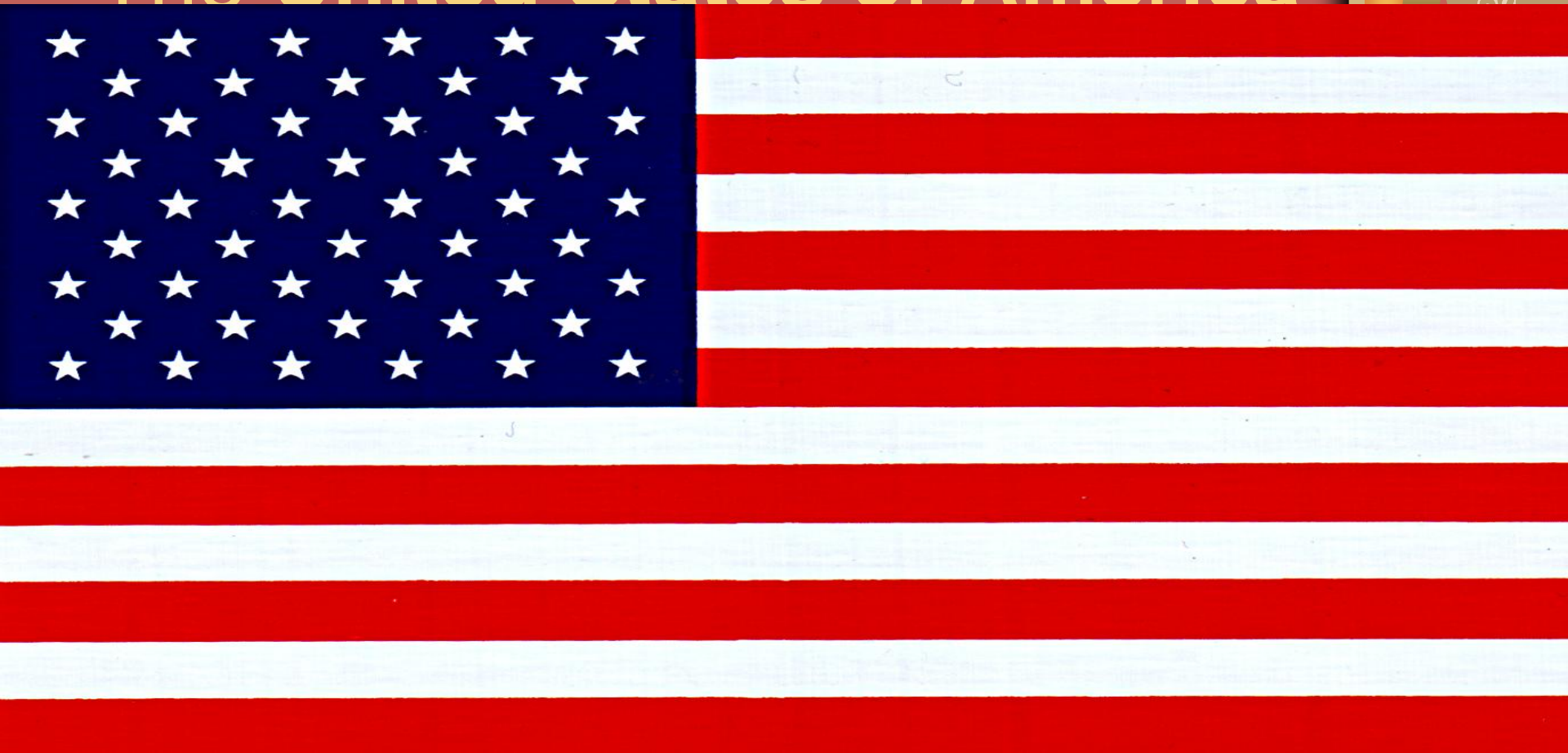







# The United States of America



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# GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION

The indigenous peoples of the U.S. mainland, including Alaska Natives, are believed to have migrated from Asia, beginning between 12,000 and 40,000 years ago. Some, such as the pre-Columbian Mississippian culture, developed advanced agriculture, grand architecture, and state-level societies. After Europeans began settling the Americas, many millions of indigenous Americans died from epidemics of imported diseases such as smallpox.

The Mayflower transported Pilgrims to the New World in 1620, as depicted in William Halsall's *The Mayflower in Plymouth Harbor*, 1882.

