

THE
ILLUSTRATED
ATLAS
OF THE
WORLD





This edition published in 2012 by Orpheus Books Ltd.,
6 Church Green, Witney, Oxfordshire OX28 4AW, England
www.orpheusbooks.com

Copyright © 2012 Orpheus Books Ltd

Text by Nicholas Harris

Illustrations by Gary Hincks and Steve Noon

Created and produced by Orpheus Books Ltd.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be
reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any
form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying or
otherwise, without the express permission of the publishers

ISBN 978 1 7418 3799 6

A CIP record is available from the British Library

Printed and bound in India

THE
ILLUSTRATED
ATLAS
OF THE
WORLD



 Orpheus



KEY TO ILLUSTRATIONS

Left-hand column, top Cheese-porters, Alkmaar market, The Netherlands centre Arches National Park, Utah, USA bottom Sydney Harbour Bridge and Opera House, Australia Right-hand page, top Elephant mask, Cameroon centre Royal palace, Bangkok, Thailand bottom Machu Picchu, Peru Along bottom of page The Kremlin, Moscow, Russia

CONTENTS

6	THE WORLD	44	JAPAN
8	EUROPE	46	OCEANIA • NATIONS OF OCEANIA
10	NATIONS OF EUROPE	48	AUSTRALIA • NEW ZEALAND
12	NORTHERN EUROPE	50	AFRICA
14	BRITISH ISLES	52	NATIONS OF AFRICA
16	FRANCE	54	NORTHERN AFRICA
18	THE NETHERLANDS • BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG	56	SOUTHERN AFRICA • SOUTH AFRICA
20	PORTUGAL • SPAIN	58	NORTH AMERICA
22	GERMANY • SWITZERLAND AND AUSTRIA	60	NATIONS OF NORTH AMERICA
24	ITALY	62	CANADA
26	EASTERN EUROPE	64	UNITED STATES
28	THE BALKANS • TURKEY	66	STATES OF THE USA
30	ASIA	68	MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA
32	NATIONS OF ASIA	70	SOUTH AMERICA • NATIONS OF SOUTH AMERICA
34	RUSSIA • CENTRAL ASIA	72	BRAZIL AND ITS NEIGHBOURS
36	THE MIDDLE EAST	74	THE ANDES • CHILE AND ARGENTINA
38	SOUTH ASIA	76	THE POLES
40	SOUTH-EAST ASIA	78	INDEX
42	CHINA		



ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS USED IN THIS ATLAS

Br.	(Great) Britain
Fr.	France
I.	Island
Is.	Islands
km	kilometres
L.	Lake
m	metres
Mt.	Mount
Mts.	Mountains
Neths.	Netherlands
Pop.	Population
Port.	Portugal
Rep.	Republic
sq km	square kilometres
U.A.E.	United Arab Emirates
U.S.	United States
★	National capital

Numbers in circles show where the subjects illustrated can be found on the maps ④



THE WORLD



FACTS ABOUT THE WORLD

- Circumference at the Equator** 40,075 km
- Land area** 148,328,100 sq km **Ocean area** 361,741,000 sq km
- Population** 7,042,600,000
- Highest point** Mt. Everest (Nepal and China) 8863 m
- Greatest depth** Marianas Trench 10,924 m
- Lowest point on land** Dead Sea (Israel/Jordan) 395 m below sea level
- Longest river** Nile (Africa) 6670 km
- Largest lake** Caspian Sea 371,000 sq km
- Largest country** Russia 17,075,400 sq km
- Largest population** China 1,315,844,000
- Largest city** Tokyo (Japan) 35,200,000 people



FACTS ABOUT EUROPE

Area 9,700,000 sq km
Population 728,389,000
Highest point Elbrus (Russia) 5664 m
Lowest point Caspian Sea (Russia) 28 m below sea level
Longest river Volga (Russia) 3668 km
Largest lake Ladoga (Russia) 17,700 sq km
Largest country (excluding Russia) Ukraine 603,700 sq km
Largest population (excluding Russia) Germany 82,689,000
Largest city Moscow (Russia) 10,700,000 people

EUROPE

EUROPE and Asia together form one vast land mass called Eurasia. Europe itself lies west of the Ural Mountains, to the north of the Caucasus and on the western bank of the Bosphorus strait. A large portion of Russia, the part where most of its people live, and a small area of Turkey both fall within the area of Europe.

Europe is a land of peninsulas and islands. Their shores are lapped by the waters of the North Atlantic Ocean and its seas. Apart from the mountain ranges and the frozen Arctic lands, nearly every corner of the continent has been shaped by humans. Farmland competes for space with towns and cities, roads, airports, quarries or factories. Europe is densely populated, particularly in the lowlands of the western countries where industrial cities have grown up close to one another.




THE EUROPEAN UNION

The 27 member nations are Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Netherlands and United Kingdom. Croatia joins in 2013.



NATIONS OF EUROPE

ALBANIA
Area 27,398 sq km Population 3,130,000 Capital Tiranë Language Albanian

ANDORRA
Area 468 sq km Population 67,000 Capital Andorra Languages Catalan, French, Spanish

AUSTRIA
Area 83,859 sq km Population 8,189,000 Capital Vienna Language German

BELARUS
Area 207,600 sq km Population 9,755,000 Capital Minsk Language Belorussian

BELGIUM
Area 30,519 sq km Population 10,419,000 Capital Brussels Languages Dutch (Flemish), French, German

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
Area 51,129 sq km Population 3,907,000 Capital Sarajevo Language Serbo-Croat

BULGARIA
Area 110,994 sq km Population 7,726,000 Capital Sofia Languages Bulgarian, Turkish, Macedonian



▲ Irish boy ⑥

CROATIA
Area 56,538 sq km Population 4,551,000 Capital Zagreb Language Serbo-Croat

CYPRUS
Area 9,251 sq km Population 835,000 Capital Nicosia Languages Greek, Turkish, English

CZECH REPUBLIC
Area 78,864 sq km Population 10,220,000 Capital Prague Language Czech

DENMARK
Area 43,093 sq km Population 5,431,000 Capital Copenhagen Language Danish

ESTONIA
Area 45,125 sq km Population 1,330,000 Capital Tallinn Languages Estonian, Russian

FINLAND
Area 338,145 sq km Population 5,249,000 Capital Helsinki Languages Finnish, Swedish

FRANCE
Area 543,965 sq km Population 60,496,000 Capital Paris Language French

GERMANY
Area 356,854 sq km Population 82,689,000 Capital Berlin Language German

GREECE
Area 131,957 sq km Pop. 11,120,000 Capital Athens Language Greek

HUNGARY
Area 93,030 sq km Population 10,098,000 Capital Budapest Language Hungarian

ITALY
Area 301,277 sq km Pop. 58,093,000 Capital Rome Language Italian

LATVIA
Area 64,589 sq km Population 2,307,000 Capital Riga Languages Latvian, Russian

LUXEMBOURG
Area 2,586 sq km Population 465,000 Capital Luxembourg Languages German, Letzeburgesch, French

MACEDONIA
Area 25,713 sq km Pop. 2,034,000 Capital Skopje Languages Macedonian, Albanian

MOLDOVA
Area 33,700 sq km Population 4,206,000 Capital Kishinev Languages Romanian (Moldovan), Ukrainian, Russian

MONACO
Area 2 sq km Population 35,000 Language French

NETHERLANDS
Area 33,936 sq km Population 16,299,000 Capitals Amsterdam, The Hague Language Dutch

NORWAY
Area 323,877 sq km Population 4,620,000 Capital Oslo Language Norwegian

POLAND
Area 312,683 sq km Population 38,530,000 Capital Warsaw Language Polish

PORTUGAL
Area 92,389 sq km Population 10,495,000 Capital Lisbon Language Portuguese

ROMANIA
Area 237,500 sq km Population 21,711,000 Capital Bucharest Languages Romanian, Hungarian, German

RUSSIA
Area 17,075,400 sq km Population 143,202,000 Capital Moscow Languages Russian, 38 other languages

SAN MARINO
Area 60.5 sq km Population 28,000 Language Italian

SERBIA
Area 88,361 sq km Population 9,396,000 Capital Belgrade Languages Serbo-Croat, Albanian, Hungarian

SLOVAKIA
Area 49,035 sq km Population 5,401,000 Capital Bratislava Languages Slovak, Hungarian, Czech

SLOVENIA
Area 20,251 sq km Population 1,967,000 Capital Ljubljana Language Slovene

SPAIN
Area 504,782 sq km Population 43,064,000 Capital Madrid Languages Spanish, Catalan, Basque, Galician



▲ Ukrainian girl ③

SWEDEN
Area 449,964 sq km Population 9,041,000 Capital Stockholm Languages Swedish, Finnish, Lappish

SWITZERLAND
Area 41,293 sq km Population 7,252,000 Capital Bern Languages German, French, Italian

UKRAINE
Area 603,700 sq km Population 46,481,000 Capital Kiev Languages Ukrainian, Russian

UNITED KINGDOM
Area 242,533 sq km Population 59,668,000 Capital London Languages English, Welsh

VATICAN CITY
Area 0.44 sq km Pop. 783 Language Italian



▶ Sami (Lapp) boy ①



▶ Lithuanian girl ②



▶ Gypsy girl ⑤



ICELAND
Area 103,000 sq km Population 295,000 Capital Reykjavik Language Icelandic

IRELAND
Area 70,283 sq km Population 4,148,000 Capital Dublin Languages English, Irish

LIECHTENSTEIN
Area 160 sq km Population 35,000 Capital Vaduz Language German

LITHUANIA
Area 65,200 sq km Population 3,431,000 Capital Vilnius Languages Lithuanian, Russian, Polish, Belorussian

MALTA
Area 316 sq km Population 402,000 Capital Valletta Languages Maltese, English, Italian

▶ Slovak boy ④

MONTENEGRO
Area 14,026 sq km Population 630,000 Capitals Podgorica Languages Serbo-Croat, Albanian, Hungarian



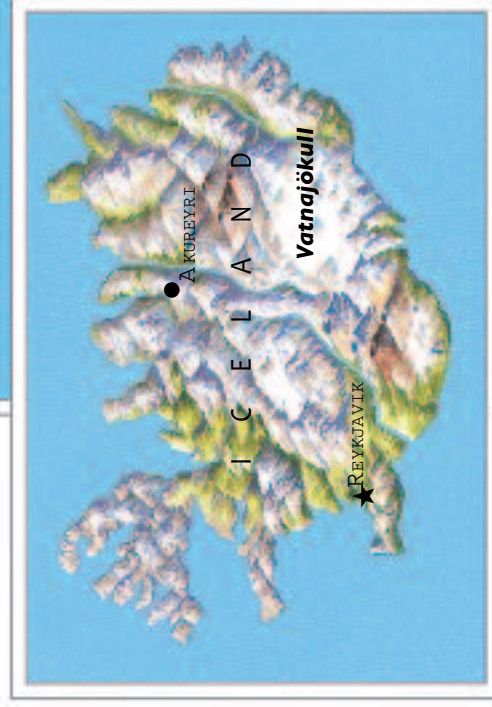
NORTHERN EUROPE



▲ A view of Stockholm, capital city of Sweden. ①

NORWAY, Sweden and Denmark are often grouped under the name Scandinavia. Taken together with Finland and Iceland, these are the Nordic countries of Europe. The far north is sometimes known as the “Land of the Midnight Sun”. During the summer

months, the sun never goes down, the snows melt and the Lapps graze their reindeer on the grasslands. In winter, the sun never rises. The soil freezes over and the reindeer return to the forests. Iceland, on the edge of the Arctic Ocean, is a bleak, tree-less landscape of volcanoes, rock and ice caps.



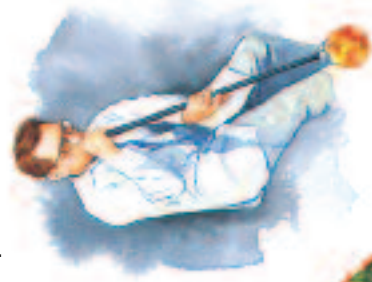
Scale 150 km



▼ Legoland in Denmark is an exhibition of models made of plastic bricks. ⑥



▲ Reindeer graze in Lapland's summer pastures. ②



▲ A glassblower makes glasses in Sweden. ③



▲ More than 1,000 years ago, the Vikings sailed from Scandinavia in search of new lands. They reached North America. This carving is of a Viking warrior. ④

▲ Down the west coast of Norway, long fingers of the sea reach deep inland. These are called fjords. On either side, mountain slopes rise steeply out of the water. Tens of thousands of years ago, Scandinavia lay under a vast sheet of ice. Rivers of ice, called glaciers, carved deep valleys in the mountains. When the glaciers melted, the sea flooded in. The valleys became fjords. Norway's coastline is so jagged that, if it were straightened out, it would reach halfway round the world! ⑤



BRITISH ISLES

THE BRITISH ISLES is the name given to the group of islands that lie off the northwestern coast of Europe. The two largest islands are Great Britain and Ireland. The United Kingdom consists of England, Scotland and Wales and Northern Ireland. The north and west are mostly

highland. Central and southern Britain are more low-lying, a mixture of rolling farmland and cities. The sea has played an important part in Britain's history. Traders and settlers travelled to distant parts of the globe and Britain built up one of the largest empires the world has ever seen.



▲ Little Moreton Hall, a fine 15th century house. ⑧



▲ The Giant's Causeway in Northern Ireland ⑦



▲ Breeding and racing horses is popular in Ireland. Thanks to a rainy climate, the "Emerald Isle" has large areas of lush, green pasture. Many farms are devoted to raising sheep and dairy cattle, especially in the central lowlands. ⑥



▲ The Iron Bridge was the world's first of its kind. ①



▲ A loch in the Scottish Highlands. ②

▼ A cricket match in progress. ③



▲ Inside this clock tower, next to the Houses of Parliament in London, is the bell known as Big Ben. It is famous for its chimes. ④



▲ All over Great Britain and Ireland, there are ruins of ancient castles. Some have massive stone walls and towers. They were built in the Middle Ages to defend a lord, his family, his servants and his army. Edward I, who reigned from 1272 to 1307, was one of the greatest castle-builders. He built the castle in this picture at Caernarfon in Wales. It was protected on by the sea, a river and a moat. Edward I's son, who was born in Caernarfon, was the first Prince of Wales. ⑤

FRANCE

FRANCE is the largest country in western Europe. Warm, wet weather is good for the fields and orchards of Brittany and Normandy in the north-west. Eastern France can be hot in summer but very cold in winter. The south is warm enough all year round for grapes, tobacco and olive trees to grow.



