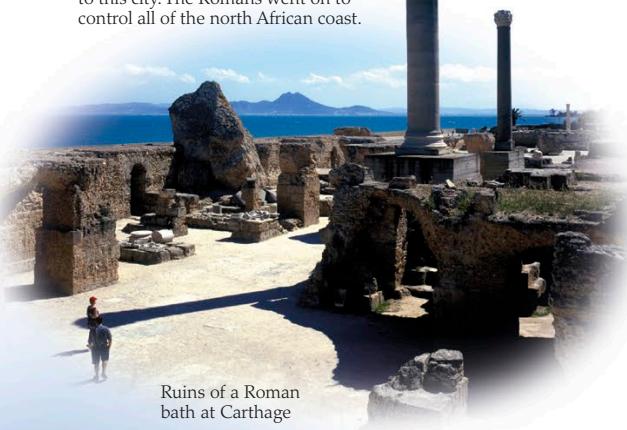
DATE PALMS

Dates are an important crop for Algeria and Tunisia. Date palms are often grown at oases, where water lies close to the surface of the desert. Here, the clusters of dates are shown ripening beneath polythene. Leaves from the trees can be used for thatch and the trunk is cut for timber.



ANCIENT RUINS

Phoenicians, Romans, and Greeks from ancient times have all left their mark on this part of Africa. Today, tourists come to admire the historical sites along the coast. These ruins of Carthage, near Tunis, date from 146 BCE, when Romans laid waste to this city. The Romans went on to control all of the north African coast.



The seeds from dates can be roasted and ground to make a traditional date coffee.



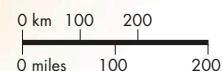
Libyan oil field

SURVIVAL IN THE SAHARA

The Sahara Desert covers almost one-third of Africa and is an inhospitable place to live with high daytime temperatures and freezing nights. The Tuareg are nomads for whom the desert is home. Traditionally, they keep camels for transport and to provide meat, milk, and hides. Many Tuareg now live in mountain areas or dwell in the cities.



Tuareg nomads in the Sahara carrying salt to trade in markets



LIBYAN OIL RESOURCES

The discovery of oil and gas in 1959 brought considerable wealth to Libya, and by 2010 oil and gas made up 95 percent of the country's exports. Since 2015, however, civil war, political chaos, and low oil prices have made life hard for Libyans.

Northeast Africa



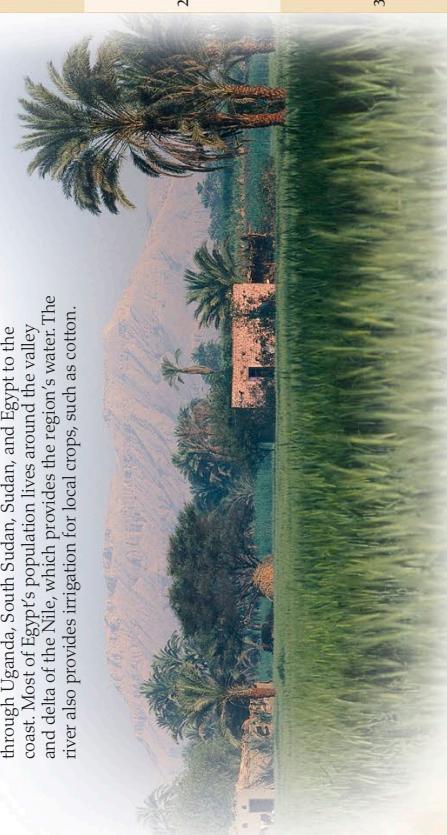
THIS REGION, KNOWN AS THE HORN OF AFRICA, contains the oldest civilizations in the continent, and some of its poorest countries. The borders that divide the countries today were mostly created by colonial rulers in the last hundred years. Pastoral nomads with their herds of animals often cross these borders in search of pasture. Most people still live in the countryside and farm the land, but many people now live in the cities. Tourism and agriculture are important sources of income for Egypt and Kenya, two of the richest and fastest-growing countries in the region. Elsewhere, tribal rivalries and disputes over land and resources have sometimes erupted into full-scale war and these, together with drought and poverty, have blighted the lives of millions of people in this region.

Mediterranean



RIVER NILE

The Nile is the world's longest river. It flows north from Burundi to run along the Tanzania-Rwanda border, then through Uganda, South Sudan, Sudan, and Egypt to the coast. Most of Egypt's population lives around the valley and delta of the Nile, which provides the region's water. The river also provides irrigation for local crops, such as cotton.



SUEZ CANAL
The Suez Canal, opened in 1869, is one of the world's longest and most important artificial waterways. It links the Mediterranean Sea with the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea, providing a crucial shortcut from Europe to India and east Asia. The tolls from the canal are a great source of income for Egypt.



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DJIBOUTI CITY
As the population grows in Ethiopia, forests are cut down for firewood, or to cultivate new areas for food crops. The soil, no longer held firm by the trees, is easily blown or washed away, and valuable farmland is lost.

Plowing fields in Ethiopia



LOSING FARMLAND

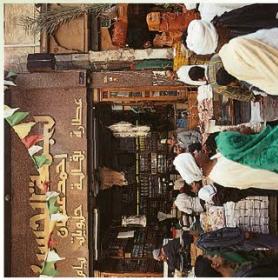
As the population grows in Ethiopia, forests are cut down for firewood, or to cultivate new areas for food crops. The soil, no longer held firm by the trees, is easily blown or washed away, and valuable farmland is lost.

ABU SIMBEL

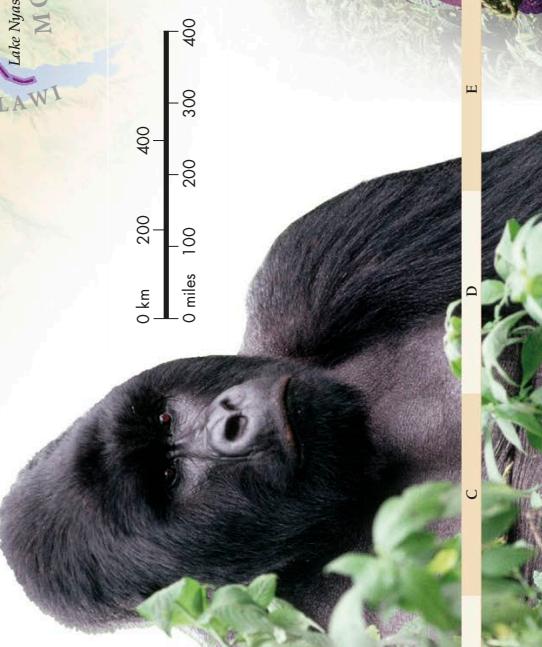
Tourists come to Egypt to see the pyramids at Giza and the temples along the Nile, such as these two built at Abu Simbel, south of Aswan. Tourism brings in money to preserve these historical sites.



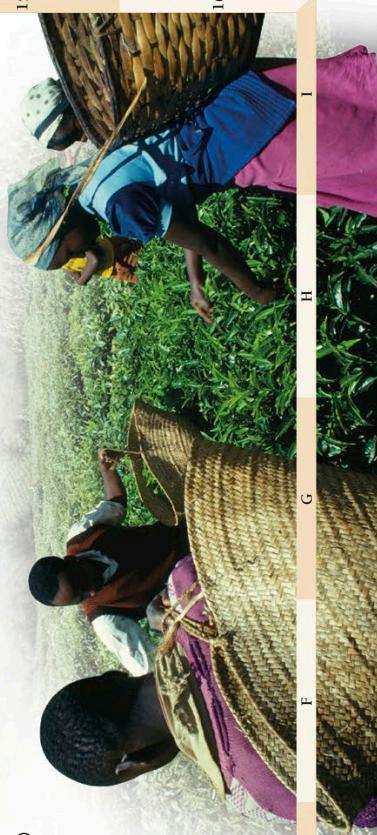
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Water makes up
almost one-fifth of
the surface area
of Uganda.



MOUNTAIN GORILLAS
The Volcanoes National Park in Rwanda is one of the few places where you can still see a mountain gorilla (right) in the wild. These animals are threatened with extinction because of poachers and the destruction of their habitat. Tanzania and Kenya also have many important game reserves, which preserve the wildlife of the savanna.





B C D E F G H

West Africa

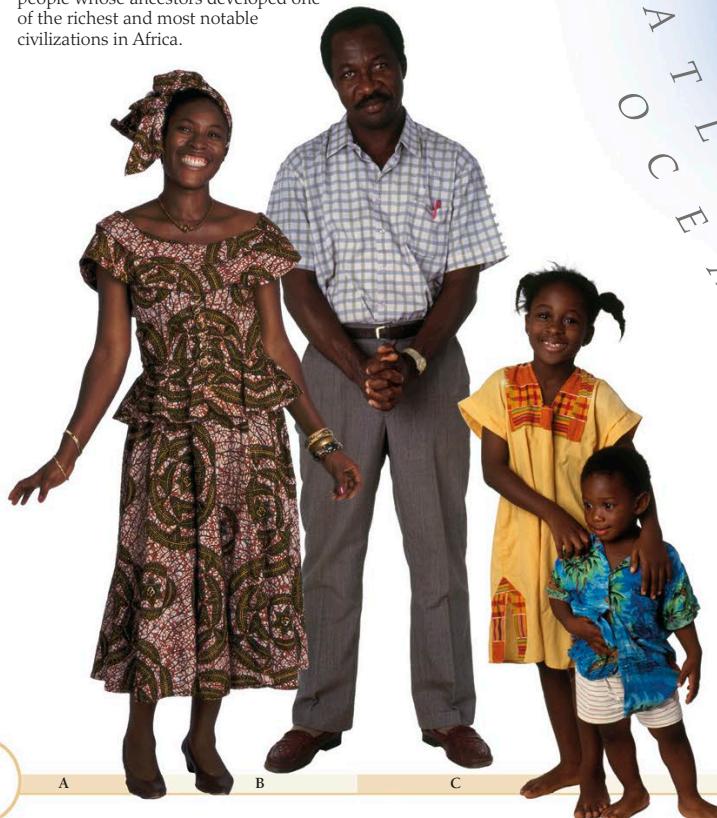
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DRAMATICALLY DIFFERENT CLIMATES and landscapes influence life in west Africa. In the hot, dry north, it is difficult to grow crops. Only oases in the Sahara and seasonal rainfall in the Sahel make growing crops possible. To the south, the climate is warm and wet, and crops such as cocoa and coffee are grown on large plantations. This region also has many valuable minerals. Despite these rich resources, most countries are poor. Since independence from colonial powers, there has been much political unrest, often sparked by poverty and tribal rivalries in the region. West Africa is also divided by religion, with Islam dominant in the north and Christianity in the south.



GAMBIA
In recent years, tourism has become increasingly important to the economy of Gambia. Visitors come to see wildlife along the Gambia River and to visit the Atlantic coast beaches. These safari tourists are admiring a giant termite mound.

PEOPLE OF GHANA
Family ties and a sense of community are important to the people of Ghana, and ceremonies throughout each year mark the events of childbirth, puberty, marriage, and death. About half of Ghanaians are Ashanti people whose ancestors developed one of the richest and most notable civilizations in Africa.

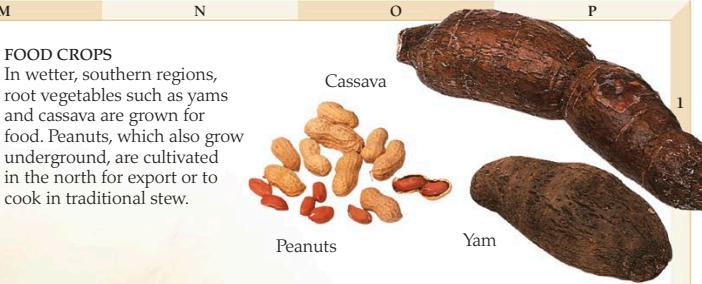


DIAMONDS AND GOLD
West Africa has many valuable minerals, including diamonds, uranium, copper, and gold. In Sierra Leone, where diamonds (left) provide crucial income, the mines were a focus of fighting in the civil war between rebel groups and the government.

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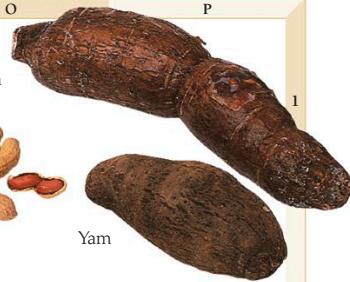
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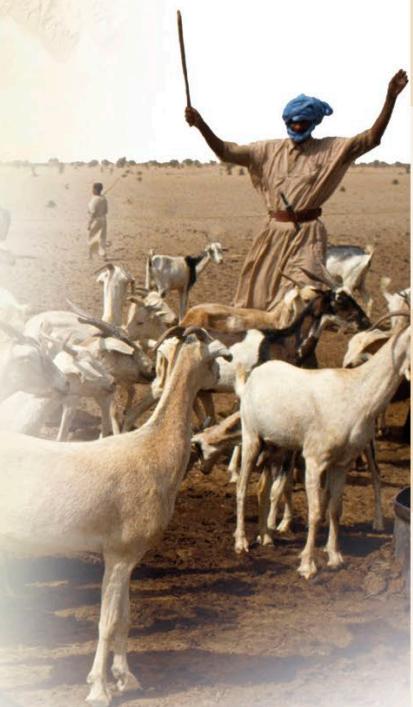


MASKED DANCERS

Masks, such as this one from the Dan tribe of the Ivory Coast, are worn by dancers who take on different characters during tribal ceremonies. Round-eyed masks represent males, while straight-eyed masks are for females. However, the actual dancers are always men.

I J K L M N O P

Lake Volta in Ghana, formed by a dam, is the largest artificial lake in the world.



WEST AFRICAN FARMERS

In the dry northern areas, crop farming is restricted to when and where seasonal rain falls. Herders are partly nomadic and they need to follow the rains in search of grazing land for their animals. Further south, where rainfall is higher, farmers grow a wider variety of crops for their families to eat, and for sale.

Herbs, shells, bones, and sticks used by traditional healers



MEDICINE AND HEALING

Many people here seek advice from a traditional healer if they are ill. Often the healer is also a religious leader. Treatment may include the use of herbs or magical items to fight off the enemy spirit. Healers may also chant and dance to attract the good spirits.

Central Africa



ALL EIGHT COUNTRIES in Central Africa were European colonies with a painful history of slavery. Since the 1960s, independence has brought them mixed success. Rich mineral deposits and the discovery of offshore oil have provided income for Cameroon, Congo, and Gabon, while civil war and repressive governments have damaged other countries in the region. These include Chad and the Central African Republic, two of the world's poorest countries. Although the north is mainly arid, Africa's largest tropical rainforest dominates the south, with the powerful Congo River linking the interior with the coast. The tiny, volcanic country of São Tomé and Príncipe lies off the coast of Gabon.



RELIGIOUS BELIEFS

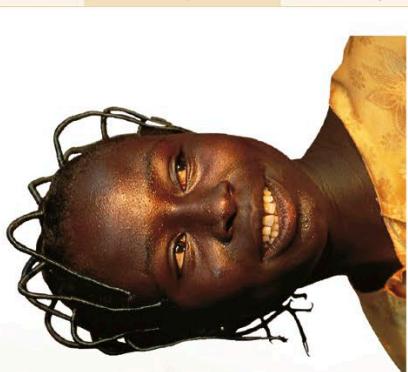
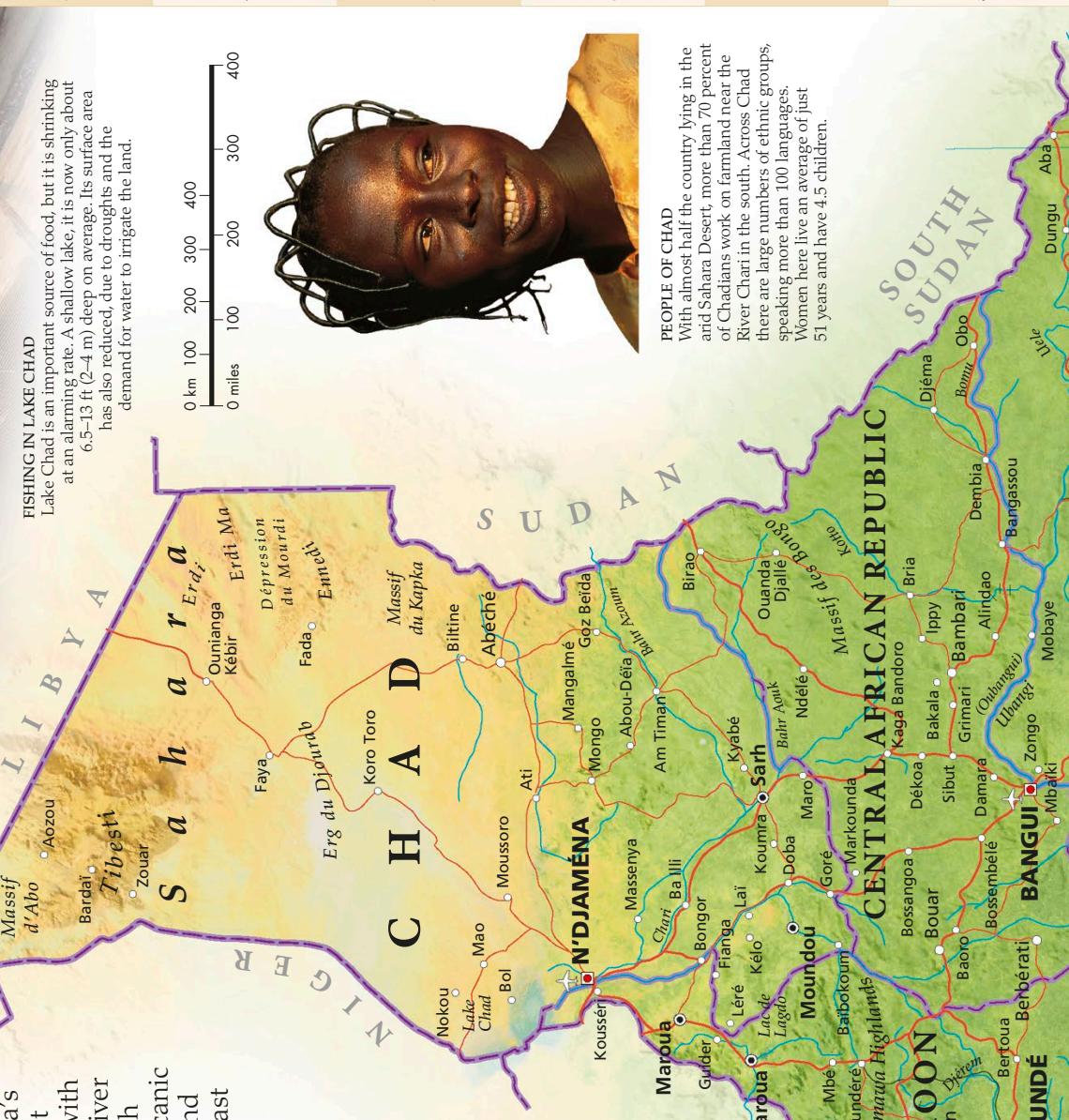
Although Christianity is the main religion here, many people also follow traditional beliefs. These suggest that natural objects, such as mountains and rivers, have a spirit. Masks, like this Bambukù head, are sometimes used to scare off evil spirits.



VILLAGE LIFE
Most people in rural areas live in villages or small towns. Some grow crops such as cotton or cassava for sale, but many exist by growing food just for their family.



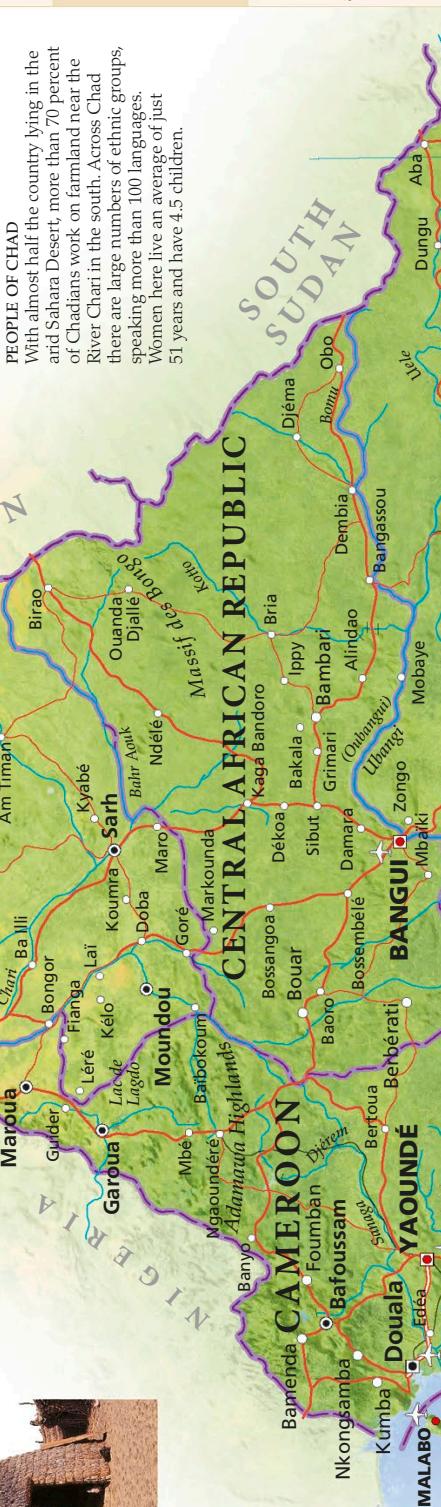
FISHING IN LAKE CHAD
Lake Chad is an important source of food, but it is shrinking at an alarming rate. A shallow lake, it is now only about 6.5–13 ft (2–4 m) deep on average. Its surface area has also reduced due to droughts and the demand for water to irrigate the land.



PEOPLE OF CHAD
With almost half the country lying in the arid Saharan Desert, more than 70 percent of Chadians work on farmland near the River Chari in the south. Across Chad there are large numbers of ethnic groups, speaking more than 100 languages. Women here live an average of just 51 years and have 4.5 children.



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CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
The Central African Republic is one of the world's poorest countries. It has a population of about 4 million people, most of whom live in rural areas. The country is known for its rich biodiversity, with many species of animals and plants found nowhere else in the world. However, the country has faced significant challenges in recent years, including political instability and conflict.

SOUTH SUDAN
South Sudan is a young country, having gained independence from Sudan in 2011. It is one of the poorest countries in the world, with a population of about 12 million people. The country is known for its rich biodiversity, with many species of animals and plants found nowhere else in the world. However, the country has faced significant challenges in recent years, including political instability and conflict.



The waters of the Congo River have the capacity to provide electrical power for all of Africa.

MIGHTY RIVER The Congo River, also called the Zaire, is a crucial part of the area's transportation system. Dugout canoes and motorized boats take people, goods, and even health clinics from cities to the villages and back. The river is home to many species of fish as well as crocodiles.

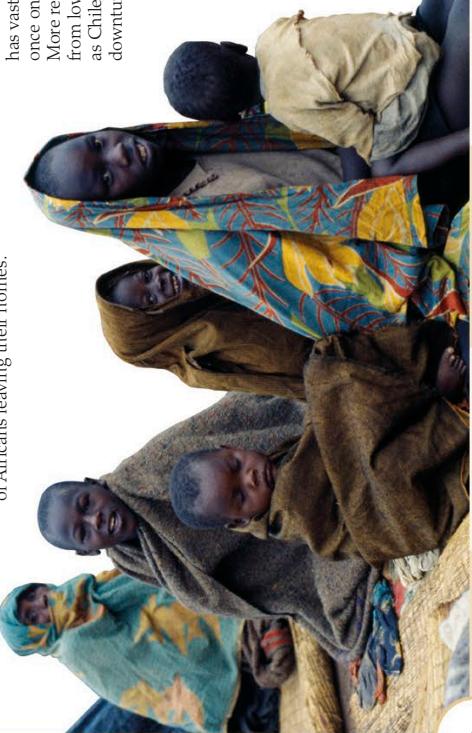
REFUGEES There are around 5 million African refugees south of the Sahara – more than 25 percent of the world's total. Conflict in Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the Central African Republic have resulted in huge numbers.

percent of the world's total. Conflicts in the Republic of the Congo, and the Central African Republic have resulted in huge numbers

MINING FOR COPPER
The Democratic Republ

Congo

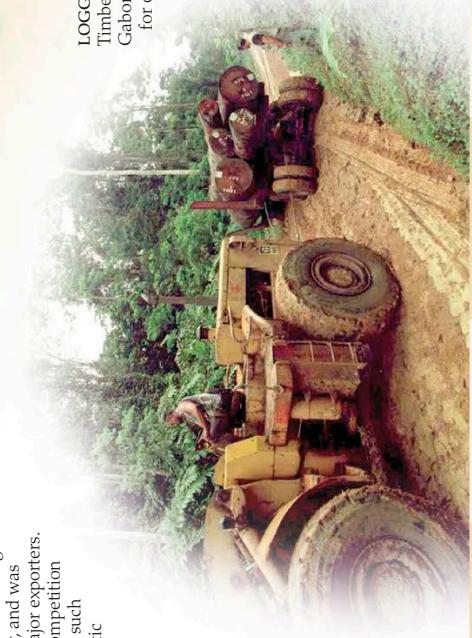
Copper



NG IN GABON provides valuable income for much of the demand—softwood used to make plywood. Hardwoods, such as mahogany and ebony, are also felled. Because logging poses a threat to the future of the forests, the government is now setting up conservation programs, including 13 national parks that together cover at least 10 percent of the country.

has vast reserves of copper, and was once one of the world's major exporters. More recently, however, competition from lower-cost producers such as Chile has seen a dramatic downturn in the industry.

ANG IN GABON provides valuable income for the country with much of the demand coming—a softwood used to make plywood. Hardwoods, such as mahogany and ebony, are also felled. Because logging poses a threat to the future of the forests, the government is now setting up conservation programs, including 13 national parks that together cover at least 10 percent of the country.





B C D E F G H

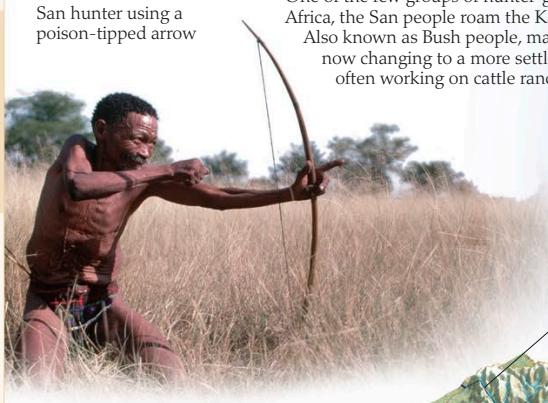
Southern Africa

0 km 200 400
0 miles 200 400

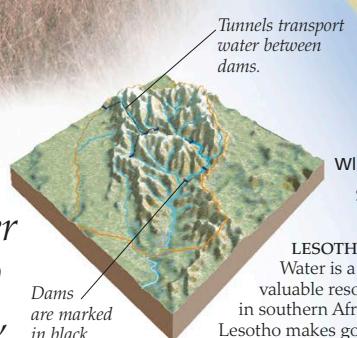
FROM THE DRAMATIC Namib and Kalahari deserts in the west, to the tropical forests in the north, southern Africa is a region of contrasts. Oil, diamonds, gold, and other precious metals are all mined here. There are huge inland plains that are home to a variety of wildlife, and large areas devoted to agriculture. But flooding and droughts, together with civil unrest, have hampered development so that, despite an abundance of natural resources, many countries remain poor.

SAN BUSHMEN

San hunter using a poison-tipped arrow



One of the few groups of hunter-gatherers left in Africa, the San people roam the Kalahari Desert. Also known as Bush people, many San are now changing to a more settled life, often working on cattle ranches.



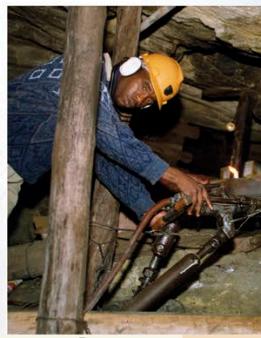
The Okavango River does not run out to sea like most rivers, but runs inland into the Kalahari Desert.

JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

More than 9 million people live in Johannesburg and its surrounding urban area. Many people have moved here from the countryside in search of work.

**GOLD MINING**

Gold, first discovered near Johannesburg in 1886, brought a great deal of wealth to the region. South Africa is among the world's top gold-producing countries.





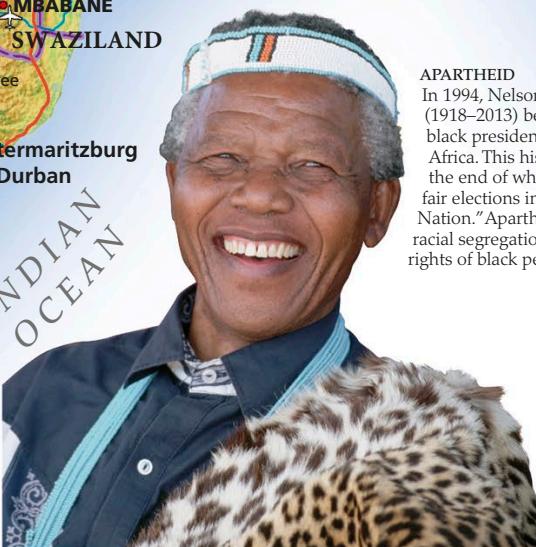
MOZAMBIQUE FLOODS
Mozambique suffered a devastating civil war until 1992 and as a consequence many people continue to rely on foreign aid. Floods in 2000 made conditions worse as they left millions homeless and vulnerable.



WORKING ON THE LAND
In both Malawi and Mozambique, agriculture employs more than four out of every five workers. Important crops include cotton, tea, tobacco, and sugar.



APARTHEID
In 1994, Nelson Mandela (1918–2013) became the first black president to govern South Africa. This historic event marked the end of white rule and the first fair elections in the new "Rainbow Nation." Apartheid was a policy of racial segregation and restricted the rights of black people.



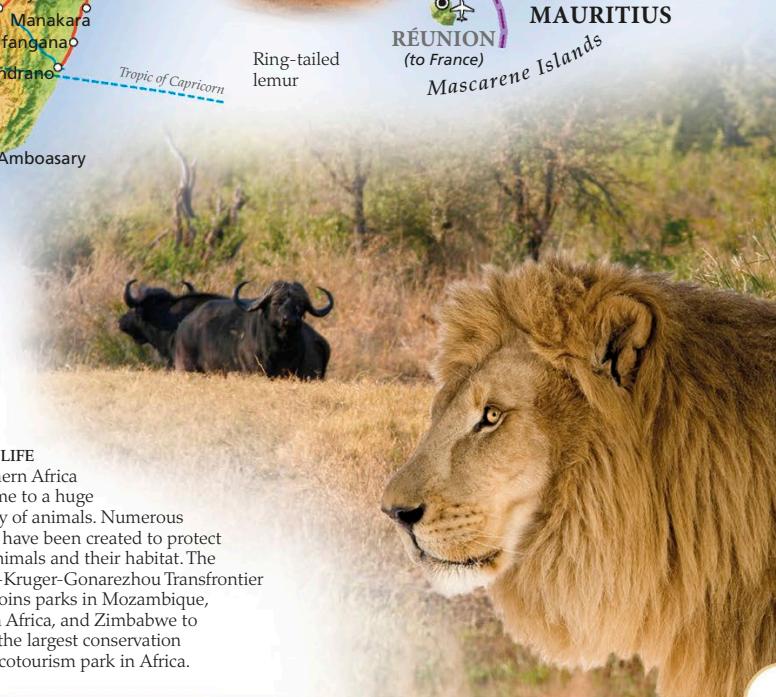
VICTORIA FALLS
At Victoria Falls, situated on the Zambia-Zimbabwe border, the mighty Zambezi River drops 128 m (420 ft) down a narrow chasm. The sound of the crashing water can be heard 40 km (25 miles) away.



MADAGASCAN MAMMALS
Madagascar has an unusual range of mammals that developed in isolation after the island split from the African mainland. It is the only place where lemurs, members of the primate family, live in the wild.



Ring-tailed lemur



WILDLIFE
Southern Africa is home to a huge variety of animals. Numerous parks have been created to protect the animals and their habitat. The Gaza-Kruger-Gonarezhou Transfrontier Park joins parks in Mozambique, South Africa, and Zimbabwe to form the largest conservation and ecotourism park in Africa.

EUROPE

Separated from Asia by the ridge of the Ural Mountains, Europe is a continent of very different nations, listed below in order of their land area. Each nation has its own language and culture, but they share a 2,000-year history of civilization that has inspired some of the world's greatest political ideas, works of art, and innovations in technology.

Russia (Russian Federation)		Germany		United Kingdom		Iceland		Serbia		Bosnia and Herzegovina	
6,601,668 sq miles 17,098,242 sq km		137,847 sq miles 357,022 sq km		94,058 sq miles 243,610 sq km		39,769 sq miles 103,000 sq km		29,913 sq miles 77,474 sq km		19,767 sq miles 51,197 sq km	
142,355,000		80,723,000		64,430,000		335,900		7,144,000		3,862,000	
Russian, Tatar, Ukrainian, Chuvas, various other national languages		German, Turkish		English, Welsh, Scottish Gaelic, Irish Gaelic		Icelandic		Serbian, Hungarian (Magyar)		Bosnian, Serbian, Croatian	
France		Finland		Romania		Hungary		Ireland		Slovakia	
212,935 sq miles 551,500 sq km		130,559 sq miles 338,145 sq km		92,043 sq miles 238,391 sq km		35,918 sq miles 93,028 sq km		27,133 sq miles 70,273 sq km		18,933 sq miles 49,035 sq km	
66,836,000		5,498,000		21,600,000		9,875,000		4,952,000		5,446,000	
French, Provençal, German, Breton, Catalan, Basque		Finnish, Swedish, Sami		Romanian, Hungarian (Magyar), Romany, German		Hungarian (Magyar)		English, Irish Gaelic		Slovak, Hungarian (Magyar), Czech	
Ukraine		Norway		Belarus		Portugal		Lithuania		Estonia	
233,032 sq miles 603,550 sq km		125,021 sq miles 323,802 sq km		180,155 sq miles 207,600 sq km		35,556 sq miles 92,090 sq km		25,212 sq miles 65,300 sq km		17,463 sq miles 45,228 sq km	
44,210,000		5,265,000		9,570,000		10,834,000		2,854,000		1,259,000	
Ukrainian, Russian, Tatar		Norwegian (<i>Bokmål</i> , "book language", and <i>Nynorsk</i> "new Norsk"), Sami		Belarussian, Russian		Portuguese		Lithuanian, Russian		Estonian, Russian	
Spain		Poland		Greece		Austria		Latvia		Denmark	
195,124 sq miles 505,370 sq km		120,728 sq miles 312,685 sq km		50,949 sq miles 131,957 sq km		32,383 sq miles 83,871 sq km		24,938 sq miles 64,589 sq km		16,639 sq miles 43,094 sq km	
48,563,000		38,523,000		10,773,000		8,712,000		1,966,000		5,725,000	
Spanish, Catalan, Galician, Basque		Polish		Greek, Turkish, Macedonian, Albanian		German, Croatian, Slovenian, Hungarian (Magyar)		Latvian, Russian		Danish	
Sweden		Italy		Bulgaria		Czechia		Croatia		Netherlands	
173,860 sq miles 450,295 sq km		116,348 sq miles 301,340 sq km		42,811 sq miles 110,879 sq km		30,451 sq miles 78,867 sq km		21,851 sq miles 56,594 sq km		16,040 sq miles 41,543 sq km	
9,881,000		62,008,000		7,145,000		10,645,000		4,314,000		17,017,000	
Swedish, Finnish, Sami		Italian, German, French, Rhaeto-Romanic, Sardinian		Bulgarian, Turkish, Romany		Czech, Slovak, Hungarian (Magyar)		Croatian		Dutch, Frisian	

Switzerland		Slovenia									
15,937 sq miles 41,277 sq km 8,179,000 Bern German, Swiss-German, French, Italian, Romansh		7,827 sq miles 20,273 sq km 1,978,000 Ljubljana Slovenian									
Moldova		Montenegro									
13,070 sq miles 33,851 sq km 3,510,000 Chisinau Moldovan, Ukrainian, Russian		5,333 sq miles 13,812 sq km 644,600 Podgorica Montenegrin, Serbian, Albanian, Bosnian, Croatian									
Belgium											
11,787 sq miles 30,528 sq km 11,409,000 Brussels Dutch, French, German											
Albania		Kosovo		Luxembourg		Malta					
11,100 sq miles 28,748 sq km 3,039,000 Tirana Albanian, Greek		4,203 sq miles 10,887 sq km 1,883,000 Pristina Albanian, Serbian, Bosnian, Gorani, Romany, Turkish		998 sq miles 2,586 sq km 582,300 Luxembourg Luxembourgish, German, French		122 sq miles 316 sq km 415,200 Valletta Maltese, English		San Marino		Vatican City	
Macedonia		Cyprus		Andorra		Liechtenstein		Monaco			
9,928 sq miles 25,713 sq km 2,100,000 Skopje Macedonian, Albanian, Turkish, Romany, Serbian		3,572 sq miles 9,251 sq km 1,205,600 Nicosia Greek, Turkish		181 sq miles 468 sq km 85,700 Andorra la Vella Spanish, Catalan, French, Portuguese, Castilian		62 sq miles 160 sq km 38,000 Vaduz German, Alemannisch dialect, Italian		0.77 sq miles 2 sq km 30,600 Monaco French, Italian, Monégasque, English			

Scandinavia and Finland

THE THREE SCANDINAVIAN countries (Norway, Sweden, and Denmark), along with neighboring Finland, are among the most northerly countries in Europe. Here the winters are long and cold. In the far north, above the Arctic Circle, the Sun remains below the horizon for up to two months a year. Finland is the most densely forested country in Europe, and wood accounts for 30 percent of its exports. All four countries are highly industrialized and are among the wealthiest in the world. In the last few decades, a large number of refugees have found a new home here, and Scandinavia in particular is a lot more ethnically diverse than it used to be.



