



Canada



- The capital is Ottawa
- It is a constitutional monarchy: the British monarch is the head of state.
- Very high living standards
- A multicultural society

- The second largest country in the world (after Russia)
- The second most sparsely populated country in the world (after Australia)
- Population: 35 million
- 2 official languages: English and French
- The word Canada is derived from the Huron-Iroquois *kanata*, meaning a village or settlement.
- Canada shares a 5,525-mile- (8,890-km-) long border with the United States (including Alaska)—the longest border in the world not patrolled by military forces—and the overwhelming majority of its population lives within 185 miles (300 km) of the international boundary.

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Canada – the USA

- Although Canada shares many similarities with its southern neighbour—and, indeed, its popular culture and that of the United States are in many regards indistinguishable—the differences between the two countries, both temperamental and material, are profound. “The central fact of Canadian history,” observed the 20th-century literary critic Northrop Frye, is “the rejection of the American Revolution.” Contemporary Canadians are inclined to favour orderly central government and a sense of community over individualism; in international affairs, they are more likely to serve the role of peacemaker instead of warrior, and, whether at home or abroad, they are likely to have a pluralistic way of viewing the world. More than that, Canadians live in a society that in most legal and official matters resembles Britain—at least in the English-speaking portion of the country.

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French-speaking Canada

- Quebec, in particular, exhibits French adaptations: more than three-fourths of its population speaks French as their primary language. The French character in Quebec is also reflected in differences in religion, architecture, and schooling. Elsewhere in Canada, French influence is less apparent, confined largely to the dual use of French and English for place names, product labels, and road signs.

First Nations

The French and British influences are supplemented by the cultures of the country's native Indian peoples (in Canada often collectively called the First Nations) and the Inuit peoples, the former being far greater in number and the latter enjoying semiautonomous status in Canada's newest territory, Nunavut. (The Inuit prefer that term rather than Eskimo, and it is commonly used in Canada.)

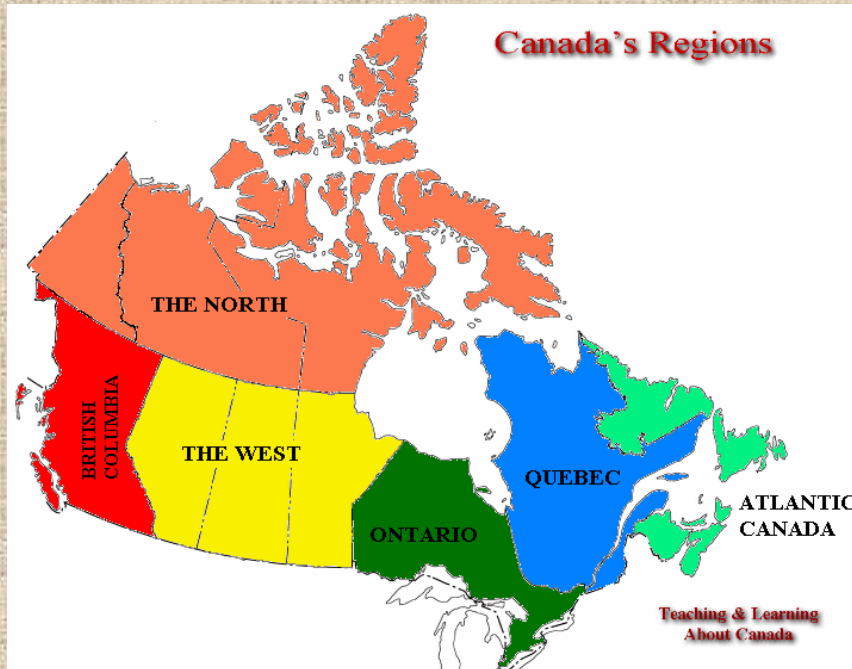
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- 10 provinces and 3 territories
- Largest cities: Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, Ottawa