▲ This train is known as the TGV, short for *Train à Grande Vitesse* (high-speed train). It is the fastest train in the world, holding the speed record of 515 km/h. Since it first ran in 1981, new, straight tracks have been built for it all over France. Every journey is controlled by computers. ⑦



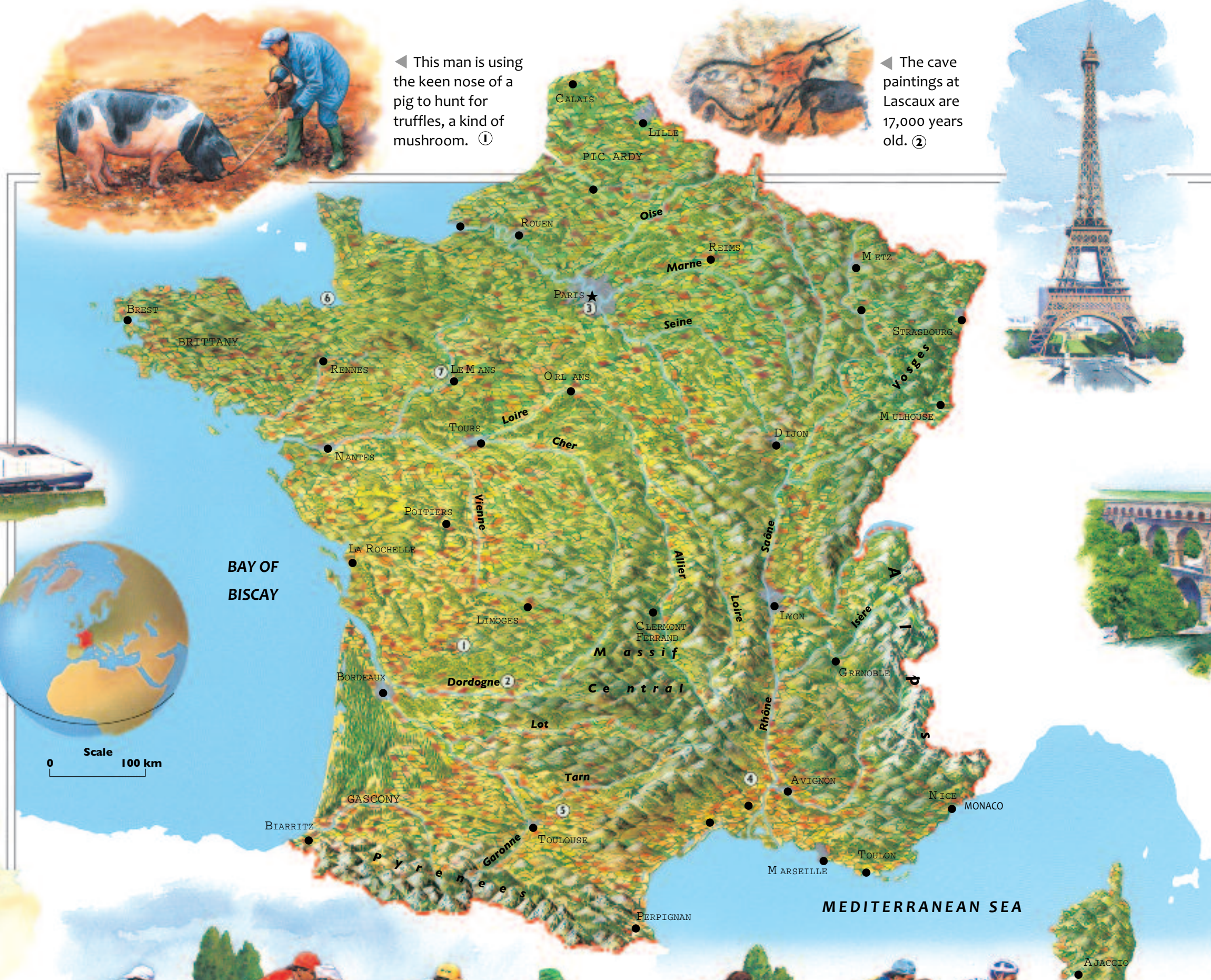
Scale 0 100 km



▲ The abbey of Mont-St-Michel stands on an old hill just off the coast of Normandy. You can go there by road, but at high tide it is surrounded by the sea! ⑥



◀ The Tour de France is the world's greatest bicycle race. For three weeks in July, hundreds of riders speed through the French country-side (and often through neighbouring countries as well). ⑤



◀ This man is using the keen nose of a pig to hunt for truffles, a kind of mushroom. ①



◀ The cave paintings at Lascaux are 17,000 years old. ②



◀ The Eiffel Tower was built for the Paris exhibition in 1889. It was then the tallest building in the world. Standing 301 metres tall, it was nearly twice the height of the next tallest, the Washington Monument. In hot weather, it grows by another 18 cm as the metal expands. It took 230 men just over two years to build the tower. The 18,000 pieces of iron were hammered together using 2.5 million rivets. At first, many people thought the Eiffel Tower ugly and unsafe. Now it is one of the best-known landmarks in the world. ③



▲ France was once part of the Roman empire. The Romans constructed many magnificent roads and buildings. Still standing today is this aqueduct, called the Pont du Gard. It was built outside Nîmes nearly 2,000 years ago. It used to carry water into the city from nearby hills. ④

THE NETHERLANDS

NEARLY ALL of the Netherlands is completely flat. One third of the land actually lies below the level of the sea. Sand dunes, earth embankments called dykes and sea walls keep the seawater from flooding in. Many areas once actually lay under water. People dug

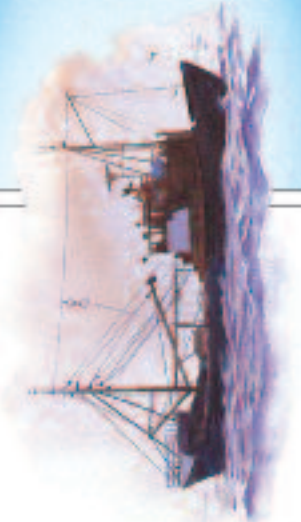
ditches and built windmills to pump the water away along canals. In this way, they reclaimed the land from the sea. These polderlands, as they are called, are used for farmland and pasture. The Netherlands is one of the most densely populated nations in the world.



▲ Windmills and canals are found all over the Dutch countryside. ①



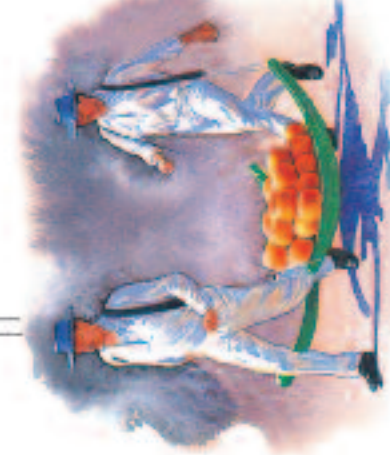
▲ Rotterdam, situated near the mouth of the River Rhine, is the busiest port in the world. ⑥



▲ This fishing vessel is setting out from a Dutch port for the rich fishing grounds of the North Sea. ⑦



▲ The Skinny Bridge in Amsterdam. ②



▲ Carrying cheeses to market in Alkmaar. ③



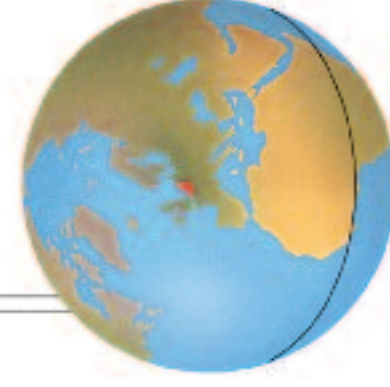
▲ The castle of Vianden in the wooded hills of Luxembourg. ④



▲ The Atomium is a museum of science in Brussels. ⑥

▼ Bruges, like nearby Ghent, grew rich in the Middle Ages from the wool and cloth industry in Flanders. ⑤

Scale 0 60 km



BELGIUM AND LUXEMBOURG

NORTHERN Belgium is quite like its neighbour, The Netherlands. It is mostly flat farmland laced with canals and cities. The people speak Dutch, or Flemish as they call it. South of Brussels is the home of the French-speaking people known as Walloons. Beyond the River Meuse lie the wooded hills and valleys of the Ardennes hills. The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg is situated in the Ardennes. Most Luxembourgers speak Letzeburgesch, a dialect of German.

PORTUGAL

NOWHERE in Portugal is very far from the sea.

More than 500 years ago, men from Portugal set off to cross the oceans and explore the continents of Africa and Asia. Today, sea fishing and tourism are important industries. Portugal is also famous for its cork trees and a sweet wine, called port.



▲ This is the Dom Luis Bridge. It crosses the Douro River as it flows through the city of Porto, Portugal's second largest city. Cars can drive on both upper and lower roadways. ⑥

► These windmills stand on the plains of La Mancha in central Spain to the south of the capital, Madrid. In a famous Spanish tale, an old knight called Don Quixote mistakes the windmills for giants. He even rode his horse into battle against them! ⑤



◀ This is Portuguese fishing boat is called a moliceiro. ①

► A woman from a small village in southern Portugal. ②



► Spanish kings lived at El Escorial 400 years ago. Their empire included much of America. ③



SPAIN

ONLY a few miles of sea lies between Spain and north-west Africa. In the south, the climate is similar: hot and dry in summer. The north of the country is wetter and greener. Not all the people in Spain speak Spanish. The Basques, Galicians and Catalans have their own languages.

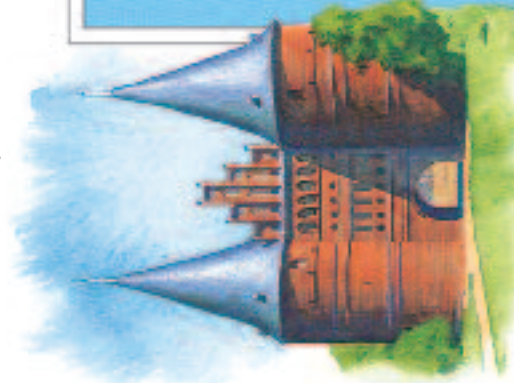


▲ Arab people from Africa, called the Moors, once ruled Spain. They were driven out of Spain more than 500 years ago. They left behind them great palaces, castles and mosques (their places of worship). The Alhambra was a Moorish palace built on a hill in the city of Granada. This illustration shows the Court of Lions in the Alhambra. It was named after the carved lion statues around the fountain. ④

GERMANY

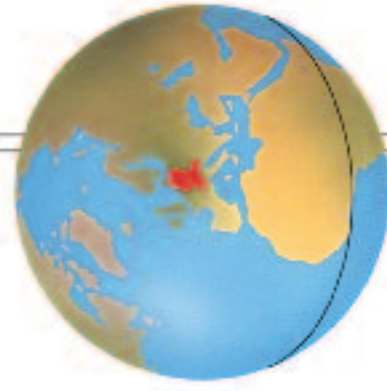
Far northern Germany is part of the North European Plain. Travel east and the first uplands you come to are the Urals in Russia. Go south, and you will cross a landscape of wooded hills and fertile valleys. Eventually, at the Austrian border, you will reach the towering peaks

of the Alps. Germany became a single country for the first time in 1871. Before then, Germans lived in a land divided into a patchwork of duchies, principalities and kingdoms. It was divided into East and West after World War Two in 1945, but became one country again in 1990.



▲ The Holstentor is an old gateway in Lübeck. ⑦

▼ The overhead railway in Wuppertal. ⑥



▼ A pretty Swiss cottage, decorated with flowers. ⑤



SWITZERLAND AND AUSTRIA

A PART from northern Switzerland and the Danube lowlands in Austria, these two countries are made up of the valleys and peaks of the Alps. Small hillside farms and folk customs were once common. Today, tourists visit for the skiing and the scenery. Austrians and most Swiss are German-speakers. In parts of Switzerland, French or Italian are spoken instead.



▲ Berlin was once divided by a wall. Now people can walk through the Brandenburg Gate. ①



▲ River boats steer through the Rhine gorge, a land of vine-covered slopes and hilltop castles. ②



▲ Horse and master at the Spanish Riding School, Vienna. ③

▼ A village in the Tyrol, part of the Austrian Alps. ④



ITALY

POINTING out into the Mediterranean Sea, Italy is shaped like a boot. It looks as if it is about to kick the island of Sicily! All around Italy's northern borders are the Alps. These high, craggy mountains separate the country from the rest of Europe. Lower mountains, called

the Apennines, run the length of the boot, all the way down to the "toe" in the south. Away from the high ground, Italy has a warm climate. Grapevines, olives and fruit trees grow all over the country. In the flat, fertile plain of the River Po, farmers grow a special type of wheat, called durum. It is used to make pasta.



