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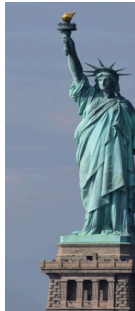
Basic read

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Statue of Liberty

New York City, New York



In 1865, a man from France named Edouard de Laboulaye suggested building a statue for the United States to honor the friendship between France and America. A French artist named Auguste Bartholdi liked the idea. In 1870, he started designing the Statue of Liberty.

While Bartholdi was working on the statue, he visited the United States. He picked Bedloe's Island as the spot for the statue. Even though the island was small, Bartholdi thought it was perfect because every ship coming into New York Harbor could see it. He thought the harbor was like the "gateway to America."

In 1865, a man from France named had a big idea. He wanted to build a special gift for the United States. This statue would be a way to celebrate the friendship between France and America.

A talented artist from France named Bartholdi really liked the idea. He decided to create this statue. In 1870, Bartholdi started to make plans for what would become the Statue of Liberty.

Bartholdi chose a small island called Bedloe's Island for the statue. Even though it was small, Bartholdi thought it was just right because every ship that sailed into New York Harbor would see it.

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The Statue of Liberty is a huge statue on Liberty Island in New York Bay. It's a symbol of the friendship between the United States and France. The statue stands 305 feet tall, which includes its pedestal. It shows a woman holding a torch high in her right hand and a tablet in her left hand. On the tablet, the date of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776, is written.

The torch is impressive too, standing at 29 feet tall from the tip of the flame to the bottom of the handle. Visitors used to be able to climb up to the torch using a ladder inside the statue's arm from 1886 to 1916. Nowadays, an elevator takes people to an observation deck in the pedestal, which you can also reach by stairs. There's even a spiral staircase leading up to an observation platform in the statue's crown.

Near the entrance to the pedestal, there's a plaque with a special poem called "The New Colossus," written by Emma Lazarus in 1883. It talks about the Statue of Liberty as a welcoming symbol for people from all over the world who are seeking freedom and a better life. The poem says, "Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free."

White House
Washington, D.C.



The White House is a famous landmark in America. It was built a long time ago, starting in 1792 and finished in 1800. An architect named James Hoban designed it. Presidents of the United States have lived there ever since.

The White House is in Washington, D.C. It has seen many big events in American history. During the War of 1812, British soldiers even burned part of it! But it was fixed up and made even bigger over the years.

Today, the White House is not just a home for the President and their family. It's also a famous landmark that shows how our country's government has stayed strong over many years. Visitors may tour the bottom floor during the morning and early afternoon.

The White House is a very famous building in America. It was started in 1792 and finished in 1800. A man named James Hoban designed it. Every President of the United States has lived there since then.

The White House is in Washington, D.C. Many important things have happened there in American history. During the War of 1812, some parts of it were burned by British soldiers! But people fixed it and made it even bigger over time.

Today, the White House isn't just where the President and their family live. It's also a very famous place that shows how our government has stayed strong for a long time.

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The President of the United States lives and works at the White House in Washington, D.C. It's a big, white building on Pennsylvania Avenue. The President's family also lives there.

Inside, there are many rooms. The East Room is the biggest and has dances and big parties. The State Dining Room is almost as big and can fit up to 140 people for meals. There are also the Red, Blue, and Green rooms named after their colorful decorations.

The second and third floors are where the President, the President's family, and guests have their bedrooms and private spaces. There's lots to do there, like watching movies in the movie theater, swimming in the pool, and playing tennis.

The West and East wings are connected to the main building and have offices for government workers. The President's office, called the Oval Office, is in the West Wing. The East Wing has offices for the First Lady and her staff.

Today, people can visit parts of the White House.

Liberty Bell

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



The Liberty Bell is a landmark in American history, symbolizing freedom and independence since its creation in 1752. Over time, it gained fame as the Liberty Bell due to its association with pivotal moments like the first public reading of the Declaration of Independence in 1776, where it reportedly cracked.