URBAN POPULATIONS
Scandinavia has a high urban population. Many people live in towns and cities, with less than one-fifth living in the countryside. Since the region is covered by lakes, fjords, and surrounded by sea, many people also live near the water.



Copenhagen in Denmark is the second-largest city in Scandinavia after Stockholm, Sweden.

SKIING
During the winter months,
much of Scandinavia is
covered with snow so skiing
is a very popular sport.

Sami man in traditional costume

A close-up photograph of a person wearing a traditional Sami costume, featuring a blue tunic with red and yellow embroidery. They are holding a large, light-colored reindeer antler. The background is plain white.

LAND Northern Sweden and island are known as Lapland. Here, the local Sami people survive the cold and inhospitable climate by herding reindeer, which they breed for their meat, milk, and skins.



Scandinavia and Finland



The British Isles



FOR SUCH A SMALL GROUP OF ISLANDS, the British Isles has a very rich history. This is evident from its legacy of ancient ruins, medieval castles, dramatic cathedrals, and grand country houses. Once a leading industrial and colonial power, British monarchs ruled an empire that circled the globe. As a result, English is still widely spoken around the world. Today, many traditional industries, such as shipbuilding, mining, and engineering, have declined, and the emphasis is now on banking and insurance, as well as pharmaceuticals. The British Isles consists of two countries: the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (the UK), and the Republic of Ireland.

Wales has more than 200 castles.



SE BREEDING
ish pastures and a mild climate have encouraged the breeding of thoroughbred racehorses in Ireland. Stud farms here raise some of the best racehorses in the world.



Irish horse and
rider on a

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ATLANTIC
OCEAN

Orkney Hoy Thurso

SCOTLAND Scotland and England united as a single country in 1707. Today, however, Scotland is a self-governing part of the UK, with its own parliament and distinct legal and educational systems. Edinburgh, above, is a popular city with a magnificent castle. Each summer, the city hosts an international arts festival.

IRELAND Tourists visit Ireland, attracted by its unspoiled countryside and lively cities, such as Dublin (left). Once part of Britain, Ireland gained independence in 1922. Its economy, the fastest-growing in Europe just before the global banking crisis of 2008, has since seen good recovery.



NORTH SEA ENERGY
Beneath the shallow seas around Britain, there are supplies of oil and natural gas. Oil rigs raise oil and gas to the surface, where it is pumped by pipeline to be refined on the mainland. Production has declined and supplies are now running low, but more distant reserves still wait to be exploited. However, few businesses are willing to take on further costly exploration.

MONEY MATTERS

The city or London is the financial center before the banking crash of 2008, more than 500 banks had offices there. Lloyd's Insurance Building (right) is one of the city's most distinctive skyscrapers. Built of steel and glass, its clear windows provide a

A map of the Orkney Islands in Scotland. The islands are shown in green, with the North Sea to the west and the Atlantic Ocean to the east. Two specific locations are marked with orange dots: 'Hoy' on the large island to the west, and 'Kirkwall' on the smaller island to the east. A label 'Orkney Isls' is positioned at the top left of the map area.

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MONEY MATTERS
The City of London is the UK's
new businesses are winning to take on future cosy exploration.

banking crash of 2008, more than 500 banks had offices there. Lloyd's Insurance Building (right) is one of the city's most distinctive skyscrapers. Built of steel and glass, its

A detailed map of the English Lake District area, centered around the M6 motorway. The map shows the following locations and features:

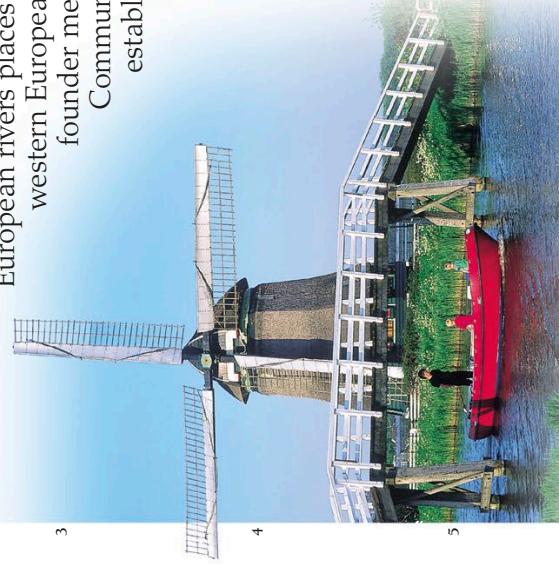
- Major roads: A591, A6, A590, A592.
- Rivers: River Tees, River Ouse, River Ribble.
- Towns and settlements: Durham, Darlington, Harrogate, Preston, Bradford, Blackpool, Lancaster, Kendal, Penrith, Workington, Whitehaven, Barrow-in-Furness, Morecambe, Douglas.
- Natural features: Lake District National Park, Lake Windermere.
- Geographical labels: Ha'penny Bog, Leek.

The map uses color coding for land use and includes a scale bar and a north arrow.

The Low Countries



THE NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM, AND LUXEMBOURG are known as the Low Countries because the land is so flat and low-lying. In the case of the Netherlands, much of the land is below sea level—*Netherlands* is Dutch for “under lands.” The three countries are among the richest in Europe and, while farming still plays an important part, they all have strong, modern economies based on manufacturing and trade. Luxembourg in particular is known as a tax haven and is a major center for international finance. Their location at the mouth of the River Rhine and other major European rivers places the three countries at the heart of western European trade and politics—all three were founder members of the European Economic Community (now the European Union, or EU), established in 1957.



4

Tulips were introduced to the Netherlands from Turkey in 1562. Black tulips were the most valuable.

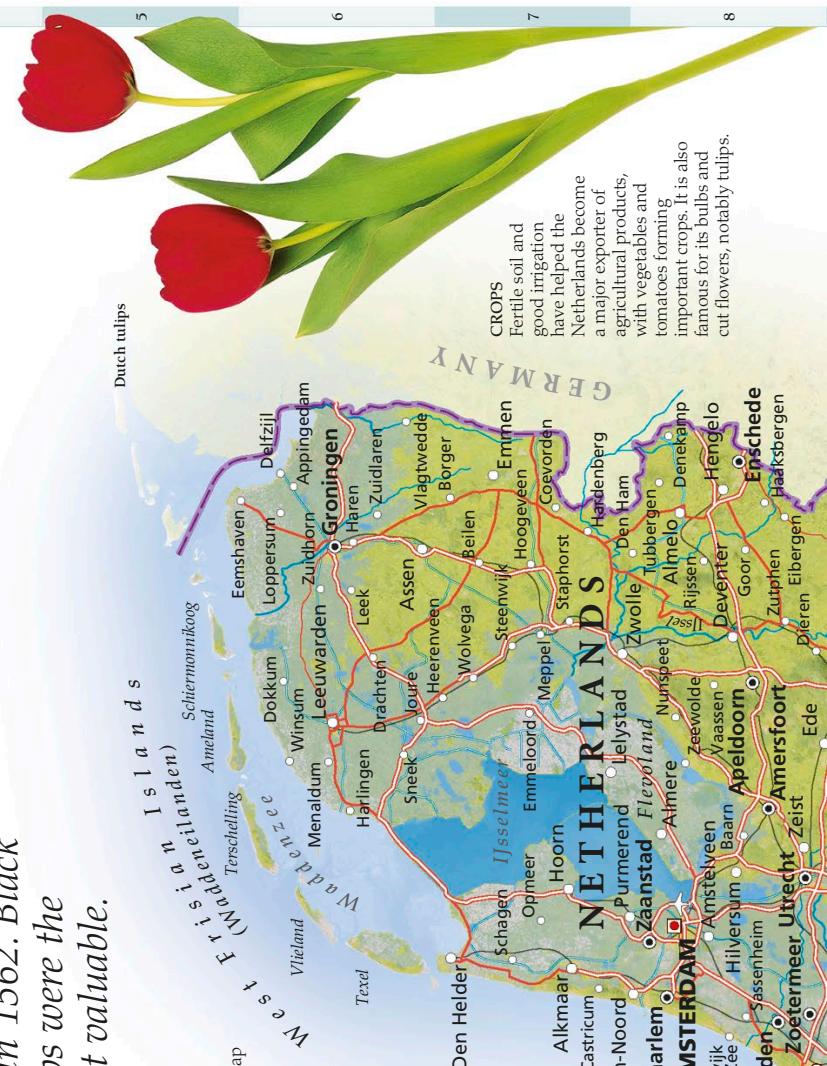


5

ROTTERDAM, NETHERLANDS
Every year, around 30,000 sea-going ships and 110,000 barges call at the port of Rotterdam. Lying at the mouth of the River Rhine, this port is the largest in the world and is where vast container ships from all over the world load or unload their cargoes. The smaller barges help to transport goods farther inland. With the port's advanced Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) it's possible to track ships on a radar screen up to 37 miles (60 km) off the coast and 25 miles (40 km) inland.



6



Land below sea
level on main map

7

DUTCH PEOPLE
Over the centuries, the Dutch have reclaimed land from the sea. They did this by building huge dykes, or dams, to keep out the sea, and then draining the surface water into canals. Windmills originally pumped out the water, but electric pumps are now used.

6

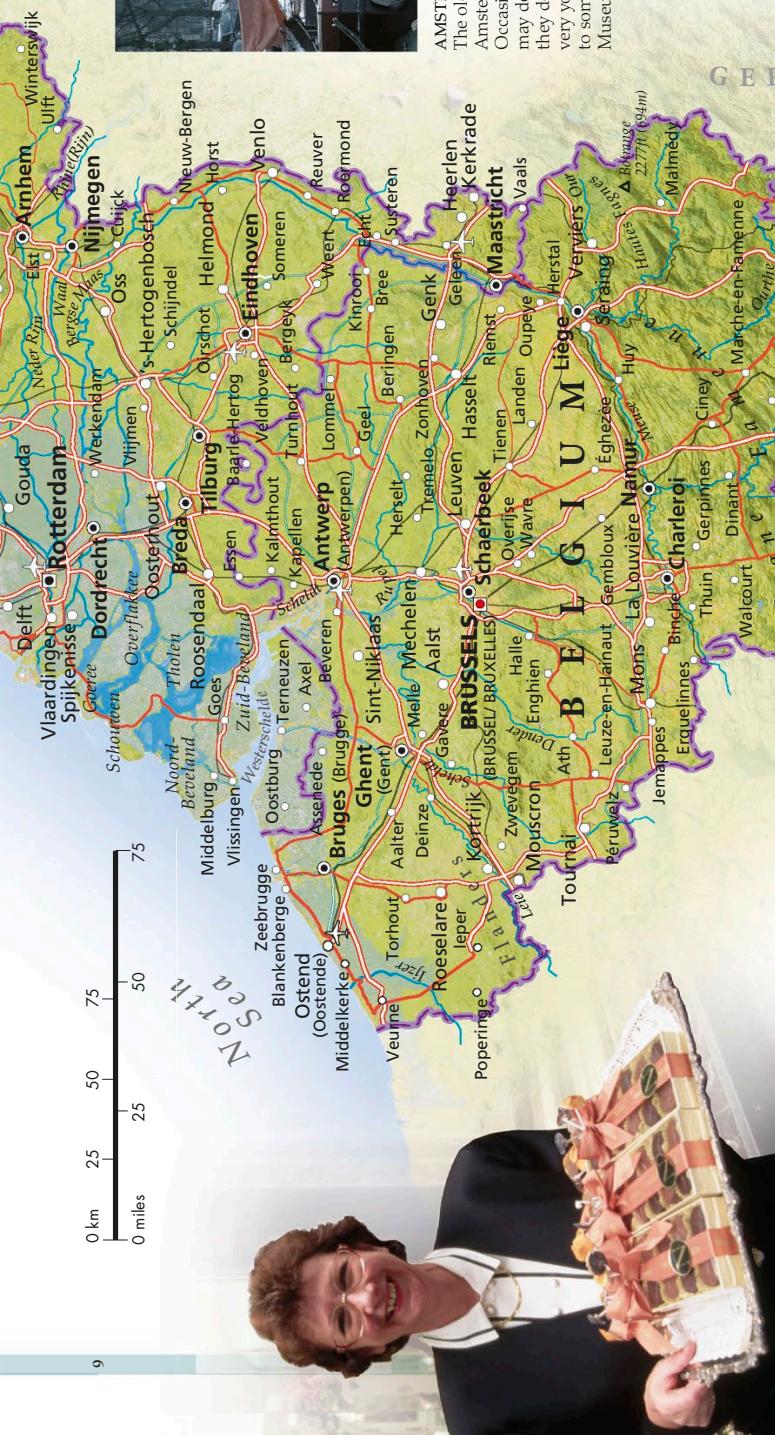


7

CROPS
Fertile soil and good irrigation have helped the Netherlands become a major exporter of agricultural products, with vegetables and tomatoes forming important crops. It is also famous for its bulbs and cut flowers, notably tulips.

8

NETHERLANDS
AMSTERDAM
THE HAGUE
(S-GRAVENHAGE)



AMSTERDAM, NETHERLANDS

The old architecture and picturesquely canals make Amsterdam one of the most visited cities in Europe. Occasionally the canals freeze over and city officials may decide it's safe for people to go skating. When they do, men and women of all ages from very old to very young take to the ice. Amsterdam is also home to some great museums, including the Van Gogh Museum, Rijksmuseum, and the Anne Frank House.

10



Cyclists have their own traffic lights – this one is green for "go".

11



TRILINGUAL

The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg lies between Germany, France, and Belgium. As a result, the majority of the people are trilingual—German and French are widely spoken as is Luxembourgish, the national language. The capital, also known as Luxembourg, has around 150 banks.

12

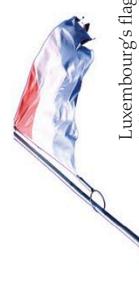


BELGIAN QUALITY
Belgium is renowned for its beautiful historic buildings and for its excellent food, especially chocolates. Belgians have been making top-quality chocolates for more than 100 years, and pralines, a type of filled chocolate, are a speciality. Brussels even boasts a chocolate museum.

13

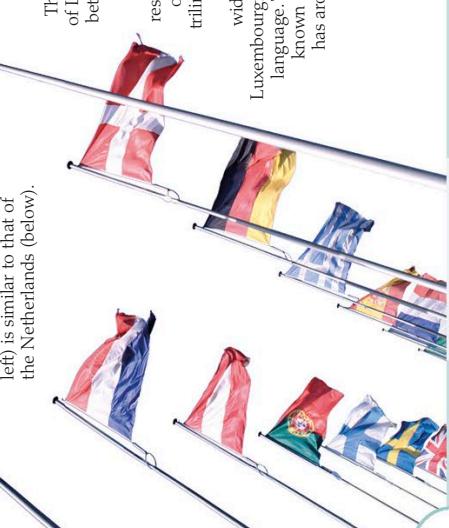
Luxembourg's flag (top left) is similar to that of the Netherlands (below).

14



14

15



15

16



CYCLING
The flatness of the land makes the Netherlands ideal for cycling, and more than half a million people cycle to school or work each day. Lines of 20–100 children cycling together to school are common. Most of the roads have special cycle lanes, and bicycles are often the quickest form of transportation to get around the crowded towns and cities. The use of bicycles also reduces car use and thus cuts down the amount of air pollution.



France

IN DIRECT CONTRAST TO ITS mainly rural landscape, France is a modern nation with most people now living in towns and cities. While industry makes up the largest section of its economy, tourism also plays a big part—France is the world's most visited country. A land of varied scenery, from gently rolling farmland in the north to a stretch of dry, warm Mediterranean coast in the south, France also shares two mountain ranges—the Pyrenees and the Alps. Each of the 22 regions within France, which includes the island of Corsica, has its own distinct identity and culture. The tiny countries of Andorra and Monaco lie next to France.

Boules, the national game of France, is still played in village squares around the country.

2 **T**HREE-quarters of France's electricity is produced by nuclear power plants (above), making the country largely self-sufficient in energy and one of the main producers of nuclear power in Europe. Hydroelectric plants are also an important source of power.

NUCLEAR POWER

Three-quarters of France's electricity is produced by nuclear power plants (above), making the country largely self-sufficient in energy and one of the main producers of nuclear power in Europe. Hydroelectric plants are also an important source of power.



HIGH-SPEED TRAVEL

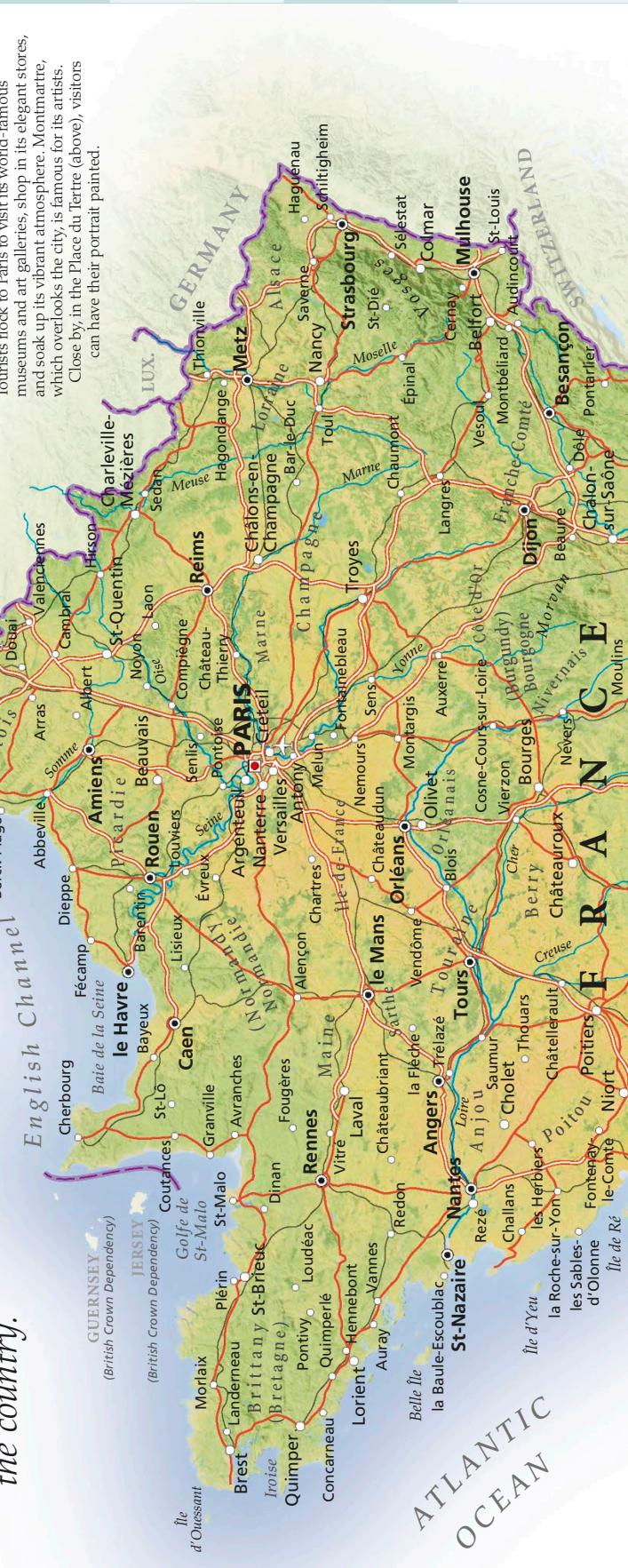
France has Europe's fastest train, the TGV—*train à grande vitesse*—which travels at up to 186 mph (300 kph) during normal services. In 2007, a modified TGV even set a speed record for conventional trains of 357.2 mph (574.8 kph). The TGV network connects Paris with all the country's major cities, which makes it easier to commute or visit relatives. It also extends to Germany, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland, and through the Channel Tunnel to Britain.



3 **S**TREETS OF PARIS
Tourists flock to Paris to visit its world-famous museums and art galleries, shop in its elegant stores, and soak up its vibrant atmosphere. Montmartre, which overlooks the city, is famous for its artists. Close by, in the Place du Tertre (above), visitors can have their portrait painted.

STREETS OF PARIS

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**AVIATION INDUSTRY**

The French were pioneers of aviation. They co-built Concorde and, in 1970, joined forces with German, Spanish, and UK companies to produce short- to medium-range aircraft that were both economic to run and carried up to 300 passengers. Called Airbus, these aircraft filled a vital gap in the market and changed the face of the aviation industry.



9

FRENCH CHEESE
Among France's best-known cheeses are Brie, Camembert, and Roquefort. Mountain regions each have several goats'-milk cheeses, while cheese from Normandy tends

to be made from cows' milk. A cheese is usually named after its town or region.

10

Mont Blanc
15,771ft
(4807m)
Mont Blanc du Tacul
11,747ft
(3580m)
Mont Charvet
11,716ft
(3572m)
Mont Bégo
11,707ft
(3570m)
Monte Cinto
8,873ft
(2706m)
Col du Mont Cenis
6,834ft
(2083m)

Monte Cinto
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TOUR DE FRANCE
The Tour de France cycle race was first held in 1903 and is the most important sporting event in France. Every July, thousands of people line the route to support their favorite team or cheer on the winner. The race covers about 2,500 miles (4,000 km) and is divided into 20 or more daily stages.



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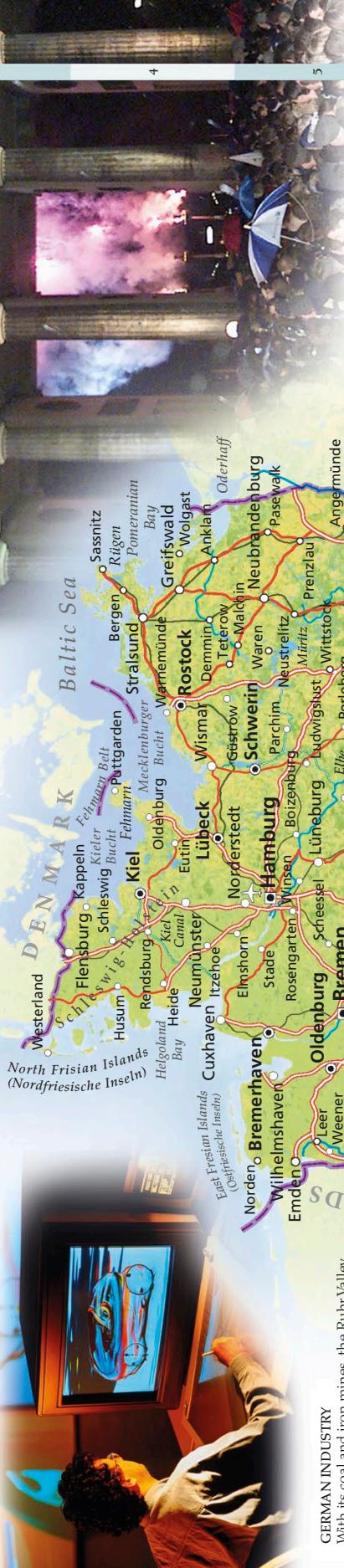
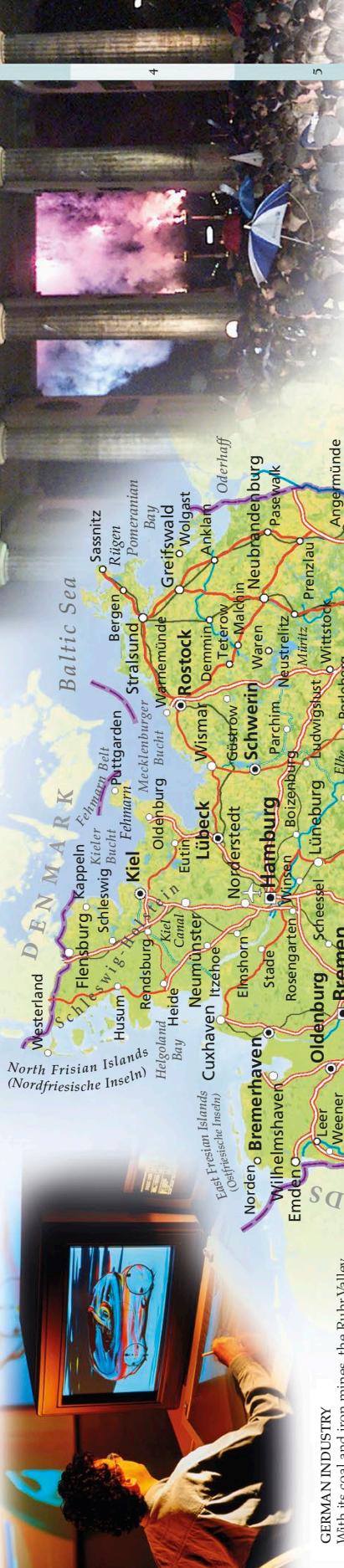
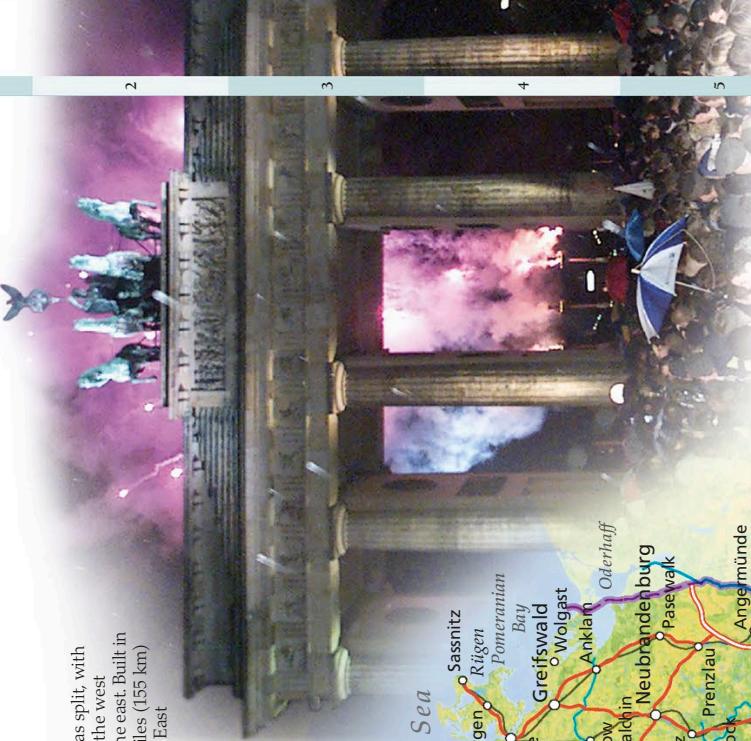
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Germany and the Alpine States

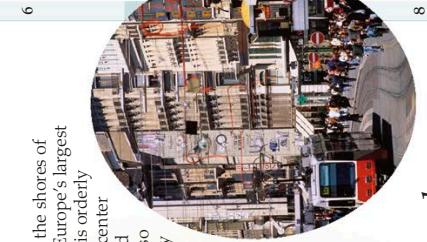
LYING AT THE VERY HEART OF EUROPE, Germany is one of the world's wealthiest nations. It is also Europe's leading industrial power. To its south lie the Alpine states of Switzerland, Austria, Liechtenstein, and Slovenia. The region is famed for its beautiful Alpine scenery, mountains, and lakes. German is the main language in all but Slovenia. However, each of the five countries has its own distinct history, culture, and national identity. Indeed, since 1815, Switzerland has been recognized as a neutral nation, and has stayed out of all the wars that have affected Europe.

THE JOY OF UNIFICATION
After World War II, Germany was split, with a US-backed capitalist state in the west and a Russian-backed state in the east. Built in 1961, the Berlin Wall was 96 miles (155 km) long and was designed to stop East Germans from leaving for a better life in the West. The wall divided Berlin and separated families, friends, and a nation for 28 years. When Germany was unified (reunited) in 1990, the wall was officially demolished.



GERMAN INDUSTRY
With its coal and iron mines the Ruhr Valley was once the powerhouse of the German economy. Today's industry ranges from engineering to high-tech goods. Quality assembly and design make Germany the fourth-largest car producer in the world.

Celebrations at the Brandenburg Gate marking the 10th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall



The Swiss speak German, French, Italian, and Romansh.

FOOD AND DRINK
The annual Munich Oktoberfest is Germany's biggest beer festival. Entertainment includes parades and music.

Germany and the Alpine States



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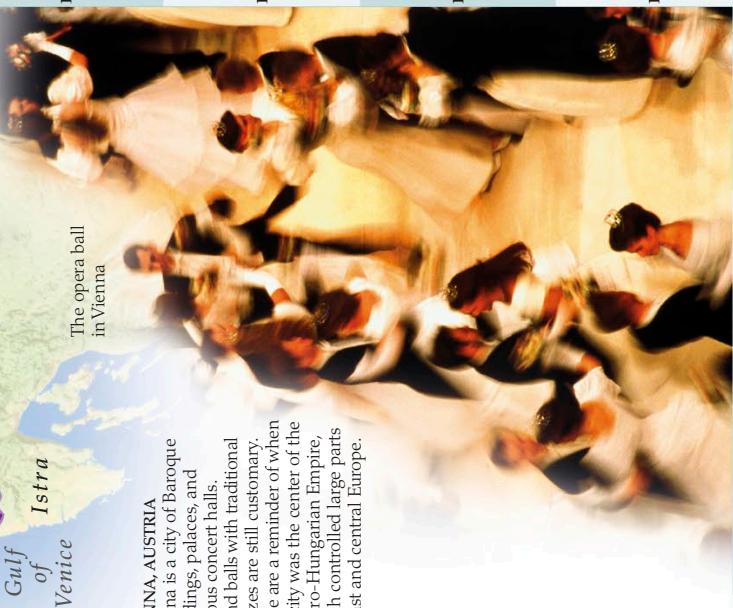
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VIENNA, AUSTRIA
Vienna is a city of Baroque buildings, palaces, and famous concert halls. Grand balls with traditional waltzes are still customary. These are a reminder of when the city was the center of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, which controlled large parts of east and central Europe.



SLOVENIA
After centuries of rule by overlords, Slovenia became independent in 1991. Although the population is only 2 million, the national culture is strong. The famous Lipizzaner show horses are named after the Slovenian farm where they were first bred.



ALPS
The Alps run from southeast France and spread eastward through Switzerland and northern Italy into Austria and Slovenia. A popular tourist destination, the Alps are famous for dramatic scenery and winter sports.

The high and graceful stride of the Lipizzaner horses makes them excel in competitions.



Spain and Portugal

THE COUNTRIES OF SPAIN AND PORTUGAL share an area of land called the Iberian Peninsula. In the north, this land is cut off from the rest of Europe by the Pyrenees Mountains, while to the south, it is separated from Africa by the Strait of Gibraltar. The region was once ruled by Islamic people from north Africa, known as the Moors.

Evidence of their culture can still be seen in buildings in the cities of Andalucía. The Moors were eventually defeated in 1492 and, for a while, Portugal came under Spanish control, as did much of Europe. During the 20th century, both

countries were ruled by brutal dictatorships, which were overthrown in the 1970s. They are now modern democracies and popular tourist destinations.



HARVESTING CORK

Cork is made from the outer bark of the evergreen cork oak tree. The bark is carefully stripped off, flattened, laid out in sheets, and then left to dry. The cork is used for many products, such as stoppers for wine bottles, matting, and tiles. Portugal is the world's leading exporter of cork.

Portugal is the world's leading exporter of cork.

LISBON
Portugal's capital city is Lisbon, which is situated at the mouth of the River Tagus on a series of steep hills and valleys. In 1755, two-thirds of the city was completely destroyed by an earthquake and tidal wave but was rebuilt with beautiful squares and public buildings. Many explorers have set sail from Lisbon in their quest to find new lands.



Trams are a feature of Lisbon streets and a popular form of transportation for both the locals and tourists.



FISHING

Spain and Portugal have well-developed fishing industries with large-scale fleets and many smaller local fleets. However, overfishing along Portugal's coast and out in the north Atlantic has put many people's livelihoods at risk. Spain is still one of Europe's top fishing nations, with catches of fish, molluscs, and crustaceans reaching around 1,100 tons per year.

Spanish families tend to eat dinner late, at around 9 pm. So after school, children eat a snack called a merienda.





SPANISH CITIES

The majority of Spanish people live in towns and cities. Madrid is the largest Spanish city and the capital of Spain. Tourists flock to Barcelona, capital of Catalonia and a leading cultural, economic, and industrial hub. Bilbao, home to the magnificent Guggenheim Museum, is the capital of the Basque region and a busy port.

The Guggenheim, a modern art museum in Bilbao



FIESTAS

In Spain, many towns hold their own fiestas, or festivals, to celebrate a special event in their history or the birthday of their patron saint. These fiestas differ from one region to another. One of the most famous is held in Pamplona, where the brave run with the bulls.