▲ Wolves and bears still roam the hills of central Italy. ⑧



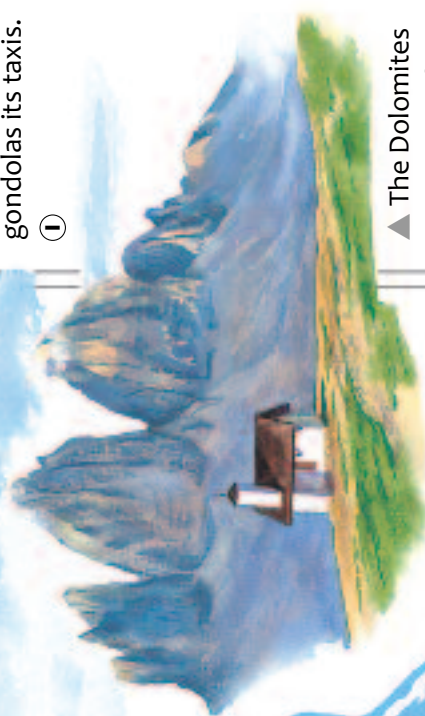
▲ Football is a very popular sport in Italy. ⑦



▲ Known as trulli, these peculiar houses in the southern Italian town of Alberobello are shaped like pepperpots. Their roofs are built from stone slabs. ⑥



▲ Venice is built on an island in a shallow bay. Canals are its streets, gondolas its taxis. ①

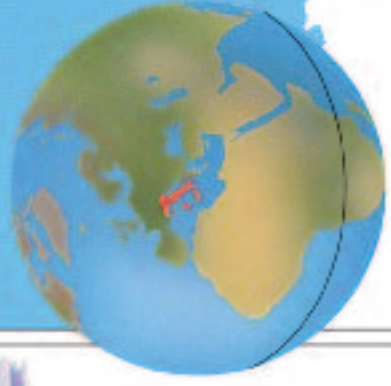


▲ The Dolomites are a range of jagged peaks. ②

▼ A cardinal, a churchman from Vatican City State. ③



▼ These are the ruins of Pompeii, a Roman town buried in ash when Vesuvius erupted in AD 79. ④



▲ San Gimignano, a small town in Tuscany, central Italy, is famous for its towers. Only 15 remain out of the 72 originally built more than 600 years ago. ⑤



EASTERN EUROPE

TRAVELLING east from Germany, the North European Plain fans out to meet the shores of the Black Sea in the south. Apart from the forested Carpathian Mountains, much of the land is intensively farmed. Ukraine, with its "black earth", has the most fertile land in the region.



◀ All over Eastern Europe, people live and work on small farms. Animals like chickens, pigs and these geese are valuable possessions. ①



◀ This Polish farmer is making cheese the old-fashioned way. ②



◀ The cathedral of St. Sophia, Kiev, is one of the grandest churches in Eastern Europe. It has 13 domes. It was built 900 years ago, when Kiev was capital city of a nation called Rus. Six hundred years later, the cathedral was encased inside another newer building. ③



▲ In Eastern Europe, traditional costumes are worn for important occasions. This couple are at a wedding in Slovakia. ⑦

▼ Prague Castle stands on a hill overlooking the Czech capital city. Inside its walls, you will find a cathedral, palaces, narrow, winding streets, and squares. St. Vaclav, "Good King Wenceslas", is buried here. ⑥



▲ The Parliament Building of Hungary stands on the eastern bank of the River Danube in the capital, Budapest. Plans for its construction were made shortly after Buda and Pest were united as one city in 1873. ④



▲ The port of Odesa lies on the Black Sea coast of Ukraine. It was founded by the Greeks, who called it Odessos. ⑤

THE BALKANS

THE southeastern corner of Europe is called the Balkans. The best farmland lies close to the Danube River in Serbia, Romania and Bulgaria. The broad valley of the Danube narrows to a small gap between the steep slopes of the Iron Gate gorge.

The Balkan nations are a dense patchwork of different peoples and different cultures.



▲ The Corinth Canal was cut through a narrow strip of land in Greece 100 years ago. Sea-going vessels are towed through by tugs. ⑦

▶ This is the Acropolis, a city of temples 2500 years old. It was built on a hill overlooking Athens, now capital city of Greece. The most famous temple is the Parthenon, seen on the right. If you stood on the temple steps in the days of ancient Greece, you could look out for enemy ships approaching the coast. ⑥



◀ This is a farm building in Slovenia. Called a kozolec, it is used for drying and storing hay. ①



◀ A Romanian shepherd in from the Carpathian Mountains. ②



◀ Alexander Nevski Cathedral is in Bulgaria's capital, Sofia. It was completed soon after Bulgaria freed itself from Turkish rule, about 100 years ago. Nevski, a Russian prince who lived in the Middle Ages was much admired by all Slavs for his victories in battle. ③



▲ This is a whirling dervish, a Muslim worshipper from Konya in Turkey who performs a wild dance. ④

▼ People still live in these ancient cave-houses in Cappadocia, Turkey. ⑤



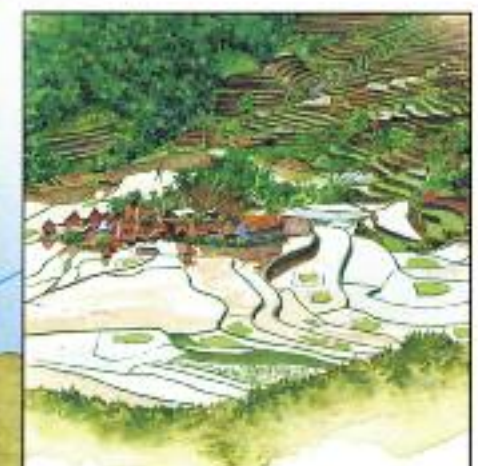
TURKEY

MOST of the lands on this map (and on page 36) were once under Turkish rule. A small part of Europe around Istanbul still belongs to Turkey. Most of the country lies across the Bosphorus in Asia. Turkey is fast becoming an industrial nation, but there are still many small hill farms with just a few sheep and goats.



ASIA

REACHING nearly halfway around the globe, Asia is the largest continent of all. The Ural and Caucasus Mountains mark the boundaries with Europe to the west. Russia, the world's largest country, lies partly in Asia and partly in Europe. Coniferous forest, frozen plains, mountains and desert cover vast areas of northern and central Asia. Few people live in these parts. By contrast, more than half the world's population of six and a half billion people is crowded into south and east Asia. Some nations, such as Japan, South Korea and Singapore, are prosperous industrial nations. In many parts of south Asia, forests have been cleared to make more room for farming. Many kinds of animals that once lived there have now become endangered.



RICE TERRACES
For three out of every five people in the world, rice is their main food. All over south and east Asia, rice is grown in waterlogged fields, called paddies. Where the land is hilly terraces (steps) are built into the slopes, so that the floodwaters do not flow away.



FACTS ABOUT ASIA

- Area 44,000,000 sq km
- Population 3,905,415,000
- Highest point Mt. Everest (Nepal and China) 8863 m
- Lowest point Dead Sea (Israel/Jordan) 395 m below sea level
- Longest river Yangtse (China) 6300 km
- Largest lake Caspian Sea 371,000 sq km
- Largest country Russia (including European part) 17,075,400 sq km
- Largest population China 1,315,844,000
- Largest city Tokyo (Japan) 35,200,000 people



NATIONS OF ASIA

AFGHANISTAN
Area 652,225 sq km Population 29,863,000
Capital Kabul Languages Pashto, Dari

ARMENIA
Area 29,800 sq km Population 3,016,000
Capital Yerevan Language Armenian

AZERBAIJAN
Area 88,600 sq km Population 8,411,000
Capital Baku Language Azeri

BAHRAIN
Area 691.2 sq km Population 727,000
Capital Manama Language Arabic

BANGLADESH
Area 143,998 sq km Pop. 141,822,000
Capital Dhaka Languages Bangla, English

BHUTAN
Area 47,000 sq km Population 2,163,000
Capital Thimphu Language Dzongkha

BRUNEI
Area 5,765 sq km Population 374,000
Capital Bandar Seri Begawan Languages Malay, Chinese



▲ Indian girl ⑥

BURMA (MYANMAR)
Area 672,552 sq km Population 50,519,000
Capital Rangoon (Yangon) Language Burmese

CAMBODIA
Area 181,035 sq km Population 14,071,000
Capital Phnom Penh Language Khmer

CHINA
Area 9,571,300 sq km Population 1,315,844,000
Capital Beijing Language Chinese (many dialects)

EAST TIMOR
Area 14,874 sq km Population 947,000
Capital Dili Languages Tetum, Portuguese

GEORGIA
Area 69,700 sq km Population 4,474,000
Capital Tbilisi Language Georgian

INDIA
Area 3,287,590 sq km Pop. 1,103,371,000
Capital New Delhi Languages Hindi, Bangla, Bihari, Telugu, Marathi, Tamil, English

INDONESIA
Area 1,904,569 sq km Pop. 222,781,000
Capital Jakarta Language Indonesian

IRAN
Area 1,648,000 sq km Population 69,515,000
Capital Tehran Language Farsi

IRAQ
Area 438,317 sq km Population 28,807,000
Capital Baghdad Language Arabic

ISRAEL
Area 21,946 sq km Population 6,725,000
Capital Jerusalem Languages Hebrew, Arabic



◀ Omani boy ①

KAZAKHSTAN
Area 2,717,300 sq km Pop. 14,825,000
Capital Astana Languages Kazakh, Russian

KUWAIT
Area 17,818 sq km Population 2,687,1000
Capital Kuwait Language Arabic

LEBANON
Area 10,452 sq km Population 3,577,000
Capital Beirut Language Arabic

MALAYSIA
Area 329,758 sq km Pop. 25,347,000
Capital Kuala Lumpur Language Malay

NEPAL
Area 147,181 sq km Pop. 27,133,000
Capital Kathmandu Language Nepali



▲ Yakut girl from Russia ②



JAPAN
Area 377,815 sq km Pop. 128,085,000
Capital Tokyo Language Japanese

JORDAN
Area 97,740 sq km Population 5,703,000
Capital Amman Language Arabic



▶ Vietnamese boy ⑤

KYRGYZSTAN
Area 198,500 sq km Population 5,264,000
Capital Bishkek Language Kyrgyz

LAOS
Area 236,800 sq km Population 5,924,000
Capital Viangchan Languages Lao, French

MALDIVES
Area 298 sq km Population 329,000
Capital Malé Language Divehi

MONGOLIA
Area 1,565,000 sq km Population 2,646,000
Capital Ulan Bator Language Kalkha Mongol

NORTH KOREA
Area 120,538 sq km Population 22,488,000
Capital Pyongyang Language Korean



▶ Balinese girl ④

OMAN
Area 271,950 sq km Population 2,567,000
Capital Muscat Language Arabic

PAKISTAN
Area 803,943 sq km Pop. 157,935,000
Capital Islamabad Language Urdu

PHILIPPINES
Area 300,000 sq km Population 83,054,000
Capital Manila Languages English, Pilipino

QATAR
Area 11,437 sq km Population 813,000
Capital Doha Language Arabic

RUSSIA
Area 17,075,400 sq km Pop. 143,202,000
Capital Moscow Language Russian, 38 other languages

SAUDI ARABIA
Area 2,400,900 sq km Pop. 24,573,000
Capital Riyadh Language Arabic

SINGAPORE
Area 616 sq km Population 4,326,000
Languages Chinese, English, Malay, Tamil

SOUTH KOREA
Area 99,222 sq km Population 47,817,000
Capital Seoul Language Korean

SRI LANKA
Area 64,453 sq km Population 20,743,000
Capital Colombo Languages Sinhalese, Tamil

SYRIA
Area 185,180 sq km Population 19,043,000
Capital Damascus Language Arabic

TAIWAN
Area 35,590 sq km Population 22,113,000
Capital T'aipei Language Chinese

TAJKISTAN
Area 143,100 sq km Population 6,507,000
Capital Dushanbe Language Tajik

▼ Japanese boy ③



THAILAND
Area 513,115 sq km Population 64,233,000
Capital Bangkok Language Thai

TURKEY
Area 779,452 sq km Population 73,193,000
Capital Ankara Language Turkish

TURKMENISTAN
Area 488,100 sq km Population 4,833,000
Capital Ashkhabad Language Turkmen

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
Area 75,150 sq km Population 4,496,000
Capital Abu Dhabi Language Arabic

UZBEKISTAN
Area 447,400 sq km Population 26,593,000
Capital Tashkent Language Uzbek

VIETNAM
Area 328,566 sq km Population 84,238,000
Capital Hanoi Languages Vietnamese, French

YEMEN
Area 477,530 sq km Population 20,975,000
Capital San'a Language Arabic

RUSSIA

THE LARGEST country in the world, Russia reaches all the way from Eastern Europe to within a few kilometres of Alaska in North America.

Most Russians live west of the Urals. To the east are the endless forests and wilderness of Siberia.