- The national capital is Ottawa, Canada's fourth largest city. It lies some 250 miles (400 km) northeast of Toronto and 125 miles (200 km) west of Montreal, respectively Canada's first and second cities in terms of population and economic, cultural, and educational importance. The third largest city is Vancouver, a centre for trade with the Pacific Rim countries and the principal western gateway to Canada's developing interior. Other major metropolitan areas include Calgary and Edmonton, Alberta; Quebec city, Quebec; and Winnipeg, Manitoba.
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Regionalism in Canada

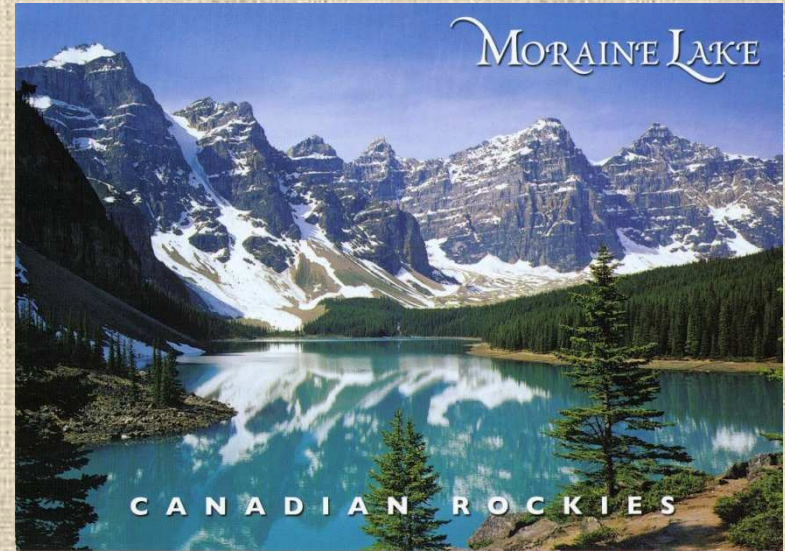
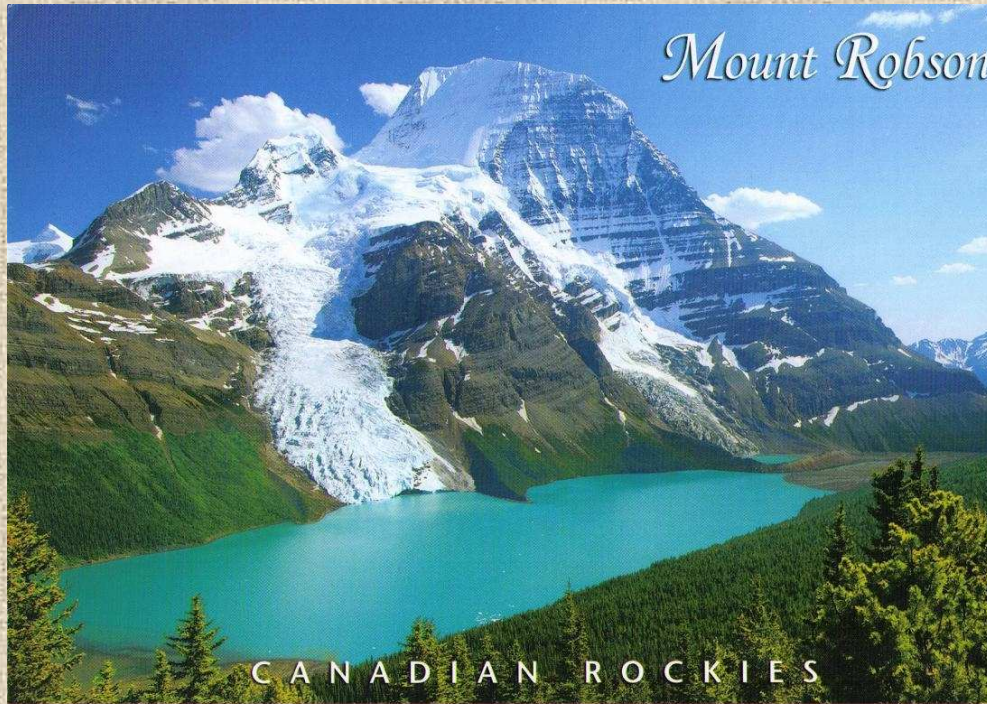


- The combination of physical geography and discontinuous settlement has led to a strong sense of regionalism in Canada, and popular regional terms often overlap. The Atlantic Provinces include all of the Appalachian region except the Quebec portion. If the province of Newfoundland and Labrador is excluded, the three remaining east-coast provinces are called the **Maritime Provinces** or the Maritimes. Quebec and Ontario are usually referred to separately but sometimes together, as **Central Canada**. **The West** usually means all four provinces west of Ontario, but British Columbia may be referred to alone and the other three collectively as the **Prairie Provinces** or the **Prairies**. Yukon, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut are referred to as **the North**.