Throughout the 19th century, the Liberty Bell became a powerful symbol for abolitionists, who saw its inscription, "Proclaim LIBERTY throughout all the Land unto all the Inhabitants thereof," as a call for freedom and equality.

In the early 20th century, the Liberty Bell embarked on a journey across the United States, appearing at expositions and events. Finally, in 1976, it found its permanent home in the Liberty Bell Center at Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia. Today, the Liberty Bell continues to attract visitors as a cherished landmark, representing America's foundational principles of liberty and democracy.

The Liberty Bell is very important in American history. It started in 1752 and has been a symbol of freedom and independence. People know it as the Liberty Bell because it cracked when they read the Declaration of Independence in 1776. In the 1800s, people fighting to end slavery liked the bell because it says "Proclaim LIBERTY throughout all the Land unto all the Inhabitants thereof." In the 1900s, the bell traveled around the country and went to big shows. Then in 1976, it got a home at the Liberty Bell Center in Philadelphia. Today, people still come to see it because it shows America's ideas about freedom and democracy.

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In 1776 in Philadelphia, the Liberty Bell rang to tell everyone that the United States was free from Britain. Back then, though, people didn't call it the Liberty Bell. People who wanted freedom for enslaved people named it the Liberty Bell in 1839.

The bell is made mostly of copper and tin. It's 3 feet tall and 12 feet around at the bottom. It weighs about 2,080 pounds. On the bell is a verse from the Bible that says, "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof."

The Pennsylvania Provincial Assembly ordered the bell from Britain in 1751. On July 8, 1776, officials rang the bell to let everyone hear the Declaration of Independence.

After the war, the bell went back to the assembly building, which was now called Independence Hall. The bell cracked in 1835, maybe during Chief Justice John Marshall's funeral. The crack got worse in 1846, so now the bell doesn't ring. In 2003, it moved to a new building called the Liberty Bell Center near Independence Hall.

Supreme Court Building

Washington, D.C.



The Supreme Court building is a special place where important decisions are made in America. It was built a long time ago, starting in 1932. The Supreme Court is where judges called justices decide on laws and make sure they are fair.

The building was designed by an architect named Cass Gilbert. It's located in Washington, D.C., which is the capital city of the United States. The Supreme Court building is very beautiful, with marble columns and steps you can walk up.

Inside, there is a big courtroom where the justices listen to cases and decide what the law should be. The Supreme Court building is a landmark because it represents justice and fairness in our country. It reminds us that everyone should be treated fairly under the law.

Today, the Supreme Court building is an important part of our government. It helps make sure our laws are fair for everyone in America.

The Supreme Court building is a special place in America where important decisions are made. It was built a long time ago, starting in 1932. Inside, judges called justices decide on laws to make sure they are fair.

Inside, there is a big room called a courtroom. That's where the justices listen to cases and decide what the law should be. The Supreme Court building is special because it stands for justice and fairness in our country. It reminds us that everyone should be treated fairly under the law.

Today, the Supreme Court building is still very important in our government. It helps make sure our laws are fair for everyone in America.

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[Supreme Court](#)

The Supreme Court is the highest court in the United States. It leads the judicial branch of our government, along with the executive branch (the president) and the legislative branch (Congress).

The Supreme Court has the power to change the decisions of lower courts. It can also cancel laws that don't agree with the U.S. Constitution. These decisions affect many people.

There are nine judges on the Supreme Court called justices. One is the chief justice, and the others are associate justices. The president picks justices, but the Senate must agree.

For a long time, all the justices were white men. In 1967, Thurgood Marshall became the first African American justice. Sandra Day O'Connor was the first woman justice in 1981. Ketanji Brown Jackson became the first African American woman justice in 2022.

The Court can change its own decisions too. In 1896, it allowed segregation. But in 1954, it said segregation in schools was wrong.

U.S. Capitol Building

Washington, D.C.



The Capitol is a very special building in America. It was built a long time ago, starting in 1793. The Capitol is where Congress meets to make laws for our country.

