**Great Britain**

*Geography*

- location: on the British Isles lying off the Northwest coast of Europe
- neighbourhood countries: Ireland, France, Belgium, Netherlands, Denmark, Norway

- weather: mild and rainy climate

- land: The Pennines; the longest river is Thames

- industry: highly-developed country; metal industry, agriculture

*Main cities:* London, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle

*Culture*

- people: reserved in manners with specific sence of humour

- lifestyle: many job opportunities, typical job: baby-sitter

- customs: UK is typical for drinking of tea. People are not in hurry. Typical for this country is phenomenon like Harry Potter. There lived famous writers, e.g. [William Shakespeare](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Shakespeare) or [J. R. R. Tolkien](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._R._R._Tolkien), which are the most known British writers until now.

- hobbies: animals and sport, spending holidays on seaside

- holidays: - 16. February - Shrove Tuesday Pancake Day

 - 23. April - St. George's Day

 - 31. May - Spring Bank Holiday

- sport: cricket, football, rugby, Wimbledon

- literature: [William Shakespeare](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Shakespeare), [Lewis Carroll](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lewis_Carroll), [Charles Dickens](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Dickens), [Arthur Conan Doyle](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthur_Conan_Doyle), [J. R. R. Tolkien](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._R._R._Tolkien)

*Political system:* [parliamentary democracy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parliamentary_system) and [constitutional monarchy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constitutional_monarchy)

*Capital City*

- monuments: [Buckingham Palace](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buckingham_Palace), [Saint Paul's Cathedral](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saint_Paul%27s_Cathedral)

*History:* There were many wars between France and UK in the past. Great Britain was the sea power „sea power”.

**USA**

*Geography*

- location: southern part of North America + separated Alaska
- neighbourhood countries: Mexico, Cuba, Canada

- weather: continental, humid middle latitude and cold (Alaska) climate

- land: Central plains with the Appalachian Mountains on east and the Rocky Mountains and the Coastal Mountains on west; the largest rivers: the Mississippi and the Missouri

- industry: almost all industries are good developed; machine industry, chemical industry , food industry

*Main cities:* New York, Washington D.C., Los Angeles

*Culture*

- people: multi-cultural world with many differences

- lifestyle: „country of freedom“; people move a lot

- customs: They attach significance to p individuality of everyone, especially for children. It’s country of Coca-Cola and many opportunities for everyone. Hollywood is the place for movie-making business and there work many famous actors and actresses.

- hobbies: movies, career, sport, many various interests

- holidays: - 1. April - April Fool's Day

 - 4. July - Independence Day

 - 31. October - Halloween

- sport: [baseball](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baseball), [American football](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_football), [basketball](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basketball), [boxing](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boxing)

- literature: [Edgar Allan Poe](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edgar_Allan_Poe), [Mark Twain](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mark_Twain), [Jack Kerouac](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jack_Kerouac), [Ernest Hemingway](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ernest_Hemingway)

*Political system:* [federal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federal_republic) [constitutional](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constitutional_republic) [republic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Republic)

*Capital City*

- monuments: [National Museum of American History](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Museum_of_American_History), [National Museum of the American Indian](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Museum_of_the_American_Indian)

History: In 1492 explorer [Christopher Columbus](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christopher_Columbus) (under the Spanish crown) arrived at some unknown land and he „discovered America“. It brought many people into this country and it also brought wars between them and Indians. Important point in the history of USA was the [Cold War](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cold_War), when The United States and Soviet Union jockeyed for power after World War II.

**Canada**

*Geography*

- location: the northern part of North America (except Alaska) with many islands (Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland etc.)
- neighbourhood countries: USA, Greenland

- weather: from continental to cold climate

- land: large mountain areas – the Rocky Mountains, the Mackenzie Mountains and the Melville Hills; the longest river is the Mackenzie

- industry: wood industry; extraction of non-ferrous metals (the first world place)

*Main cities*: [Ottawa](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ottawa), [Toronto](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Toronto) (the largest city)

*Culture*

- people: most of them have roots in English and France

- lifestyle: high live standard

- customs: People are friendly, but they have some typical kind of jokes and when they joke on someone’s account, sometimes it’s not very funny for him.