▲ This statue, "The Motherland", is almost as high as the Statue of Liberty. It stands in Volgograd. During World War II, when the city was known as Stalingrad, it was here that the Russian army defeated the German invasion force. ⑥



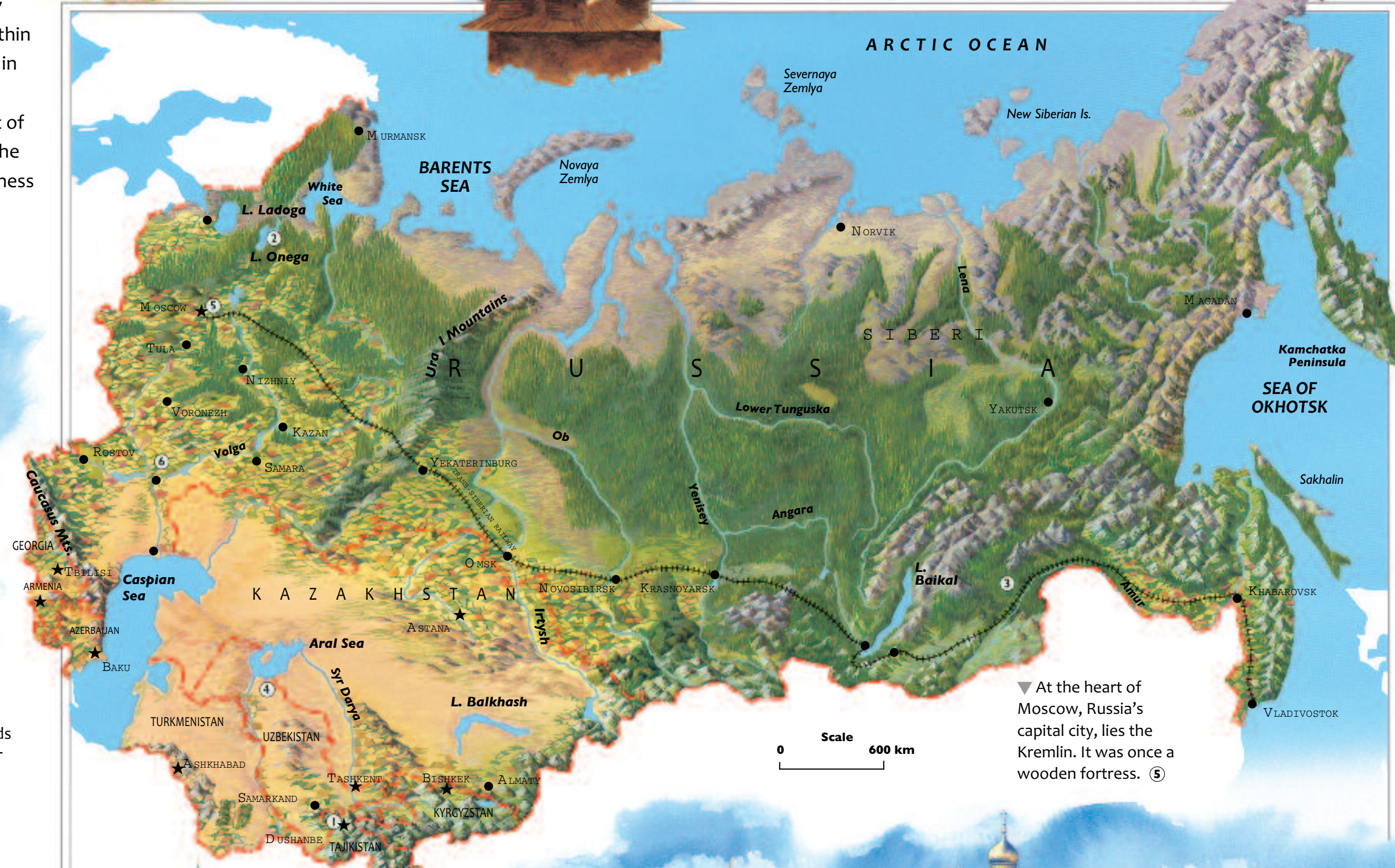
◀ A carpet-maker from Tajikistan. ①

▶ This church is made entirely out of wood. ②



◀ A trip along the Trans-Siberian Railway is the longest rail journey you can make in the world. ③

▼ The Aral Sea, one of the world's largest lakes, is gradually drying up. In the past, two great rivers, the Syr Darya and the Amu Darya, flowed into it. Their waters have been used in the cotton fields, however, and the flow into the Aral Sea has been reduced to a trickle. Now fishing boats lie stranded on the dry lake bottom. ④



▼ At the heart of Moscow, Russia's capital city, lies the Kremlin. It was once a wooden fortress. ⑤

CENTRAL ASIA

THE LANDS to the east of the Caspian Sea are mostly desert. Mountains rise near the border with China. Five new nations occupy this region. Crops such as cotton, tobacco and cereals are grown near the rivers. The people who live in Central Asia are mostly Muslims.



THE MIDDLE EAST

THE REGION that lies between Africa and South Asia is called the Middle East. It includes the Arabian peninsula, an L-shaped land lapped on three sides by the waters of the Red Sea, the Arabian Sea and the Persian Gulf. Nearly all of it is desert. One windblown

part of it is completely uninhabited. It is called Rub al Khali, “The Empty Quarter”. Two great rivers, the Tigris and Euphrates, flow southeast to the Persian Gulf. Between them, almost an island, lies Mesopotamia. It was here, thousands of years ago, that people first learned to farm and where the first cities grew up.

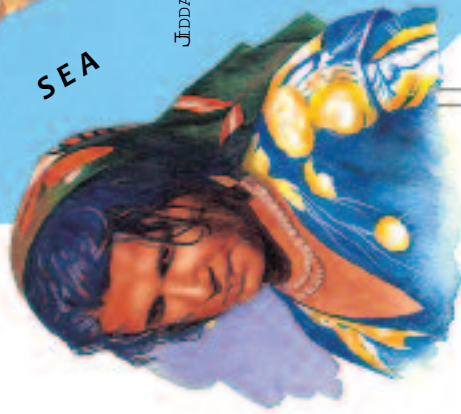


◀ A street seller in Jerusalem pours a glass of tamarind, a fruit drink. ⑤



▲ This is the entrance to the ancient city of Petra, Jordan. It was built into the cliffs by the Nabateans 2,000 years ago. ①

SEA



(above) This woman is Kurd. Her people come from Kurdistan, a hilly land that includes parts of northern Iraq, northwestern Iran and southeastern Turkey. ④

▼ Oil is drilled from beneath the sea bed in the Persian Gulf using oil rigs like this. ②



▲ The royal mosque in Esfahan, Iran, was built 400 years ago by an emperor called Shah Abbas. He ruled over a great empire in the Middle East. He made Esfahan, his capital, one of the largest and most beautiful cities in the world. Fifteen hundred metres above sea level on a dry, barren plain, more than one million people lived amongst the tree-lined avenues, parks and bustling bazaars. There were 162 mosques (places of Muslim worship) and 273 public baths! ③



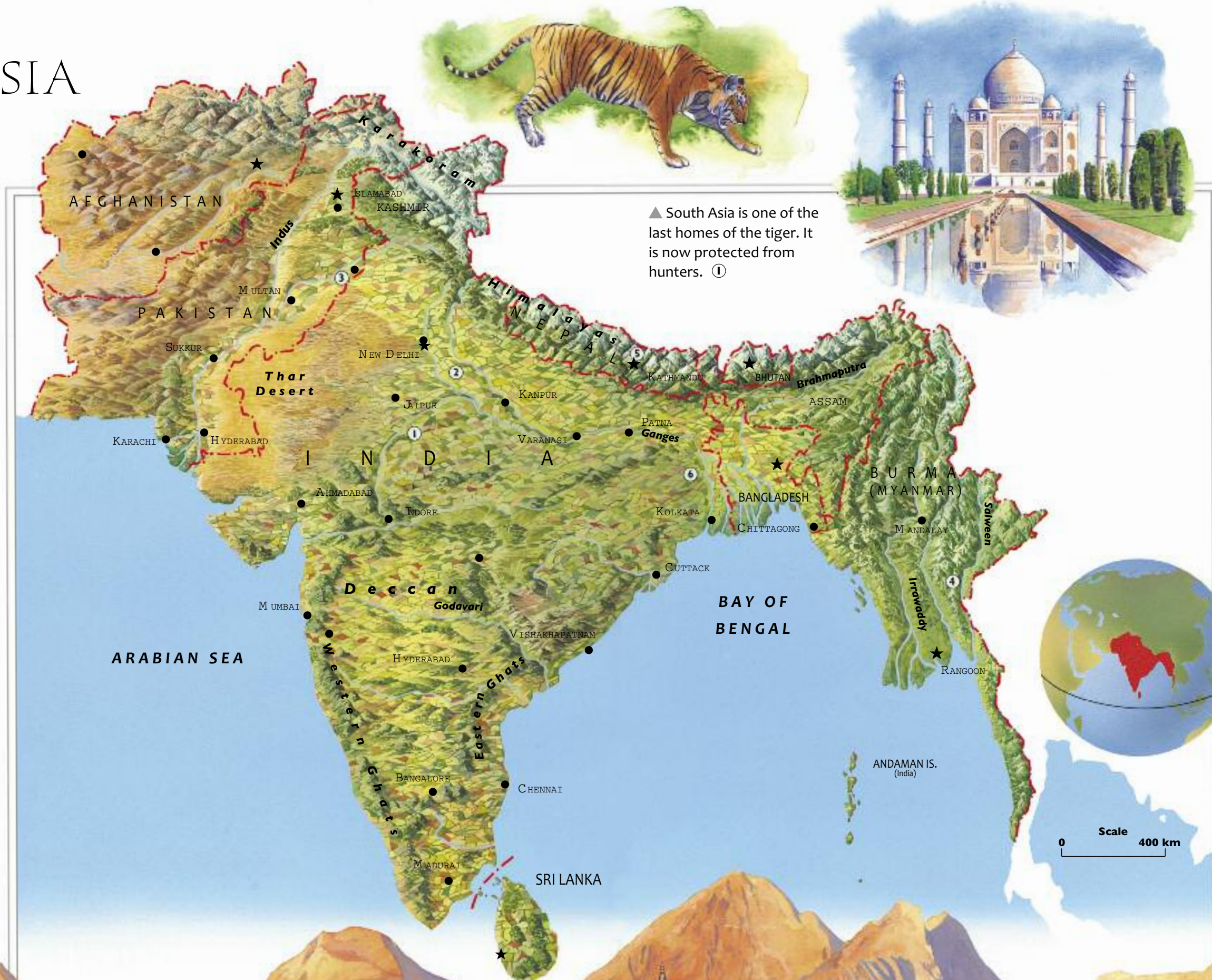
SOUTH ASIA

NINETY of the world's hundred highest peaks are found in the Himalaya and Karakoram ranges. The Ganges and the Brahmaputra rivers flow down from the mountains. They meet and form a delta, a swampy tangle of river mouths, at the sea.

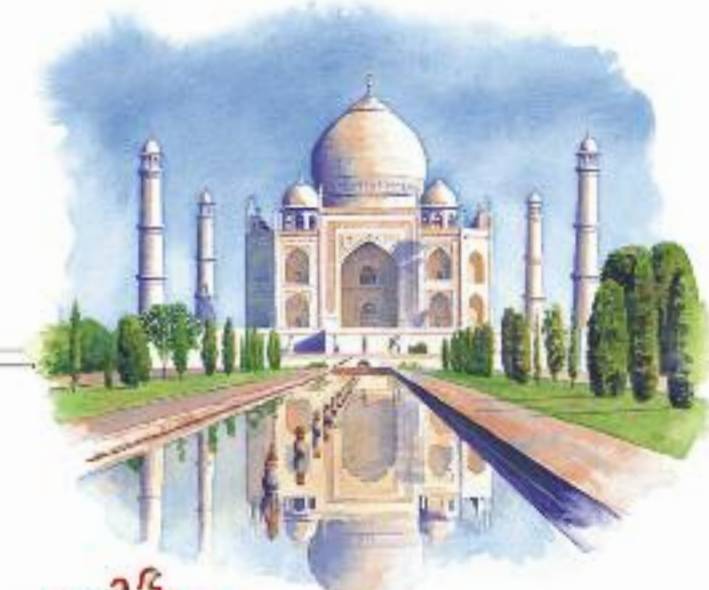


▲ Indian farmworkers take a ride on the roof of a train. It is the only way to travel when the train is packed full! India is criss-crossed by many railways. Most were built by the British, who once ruled India. ⑥

▼ If you were to stand on the roof-tops of Kathmandu, capital city of Nepal, this is what you would see. The Himalaya mountains tower all around. ⑤



▲ South Asia is one of the last homes of the tiger. It is now protected from hunters. ①



◀ Shah Jahan, emperor of India, loved his wife, Mumtaz Mahal, very deeply. When she died, he built the Taj Mahal in her memory. Sometimes called the most beautiful building in the world, it took 20,000 people 20 years to complete. ②

▼ Hail a cab in Lahore, Pakistan, and one of these might stop for you! ③



▼ A corner of southeastern Burma is known as the land of the "giraffe women". It is easy to see why they are known by this name! From the age of five, girls of the Padaung people wear brass rings around their necks, arms and legs. ④



Scale 0 400 km



SOUTH-EAST ASIA

ALL the countries shown on this map have tropical climates. Most of the year it is very hot and there is a lot of rain. The valleys and plains are packed with rice fields, villages and towns. Many different peoples live in Southeast Asia. Some forest peoples still lead traditional ways of life in Borneo and New Guinea.



▲ Children cross over a wooden bridge in southern Vietnam. This part of the country, near the mouth of the Mekong River, is flat and marshy with many rivers. Bridges have to be built on tall stilts to keep clear of floods. ⑦

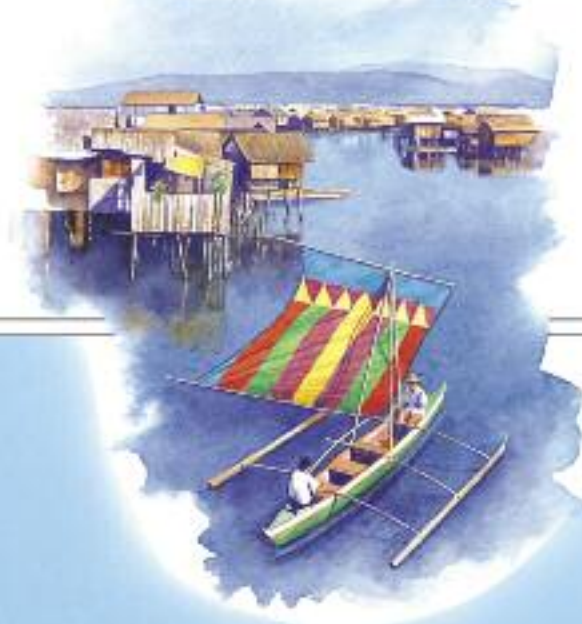
► This is the great temple of Angkor Wat in Cambodia. Eight hundred years ago, a huge city of one million people surrounded this building. It was a very holy place where people came to worship. Now Angkor Wat stands in the middle of a jungle. Parts of it are crumbling away. ⑥



◀ This giant lizard lives on an Indonesian island. It is called the Komodo dragon. ①



◀ The island of Bali is famous for its dancers. The girls wear colourful traditional costumes. Their performances delight Bali's many visitors. ②



◀ This village in the Philippines is built in the sea. It is located off the southern tip of the island of Mindanao. The houses stand on stilts in a calm bay called a lagoon. The villagers get most of their food from the sea. Their fishing boats, called vintas, have brightly coloured sails. ③



▲ A man rides his ox-cart through the streets of a Malaysian town. This may soon be a scene of the past. Malaysia is fast becoming a prosperous industrial nation. Kuala Lumpur, the capital, is now a modern city. ④



▲ Many Indonesian islands are still covered with thick tropical rainforest—although the forests are being cut down at a rapid rate. More different kinds of plants and animals live here than in any other part of the world. This is an illustration of *Rafflesia*, the largest flower in the world. Measuring about 1 m across, it grows on the island of Sumatra. The petals smell like rotting meat! ⑤



CHINA

VERY FEW people live in western China, a land of high mountains and dry deserts. Eastern China could not be more different. It is home to more than a billion people, one fifth of the world's population. Two of the world's longest rivers flow across the landscape. They are the Huang He, or "Yellow River", after the colour of the soil in the surrounding countryside, and the Yangtse.



