

A SIMPLE GUIDE TO GETTING YOUR US VISA

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The background of the entire page is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the United States flag, showing the stars and stripes. A white rectangular box is centered on the page, containing the text.

Overview

Perhaps no other country has quite the allure of the United States, a superpower that has successfully promoted the idea of the American Dream. The ethnically and racially diverse country is touted to be a land of immigrants while also being a popular place to work and visit. In fact, the United States is among the top ten most visited countries in the world, behind only Spain and France.

History

The indigenous people of Siberia were the first to arrive to the United States prior to 15,000 BC. A number of cultures formed and dissolved before 1500 and it was after Christopher Columbus' discovery of sailing routes to the Americas in 1492 that European colonization of the Americas began, and this New World came to be known as the United Colonies of America. By the 1760s, the colonies had over two million residents along the Atlantic coast lying east of the Appalachian Mountains.

On July 4, 1776 the thirteen inhabiting English colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence and on September 9, Congress formally changed the nation's name to the United States of America.

50 American states

America is a federal republic of 50 states, the federal district of Washington D.C., five major territories and several minor islands.

Alabama	Hawaii	Massachusetts	New Mexico	South Dakota
Alaska	Idaho	Michigan	New York	Tennessee
Arizona	Illinois	Minnesota	North Carolina	Texas
Arkansas	Indiana	Mississippi	North Dakota	Utah
California	Iowa	Missouri	Ohio	Vermont
Colorado	Kansas	Montana	Oklahoma	Virginia
Connecticut	Kentucky	Nebraska	Oregon	Washington
Delaware	Louisiana	Nevada	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
Florida	Maine	New Hampshire	Rhode Island	Wisconsin
Georgia	Maryland	New Jersey	South Carolina	Wyoming





