

CANADA

BASIC FACTS

Canada is located **in the north** of the continent of North America.

The capital city is **Ottawa**.

It is the **second largest country** by area in the world (after Russia)

It is part of **the Commonwealth**, it was a British colony.

(Commonwealth is a political organization founded for the common good. It's also called Commonwealth of Nations or formerly British Commonwealth. It's an organisation of 53 countries that formerly were territories of the former British Empire.

The head is **Queen Elizabeth II**. Australia, the Bahamas and e.g. Dominica have the official title Commonwealth, unlike many other Commonwealth nations it does not have the Union Jack on the flag.)

There is a **maple leaf** on the flag.

The name 'Canada' comes from the Iroquois/ **indian word 'kanata', meaning 'village' or 'settlement'**.

Though Canada is a large country, it has a relatively **small population** of 30 million.

It is a multicultural / diverse country with **two official languages, English and French**. About 70% of the population speak English and 22% speak French.

GEOGRAPHY

Canada's neighbours are/ (Canada is bordered by) **the USA to the south and the north-west** (Alaska).

Most people / About 80% of the population live near the American-Canadian border.

The southern part of the country is covered in forest. The northern part is mostly **tundra**.

The Canadian Rocky Mountains lie along the west coast. There are also many lakes and rivers, the Mackenzie and St Lawrence rivers are the longest.

The country is divided into **TEN PROVINCES** (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island) and **THREE TERRITORIES** (Northwest Territories, Nunavut and Yukon). Canada mostly has a continental climate with **cold snowy winters and warm summers**. The far north has a **polar climate**. Canada has many different animal species.



FAUNA/ animals



Animals include the **beaver**, the Canadian national animal, the **moose**, the **Canada goose**, the **black bear**, the **grizzly bear**, which lives mostly in the north-west, the polar bear in the Arctic region and the **coyote**.

THE CANADIAN POLITICAL SYSTEM

Canada is a **constitutional monarchy**. The ceremonial **head of the state is Queen Elizabeth II**. She holds little power. Her representative is the **GOVERNOR [ga-vr-nr] GENERAL**. Canada has a federal system of government. It has a **parliament** located in the capital, Ottawa. The parliament has two houses / chambers, the **Senate** and **House of Commons**. The leader of the government is called the prime minister. Each province also has its own parliament. **The head of the government in each province is the PREMIER.**

THE HISTORY OF CANADA

Settlement in Canada goes back 25,000 years in some areas. The first Europeans to colonize the Canadian territory were the Portuguese in the 15th century.

They were **replaced by the French** who slowly established a colony up to the 18th century. From the 18th century, **control moved to the British**.

In 1812, the British colonies in Canada fought a war against the USA.

In 1867, the country became more independent when it was under control of the United Kingdom.

In 1982 through the Canada Act, **Canada became formally separated from the United Kingdom**.

POPULAR PLACES TO VISIT/ ATTRACTIVE THINGS TO DO

The most visited places are / include **OTTAWA**, the capital of Canada, which is in Ontario,



you can go **dog-sledging** there; **Montreal**, the largest city in the French-speaking province of **Quebec**, and **Toronto**, the largest Canadian metropolis, also in the province of Ontario.



TORONTO's attractions include the **CN TOWER**, the world's tallest tower. You can go to the top and walk on the edge of the tower if you are brave enough.



VANCOUVER is also a popular destination and is the largest city on the west coast. In the **Pacific Rim National Park on Vancouver Island** tourists / visitors can **watch ORCAS and admire whales**. Another beautiful wild national park is **Banff National Park in Alberta**. There are glaciers and deep, blue lakes.

CANADIAN SPORTS

Canada is a great sporting nation.

Popular sports include **ice-hockey**,



American (Canadian) football, basketball and **lacrosse**. Another popular sport in Canada is **curling**. This team / group sport, originally from Scotland, is played on an ice rink. Players in pairs try to sweep a curling stone with broomsticks/slide a curling stone to a mark.

FAMOUS CANADIANS Famous Canadians are the singer and poet Leonard Cohen, singer-songwriter Neil Young, the pop singer Nelly Furtado, **Avril Lavigne, Justin Bieber, Alanis Morisset, Celine Dion** is known as Queen of Pop. Prominent Canadian actors are the comedian **Jim Carrey, Keanu Reeves** and Kiefer Sutherland.



THE POPULATION Canada has a relatively **small population of 30 million**. It is a **multicultural / diverse** country with **two official languages, English and French**. About 70% of the population speak English and 22% speak French. There are also many **native people/ aboriginal people** in Canada: the First Nations and the Inuits, who lived in Canada before it was discovered by Europeans. **THE NATIVE**



CANADIANS made colourful wooden **totems**, of large pieces of trees, they were symbols of a tribe/ family, the carvings, animals, birds represent their ancestors. **THE INUITS** (Eskimos) live **in the Arctic**, they built **igloos**.



HOW TO SURVIVE A BEAR ATTACK



Fill in the gaps with the correct verbs. Don't forget to put the verbs into the correct form.

APPEAR DEPEND LIE PLAY SURPRISE MAKE SHOW THINK CLIMB HAPPEN

Although they are rare, bear attacks have **1** _____ in Yellowstone. The most recent case was in 2015 when a hiker **2** _____ a female grizzly bear with and her two cubs (baby bears). So what should you do when you encounter (=meet) a bear in the wild?

First, do not try **3** _____ a tree. Bears are expert climbers. And no matter how scared you are, do not run! This will only make the bear want to chase you (=run after you). Otherwise, the best way to defend yourself **4** _____ on the type of bear.

BLACK BEARS

If you encounter a black bear, the best thing to do is make yourself **5** _____ bigger than you are. Stand up straight and make a lot of noise by yelling (=shouting) or banging pots and pans together. Hit the bear with rocks or sticks. Punch (=hit with a closed hand) or kick it if necessary. You have to **6** _____ the bear that you are not afraid. If you appear aggressive, a black bear will most likely leave you alone.



GRIZZLY BEARS

Grizzlies attack more often than black bears. The first thing you should do when you see a grizzly bear is to try to back away slowly without **7** _____ any sudden movements. Most of the time, this is enough. However, if the grizzly bear attacks, the best thing to do is to **8** _____ dead while protecting your vital (=most important) organs. You should **9** _____ face down on the ground with your hands on the back of your neck and your legs spread apart. Spreading your legs makes it more difficult for the bear to flip (=turn) you over. Bears attack because they feel threatened (=afraid), but they do not typically eat humans. If the grizzly **10** _____ you are dead, it will usually leave.

