

Adventures Across the Americas

Maps and atlases

Maps, atlases, globes and online mapping tools can be used to study the size, location and position of human and physical features as well as the routes between them.

The countries of North and South America

North America

- Belize (Be)
- Canada (Can)
- Costa Rica (CR)
- El Salvador (ES)
- Guatemala (Gu)
- Honduras (Ho)
- Mexico (Me)
- Nicaragua (Ni)
- Panama (Pa)
- The Caribbean (Ca)
- United States of America (USA)

A map of the Americas showing country boundaries and codes. North America includes Canada (Can), USA, and various Central American countries (Be, Ca, Ho, Ni, Pa, Me, Gu). South America includes Argentina (Ar), Bolivia (Bo), Brazil (Br), Chile (Ch), Colombia (Co), Ecuador (Ec), French Guiana (FG), Guyana (Gu), Paraguay (Par), Peru (Pe), Suriname (Su), Uruguay (Ur), and Venezuela (Ve).

South America

- Argentina (Ar)
- Bolivia (Bo)
- Brazil (Br)
- Chile (Ch)
- Colombia (Co)
- Ecuador (Ec)
- French Guiana (FG)
- Guyana (Gu)
- Paraguay (Par)
- Peru (Pe)
- Suriname (Su)
- Uruguay (Ur)
- Venezuela (Ve)

Climate zones in North and South America

A map of the Americas color-coded by climate zone. Polar (blue) is in the north, Temperate (green) is in the middle, Mediterranean (yellow) is in the southwest, Desert (orange) is in the west, and Tropical (red) is in the south. The equator is marked with a red line.

Key

Polar climate
The polar climate is the coldest climate in the world.

Temperate climate
The temperate climate has warm summers and cool, snowy winters.

Mediterranean climate
The Mediterranean climate has hot summers and mild, wet winters.

Desert climate
The desert climate is the hottest in the world. It is very dry and has hardly any rain.

Tropical climate
The tropical climate is hot and rainy all year, so it feels very humid.

Comparing places around the world

The Lake District, United Kingdom

Swiss Alps, Switzerland

Sierra Nevada, USA

These three areas have mountains, valleys, lakes, and protected natural areas. They also attract tourists and are popular for outdoor activities. However, The Lake District has a temperate climate and smaller hills and lakes. The Swiss Alps are much higher and colder and have ski resorts and mountain villages. The Sierra Nevada has wet winters and dry summers and has rocky mountains and forests of giant sequoia trees.

Famous human and physical features in North and South America

Famous physical features include:

Niagara Falls, Canada, United States of America

Amazon River, Peru, Colombia, Brazil

Andes Mountains, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, Argentina

Famous human features include:

Christ the Redeemer, Brazil

Chichén Itzá, Mexico

Golden Gate Bridge, United States of America