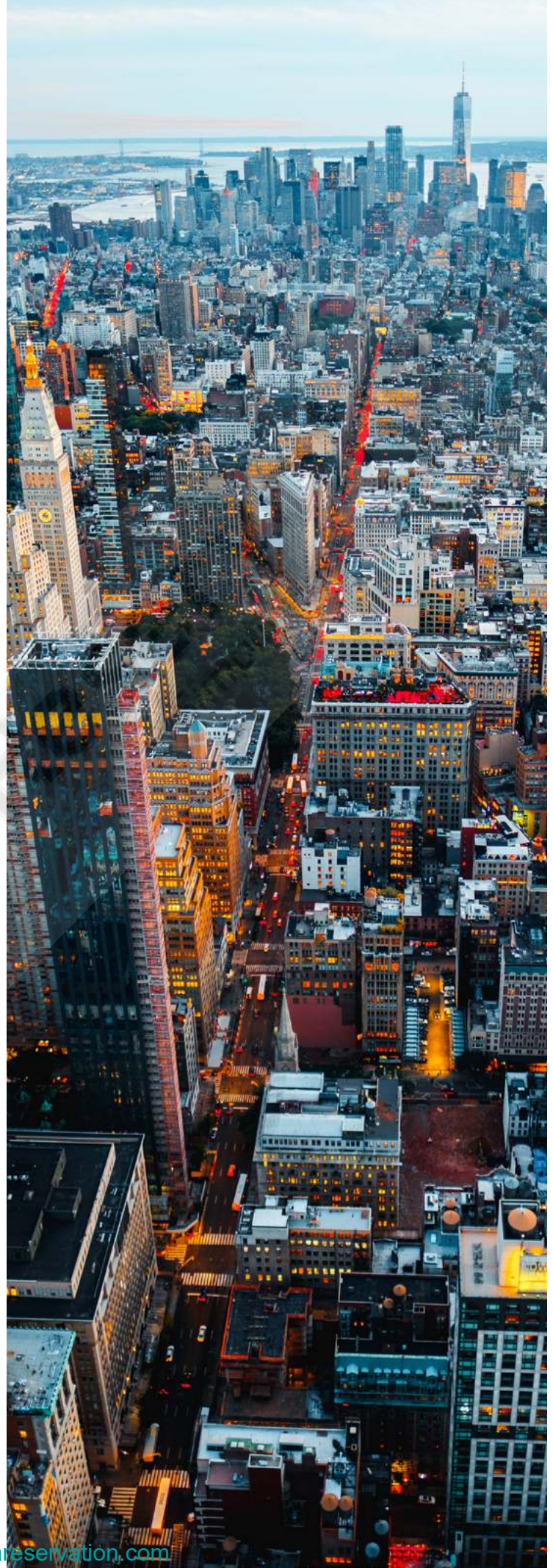
Population

According to the latest available figures from the US Census Bureau, the country has a population of more than 329 million people. The most populous states are California, Texas and Florida, while the least populated states are Wyoming, Vermont and Alaska. The highest density is in the District of Columbia, New Jersey and Rhode Island. The population distribution is highest in and around regions with the strongest economic activities.

Religion

Christianity is the most practiced religion in the United States, with 46.5% of residents identifying as Protestant Christians.

- Unaffiliated - 22.8%
- Catholic - 20.8%
- Jewish - 1.9%
- Other Non-Christians - 1.8%
- Mormon - 1.6%
- Jehovah's Witness - 0.8%
- Buddhist - 0.7%
- Hindu - 0.7%
- Eastern Orthodox Christian - 0.5%
- Other Christian - 0.4%





Male to female ratio

As of July 1, 2018, there were 161.13 million males and 166.04 million females living in the United States. According to 2017 statistics, Alaska had the highest male to female ratio in the country, with 109 men for every 100 women, while the male to female ratio was lowest in the District of Columbia, with 90.2 men for every 100 women.

Visitors statistics

2018 statistics from the National Travel and Tourism Office reveal that the number of international visitors to the United States totalled 79.6 million, with the most number of visitors from Canada, South Korea, Mexico, Brazil, the U.K, Germany, Japan, France, China and India. The most visited states are California, Florida, Nevada, Texas and New York.

In 2017, the United States issued 9,681,913 non-immigrant visas and 559,536 immigrant visas. The different aspects of the visa process are overseen by the State Department and Department of Homeland Security - Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS).

The Best Times To Visit America

United States' geographical diversity and climatic variety makes it a country to visit pretty much any time of the year. Although the peak season for tourism runs from May to September, the east and west coasts look incredibly picturesque in spring and fall.

THE EAST COAST - May and June are particularly pleasant, while July and August get hot and humid, and September-October is full of scenic foliage views. Winters in the northeast can get biting cold although Florida remains sunny and doesn't really have a winter.

THE MIDWEST - Summer months in Texas, Chicago and the rest of midwest get blazing hot while winters in the upper midwest are freezing cold. Chicago and Minneapolis see sub-zero temperatures while Kentucky and Texas are chilly rather than cold.

THE WEST COAST - The famously pleasant west coast climate gives you something to enjoy throughout the year with the exception of the rainy months of January and February. April-October is a popular time to visit San Francisco, Los Angeles and Lake Tahoe. Yosemite National Park receives the most visitors in May and June although September and October are also great times to enjoy the colorful trees and crisp air minus the crowd.

Meanwhile, Seattle and Portland are beautiful in the summers and the winters higher up on the west coast are moderate. Alaskan winters are freezing cold while August is the most popular time to visit when the stunning landscape comes alive, and the salmon runs, grizzly bears and predatory birds beckon. Las Vegas attracts tourists all through the year while ski enthusiasts plan trips to Colorado in the winter months.



USA Visa Policy

A foreign national can enter the United States only with a valid visa, unless he/she is a permanent resident of the U.S. or a citizen of one of the 38 countries under the Visa Waiver Program, listed below:

Andorra	Hungary	Portugal
Australia	Iceland	San Marino
Austria	Ireland	Singapore
Belgium	Italy Japan	Slovakia
Brunei	Latvia	Slovenia
Chile	Liechtenstein	South Korea
Czech Republic	Lithuania	Spain
Denmark	Luxembourg	Sweden
Estonia	Malta	Switzerland
Finland	Monaco	Taiwan
France	Netherlands	United Kingdom
Germany	New Zealand	
Greece	Norway	

Visitors from all other countries wishing to enter the United States temporarily for the purpose of tourism or business will need the appropriate visitor visa (B) visa.

Issued by the government, an exit visa grants individuals permission to leave a country. Like most countries, the United States does not have an exit visa; Belarus, Qatar, Russia and Saudi Arabia require an exit visa.