




USA



*2016 Edition*



A full-page background image of the Statue of Liberty in New York City. The statue is green and stands prominently in the foreground, holding a torch in its right hand and a tablet in its left. The background shows the New York City skyline with various skyscrapers under a blue sky with some clouds. The water of the harbor is visible at the bottom.

A TRULY MULTICULTURAL  
COUNTRY WITH SOME OF  
THE WORLD'S GREATEST  
LANDMARKS; THE US  
OFFERS SOMETHING FOR  
ALL THE SENSES

## FACTS

**CAPITAL:** Washington DC

**POPULATION:** 324,027,688

**CURRENCY:** US Dollar (\$)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**TOURISTS:** 75 million p/a

*A multicultural country famous for the Statue of Liberty, the Grand Canyon, Hollywood and the world's largest theme parks.*



# USA

The United States of America (USA) covers over 9 million square kilometres. Only the countries of Russia and Canada are larger, with China a similar size to the US. It comprises of 50 states.

The sheer size of the country means that almost everything varies within the United States enormously, from landscapes to people, climate to food and drink.

As one of the world's superpowers with major tourism areas such as Florida popular all year round, it's an extremely attractive proposition for savvy property purchasers.



## WHAT'S INSIDE

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# CLIMATE

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With over 55 million visitors coming to the United States from all manner of locations, the country is the third most visited on the planet behind France and Spain.

The USA is made up of 50 states, with the top three most visited being California, Florida and New York, with all welcoming millions of international visitors per year. It's no wonder that there are so many visitors when the experiences available across the country are countless and magnificent.

Examples include the majestic Niagara Falls bordering New York state, Walt Disney World and Universal Studios Florida, the world's first national park at Yellowstone, shopping amongst the skyscrapers of Manhattan in New York, the geographical marvel of the Grand Canyon in Arizona and the official residence of the President, the White House, in the capital Washington DC.





MOST OF THE  
UNITED STATES  
HAS A VERY  
TEMPERATE  
CLIMATE



## TOURISM

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The scale of the United States means you can experience almost every type of global weather system.

Most of the country has a very temperate climate. The Deep South experiences typically subtropical conditions, with areas such as southern Florida and Hawaii witnessing a warm, tropical environment. In the north, Alaska commonly encounters polar conditions, in complete contrast to arid, desert regions such as Arizona.

As a result of the varied climate, coupled with equally diverse yet stunning landscapes, there are numerous activities to enjoy from skiing in the Rocky Mountains to cruising the water of the mighty Mississippi River.

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# FOOD & DRINK

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Due to the multicultural society that exists across America, food inspirations come from across the globe. This means that the variety of food available across the country has to be seen to be believed.

In one of the bigger cities, it may be possible to find a place to eat that represents almost every single country in the world, be it a restaurant or deli.

Another key element to the eating and drinking culture is the variety and number of chain restaurants and fast food outlets. Many are open 24 hours a day offering maximum convenience. Even


if they aren't open around the clock, most will open early and close late at night.

It's often rare to experience a small meal in the US, so be prepared for some great value, great sized servings!

The range of drinks available in the US is, like food, extremely diverse. With all 50 states now producing wine, it's not surprising that the country produces some extremely good quality varieties to suit every budget. Light lager is the most common type of beer, although across the country there are many specialist beers being produced.







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# LOCATION & GETTING THERE

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Regular flights are offered from many of the UK's major airports. These are commonly direct to major cities such as New York but can be in-direct depending on your final destination.

Unsurprisingly due to the size of the country there are many ways to travel around, with the country enjoying strong internal air, rail and road connections. Some methods of travel have even become iconic in their

own right, such as Route 66, a highway covering nearly 4,000kms across the country.

With over 500 commercial airports operating in the US, global accessibility is fantastic. Many overseas visitors experience the US by ship too, with many popular ports, including the world's largest cruise port, Florida's Miami.



# THE COUNTRY ENJOYS STRONG INTERNAL AIR, RAIL AND ROAD CONNECTIONS







EVERY YEAR ON  
THE SAME DAY  
INDEPENDENCE  
DAY IS CELEBRATED  
ACROSS THE  
COUNTRY

# HISTORY

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The United States rise to a global superpower has been fairly rapid, but its history goes back thousands of years. The indigenous people started arriving around 40,000 years ago, but it wasn't until the 16th century when westerners started exploring and settling in parts of the country. In the 17th century, the English influence on the land started to bring in substantial colonies and with it, the native population declined.

As the colonies grew they became frustrated by the British rule they were subject to and rebelled, resulting in the Revolutionary War in the 18th Century. This resulted in the 'Declaration of Independence' on July 4th 1776, which probably remains the most important date in modern American history. In fact, every year on the same date Independence Day is celebrated across the country.

Civil war between the north and south, which would eventually lead to the end of slavery, occurred in the 19th Century. The gold rush in the mid-19th Century spurred on new migration which created new railway links, which in turn helped expansion across the country.