In 1492, Genoese explorer Christopher Columbus, under contract to the Spanish crown, reached several Caribbean islands, making first contact with the indigenous people. On April 2, 1513, Spanish conquistador Juan Ponce de León landed on what he called "La Florida"—the first documented European arrival on what would become the U.S. mainland. Spanish settlements in the region were followed by ones in the present-day southwestern United States that drew thousands through Mexico. French fur traders established outposts of New France around the Great Lakes; France eventually claimed much of the North American interior, down to the Gulf of Mexico. The first successful English settlements were the Virginia Colony in Jamestown in 1607 and the Pilgrims' Plymouth Colony in 1620. The 1628 chartering of the Massachusetts Bay Colony resulted in a wave of migration; by 1634, New England had been settled by some 10,000 Puritans. Between the late 1610s and the American Revolution, about 50,000 convicts were shipped to Britain's American colonies. Beginning in 1614, the Dutch settled along the lower Hudson River, including New Amsterdam on Manhattan Island.

# Symbols

The symbol of the country is the BALD-HEADED EAGLE with its wings spread on a white background.


The first Americans chose the eagle as the emblem to symbolise their power. The bald eagle owes its name to the early American colonists. It actually isn't really bald at all but white-headed. This bird lives only in The USA and Canada. In 1782, Congress selected the bald eagle as the emblem of the newly formed union to show the courage and might of the nation.







# The American flag

 The national flag of the United States of America (or the **American flag**) consists of thirteen equal horizontal stripes of red (top and bottom) alternating with white, with a blue rectangle in the canton (referred to specifically as the "union") bearing fifty small, white, five-pointed stars arranged in nine offset horizontal rows of six stars (top and bottom) alternating with rows of five stars. The 50 stars on the flag represent the 50 states and the 13 stripes represent the thirteen British colonies that rebelled against the British monarchy and became the first states in the Union.<sup>[1]</sup> Nicknames for the flag include the "Stars and Stripes", "Old Glory", and "The Star-Spangled Banner" (also the name of the national anthem).







# The Hymn

**O say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,  
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?  
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous  
fight,  
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?  
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,  
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.  
O say does that star spangled banner yet wave  
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave?**

**On the shore dimly seen through the mists of the deep.  
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,  
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,  
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?  
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,  
In full glory reflected now shines in the stream:  
'Tis the Star-Spangled Banner! O long may it wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.**

**And where is that band who so vauntingly swore  
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion  
A home and a country should leave us no more?  
Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution.  
No refuge could save the hireling and slave  
From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave:  
And the Star-Spangled Banner, in triumph doth wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.**

**O thus be it ever when freemen shall stand  
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation!  
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the Heaven-rescued land  
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation.  
Then conquer we must when our cause it is just  
And this be our motto: «In God is our Trust.»  
And the Star-Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!**






# The Sights of the USA.



# Walt Disney World

 Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida is not just a theme park, but a huge resort complex covering 47 square miles. The resort contains four separate theme parks, three water parks and 99 holes of golf on several different courses. Miles of outdoor recreation are available including hiking, biking, boating and swimming. It has three separate areas containing shopping, dining and entertainment facilities as well as a fourth area with nightclubs. A fairly new addition to the resort is the state of the art sports complex where Disney hosts a wide variety of sporting events. Finally, there are about 18 Disney owned and operated hotels and several non-Disney hotels in the resort. All this combined with many other attractions in the Orlando and central Florida area can be quite overwhelming.







# New York

■ They don't come any bigger than the Big Apple - king of the hill, top of the heap, New York, New York. No other city is arrogant enough to dub itself Capital of the World and no other city could carry it off. New York is a densely packed mass of humanity - seven million people in 309 sq miles (800 sq km) - and that's just Manhattan, only a part of greater New York City. All this living on top of one another makes the New Yorker a special kind of person. Although it's hard to put a finger on what makes New York buzz, it's the city's hyperactive rush that really draws people here.






# Statue of Liberty



# AMERICAN ROLLERCOASTER

 **American Eagle** is a two track racing wooden roller coaster located at Six Flags Great America in Gurnee, Illinois, United States. It was manufactured by Intamin of Switzerland (their first wooden roller coaster) and built in 1981 by the contracting firm Figley-Wright. While this record has since been relinquished, American Eagle was the tallest (drop height) and fastest wooden roller coaster ever at the time of its completion, and is still one of the premier racing wooden roller coasters in the United States. In 2006, American Eagle celebrated its Silver Anniversary.







# HOLLYWOOD



**Hollywood** is a district in Los Angeles, California, United States situated west-northwest of downtown Los Angeles. Due to its fame and cultural identity as the historical center of movie studios and movie stars, the word *Hollywood* is often used as a metonym of American cinema. Today, much of the movie industry has dispersed into surrounding areas such as the Westside neighborhood, and the San Fernando and Santa Clarita Valleys, but significant auxiliary industries, such as editing, effects, props, post-production, and lighting companies remain in Hollywood, as does the backlot of Paramount Pictures.





HOLLYWOOD



# *Hollywood Walk of Fame*