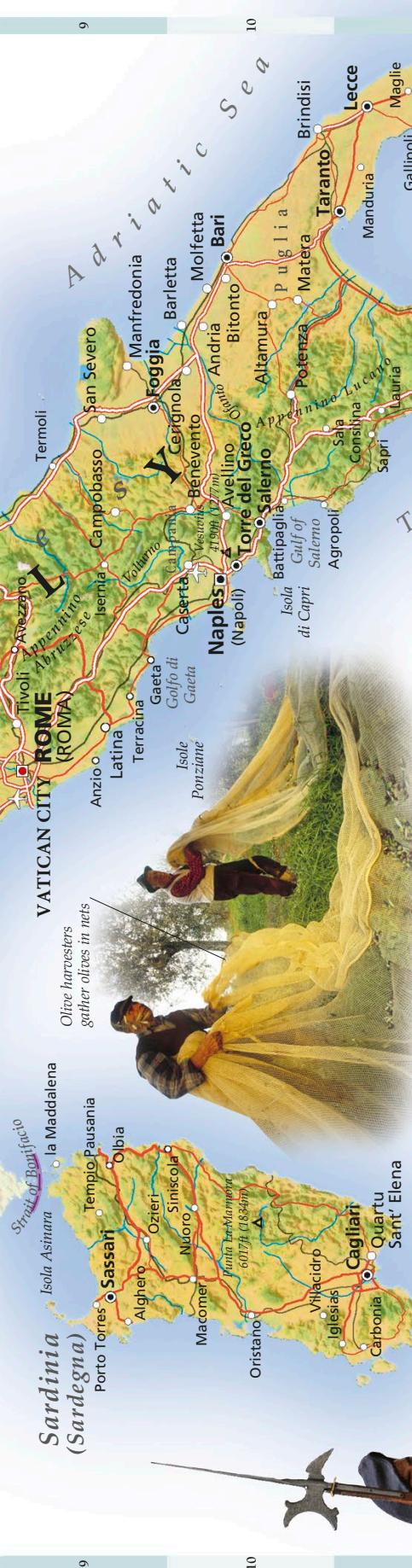
HOLY WEEK

Easter in Spain is marked by solemn celebrations, known as the Holy Week processions. These processions vary according to the region, but generally, men wear robes and hoods and carry heavy crosses to show penitence.

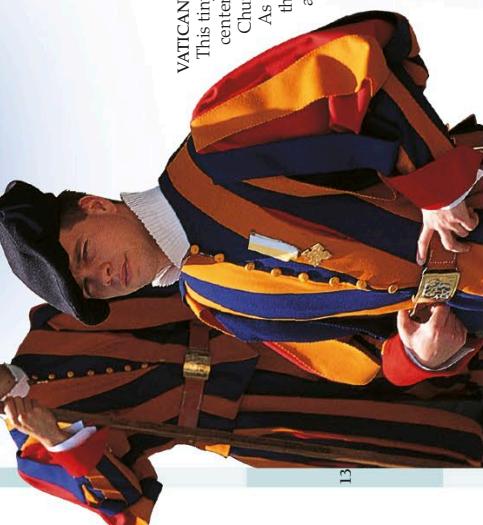


COASTAL RESORTS

Every year, millions of northern Europeans head south for the beaches of southern Spain and Portugal, or for the Spanish Balearic Islands. They are attracted by the warm climate as well as affordable hotels and restaurants.



OLIVE HARVEST
Italy is a big producer of olive oil, producing around 330,000 tons, which is second only to Spain in Europe. The oil is produced by first pressing the fruits of the olive tree between steel or stone rollers, then squeezing oil from the pulp using a press. Olive trees flourish in the fertile soils and the mild, frost-free climate of southern Italy.



Central Europe

FOUR COUNTRIES LIE at the heart of central Europe—Poland, Czechia (until 2016, the Czech Republic), Slovakia and Hungary. The region is composed of wide plains broken by gentle hills and the Carpathian mountain range in the south. In the late 1980s, these countries broke away from decades of communist rule and, as new democracies, began to modernize. EU-members since 2004, they have seen a rise in living standards, despite the global economic crisis of 2008 hitting their growing economies.



FAMILY FARMS
Poland has one of the largest agricultural sectors in Europe, with more than 12 percent of the workforce employed on the land. Most farms are still small, family-run businesses, growing grains, sugar beet and potatoes. Large numbers of pigs and other animals are also kept.

range in the south. In the late 1980s, these countries broke away from decades of communist rule and, as new democracies, began to modernize. EU-members since 2004, they have seen a rise in living standards, despite the global economic crisis of 2008 hitting their growing economies.

GOLDEN PRAGUE Prague, the capital of Czechia, is one of Europe's most charming and beautiful cities. Unlike many other central European cities, it escaped serious damage in both World Wars, and contains many fine historic buildings, soaring church spires,



Part of Prague's colourful history is preserved in buildings around the Old Town Square.

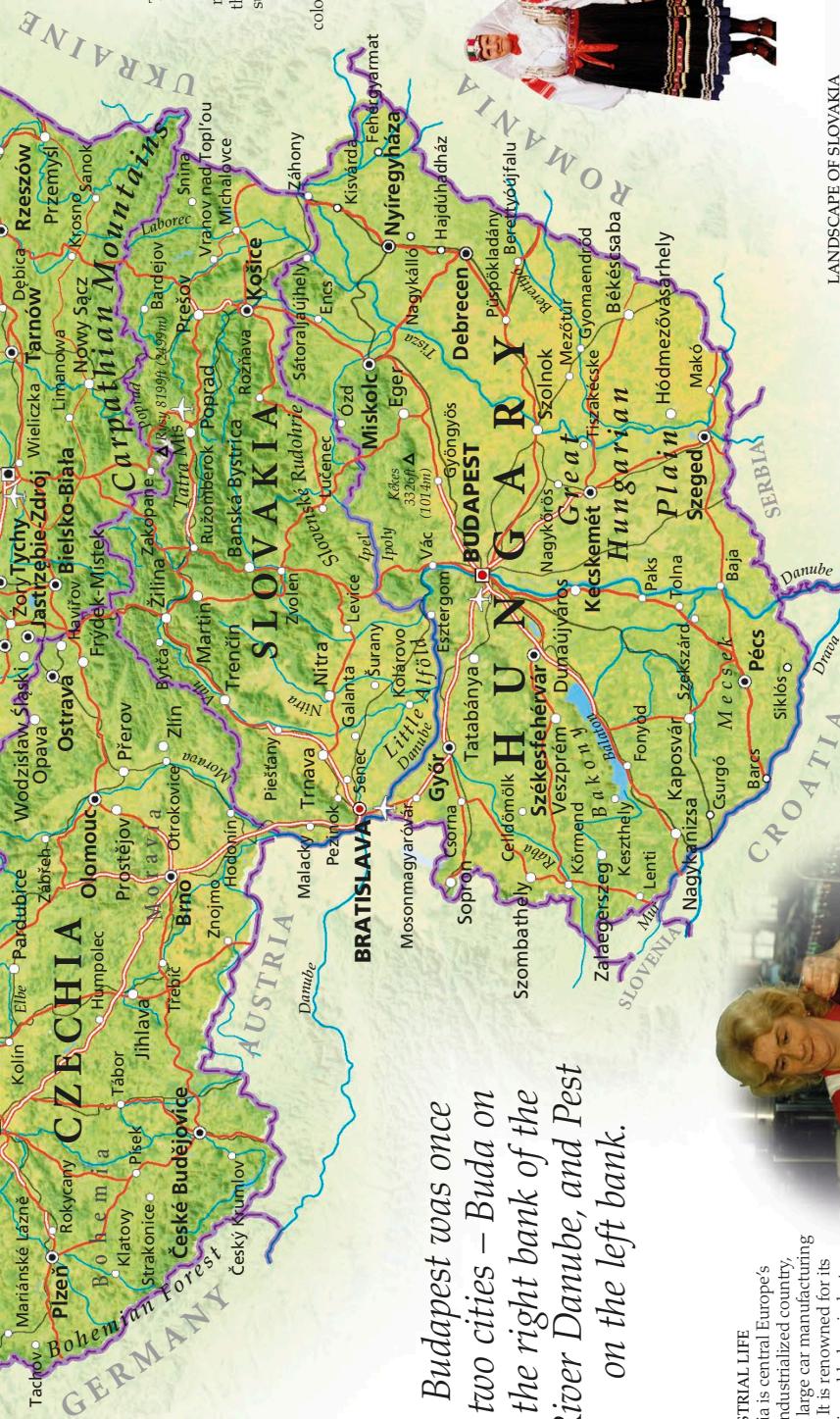
A black and white photograph showing a worker in a foundry. The worker is wearing a cap and safety gear, and is holding a long-handled ladle. They are pouring molten metal from the ladle into a large, dark mold. A massive amount of bright, incandescent sparks is erupting from the point of contact between the ladle and the mold, illuminating the dark industrial space. The background is dark and shadowed, emphasizing the intense light of the molten metal.

TRADITIONAL TRADES
The countries of central Europe are heavily industrialized. Vast coal mines, steel works (above), and engineering works dominate the urban landscape. Although some of these sites are old and poorly equipped, these countries are trying to update machinery and introduce measures to improve standards of environmental pollution.



The Roman Catholic Church is very strong throughout central Europe. Attending mass on Sunday and observing religious holidays, such as Christmas and Easter, are important features of family life.





Budapest was once
two cities – Buda on
the right bank of the
River Danube, and Pest
on the left bank.

INDUSTRIAL LIFE
Czechia is central Europe's
most industrialized country,
with a large car manufacturing
sector. It is renowned for its
centuries-old glass industry
and also produces some of
the world's best-known beers.
Pilsner Lager, for example,
originated in the town of Plzen,
while Budweiser beer has been
brewed at České Budějovice for
more than a century.



FOLK CULTURE
Traditional folk culture is still
preserved in Slovakia, and is
seen as an essential part of
regional identity. Throughout
the year, especially during the
summer months, folk festivals
are held in many towns. The
people dress up in their
colourful regional folk costumes,
play traditional instruments,
and sing and dance.

LANDSCAPE OF SLOVAKIA

Slovakia is divided between a fertile, lowland south and a more rugged, mountainous north. The country is far more rural than its industrial neighbour Czechia. Most Slovaks live in small towns and mountain villages. The Tatras Mountains in the north are popular with skiers and hikers, who bring in much-needed tourist income.



HOT SPRINGS
A land of fertile plains,
Hungary is also famous
for its numerous hot
springs. In the capital city
of Budapest, there are more
than 100 hot springs. The
warm waters rise naturally
from the ground, and spas
and baths are centred on
these springs. They are as
popular today as they were
centuries ago, when the
Romans used the hot springs
on the Buda side of the city.



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Southeast Europe

UNTIL 1991, CROATIA, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, and Macedonia were all part of Yugoslavia. Ethnic tensions between the Serbs and other peoples in Yugoslavia caused a series of bloody wars that broke up the country. Peace was eventually restored in 1999, but all five countries have suffered intense economic problems as a result. So, too, has Albania since its communist government collapsed. The six nations do, however, have huge potential, with considerable agricultural and mineral resources. In the north, the Danube River is an important trading route for both Croatia and Serbia, while Croatia has a flourishing tourist industry along its beautiful Adriatic coast.



SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT

Croatia is a great sporting nation. Former skier Janica Kostelić has won four Olympic gold medals (three in 2002 and one in 2006), making her one of the most successful female Alpine skiers of all time. Other popular sports are football (soccer), tennis, and basketball.

The Dalmatian dog is named after the coastal region of Dalmatia, its first known home.

THE ADRIATIC The long Adriatic coastline of Croatia is one of the most beautiful in Europe. The wooded hillsides, pretty beaches, such as Makarska (right), islands, and historic towns such as Dubrovnik attract tourists from all over Europe. The archipelago is also popular for sailing holidays.



GROWING FOOD The most fertile area in this region lies along the River Danube in northern Serbia and eastern Croatia. Here, vegetables, fruit, corn, and cereals are grown, as well as grapes for wine-making. Most farms are small-scale family businesses growing a wide range of crops.



DIFFERENT SCRIPTS Croatian and Serbian languages are very similar but the people of Croatia, a predominantly Roman Catholic country, write in Roman script, as do Bosnians. Serbians are mainly Eastern Orthodox and write using both Roman and Russian Cyrillic scripts.



Magazine with Cyrillic script

Magazine with Roman script



» Europe



Bulgaria and Greece

FOR MORE THAN FOUR CENTURIES Bulgaria and Greece were ruled by the Ottoman Turks. Bulgaria gained independence in 1908, while southern Greece became independent in 1832 and was joined by northern Greece in 1913. After World War II, Bulgaria became a communist state. Both states are now democracies and members of the European Union (EU). Bulgaria remains relatively poor.

Greece's economy is struggling, despite the billions of euros lent by the EU since 2010. That's when it was discovered that seemingly wealthy Greece had a huge national deficit (meaning it had spent a lot more than it had collected in taxes).

Although they border each other, Bulgaria and Greece are quite different; the Greek mainland is mountainous with only one-third of the land suitable for cultivation. By contrast, Bulgaria is more fertile with a strong agricultural tradition. Tourism is an important source of income to both countries, with visitors flocking to the Black Sea resorts in Bulgaria, to the Greek mainland to see the ancient ruins, and to the Greek islands in search of sandy beaches.

First held in Athens in 1896, the modern Olympic Games were staged there again in 2004.

ARCHITECTURE

Bulgaria contains many fine old churches, monasteries, and mosques, despite the damage done to the country during World War II. Rila Monastery (above) was founded by a hermit monk who took to the mountains in search of solitude in 927 CE. After a fire in 1833, Rila was rebuilt and the magnificent church now boasts three great domes, a museum, and 1,200 frescoes.

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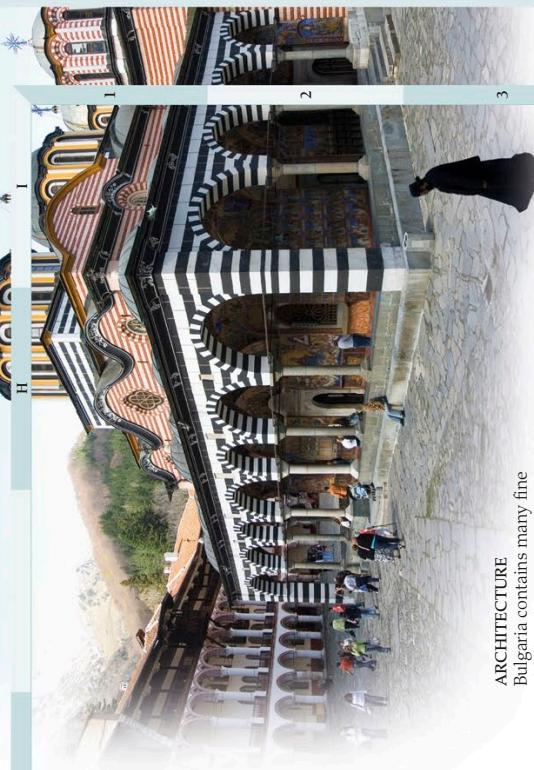
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BULGARIAN AGRICULTURE

Wheat, corn, and other cereals grow in the fertile Danube river valley in the north of the country. Tobacco (right) grows in the Maritsa river valley in the southeast, while grapes for the wine industry flourish on the slopes of the Balkan Mountains. The festival of Kukerovo Den, with traditional processions, celebrates the start of the agricultural year.

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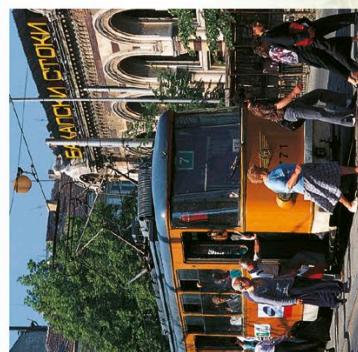
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CITY LIFE
Bulgarians make up about 77 percent of the total population of the country. Most of the rest are Turkish, Macedonian, or Roma. Most people live in apartment blocks in the main towns and cities. They are more likely to use public transportation as not all households have a car.



LANGUAGE

The 24 characters in the Greek alphabet date from the 8th century BCE when the first texts were written in classical Greek. Since then the language has evolved and is now spoken by 13 million people around the world.

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Trams provide an efficient way for people to get around Bulgaria's capital, Sofia.

GREEK ISLANDS

More than 2,000 islands lie off the mainland of Greece. The Cyclades and Dodecanese in the Aegean Sea are often rocky and arid, while the Ionian Islands, such as Zakynthos (below), are more fertile. Tourists often travel from one island to another by ferry or hovercraft.

CORINTH CANAL

The Corinth Canal was built to provide a shortcut for ships travelling between the Aegean and Ionian Seas. Dug through solid limestone, the steep-sided canal was begun in 1882 by the French and completed in 1893 by the Greeks.

EARTHQUAKES

The idyllic landscape of the Greek Islands, such as Santorini (left), can be rocked by earthquakes. This is because the islands and mainland of Greece, as well as Bulgaria, sit on a plate boundary. There is now a Greek Seismic Code that outlines regulations on all new buildings.

GREEK WEDDING

About 98 per cent of Greeks follow the Greek Orthodox religion and weddings follow the rites of the Orthodox Church. At the ceremony it is traditional for the best man to place wreaths of orange blossom, linked by a silk ribbon, on the heads of the bride and the groom (above).

AEGEAN SEA

IONIAN SEA

SEA OF CRETE
(*Kritikó Pélagos*)

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

ATHENS

The capital city of Greece is dominated by the Parthenon, a temple built in 447–438 BCE on a rocky hill known as the Acropolis. Modern-day Athens is a sprawling city where the large number of cars cause serious air pollution.



B C D E F G H

Ukraine, Moldova, & Romania

THROUGHOUT MUCH OF THE LAST CENTURY, Ukraine and Moldova formed part of the Soviet Union (USSR), while Romania was ruled for 20 years by the communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu. In 1989, Ceausescu was overthrown, while Ukraine and Moldova became independent in 1991. Today, the three countries are still struggling to fully transform themselves into modern democracies, although Romania joined the EU in 2007. Outdated technology, dependency on gas and oil from their powerful neighbor Russia, and economic and environmental problems have slowed their progress. It is also a region of ethnic tensions, highlighted in 2014 when Russia annexed Ukraine's Crimean peninsula, where a large part of the population consists of Russians left behind after the USSR break-up.



CITY LIFE

Romania has many cities and towns with a mix of old and new buildings. Sibiu (left) was founded in the 12th century and, at one time, had 19 guilds—each representing a different craft—within its city walls. Much remains from this colorful history, especially in the painted buildings of the old town.

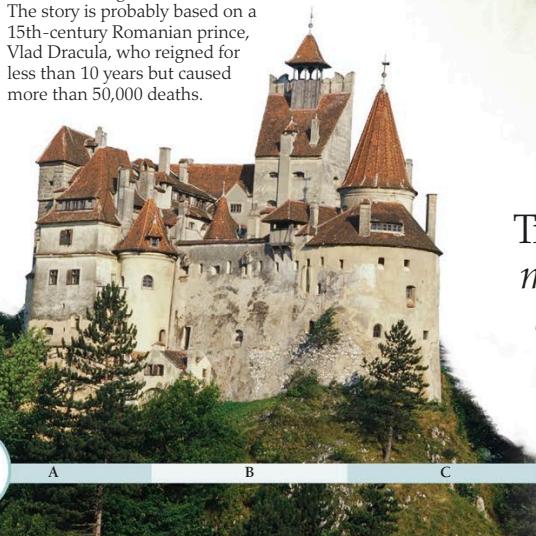


FOLK CUSTOMS

Despite years of communist rule, folk customs thrived in the rural areas of Romania and Ukraine. In Ukraine, singers perform *dumas*, historical epics that tell of slavery under the Turks. One of the traditional instruments is a bandura (left), a stringed instrument that sounds like a harpsichord.

DRACULA'S CASTLE

Situated in Transylvania, Bran Castle is a favorite tourist destination. This is where author Bram Stoker's fictional blood-drinking Count Dracula lived. The story is probably based on a 15th-century Romanian prince, Vlad Dracula, who reigned for less than 10 years but caused more than 50,000 deaths.



*The word
Transylvania
means "land
beyond the
forests."*



EASTER BREAD
In Romania, Easter is celebrated with a meal of roast lamb served with a bread called *cozonac*. This is made by pounding nuts, raisins, and even cocoa, into the dough.



INDUSTRY IN THE UKRAINE

Ukraine is the world's tenth largest steel producer, and also has a big vehicle and space industry. Most of the heavy industry, however, is situated in the east, an area badly affected by Ukrainian-Russian tensions, and exports have been severely damaged since the fallout with Russia.

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HOLIDAYS BY THE SEA

In the days of the Russian empire, aristocracy and artists flocked to the Black Sea resorts of the Crimea, especially Yalta; the famous authors Leo Tolstoy and Anton Chekhov holidayed here. During the Soviet era, it was the nation's top holiday destination. After 1991, it began attracting foreign visitors, but tourism has declined since Russia annexed Crimea in 2014.

PEOPLE OF ROMANIA

Romanians speak Romanian—a language closely related to French, Italian, and Spanish. The country also has sizeable Hungarian and Roma minorities, which have both been discriminated against in recent years. Most Hungarian speakers live in the region of Transylvania.

RICH SOILS OF MOLDOVA

Moldova consists of partially wooded plains intercut with rivers and streams. About 75 percent of the land is rich in chernozem (black) soil, which is very fertile. Wine and sunflower production are important here. Fruit and vegetables, such as pumpkins (left), also grow well.

Baltic States & Belarus



THE THREE BALTIC STATES, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, all share a stretch of coast on the Baltic Sea lined with sandy beaches. Belarus lies between Poland, Ukraine, and the Russian Federation. Following independence from the Soviet Union in 1991, all these countries faced problems such as price increases, food shortages, and pollution. However, the Baltic States have reformed into hi-tech societies and economies and have been EU members since 2004. Belarus has kept close links with Russia and has been the slowest to reform. This mainly rural country has stayed isolated from the rest of Europe and, with few natural resources, remains one of its poorest nations.

SINGING REVOLUTION Estonia is known for its classical music tradition—most notably its choirs. This love of music was most powerful when people raised their voices during the Singing Revolution in 1988 (right), part of their move toward independence.

TALLINN OLD TOWN
With its colorful buildings, turreted walls, and gabled roofs, Tallinn is one of the best-preserved capital cities in Europe. All the winding, cobbled streets lead to the Town Hall Square (left). **Pavols**



kept close links with Russia and has been the slowest to reform. This mainly rural country has stayed isolated from the rest of Europe and, with few natural resources, remains one of its poorest nations.

The Estonian flag waved at a pre-independence rally in 1988

TALLINN OLD TOWN With its colorful buildings, turreted walls, and gabled roofs, Tallinn is one of the best-preserved capital cities in Europe. All the winding, cobbled streets lead to the Town Hall Square (left).

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the early of public audience

R&D

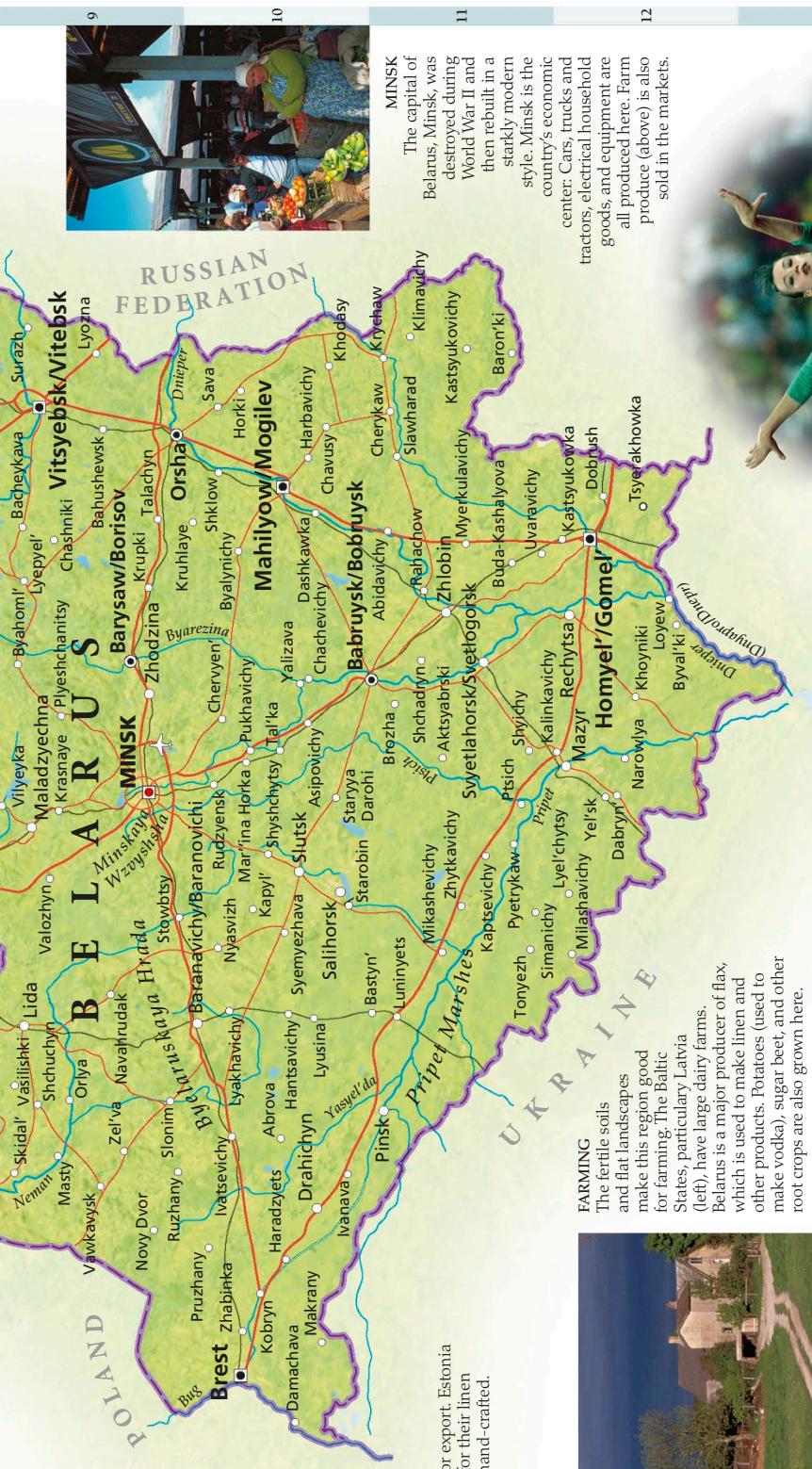
Europe's interconnected countries.

• A

the fossilized resin of pine trees, is washed up from the sea bed along the Baltic coast. Amber is used to make jewelry, among other things.

AMBER Two-thirds of the world's amber, the fossilized resin from pine trees, is washed from the sea bed along the Baltic coast. Amber make jewelry and

A piece of reddish-brown, textured rock or mineral specimen.



TEXTILES Lithuania has a strong textile industry, with clothes, bed linen, curtains, and towels made and Latvia are also famous for their products, many beautiful

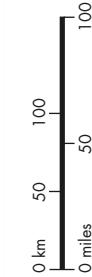
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GYMNASTICS

The former Soviet Union worked extremely hard in order to win Olympic medals and thus national glory. Many of the most famous gymnasts of the era came from Belarus, notably Olga Korbut and Svetlana Boginskaya (right), who won three gold, one silver, and one bronze Olympic medals.



LITHUANIAN COSTUME
In some Lithuanian villages people wear traditional folk costumes for festive occasions. Women's clothing is generally colorful (left) and might include a white linen shirt, a skirt, and an apron. The decoration and style of the costume shows which region of Lithuania the wearer comes from.

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Ferns thriving by a lake in a Latvian forest.



FORESTS AND LAKES
All four countries are low-lying with many moors, bogs, unspoiled lakes, and fair and pine forests. Forestry is an important industry, especially in Estonia and Latvia, providing wood pulp for paper making, and timber for furniture and houses.

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9. Industrial smog casts a haze over Moscow.
10. Pollution
11. Industrial smog casts a haze over Moscow.



9. Industrial smog casts a haze over Moscow.
10. Pollution
11. Industrial smog casts a haze over Moscow.

RURAL LIFE Rural life became extremely tough after the collapse of large, state-run farms in the 1990s, and many people lived in poverty. Since then, private-owned, small-scale farms have become more common and productive. Grains—mainly wheat and barley—and sunflower oil are the top agricultural exports.



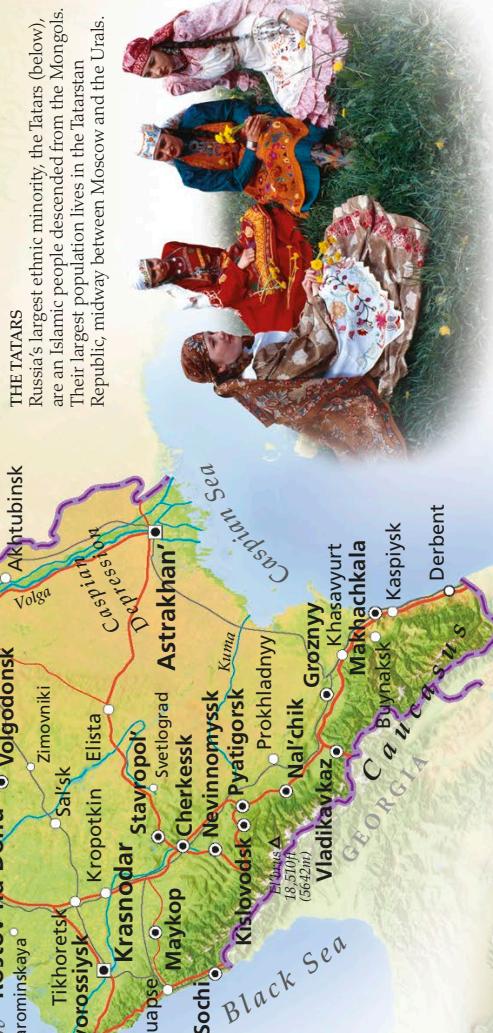
12. Icons, common in the Russian Orthodox Church, are religious images painted on wooden panels.



The title *tsar*, or *czar*, once used for Russian rulers, means "emperor" and comes from the ancient Roman title "Caesar."

THE RUSSIAN CHURCH The main religion in Russia is the Russian Orthodox Church. Under communism, all religion was banned, and churches and monasteries were left to decay. Today many of these historic buildings have been restored, and many Russians attend church services regularly.

MOSCOW METRO Not many underground railways can claim to be tourist attractions, but Moscow's metro can. Built in the 1930s, many of its stations are decorated with beautiful chandeliers, mosaics, paintings, and sculptures. One of the busiest, most efficient metros in the world, it is used by more than 7 million people daily.



12. Icons, common in the Russian Orthodox Church, are religious images painted on wooden panels.

13. Icons, common in the Russian Orthodox Church, are religious images painted on wooden panels.

14. Icons, common in the Russian Orthodox Church, are religious images painted on wooden panels.

15. Icons, common in the Russian Orthodox Church, are religious images painted on wooden panels.

16. Icons, common in the Russian Orthodox Church, are religious images painted on wooden panels.



ASIA

The vast continent of Asia is dominated by two giant nations—China and India, each with more than a billion people and a rich and colorful history. Both are being transformed by rapid economic growth, and so are many other Asian countries, listed below in order of size. Yet in some regions of central Asia life has barely changed in a thousand years.

China	Iran	Afghanistan	Iraq	Philippines	Nepal
 3,705,407 sq miles 9,596,960 sq km  1,373,541,000  Beijing  Mandarin, Wu, Cantonese, Hsiang, Min, Hakka, Kan	 636,368 sq miles 1,648,195 sq km  82,801,600  Tehran  Farsi, Azeri, Luri, Gilaki, Mazandarani, Kurdish, Turkmen, Arabic, Balochi	 251,826 sq miles 652,230 sq km  33,332,000  Kabul  Pashto, Tajik, Dari, Farsi, Uzbek, Turkmen	 169,234 sq miles 438,317 sq km  38,146,000  Baghdad  Arabic, Kurdish, Turkic languages, Armenian, Assyrian	 115,830 sq miles 300,000 sq km  102,624,000  Manila  Filipino, English, Tagalog, Cebuano, Ilocano, Hiligaynon, many other local languages	 56,827 sq miles 147,181 sq km  29,034,000  Kathmandu  Nepali, Maithili, Bhojpuri
India	Mongolia	Yemen	Japan	Laos	Bangladesh
 1,269,212 sq miles 3,287,263 sq km  1,266,884,000  New Delhi  Hindi, English, Urdu, Bengali, Marathi, Telugu, Tamil, Bihari, Gujarati, Kannada.	 603,905 sq miles 1,564,116 sq km  3,031,000  Ulaanbaatar  Khalkha Mongolian, Kazakh, Chinese, Russian	 203,848 sq miles 527,968 sq km  27,393,000  Sana'aak  Arabic	 145,913 sq miles 377,915 sq km  126,702,000  Tokyo  Japanese, Korean, Chinese	 91,428 sq miles 236,800 sq km  7,019,000  Vientiane  Lao, Mon-Khmer, Yao, Vietnamese, Chinese, French	 55,598 sq miles 143,998 sq km  156,187,000  Dhaka  Bengali, Urdu, Chakma, Marma (Magh), Garo, Khasi, Santhali, Tripura, Mru
Kazakhstan	Pakistan	Thailand	Vietnam	Kyrgyzstan	Tajikistan
 1,052,084 sq miles 2,724,900 sq km  18,360,000  Astana  Kazakh, Russian, Ukrainian, German, Uzbek, Tatar, Uyghur	 307,372 sq miles 796,095 sq km  201,956,000  Islamabad  Punjabi, Sindhi, Pashto, Urdu, Balochi, Brahui	 198,116 sq miles 513,120 sq km  68,201,000  Bangkok  Thai, Chinese, Malay, Khmer, Mon, Karen, Miao	 127,880 sq miles 331,210 sq km  95,261,000  Hanoi  Vietnamese, Chinese, Thai, Khmer, Muong, Nung, Miao, Yao, Jarai	 77,201 sq miles 199,951 sq km  5,728,000  Bishkek  Kyrgyz, Russian, Uzbek, Tatar, Ukrainian	 55,251 sq miles 143,100 sq km  8,331,000  Dushanbe  Tajik, Uzbek, Russian
Saudi Arabia	Turkey	Turkmenistan	Malaysia	Syria	North Korea
 829,995 sq miles 2,149,690 sq km  28,160,000  Riyadh  Arabic	 302,533 sq miles 783,562 sq km  80,275,000  Ankara  Turkish, Kurdish, Arabic, Circassian, Armenian, Greek, Georgian, Ladino (Judeo-Spanish)	 188,455 sq miles 488,100 sq km  5,291,000  Ashgabat  Turkmen, Uzbek, Russian, Kazakh, Tatar	 127,354 sq miles 329,847 sq km  30,950,000  Kuala Lumpur  Bahasa Malaysia, Malay, Chinese, Tamil, English	 71,498 sq miles 185,180 sq km  17,185,000  Damascus  Arabic, French, Kurdish, Armenian, Circassian, Turkic languages, Assyrian, Aramaic	 46,540 sq miles 120,538 sq km  25,115,000  Pyongyang  Korean
Indonesia	Myanmar (Burma)	Uzbekistan	Oman	Cambodia	South Korea
 735,354 sq miles 1,904,569 sq km  258,316,000  Jakarta  Javanese, Sundanese, Madurese, Bahasa Indonesia, Dutch	 261,227 sq miles 676,578 sq km  56,890,000  Nay Pyi Taw  Burmese, Shan, Karen, Rakhine (Arakanese), Chin, Yangbye, Kachin, Mon	 172,741 sq miles 447,400 sq km  29,474,000  Tashkent  Uzbek, Russian, Tajik, Kazakh	 119,498 sq miles 309,500 sq km  3,355,000  Muscat  Arabic, Balochi, Farsi, Hindi, Punjabi	 69,898 sq miles 181,035 sq km  15,957,000  Phnom Penh  Khmer, French, Chinese, Vietnamese, Cham	 38,502 sq miles 99,720 sq km  50,924,000  Seoul  Korean

Jordan 	Sri Lanka 	Israel 	Qatar 		
34,495 sq miles 89,342 sq km 8,185,000 Amman Arabic	25,332 sq miles 65,610 sq km 22,235,000 Colombo Sinhala, Tamil, Sinhala-Tamil, English	8,019 sq miles 20,770 sq km 8,175,000 Jerusalem Hebrew, Arabic, Yiddish, German, Russian, Polish, Romanian, Persian	4,473 sq miles 11,586 sq km 2,258,000 Doha Arabic		
Azerbaijan 	Bhutan 	Kuwait 	Lebanon 	Bahrain 	Seychelles 
33,436 sq miles 86,600 sq km 9,873,000 Baku Azerbaijani, Russian	14,824 sq miles 38,394 sq km 750,100 Thimphu Dzongkha, Nepali, Assamese	6,880 sq miles 17,818 sq km 2,833,000 Kuwait City Arabic, English	4,015 sq miles 10,400 sq km 6,238,000 Beirut Arabic, French, Armenian, Assyrian	286 sq miles 741 sq km 1,379,000 Manama Arabic	176 sq miles 455 sq km 93,200 Victoria French Creole, English, French
United Arab Emirates 	Taiwan 	East Timor 	Brunei 	Singapore 	Maldives 
32,278 sq miles 83,600 sq km 5,927,000 Abu Dhabi Arabic, Farsi, Indian and Pakistani languages, English	13,892 sq miles 35,980 sq km 23,465,000 Taipei Amoy Chinese, Mandarin Chinese, Hakka Chinese	5,743 sq miles 14,874 sq km 1,261,000 Dili Tetum (Portuguese/Austronesian), Bahasa Indonesia, Portuguese	2,226 sq miles 5,765 sq km 436,600 Bandar Seri Begawan Malay, English, Chinese	269 sq miles 697 sq km 5,782,000 Singapore Mandarin, Malay, Tamil, English	115 sq miles 298 sq km 393,000 Malé Dhivehi (Maldivian), Sinhala, Tamil, Arabic
Georgia 	Armenia 				
26,911 sq miles 69,700 sq km 4,928,000 Tbilisi Georgian, Russian, Azeri, Armenian, Mingrelian, Ossetian, Abkhazian	11,484 sq miles 29,743 sq km 3,051,000 Yerevan Armenian, Azeri, Russian				



B C D E F G H

Turkey and the Caucasus

TURKEY LIES IN BOTH ASIA and Europe—separated by the Bosphorus—and was once part of the powerful Ottoman Empire. Although the population is 99 percent Muslim, modern Turkey is a country with no official religion. Western Turkey is relatively industrialized, with a tourist industry along the Mediterranean coast that brings in considerable income. Many farmers and herders in the center and east, however, struggle to make a living in the arid environment.