Again in the 20th Century war largely affected the US but this time largely off shore as the country contributed to the Allies efforts in World War 2. After the war the country developed substantially, cities were modernised and new industries grew as transport links with the rest of the world became much more accessible.

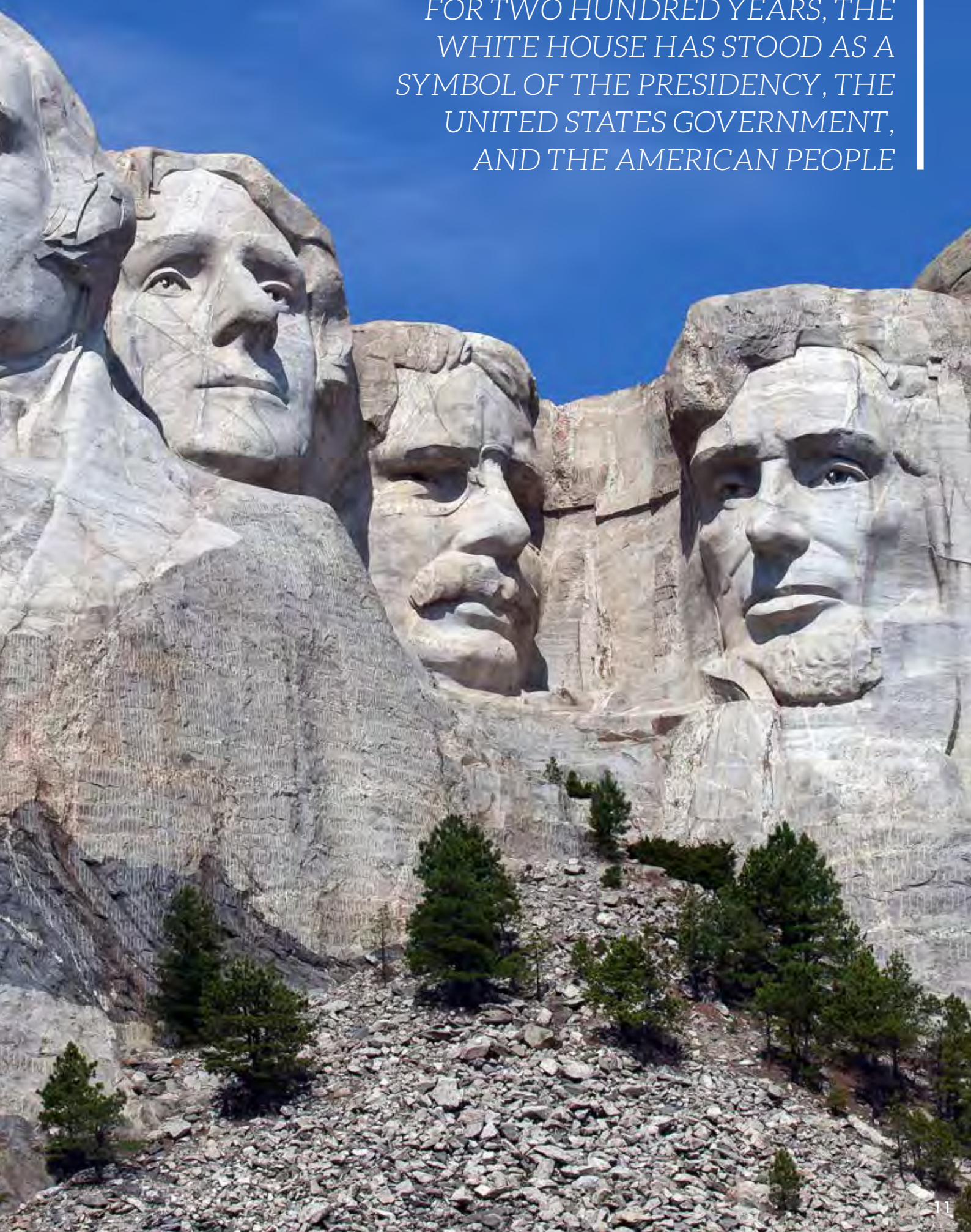
Meanwhile on the mainland a cultural shift was occurring on many levels, from the Civil Rights Movement to the growth in popular music.

The United States remains a massive global power and welcomes millions of visitors to its shores every year. Indeed the history of the country is a huge draw in itself!





FOR TWO HUNDRED YEARS, THE  
WHITE HOUSE HAS STOOD AS A  
SYMBOL OF THE PRESIDENCY, THE  
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT,  
AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE





# LANGUAGE & CULTURE

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Interestingly there is no official language in the United States, but the most commonly spoken is English (80%), followed by Spanish (12%). The culture of the United States is largely Western but has influences from many other cultures, from Native American to Asian. The bald eagle, native to North America is also the national bird that represents the United States.

When greeting someone, a firm handshake is the most common form of etiquette.

THE US CULTURE IS  
INFLUENCED BY MANY  
OTHER CULTURES

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