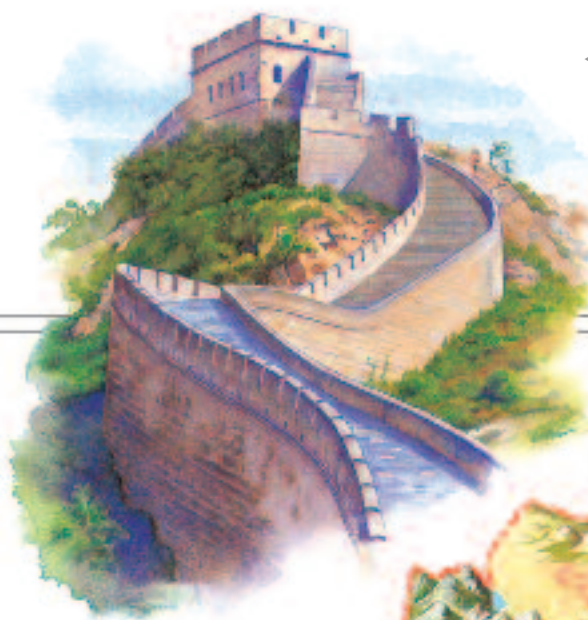
▲ This bronze statue of a horse is about 30 cm high and 1800 years old. It was found at a place in central China close to where the Silk Road used to pass. This was an ancient trail that ran from China across Asia to the Middle East. ⑧



Scale 0 400 km



◀ The Great Wall winds more than 3000 km across northern China. ①



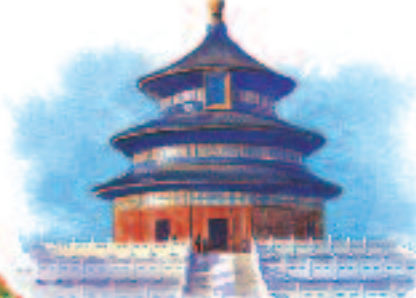
▶ A girl from south China. ②



◀ This farmer goes to market with his load of ducks and chickens. ③



◀ This round building in Beijing, China's capital city, is called the Temple of Heaven. It was built for an emperor nearly 500 years ago. He wished to pray to the gods for a good harvest each year. The temple has four main doors, one for each season. After the Temple was burnt down in a fire 100 years ago, 32 officials were beheaded. ④



▲ A funeral procession crosses the fields in South Korea. Although they are now the inhabitants of a modern industrial country, many people keep their traditional ways of life. Here, men and women are dressed in white, the Korean colour of mourning. The procession is led by people carrying banners. The dead man will be buried in a mound of earth. ⑤



▲ Hong Kong is a large, crowded, modern city and port for the world's fastest-growing industrial region. The centre of the city close to its famous harbour bristles with skyscrapers. Hong Kong was for many years a possession of the United Kingdom. It is now once again part of China. ⑥

▼ The Xi River winds its way past these strangely shaped hills near Guilin in southern China. ⑦



JAPAN

FOUR large islands, and quite a few small ones, make up the country of Japan. The main islands are, in order of size, Honshu, Hokkaido, Kyushu and Shikoku. Most of Japan is mountain and forest. The few plains and valleys are crammed with rice fields and cities.

Japan has very little farmland, but its modern fishing fleet catches more fish than any other country. Each year there are about 5000 earthquakes. Japan would seem to be a dangerous place to live! In fact, most quakes are small ground tremors that go almost unnoticed.



▲ People bathe in Japan's hot springs—even on a freezing winter's day! This spring is at Beppu, on Kyushu. ⑦



▼ Streamers shaped like fish are flown from the rooftops in Japan on Children's Day. ⑤



▼ The “Wedded Rocks” stand in the sea off the southern coast of Japan. There is a legend that they are the gods who gave birth to the islands of Japan. ⑥



▲ Himeji castle, known as “White Heron”, was one of many built for warrior chieftains. ①



▲ Once a year, children aged seven, five and three attend a festival called schichi-go-san. ②



▲ The Japanese write using pictures, called characters, instead of our alphabet. This boy is learning to write well. ③

▼ A high-speed train, named the “bullet train” after the shape of its nose, whistles past Mount Fuji. ④



Ryukyu Islands

Okinawa

NATIONS OF OCEANIA

AUSTRALIA
 Area 7,682,300 sq km Population 20,155,000
 Capital Canberra Language English

FIJI
 Area 18,376 sq km Population 848,000
 Capital Suva Languages Fijian, Hindi, English

KIRIBATI
 Area 811 sq km Population 99,000
 Capital Tarawa Languages I-Kiribati, English

NAURU
 Area 21 sq km Pop. 14,000 Capital Yaren District
 Languages Nauruan, English



▲ Australian boy ③

NEW ZEALAND
 Area 270,534 sq km Population 4,028,000
 Capital Wellington Languages English, Maori

PAPUA NEW GUINEA
 Area 462,840 sq km Population 5,887,000
 Capital Port Moresby Languages Pidgin, English, Motu

SAMOA
 Area 2,831 sq km Population 185,000
 Capital Apia Languages Samoan, English



◀ Boy from Solomon Islands ①



▲ Maori girl from New Zealand ②

SOLOMON ISLANDS
 Area 27,556 sq km Population 478,000 Capital Honiara Languages English, Pidgin

TONGA
 Area 748 sq km Population 102,000 Capital Nuku'alofa Languages Tongan, English



AUSTRALIA



PAPUA NEW GUINEA



NAURU



KIRIBATI



SOLOMON ISLANDS



VANUATU



TUVALU



FIJI



SAMOA



TONGA



NEW ZEALAND

OCEANIA

OCEANIA is the name given to the group of countries located in the South Pacific Ocean. It is made up of Australia (itself an island continent), New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and the islands of the Pacific Ocean. (For a complete map of the Pacific islands see pages 6-7).

Human beings probably first arrived in Australia more than 50,000 years ago. Perhaps the first peoples to travel by sea, they came from Southeast Asia. Thousands of years later, people reached the Pacific Islands and New Zealand in their sturdy ocean-going canoes.

FACTS ABOUT OCEANIA

Area 8,923,000 sq km
Population 33,056,000
Highest point Mt. Wilhelm (Papua New Guinea) 4509 m
Lowest point Lake Eyre (Australia) 16 m below sea level
Longest river Murray-Darling (Australia) 3750 km
Largest lake Lake Eyre (Australia) 9500 sq km
Largest country Australia 7,682,300 sq km
Largest population Australia 20,155,000
Largest city Sydney (Australia) 4,300,000 people

TUVALU
 Area 26 sq km Population 10,000 Capital Funafuti
 Languages Tuvaluan, English

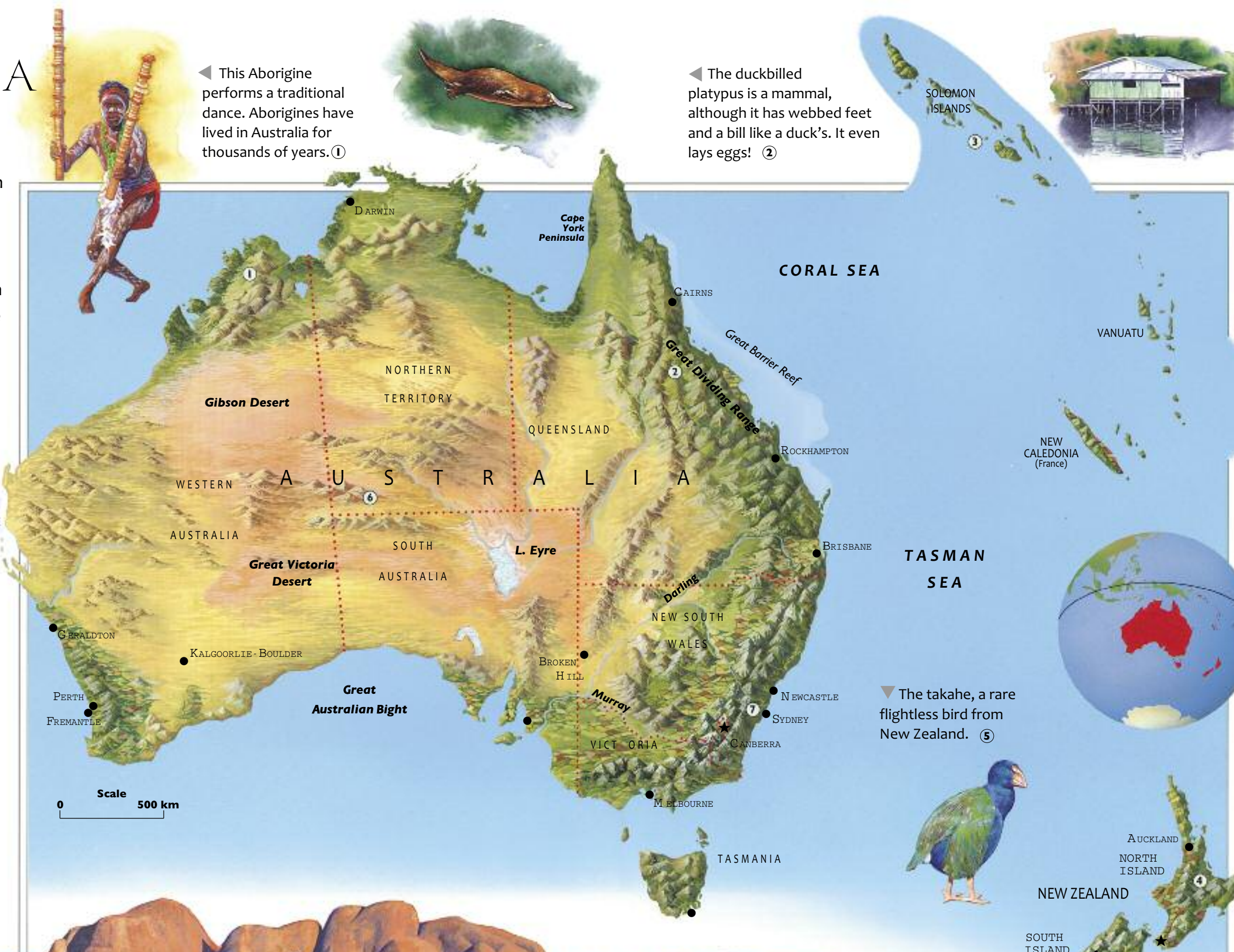
VANUATU
 Area 12,190 sq km Pop. 211,000 Capital Port Vila
 Languages Bislama, English, French

AUSTRALIA

AUSTRALIA is about the same area as the US, but its population is only a tiny fraction of that country's. Much of the land in the west, covered by grass and low bushes, is dry scrub, known as the "bush". Most people live in the southeast.



▲ Sydney is Australia's largest city. It is situated on the south-eastern coast, where most Australian cities have grown up. Sydney is famous for two magnificent landmarks: the Opera House and Harbour Bridge. The roof of the Opera House was built to look like the sails of yachts on the harbour waters. The bridge, which carries both trains and cars, is known to local people as the "Coathanger"! ⑦



◀ This Aborigine performs a traditional dance. Aborigines have lived in Australia for thousands of years. ①

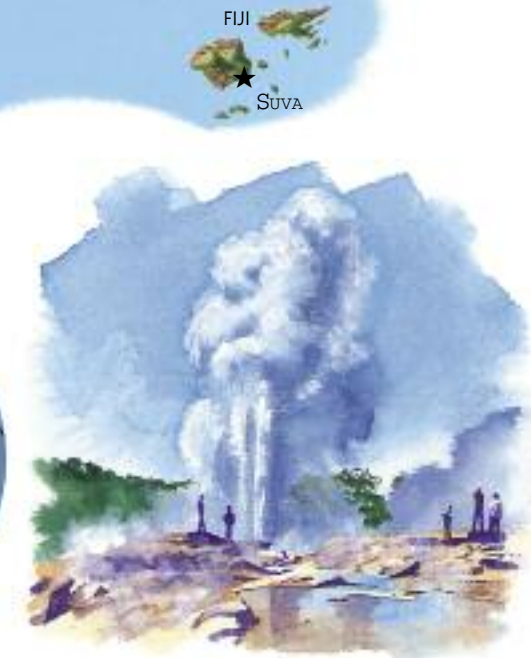


◀ The duckbilled platypus is a mammal, although it has webbed feet and a bill like a duck's. It even lays eggs! ②



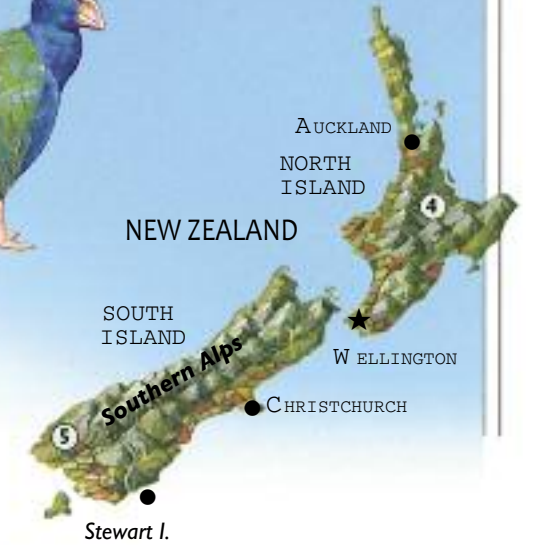
◀ This house is built on stilts in the waters of a lagoon, a shallow bay. Some villages in the Solomon Islands cluster together on man-made islands built hundreds of years ago.