To the northeast lie the Caucasus countries of Georgia, Azerbaijan, and Armenia. Once part of the USSR, they are now independent.



TURKISH FOOD

Turkey is self-sufficient in food and grows specialized crops such as eggplants, peppers, figs, and dates. A typical Turkish meal might consist of spiced lamb, often grilled on a skewer with onion and tomato to make a *shish kebab*. This would be served with rice or cracked wheat.

EPHESUS
Tourism is one of Turkey's major industries. As well as beach resorts, the country has many ancient sites. One of these is the old Greek city of Ephesus, which lies 35 miles (56 km) south of modern-day Izmir on the Aegean coast. The city was famous for its Temple of Artemis, which was considered one of the seven wonders of the world.

Visitors to Ephesus admiring the remains of the Library of Celsus



ISTANBUL

The different faces of Turkey can be seen in its former capital, Istanbul, which lies on both sides of the Bosphorus waterway. Churches, mosques, and ancient buildings in both European and Islamic styles sit side by side with modern shops and offices. Bridges link the two parts of the city. In 1923, Ankara became the new capital.



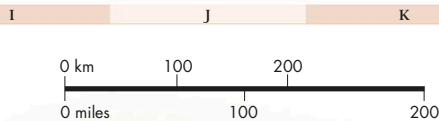
TURKISH REPUBLIC OF NORTHERN CYPRUS
(recognized only by Turkey)



CYPRUS

FATHER OF THE TURKS
Mustafa Kemal Atatürk (1881–1938), founder of the modern Turkish state, became its first president in 1923. He introduced many reforms, including more equality for women and better education for all. He also declared that Islam was no longer to be the official religion.





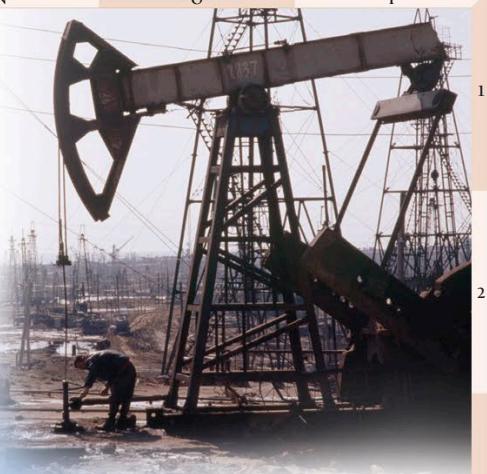
CARPET MARKET

Turkish carpets, made in centers such as Malatya and Kayseri



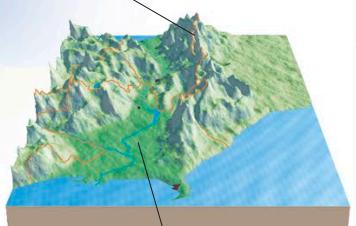
Turkey is world-famous for its knotted-pile carpets, known as kilims, woven by skilled craftworkers. Each region of Turkey produces carpets with different designs and colors. Every worker incorporates into the designs symbols that tell the maker's own family history or origins.

OIL FROM AZERBAIJAN
Many years ago, caravans of camels carried vessels loaded with oil from Baku to nearby countries. By the end of the 19th century, the city was known as the "black gold" capital of the world. Today, Azerbaijan produces and exports oil as well as natural gas.



Mount Ararat in Turkey is said to be the resting place of Noah's ark after the flood described in the Bible.

Caucasus Mountains block cold air from the north.



CAUCASUS

The towering Caucasus Mountains protect Armenia, Georgia, and Azerbaijan from the cold northerly winds. As a result, farmers can take advantage of this mild climate to grow citrus fruit, tobacco, and tea. Walnuts and hazelnuts are valuable export crops.

Vines and fruit grow in the valleys.

PEOPLE OF TURKEY

The Turks, who make up about 70 percent of the population of 80 million, are a diverse group with a shared sense of national identity. The largest minority in Turkey—about 15 million people—are the Kurds (below), who speak their own language but have no homeland. They live in eastern Turkey, as well as in neighboring Iraq and Iran.





B C D E F G H

Russia and Kazakhstan

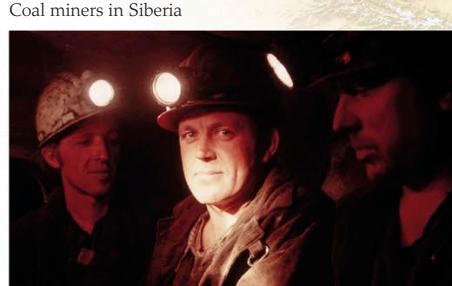
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION is the biggest country in the world, almost twice as big as either the US or China. It extends halfway around the world, crosses two continents, and spans 11 time zones. The vast region of Siberia alone is larger than Canada. Kazakhstan lies to its south and is a large but sparsely populated country. From 1917 to 1991, both countries were part of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), the world's first communist state. When the USSR collapsed, Russia, Kazakhstan, and the 13 other member republics gained independence. Today, Russia and Kazakhstan are both ruled by elected presidents. Both countries have a lot of fertile land, huge mineral deposits, and many other natural resources. However, Russia still has a very low life expectancy rate compared to other industrialized countries.

Lake Baikal is up to 6,365 ft (1,940 m) deep and contains more than 20 percent of the world's freshwater supply.



KAZAKH CULTURE
The majority of people in Kazakhstan are Kazakh Muslims. They were once a nomadic people who traveled around on horseback, herding their sheep.

Although about half of the Kazakhs live in rural areas, retaining a strong loyalty to their clans and families, the city of Almaty and the new, modern capital of Astana are growing quickly, due to wealth generated by oil and gas.



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NATURAL WEALTH
Siberia contains around a quarter of the world's natural gas reserves and has vast deposits of oil, as well as abundant minerals such as coal and precious metals including gold. However, many of these resources are inaccessible or in remote places, and the extreme winters make it difficult to extract them.

TAIGA FOREST

Russia's forests cover more than two-fifths of the country's territory. The taiga forest type extends across the Urals to cover much of Siberia. This type of forest is formed by small, widely spaced trees, with large areas of poorly drained marsh grasses.



Nenets man
guiding a sledge
and reindeer



NATIVE PEOPLES

NATIVE PEOPLES
During the winter months, temperatures in Siberia regularly drop to below -45°F (-43°C). The native people who live here, such as the Nenets people of the Yamal Peninsula region, have adapted well to their environment and survive by herding reindeer, hunting, and fishing.

RUSSIAN LANGUAGE

Russian is the official language of the Russian Federation, but many of the 152 other nationalities inside the federation speak their own language as well. The Russian language uses the Cyrillic alphabet, which was devised by Greek missionaries.



OLD CUSTOMS

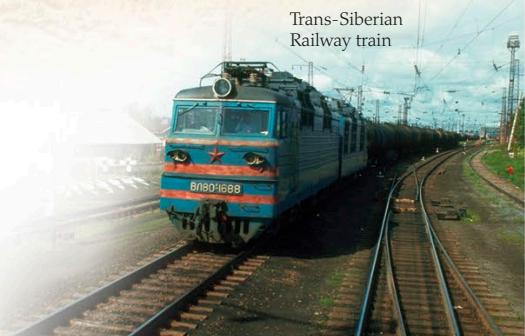
The communists tried to impose a Russian national culture on the native peoples of Siberia, but many of their customs survived in remote areas. Today, traditional costume, music, and dance are all flourishing throughout Siberia.



Russian dancer in traditional dress



Trans-Siberian Railway train



TRANS-SIBERIAN RAILWAY

The longest railway in the world runs 5,772 miles (9,289 km) from Moscow's Yaroslavl Station in the west, across Siberia to the Pacific port of Vladivostok in the east. The railway was started in 1891 and took 14 years to finish. Trains take eight days to complete the journey and cross eight time zones.

SIBERIAN WILDLIFE

SIBERIAN WILDLIFE
Siberia is home to a huge range of wildlife, including the rare Siberian tiger (the biggest tiger in the world), wolves, reindeer, and black and brown bears. The Baikal seal—found only in Lake Baikal—is the world's only freshwater seal.

The Near East

ISRAEL, JORDAN, SYRIA, AND LEBANON are the countries collectively known as the Near East. This is a land that is dominated by desert but also has fertile coastal plains. Lack of water is a constant problem here, although Israel has introduced computerized irrigation systems to extend the land suitable for agriculture. The creation of the Jewish state of Israel in 1948, in what was previously Arab-dominated Palestine, has led to almost continuous conflict in the region. Lately, the devastating civil war in Syria has added more tension in the whole Near East and Middle East region.

LEBANON REBUILT
Beirut, the capital of Lebanon, was once the commercial and banking center of the Arab world, but was devastated by the civil war that ravaged the country from 1975 to the early 1990s. Today, Beirut has regained some of its former glory. But Lebanon remains unstable, and is still dominated by its two powerful neighbors—Syria and Israel.

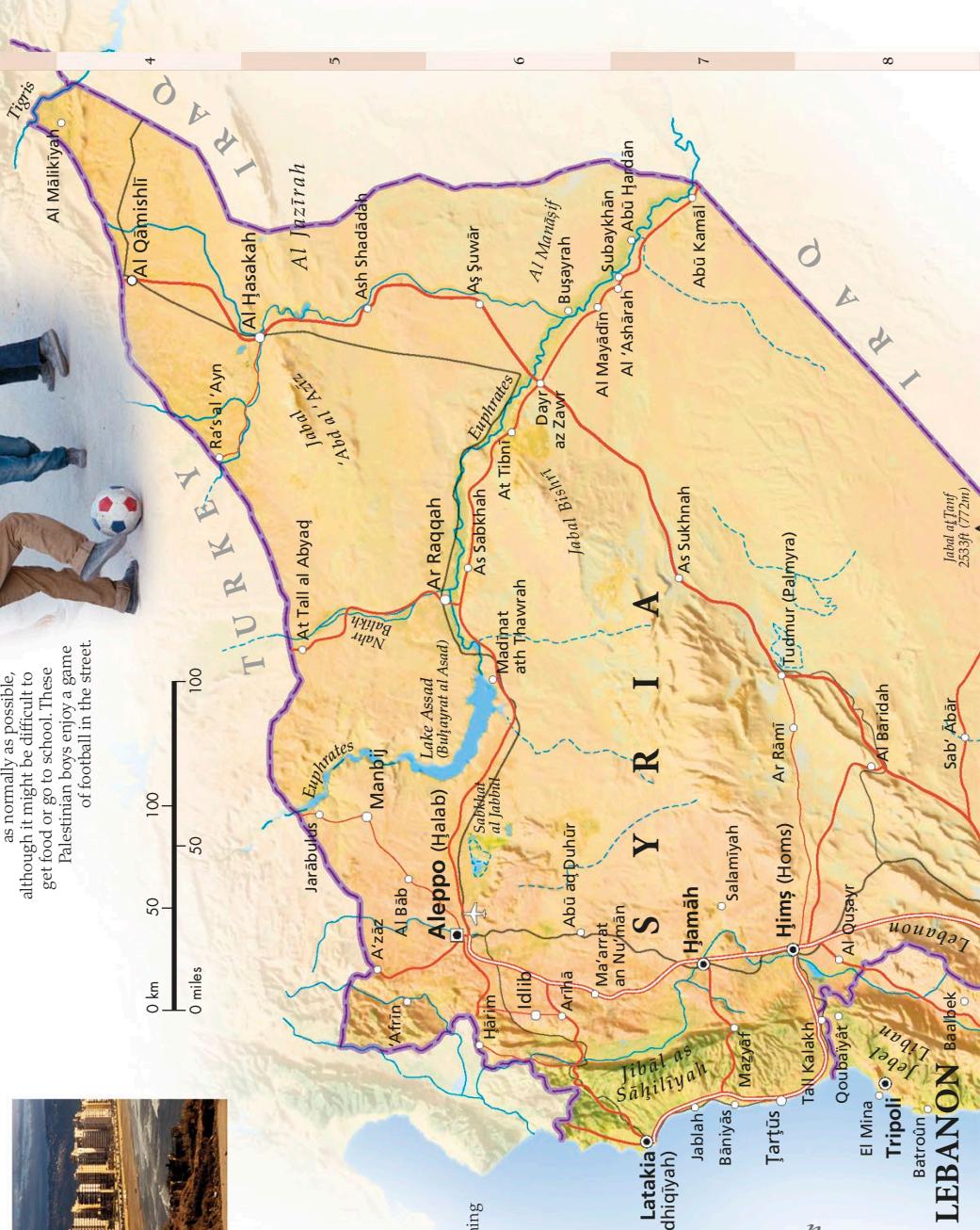


DAILY LIFE
Even during war or conflicts, people try to continue to live as normally as possible, although it might be difficult to get food or go to school. These Palestinian boys enjoy a game of football in the street.

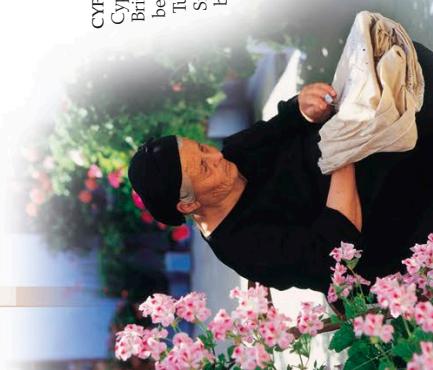


SYRIAN MARKET
Damascus is one of the oldest inhabited cities in the world. At its center is a massive souk (bazaar), full of stalls and small shops selling everything from carpets, textiles, and jewelry to household goods and fresh produce.

The map on
Cyprus's flag is copper-colored because Cyprus means "island of copper."

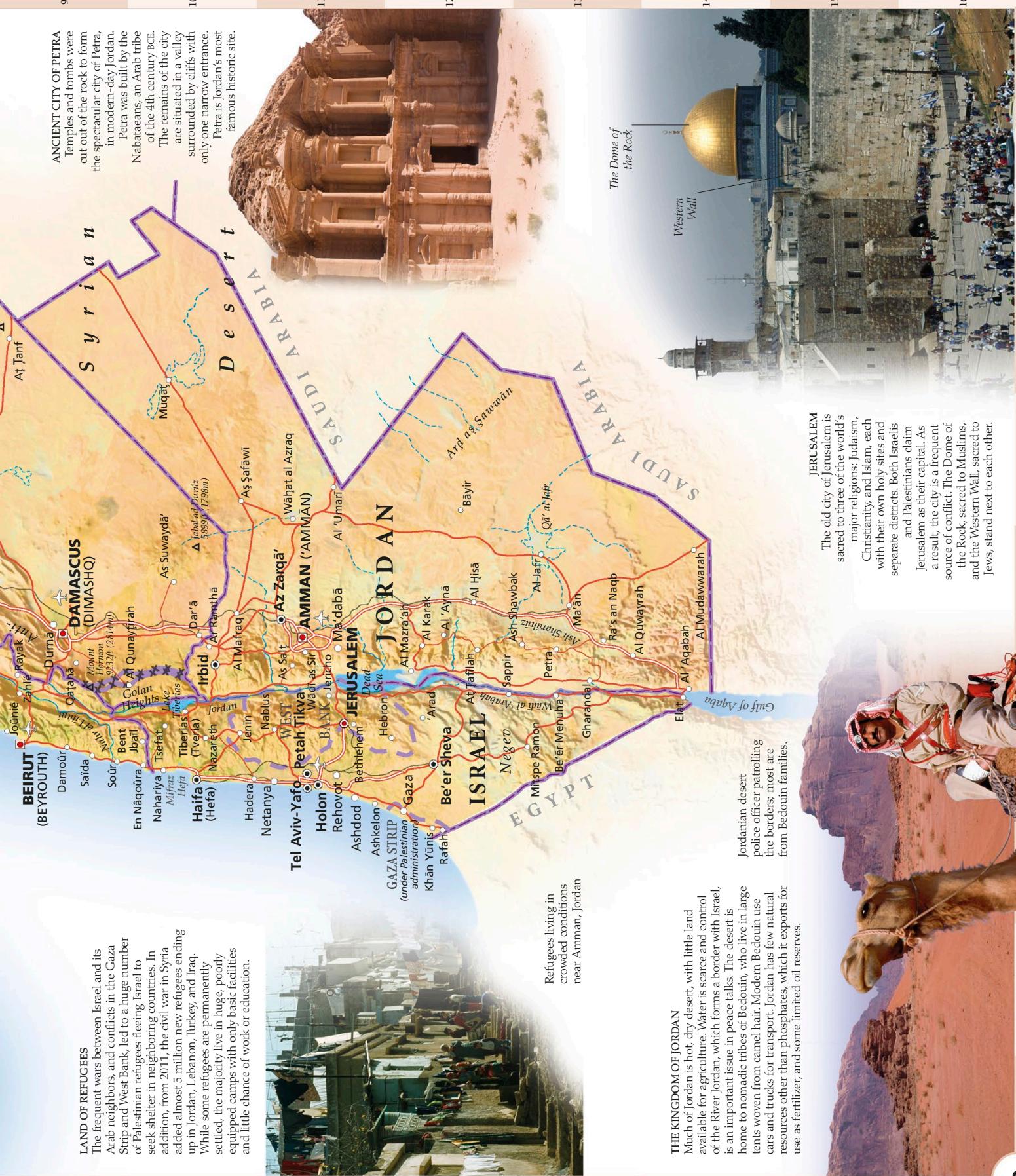


CYPRUS
Cyprus became independent from Britain in 1960. However, conflict between Greeks and Turks caused Turkey to invade the island in 1974. Since then, Cyprus has been split between a Turkish Cypriot north and a Greek Cypriot south. Most Cypriots make a living from farming grapes, citrus fruit, and olives, but tourism makes up a big part of the economy.



Woman making a lace-item to sell to tourists





The Middle East

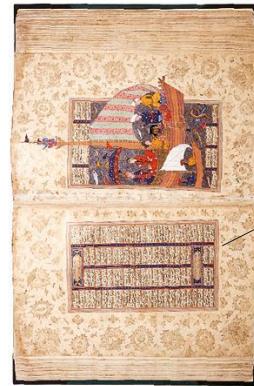
TH E MIDDLE EAST IS HOME to the world's oldest civilizations, which grew up in the Tigris and Euphrates river valleys of present-day Iraq more than 6,000 years ago. The world's first towns and cities were built here. Since then, many powerful empires have dominated the region, all leaving a wealth of buildings and monuments behind them. Today, the Middle East is at the center of the Islamic world. The population of every country is Arab and speaks Arabic, except Iran, where half the population are Farsi-speaking Persians.

DESERT WARS

Most international boundaries in the Middle East were drawn by the former European colonial powers, and have often caused conflict. Iraq and Iran fought a bitter eight-year war along their common border from 1980. Since then, further conflicts between Iraq and international forces, as well as against the so-called "Islamic State" terrorist organization, have caused much suffering here.

OIL PRODUCTION

The Middle East is the world's major oil producer—Saudi Arabia alone produces more than 12 percent of the world's supply. Oil has brought great wealth to the region, in particular to Saudi Arabia and the Gulf States.



THE IRANIANS

About half the total population of Iran are Persians, who live in the center and north of the country. Large numbers of Azeris live in the northwest, while Kurds live in the west and Baluchis in the southeast. The official language of Iran is Farsi, but many other languages are also spoken.



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B C D E F G H

Central Asia

THE FIVE CENTRAL ASIAN NATIONS rise up from hot deserts in the west and south to cold, high mountain ranges in the east. The area has oil, gas, and mineral reserves, as well as other natural resources, but water is often scarce and agriculture is limited. The four northern nations were once part of the Soviet Union and are now independent nations. Afghanistan is a landlocked country and three-quarters of its land is inaccessible terrain. It was invaded by the Soviet Union in 1979, prompting a continuous series of civil wars. The 2001 invasion by American and other Western forces overthrew the fundamentalist Islamic regime and led to democratic presidential elections, but Afghanistan is still unstable. Wrecked by more than 30 years of warfare, it is one of the poorest and most deprived nations on Earth.



One of the world's largest gold mines is at Muruntau in the Kyzyl Kum desert in Uzbekistan.



FESTIVALS IN AFGHANISTAN

Despite the horrors of recent years, the Afghans still celebrate important Islamic festivals, notably Eid ul-Fitr, which marks the end of the holy month of Ramadan. People visit friends and family and eat a festive meal together. The art of storytelling still flourishes in Afghanistan, as does the *attan*, the national dance.

An Afghan man carries bread with which to break the Ramadan fast.



Children in Kabul, Afghanistan, made homeless by war

LIFE EXPECTANCY

As a result of war, drought, and poverty, people in Afghanistan can expect to live an average of only 51 years, one of the lowest life expectancy rates in the world. Infant mortality is extremely high. Health services have almost completely collapsed and few trained doctors and nurses are available to help the sick.

Many children have been orphaned or made homeless, and few have been able to go to school.



ARAL SEA ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTER
The inland Aral Sea, between Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan, was once a vast, thriving freshwater lake full of fish. Over the years, the rivers flowing into it were diverted or drained to provide irrigation for crops. The sea has now shrunk to less than one-tenth of its original size, reducing the numbers of fish, and leaving former fishing villages and rusting ships stranded inland.

MOUNTAIN LIFE
The two small eastern republics of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan are both very mountainous and are subject to earthquakes and landslides. Only about six per cent of Tajikistan can be used for growing crops, whereas Kyrgyzstan is more fertile.

LOCAL WEALTH
Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Kyrgyzstan all grow considerable crops of cotton—Uzbekistan is the world's sixth largest producer—as well as fruit and vegetables. The three countries are also rich in mineral deposits, such as gold, mercury, sulphur, and uranium, and have reserves of coal, oil, and natural gas.

THE TAJIKS
The majority of people of Tajikistan are Iranian in origin and speak Tajik, which is related to Farsi. The minority Uzbeks are made up mainly of descendants of Turkic-speaking (related to Turkish) nomads. This division has led to ethnic tension between the two groups. Civil war between the government and Islamic rebels in the east of the country during the 1990s led to an exodus of Uzbeks and Russians, who had moved into the country when it was part of the Soviet Union.

THE SILK ROAD
The Silk Road is the ancient trading route that brought silks and other fine goods from China through central Asia and the Middle East to Europe. Many cities were built along its route, including Buxoro (Bukhara, Uzbekistan), an important place of pilgrimage for Muslims, and Samarcand, which contains some of the finest Islamic architecture in the world. Many of these cities are now UNESCO-designated World Heritage Sites.

The map shows the Aral Sea shrinking over time, with a 3D inset showing the current state. It highlights the mountainous regions of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, showing rivers like the Syr Darya and Amudarya. It also shows cotton harvesting in Uzbekistan and traditional horsemen in Tajikistan. The Silk Road route is marked across the region.

ARAL SEA today

Stages of shrinking since the 1960s shown in green shades

KAZAKHSTAN

KYRGYZSTAN

TAJIKISTAN

CHINA

PAKISTAN

ISTAN

Scale: 0 km / 0 miles

THE SIGHTS

Tilla-Kari, a 17th-century Islamic religious school in Samarcand, Uzbekistan

Tajik horsemen in Pamir, Tajikistan

A man in front of his home, called a yurt, in western Pamir, Tajikistan

Jengish Chokusu/Tömür Feng 24,406ft (7439m)

Harvesting cotton in Uzbekistan

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Indian Subcontinent

SEPARATED FROM the rest of Asia by the Himalayas, the Indian subcontinent is home to more than one-fifth of the world's population—almost 1.7 billion people. They have a long and complex history, form many different ethnic groups, speak a wide variety of languages, and worship many different gods. While some people in these countries are wealthy, many others live in poverty. Tensions between and within countries in this region have sometimes erupted in warfare. The Indian subcontinent is often affected by natural disasters, notably cyclones in the Bay of Bengal, and earthquakes and floods in Pakistan. However, India, the most heavily populated nation and once prone to famine, is now more than self-sufficient in food. All but Nepal and Bhutan were once ruled by the British, whose legacy can be seen in the common language of English, in some architecture, the vast railway system, and in sport—most notably cricket.

MONSOON

From May/June to September, warm, moist southerly winds sweep up from the Indian Ocean and the Bay of Bengal across the subcontinent. Once these winds meet dry land, moisture falls as monsoon rainfall. Although this irrigates the land and replenishes the water supply, it can also cause severe flooding.



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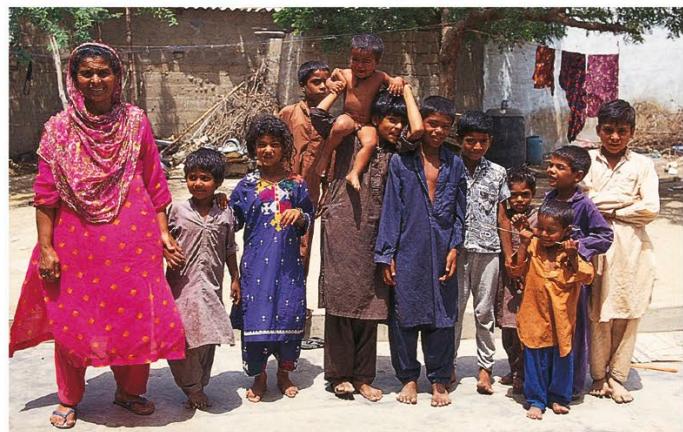
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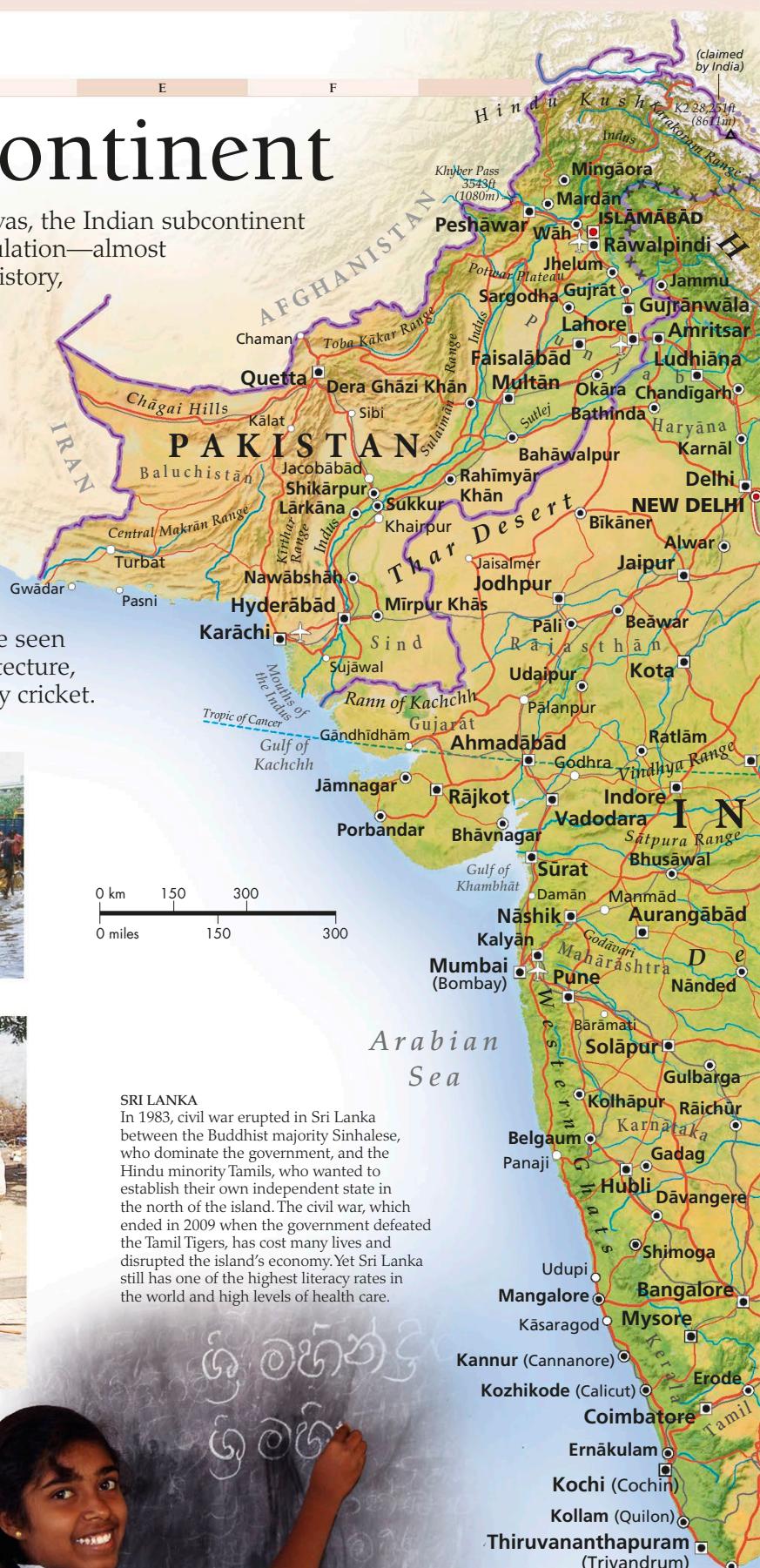
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FAMILY LIFE IN PAKISTAN

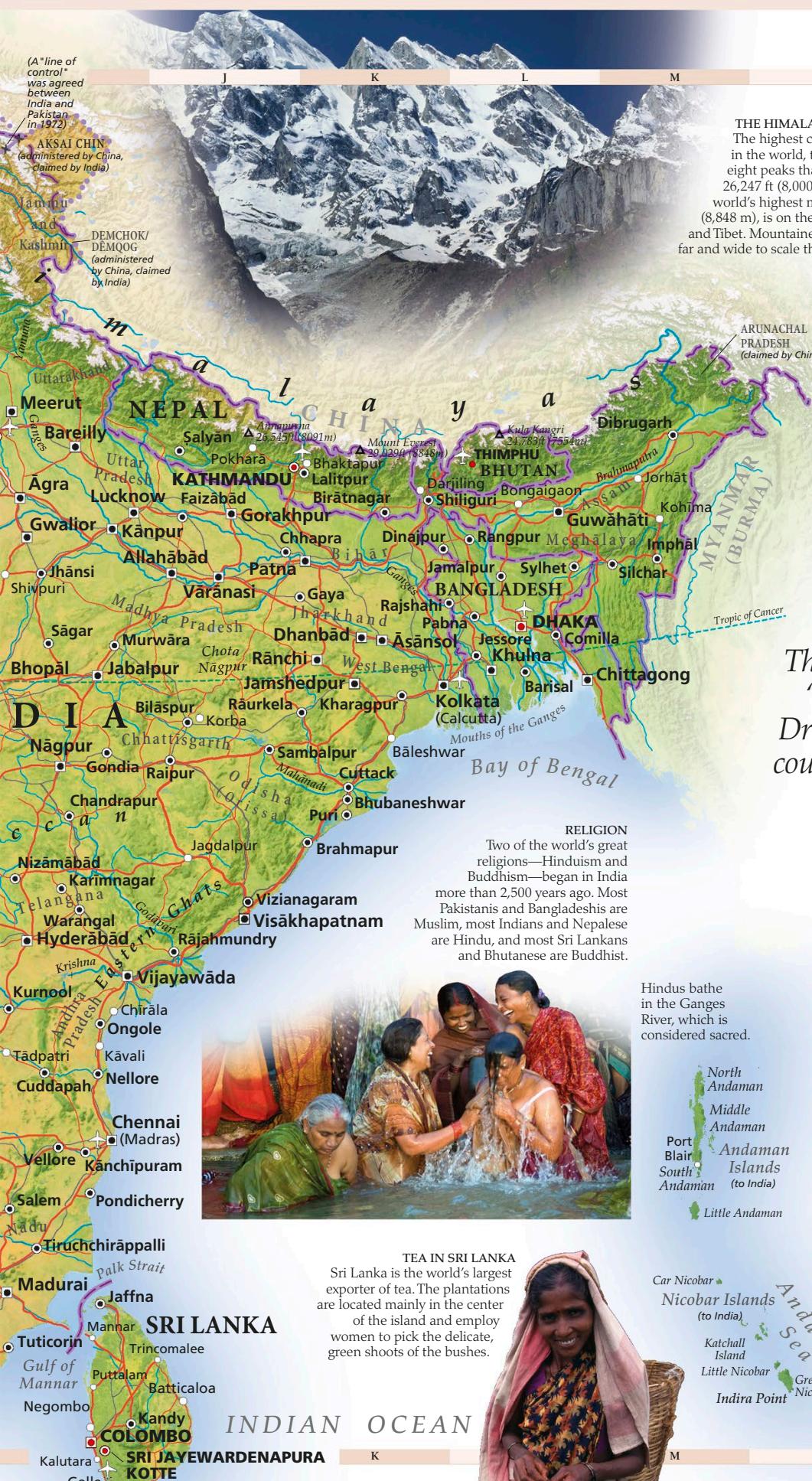
Pakistanis have strong ties to their extended families, and often many generations live and work together in family-run businesses. Smaller family units, however, are becoming more common in urban areas. Although some women hold prominent positions in public and commercial life, such as Benazir Bhutto who was prime minister twice before she was assassinated in December 2007, most women do not work outside the home.