On top of the Capitol is a big dome that you can see from far away. This dome is famous and shows that it's the center of our government.

The Capitol has grown bigger and more beautiful over the years. Inside, there are special rooms where Senators and Representatives meet to talk about important things and make laws. The Vice-President meets Congress in the Capitol. Sometimes, the President comes to speak there too.

Today, the Capitol is not just a building. It's a historic place that reminds us about our country's laws and how our government works to keep our country running well.

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Visitors can sit in the gallery and watch their representatives talk about laws.

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The United States Capitol is the building where Congress meets. The Capitol is one of the most-recognized landmarks in Washington, D.C.

President George Washington laid the cornerstone on September 18, 1793. The British burned and looted the Capitol during the War of 1812. A rainstorm kept the building from being completely destroyed. The building was restored and expanded during the 1800s and again in 1959–60.

On January 6, 2021, a mob of people attacked the Capitol. Congress was meeting to make the 2020 election results official when the supporters broke into the building, vandalized it and hurt some security guards.

The building itself is considered an impressive architectural work. The dome caps the Rotunda, the large central room on the second floor of the Capitol. Paintings and sculptures line the walls of the Rotunda.

The National Statuary Hall Collection consists of 100 statues. Each state is represented by two statues of important figures in the history of that state. Many other paintings and statues are located throughout the Capitol.

Lincoln Memorial

Washington, D.C.



The Lincoln Memorial is a special monument for Abraham Lincoln, the 16th president of the United States. He helped end slavery and guided our country during the Civil War.

It's in Washington, D.C., near the Potomac River. They started building it in 1914 and finished in 1922. Henry Bacon designed it to look like an ancient Greek temple called the Parthenon. There are 36 marble columns outside, one for each state when Lincoln died in 1865.

Inside, there's a big marble statue of Lincoln sitting in a chair. It's 19 feet tall and was made by Daniel Chester French. Two of Lincoln's most famous speeches are on the walls inside. The Gettysburg Address is on one side, and his Second Inaugural Address is on the other. On the ceiling, there are paintings by Jules Guerin showing important moments in history.

The Lincoln Memorial was very important during the civil rights movement. In 1963, Martin Luther King, Jr., gave his famous "I Have a Dream" speech on its steps.

The Lincoln Memorial is one of America's most famous places since it was built in 1922. It looks like an ancient Greek building and honors Abraham Lincoln. Lots of people visit it in Washington, D.C. It's on the back of pennies and five-dollar bills. It has been in important movies and was where Marian Anderson sang in 1939 and where Martin Luther King, Jr. gave his famous speech in 1963.

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The Lincoln Memorial looks like an ancient Greek temple. It has 36 tall columns and a big reflecting pool outside.

Inside, there's a huge statue of Abraham Lincoln sitting in a chair. The statue is made of white marble and is almost 20 feet tall and wide. Behind the statue, words are carved into the wall saying that Lincoln will always be remembered for saving the country.

The Gettysburg Address, one of Lincoln's famous speeches, is written on one wall inside. There are also paintings showing important moments in history, like an angel and a freed slave.

The Lincoln Memorial has been a place for important events in history. Marian Anderson sang there in 1939 because she couldn't sing at another hall. Martin Luther King, Jr., gave his "I Have a Dream" speech there. President Nixon met with Vietnam War protesters there, and President Obama had a concert there before becoming president.

St. Louis Arch
St. Louis, Missouri



The St. Louis Arch is a famous landmark in America. It was built a long time ago, from 1963 to 1965. The arch is in St. Louis, Missouri. It's very tall and shiny!

An architect named Eero Saarinen designed the arch. It's made of shiny steel and looks like a big rainbow going up in the sky. People from all around the world come to see it.

You can do more than just look at the arch; you can go inside and ride an elevator to the top. From there, you can see a beautiful view of the city and the Mississippi River.

Today, the St. Louis Arch is still a big landmark that reminds us of America's history and how people can build amazing things together. It's a special symbol of St. Louis and a place where families can visit and learn about our country.