Like many Pacific islands, the Solomon Islands were first inhabited by people who sailed there from Southeast Asia. Today the islanders make a living from fishing, mining, palm oil and tourism. ③



▲ Geysers, gushing jets of hot water, are found in New Zealand. ④

▼ The takahe, a rare flightless bird from New Zealand. ⑤

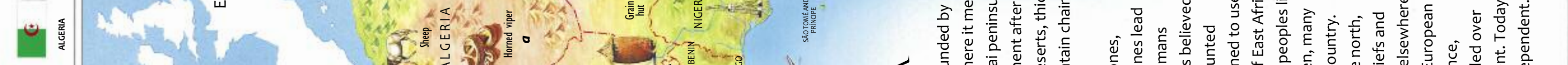


NEW ZEALAND

NEW ZEALAND is made up of North and South Islands. Both islands are mountainous. Grassy lowlands on South Island are grazed by sheep. Strange animals like the kiwi, a flightless bird, and the tuatara, a reptile left over from the Age of Dinosaurs, live only in New Zealand.

◀ The Olgas mountains, like nearby Uluru, are sacred to the Aborigines. ⑥





A FRUIT MARKET
 In some parts of Africa, people are starving. In others, markets like these may be full of tropical fruits, vegetables and other produce. Fertile soils mean rich farmland, especially close to the Niger and Volta Rivers in West Africa. But many crops grown in Africa are produced to be sold to rich countries for cash.

AFRICA

AFRICA is surrounded by sea, except where it meets Asia at the Sinai peninsula. The second largest continent after Asia, it is a land of vast deserts, thick rainforests, rugged mountain chains and rolling grasslands. Finds of prehistoric bones, footprints and carved stones lead scientists to think that humans originally came Africa. It is believed these human ancestors hunted animals for food and learned to use tools on the grasslands of East Africa. Hundreds of different peoples live all over Africa today. Often, many peoples share the same country. Islam is the religion of the north, while both traditional beliefs and Christianity are followed elsewhere. One hundred years ago, European countries like Britain, France, Germany and Portugal ruled over large parts of the continent. Today, all African countries are independent.

FACTS ABOUT AFRICA
 Area 29,800,000 sq km
 Population 905,936,000
 Highest point Kilimanjaro (Tanzania) 5894 m
 Lowest point Qattara Depression (Egypt) 132 m below sea level
 Longest river Nile 6670 km
 Largest lake Victoria 69,500 sq km
 Largest country Sudan 2,505,813 sq km
 Largest population Nigeria 131,530,000
 Largest city Cairo (Egypt) 11,100,000 people

NATIONS OF AFRICA

► Wodaabe girl from Niger ①



CAPE VERDE ISLANDS
Area 4,033 sq km Population 507,000
Capital Praia Languages Portuguese, Crioulo

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
Area 622,984 sq km Population 4,038,000
Capital Bangui Languages French, Sango

CHAD
Area 1,284,000 sq km Population 9,749,000
Capital N'Djamena Languages French, Arabic

COMOROS
Area 1,862 sq km Population 798,000
Capital Moroni Languages Arabic, French

CONGO (DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF)
Area 2,344,885 sq km Population 57,549,000
Capital Kinshasa Languages Swahili, Lingala, French

CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE
Area 342,000 sq km Population 3,999,000
Capital Brazzaville
Language French

CÔTE D'IVOIRE
Area 322,462 sq km Population 18,154,000
Capitals Yamoussoukro, Abidjan
Languages French, Malinke

BURKINA FASO
Area 274,200 sq km Population 13,228,000
Capital Ouagadougou
Languages French, Mossi

BURUNDI
Area 27,834 sq km Population 7,548,000
Capital Bujumbura Languages French, Kirundi, Swahili

CAMEROON
Area 475,442 sq km Population 16,322,000
Capital Yaoundé
Languages French, English

ALGERIA
Area 2,381,741 sq km Population 32,854,000
Capital Algiers Languages Arabic, French

ANGOLA
Area 1,246,700 sq km Population 15,941,000
Capital Luanda Languages Portuguese, Bantu

BENIN
Area 112,622 sq km Population 8,439,000
Capital Porto-Novo Language French

BOTSWANA
Area 582,000 sq km Population 1,765,000
Capital Gaborone Languages English, Tswana



► Berber girl ⑥

THE GAMBIA
Area 11,295 sq km Pop. 1,517,000
Capital Banjul Language English

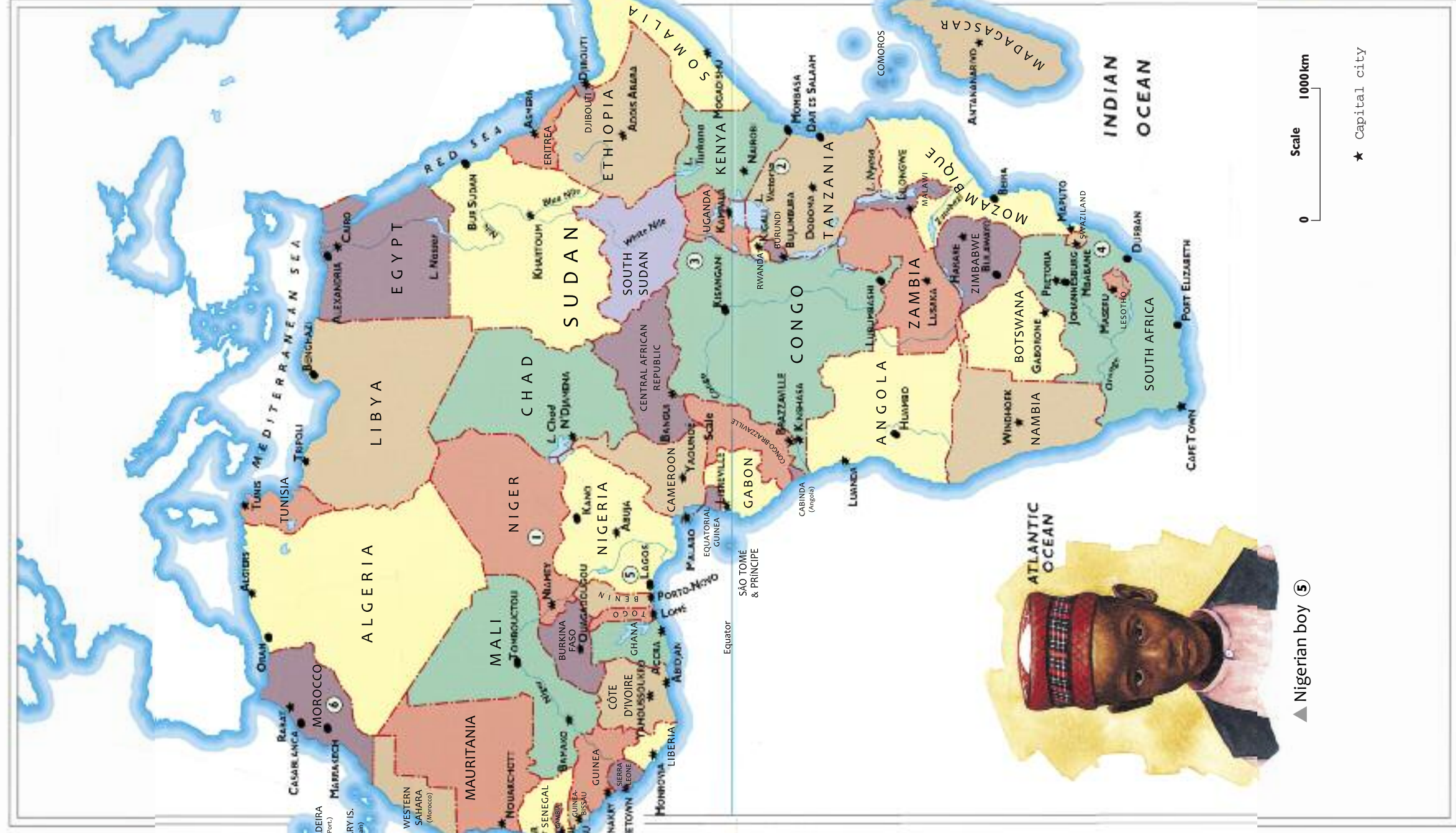
GHANA
Area 238,537 sq km Population 22,133,000
Capital Accra
Languages English, Kwa languages

GUINEA
Area 245,857 sq km Population 9,402,000
Capital Conakry
Languages French, Soussou, Maninka

GUINEA-BISSAU
Area 36,125 sq km Pop. 1,586,000
Capital Bissau Language Portuguese

KENYA
Area 580,367 sq km Pop. 34,256,000
Capital Nairobi
Languages Swahili, English, Kikuyu, Luo

LESOTHO
Area 30,355 sq km Population 1,795,000
Capital Maseru
Languages English, Sesotho



► Nigerian boy ⑤

LIBERIA
Area 97,754 sq km Pop. 3,283,000
Capital Monrovia Language English

LIBYA
Area 1,775,500 sq km Pop. 5,853,000
Capital Tripoli Language Arabic

MADAGASCAR
Area 587,041 sq km Population 18,606,000
Capital Antananarivo
Languages Malagasy, French

MALAWI
Area 118,484 sq km Population 12,884,000
Capital Lilongwe
Languages English, Chichewa

MALI
Area 1,240,192 sq km Pop. 15,518,000
Capital Bamako Language French

MAURITANIA
Area 1,030,700 sq km Pop. 3,069,000
Capital Nouakchott
Languages Arabic, Poular, Wolof, Sulinke

MAURITIUS
Area 2,040 sq km Population 1,245,000
Capital Port Louis
Languages English, Creole

MOROCCO
Area 446,550 sq km Population 31,478,000
Capital Rabat
Languages Arabic, Berber, Spanish, French

MOZAMBIQUE
Area 799,380 sq km Population 19,792,000
Capital Maputo Languages Portuguese, Ronga, Shangean, Muchope

NAMIBIA
Area 824,292 sq km Population 2,031,000
Capital Windhoek
Languages English, Afrikaans, German



► Zulu boy from South Africa ④

SENEGAL
Area 196,192 sq km Pop. 11,658,000
Capital Dakar Language French

SEYCHELLES
Area 454 sq km Pop. 81,000
Capital Victoria Languages English, Creole

SIERRA LEONE
Area 71,740 sq km Population 5,525,000
Capital Freetown Languages English, Krio, Mende, Limba, Temne

SOMALIA
Area 637,657 sq km Population 8,228,000
Capital Mogadishu
Languages Somali, Arabic, English, Italian

SOUTH AFRICA
Area 1,221,037 sq km Population 47,432,000
Capitals Pretoria, Cape Town
Languages Afrikaans, English, Xhosa, Zulu, Sesotho

SUDAN
Area 1,861,484 sq km Pop. about 44 million
Capital Khartoum Languages Arabic, English

SUDAN, SOUTH
Area 644,329 sq km Pop. about 10 million
Capital Khartoum Languages Arabic, English

SWAZILAND
Area 173,563 sq km Pop. 1,032,000
Capital Mbabane Languages English, siSwati

TANZANIA
Area 945,087 sq km Population 38,329,000
Capital Dodoma Languages Swahili, English

TOGO
Area 56,785 sq km Population 6,145,000
Capital Lomé
Languages French, Kabiye, Ewe

TUNISIA
Area 164,150 sq km Population 10,102,000
Capital Tunis
Languages Arabic, Berber, French

UGANDA
Area 241,139 sq km Population 28,816,000
Capital Kampala Languages English, Luganda

► Efe (pygmy) girl ③



WESTERN SAHARA
Area 266,000 sq km Pop. 341,000
Capital El Aaiun Language Arabic

ZAMBIA
Area 752,614 sq km Pop. 11,668,000
Capital Lusaka
Languages English, Lozi

ZIMBABWE
Area 390,759 sq km Pop. 13,010,000
Capital Harare
Languages English, Shona, Ndebele

► Masai girl ②



NIGER
Area 1,267,000 sq km Population 13,957,000
Capital Niamey Languages French, Hausa, Tuareg, Djerna, Fulani

NIGERIA
Area 923,768 sq km Population 131,530,000
Capital Abuja
Languages English, Hausa, Yoruba, Ibo

RÉUNION
Area 2,512 sq km Population 785,000
Capital Saint-Denis Language French

RWANDA
Area 26,338 sq km Population 9,038,000
Capital Kigali
Languages French, Kinyarwanda, Swahili

SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE
Area 964 sq km Pop. 157,000
Capital São Tomé Language Portuguese

NORTHERN AFRICA

A LARGE part of this map shows an area where hardly anybody lives. All the year round the Sahara Desert is hot and dry. Nothing grows in the bare, stony ground. Only a few parts of the Sahara are sandy. Some areas are quite mountainous. Farmland and pastures lie to the south of the Sahara. This area, called the Sahel, is sometimes almost as dry as a desert. Crops cannot grow and grazing animals die.



▲ The people of West Africa dress up in style for special occasions! This man is wearing a hat made of parrot feathers and an elephant mask (note the large ears and long trunk). He wears this costume to show how wealthy and powerful he is. ⑦



◀ Morocco is famous for its colourful marketplaces, known as "souks". ①



◀ This boy from Burkina Faso, in West Africa, drives his donkey cart full of fresh cotton. ②



◀ These are statues of King Ramses II, who ruled in Egypt 3,000 years ago. They are cut out of a rock face at Abu Simbel. A land of great pyramids and temples, ancient Egypt grew up on the rich farmlands close to the banks of the River Nile. ③



▲ This is part of a village in Côte d'Ivoire, West Africa. The round houses are made from baked mud and dried reeds. ④

▼ The Dinka people from South Sudan are among the tallest peoples in the world. They spend nearly all their lives tending their herds of cattle. ⑤



◀ Dotted about the Sahara Desert are places where water gushes and palm trees grow. These are called oases. Very often towns are built at these oases, like this one in Egypt. The tall tower is a minaret. From here, a man calls people to come to the mosque for prayer. ⑥



SOUTHERN AFRICA

THE SOUTHERN half of the African continent is very different from the northern half. There are rainforests, savanna grasslands and high mountain ranges.

Herd of animals still wander freely on the savannah. Giraffes, wildebeest, zebras,

elephants and others move about the plains feeding on grass and leaves. Lions, cheetahs and hyenas prey on these grazing animals. The Bantu people, herdsmen and farmers, travelled from western to southern Africa hundreds of years ago and made it their home. Europeans and Asians have also settled here.