School child,
Sri Lanka



SRI LANKA

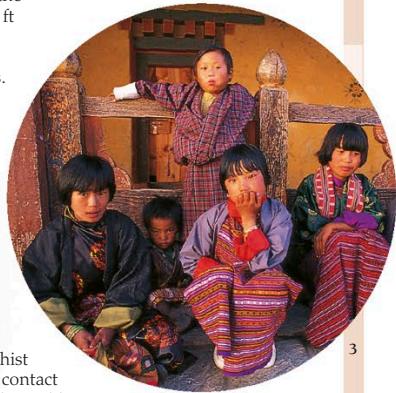
In 1983, civil war erupted in Sri Lanka between the Buddhist majority Sinhalese, who dominate the government, and the Hindu minority Tamils, who wanted to establish their own independent state in the north of the island. The civil war, which ended in 2009 when the government defeated the Tamil Tigers, has cost many lives and disrupted the island's economy. Yet Sri Lanka still has one of the highest literacy rates in the world and high levels of health care.



THE HIMALAYAS

The highest chain of mountains in the world, the Himalayas have eight peaks that are more than 26,247 ft (8,000 m) high. Everest, the world's highest mountain at 29,029 ft (8,848 m), is on the border of Nepal and Tibet. Mountaineers come from far and wide to scale these massive peaks.

Bhutanese people



BHUTAN

Hidden away in the Himalayas, the people of Bhutan are devoutly Buddhist and have little contact with the outside world. A minority of the population are Nepalese Hindus who came to the country in the first half of the last century. Most Bhutanese live in the fertile river valleys of the center and south of the country. Traditional dress—the *kira* for women and the *gho* for men—is widely worn.

The name Bhutan means "Land of the Thunder Dragon" in Dzongkha, the country's official language.

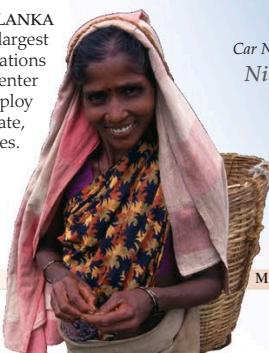
RELIGION

Two of the world's great religions—Hinduism and Buddhism—began in India more than 2,500 years ago. Most Pakistanis and Bangladeshis are Muslim, most Indians and Nepalese are Hindu, and most Sri Lankans and Bhutanese are Buddhist.

Hindus bathe in the Ganges River, which is considered sacred.



TEA IN SRI LANKA
Sri Lanka is the world's largest exporter of tea. The plantations are located mainly in the center of the island and employ women to pick the delicate, green shoots of the bushes.



BOLLYWOOD

More films are produced in Mumbai (Bombay), India—more than 1,000 a year—than in the whole of the US, turning “Bollywood,” as it is known, into a major cultural center. Famous for their musical routines and glamorous stars, Bollywood films generally had historical and social themes. Today, these have expanded to include more contemporary stories as the films have found a fan base in the large Indian diaspora across the world.

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B C D E F G H

Western China and Mongolia

CHINA IS A LAND of great geographical diversity and amazing landscapes. More than 90 percent of the population are Han Chinese—descendents of people who settled here more than 5,000 years ago. This region includes western China, Mongolia, and Tibet. Mongolia gained its independence from China in 1911 and is now an independent democracy. Tibet is currently governed by China. Compared with eastern China, this region is sparsely populated and characterized by vast deserts, remote mountains, and extreme temperatures.



THE MONGOLIANS
Most of the people living in Mongolia are Khalkh Mongols. About 70 percent of Mongols now live in urban areas, but some still lead traditional lives as nomadic herders. They live in large felt tents, called *yurts*. Smoke from the central iron stove escapes through a chimney in the roof.

In traditional Mongolian khoomi singing, men are able to sing several notes at once.

兒童百科全書

CHINESE WRITING
The Chinese alphabet is not made up of letters. Instead, separate symbols stand for individual words or parts of words. There are more than 50,000 characters in the Chinese language. The same symbols are used everywhere in China, and no matter what Chinese language or dialect people speak, they can all read the same script.

Chinese symbols, whose strokes have to be written in a certain order

DESERT LANDS

The cold, rocky Gobi Desert (right) stretches for more than 380,000 sq miles (1,000,000 sq km) through Mongolia and northeast China. Many dinosaur bones and eggs have been found here, making it one of the richest dinosaur fossil regions in the world.



MONASTERIES IN MONGOLIA

Under communism, Mongolians were forbidden to practice their traditional Buddhist faith, which was viewed as superstitious and unscientific. Since the democratic government was set up in 1990, some monasteries have reopened. Many people, however, no longer follow any religion.



Western China and Mongolia

Map of Western China and Mongolia

FESTIVAL OF NAADAM
Each July, people all over Mongolia celebrate the sports festival of Naadam. Three sports—wrestling (above), archery, and horse riding—are the focus of the festivities. The skills needed to take part in these activities are those that would have helped people survive the traditional nomadic lifestyle.

PEOPLE OF TIBET
Most Tibetans live in the valleys of the Tibetan plateau, high in the Himalayas and surrounded by the world's tallest mountains. Tibetans have their own language and culture. Recently, many Han Chinese have settled in this region.

GREAT WALL OF CHINA
About 2,200 years ago, approximately 300,000 slaves began to build China's enormous Great Wall. Originally built to protect China's northern borders, it is the longest human-made structure ever built and stretches from central Asia to the Yellow Sea, a distance of 3,980 miles (6,400 km).

TRADITIONAL MEDICINE
As well as modern medicine, many Chinese still use alternative remedies. Traditional medicine is based on the belief that health is achieved by balancing a person's mind and body—their yin and yang. Any imbalance is treated with medicines made from dried plant materials (left). Some animals, including Asiatic bears, are now endangered due to the demand for parts used in traditional medicine.

Buddhist prayer flags

BUDDHIST TIBET
Many Tibetans are devout Buddhists. Their religious leader, the Dalai Lama, used to live in Lhasa. In 1951, however, Tibet became part of China and the government restricted the people's religious freedom and lifestyle. This has resulted in tension between the Tibetans and the Chinese government. The Dalai Lama now lives in exile in India.



B C D E F G H

Eastern China and Korea

CHINA HAS A LARGE population of almost 1.4 billion, with two-thirds living in eastern China. For thousands of years, powerful emperors ruled China. During this period, Chinese civilization was very advanced, but much of the population lived in poverty. In 1949, after a communist revolution, the People's Republic of China was established. Food, education, and health care became available to more people, but there was also a loss of freedom. Today, Chinese people have more freedom, but the government still has tight control over their lives. The Korean peninsula is divided politically into north and south, and political tensions continue to exist between the two governments. Since 1949, Taiwan has been in dispute with China over who governs the mountainous island of Taiwan.



HONG KONG

For 100 years, Hong Kong was a British colony. Then, in 1997, it was returned to China. These small islands are some of the most densely populated parts of the world. Most people live and work in high-rise buildings. It has a prosperous economy at the heart of global finance and the people there have one of the world's highest life expectancies.

Skyline of Hong Kong with a Chinese junk in the foreground

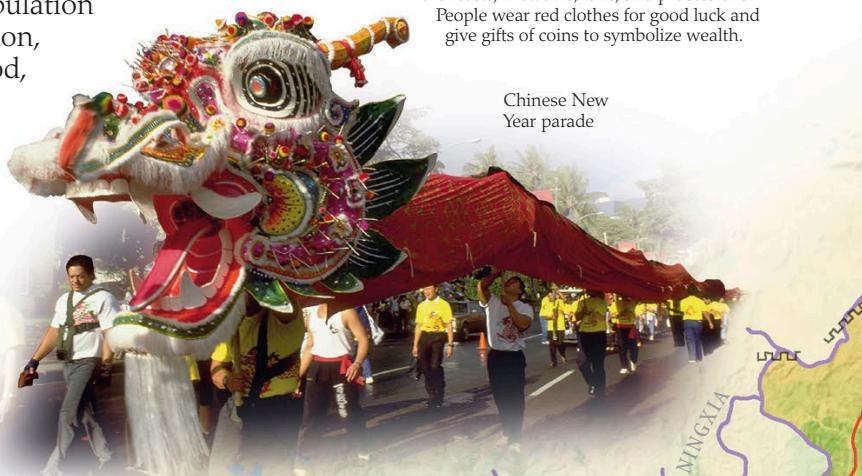
SMALL FAMILIES

China's population grows by millions each year. In 1979, to try to control the rising population, the government brought in policies to stop parents from having more than one child. As a result, many Chinese children do not have brothers and sisters, but this might change as a two-child policy was introduced in 2016.



PADDY FIELDS

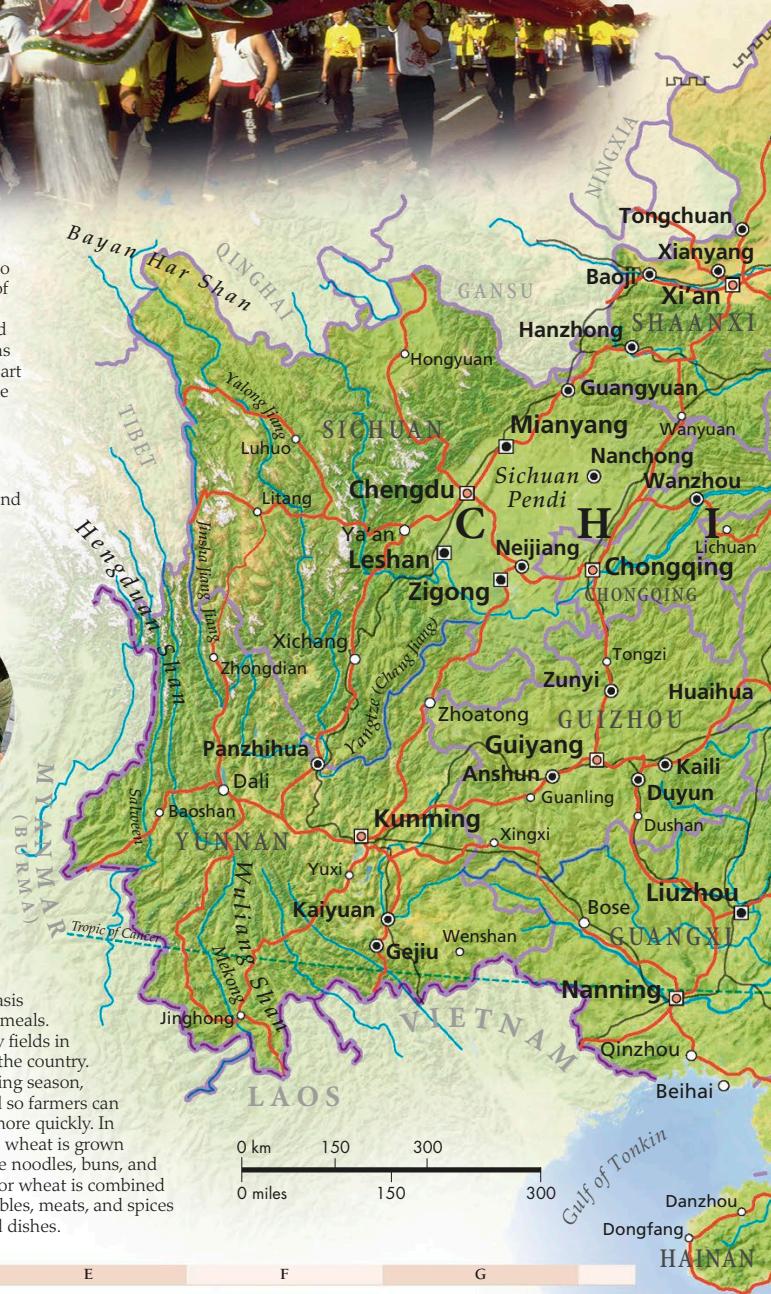
Rice forms the basis of most Chinese meals. It grows in paddy fields in the southeast of the country. During the growing season, fields are flooded so farmers can grow more rice more quickly. In the drier regions, wheat is grown and used to make noodles, buns, and dumplings. Rice or wheat is combined with local vegetables, meats, and spices to create regional dishes.

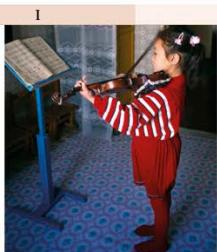


NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Chinese New Year, also known as the Spring Festival, is the country's most important festival. It is usually held in January or February. Good-luck messages decorate buildings and there are feasts, fireworks, fairs, and processions. People wear red clothes for good luck and give gifts of coins to symbolize wealth.

Chinese New Year parade





NORTH KOREA

North Korea is an independent communist country, but since the break up of the Soviet Union it has lost many of its trading partners and is now very poor. However, the country has a good education system and a high literacy rate. Schooling is free and compulsory for all children for 10 years.



CHINESE INDUSTRY
After the revolutionary leader Mao Zedong died in 1976, China's economy opened up. Industry and manufacturing was encouraged and today China plays a big part in the global economy. Many people are moving into cities for better-paid jobs.



SOUTH KOREA

South Korea is a democratic nation with a thriving electronics and machinery industry. A quarter of the population lives in or near the capital city, Seoul. The Internet developed quickly in South Korea and today almost 90 percent of the population use it, with the highest Internet connection speed in the world.

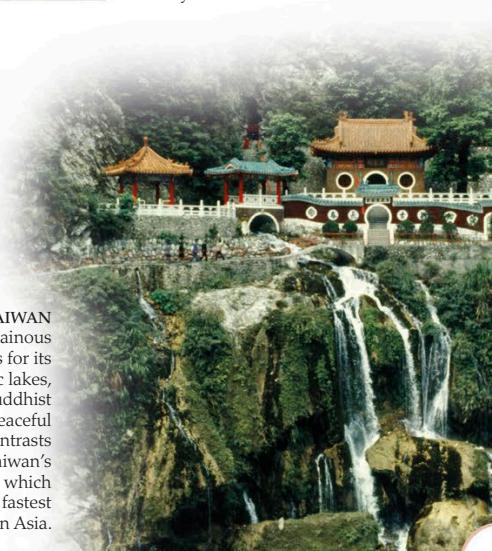


The majority of the Chinese population lives in just 15 percent of the total land area.



MODERN SHANGHAI

China's largest city is Shanghai. More than 23 million people live in this wealthy east-coast port. International trade has transformed Shanghai's skyline, which is now crowded with high-rise buildings and modern shopping malls. The center of town still has some old western-style buildings that have survived from the days before the revolution.



BEAUTY OF TAIWAN

Taiwan's mountainous countryside is famous for its natural beauty, scenic lakes, and many ornate Buddhist temples. This peaceful environment contrasts sharply with Taiwan's capital city, Taipei, which is one of the fastest growing cities in Asia.



Japan

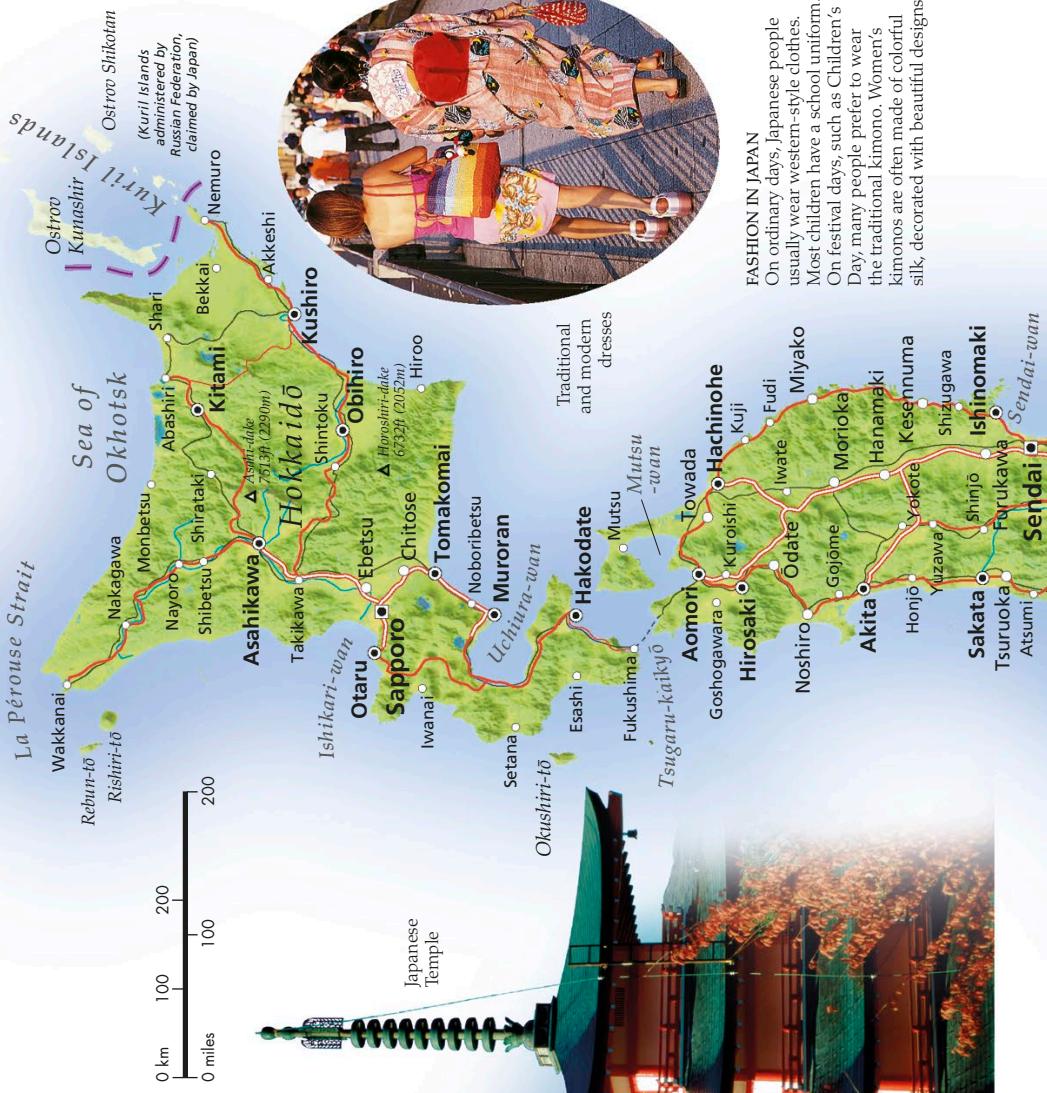
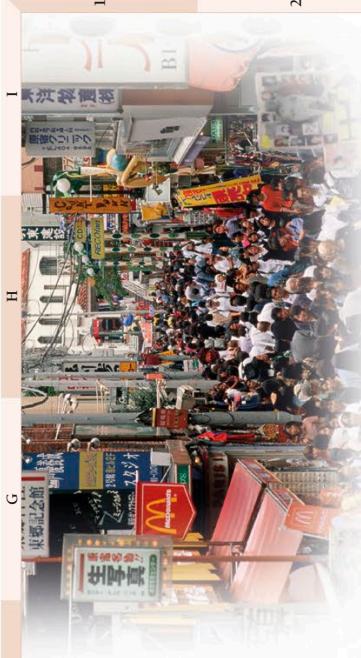
JAPAN IS SITUATED in the north Pacific Ocean off the coast of the Asian continent. It is made up of four main islands and more than 3,000 smaller ones. The Japanese people have a distinctive culture based on traditions built up over thousands of years. They have their own language and script.

School children all learn to read and write both in the traditional script and using letters. Social rules in Japan are strict, and respect and politeness are considered very important. Most people bow when greeting one another, for example. Japan is a very modern country, however, with one of the world's most technologically advanced societies. Its economy is based on the development and production of cutting-edge electronics and vehicles, and most families have the latest consumer goods.

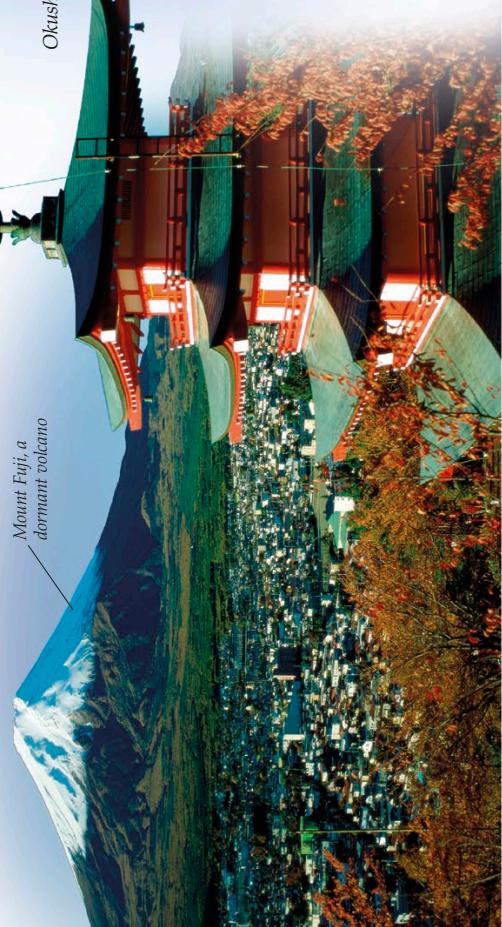
EARTHQUAKES
The islands of Japan are situated in an area where four of Earth's tectonic plates meet. This causes frequent earthquakes. Japanese school children are taught how to keep safe during an earthquake by sheltering in a doorway or under a table.



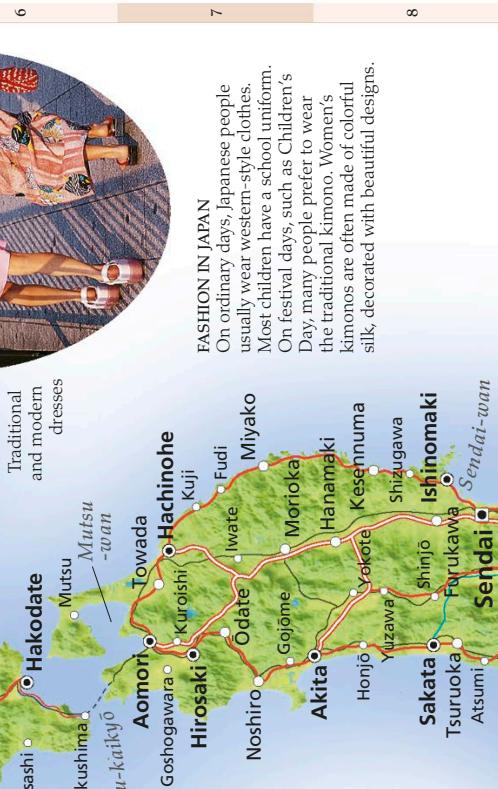
OVERTOURISM
Most of the country's 127 million people live in cities in the flatter, coastal areas. Tokyo and Osaka are very crowded, and homes here are usually very small and are designed to make the most of the limited space.



FASHION IN JAPAN
On ordinary days Japanese people usually wear western-style clothes. Most children have a school uniform. On festival days, such as Children's Day, many people prefer to wear the traditional kimono. Women's kimonos are often made of colorful silk, decorated with beautiful designs.



MOUNT FUJI, a dormant volcano



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Mainland SE Asia



THE PENINSULA of Southeast Asia lies directly to the south of India and China, between the Pacific and Indian Oceans. It is made up of Myanmar (Burma), Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. Over thousands of years, the influence of people from nearby India, China, and Arabian countries has helped to give this region a diverse mix of cultures and religions. Much of the land here is mountainous, with half the region covered in forest. Most people live in coastal or lowland regions, where they can grow crops such as rice, raise cattle, and catch fish. In recent years, the electronics industry has also become an important part of southeast Asian economies, especially in Thailand.

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ORPHANS IN CAMBODIA

A high number of Cambodian children live in orphanages, some because they have lost their parents, others due to poverty.



Cambodian orphanage

GROWING RICE

Rice is the most important crop in Southeast Asia. It grows well in wet lowland areas, such as the Mekong River delta in Vietnam, where the plants can be grown in paddy fields. Most rice is planted and harvested by women.



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RURAL LIVING
Most people in Southeast Asia live in rural areas rather than cities and farming is the most common occupation. The steep, mountainous regions are often unsuitable for growing crops or raising cattle, however, and many farming communities are based in the fertile river valleys and deltas. There are more than 200 villages on and around this lake (right) in Myanmar.



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Mainland Southeast Asia >>



Angkor Wat

decorated with scenes showing myucca scenes of Hindu gods and great royal processions. The complex was uncovered in 1861 by French naturalist Henri Mouhot, following stories of a "lost city" in the jungle.

...and the first time I saw the ocean, I was hooked.

Angkor Wat
The impressive temple complex was built in 1113 CE by the Khmer king Suryavarman II. The buildings, shown below, are made of stone and decorated with relief sculptures showing scenes of Hindu gods and great royal processions. It was uncovered in 1861 by French explorer Henri Mouhot, following stories of a "lost city" in the jungle.

A new type of gibbon, named after Star Wars' Luke Skywalker, was discovered in the mountains between Myanmar and China in 2017.

THAI BEACHES Tourism is a major industry for Thailand. Popular destinations include the country's lively capital, Bangkok, and the beautiful island beach resorts (below). Phuket, Thailand's largest island, is often referred to as the "Pearl of the South."

MONASTIC LIFE The main religion in mainland Southeast Asia is Buddhism. Nearly all Thai villages have their own temple, or wat, which is the center of village life. Most young men spend some time in a monastery, where they have few possessions and spend much of their time in meditation.

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A monk in a red robe stands on a boat, holding a large golden statue of Buddha. The boat is decorated with colorful ribbons and fabrics. In the background, a large rock formation rises from the sea under a clear blue sky.



B C D E F G H

Maritime SE Asia

To the south of the Asian mainland lies maritime Southeast Asia. It includes Malaysia, Indonesia, East Timor, Singapore, and the Philippines. Part of Malaysia is connected to the mainland, but the rest of the region is made up of more than 20,000 islands that stretch across the Pacific and Indian Oceans. Lying near the Equator, the climate is mostly hot, wet, and humid. Most of the larger islands are mountainous and covered in dense forest, and many people live in villages near rivers or on the coast. Like the rest of Southeast Asia, the population is made up of people from many different cultural backgrounds speaking hundreds of different languages. The most common religion is Islam, except in the Philippines, where most people are Roman Catholic.



Ubudiah Mosque, Malaysia

SINGAPORE

As the financial and industrial center of Southeast Asia, Singapore is one of the wealthiest countries in this region. It has a thriving high-tech industry and a high standard of living. There are strictly enforced laws forbidding littering and other small crimes. The death penalty is imposed for drug smuggling. The government also controls the press and restricts the Internet.



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PEOPLE OF MALAYSIA

Ethnic Malaysians make up 50 percent of the population and are known as bumiputera, meaning "sons of the soil." Most Malaysians are Muslim. Ethnic Chinese form 23 percent of the population.

**GREAT APES**

The orangutans are great apes that live only in Borneo and the northern corner of Sumatra. They spend most of their time in the trees, even building tree-top nests in which to sleep. Sadly, the orangutan is endangered because of deforestation.



THE SULTAN OF BRUNEI
Brunei is ruled by a sultan who lives in the world's largest palace. The sultan is one of the wealthiest men in the world.

South China
Sea

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STORMS AND VOLCANOES
The islands of the Philippines are on a fault line and form part of the "Pacific Ring of Fire"—an area prone to volcanic activity and earthquakes. When Mount Pinatubo, on the island of Luzon, erupted in 1991, it destroyed more than 40,000 homes.

*In Malay,
orangutan
means
"man of the
jungle."*



THE PHILIPPINES
The people of the Philippines are called Filipinos and are mostly of Malay descent. It is estimated that around 25 percent of the population lives in poverty. As income is higher in the cities, many people move there in the hope of escaping poverty. However, lack of adequate housing means that many poorer families have to live in crowded slums.

Children living and working in "Smokey Mountain," Manila



Machine
replanting rice
seedlings

Mount Pinatubo erupting in 1991



RICE RESEARCH
Rice is the primary food source for half the world's population. Near Manila, in the Philippines, scientists are now experimenting with ways of creating rice plants that produce greater yields. New varieties are also being developed to grow faster, allowing farmers to harvest and replant several times during one growing season.

OIL RICHES
Oil was first discovered in Brunei in 1929. Since then, oil has also been drilled offshore. Brunei's most important natural resource has made the country very wealthy. Its people enjoy free health care and education, and pay no taxes.



B C D E F G H

Indian Ocean

THE THIRD LARGEST ocean in the world, the Indian Ocean is bounded by Africa, Asia, Australasia, and the Southern Ocean. The ocean contains some 5,000 islands. Madagascar and Sri Lanka are large, but most of the islands are small and ringed by coral reefs. The people of the Maldives have very mixed origins, incorporating Indian, Sinhalese, Arab, and African heritage, while two-thirds of those living on Mauritius are Indian immigrants and their descendants. Altogether, about one-fifth of the world's population live on this ocean's warm shores. Those along the northern coasts are often threatened by monsoon rain and tropical storms, which can cause severe flooding.

CORAL ISLANDS

Coral is a living organism formed in warm water by tiny sea creatures known as polyps. These creatures build limestone skeletons around themselves, which accumulate over thousands of years. As sea levels change, this coral can be exposed as low-lying islands or submerged as reefs.



THE SEYCHELLES

The Seychelles consists of around 155 islands—some are coral islands while others are mountainous and made of granite. Most Seychellois people are Creoles—people of mixed African, Asian, and European ancestry. There are also small Chinese and Indian communities.



Market on the largest Seychelles island, Mahé

ENVIRONMENT

Beautiful shells are for sale on this beach in South Africa. If the trader only collects empty shells, no harm is done, but in many parts of the world, dealers hunt live shellfish, sea turtles, and rare species of starfish and sea urchins. Nations such as the Maldives take great care to protect their environment.



LIMITED TOURISM

The tropical climate, sandy beaches, beautiful coral reefs, and abundant marine life make both the Seychelles and the Maldives ideal tourist destinations. These same features also make them extremely attractive to scuba divers. However, the fragile environment of both island nations means that they have deliberately tried to make them exclusive, attracting only limited numbers of wealthy visitors, instead of pursuing mass tourism.



THE MALDIVES

The Maldives is a low-lying archipelago of 1,190 small, coral islands, of which 200 are inhabited. The main industries are fishing—still carried out by traditional pole-and-line methods to conserve stocks—and tourism. Holiday resorts are on separate islands to those inhabited by the locals, so as not to disturb the Maldivian peoples' traditional Muslim lifestyles.





SALT FROM THE SEA

Salt is essential for life and has been traded here for centuries. People around the Indian Ocean make salt by flooding large, flat areas with sea water. As the water evaporates in the sun, salt crystals are left behind. These are then collected, drained, and cleaned.

Collecting salt
in the Maldives



MANGROVES
A lot of the coast in the tropical part of the Indian Ocean is fringed with mangrove forests. These amazing trees live in brackish water and have long roots that trap sediment and protect the coast from erosion. Without these trees, settlements and land along the coast are in danger of being damaged by high tides and strong storms.

The moutia dance of the Seychelles was brought to the islands by African slaves in the 1700s.

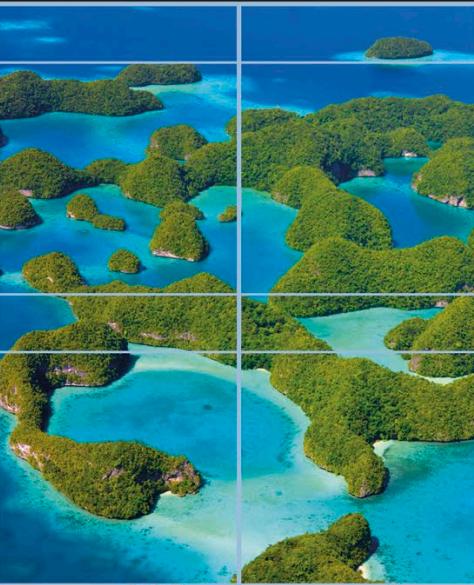
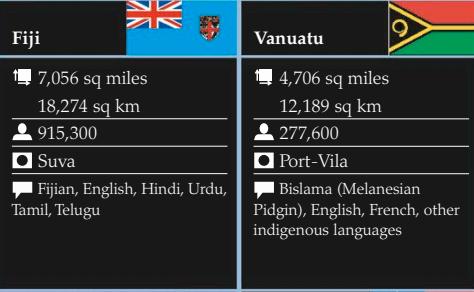
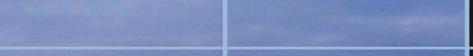
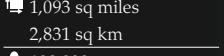
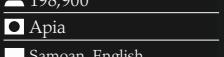
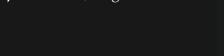
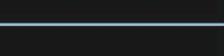
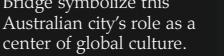
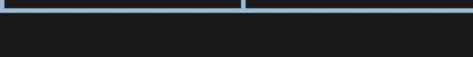
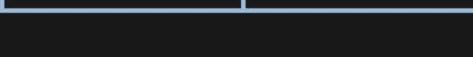
INTERNATIONAL SEAWAYS

The Indian Ocean contains some of the busiest and most important shipping routes in the world. Smaller ships sail to and from the Mediterranean Sea and the ports of Europe and America through the Red Sea and Suez Canal, while larger freighters and oil tankers from the Persian Gulf sail around the Cape of Good Hope at the southern tip of Africa.



AUSTRALASIA & OCEANIA

Unknown to the outside world before the 17th century, Australia is a still a sparsely inhabited land where most people live in cities. At its heart is a great arid desert, in stark contrast to the islands of Oceania where all life revolves around the glittering ocean. The 3,000 named islands are grouped into nations, listed below in order of land area.

Australia		The thickly wooded Rock Islands of Palau near the Philippines are ancient reefs raised above sea level, fringed by coral sand beaches and blue lagoons.		Micronesia
				Palau
				
				Marshall Islands
				
				
				
				
				
				
				
				
				

<p>The ancestors of today's Pacific Islanders reached their islands by crossing the ocean in giant canoes. Many islanders still rely on the sea for a living.</p>				
Tuvalu  <input type="checkbox"/> 10 sq miles <input type="checkbox"/> 26 sq km <input type="checkbox"/> 11,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Fongafale (Funafuti Atol) <input type="checkbox"/> Tuvaluan, Kiribati, English	Nauru  <input type="checkbox"/> 8 sq miles <input type="checkbox"/> 21 sq km <input type="checkbox"/> 9,600 <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Nauruan, Kiribati, Chinese, Tuvaluan, English	<p>The colorfully named Champagne Pool is one of many hot springs in Rotorua, New Zealand—one of the most volcanically active countries in the world.</p>		



SW Pacific

THE ISLANDS of the southwest Pacific are home to people of many different cultures and languages. The islands are divided into three general groups based on their location and the similarities between their peoples.

The Polynesian islands to the east include Tonga, Samoa, the Cook Islands, and Tahiti.

Melanesia includes Fiji, the Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu. The smallest group, Micronesia, includes the Marshall, Kiribati, and Caroline Islands.

