

Canada

basic version

1 Geography

Canada is located in the northern Hemisphere. Canada has borders with the USA in the south and with Alaska in north-east. Atlantic Ocean is on the east, Pacific Ocean in the west and Arctic Ocean in the north. Canada is the 2nd largest country in the world, but has only 36 million people.

The longest river is Mackenzie River with its length over 1 700 km. Other long rivers are Yukon, St. Lawrence, Fraser and Columbia. There are several great lakes in the southern border with the USA and their names are Lake Superior, Ontario, Huron and Erie. Niagara falls are between lakes Ontario and Erie. Other great lakes are Great Bear Lake, Great Slave Lake and Lake Winnipeg. The highest mountain is Mount Logan with 5 959 metres.

2 History

The European settlers arrived to Canada in the 15th century. However Vikings discovered the land of Canada more than thousand years before. The first explorer was John Cabot in 1497. The competition between Britain and France over the lucrative trade in North America caused Seven Years War. France lost the war and French territory became British. The name of the British colony is from indian word “Kanata” (means community / village). In 1898 famous Klondike Gold Rush started in Northwest Territory of Canada.

Canada participated in both world wars. Canada as a part of British Empire helped Britain and France. During the Second World War Canada fought again with Britain, France and other countries. Canada has its own flag with red maple leaf since 1965 and has its own constitution since 1982. Canada is part of many international organizations like United Nations, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, and NATO. Canadians soldiers are present in all the NATO missions and help in United Nation’s around the world.

3 Political system

Canada has its own Constitution since 1982 and has federal parliamentary system. The head of state is British monarch Queen Elizabeth II. She is represented in Canada by Governor General. However, head of government has the real power and prime minister is Justin Trudeau. The federal parliament has two houses: The House of Commons with 383 members and the Senate with 105 members. Canada is a bilingual state (English and French languages) since 1965.

4 National Symbol

Canadian Flag has three vertical stripes, two red stripes on sides and one white stripe in the middle with big red maple leaf.

5 Economy

Canada is a developed country with 10th largest economy in the world. Canada is very effective in agriculture and is one of the largest wheat exporters in the world. It produces livestock, oats, barley, fruit, vegetables and leather. Canada is also big exporter of lumber and paper. Country is rich on gold, uranium, copper, crude oil and natural gas (most oilfields are in Alberta province). Canada has 3rd largest proven oil reserves after Venezuela and Saudi Arabia. The sectors of economy are services, energy industry, finance, agriculture and fishing.

6 Interesting information and places

The capital city is Ottawa, but the biggest city is Toronto. Other big cities are Vancouver, Quebec, Edmonton and Winnipeg. Famous Niagara Falls between Ontario and Erie lakes is popular tourist attraction. The natural parks in Canada are beautiful. Other interesting places are Banff National Park in Rocky Mountains CN Tower in Toronto, Old Quebec, Old Montreal and Gros Morne National Park.

The national sports of Canada are ice hockey and lacrosse. Other popular sports are baseball and rugby.

7 Důležitá slovíčka

Fonetická výslovnost není pro lepší srozumitelnost uvedena.

border with	(bórdr wit)	mít hranici s
surrounded	(s-raundyd)	obklopený
competition	(kompetišn)	konkurence
lost	(lost)	prohrála / ztratila
vary	(véry)	lišit se
settler	(setlr)	osadník
explore	(iks-plór)	prozkoumat
mean	(mýn)	znamenat
unlike	(an-lajk)	narozdíl od
derived	(dyrajvd)	odvozeno z
wheat	(wýt)	pšenice
allies	(élájs)	spojenci
constitution	(konstitjůšn)	ústava
legislative power	(ledžisltiv pau-wr)	zákonodárná moc
elect	(ilekt)	zvolit
bilingual	(bilingjů-l)	dvojjazyčný
agriculture	(egri-kalčr)	zemědělství
livestock	(lajv stok)	chovný dobytek
oats	(outs)	oves
copper	(kopr)	měď
crude oil	(krůd ojl)	surová ropa
natural gas	(néčerl gás)	zemní plyn
vast	(vást)	značný
deposit	(dyposit)	ložisko
natural resources	(né-č-rl ry-sórsys)	přírodní zdroje
to some extent	(tó sam iks-tent)	do jisté míry
significantly	(signifikntly)	značně
influence	(influenc)	ovlivnit