◀ The Zambezi river plunges 128 m at the Victoria Falls. To local people, the Falls are known as Mosi-oa-Tunya ("the smoke that thunders"). ⑦



▲ The giraffe is the tallest animal in the world. It feeds on the leaves in the trees of the savannah. ①



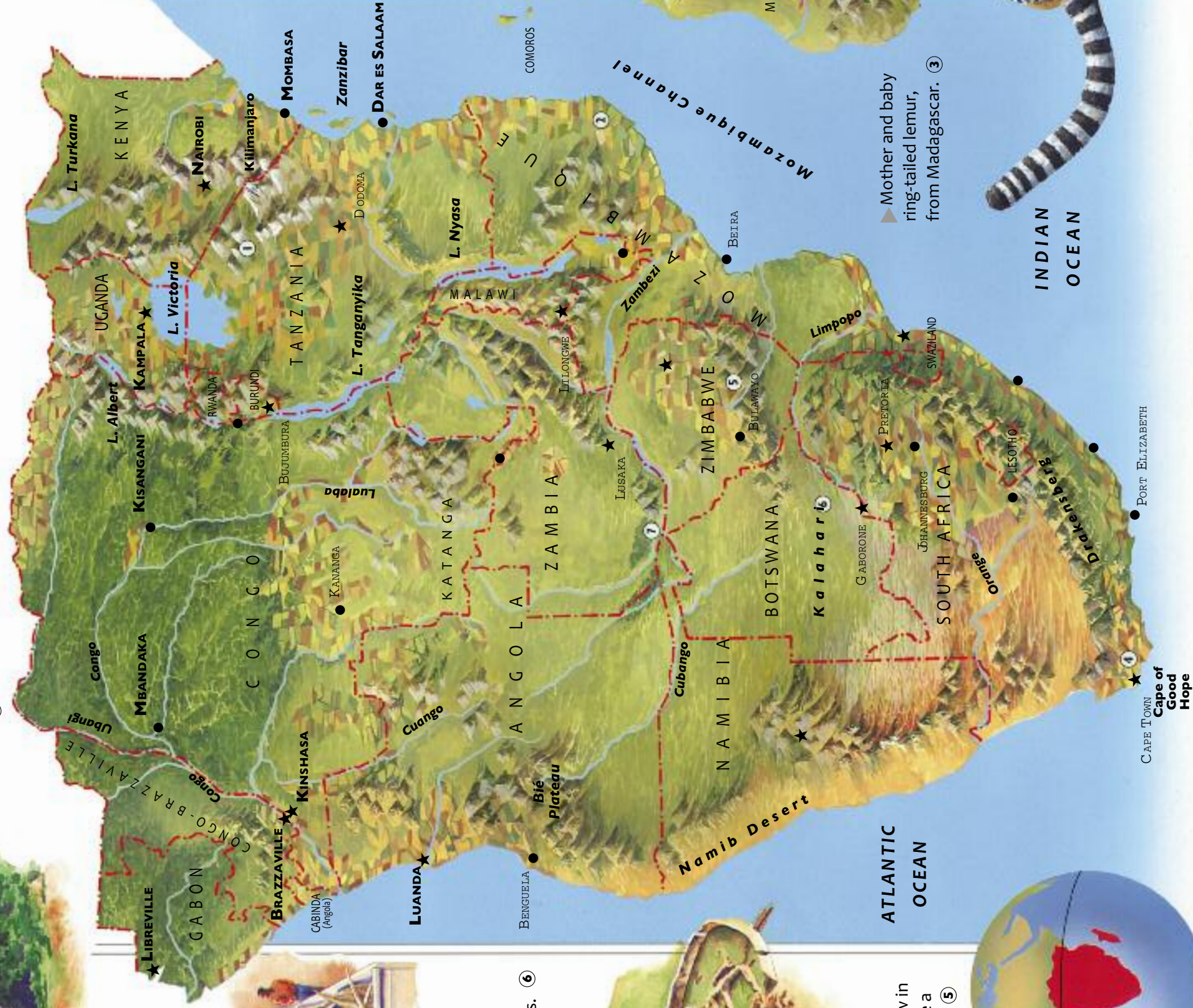
▲ Poachers kill elephants and rhinos for their tusks and horns. ⑥



▲ A woman from Mozambique. She moistens her skin using cream made from crushed bark. ②



▲ Great Zimbabwe, now in ruins, was once a huge palace. ⑤



ATLANTIC OCEAN

INDIAN OCEAN

▶ Mother and baby ring-tailed lemur, from Madagascar. ③

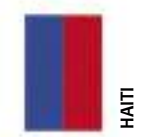
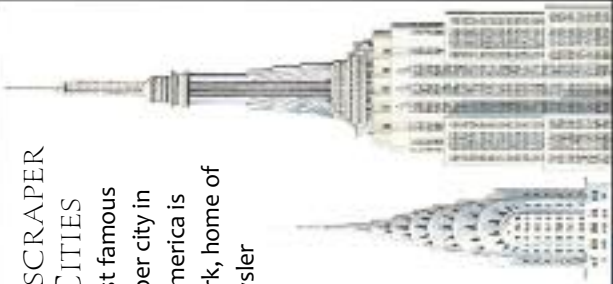


◀ Rising behind Cape Town is the flat-topped Table Mountain. ④

SOUTH AFRICA

LYING right at the southern tip of the continent is the country of South Africa. Most of its people are native Africans, but Europeans and Asians also live here. The land is rich both for farmers and miners. More gold is found here than in any other country in the world. Near the Cape of Good Hope, the point where Atlantic and Indian Oceans meet, fruit and vines are grown. For most of the year, the weather is warm and sunny.

SKYSCRAPER CITIES
 The most famous skyscraper city in North America is New York, home of the Chrysler Building (right) and Empire State Building (far right).



NORTH AMERICA

NORTH AMERICA stretches from the icy Arctic islands of Greenland and northern Canada to the hot, steamy rainforests of the Caribbean coast. Human beings first arrived in North America from Asia at least 14,000 years ago. It was the time of Ice Ages when ice sheets covered large parts of the world. The Bering Strait, which separates North America from Asia, was then dry land. The first Americans spread out across the continent and lived by hunting the animals they found there.

The first Europeans to set eyes on North America were Norsemen. About 1,000 years ago, they explored the coasts of Baffin Island and Labrador, and settled in Newfoundland. After Christopher Columbus' voyage of discovery in 1492, Spanish, English and French explorers began to travel inland.

FACTS ABOUT NORTH AMERICA

- Area 24,250,000 sq km
- Population 516,565,000
- Highest point Mt. McKinley (Alaska, USA) 6194 m
- Lowest point Death Valley (Calif., USA) 86 m below sea level
- Longest river Mississippi-Missouri (USA) 5970 km
- Largest lake Superior (Canada and USA) 82,100 sq km
- Largest country Canada 9,958,319 sq km
- Largest population United States of America 298,213,000
- Largest city Mexico City (Mexico) 19,400,000 people



NATIONS OF NORTH AMERICA



▲ Inuit (Eskimo) boy from Canada ①

ANGUILLA
Area 91 sq km Population 12,000
Capital The Valley Language English

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
Area 442 sq km Population 81,000
Capital St. John's Language English

BAHAMAS
Area 13,939 sq km Population 323,000
Capital Nassau Language English

BARBADOS
Area 430 sq km Population 270,000
Capital Bridgetown Language English

BELIZE
Area 22,965 sq km Population 270,000
Capital Belmopan Languages English, Spanish

BERMUDA
Area 53 sq km Population 64,000
Capital Hamilton Language English

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS
Area 153 sq km Population 22,000
Capital Road Town Language English

CANADA
Area 9,958,319 sq km Population 37,268,000
Capital Ottawa Languages English, French

COSTA RICA
Area 50,700 sq km Population 4,327,000
Capital San José Language Spanish

CUBA
Area 110,860 sq km Population 11,269,000
Capital Havana Language Spanish



▲ Originally from Ukraine, the Hutterites are devout Christians who live in small communities on the Great Plains of Canada. ②

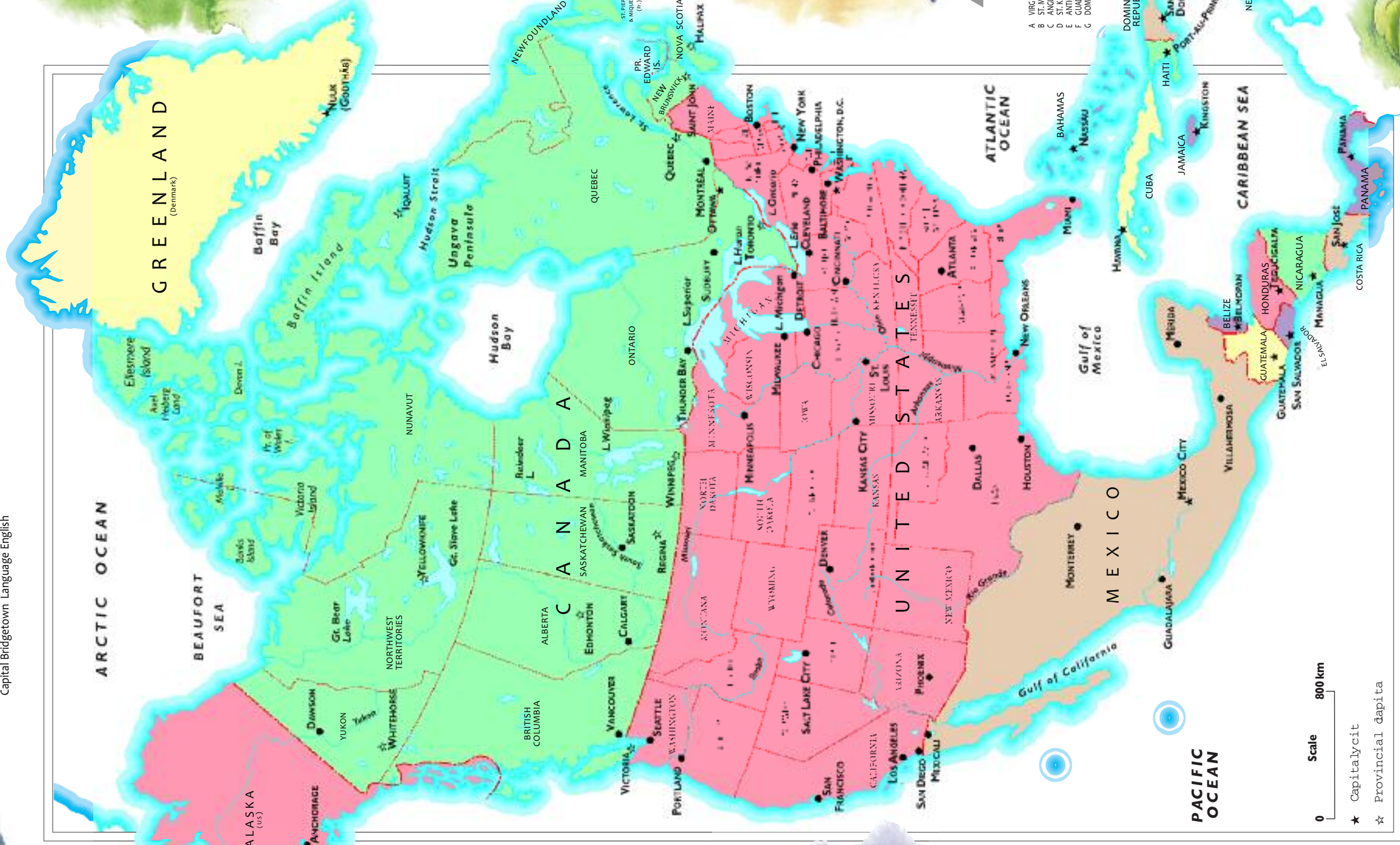
DOMINICA
Area 750 sq km Pop. 79,000
Capital Roseau
Languages English, Creole

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
Area 48,422 sq km Population 8,895,000
Capital Santo Domingo Language Spanish

EL SALVADOR
Area 21,041 sq km Population 6,881,000
Capital San Salvador Language Spanish

GREENLAND
Area 2,175,600 sq km Population 57,000
Capital Nuuk (Godthåb)
Languages Inuit, Danish

GRENADA
Area 345 sq km Population 103,000
Capital St. George's
Languages English, French patois



▲ Hopi girl ③

GUADELOUPE
Area 1,779 sq km Population 448,000
Capital Basse-Terre
Languages French, Creole

GUATEMALA
Area 108,889 sq km Pop. 12,599,000
Capital Guatemala Language Spanish

HAITI
Area 27,750 sq km Population 8,528,000
Capital Port-au-Prince
Languages French, Creole

HONDURAS
Area 112,088 sq km Pop. 7,205,000
Capital Tegucigalpa Language Spanish

JAMAICA
Area 10,991 sq km Pop. 2,651,000
Capital Kingston Language English

MARTINIQUE
Area 1,102 sq km Population 369,000
Capital Fort-de-France
Languages French, Creole



▲ Guatemalan girl ④

MEXICO
Area 1,972,547 sq km Population 107,029,000
Capital Mexico City Language Spanish

MONTSERRAT
Area 102 sq km Population 5,000
Capital Plymouth Language English

NETHERLANDS ANTILLES
Area 800 sq km Population 183,000
Capital Willemstad
Languages Dutch, Papiamentu

NICARAGUA
Area 130,000 sq km Population 5,487,000
Capital Managua Languages Spanish, English

PANAMA
Area 75,517 sq km Population 3,232,000
Capital Panama Language Spanish

PUERTO RICO
Area 8,959 sq km Population 3,955,000
Capital San Juan Languages Spanish, English

ST. KITTS AND NEVIS
Area 262 sq km Population 43,000
Capital Basseterre Language English

ST. LUCIA
Area 616 sq km Population 161,000
Capital Castries
Languages English, French patois

ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES
Area 388 sq km Population 119,000
Capital Kingstown Language English

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
Area 5,127 sq km Population 1,305,000
Capital Port of Spain
Languages English, French, Spanish, Hindi, Chinese

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Area 9,372,614 sq km Population 298,213,000
Capital Washington, D.C. Languages English, Spanish

US VIRGIN ISLANDS
Area 355 sq km Population 112,000
Capital Charlotte Amalie Languages English, Spanish, Creole

▲ Boy from Caribbean Islands ⑤



▲ American boy ③

A VIRGIN IS. (Fr. & US)
B ST. MARTIN (France & Netherlands)
C ST. MAURITIA & NEVIS
D ST. KITTS & NEVIS
E ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
F GUADELOUPE (France)
G DOMINICA

H MARTINIQUE (France)
I ST. LUCIA
J ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES
K BARBADOS
L GRENADA

BAHAMAS
Area 13,939 sq km Population 323,000
Capital Nassau Language English

CUBA
Area 110,860 sq km Population 11,269,000
Capital Havana Language Spanish

JAMAICA
Area 10,991 sq km Population 2,651,000
Capital Kingston Language English

NETHERLANDS ANTILLES
Area 800 sq km Population 183,000
Capital Willemstad
Languages Dutch, Papiamentu

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
Area 5,127 sq km Population 1,305,000
Capital Port of Spain
Languages English, French, Spanish, Hindi, Chinese

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Area 9,372,614 sq km Population 298,213,000
Capital Washington, D.C. Languages English, Spanish

US VIRGIN ISLANDS
Area 355 sq km Population 112,000
Capital Charlotte Amalie Languages English, Spanish, Creole



CANADA

CANADA is the second largest country in the world after Russia. It is a land of high mountains in the west, forests and lakes in the centre and frozen, tree-less wastes in the Arctic north. Canada's cities and farmland are situated in the south, close to the border with the US.



