



Top 10 Facts

Oh Canada



1. The name Canada comes from the word 'kanata' which means 'settlement' or 'village' in the language of the indigenous St Lawrence Iroquoians. The national holiday is called Canada Day and is celebrated on 1 July.
2. The maple leaf is a Canadian symbol and features prominently on the national flag.
3. Canada is one seriously huge place! The country spans more than half the Northern Hemisphere (top half of the world!), it stretches across six time zones! A vast, rugged land, Canada is the second largest country in the world (Russia being the largest).
4. The British Queen is the head of state of Canada. Laws are made by Canada's parliament and prime minister, just like we have here in the U.K.
5. Canada has the longest coastline in the world with 202,080 km/ 125,567 miles.
6. Three Canadian islands are among the top ten biggest islands in the world. They are: Baffin Islands (more than double the size of Great Britain), Victoria Island and Ellesmere Island (both are roughly the size of England).
7. More than half of all the lakes in the world are located in Canada! The country counts more than 3 million lakes and 31,700 big lakes with an area over 300 hectares. Canada also includes two of the biggest lakes in the world: Great Bear Lake and Great Slave Lake. Canada's longest river is McKenzie River in the North West. The river is 4,241 km/ 2,635 miles long.
8. There are also a lot of forest areas and mountains with 41 national parks filled with animals like the Moose, Canada Goose, Beaver, Puffin, Bear, Whale, Lynx and Wolf. The highest mountain in Canada is Mount Logan with 5,959 m/ 19,551 ft. Mount Logan is located in the Yukon Territory at the border with Alaska.
9. The capital city of Canada is Ottawa, but Toronto is Canada's largest city with 6.2 million people. Montreal, Canada's second largest city with 4.2 million inhabitants, is also the second largest city in the world that has a French-speaking population - after Paris in France. The 2 main languages spoken in Canada are English and French.
10. Winters can be very cold in Canada with temperatures dropping below -40°C in some parts of the country. As a result, winter sports are popular and the one of the most popular sports in Canada is ice hockey.