

TOTAL LAND AREA - 9,976,140 SQ KM (3,851,809 SQ MILES)

The second-largest country in the world



CANADA IS BOUNDED ON THE NORTH BY THE ARCTIC OCEAN, ON THE EAST BY KENNEDY CHANNEL, NARES STRAIT, BAFFIN BAY, DAVIS STRAIT, AND THE ATLANTIC OCEAN, ON THE SOUTH BY THE UNITED STATES, AND ON THE WEST BY THE PACIFIC OCEAN AND THE US STATE OF ALASKA. THE COASTAL WATERS OF CANADA ALSO INCLUDE THE HUDSON STRAIT AND HUDSON BAY.

The country's total land boundary length is 8,893 km (5,526 mi). Its total coastline length is 243 791 km (151 485



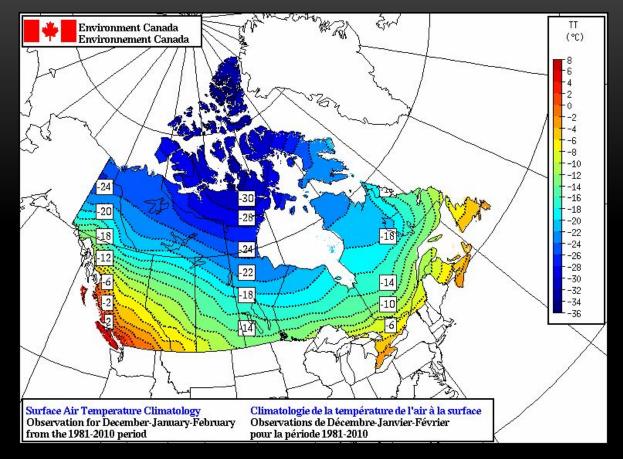
About 2 percent of the Canadian territory is covered by glacier ice. The eastern parts of the country are mainly valleys and plains. The western territories are occupied by the Cordilleras. They stretch from the American border to the Arctic Ocean. The Cordillera region is composed of numerous mountain groups: the Rocky Mountains, the Coast Mountains and others



The main Canadian islands are Newfoundland, Victorian Island, Baffin Island and others. There are a lot of rivers and lakes in Canada. Among them there are the Great Bear Lake, the Great Slave Lake and the Great Lakes District. The largest rivers are the Nelson, the Ottawa, the Mackenzie and the Yukon.



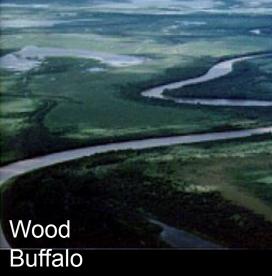
The population of Canada is about 25 million people. It is mainly concentrated in large cities. The economically significant area of the country is its western part. Canada is rich in mineral resources, such as non-ferrous metals, uranium, oil, natural gas and coal. It is also exceptionally rich in forests and fur-bearing animals. All these factors led Canada to the position of a highly-developed country



The northern parts lie in the subarctic and arctic climatic zones. Most of the northern islands are covered with ice. The bays between them are covered with ice for 9—10 months a year. This territory has a climate with very cold winters and short, cool summers. The average winter temperature is about 35 degrees below zero. The average summer temperature is about 4 degrees above zero.

The region of the Cordilleras is famous for its beautiful forests. Canadian west is the most attractive part of the country. The snow-capped mountains and ocean bays create a surprisingly beautiful atmosphere.

Besides, Canadian south is known for its changeable weather. Sometimes it is too humid, and sometimes it is too dry: the weather can change very quickly. The Niagara Falls situated in that part of the country attracts people from all over the world by its unusual beauty.





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