The St. Louis Arch is a famous landmark in America. It was built a long time ago, from 1963 to 1965. The arch is in St. Louis, Missouri. It's very tall and shiny!

The arch is a symbol of people moving west to have new places to live and work. It's made of shiny steel and looks like a big rainbow going up in the sky. People from all around the world come to see it.

You can ride an elevator to the top. From there, you can see a beautiful view of the city and the Mississippi River.

Today, the St. Louis Arch is still a big landmark that reminds us of America's history and how all people have opportunities.

[Arch](#)


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Gateway Arch National Park, formerly known as the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial, was founded by the National Park Service in 1935 to honor Thomas Jefferson's vision of a united United States stretching from coast to coast.

Today, the park celebrates the diverse people who shaped our country. Thomas Jefferson's leadership led to the Louisiana Purchase in 1803, doubling the size of the United States. Explorers like Lewis & Clark, along with Sacagawea, mapped new territories all the way to the Pacific Ocean. Civil rights challengers like Dred and Harriet Scott fought for their freedom from slavery at the Old Courthouse, and suffragette Virginia Minor fought for women's right to vote. Architect Eero Saarinen designed the Gateway Arch to honor all these stories.

The Arch stands as a symbol of our national identity and a masterpiece of mid-century modern design.

<p>Golden Gate Bridge</p> <p>San Francisco, CA</p>		<p>The Golden Gate Bridge was built during a time called the Great Depression, from 1933 to 1937. It's a very tall and long bridge with two big towers. When it was done, it was the tallest and longest bridge of its kind in the whole world! The bridge has special strong wires that are long enough to go around the Earth three times. It can even move up and down a lot, depending on the weather and how many cars are on it.</p> <p>People from Marin, Sonoma, Del Norte, and parts of Napa and Mendocino helped pay for the bridge by offering their homes and businesses to help get money.</p> <p>The Golden Gate Bridge is famous all over the world and shows how smart people are when they build things. Lots of people visit it every year. People say it's an example of how amazing people can be at making big things, and it's a special part of San Francisco and California.</p>	<p>The Golden Gate Bridge was built in 1937. It's a very tall and long bridge with two big towers. When it was done, it was the tallest and longest bridge of its kind in the whole world!</p> <p>The bridge has special strong wires that are long enough to go around the Earth three times. It can move up and down a lot, depending on the weather and how many cars are on it.</p> <p>The Golden Gate Bridge is famous all over the world and shows how smart people are when they build things. Lots of people visit it every year. People say it's an example of how amazing people can be at making big things, and it's a special part of San Francisco and California.</p> <p>Britannica</p> <p>Cool Kid Facts</p> <p>Bridge Facts</p>	<p>The Golden Gate Bridge is a famous landmark in northern California. It spans over the Golden Gate strait, which links San Francisco Bay to the Pacific Ocean. Despite its name, the bridge is painted a reddish-orange color called "international orange," which stands out even in the fog that often covers the bay.</p> <p>The main span of the Golden Gate Bridge is 4,200 feet long, almost a mile! When it was finished in 1937, it was the longest bridge in the world until 1964. It's a suspension bridge, meaning the roadway hangs from steel cables that stretch between two tall towers rising from the water. The towers are 746 feet tall. People can drive, bike, or walk across the bridge.</p> <p>Today, the Golden Gate Bridge is not only a vital transportation link but also an iconic symbol of engineering and a beloved part of California's landscape.</p>
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<p>Mount Rushmore National Memorial</p> <p>Keystone, South Dakota</p>		<p>Mount Rushmore is a special monument in South Dakota's Black Hills. It has huge faces of four U.S. presidents carved into a mountain. The presidents are George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, and Theodore Roosevelt. This place is called Mount Rushmore National Memorial.</p> <p>The mountain where Mount Rushmore is sits 5,725 feet tall. The faces are carved from solid granite rock and each one is about 60 feet tall.</p> <p>An artist named Gutzon Borglum designed the sculpture. He wanted the presidents to symbolize different parts of U.S. history. Washington shows when the country began. Jefferson is for when it grew to the west. Roosevelt shows the country getting stronger. Lincoln shows how it stayed together during the Civil War.</p> <p>Work on Mount Rushmore started in 1927 and was finished in 1941. They used dynamite, jackhammers, chisels, and drills to make the sculpture. After removing about 450,000 tons of rock, the monument became a famous tourist spot in the United States.</p>	<p>Mount Rushmore National Memorial is in South Dakota and was carved into a mountain between 1927 and 1941. It took longer to finish because of money problems.</p> <p>The mountain is special to Native American people, but building the memorial caused arguments even before it was done. It shows big faces of four U.S. presidents: George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Theodore Roosevelt, and Abraham Lincoln. Each face is as tall as a five-story building!</p> <p>Britannica</p> <p>Nat. Park Service</p> <p>Kiddle</p>	<p>Mount Rushmore National Memorial is centered on a colossal sculpture carved into the granite face of Mount Rushmore (Lakota: <i>T̥h̥uŋkášila Šákpe</i>, or Six Grandfathers) in the Black Hills near Keystone, South Dakota. This mountain is sacred to the Lakota tribe and they were very unhappy that it was used for a landmark.</p> <p>The sculpture features the 60-foot (18 m) heads of Presidents George Washington (1732–1799), Thomas Jefferson (1743–1826), Theodore Roosevelt (1858–1919) and Abraham Lincoln (1809–1865), as recommended by Borglum. The four presidents were chosen to represent the nation's birth, growth, development and preservation, respectively. The memorial park covers 1,278 acres (2.00 sq mi; 5.17 km²) and the actual mountain has an elevation of 5,725 feet (1,745 m) above sea level.</p> <p>Construction began in 1927; the presidents' faces were completed between 1934 and 1939.</p> <p>Sometimes referred to as the "Shrine of Democracy", Mount Rushmore attracts more than two million visitors annually.</p>
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Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial
Washington, D.C.



The Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial is a special place in Washington, D.C., next to the National Mall. It covers four acres and has a big statue called the Stone of Hope, which shows Martin Luther King Jr. It was carved by a sculptor named Lei Yixin. The idea for the memorial came from a line in King's "I Have a Dream" speech: "Out of the mountain of despair, a stone of hope." The memorial opened on August 22, 2011, after many years of planning and building.

It's the 395th place managed by the National Park Service. The memorial is near the Tidal Basin, close to the Lincoln Memorial and the Jefferson Memorial. It also honors the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

This memorial is important because it's the first one for an African American near the National Mall and only the fourth for someone who wasn't a President. The National Park Service takes care of the King Memorial.

King's memorial is special because it's the first on the National Mall to honor an African American. It's in Washington, DC, and it's a place to think about Martin Luther King, Jr.'s ideas. He believed in peace and fairness for everyone.

Dr. King was a leader in the civil rights movement, fighting for equal rights and fairness, especially for Black Americans. He used peaceful ways to make changes and won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964. He's famous for his powerful speeches, like his "I Have a Dream" speech.

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The Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial is a monument that honors Martin Luther King, Jr., who was a minister and a leader in the civil rights movement during the 1950s and 1960s. He fought for equal rights for African Americans using peaceful protests. Sadly, he was killed in 1968.

The memorial was built between 2009 and 2011. It's the first memorial on the National Mall dedicated to an African American.

At the entrance to the memorial, there are two tall mounds of pink granite called "The Mountain of Despair." Between them is "The Stone of Hope," a large slab with the words "Out of the mountain of despair, a stone of hope," which comes from King's famous speech. On the front of the stone is a 30-foot-tall statue of King, created by Chinese sculptor Lei Yixin..

Around the memorial's plaza is a curved wall that's 450 feet long. On this wall are carved 14 quotes from King about justice, democracy, love, and hope. This gives people a place to remember King's important work for equality and justice.