The first Europeans came to the southwest Pacific in the 1600s, several thousand years after Melanesians, Micronesians, and Polynesians first arrived.

LAND OF MANY LANGUAGES

Historically, the mountainous landscape of Papua New Guinea made contact between the villages difficult. As a result of many years of isolation, some villages developed their own individual languages. Nationwide, about 800 different languages evolved.

Men in Papua New Guinea wearing traditional make-up

Beads, shells, and feathers form part of the decoration.

A MIX OF RELIGIONS

Christianity is the dominant religion on most southwest Pacific islands. However Islam and Hinduism are also practiced. Many people also retain beliefs from traditional religions that existed before the islands were colonized by people from Europe and Asia.



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Vanuatu tribespeople dancing at a religious ceremony

I J K L M N O P

FOOD CROPS

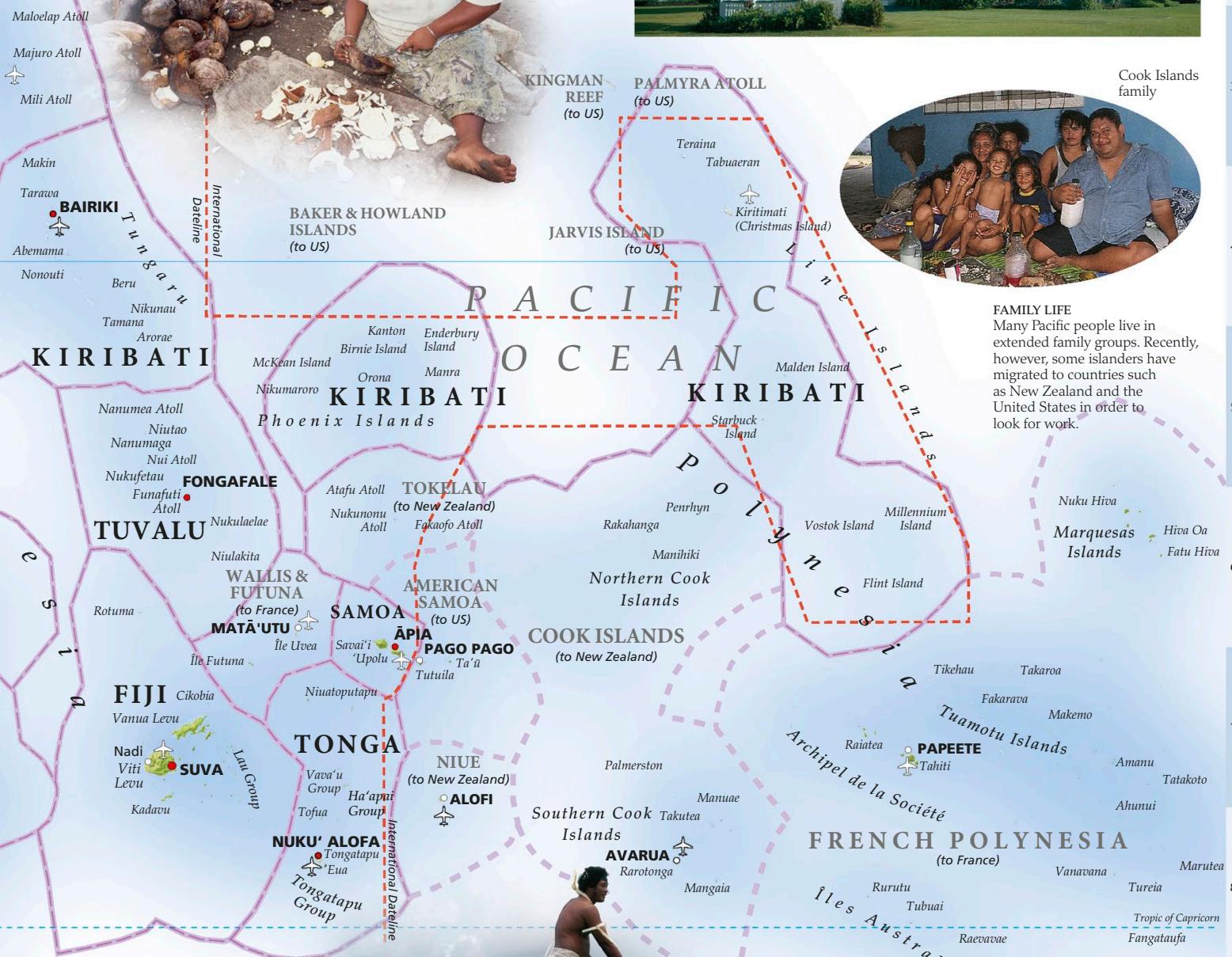
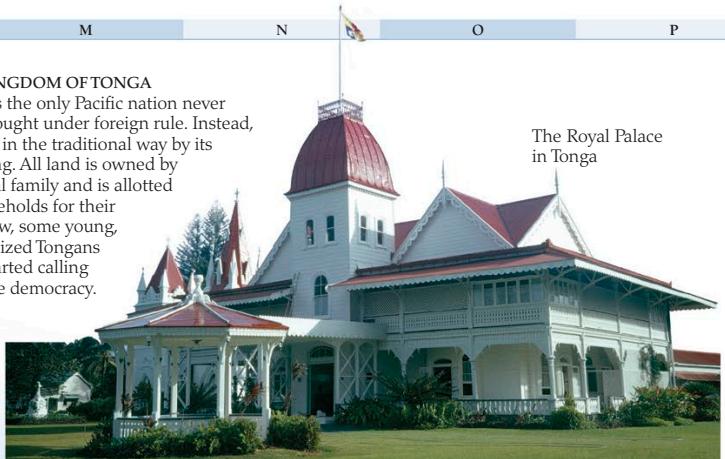
Most Pacific Islanders live in small villages near the sea. Inland areas are often mountainous, making farming difficult. Instead, people grow foods such as sweet potatoes, bananas, and coconuts in lowland areas. As well as providing milk, the coconut meat is used to produce copra, a substance for making soap and cosmetics.

Copra worker in Fiji scooping coconut kernels

**THE KINGDOM OF TONGA**

Tonga is the only Pacific nation never fully brought under foreign rule. Instead, it is run in the traditional way by its own king. All land is owned by the royal family and is allotted to households for their use. Now, some young, westernized Tongans have started calling for more democracy.

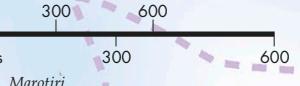
The Royal Palace in Tonga

**OUTRIGGER CANOES**

Transportation between many islands has traditionally been by outrigger canoes. Floats attached to the side provide extra stability, particularly useful for the fishermen who stand in the boats to cast their nets.



Islanders netfishing in an outrigger off the coast of Ifalik, Micronesia



I J K L M N O P



B C D E F G H

Australia

A HUGE, GENERALLY FLAT COUNTRY, Australia has relatively few inhabitants. This is mainly because most of the land is hot, semi-arid desert—known as the outback—unsuitable for towns or farms. In places where there is some vegetation, or the land has been irrigated, sheep and cattle are grazed. Wheat is grown in the fertile south. The first people to live here were the Aboriginals, who arrived from Asia at least 50,000 years ago. Today, most Australians are descendants of European immigrants, with a more recent addition of Asians.



AUSTRALIAN ABORIGINALS

The original inhabitants of Australia had an intimate understanding of their environment. This connection to the land, and its plants and animals, affects every aspect of their culture. When Europeans started arriving in the late 18th century, only the Aboriginals in remote areas escaped contact with the diseases they brought. Today, Aboriginals rarely live off the land, but work in factories or farms.



MINING

Australia has one of the world's most important mining industries, with resources including gold (left), coal, natural gas, iron ore, copper, and opals. However, damage to the environment, and Aboriginal claims over land used for mining, still need to be faced.

0 km
0 miles
200 400
200 400

AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL

A popular sport here is Australian Rules Football. One of the rules is that players can kick or punch the ball but they must not throw it. Many Australians either play the game themselves or support their favorite team. As the name implies, the game originated in Australia, but it now has leagues in other countries, such as Great Britain and the US.



FLYING DOCTOR

For anyone living in the remote Australian outback, the nearest doctor can be many hours away. When emergency help is needed, the Royal Flying Doctor Services can get to the scene to treat a patient or fly them to hospital.



OUTDOOR SPORTS

A warm climate, with easy access to beaches and wilderness areas, has made outdoor activities an important part of modern Australian life. Water sports such as swimming, sailing, and surfing are especially popular. Because of the danger of exposure to strong sunlight, people are told to cover up and always use sunscreen.



UNIQUE WILDLIFE
Animal parks and refuges allow "townies" and tourists to get close to Australia's unique wildlife. They can see marsupials such as koalas and wallabies (left), as well as crocodiles, snakes, and the world's only egg-laying mammals—the platypus and the echidna.



Voting in government elections in Australia is compulsory. Citizens who fail to vote can be fined.



TOURIST ATTRACTIONS
Tourism is important to Australia's economy, and there is plenty to attract visitors. Popular destinations include the tropical waters around the Great Barrier Reef (above), the modern cities of Sydney and Melbourne, and the impressive sight of Uluru (Ayers Rock), a mountainous rock sacred to the Aboriginals.



VINEYARDS
Australia boasts an impressive range of high-quality wine-growing regions, specializing in different grapes. Wines are exported to more than 90 countries.

LIFE IN THE CITIES
Most Australians live in the coastal towns and cities of southeastern Australia, where the climate is cooler. Although Canberra is the capital, Sydney is the largest and oldest city, and is beautifully situated around Sydney Harbor. One of the world's most famous landmarks is the Sydney Opera House (below), which has five separate halls for concerts, operas, and plays. The design echoes the sails of a ship.



New Zealand

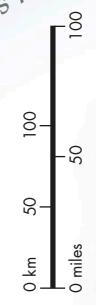
MADE UP OF TWO MAIN ISLANDS and several smaller ones, New Zealand is one of the most isolated countries in the world. Located in the southern Pacific, the country has a mild climate, with warm summers and cool, wet winters. Both main islands have mountains, short, swift-flowing rivers, forests, and fertile farmland. Until the Europeans arrived, most of the landscape was covered in dense forest, known as native bush. Today, although forests remain, much has been cleared for farming. Most New Zealanders live on North Island, which is warmer and less mountainous. Although New Zealanders are of mainly British descent, the Maoris – a people of Polynesian origin – were the first to arrive about 1,000 years ago. Today, non-Maori Polynesians and Asians are adding to the ethnic mix. The country has a liberal, clean, green image and a high standard of living.

AUCKLAND
With its safe harbor and nearby scenic islands, Auckland is known as the “city of sails.” It boasts more pleasure boats per person than anywhere else in the world. The water that separates the bigger islands is home to dolphins, families of blue penguins, and the occasional whale.

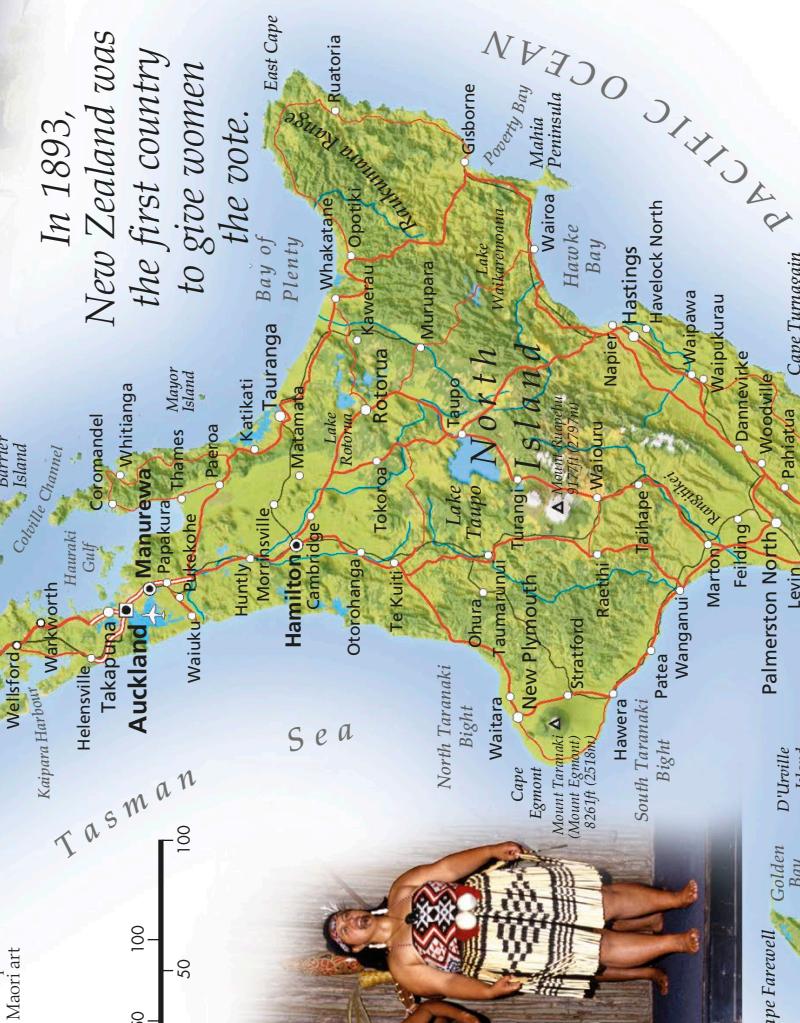
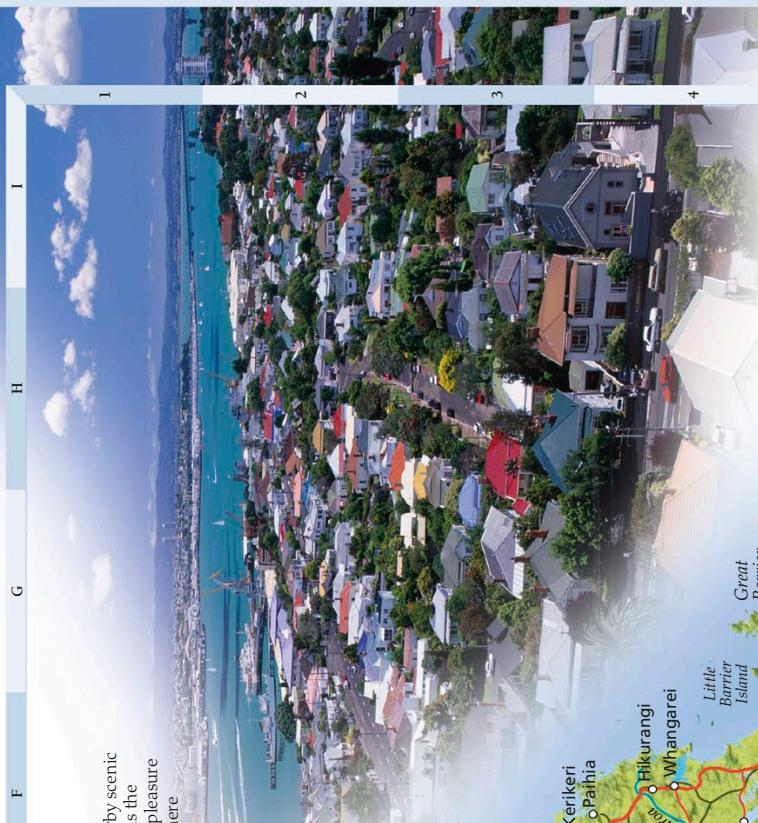
MAORI CULTURE
Maoris make up almost 14 per cent of the population, with most living on North Island. Before the coming of the *Pakeha* (white man), Maori history was passed on orally to succeeding generations. This included many legends and *whakatau* (songs). Their carvings in wood (left) and stone (right) were another way they recorded and remembered events. In recent years, interest in Maori culture has increased, and school children are now taught the Maori language.



**In 1893,
New Zealand was
the first country
to give women
the vote.**



» Australasia & Oceania





9 FILM INDUSTRY
New Zealand has a well-established film industry. Today, thanks to the acclaimed films based on J.R.R. Tolkien's trilogy *The Lord of the Rings* (above) and *The Hobbit*, the country has become increasingly popular with international studios for location work. The country offers an unusually wide range of scenery as well as technical experts.

10 UNIQUE WILDLIFE
New Zealand has many unique and endangered animal species, especially birds. There were no mammal predators before humans introduced them, so many animal species have few means of defense, and some birds such as the kiwi cannot fly. Conservation schemes are now in place to protect endangered species.

11 GREEN ENERGY
Most of the country's electricity comes from hydroelectric power. It is generated by river water gushing through turbines inside dams at power stations. New Zealand also has geothermal energy, using heat from inside Earth.



12 AN AGRICULTURAL NATION
Agriculture is of prime importance, and accounts for more than half of national export earnings. Orchards produce a vast range of fruit from apples (above) to kiwi fruit (below). Cereals and other crops, such as sunflowers, add color and variety to the landscape. Traditional sheep and cattle farming has expanded to include deer, goats, and even ostriches.

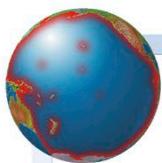
13 LADY KNOX GEYSER,
North Island

14 VOLCANIC ACTIVITY
A fault line runs through New Zealand, where two major tectonic plates meet. It has caused devastating earthquakes, but has also helped to create breathtaking scenery. This includes South Island's Southern Alps and many smaller volcanic mountains, hot springs, and geysers on North Island.

15 ADVENTURE SPORTS PARADISE
New Zealand offers a huge range of adventure sports and outdoor activities, from white-water rafting (below) to bungee jumping. The latter originated in Queenstown on South Island. The town is billed as the country's top adventure tourism destination because its surrounding lakes, mountains, and rivers, and its mostly dry climate, are ideal for outdoor pursuits.

16 FOEVAUX STRAIT ISLAND

17



B C D E F G H

Pacific Ocean

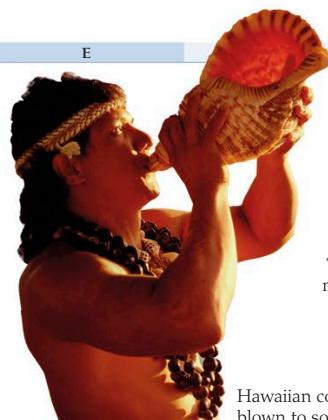
THE LARGEST OCEAN ON EARTH, the Pacific covers one-third of Earth's surface. The island nations of Japan, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, and many others are completely surrounded by this enormous ocean, which stretches from the Arctic in the north to the Southern Ocean in the south. The Pacific is also the world's deepest ocean – its greatest known depth is in the Mariana Trench, off Guam, which plunges steeply for 36,198 ft (11,033 m). Within the Pacific, there are many smaller seas that lie near land. These include the Tasman Sea, the South China Sea, and the Bering Sea. There are more than 30,000 islands in the Pacific. Most are too small or barren to be inhabited, but others are home to people of many different cultures and religions. The native island peoples fall into three main groups—Polynesians, Melanesians, and Micronesians. Although the word *pacific* means “peaceful,” strong currents, tropical storms, and tsunamis can all make this ocean far from peaceful.

TSUNAMI

Earthquakes beneath the sea may cause giant waves called tsunamis. These can travel great distances across the ocean, building into a huge wall of water as they approach the coast. They can leave immense damage in their wake.

**SURFING**

The Hawaiian sport of surfing ranks as the oldest sport in the USA. It was first practiced by the nobility as a form of religious ceremony until the 1820s when missionaries, who thought it immoral, tried to ban it. Today, surfing is one of the most popular watersports and can be seen all over the world, from Australia to the UK.

**HAWAII**

This chain of eight volcanic islands and 124 islets forms the 50th state of the United States, and was admitted to the union in 1959. The dramatic landscape and palm-fringed beaches make Hawaii a popular destination for tourists. Today, native Hawaiians are a minority in their own land.

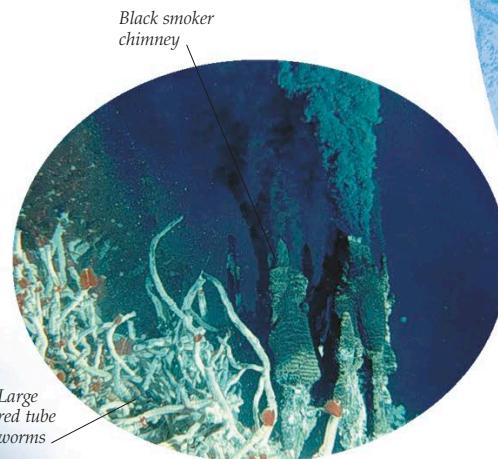
Hawaiian conch shells, once blown to sound a warning



Marine iguana on black volcanic rocks, Galápagos Islands

GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS

When British naturalist Charles Darwin (1809–1882) went to the Galápagos Islands, he found many unusual animals. He also noticed differences between animals of the same species living elsewhere. This led him to believe that, over time, animals adapt, or evolve, to suit their habitats.

**DEEP-SEA VENTS**

Underwater exploration has revealed some amazing places deep in the Pacific. Large vents, formed by solidified minerals, act as chimneys for super-hot steam and gas that stream up from the sea bed. These vents are known as black smokers. Scientists have found a host of new creatures living in this hostile environment.



The Pacific is larger than Earth's entire land surface.

Pacific Ocean >>

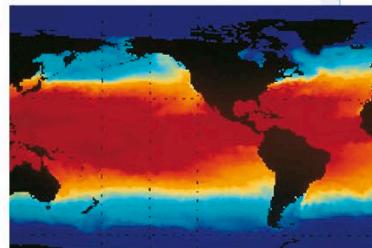
I J K L M N O P



EASTER ISLAND

Easter Island, or Rapa Nui, in the Pacific lies more than 2,000 miles (3,218 km) from the nearest populated land. It is best known for the gigantic stone figures, known as Moai, which were carved from volcanic rock and erected facing the sea.

It is thought that the people who built the statues were of Peruvian descent.



EL NIÑO

Every few years, winds off the South American coast weaken, causing an unusually warm ocean current, known as El Niño. This kills off plankton that provide food for fish such as anchovies. Scientists use heat-sensitive cameras to map ocean temperatures and keep track of El Niño. The warmest waters are shown in orange/red (above).

SOUTH PACIFIC FISH

Fish stocks in the south Pacific are an important food source for the island countries and a major source of employment. Migratory tuna are the most important fish. However, it is important that the industry is effectively managed to avoid the constant threat of overfishing and the collapse of fish stocks.





Antarctica

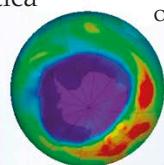
THE FROZEN CONTINENT OF ANTARCTICA is covered by a vast icecap, many thousands of years old, and is surrounded by the freezing seas of the Southern Ocean. It is the only continent with no permanent inhabitants—the only people who come here are scientists or tourists. Although the land is rich in oil and minerals, mining is prohibited under the laws of the Antarctic Treaty. This treaty, agreed by 53 countries, made Antarctica a “continent for science” to be used for peaceful purposes only.



RESEARCH
The only people who stay in Antarctica are scientists. They come to study the climate, weather, and geology. By taking ice samples, for example, they can learn about changes in the world's climate over the years.



Scientist checking an ice core

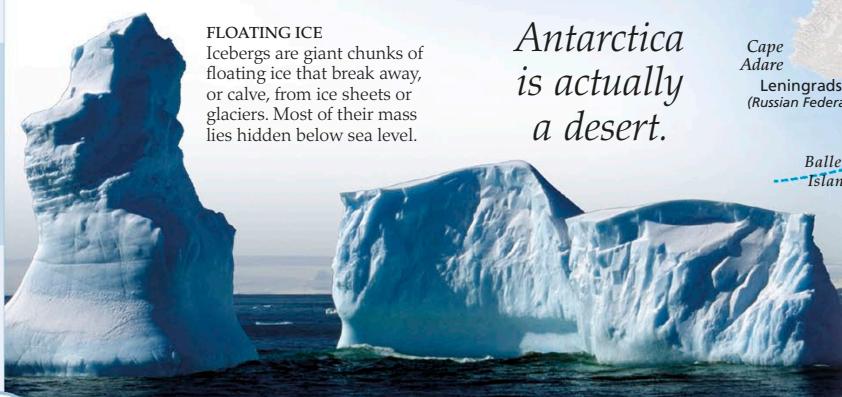


OZONE HOLE

High in the atmosphere, ozone (a gas) forms a natural shield that protects us from the Sun's ultraviolet rays. Scientists at both poles have found holes in the ozone layer, caused by chemicals known as CFCs, once used in aerosols, fridges, and plastic packaging.



*Antarctica
is actually
a desert.*



FLOATING ICE
Icebergs are giant chunks of floating ice that break away, or calve, from ice sheets or glaciers. Most of their mass lies hidden below sea level.

DAY TRIPPERS

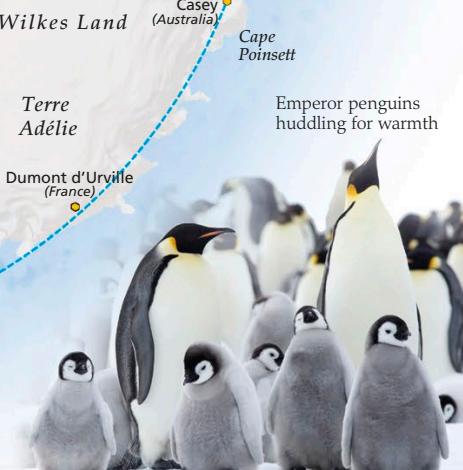
Tourists visit Antarctica in summer. There are no resorts, so visitors generally stay on small cruise ships. When they come ashore, people have to wear insulated clothing and goggles to protect their eyes from glare off the ice.



SOUTHERN OCEAN



KRILL
Tiny, shrimp-like creatures, krill are the primary food source for a great number of Antarctic animals. These include whales, seals, penguins, squid, and fish.



PENGUINS
Penguins walk awkwardly on land, but can swim swiftly to catch fish. Waterproof feathers and a thick layer of fat help keep them warm.



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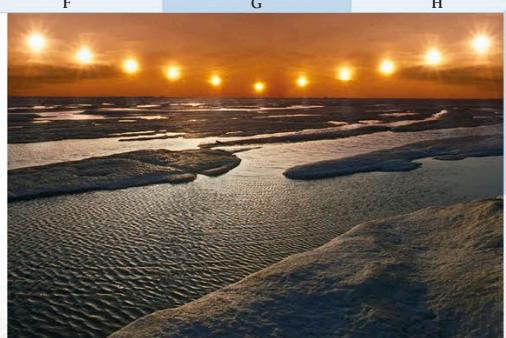
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Arctic Ocean

THE SMALLEST OF THE WORLD'S oceans, the Arctic is almost entirely surrounded by the northern edges of North America, Europe, and Asia. For most of the year, its waters are covered by a thick sheet of ice, although warmer currents from the Pacific and Atlantic melt the ice along the continental coasts for a short time in summer. Despite the harsh conditions, the region is home to a range of wildlife, such as reindeer, musk ox, foxes, and wolves. Some people, including the Inuit of Canada and the Sami of northern Scandinavia, have also adapted to this tough environment.



LONG DAYS

Seasons at the poles are extreme. Polar summers are short but there can be sunshine for 24 hours a "day" as the Sun never dips below the horizon (above). This is because Earth rotates at an angle to the Sun.



ARCTIC SURVIVORS
Polar bears live along the Arctic coasts of Canada, Greenland, and Russia. They hunt seals and fish at points where the sea ice melts. With so much Arctic ice having melted away in recent years, the polar bear's habitat is slowly disappearing. An insulating layer of fat, called blubber, helps the bears survive the cold. Their white fur also provides essential camouflage on the ice.



Gazetteer

HOW TO USE THE GAZETTEER

This gazetteer is a selection of the names in *Children's Illustrated World Atlas*, and helps you find places on the maps. For example, to find the city of Lisbon in Portugal, look up its name in the gazetteer. The entry reads:

Lisbon Capital Portugal 58 E6

The first number, 58, tells you that Lisbon appears on the map on page 58. The second number, E6, shows that it is in square E6. Turn to page 58. Trace down from the letter E along the top of the grid (or up from the letter E on the bottom of the grid), and then across from the number 6 on the side of the grid. You will find Lisbon in the area where the letter and number meet.

A

Aachen Town Germany 56 B7
Aalborg Town Denmark 49 B11
Aalen Town Germany 57 E9
Aalst Town Belgium 53 D11
Aalter Town Belgium 53 C10
Äänekoski Town Finland 48 G8
Aarhus Town Denmark 49 C12
Aba Town Nigeria 41 L8
Aba Town Democratic Republic of the Congo 42 18
Äbädän Town Iran 82 E7
Abakan Town Russian Federation 78 H7
Abbeville Town France 54 E5
Abéché Town Chad 42 F6
Abengourou Town Côte d'Ivoire 41 I8
Aberdeen Town South Dakota, US 12 G4
Aberdeen Town Maryland, US 9 H8
Aberdeen Town Scotland, UK 50 F5
Aberystwyth Town Wales, UK 51 E10
Abhā Town Saudi Arabia 83 C11
Abidjan Town Côte d'Ivoire 40 H8
Abilene Town Texas, US 17 K5
Åbo see Turku
Abomey Town Benin 41 J7
Abrantes Town Portugal 58 F6
Abu Dhabi Capital United Arab Emirates 83 F9
Abu Hamed Town Sudan 38 E6
Abuja Capital Nigeria 41 L7
Abū Kamāl Town Syria 80 I7
Abū Zāby see Abu Dhabi
Acapulco Town Mexico 19 J9
Acarigua Town Venezuela 26 D5
Accra Capital Ghana 41 I8
Aconcagua, Cerro Mountain Argentina 30 D7
A Coruña Town Spain 58 E2
Adamawa Highlands Mountain range Cameroon 42 D8
'Adan see Aden
Adana Town Turkey 76 G6
Adapazarı Town Turkey 76 E4
Ad Dahnā' Desert Saudi Arabia 83 E9
Ad Dakhla Town Western Sahara 36 C7
Ad Dammān Town Saudi Arabia 83 E9
Ad Dawhāh see Doha
Addis Ababa Capital Ethiopia 39 F9
Adelaide Town South Australia, Australia 105 J7

Aden Town Yemen 83 D13
Aden, Gulf of Indian Ocean 83 E13
Adirondack Mountains New York, US 8 H4
Adīs Ābeba see Addis Ababa
Adiyaman Town Turkey 76 H6
Adrar Town Algeria 36 G6
Aegean Sea Greece 67 F9
Afghanistan Country 84 H7
Afmadow Town Somalia 39 G11
Afyon Town Turkey 76 E5
Agadez Town Niger 41 L4
Agadir Town Morocco 36 E5
Agen Town France 55 D10
Agialóusa Town Cyprus 80 B7
Agra Town India 87 I3
Ägri Town Turkey 77 K4
Agrigento Town Sicily, Italy 61 E13
Agropoli Town Italy 61 F10
Aguachica Town Colombia 26 C5
Aqua Prieta Town Mexico 18 F3
Aguascalientes Town Mexico 19 I7
Aguaytía Town Peru 27 B10
Aguilas Town Spain 59 J8
Aguillita Town Mexico 19 I8
Ahaggar Mountain range Algeria 37 I7
Ahlen Town Germany 56 C7
Ahmādābād Town India 86 G4
Ahuachapán Town El Salvador 20 E5
Ahvāz Town Iran 82 E7
Aiken Town South Carolina, US 11 J4
Ailangiandí Town Panama 21 N7
'Ain Ben Tili Town Mauritania 40 G2
Aiquele Town Bolivia 27 E12
Aïr, Massif de l' Mountain range Niger 41 L4
Aix-en-Provence Town France 55 G11
Aizu Town Japan 93 G9
Ajaccio Town France 55 I13
Ajo Town Arizona, US 16 E5
Akchār Desert Mauritania 40 E3
Akhalt's'ikhe Town Georgia 77 K3
Akhisar Town Turkey 76 C5
Aktubinsk Town Russian Federation 73 D11
Akita Town Japan 92 F8
Akjoujt Town Mauritania 40 E3
Akkeshi Town Japan 92 H5
Akron Town Ohio, US 13 M6
Akrotiriōn Town Cyprus 80 A8
Aksai Chin Administrative region China 88 D6
Aksaray Town Turkey 76 F5
Akşehir Town Turkey 76 E5
Aktau Town Kazakhstan 78 D6
Aktobe Town Kazakhstan 78 E6
Aktsyabrski Town Belarus 71 F11
Akula Town Democratic Republic of the Congo 43 F9
Akune Town Japan 93 B14
Alabama State US 10 G5
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Clarence Town The Bahamas 22 H3
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Clarksville Town Tennessee, US 10 G3
Clearwater Town Florida, US 11 I7
Clermont-Ferrand Town France 55 E9
Cleveland Town Ohio, US 13 M6
Clinton Town Mississippi, US 10 F5
Clipperton Island Dependent territory France, Pacific Ocean 109 M4
Cloppenburg Town Germany 56 C6
Clovis Town New Mexico, US 17 I4
Cluj-Napoca Town Romania 68 E5
Clyde River Scotland, UK 50 F6
Coari Town Brazil 28 H3
Coast Mountains Alaska/British Colombia 4 F7
Coast Ranges Mountain Range California/Oregon, US 14 F3
Coatzacoalcos Town Mexico 19 M8
Cobán Town Guatemala 20 E3
Cobija Town Bolivia 27 D10
Coburg Town Germany 56 E8
Cochabamba Town Bolivia 27 E12
Cochin Town India 86 H8 see also Kochi
Cochrane Town Chile 31 C12
Cochrane Town Ontario, Canada 6 G6
Cockburn Town Capital Turks & Caicos Islands 23 I4
Coconino Plateau Arizona, US 16 E3
Cocos Islands Dependent territory Australia, Indian Ocean 99 K5
Cod, Cape Coastal feature Massachusetts, US 9 K5
Cognac Town France 55 D9
Coihaique Town Chile 31 C12
Coimbatore Town Sri Lanka 86 H8
Coimbra Town Portugal 58 E5
Colby Town Kansas, US 12 E7
Colchester Town England, UK 51 I10
Colima Town Mexico 19 I8
College Station Town Texas, US 17 M6
Colmar Town France 54 H7
Cologne Town Germany 56 C7
Colombia Country 26 C7
Colombo Capital Sri Lanka 87 I9
Colón Town Panama 21 M7
Colorado State US 15 K6
Colorado City Town Texas, US 17 K5
Colorado Plateau Arizona, US 16 F3
Colorado, Rio River Argentina 31 E9
Colorado River Mexico/US 15 J6
Colorado Springs Town Colorado, US 15 L6
Columbia Town Tennessee, US 10 H3
Columbia Town South Carolina, US 11 J4
Columbia Town Maryland, US 8 G8
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Columbia Plateau Idaho/Oregon, US 14 H4
Columbia River Oregon/Washington, US 14 G3
Columbus Town Ohio, US 13 L7
Columbus Town Nebraska, US 12 G6
Columbus Town Georgia, US 10 H5
Comacchio Town Italy 60 E6
Comayagüa Town Honduras 20 G4
Comilla Town Bangladesh 87 L4
Comitán Town Mexico 19 N9
Como Town Italy 60 C4
Comodoro Rivadavia Town Argentina 31 E12
Concord Town New Hampshire, US 9 J5
Concordia Town Argentina 30 G7
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Congo River Democratic Republic of the Congo/Congo 43 G9
Congo Basin Drainage basin Central Africa 43 F10
Congo, Democratic Republic of the Country 43 G10
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Connecticut State US 9 J6
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Constantine Town Algeria 37 I3
Coober Pedy Town South Australia, Australia 105 I6
Cookeville Town Tennessee, US 10 H3
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Cook, Mount see Aoraki
Cook Strait New Zealand 107 F9
Cooktown Town Queensland, Australia 105 L2
Cooma Town New South Wales, Australia 105 L8
Coon Rapids Town Minnesota, US 12 H4
Coos Bay Town Oregon, US 14 F4
Copán Ancient site Honduras 20 F4
Copenhagen Capital Denmark 49 C12
Copiapó Town Chile 30 C6
Coquimbo Town Chile 30 C7
Coral Sea Pacific Ocean 102 F6
Coral Sea Islands Dependent territory Australia, Coral Sea 102 F7
Corcovado, Golfo Gulf Chile 31 C11
Cordelle Town Georgia, US 11 I5
Córdoba Town Spain 58 H7
- Córdoba** Town Argentina 30 E7
Córdoba Town Mexico 19 L8
Corfu Island Greece 67 B9
Corfu Town Greece 67 B9
Corinth Town Mississippi, US 10 G4
Corinth Town Greece 67 D11
Corinth Canal Greece 67 E11
Cork Town Ireland 51 B10
Corlu Town Turkey 76 C3
Corner Brook Town Québec, Canada 7 L5
Coro Town Venezuela 26 D4
Coromandel Town New Zealand 106 G5
Corozal Town Belize 20 F1
Corpus Christi Town Texas, US 17 M8
Corrientes Town Argentina 30 G6
Corse see Corsica
Corsica Island France 55 I13
Cortés Town Costa Rica 21 J8
Cortina d'Ampezzo Town Italy 60 F4
Corum Town Turkey 76 G4
Corvallis Town Oregon, US 14 F3
Cosenza Town Italy 61 G12
Costa Rica Country 21 J7
Côte d'Ivoire Country 40 G7
Cotonou Town Benin 41 J8
Cotswold Hills England, UK 51 G10
Cottbus Town Germany 56 G7
Council Bluffs Town Iowa, US 12 G6
Couvin Town Belgium 53 E13
Coventry Town England, UK 51 G10
Craiova Town Romania 68 E7
Crawley Town England, UK 51 H11
Cremona Town Italy 60 D5
Crescent City Town California, US 14 F4
Crestview Town Florida, US 10 G6
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Créteil Town France 54 E6
Crewe Town England, UK 51 F9
Crimea Peninsula Ukraine 69 K7
Cristu Secuiesc Town Romania 68 F6
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Crookston Town Minnesota, US 12 G2
Crotone Town Italy 61 H12
Croydon Town England, UK 51 H11
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Cuautla Town Mexico 19 K8
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Cúcuta Town Colombia 26 C5
Cuddapah Town India 87 I7
Cuenca Town Ecuador 26 A8
Cuernavaca Town Mexico 19 K8
Cuiabá Town Brazil 29 I5
Cuito River Angola 44 F4
Cukai Town Malaysia 96 E5
Culiacán Town Mexico 18 G6
Cullera Town Spain 59 K6
Cumaná Town Venezuela 26 E5
Cumberland Town Maryland, US 8 F8
Cumberland Plateau Tennessee, US 10 H3
Cuneo Town Italy 60 B6
Curaçao Dependent territory Netherlands, Atlantic Ocean 23 K8
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Curitiba Town Brazil 29 K7
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Dalain Hob Town China 89 I5