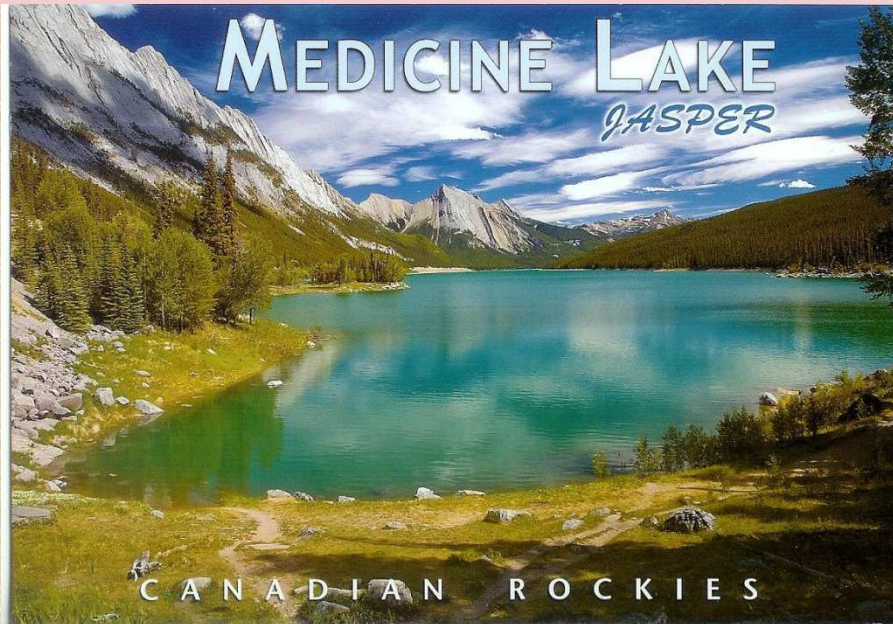


Ice hockey





- Awe-inspiring national parks: Banff and Jasper National Parks



- **Canada Day, formerly (until 1982) Dominion Day**, the national holiday of Canada. The possibility of a confederation between the colonies of British North America was discussed throughout the mid 1800s. On **July 1, 1867**, a dominion was formed through the **British North America Act** as approved by the British Parliament. It consisted of territories then called Upper and Lower Canada and of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. The act divided Canada into the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, and it included provisions for other colonies and territories to join in the future, which made possible the growth of Canada into its present form.

<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/91847/Canada-Day>

Canada Day – 1 July



The Shape of Canada in 1867

- Ontario
- Quebec
- New Brunswick
- Nova Scotia
- British Possessions



A very brief history of Canada - 1

- Original inhabitants: Indians and Eskimos
- European navigators: Vikings (1000 AD)
 - John Cabot (1497)
 - Jacques Cartier (1530s and 1540s)
 - Samuel de Champlain (1608)
- New France until 1763
- American War of Independence – loyalists fled the US and settled in British North America
- Constitutional Act of 1791: Upper and Lower Canada
- War of 1812
- Opening up the West: North West Company and Hudson's Bay Company

A very brief history of Canada - 2

- Civil War in America (1861-65)
 - **British North America Act of 1867**
- “One Dominion under the name of Canada”**
- 1869 – Canada purchased the gigantic wilderness of Rupert’s Land from the Hudson’s Bay Co.
 - 1871 – British Columbia joined the Dominion
 - **1931** – By the **Statute of Westminster**, Canada gained complete autonomy
 - **1982** – By the **Constitution Act**, the British Parliament formally surrendered its amending power over the Canadian Constitution