

Florida

"The Sunshine State"

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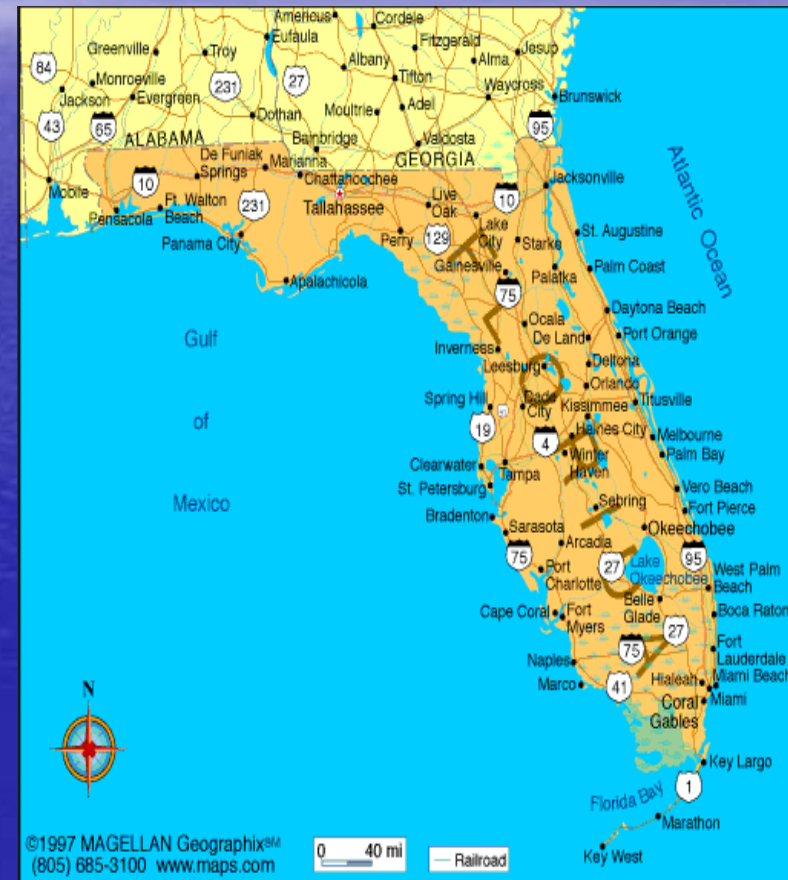
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Florida Overview

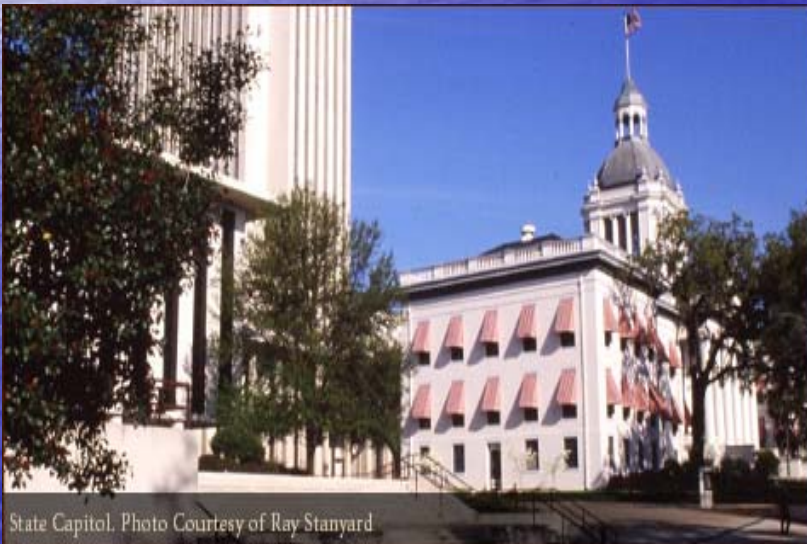


- In 1513, Ponce de Leon, was looking for the "Fountain of Youth," when he discovered and named Florida, claiming it for Spain
- Origin of state name: From a Spanish phrase, meaning "feast of flowers"
- Became a US Territory in 1821
- Became the 27th State on March 3, 1845



Florida State Capital

- Tallahassee: is the Capital of the State of Florida
- Tallahassee became the capital of Florida in 1824
- In 2007, the population was 352,319



State Capitol. Photo Courtesy of Ray Stanyard



Florida Climate



- Florida is warm and sunny all year long
- Summers are hot and humid, averaging 82 degrees
- Winters are mild, averaging 61 degrees
- Hurricane season for Florida is between June 1st and November 30th

Florida Economy

- The economy in Florida is based on tourism, manufacturing, and agriculture
- Oranges, grapefruit, and other citrus fruits lead Florida's agricultural products list



Florida Geography



- Total Area - 58,560 Square Miles
- Rank Among States in Total Area - 22nd
- Florida is a long State - from Pensacola to Key West - 792 Miles by Road
- Highest Natural Point - 345 feet above sea level
- There are 663 Miles of beaches

Florida State Bird

- **Mocking Bird:
(1927)**

- The common mockingbird
- Often, the mockingbird sings all night long, especially under bright springtime moonlight



Florida State Flower

- Orange Blossom (1909)
- The blossom of the orange tree is one of the most fragrant flowers in Florida



Florida State Reptile



- **American Alligator: (1987)**
- The Alligator symbolizes Florida's untamed wilderness and swamps

Florida State Plant

- **Sable Palm (1953)**
- It grows in almost any soil and has many uses, including food, medicine and landscaping
- In 1970 the sable palm replaced the cocoa palm on the state seal



Florida State Flag

- The current design of Florida's state flag was adopted in 1900



Florida State Song

- "Swanee River" (1935) by Stephen C. Foster
- Also called "Old Folks at Home"

Major Tourist Attractions

- Orlando: Disney World Theme Parks
- Florida Beaches
- West Coast: Sarasota, Tampa, and St. Petersburg
- Key West: Off the southern tip of Florida (southern most point of the United States)
- The NASA Kennedy Space Center's Spaceport USA
- Everglades National Park



Major Landmarks and People



Landmarks:

- Gator Land
- Disney World
- St. Augustine Cannons
- Fort Jefferson, Dry Tortugas National Park
- Southern Most Point
- Ybor City
- University of Florida

People:

- Ponce De Leon- Explorer and Pigs
- Count Odet Philippe- Citrus
- Ernest Hemingway- Writer
- Jim Morrison- Rock Star
- Jimmy Buffet- Rock Star
- Wallace Amos- Cookie Maker
- Tiger Woods- Pro Golfer

Interesting State Facts

- Ponce De Leon brought the first pigs to the United States though Florida
- Count Odet Philippe introduced citrus to Florida
- Number of people who move to Florida each day - 1,000
- Number of deepwater ports – 14
- Miles of sand beaches - 1,200
- Miles of coastline - 1,800
- Number of golf courses - more than 1,250
 - Florida has more golf courses than any other state
 - Palm Beach County has more golf courses than any other county in the country
- Number of hotel rooms in Florida - more than 370,000

Travel Guide Jacob Fedora Recommendations

- Go to a Gator game in Gainesville
- From Gainesville head to Tampa for a Buc's game
- Then go to Orlando and visit Disney World
- End your trip on Daytona Beach
- Take lots of pictures...and don't forget your sunscreen



Questions



Resources

- <http://www.stateofflorida.com/Portal/DesktopDefault.aspx?tabid=95>
- <http://www.educationamerica.net/facts/index.phtml?sid=fl>
- <http://www.infoplease.com/atlas/state/florida.html>
- www.state.fl.us