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Da Lat Town Vietnam 95 H11
Dalby Town Queensland, Australia 105 M5
Dali Town China 90 F7
Dalian Town China 91 K3
Dallas Town Texas, US 17 M5
Dalmatia Cultural Region Croatia 64 C8
Damascus Capital Syria 81 E9
Damieta Town Egypt 38 E4
Dampier Town Western Australia, Australia 104 E4
Dampier, Selat Strait Indonesia 97 L6
Damqawt Town Yemen 83 F12
Danakil Desert Ethiopia 38 G8
Dă Nẵng Town Vietnam 95 H9
Dandong Town China 91 L3
Danube River Germany 57 D10
Danville Town Virginia, US 11 J3
Danzhou Town Hainan, China 90 H9
Danzig, Gulf of Poland 62 F4
Dar'a Town Syria 81 E10
Dardanelles Strait Turkey 76 B4
Dar es Salaam Capital Tanzania 39 G13
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Darjiling Town India 87 K3
Darling River New South Wales, Australia 105 K7
Darlington Town England, UK 50 F8
Darmstadt Town Germany 56 D8
Darnah Town Libya 37 M4
Dartmoor Physical region England, UK 51 E11
Dartmouth Town Nova Scotia, Canada 7 L7
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Datong Town China 91 I3
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Dävanger Town India 86 H7
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Davenport Town Iowa, US 13 I6
David Town Panama 21 K8
Davis Research station Antarctica 110 G5
Dawei Town Myanmar 95 C10
Dayr az Zawr Town Syria 80 H6
Dayton Town Ohio, US 13 L7
Daytona Beach Town Florida, US 11 J7
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Deán Funes Town Argentina 30 E7
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Dekéleia Town Cyprus 80 B8
Delaware State US 8 H8
Delft Town Netherlands 53 D9
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Delicias Town Mexico 18 H4
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Del Rio Town Texas, US 17 K7
Deltona Town Florida, US 11 J7
Dembia Town Central African Republic 42 G8
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Denov Town Uzbekistan 85 I5
Denpasar Town Indonesia 96 H8
Denton Town Texas, US 17 M5
Denver Town Colorado, US 15 L5
Dera Ghâzi Khân Town Pakistan 86 G2
Derbent Town Russian Federation 73 D14
Derby Town England, UK 51 G9
De Ridder Town Louisiana, US 10 E6
Derweza Town Turkmenistan 84 F4
Desé Town Ethiopia 38 G8
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Dessau Town Germany 56 F7
Detroit Town Michigan, US 13 L5
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Dezfûl Town Iran 82 E7
Dezhou Town China 91 J4
Dhaka Capital Bangladesh 87 L4
Dhanbad Town India 87 K4
Diamantina, Chapada Mountain range Brazil 29 L4
Dibrugarh Town India 87 M3
Diên Biên Town Vietnam 94 E6
Dieppe Town France 54 E5
Digos Town Philippines 97 K4
Dijon Town France 54 G8
Dikhil Town Djibouti 38 G8
Dikson Town Russia Federation 78 H4
Dilaram Town Afghanistan 84 G8
Dili Capital East Timor 97 K8
Di Linh Town Vietnam 95 H11
Dilolo Town Democratic Republic of the Congo 43 G13
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Dimitrovgrad Town Russian Federation 73 E10
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Dinajpur Town Bangladesh 87 K4
Dinar Town Turkey 76 D6
Dinaric Alps Mountain range Bosnia & Herzegovina/Montenegro 64 C8
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Diourbel Town Senegal 40 E5
Dire Dawa Town Ethiopia 39 G9
Dishū Town Afghanistan 84 G9
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Divo Town Côte d'Ivoire 40 H8
Diyarbakır Town Turkey 77 J6
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Djibouti City Capital Djibouti 38 G8
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Doba Town Chad 42 E7
Doboj Town Bosnia & Herzegovina 64 E7
Dobrich Town Bulgaria 66 H5
Dodecanese Island group Greece 67 G12
Dodekána see Dodecanese
Dodge City Town Kansas, US 12 F7
Dodoma Capital Tanzania 39 F13
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Dokkum Town Netherlands 52 F6
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Dolisie Town Congo 43 D11
Dolni Chiflik Town Bulgaria 66 H6
Dolomites Mountain range Italy 60 E4
Dolores Town Uruguay 30 G8
Dolores Town Guatemala 20 E3
Dolores Town Argentina 31 G9
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Donostia Town Spain 59 J2
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Doolow Town Ethiopia 39 G10
Dordogne River France 55 D10
Dordrecht Town Netherlands 53 E9
Dortmund Town Germany 56 C7
Dos Hermanas Town Spain 58 G8
Douala Town Cameroon 42 C8
Douglas Capital Isle of Man 50 E8
Douglas Town Arizona, US 16 F6
Dover Town Delaware, US 8 H8
Dover Town England, UK 51 I11
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Dra, Hamada du Plateau Algeria 36 E5
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Dresden Town Germany 56 G7
Drina River Bosnia & Herzegovina 65 E9
Drobeta-Turnu Severin Town Romania 68 D7
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Dubuque Town Iowa, US 13 I5
Dudelange Town Luxembourg 53 F14
Duisburg Town Germany 56 C7
Duk Fawil Town Southern Sudan 39 E9
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Duluth Town Minnesota, US 13 I3
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Dumont d'Urville Research station Antarctica 110 F7
Dumyat see Damieta
Dunaújváros Town Hungary 63 E11
Dunav River Bulgaria 66 G5
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Dunavská Ravnina Plain Bulgaria 66 E5
Dundee Town South Africa 45 I7
Dundee Town Scotland, UK 50 F6
Dunedin Town New Zealand 107 C13
Dunfermline Town Scotland, UK 50 E6
Dunkerque Town France 54 F4
Dunkirk Town New York, US 8 E6
Dún Laoghaire Town Ireland 51 D9
Duqm Town Oman 83 H11
Durango Town Mexico 18 H6
Durango Town Colorado, US 15 K7
Durban Town South Africa 45 I8
Durham Town England, UK 50 G7
Durham Town North Carolina, US 11 K3
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Dushan Town China 90 H7
Dushanbe Capital Tajikistan 85 J5
Düsseldorf Town Germany 56 C7
Dutch Harbor Town Alaska, US 4 B5
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Dzerzhinsk Town Russian Federation 73 D9
Dzhalal-Abad Town Kyrgyzstan 85 L4
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Eastleigh Town England, UK 51 G11
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Eau Claire Town Wisconsin, US 13 I4
Eberswalde-Finow Town Germany 56 G5
Ebetsu Town Japan 92 F5

Ebolowa Town Cameroon 43 C9
Ebro River Spain 59 J4
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Ed Damer Town Sudan 38 E7
Ed Debba Town Sudan 38 D7
Ede Town Nigeria 41 K7
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Edinburgh Town Scotland, UK 50 F6
Edirne Town Turkey 76 C3
Edmonton Town Alberta, Canada 4 H8
Edmundston Town New Brunswick, Canada 7 J6
Edna Town Texas, US 17 M7
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Elbe River Germany/Czechia 56 E5
Elblag Town Poland 62 E5
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El Cajon Town California, US 14 H8
El Callao Town Venezuela 26 F5
Elche Town Spain 59 K7
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El Dorado Town Venezuela 26 F6
Eldoret Town Kenya 39 F11
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El Fasher Town Sudan 38 C8
El Geneina Town Sudan 38 C8
Elgin Town Illinois, US 13 J5
El Goléa Town Algeria 36 H5
Elista Town Russian Federation 73 C11
El-Jadida Town Morocco 36 E4
Elk Town Poland 62 G5
Ellesmere Island Nunavut, Canada 5 J2
Ellsworth Land Region Antarctica 110 C6
El Mahbas Town Western Sahara 36 E6
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Elmira Town New York, US 8 G6
El Mreyé Desert Mauritania 40 G3
Elmshorn Town Germany 56 D5
El Muglad Town Sudan 38 D8
El Obeid Town Sudan 38 D8
El Oued Town Algeria 37 I4
Eloy Town Arizona, US 16 E5
El Paso Town Texas, US 16 H6
El Porvenir Town Panama 21 M7
El Progreso Town Honduras 20 G3
El Salvador Country 20 E5
El Sáuz Town Mexico 18 G4
El Tigre Town Venezuela 26 E5
Emba Town Kazakhstan 78 E6
Emden Town Germany 56 C5
Emerald Town Queensland, Australia 105 L4
Emmen Town Netherlands 52 G7
Empalme Town Mexico 18 F4
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Encarnación Town Paraguay 30 H6
Encs Town Hungary 63 G10
Endeh Town Indonesia 97 J8
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Enid Town Oklahoma, US 17 L3
En Nâqôura Town Lebanon 81 D10
Enschede Town Netherlands 52 G8
Ensenada Town Mexico 18 C3
Entebbe Town Uganda 39 E11
Enugu Town Nigeria 41 L7
Eolie, Isole Island Italy 61 F12
Épinal Town France 54 H7
Equatorial Guinea Country 43 C9
Erdenet Town Mongolia 89 I3
Ereğli Town Turkey 76 F6
Erenhot Town China 89 K4
Erfurt Town Germany 56 E7

» Ergun – Gloucester

Ergun *Town* China 89 L2
Erie *Town* Pennsylvania, US 8 E6

Erie, Lake *Canada/US*, 13 M5

Eritrea Country 38 F7

Erlangen *Town* Germany 57 E9

Ernakulam *Town* India 86 H8

Erode *Town* Pakistan 86 H8

Er-Rachidia *Town* Morocco 36 F5

Erzincan *Town* Turkey 76 H4

Erzurum *Town* Turkey 77 J4

Esbjerg *Denmark* 49 B12

Escondido *Town* California, US 14 H8

Escuinapa *Town* Mexico 18 H6

Escuintla *Town* Mexico 19 N9

Escuintla *Town* Guatemala 20 D4

Esfahān *Town* Iran 82 F7

Eskişehir *Town* Turkey 76 E4

Eslāmābād *Town* Iran 82 D6

Esmeraldas *Town* Ecuador 26 A7

Esperance *Town* Western Australia, Australia 104 G7

Esperanza *Research station* Antarctica 110 B4

Esperanza *Town* Mexico 18 F4

Espirito Santo Island Vanuatu 102 H7

Espoo *Town* Finland 49 G9

Essaouira *Town* Morocco 36 E4

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Essen *Town* Germany 56 C7

Estância *Town* Brazil 29 M4

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Eucla *Town* Western Australia, Australia 104 H6

Euclid *Town* Ohio, US 13 M5

Eugene *Town* Oregon, US 14 F3

Euphrates *River* Turkey/Syria/Iraq 76 H4

Eureka *Town* Montana, US 15 I2

Evanston *Town* Wyoming, US 15 J5

Evanston *Town* Illinois, US 13 J5

Evansville *Town* Indiana, US 13 K8

Everest, Mount *Mountain* Nepal/China 87 K3

Everett *Town* Washington, US 14 G2

Everglades, The Wetlands Florida, US 11 J8

Évora *Town* Portugal 58 F7

Exeter *Town* England, UK 51 E12

Extremadura Region Portugal 58 G6

Eyre North, Lake South Australia, Australia 105 J6

Eyre Peninsula South Australia, Australia 105 J7

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Fabens *Town* New Mexico, US 16 H6

Fada *Town* Chad 42 F5

Fada-Ngourma *Town* Burkina Faso 41 J6

Faenza *Town* Italy 60 E6

Fahraj *Town* Iran 82 H8

Fairbanks *Town* Alaska, US 4 E5

Fairfield *Town* California, US 14 F6

Faisalabad *Town* Pakistan 86 G2

Faizābād *Town* India 87 J3

Falkland Islands *Dependent territory* UK, Atlantic Ocean 33 I8

Falun *Town* Sweden 49 D9

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Fano *Town* Italy 60 F7

Farewell, Cape *Coastal feature* New Zealand 106 D8

Fargo *Town* North Dakota, US 12 G3

Farg'ona *Town* Uzbekistan 85 K4

Farkhor *Town* Tajikistan 85 J5

Faroe Islands *Dependent territory* Denmark, Atlantic Ocean 33 K1

Fastiv *Town* Ukraine 69 I3

Faya *Town* Chad 42 F4

Fayetteville *Town* North Carolina, US 11 K4

Féderik *Town* Mauritania 40 F3

Fear, Cape *Coastal feature* North Carolina, US 11 K4

Federacija Bosna I Hercegovina
Administrative region Bosnia & Herzegovina 64 D8

Feijó *Town* Brazil 28 F4

Feilding *Town* New Zealand 106 G8

Feira de Santana *Town* Brazil 29 M5

Felipe Carrillo Puerto *Town* Mexico 19 O7

Felixstowe *Town* England, UK 51 I10

Fengcheng *Town* China 91 L3

Ferrara *Town* Italy 60 E6

Ferreñafe *Town* Peru 27 A9

Ferizaj *Town* Kosovo 65 G10 *see also* Uroševac

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Figuig *Town* Algeria 36 G4

Fiji Country 103 I7

Filiș *Town* Romania 68 E7

Filipstad *Town* Sweden 49 D10

Findlay *Town* Ohio, US 13 L6

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Finland, Gulf of Finland/Estonia 49 G10

Finnmarksvidda *Physical region* Norway 48 F4

Fjordland *Physical region* New Zealand 107 A13

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Flagstaff *Town* Arizona, US 16 E4

Flensburg *Town* Germany 56 D4

Flinders Ranges *Mountain range* Australia 105 J6

Flint *Town* Michigan, US 13 L5

Florence *Town* Italy 60 D7

Florencia *Town* Colombia 26 B7

Flores *Town* Guatemala 20 E2

Flores Sea Indonesia 97 I8

Floriano *Town* Brazil 29 L3

Florianópolis *Town* Brazil 29 K8

Florida State US 11 J8

Florida Keys *Island group* Florida, US 11 J9

Florida, Straits of US/The Bahamas 11 K9

Florissant *Town* Missouri, US 13 I7

Focăani *Town* Romania 68 G6

Foggia *Town* Italy 61 G9

Foligno *Town* Italy 60 E8

Folkestone *Town* England, UK 51 I11

Fongafale *Capital* Tuvalu 103 J5

Fonseca, Gulf of El Salvador 20 F5

Fontainebleau *Town* France 54 F7

Fonyód *Town* Hungary 63 D12

Forlì *Town* Italy 60 E6

Formosa *Town* Argentina 30 G5

Formosa, Serra *Mountain range* Brazil 29 I4

Fort Albany *Town* Ontario, Canada 6 G5

Fortaleza *Town* Bolivia 27 E10

Fortaleza *Town* Brazil 29 M3

Fort Collins *Town* Colorado, US 15 L5

Fort-de-France *Capital* Martinique 23 O7

Fort Frances *Town* Ontario, Canada 6 D6

Fort Lauderdale *Town* Florida, US 11 J8

Fort Myers *Town* Florida, US 11 J8

Fort Nelson *Town* British Columbia, Canada 4 G7

Fort Severn *Town* Ontario, Canada 6 F3

Fort-Shevchenko *Town* Kazakhstan 78 D6

Fort Smith *Town* Arkansas, US 10 D3

Fort Smith *Town* Arkansas, US 10 D3

Fort Stockton *Town* Texas, US 17 J6

Fort Vermilion *Town* Alberta, Canada 4 H7

Fort Wayne *Town* Indiana, US 13 K6

Fort William *Town* Scotland, UK 50 E5

Fort Worth *Town* Texas, US 17 L5

Foumban *Town* Cameroon 42 C8

Foveaux Strait *New Zealand* 107 B14

France Country 54 E8

Francistown *Town* Botswana 44 H5

Frankfurt am Main *Town* Germany 56 D8

Frankfurt an der Oder *Town* Germany 56 G6

Fransisco Escárciga *Town* Mexico 19 N7

Fraser Island *Island* Australia 105 N5

Fredericot *Town* New Brunswick, Canada 7 J7

Frederikstad *Norway* 49 C10

Freeport *Town* Texas, US 17 N7

Freeport *Town* The Bahamas 22 F1

Freetown *Capital* Sierra Leone 40 E7

Freiburg im Breisgau *Town* Germany 57 C10
Fremantle *Town* Western Australia, Australia 104 E7

French Guiana *Dependent territory* 26 H6

French Polynesia *Dependent territory* France, Pacific Ocean 103 N8

Fresnillo *Town* Mexico 19 I6

Fresno *Town* California, US 14 G7

Friás *Town* Argentina 30 E6

Friedrichshafen *Town* Germany 57 D11

Frisian Islands, East *Island group* Germany 56 C5

Frisian Islands, North *Island group* Germany 56 C4

Frontera *Town* Mexico 19 N7

Frýdek-Místek *Town* Czechia 63 E9

Fu'an *Town* China 91 K7

Fudi *Town* Japan 92 G7

Fuerte Olimpo *Town* Paraguay 30 G4

Fuji *Town* Japan 93 F11

Fujian *Administrative region* China 91 K7

Fuji, Mount *Mountain* Japan 93 F11

Fujisawa *Town* Japan 93 G11

Fukui *Town* Japan 93 E11

Fukuko *Town* Japan 93 B13

Fukushima *Town* Japan 93 G9

Fukushima *Town* Japan 92 F6

Fukuyama *Town* Japan 93 D12

Fukuyama *Town* Japan 93 E12

Fulda *Town* Germany 56 D8

Fundy, Bay of Canada 7 K7

Fürth *Town* Germany 57 E9

Furukawa *Town* Japan 92 G8

Fushun *Town* China 91 L2

Fuyuan *Town* China 89 N1

Fuxin *Town* China 91 K2

Fuzhou *Town* China 91 K7

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Gaalkacyo *Town* Somalia 39 H9

Gabès *Town* Tunisia 37 J4

Gabon *Country* 43 C10

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Matera Town Italy 61 H10
Matosinhos Town Portugal 58 E4
Matsue Town Japan 93 C11
Matsumoto Town Japan 93 F10
Matsuyama Town Japan 93 D12
Matterhorn Mountain Switzerland/Italy 57 C12
Matthews Ridge Town Guyana 26 G5
Matthew Town Town The Bahamas 22 H4
Maturín Town Venezuela 26 F5
Maun Town Botswana 44 G5

» Mauritania – Mweru, Lake

Mauritania *Country* 40 F4
Mauritius *Country* 45 O6
Mawlamyine *Town* Myanmar 95 C9
Mawson *Research station* Antarctica 110 G4
Mayagüez *Town* Puerto Rico 23 L5
Mayamey *Town* Iran 82 G5
Maya Mountains *Mountain range* Belize 20 F3
Maych'ew *Town* Ethiopia 38 F8
Maykop *Town* Russian Federation 73 B12
Mayotte *Dependent territory* France, Indian Ocean 45 L4
Mazabuka *Town* Zambia 44 H4
Mazar-e Sharif *Town* Afghanistan 85 I6
Mazatlán *Town* Mexico 18 G6
Mazury *Physical region* Poland 62 G5
Mazyr *Town* Belarus 71 F12
Mbabane *Capital* Swaziland 45 I7
Mbaké *Town* Senegal 40 E5
Mbale *Town* Uganda 39 E11
Mbandaka *Town* Democratic Republic of the Congo 43 E10
Mbarara *Town* Uganda 39 D11
Mbeya *Town* Tanzania 39 E13
Mbuji-Mayi *Town* Democratic Republic of the Congo 43 F11
McAlester *Town* Oklahoma, US 17 M4
McAllen *Town* Texas, US 17 L9
McKinley, Mount *see Denali*
McMurdo Base *Research station* Antarctica 110 E7
Mdantsane *Town* South Africa 44 H8
Meadville *Town* Pennsylvania, US 8 E6
Mecca *Town* Saudi Arabia 83 B10
Mechelen *Town* Belgium 53 D11
Medan *Town* Indonesia 96 D5
Medellín *Town* Colombia 26 B6
Médénine *Town* Tunisia 37 J4
Medias' *Town* Romania 68 F6
Medicine Hat *Town* Alberta, Canada 5 I9
Medina *Town* Saudi Arabia 83 B9
Medinaceli *Town* Spain 59 J4
Mediterranean Sea *Africa/Asia/Europe* 67 D14
Medvezh'yegorsk *Town* Russian Federation 72 D6
Meerut *Town* India 87 I3
Meghályai *Cultural region* India 87 L4
Mehtar Lám *Town* Afghanistan 85 J7
Melktila *Town* Myanmar 94 B7
Mékhé *Town* Senegal 40 E5
Mekong *River* Asia 95 F11
Mekong, Mouths of the *Coastal feature* Vietnam 95 G12
Melaka *Town* Malaysia 96 E5
Melanésia *Region* Pacific Ocean 102 H7
Melbourne *Town* Victoria, Australia 105 K8
Melekeok *Capital* Palau 102 C3
Melilla *Town* Spain 36 G3
Melilla *Town* Spain 36 G3
Melitopol' *Town* Ukraine 69 K6
Mellerud *Town* Sweden 49 C10
Melo *Town* Uruguay 30 H8
Melville Island *Northern Canada* 5 I3
Memmingen *Town* Germany 57 E10
Memphis *Town* Tennessee, US 10 F4
Mende *Town* France 55 F10
Mendoza *Town* Argentina 30 D8
Menongue *Town* Angola 44 F4
Menorca *see Minorca*
Meppel *Town* Netherlands 52 F7
Merano *Town* Italy 60 E4
Mercer *Town* Pennsylvania, US 8 E7
Mérida *Town* Venezuela 26 D5
Mérida *Town* Spain 58 G6
Mérida *Town* Mexico 19 O6
Mérignac *Town* France 55 C10
Mersin *Town* Turkey 76 G6
Meru *Town* Kenya 39 F11
Mesa *Town* Arizona, US 16 E5
Messina *Town* Sicily, Italy 61 G12
Messina, Strait of Italy 61 G13
Mestia *Town* Georgia 77 K2
Mestre *Town* Italy 60 E5
Metairie *Town* Louisiana, US 10 F6
Metan *Town* Argentina 30 E5
Metapán *Town* El Salvador 20 E4

Meta, Río *River* Colombia 26 D6
Metz *Town* France 54 H6
Meulaboh *Town* Indonesia 96 C5
Mexicali *Town* Mexico 18 D2
Mexico *Country* 19 I5
Mexico City *Capital* Mexico 19 K8
Mexico, Gulf of *Atlantic Ocean/Caribbean Sea* 32 G3
Miami *Town* Florida, US 11 J9
Miami Beach *Town* Florida, US 11 J8
Mianeh *Town* Iran 82 D5
Mianyang *Town* China 90 H5
Michalovce *Town* Slovakia 63 G10
Michigan *State* US 13 K4
Michigan, Lake *Central US*, 13 K4
Michurinsk *Town* Russian Federation 73 D9
Micronesia *Country* 102 E2
Micronesia *Region* Pacific Ocean 102 F2
Mid-Atlantic Ridge *Undersea feature* Atlantic Ocean 33 I4
Middlesbrough *Town* England, UK 50 G8
Middletown *Town* New Jersey, US 9 I7
Mid-Indian Basin *Undersea feature* Indian Ocean 99 K5
Midland *Town* Texas, US 17 J6
Midland *Town* Ontario, Canada 6 G8
Mid-Pacific Mountains *Undersea feature* Pacific Ocean 109 I4
Midway Islands *Dependent territory* US, Pacific Ocean 109 J3
Miedzyrzec Podlaski *Town* Poland 62 G7
Mielec *Town* Poland 62 G8
Miercurea-Ciuc *Town* Romania 68 F6
Mieres del Camín *Town* Spain 58 G3
Miguel Asua *Town* Mexico 19 I6
Mikashevichy *Town* Belarus 71 E11
Mikhaylovka *Town* Russian Federation 73 D11
Milagro *Town* Ecuador 26 A8
Milan *Town* Italy 60 C5
Milan *see* Milan
Milas *Town* Turkey 76 C6
Miles *City* *Town* Montana, US 15 K3
Milford *Town* Pennsylvania, US 8 H6
Milford Haven *Town* Wales, UK 51 E11
Milford Sound *Town* New Zealand 107 B12
Milford Sound Inlet *New Zealand* 107 A12
Mil'kovo *Town* Russian Federation 78 N4
Millbridge *Town* Maine, US 9 L3
Millennium Island *Island* Kiribati 103 N6
Milo *Town* Maine, US 9 K3
Milton *Town* Pennsylvania, US 8 G7
Milton Keynes *Town* England, UK 51 G10
Milwaukee *Town* Wisconsin, US 13 J5
Minatitlán *Town* Mexico 19 M8
Minbu *Town* Myanmar 94 B7
Mindanao Island *Philippines* 97 J4
Minden *Town* Germany 56 D6
Mindoro Strait *South China Sea* 97 I3
Mineral Wells *Town* Texas, US 17 L5
Mingăçevir *Town* Azerbaijan 77 M3
Mingãora *Town* Pakistan 86 G1
Minna *Town* Nigeria 41 K7
Minneapolis *Town* Minnesota, US 12 H4
Minnesotá *State* US 12 H4
Minorca *Island* Balearic Islands, Spain 59 N5
Minot *Town* North Dakota, US 12 F2
Minsk *Capital* Belarus 71 E9
Miraflores *Town* Mexico 18 F6
Miranda de Ebro *Town* Spain 59 I3
Miri *Town* Malaysia 96 H5
Mirim Lagoon Brazil 29 J9
Mirny *Research station* Antarctica 110 G6
Mirnyy *Town* Russian Federation 78 J5
Mirpur Khás *Town* Pakistan 86 F3
Miskolc *Town* Hungary 63 F10
Misrātah *Town* Libya 37 K4
Mississippi State US 10 F5
Mississippi River *Central US*, 13 I5
Mississippi River Delta *Coastal feature* Louisiana, US 10 F7
Missouri State US 13 I7
Missouri River *Central US*, 12 G6
Mistelbach an der Zaya *Town* Austria 57 H9
Mitchell *Town* South Dakota, US 12 G5
Mitchell *Town* South Dakota, US 12 G5
Mito *Town* Japan 93 G10

Mitrovica *Town* Kosovo 65 G10 *see also* Mitrovicë
Mitrovicë *Town* Kosovo 65 G10 *see also* Mitrovica
Mitspe Ramon *Town* Israel 81 D12
Mítú *Town* Colombia 26 D7
Mitumba Range *Mountain range* Democratic Republic of the Congo 43 H12
Miyako *Town* Japan 92 G7
Miyakonojō *Town* Japan 93 C14
Miyazaki *Town* Japan 93 C14
Mladenovac *Town* Serbia 64 G8
Moab *Town* Utah, US 15 J6
Mobile *Town* Alabama, US 10 G6
Mocímboa da Praia *Town* Mozambique 45 K3
Modena *Town* Italy 60 D6
Modesto *Town* California, US 14 F6
Modica *Town* Sicily, Italy 61 F14
Moe *Town* Victoria, Australia 105 K8
Mogadishu *Capital* Somalia 39 H11
Mogilev *Town* Belarus 71 G10 *see also* Mahilyow
Mogilno *Town* Poland 62 E6
Mohammedia *Town* Morocco 36 E4
Mohawk River *New York*, US 8 H5
Mohe *Town* China 89 L1
Mohyliv-Podil's'kyi *Town* Ukraine 68 H4
Mo i Rana *Town* Norway 48 D6
Mojave Desert *California*, US 14 H8
Mokpo *Town* South Korea 91 M4
Moldé *Town* Norway 48 B8
Moldova *Country* 68 H5
Molfetta *Town* Italy 61 H10
Mölndal *Town* Sweden 49 C11
Molodezhnaya *Research station* Antarctica 110 F4
Moluças *Island group* Indonesia 97 L7
Molucca *Sea* *Pacific Ocean* 97 K6
Mombasa *Town* Kenya 39 G12
Monaco *Country* 55 H11
Monaco *Capital* Monaco 55 H11
Monahans *Town* Texas, US 17 J6
Mona, Isla *Island* Puerto Rico 23 K5
Mona Passage *Strait* Dominican Republic 23 K5
Moncalieri *Town* Italy 60 B5
Monchegorsk *Town* Russian Federation 72 D4
Monclova *Town* Mexico 19 I4
Moncton *Town* New Brunswick, Canada 7 K7
Mondovi *Town* Italy 60 B6
Monfalcone *Town* Italy 60 F5
Mongolia *Country* 88 H3
Monroe *Town* Louisiana, US 10 E5
Monrovia *Capital* Liberia 40 F8
Mons *Town* Belgium 53 D12
Monselice *Town* Italy 60 E5
Montana *State* US 15 J2
Montana *Town* Bulgaria 66 E5
Montauban *Town* France 55 D11
Mont Blanc *Mountain* France 55 H9
Mont-de-Marsan *Town* France 55 C11
Monteagudo *Town* Bolivia 27 E13
Monte Albán *Ancient site* Mexico 19 L9
Monte Caseros *Town* Argentina 30 G7
Monte Cristi *Town* Dominican Republic 23 I5
Montego Bay *Town* Jamaica 22 F5
Montélimar *Town* France 55 F10
Montemorelos *Town* Mexico 19 J5
Montenegro *Country* 65 F10
Monterey *Town* California, US 14 F7
Montería *Town* Colombia 26 B5
Montero *Town* Bolivia 27 F12
Monterrey *Town* Mexico 19 J5
Montevideo *Capital* Uruguay 30 H8
Montgomery *Town* Alabama, US 10 G5
Montluçon *Town* France 55 E9
Montpellier *Town* France 55 F11
Montréal *Town* Québec, Canada 7 I7
Montserrat *Dependent territory* UK, Atlantic Ocean 23 N6
Monywa *Town* Myanmar 94 B6
Monza *Town* Italy 60 C5
Moorhead *Town* Minnesota, US 12 G3
Mopti *Town* Mali 40 H5

Moravia *Region* Czechia 63 D9
Moree *Town* New South Wales, Australia 105 M6
Morelia *Town* Mexico 19 J8
Morena, Sierra *Mountain range* Spain 58 G7
Morioka *Town* Japan 92 G7
Morocco *Country* 36 E5
Morogoro *Town* Tanzania 39 F13
Morón *Town* Cuba 22 F3
Mörön *Town* Mongolia 88 H3
Morondava *Town* Madagascar 45 L5
Moroni *Capital* Comoros 45 L3
Moscow *Capital* Russian Federation 72 C8
Moshi *Town* Tanzania 39 F12
Moskva *see* Moscow
Mosquito Coast *Coastal feature* Nicaragua 21 J5
Mosselbaai *Town* South Africa 44 G8
Mossendjo *Town* Congo 43 D10
Mossoró *Town* Brazil 29 M3
Most *Town* Czechia 62 B8
Mostaganem *Town* Algeria 36 G3
Mostar *Town* Bosnia & Herzegovina 65 D9
Mosul *Town* Iraq 82 C6
Motagua, Río *River* Guatemala 20 E4
Motueka *Town* New Zealand 107 E9
Mould Bay *Town* Northwest Territories, Canada 4 H3
Moulins *Town* France 54 F8
Moundou *Town* Chad 42 E7
Mount Cook *Town* New Zealand 107 C11
Mount Isa *Town* Queensland, Australia 105 J4
Mount Magnet *Town* Western Australia, Australia 104 E6
Mouscron *Town* Belgium 53 C11
Mo'ynoq *Town* Uzbekistan 84 F2
Mozambique *Country* 45 J5
Mozambique Channel Indian Ocean 45 K5
Mpika *Town* Zambia 45 I3
Mthatha *Town* South Africa 44 H8
Muang Khóng *Town* Laos 95 G10
Muang Namo *Town* Laos 94 E7
Muang Phalan *Town* Laos 95 G9
Muar *Town* Malaysia 96 E5
Mudanjiang *Town* China 89 N3
Mufulira *Town* Zambia 44 H3
Mugi *Town* Japan 93 E12
Mukacheve *Town* Ukraine 68 F4
Mulhouse *Town* France 54 H8
Mull, Isle of *Island* Scotland, UK 50 D6
Mulongo *Town* Democratic Republic of the Congo 43 H12
Multān *Town* Pakistan 86 G2
Mumbai *Town* India 86 G6
Münchberg *Town* Germany 56 F8
München *see* Munich
Muncie *Town* Indiana, US 13 K6
Munich *Town* Germany 57 F10
Munster *Cultural region* Ireland 51 B10
Münster *Town* Germany 56 C6
Muonionjoki *River* Sweden 48 F4
Muqāwā *Town* Jordan 81 G10
Muqdisho *see* Mogadishu
Murcia *Town* Spain 59 K7
Murmansk *Town* Russian Federation 72 E4
Muroom *Town* Russian Federation 73 D9
Muroran *Town* Japan 92 F6
Murray River *New South Wales/Victoria/South Australia*, Australia 105 K8
Murska Sobota *Town* Slovenia 57 H11
Murwāra *Town* India 87 I4
Murzuq, Idhán *Desert* Libya 37 K7
Muş *Town* Turkey 77 J5
Muscat *Capital* Oman 83 H9
Musgrave Ranges *Mountain range* South Australia, Australia 104 H5
Musoma *Town* Tanzania 39 E11
Mutare *Town* Zimbabwe 45 I5
Mutsu *Town* Japan 92 G6
Muttonbird Islands *Island group* New Zealand 107 B14
Mwanza *Town* Tanzania 39 E12
Mwene-Ditu *Town* Democratic Republic of the Congo 43 F12
Mweru, Lake *Democratic Republic of the Congo* 43 H12

