

California State Facts

Lesson 3



1. What bay are San Francisco and Oakland next to?

Both San Francisco and Oakland are next to the **San Francisco Bay**.

2. What is the name of the famous red bridge in San Francisco?

The famous red bridge in San Francisco is the **Golden Gate Bridge**. It opened in 1937 and connects San Francisco to Marin County, which is to the north.

3. What highway runs along the coast of California?

Pacific Coast Highway, which is also called PCH or Route 1, runs along the coast of California. It goes through all three of California's large coastal cities: San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego.

4. What does the word Pacific mean?

The word Pacific means **'peaceful view.'** Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan named the Pacific Ocean in 1520.

5. Does California have any volcanoes?

Yes, it does. Lassen Volcanic National Park in northeastern California has several volcanoes. Lassen Peak, the park's most famous volcano, erupted in 1914 and continued to erupt periodically until 1921.

6. Name a crop that grows in California and is used to make wine.

Grapes grow in California and are used to make wine. The United States is the fourth largest producer of wine. About 90 percent of all wine produced in the USA is from California.

7. Name the two longest rivers near Sacramento.

The **Sacramento River** (377 miles or 607 km long) and the **San Joaquin River** (200 miles or 320 km long) are the two longest rivers near Sacramento. The water in the Sacramento River runs south and the water in the San Joaquin River runs north.

8. What mountain range runs along California's coast?

The **Coast Mountain Range** runs along California's coast. Fog is often trapped along the California coast because the Coast Mountains prevent it from spreading.

9. Name a mountain range on the California-Nevada border.

The 400-mile long **Sierra-Nevada Mountains** are on the California-Nevada border, but they are mostly in California. The mountain's highest peak is Mount Whitney, which is 14,494 feet above sea level.

10. Which part of the state gets the most water from rain and snow?

The **northern** part of the state receives about 75% of the rain and snow that falls in California. Since about 75% of the people in California live in the central and southern part of the state, water needs to be moved to where it is needed.