# The U.S.A.

## History

The American continent was discovered first time around year **1000 by Vikings** but they don’t build there any settlement. So till year **1400, the Indians** were the only inhabitants. In **1492, Christopher Columbus** gets to America because of navigation error. He thought that he is in India, so that’s why the native inhabitants were names as Indians.

**First English colony** was created in Virginia and in 1620 the ship names **Mayflower** took around 100 English people including children to the America. They were puritans and they called themselves the **Pilgrim** **Fathers**. They wanted to build a colony but they had serious **problems** in the beginning, mainly because of cold winter. But after winter, they get some good advices from Indians, so they planted some corn and other plants, which cause, that this colony started to be productive and they started to enlarge their colony. It was October 1621 when they celebrated good harvest and they called this they the day of **Thanksgiving**. This feast is connected with eating turkey.

**England** **continued** to build up some more colonies but there were also **other** **countries**, which want some colonies there in the US such us French, German, of Spanish. England occupied mostly north and other countries east. In the **1754**, there was a **war** **between** **French** **and** **Indians** which cause, that British control almost all territories in US except New Orleans, which was French and Florida which was Spanish.

### War of independence (1775 – 1783)

It started, when colonies **refused to pay** taxes to England, which was charged to cover the war with French. In 1773 in Boston Harbour, few people dressed us Indians threw all cargo to the sea. This event was called the **Boston Tea Party**. Officially it started in 1775. George Washington was leader of the revolution. They create Continental Congress, which produce Declaration of Independence in 1776 (all are equal). The war ended when British recognized USA in 1783.

### Civil War (1861 – 1865)

This war was between **Union** (US) and **Southern** **slave** **states**. The leader of Union was **Lincoln**; the leader of Southern states was **Jefferson**. The main reason for this war was **slavery**. Till the slavery become crime, there were around half a million Africans brought to America as slaves. In the end, the south won and **slavery was cancelled**.

## Cities

### New York

It’s located on the north and it is spited to five parts. It is the **biggest city** of the USA and it has around 18 millions people. In the past, this place was bought from original inhabitants for **25** **USD**. There is a street called **Brood** **Way**, which is the centre of culture life. Beside this, **Wall** **Street** and few others, streets don’t have names in New York. Example is Fifth Avenue, where is the shopping centre. There are many **sky** **drapers** because the land in New York is very expensive. One of the most famous was **The** **World** **trade** **centre**, which was destroyed by the terrorists. Another one is for example **Empire** **State** **Building**. There is also park in NY, which is called **Central** **Park**. It is dangerous to go there at night but it is great place for tourists as well. Also Rock concerts go on there in Central Park.

### Washington D.C.

Washington D.C. is the capital city of USA. There are most important building such us **the** **White** **House** which is the residence of the US president. Then there is **the** **Capitol**, which is the seat of congress and then there is **the** **Pentagon**, which is centre of the military force. There are no factories and industry in Washington, that’s why this town is so clean and there can’t be any building higher than the Capitol, that’s why there are not any sky drapers.

## Geographic

The USA is **situated** in the southern part of North America. Their **neighbours** are **Canada** on the north and **Mexico** on the south. USA has more then **9 million sq kilometres**. The US population is nearly **250 millions**; it is about 26 people per 1 sq meter. It has **50** **states**, 48 of them are on the continent. Other twos are Alaska on the north and Hawaii in Middle Pacific.

The highest mountain is **Mount McKinley** in the Alaska Range. The largest rivers are **Mississippi** and the **Missouri**. There are many national parks in the USA, for example **Yellowstone** or **Grand** **Canyon** in Rocky Mountains Region.

There are many great places to go. For example famous films centre the **Hollywood** in Los Angeles. There is also the **biggest** **zoo** in the world there in Los Angeles. Another interesting town is **Huston** where the NASA is located which is centre for space flights. **Florida** is great place for tourists, there are **long** **beaches**.

The main **industries** in the USA are manufacturing **steel**, car industry, **electronics**, and machinery. The main products are **corn**, soybeans, **tobacco** and so on. They have lot of **coal**, copper (měď), uranium and **gold**. Their main trading partners are **Canada**, Japan or Mexico.

There are almost all kinds of **climates** in the USA because it’s huge country. **American** **flag** contain 50 white stars, which represents 50 states of the USA. There are also 13 stripes, which represents 13 original states. American flag is sometimes called “Stars and Stripes”.

There are many **famous** **writers** there in the USA. For example **Mark** **Twain**, who writes book called **Huckleberry** **Finn**. It’s about young naughty boy, who pass a lot of adventures. Another famous US writer is **Kenneth** **Roberts**, who writes book with name **Northwest** **Passage**. This book becomes world **best-seller** and it’s mostly about Indians, wild nature, love and England.

## Politic and legislative

The main part of legislative in US is called **Congress** and its seat in **the** **Capitol**. **Congress** is divided into two parts – **The House of Representatives** and the **Senate**. The House of Representatives is consisted of **lawmakers**. The **Senate’s** main purpose is to **create** **laws**.

**Executive** **branch** is represented by **president** and **executive** **departments**. The president in USA is voted by people directly. **President has big power**, he can veto bills and he is the commander of armed forces, every other department in US political system is answering to president.