Myanmar (Burma) *Country* 94 B5
Myanaung *Town* Myanmar 94 B8
Myaungmya *Town* Myanmar 95 B9
Myeik Archipelago *Island chain*
 Myanmar 95 C11
Myingyan *Town* Myanmar 94 B6
Myitkyina *Town* Myanmar 94 C5
Mykolayiv *Town* Ukraine 69 J5
Myrhorod *Town* Ukraine 69 K3
Mýrina *Town* Greece 67 F9
Myrtle Beach *Town* South Carolina,
 US 11 K4
Mysore *Town* India 86 H8
My Tho *Town* Vietnam 95 G11
Mzuzu *Town* Malawi 45 J3

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Naberezhnye Chelny *Town* Russian Federation 73 F9
Nablus *Town* Israel 81 D11
Nacala *Town* Mozambique 45 K4
Nadi *Town* Fiji 103 I7
Nadvirna *Town* Ukraine 68 F4
Nadym *Town* Russian Federation 78 G5
Naga *Town* Philippines 97 J2
Nagano *Town* Japan 93 F10
Nagaoka *Town* Japan 93 F9
Nagasaki *Town* Japan 93 B14
Nagato *Town* Japan 93 C12
Nägercoil *Town* India 86 H9
Nagorno-Karabakh Region
 Azerbaijan 77 M4
Nagoya *Town* Japan 93 F11
Nägpur *Town* India 87 I5
Nagqu *Town* China 88 G7
Nagykanizsa *Town* Hungary 63 D12
Nagykörös *Town* Hungary 63 F11
Naha *Town* Ryukyu Islands 93 A16
Nā'in *Town* Iran 82 F7
Nain *Town* Newfoundland & Labrador,
 Canada 7 K3
Nairobi *Capital* Kenya 39 F11
Najin *Town* North Korea 91 M2
Najrān *Town* Saudi Arabia 83 C12
Nakagawa *Town* Japan 92 F4
Nakamura *Town* Japan 93 D13
Nakatsugawa *Town* Japan 93 F11
Nakhodka *Town* Russian Federation 79 M7
Nakhon Ratchasima *Town* Thailand 95 E9
Nakhon Sawan *Town* Thailand 95 D9
Nakhon Si Thammarat *Town*
 Thailand 95 D12
Nakuru *Town* Kenya 39 F11
Nal'chik *Town* Russian Federation 73 C13
Nälût *Town* Libya 37 J5
Namangan *Town* Uzbekistan 85 K3
Nam Dinh *Town* Vietnam 94 G7
Namib *Desert* Namibia 44 E5
Namibe *Town* Angola 44 D4
Namibia *Country* 44 E5
Nampa *Town* Idaho, US 14 H4
Nampula *Town* Mozambique 45 K4
Namur *Town* Belgium 53 E12
Nanaimo *Town* British Columbia,
 Canada 4 G9
Nancha *Town* China 89 M2
Nanchang *Town* China 91 J6
Nanchong *Town* China 90 H6
Nancy *Town* France 54 H7
Nanded *Town* India 86 H6
Nanfeng *Town* China 91 J7
Nanjing *Town* China 91 K5
Nanning *Town* China 90 H8
Nanping *Town* China 91 K7
Nanterre *Town* France 54 E6
Nantes *Town* France 54 C8
Nantucket *Town* Massachusetts, US 9 K6
Nantucket Island Massachusetts, US 9 K6
Nanyang *Town* China 91 I5
Napa *Town* California, US 14 F6
Napier *Town* New Zealand 106 H7
Naples *Town* Italy 61 F10
Napoli *see* Naples
Napo, Río *River* Peru 26 C8
Narathiwat *Town* Thailand 95 E13

Narita *Town* Japan 93 G10
Närpes *Town* Finland 48 F8
Närpiö *see* Närpes
Narva *Town* Estonia 70 H4
Narvik *Town* Norway 48 E4
Näsäud *Town* Romania 68 F5
Nāshik *Town* India 86 G5
Nashua *Town* New Hampshire, US 9 J5
Nashville *Town* Tennessee, US 10 G3
Nassau *Capital* The Bahamas 22 G2
Nasser *Lake* Egypt 38 E6
Nata *Town* Botswana 44 H5
Natal *Town* Brazil 29 N3
Natitingou *Town* Benin 41 J6
Nazrat *see* Nazareth
Nauru *Country* 102 H4
Nauta *Town* Peru 27 C9
Navapolatsk *Town* Belarus 70 G8
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Navassa Island *Dependent territory* US,
 Atlantic Ocean 22 H5
Navoiy *Town* Uzbekistan 85 I4
Navojos *Town* Mexico 18 F5
Nawābshāh *Town* Pakistan 86 F3
Nayoro *Town* Japan 92 F4
Nay Pyi Taw *Capital* Myanmar 94 C7
Nazareth *Town* Israel 81 D10
Nazca *Town* Peru 27 C11
Nazilli *Town* Turkey 76 D6
Nazrēt *Town* Ethiopia 39 G9
N'Dalatando *Town* Angola 44 E2
Ndélé *Town* Central African Republic 42 F7
N'Djaména *Capital* Chad 42 D6
Neagh, Lough *Lake* Northern Ireland,
 UK 50 D8
Neápoli *Town* Greece 67 G14
Neápoli *Town* Greece 67 C9
Neal Islands *Island Group* Alaska, US 4 A3
Nebraska *State* US 12 F5
Necochea *Town* Argentina 31 G10
Neftekamsk *Town* Russia 73 F9
Negēlē *Town* Ethiopia 39 G10
Negev *Desert* Israel 81 D12
Negombo *Town* Sri Lanka 87 I9
Negotin *Town* Serbia 64 H8
Negro, Rio *River* Brazil 28 G2
Neijiang *Town* China 90 G6
Nei Mongol Zizhiqū *see* Inner Mongolia
Neiva *Town* Colombia 26 B7
Nellore *Town* India 87 I7
Nelson *Town* New Zealand 107 E9
Nemuro *Town* Japan 92 H4
Nepal *Country* 87 J3
Neryungri *Town* Russia 79 K6
Netanya *Town* Israel 81 D11
Netherlands *Country* 52 E7
Neubrandenburg *Town* Germany 56 F5
Neuchâtel *Town* Switzerland 57 C11
Neufchâteau *Town* Belgium 53 F13
Neumünster *Town* Germany 56 D4
Neunkirchen *Town* Germany 57 C9
Neuquén *Town* Argentina 31 D10
Neustadt an der Weinstraße *Town*
 Germany 57 C9
Neu-Ulm *Town* Germany 57 E10
Newied *Town* Germany 56 C8
Nevada *State* US 14 H6
Nevinnyomysk *Town* Russia 73 C11
Neves *Town* Turkey 76 G5
New Amsterdam *Town* Guyana 26 G6
Newark *Town* New Jersey, US 9 I7
Newark *Town* New York, US 8 G5
New Bedford *Town* Massachusetts, US 9 K6
Newberg *Town* Oregon, US 14 F3
New Britain *Island* Papua New Guinea
 102 F5
New Caledonia *Island* New Caledonia
 102 G8
New Caledonia *Dependent territory* France,
 Pacific Ocean 102 G7
Newcastle *Town* New South Wales,
 Australia 105 M7
Newcastle upon Tyne *Town* England,
 UK 50 F7
New Delhi *Capital* India 86 H3
Newfoundland *Island* Ontario, Canada 7 M5

Newfoundland & Labrador Province
 Canada 7 I4
Newfoundland Basin *Undersea feature*
 Atlantic Ocean 33 J2
New Glasgow *Town* Nova Scotia,
 Canada 7 L7
New Guinea Island Indonesia/
 Papua New Guinea 102 D5
New Hampshire State US 9 J4
New Haven *Town* Connecticut, US 8 I6
New Iberia *Town* Louisiana, US 10 E6
New Jersey State US 9 I7
Newman *Town* Western Australia,
 Australia 104 E4
New Mexico State US 17 I4
New Orleans *Town* Louisiana, US 10 F6
New Plymouth *Town* New Zealand 106 F7
Newport *Town* Vermont, US 9 I3
Newport *Town* Wales, UK 51 F11
Newport News *Town* Virginia, US 11 L3
New Providence Island The Bahamas 22 G2
Newquay *Town* England, UK 51 E12
Newry *Town* Northern Ireland, UK 50 D8
New Siberian Islands *Island group*
 Russia 79 K3
New South Wales *State* Australia 105 L7
Newtownabbey *Town* Northern Ireland,
 UK 50 D7
New York State US 8 G5
New York *Town* New York, US 9 I7
New Zealand *Country* 107 E9
Ngaoundéré *Town* Cameroon 42 D7
Ngo *Town* Congo 43 D10
Nguigmi *Town* Niger 41 M5
Nha Trang *Town* Vietnam 95 H10
Niagara Falls *Town* Ontario, Canada 6 G8
Niagara Falls *Town* New York, US 8 E5
Niagara Falls Waterfall Canada/US 8 E6
Niaméy *Capital* Niger 41 J5
Nia-Nia *Town* Democratic Republic
 of the Congo 43 H9
Nicaragua *Country* 20 H5
Nicaragua, Lago de *Lake* Nicaragua 21 I6
Nice *Town* France 55 H11
Nicholls Town *Town* The Bahamas 22 F2
Nicobar Islands *Island group* India 87 M8
Nicosia *Capital* Cyprus 80 B8
Nicoya *Town* Costa Rica 20 H7
Nicoya, Golfo de *Gulf* Costa Rica 21 I7
Nida *Town* Lithuania 70 C6
Nieuw-Bergen *Town* Netherlands 53 F9
Nigde *Town* Turkey 76 G6
Niger *Country* 41 K5
Niger River Niger/Nigeria 41 J6
Nigeria *Country* 41 M7
Niger, Mouths of the Coastal feature
 Nigeria 41 K8
Niigata *Town* Japan 93 F9
Niihama *Town* Japan 93 D12
Niitsu *Town* Japan 93 F9
Nijmegen *Town* Netherlands 53 F9
Nikiniki *Town* Indonesia 97 J8
Nikopol' *Town* Ukraine 69 K5
Nikšić *Town* Montenegro 65 E10
Nile River East Africa 38 E5
Nile Delta Egypt 38 E4
Nîmes *Town* France 55 F11
Ninetyeast Ridge *Undersea feature*
 Indian Ocean 99 K4
Ninety Mile Beach *Coastal feature*
 New Zealand 106 E3
Ningbo *Town* China 91 L6
Ningxia *Administrative region* China 89 J6
Niort *Town* France 54 D8
Nipigon, Lake Québec, Canada 6 E6
Niš *Town* Serbia 65 H9
Nišab *Town* Saudi Arabia 82 D8
Nitra *Town* Slovakia 63 E10
Niue *Dependent territory* New Zealand,
 Pacific Ocean 103 K7
Nizamābād *Town* India 87 I6
Nizhnekamsk *Town* Russia 73 F9
Nizhnevartovsk *Town* Russia 78 G5
Nizhniy Novgorod *Town* Russia 73 E9
Novalazarevskaya *Research station*
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Novomoskov'sk *Town* Ukraine 69 K4
Novomoskovsk *Town* Russia 73 C9
Novopolotsk *Town* Belarus 70 G8 *see also*
 Navapolatsk

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Novorossiysk *Town* Russian Federation
73 B12
Novoshakhtinsk *Town* Russian Federation
73 C11
Novosibirsk *Town* Russian Federation 78 H5
Novotroits'ke *Town* Ukraine 69 K6
Nowy Sącz *Town* Poland 63 F9
Noyon *Town* France 54 F6
Nsawam *Town* Ghana 41 I8
Nubian Desert *Sudan* 38 E6
Nueva Gerona *Town* Cuba 22 D3
Nueva Rosita *Town* Mexico 19 I4
Nuevitas *Town* Cuba 22 G4
Nuevo Casas Grandes *Town* Mexico
18 G3
Nuevo Laredo *Town* Mexico 19 J4
Nuku' alofa *Capital* Tonga 103 K8
Nukus *Town* Uzbekistan 84 F2
Nullarbor Plain *Australia* 104 G6
Nunavut *Province* Canada 5 J5
Nuneaton *Town* England, UK 51 G10
Nuremberg *Town* Germany 57 E9
Nürnberg *see* Nuremberg
Nurota *Town* Uzbekistan 85 I4
Nusa Tenggara *see* Lesser Sunda Islands
Nusaybin *Town* Turkey 77 J6
Nuuk *Town* Greenland 111 B8
Nyagan' *Town* Russian Federation 78 G5
Nyainqntanglha Shan *Mountain range*
China 88 G8
Nyala *Town* Sudan 38 C8
Nyamapanda *Town* Mozambique 45 I4
Nyasa, Lake Malawi 45 J3
Nyeri *Town* Kenya 39 F11
Nyíregyháza *Town* Hungary 63 G10
Nykobing *Town* Denmark 49 C13
Nyköping *Town* Sweden 49 E10
Nzega *Town* Tanzania 39 E12

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Oakland *Town* California, US 14 F6
Oakland *Town* Maryland, US 8 E8
Oamaru *Town* New Zealand 107 D12
Oaxaca *Town* Mexico 19 L8
Ob' River *Russian Federation* 78 G4
Obihiri *Town* Japan 92 G5
Obock *Town* Djibouti 38 G8
Ocala *Town* Florida, US 11 I7
Ocaña *Town* Spain 59 I6
Occidental, Cordillera *Mountain range*
Peru 27 C11
Ocean Falls *Town* British Columbia,
Canada 4 F8
Oceanside *Town* California, US 14 G8
Ochakiv *Town* Ukraine 69 I6
Ochamchire *Town* Georgia 77 J2
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 51 H11
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 33 J8
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South Korea *Country* 91 M4
South Orkney Islands *Island group* Antarctica
 110 B3
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South Shields *Town* England, UK 50 G7
Southwest Indian Ridge *Undersea feature*
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Southwest Pacific Basin *Undersea feature*
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Spanish Town *Town* Jamaica 22 G5
Spartanburg *Town* South Carolina, US
 11 I4
Spijkenisse *Town* Netherlands 53 D9
Spin Büldak *Town* Afghanistan 85 I8
Spitsbergen *Island* Arctic Ocean 111 M7
Split *Town* Croatia 64 C8
Spokane *Town* Washington, US 14 H2
Springfield *Town* Massachusetts, US 8 J6
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Springfield *Town* Ohio, US 13 L6
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Srbobran *Town* Serbia 64 F7
Srebrenica *Town* Bosnia & Herzegovina
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Sri Jayewardenapura Kotte *Capital*
 Sri Lanka 87 I9
Sri Lanka *Country* 87 J9
Stafford *Town* England, UK 51 F9
Stakhanov *Town* Ukraine 69 M4
Stalowa Wola *Town* Poland 62 G8

Stamford *Town* Connecticut, US 8 I6
Starachowice *Town* Poland 62 F8
Stara Zagora *Town* Bulgaria 66 G6
Stargard Szczecinski *Town* Poland 62 C5
Starobil's'k *Town* Ukraine 69 M4
Starry Oskol *Town* Russian Federation
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State College *Town* Pennsylvania, US 8 F7
Statesboro *Town* Georgia, US 11 I5
Staunton *Town* Virginia, US 11 K2
Stavanger *Town* Norway 49 A10
Stavropol' *Town* Russian Federation 73 C11
Steamboat Springs *Town* Colorado,
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Steinkjer *Town* Norway 48 C7
Sterling *Town* Illinois, US 13 J6
Sterlitamak *Town* Russia Federation 73 G10
Stevenage *Town* England, UK 51 H10
Stevens Point *Town* Wisconsin, US 13 J4
Stewart Island New Zealand 107 B14
Stillwater *Town* Oklahoma, US 17 L3
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Stockton *Town* California, US 14 F6
Stockton Plateau Texas, US 17 J7
Sténg Tréng *Town* Cambodia 95 G10
Stoke-on-Trent *Town* England, UK 51 F9
Stonehenge *Ancient site* England,
 UK 51 G11
Stormway *Town* Scotland, UK 50 D4
Stormyan *Town* Sweden 48 E6
Stralsund *Town* Germany 56 F4
Strasbourg *Town* France 54 H7
Strelka *Town* Russia Federation 78 H6
Strumica *Town* Macedonia 65 H12
Stryi *Town* Ukraine 68 F3
Stuttgart *Town* Germany 57 D9
Subotica *Town* Serbia 64 F6
Suceava *Town* Romania 68 G5
Sucré *Capital* Bolivia 27 E12
Sudan *Country* 38 D7
Sudbury *Town* Ontario, Canada 6 G7
Sudd Region Southern Sudan 39 D9
Sudeten *Region* Poland 62 C8
Suez *Town* Egypt 38 E4
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Sümbü *Town* Mongolia 89 I2
Suhl *Town* Germany 56 E8
Sujawal *Town* Pakistan 86 F4
Sukabumi *Town* Indonesia 96 F8
Sukagawa *Town* Japan 93 G9
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Sukuma *Town* Japan 93 D13
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Sullana *Town* Peru 27 A9
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Sumatra *Island* Indonesia 96 E7
Sumbawanga *Town* Tanzania 39 E13
Sumbe *Town* Angola 44 D3
Sumqayıt *Town* Azerbaijan 77 N3
Sumy *Town* Ukraine 69 K2
Sunderland *Town* England, UK 50 F7
Sundsvall *Town* Sweden 48 E8
Sungaipenuh *Town* Indonesia 96 D7
Sunnyvale *Town* California, US 14 F6
Suöng *Town* Cambodia 95 G11
Superior *Town* Wisconsin, US 13 I3
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Surabaya *Town* Indonesia 96 G8
Surakarta *Town* Indonesia 96 G8
Sūrat *Town* India 86 G5
Surat Thani *Town* Thailand 95 D12
Surdulica *Town* Serbia 65 H10
Surfers Paradise *Town* Queensland,
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Surgut *Town* Russia Federation 78 G5
Suriname *Country* 26 G6
Surt *Town* Libya 37 L5
Surt, Khalif *see* Sirte, Gulf of
 Susa
Susa *Town* Italy 60 B5
Susteren *Town* Netherlands 53 F10
Susuman *Town* Russia Federation 78 L4
Suva *Capital* Fiji 103 J7
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Suzhou *Town* China 91 K5
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Svilengrad *Town* Bulgaria 66 G7
Svobodny *Town* Russian Federation
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Svetlahorsk *Town* Belarus 71 F11
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Sweden *Country* 48 D7
Świdnica *Town* Poland 62 D8
Świebodzin *Town* Poland 62 C7
Swindon *Town* England, UK 51 G11
Świnoujście *Town* Poland 62 B5
Switzerland *Country* 57 C11
Sydney *Town* New South Wales,
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Syeverodonets'k *Town* Ukraine 69 M4
Syktyvkar *Town* Russian Federation 72 F7
Sylhet *Town* Bangladesh 87 L4
Syowa *Research station* Antarctica 110 F4
Syracuse *Town* New York, US 8 G5
Syria *Country* 80 F7
Syrian Desert Jordan 81 G10
Syzran' *Town* Russia Federation 73 E10
Szczecin *Town* Poland 62 C5
Szeged *Town* Hungary 63 F12
Székesfehérvár *Town* Hungary 63 E11
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Tabora *Town* Tanzania 39 E12
Tabriz *Town* Iran 82 D5
Tabük *Town* Saudi Arabia 82 A8
Taby *Town* Sweden 49 E10
Tacloban *Town* Philippines 97 K3
Tacoma *Town* Washington, US 14 F2
Tacuarembó *Town* Uruguay 30 H7
Tademaït *Plateau du* Algeria 36 H6
Tädpatri *Town* Bhutan 87 I7
Taganrog *Town* Russia Federation 73 B11
Taguatinga *Town* Brazil 29 K5
Tagus *River* Spain/Portugal 58 F6
Tahoua *Town* Niger 41 K5
Tainan *Town* Taiwan 91 K8
Taipei *Capital* Taiwan 91 L7
Taiping *Town* Malaysia 96 D5
Taiwan *Country* 91 L8
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Taiyuan *Town* China 91 I4
Taizhong *Town* Taiwan 91 L8
Ta'izz *Town* Yemen 83 C13
Tajikistan *Country* 85 K5
Takaoka *Town* Japan 93 E10
Takapuna *Town* New Zealand 106 F5
Takasaki *Town* Japan 93 F10
Takikawa *Town* Japan 92 F5
Takla Makan Desert China 88 E5
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Talas *Town* Kyrgyzstan 85 K3
Talavera de la Reina *Town* Spain 58 H5
Talca *Town* Chile 30 C8
Talcahuano *Town* Chile 31 C9
Taldykorghan *Town* Kazakhstan 78 G8
Tallahassee *Town* Florida, US 10 H6
Tallinn *Capital* Estonia 70 G3
Talnakh *Town* Russia Federation 78 H4
Talsi *Town* Latvia 70 E5
Talvik *Town* Norway 48 F3
Tamale *Town* Ghana 41 I7
Tamanrasset *Town* Algeria 37 I7
Tamazunchale *Town* Mexico 19 K7
Tambacounda *Town* Senegal 40 E5
Tambov *Town* Russia Federation 73 D10
Tampa *Town* Florida, US 11 I7
Tampa Bay Florida, US 11 I8
Tampere *Town* Finland 48 G8
Tampico *Town* Mexico 19 K6

Tamworth *Town* New South Wales, Australia 105 M6
Tana *Town* Norway 48 G3
Tanabe *Town* Japan 93 E12
Tanami Desert Northern Territory, Australia 104 H3
Tandil *Town* Argentina 31 G9
Tane Range *Mountain range* Thailand 94 D8
Tanezrouft *Desert* Algeria 36 H7
Tanga *Town* Tanzania 39 G12
Tanganyika, Lake Democratic Republic of the Congo 43 I12
Tanggula Shan *Mountain range* China 88 G7
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Tangshan *Town* China 91 K3
Tan-Tan *Town* Morocco 36 D5
Tanzania *Country* 39 E12
Taoudenni *Town* Mali 40 H3
Tapa *Town* Estonia 70 G4
Tapachula *Town* Mexico 19 N9
Tapajós, Rio *River* Brazil 29 I3
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Tarancón *Town* Spain 59 I6
Taranto *Town* Italy 61 H10
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Tapapoto *Town* Peru 27 B9
Taraz *Town* Kazakhstan 78 F8
Tarbes *Town* France 55 D11
Târgoviște *Town* Romania 68 F7
Târgu Jiu *Town* Romania 68 E7
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Tarija *Town* Bolivia 27 E13
Tarim Basin China 88 F5
Tarnobrzeg *Town* Poland 62 G8
Tarnów *Town* Poland 63 F9
Tarragona *Town* Spain 59 L4
Tarsus *Town* Turkey 76 G6
Tartu *Town* Estonia 70 G5
Tartús *Town* Syria 80 D7
Tarvisio *Town* Italy 60 F4
Tashkent *Capital* Uzbekistan 85 J3
Tash-Kumyr *Town* Kyrgyzstan 85 K3
Tasikmalaya *Town* Indonesia 96 F8
Tasmania *State* Australia 105 K9
Tasman Sea Pacific Ocean 105 M8
Tassili-n-Ajjer *Plateau* Algeria 37 I6
Tatabánya *Town* Hungary 63 E11
Tathlith *Town* Saudi Arabia 83 C11
Tatra Mountains Slovakia 63 F9
Tatvan *Town* Turkey 77 K5
Taungdwingyi *Town* Myanmar 94 B7
Taunggyi *Town* Myanmar 94 C7
Taunton *Town* England, UK 51 F11
Taupo *Town* New Zealand 106 G7
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Tauranga *Town* New Zealand 106 G6
Taurus Mountains *Mountain range* Turkey 76 E6
Tawau *Town* Malaysia 97 I5
Taxco *Town* Mexico 19 K8
Taxiātosh *Town* Uzbekistan 84 F2
Taymā' *Town* Saudi Arabia 82 B8
Taymyr Peninsula Russian Federation 79 I3
Tbilisi *Capital* Georgia 77 L3
Tczew *Town* Poland 62 E5
Te Anau *Town* New Zealand 107 B13
Teapa *Town* Mexico 19 N8
Tebingtinggi *Town* Indonesia 96 D5
Tecomán *Town* Mexico 19 I8
Tecpan *Town* Mexico 19 J9
Tecuci *Town* Romania 68 G6
Tegal *Town* Indonesia 96 F7
Tegucigalpa *Capital* Honduras 20 G4
Tehrān *Capital* Iran 82 E6
Tehuacán *Town* Mexico 19 L8
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Te Kao *Town* New Zealand 106 E3
Tekeli *Town* Kazakhstan 78 G8
Tekirdağ *Town* Turkey 76 C3
Tel Aviv-Yafo *Town* Israel 81 C11
Temirtau *Town* Kazakhstan 78 F7
Temple *Town* Texas, US 17 M6

Temuco *Town* Chile 31 C10
Ténéré *Physical region* Niger 41 M4
Tennessee *State* US 10 G3
Tennessee River Alabama/Tennessee, US 10 G4
Tepic *Town* Mexico 18 H7
Teplice *Town* Czechia 62 B8
Tequila *Town* Mexico 19 I7
Teramo *Town* Italy 60 F8
Teresina *Town* Brazil 29 M3
Termiz *Town* Uzbekistan 85 I5
Ternate *Town* Indonesia 97 K6
Terni *Town* Italy 60 E8
Ternopil' *Town* Ukraine 68 G3
Terrassa *Town* Spain 59 M4
Terra Haute *Town* Indiana, US 13 K7
Teruel *Town* Spain 59 K5
Teseney *Town* Eritrea 38 F8
Tessalit *Town* Mali 41 J3
Tete *Town* Mozambique 45 I4
Tetouan *Town* Morocco 36 F3
Tevere *River* Italy 60 E8
Texarkana *Town* Texas, US 17 N5
Texas *State* US 17 L6
Teziutlán *Town* Mexico 19 K7
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Thai Nguyên *Town* Vietnam 94 G6
Thakhek *Town* Laos 94 F8
Thamarit *Town* Oman 83 G11
Thames *River* England, UK 51 G11
Thandwe *Town* Myanmar 94 B8
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The Fens *Physical region* England, UK 51 H9
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The Valley *Capital* Anguilla 23 N5
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Thracian Sea Greece 66 F8
Thun *Town* Switzerland 57 C11
Thunder Bay *Town* Ontario, Canada 6 E6
Thurso *Town* Scotland, UK 50 E3
Tianjin *Town* China 91 J3
Tianjin Shu *Administrative region* China 91 J3
Tianshui *Town* China 89 J6
Tiberias, Lake Israel 81 D10
Tibesti *Mountain range* Chad 42 E3
Tibet *Administrative region* China 88 F7
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Tichít *Town* Mauritania/China 40 G4
Ticul *Town* Mexico 19 O6
Tien Shan *Mountain range* Kyrgyzstan 85 L3
Tierra del Fuego *Region* Argentina/Chile 31 D14
Tifu *Town* Indonesia 97 K7
Tighina *Town* Moldova 68 H6
Tigris *River* Iraq 82 C6
Tiguentourine *Town* Algeria 37 J6
Tijuana *Town* Mexico 18 C2
Tikal *Ancient site* Guatemala 20 E2
Tikhoretsk *Town* Russian Federation 73 C12
Tikhvin *Town* Russian Federation 72 C7
Tiksí *Town* Russian Federation 78 J4
Tilburg *Town* Netherlands 53 E10
Timaru *Town* New Zealand 107 D12
Timbedgha *Town* Mauritania 40 G5
Timbuktu *Town* Mali 41 I4
Timișoara *Town* Romania 68 D6
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Tindouf *Town* Algeria 36 E6
Tirana *Capital* Albania 65 F11
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Tiraspol *Town* Moldova 68 H6
Tiroli *Region* Austria 57 F11
Tiruchirappalli *Town* India 87 I8
Tisa *River* Hungary 63 F11
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Tivoli *Town* Italy 61 E9

Tizi Ouzou *Town* Algeria 36 H3
Tiznit *Town* Morocco 36 E5
Tlaquepaque *Town* Mexico 19 I7
Tlaxcala *Town* Mexico 19 K8
Tlemcen *Town* Algeria 36 G4
Toamasina *Town* Madagascar 45 M5
Tobago *Island* Trinidad & Tobago 23 O8
Tobol'sk *Town* Russian Federation 78 G5
Tocantins, Rio *River* Brazil 29 K4
Tocopilla *Town* Chile 30 D4
Todi *Town* Italy 60 E8
Togo *Country* 41 J7
Tokar *Town* Sudan 38 F7
Tokat *Town* Turkey 76 H4
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Tokmak *Town* Kyrgyzstan 85 L3
Tokmak *Town* Ukraine 69 L5
Tokoroa *Town* New Zealand 106 G6
Tokushima *Town* Japan 93 D12
Tokyō *Capital* Japan 93 G10
Toledo *Town* Spain 59 I6
Toledo *Town* Ohio, US 13 L6
Toliara *Town* Madagascar 45 L6
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Tolmin *Town* Slovenia 57 G12
Toluca *Town* Mexico 19 J8
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Tomakomai *Town* Japan 92 F5
Tomaszów Mazowiecki *Town* Poland 62 F7
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Tonopah *Town* Nevada, US 14 H6
Tooele *Town* Utah, US 15 I5
Toowoomba *Town* Queensland, Australia 105 M6
Topeka *Town* Kansas, US 12 G7
Torez *Town* Ukraine 69 M5
Torgau *Town* Germany 56 F7
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Toro *Town* Spain 58 H4
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Torquay *Town* England, UK 51 F12
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Toul *Town* France 54 G7
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Toulouse *Town* France 55 D11
Tourcoing *Town* France 54 F5
Tournai *Town* Belgium 53 C11
Tours *Town* France 54 D8
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Towada *Town* Japan 92 G7
Townsville *Town* Queensland, Australia 105 L3
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Tra Vinh *Town* Vietnam 95 G12
Tremelo *Town* Belgium 53 E11
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Trent *River* England, UK 51 G9
Trento *Town* Italy 60 E4
Trenton *Town* Pennsylvania, US 8 G7
Tres Arroyos *Town* Argentina 31 F9
Treviso *Town* Italy 60 E5
Trier *Town* Germany 56 B8
Trieste *Town* Italy 60 F5
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Trinidad *Town* Uruguay 30 G8
Trinidad *Town* Bolivia 27 E11
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Tripolitania *Cultural region* Libya 37 K5
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Trondheim *Town* Norway 48 C7
Troy *Town* New York, US 8 I5
Troyes *Town* France 54 F7
Trujillo *Town* Spain 58 G6
Trujillo *Town* Peru 27 A10
Trzciánka *Town* Poland 62 D6
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Tshikapa *Town* Democratic Republic of the Congo 43 F12
Tsu *Town* Japan 93 E11
Tsugaru-kaikyō *Strait* Japan 92 F7
Tsuruga *Town* Japan 93 E11
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Tuapse *Town* Russian Federation 73 B12
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Tubmanburg *Town* Liberia 40 F7
Tubruq *Town* Libya 37 N4
Tucson *Town* Arizona, US 16 E5
Tucumcari *Town* New Mexico, US 17 I4
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Tuguegarao *Town* Philippines 97 J1
Tukums *Town* Latvia 70 E5
Tula *Town* Russian Federation 73 C9
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Tulcán *Town* Ecuador 26 B7
Tulcea *Town* Romania 68 H7
Tulsa *Town* Oklahoma, US 17 M3
Tuluá *Town* Colombia 26 B6
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Tumuc-Humac Mountains *Mountain range* Brazil 29 I1
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Tunisia *Country* 37 J4
Tunja *Town* Colombia 26 C6
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Tuxpán *Town* Mexico 19 K7
Tuxpan *Town* Mexico 19 I8
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Tuxtlá *Town* Mexico 19 N8
Tuy Hoa *Town* Vietnam 95 H10
Tuz Gölü *see* Tuz, Lake
Tuzla *Town* Bosnia & Herzegovina 64 E7
Tuz, Lake Turkey 76 F5
Tver' *Town* Russian Federation 72 C8
Twinn Falls *Town* Idaho, US 15 I4
Tychy *Town* Poland 63 E9
Tyler *Town* Texas, US 17 M5
Tynda *Town* Russian Federation 79 K6
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Ube *Town* Japan 93 C13
Uberaba *Town* Brazil 29 K6
Überländer *Town* Brazil 29 K6
Ubon Ratchathani *Town* Thailand 95 F9
Ubrique *Town* Spain 58 G8
Uchiura-wan *Bay* Japan 92 G6
Uchquduq *Town* Uzbekistan 84 H3
Udaipur *Town* India 86 G4
Udine *Town* Italy 60 F5
Udon Thani *Town* Thailand 94 E8
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Uele *River* Democratic Republic
 of the Congo 42 H8
Uelzen *Town* Germany 56 E5
Ufa *Town* Russian Federation 73 G10
Uganda *Country* 39 D11
Uitenhage *Town* South Africa 44 G9
Ukhta *Town* Russian Federation 72 G7
Ukmerge *Town* Lithuania 70 E7
Ukraine *Country* 68 G3
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Ulan-Ude *Town* Russian Federation 79 J7
Ulft *Town* Netherlands 53 G9
Ullapool *Town* Scotland, UK 50 E4
Ulm *Town* Germany 57 D10
Ulsan *Town* South Korea 91 M4
Ulster *Cultural region* Northern Ireland,
 UK 50 C8
Uluru *Peak* Northern Territory,
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Ulyanivka *Town* Ukraine 69 I4
Ul'yanovsk *Town* Russian Federation 73 E9
Uman' *Town* Ukraine 69 I4
Umeå *Town* Sweden 48 F7
Umm Ruwaba *Town* Sudan 38 E8
Uncía *Town* Bolivia 27 E12
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Uniontown *Town* Pennsylvania, US 8 E8
United Arab Emirates *Country* 83 F10
United Kingdom *Country* 50 E8
United States of America *Country* 8 I7
Ünye *Town* Turkey 76 H3
Upington *Town* South Africa 44 F7
Uppsala *Town* Sweden 49 E10
Ural Mountains *Mountain range* Russian
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Urganch *Town* Uzbekistan 84 G3
Uroševac *Town* Kosovo 65 G10 *see also* Ferizaj
Üroteppa *Town* Tajikistan 85 J4
Uruapan *Town* Mexico 19 J8
Uruguay *Country* 30 G8
Ürümqi *Town* China 88 F4
Uşak *Town* Turkey 76 D5
Ushuaia *Town* Argentina 31 D15
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