# FLORIDA

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**Florida** became the 27<sup>th</sup> state in 1845. With a population of over 21 million, Florida is third-most populous state in the United States.



It is located in the southeastern region of the country, with Tallahassee as its capital. It enjoys the longest coastline in all of America, and extends like a peninsula between the Gulf of Mexico, the Atlantic Ocean and the Straits of Florida.

The culture of Florida is similar to the rest of American Southern culture, but as a coastal state, Florida's urban culture has been influenced by immigrant populations, especially those from Europe, Latin America, and the Caribbean.



Being a part of the American South, Florida has also long been influenced by Southern culture. Florida culture is also influenced by tourism, an important industry in the state.

Not Many People Realize That These Things Are Actually Illegal In Florida

- 1. Skateboarding without a license is illegal.
- 2. In Miami, selling oranges on the street is illegal.
- 3. Women who fall asleep under a hair dryer may be fined, as can the salon owner.







- 4. Singing in public while wearing a bathing suit is illegal
- 5. All doors must open outward on public buildings.
- 6. Men may not wear a strapless gown in public.



The capital of Florida is Tallahassee, and Jacksonville is the state's largest city. There are other big cities in Florida, like Tampa, Orlando and Miami.

Orlando is home to many amusement and theme parks, like Walt Disney World Resort, Sea World, and Universal Studios.

The oldest city in Florida is St. Augustine, which was founded by the Spanish in 1565.



#### Florida is proud to be home to some of the world's most famous people:

- 1. Donald trump 45th President of the United States (lives in Mar-a-Lago, West Palm Beach);
- 2. Backstreetboys pop singers (Orlando)
- 3. Ariana Grande singer (Boca Raton)
- 4. Eva Mendes actress (Miami)
- 5. Robert James businessman, founder of Raymond James Financial (St. Petersberg)
- 6. Matt Damon actor (Miami)
- 7. Megan Fox actress (St. Petersberg)
- 8. Enrique Eglesias singer (Miami)



#### The state of Florida has many state-wide symbols:

**1. STATE FLAG** 



#### 2. STATE MARINE MAMMALS (MANATEE)



#### **STATE REPTILE** (American Alligator)



#### **STATE FLOWER** (orange blossom)



#### STATE TREE (Sabal palm)



#### **Places of interest of the state:**

1. Panama City Beach on the Florida panhandle offers 27 miles (43 km) of white sand beaches on the Emerald Coast.

2. Orlando is theme-park city, having more theme parks than any place else in the world.

3. One of the most vibrant cities in the USA, Miami is best known for its Latin culture and





4. Naples Botanical Garden. The botanical garden was founded in 1993 and consists of 170 acres of cultivated gardens and preservation land.

5. The Ernest Hemingway Home and Museum The Ernest Hemingway House was the residence of American writer Ernest Hemingway in the 1930s.



**Florida** remains one of the most interesting states in the country from a cultural point of view. Its holiday calendar features hundreds of fun activities. The picturesque town of Plant City is a permanent venue for the annual Strawberry Festival that is a very interesting agricultural event.

The allure of Disney, Universal, and the other theme parks in Orlando can't be dismissed because they contribute a true mark of fantasy to Florida's culture.



#### **Interesting facts:**

**1.** 70 percent of Florida residents speak English as a first language, while 20 percent speak Spanish.

- 2. Florida is most often associated with seafood, key lime pie and Floribbean cuisine.
- 3. Barbecue is especially popular throughout the state.
- 4. The main economic driver for Florida is tourism.
- **5. Many people from other states, especially Americans from the Northeast and Midwest, retire in Florida.**



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