- hobbies: sports, arts companies

- holidays: - 1. July - Canada Day ([British North America Act](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constitution_Act%2C_1867) -> Canada is a single country)

 - 11. October - Thanksgiving Days – ([holiday](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holiday) to [give thanks](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gratitude) at the close of the harvest season

- sport: most winter sports – ice hockey, snowboarding; [Canadian football](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canadian_football), curling, cricket, lacrosse

- literature: often divided into French and English-language literature ; [Carol Shields](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carol_Shields) - [Pulitzer Prize for Fiction](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pulitzer_Prize_for_Fiction)

*Political system:* [federal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federalism) [parliamentary democracy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parliamentary_system) and [constitutional monarchy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constitutional_monarchy)

*Capital City*

- monuments: Canadian Tribute to Human Rights , Canadian War Museum, Canadian Tulip Festival

**Australia**

*Geography*

- location: the smallest continent on the Earth between the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean
- neighbourhood countries: any neighbour on land, just across the seas – Indonesia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Fiji

- weather: from warm to subtropical climate with not many rains – many deserts on the land

- land: The Great Dividing Range along the eastern coast (called also The Australian Alps) -> the highest Australian mountain Mt. Kosciusko; : the biggest rivers: Murray and Darling

- industry: sheep breending; food industry; extraction of iron, gold, heavy metals

*Main cities:* Canberra, Sydney (the biggest city)

*Culture*

- people: about 16 million, multicultural society

- lifestyle: an industrial and agriculture country - many landlordism on the farms

- customs: Typical for their free time is surfing. It’s country of peanut butter, kangaroos and dingos and the typical weapon of the authentic people is boomerang, which was used against their enemies. When their shot didn’t stick to the target, it came back to them.

- hobbies: sport, arts companies

- holidays: - 26. January – Australia Day (known also as Foundation Day or Invasion Day)

 - 25. April – ANZAC Day (commemorating of all those who died and served in military operations for the country)

- sport: [cricket](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cricket), [football](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Football), [field hockey](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Field_hockey), [netball](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Netball), [rugby](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rugby_league)

- literature: [Patrick White](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patrick_White) was awarded the [Nobel Prize in Literature](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nobel_Prize_in_Literature)

*Political system:* [federal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Federalism) [parliamentary democracy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parliamentary_system) and [constitutional monarchy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constitutional_monarchy)

*Capital City*

- monuments: [Parliament House](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parliament_House%2C_Canberra), High Court (home to the highest court in the Australian judicial system)

*History:* land in the past settled by Great Britain’s people -> colony of GB

**New Zealand**

*Geography*

- location: two large islands (North and South Island) in south-west Pacific Ocean
- neighbourhood countries: Australia, Fiji

- weather: moist tropical – lot of sun and many rains

- land: hilly and mountainous islands, the highest hill is Mount Cook (3764 m)

- industry: extraction of iron, black coal; food industry

*Main cities:* [Wellington](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wellington), [Auckland](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Auckland) (the largest city)

*Culture*

- people: 85% people have roots in Europe

- lifestyle: language Te Reo Māori

- customs: People try to keep their Māori cultural heritage.

- hobbies: people are sociable and they want to save their culture heritage (Māori culture)

- holidays: - 7. June - Queen's Birthday (in several [Commonwealth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Commonwealth_of_Nations) countries)

 - 6. February - Waitangi Day (celebration of signing of the [Treaty of Waitangi](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Treaty_of_Waitangi), New Zealand's founding document, on that date in 1840)

- sport: (mostly like other British sports) rugby, cricket, soccer, golf

- literature: Katherine Mansfield (Modernist writer)

*Political system:* [parliamentary democracy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parliamentary_democracy) and [constitutional monarchy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Constitutional_monarchy)

*Capital City*

- monuments: [Majestic Centre](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Majestic_Centre) (the tallest building in the city), [Futuna Chapel](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Futuna_Chapel) (the first bicultural building in New Zealand)

*History:* Country was most recently settled by British settlers.