▲ This is the face of a bear. You can see its wild eyes, fearsome teeth and flared nostrils! It was carved on a totem pole by Native Americans from British Columbia. Each pole has several carvings, one on top of the other. ⑥



▼ Lakes, evergreen forest and snowy peaks fill this view of a valley in the Rocky Mountains. ⑤

◀ The wheat fields of Alberta and Saskatchewan are known as the "prairies". The harvested grain is stored in elevators like these. ①

◀ A fishing boat winds in its nets. Usually, fishing vessels are everywhere in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and off the coast of Newfoundland. The stocks of cod and herring in these shallow seas have fallen dramatically. ②



▲ Ice hockey is one of Canada's most popular sports. Nearly every town has an ice rink and a local team. The biggest prize of the season, the Stanley Cup, has been won most often by the Montréal Canadiens. Even many of the players in the United States teams are Canadian. ③



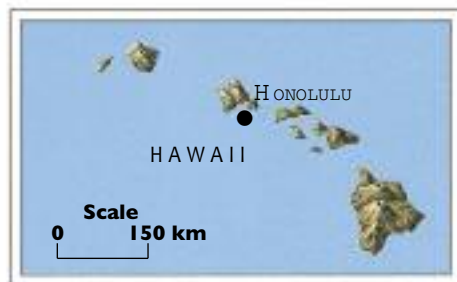
▲ The CN Tower in Toronto is the tallest structure in North America. It is 553 m high. ④

UNITED STATES

THE United States of America consists of 50 states, including Hawaii and Alaska. East of the Rocky Mountains are wide expanses of farmland. Sprawling cities cluster together in the northeastern states. West of the Rockies, much of the land inland from the Pacific coast is desert.



▲ The trunk of this giant sequoia tree in California is so thick cars can drive through it! One tree of this kind, known as "General Sherman," is the most massive living thing in the world. ⑥



VT.
N.H.
MASS.
CONN.
R.I.
N.J.
MD.
DEL.

VERMONT
NEW HAMPSHIRE
MASSACHUSETTS
CONNECTICUT
RHODE ISLAND
NEW JERSEY
MARYLAND
DELAWARE



◀ The Golden Gate Bridge crosses the entrance to San Francisco Bay. ①



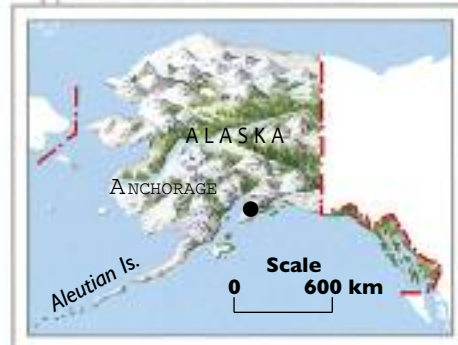
◀ The Gateway Arch, in St. Louis, Missouri, is the tallest monument in the world. It was built to mark the city's historic role as "gateway to the West". Wagon trains once set out from here on their way to California. The Arch is hollow. Inside, lifts go up to a viewing platform at the top. ②



▲ The United States Capitol in Washington, D.C., is one of the most famous landmarks in the world. Congress is the US parliament. It consists of the House of Representatives and the Senate, both of which meet inside this building. ③



▲ This is a club in New Orleans, Louisiana, where jazz musicians are performing. New Orleans is the home of jazz, a style of music invented by black musicians in the early years of the 20th century. ④



Scale 400 km

▼ Much of the southwestern USA is desert. Some spectacular landscapes, like Monument Valley in Arizona, are found here. ⑤



STATES OF THE USA

ALABAMA

Area 135,775 sq km Population 4,558,000
Capital Montgomery Largest city Birmingham

ALASKA

Area 1,700,139 sq km Population 664,000
Capital Juneau Largest city Anchorage

ARIZONA

Area 295,267 sq km Population 5,939,000
Capital and largest city Phoenix

ARKANSAS

Area 137,742 sq km Population 2,779,000
Capital and largest city Little Rock

CALIFORNIA

Area 424,002 sq km Population 36,132,000
Capital Sacramento Largest city Los Angeles

COLORADO

Area 269,620 sq km Population 4,665,000
Capital and largest city Denver

CONNECTICUT

Area 14,358 sq km Population 3,510,000
Capital Hartford Largest city Bridgeport



▲ Bucking bronco at a rodeo ⑥

DELAWARE

Area 6,447 sq km Population 844,000
Capital Dover Largest city Wilmington

FLORIDA

Area 170,313 sq km Population 17,790,000
Capital Tallahassee Largest city Jacksonville

GEORGIA

Area 153,953 sq km Population 9,073,000
Capital and largest city Atlanta

HAWAII

Area 28,313 sq km Population 1,275,000
Capital and largest city Honolulu

IDAHO

Area 216,456 sq km Population 1,429,000
Capital and largest city Boise

ILLINOIS

Area 150,007 sq km Population 12,763,000
Capital Springfield Largest city Chicago

INDIANA

Area 94,328 sq km Population 6,272,000
Capital and largest city Indianapolis

IOWA

Area 145,754 sq km Population 2,966,000
Capital and largest city Des Moines

KANSAS

Area 213,110 sq km Population 2,745,000
Capital Topeka Largest city Wichita

KENTUCKY

Area 104,665 sq km Population 4,173,000
Capital Frankfort Largest city Louisville

MAINE

Area 91,653 sq km Population 1,322,000
Capital Augusta Largest city Portland

MARYLAND

Area 32,135 sq km Population 5,600,000
Capital Annapolis Largest city Baltimore

▶ Hoover Dam ①



MICHIGAN

Area 250,738 sq km Population 10,121,000
Capital Lansing Largest city Detroit

MINNESOTA

Area 225,182 sq km Population 5,133,000
Capital St. Paul Largest city Minneapolis

MISSISSIPPI

Area 125,443 sq km Population 2,921,000
Capital and largest city Jackson



▲ The Fall in New England ②

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Area 24,219 sq km Population 1,310,000
Capital Concord Largest city Manchester

NEW JERSEY

Area 22,590 sq km Population 8,718,000
Capital Trenton Largest city Newark

NEW MEXICO

Area 314,939 sq km Population 1,928,000
Capital Santa Fe Largest city Albuquerque

NEW YORK

Area 141,089 sq km Population 19,254,000
Capital Albany Largest city New York

NORTH CAROLINA

Area 139,397 sq km Population 8,683,000
Capital Raleigh Largest city Charlotte

NORTH DAKOTA

Area 183,123 sq km Population 637,000
Capital Bismarck Largest city Fargo

OHIO

Area 116,103 sq km Population 11,464,000
Capital and largest city Columbus

OKLAHOMA

Area 181,049 sq km Population 3,548,000
Capital and largest city Oklahoma City

OREGON

Area 254,819 sq km Population 3,641,000
Capital Salem Largest city Portland

PENNSYLVANIA

Area 119,291 sq km Population 12,430,000
Capital Harrisburg Largest city Philadelphia

RHODE ISLAND

Area 4,002 sq km Population 1,076,000
Capital and largest city Providence

SOUTH CAROLINA

Area 82,898 sq km Population 4,255,000
Capital and largest city Columbia

SOUTH DAKOTA

Area 199,745 sq km Population 756,000
Capital Pierre Largest city Sioux Falls

TENNESSEE

Area 109,158 sq km Population 5,963,000
Capital Nashville Largest city Memphis

TEXAS

Area 695,676 sq km Population 22,860,000
Capital Austin Largest city Houston

UTAH

Area 219,902 sq km Population 2,470,000
Capital and largest city Salt Lake City



▲ Whale-watching ③

VERMONT

Area 24,903 sq km Population 623,000
Capital Montpelier Largest city Burlington

VIRGINIA

Area 110,771 sq km Population 7,567,000
Capital Richmond Largest city Virginia Beach

WASHINGTON

Area 184,674 sq km Population 6,288,000
Capital Olympia Largest city Seattle

WEST VIRGINIA

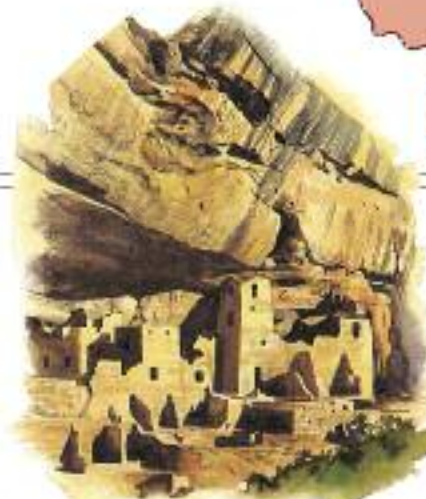
Area 62,759 sq km Population 1,817,000
Capital and largest city Charleston

WISCONSIN

Area 169,653 sq km Population 5,536,000
Capital Madison Largest city Milwaukee

WYOMING

Area 253,349 sq km Population 509,000
Capital and largest city Cheyenne



◀ Cliff Palace ⑤

MISSOURI

Area 180,546 sq km Pop. 5,800,000
Capital Jefferson City Largest city Kansas City

MONTANA

Area 380,850 sq km Population 936,000
Capital Helena Largest city Billings

NEBRASKA

Area 200,358 sq km Population 1,759,000
Capital Lincoln Largest city Omaha

NEVADA

Area 286,368 sq km Population 2,415,000
Capital Carson City Largest city Las Vegas

▶ The Statue of Liberty ④



MEXICO

☞ CENTRAL AMERICA

IN northern Mexico, mountain chains run down both coastlines. The high, flat land between them is dry and dusty, dotted with low bushes called scrub. Farther south, in Central America, the land narrows and the climate becomes more tropical.



▲ This is a volcano in Costa Rica. Smoke drifts gently from the crater at its summit. Sometimes, often without warning, a volcano will erupt. In a huge explosion, great clouds of dust and ash fill the sky. Lava, rock that is so hot it flows like a liquid, cascades down the mountainside. There are many volcanoes in Mexico and Central America. ⑥



◀ A colourful tree frog from Central America. ①



◀ The Panama Canal is a man-made link between the Caribbean Sea and the Pacific Ocean. Ships pass through locks with the help of little railway locomotives. ②



◀ The waters around the islands in the Caribbean Sea are warm and full of wildlife. Close to shore lie coral reefs, natural undersea banks built up by tiny animals. Tourists dive underwater to see the amazing shapes and colours, and watch many kinds of fish swim by. ③



▲ These women from Haiti are winnowing rice. They shake the grains through a sieve. The part of the rice that is good to eat falls to the ground, while the husks are left in the sieve. ④

- LESSER ANTILLES
- A VIRGIN IS. (Br. & US)
 - B ST. MARTIN (France & Neths)
 - C ANGUILLA (Br.)
 - D ST. KITTS AND NEVIS
 - E ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA
 - F MONTSERRAT (Br.)
 - G GUADELOUPE (France)
 - H DOMINICA
 - I MARTINIQUE (France)
 - J ST. LUCIA
 - K ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES
 - L BARBADOS
 - M GRENADA
 - N TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
 - O NETHERLANDS ANTILLES (Neths)

▼ Before Europeans arrived in Central America, the Maya people built great cities in clearings they made in the rainforest. Most of these cities, like Chichén Itzá, pictured below, are dominated by large, stepped pyramids. ⑤



FACTS ABOUT SOUTH AMERICA

- Area** 17,663,000 sq km
- Population** 375,185,000
- Highest point** Aconcagua (Argentina) 6960 m
- Lowest point** Salinas Chicas (Arg.) 42 m below sea level
- Longest river** Amazon 6451 km
- Largest lake** Titicaca (Peru and Bolivia) 8340 sq km
- Largest country** Brazil 8,511,996 sq km
- Largest population** Brazil 186,405,000
- Largest city** São Paulo (Brazil) 18,300,000 people



▲ Indian girl from the Andes, Bolivia ③



▲ Chilean boy ②

NATIONS OF SOUTH AMERICA

- ARGENTINA**
Area 2,766,889 sq km Population 38,747,000
Capital Buenos Aires Language Spanish
- BOLIVIA**
Area 1,098,581 sq km Population 9,182,000
Capitals La Paz, Sucre
Languages Spanish, Quechua, Aymara

- BRAZIL**
Area 8,511,996 sq km Population 186,405,000
Capital Brasilia Language Portuguese
- CHILE**
Area 756,626 sq km Population 16,295,000
Capital Santiago Language Spanish
- COLOMBIA**
Area 1,141,748 sq km Population 45,600,000
Capital Bogotá Language Spanish
- ECUADOR**
Area 272,045 sq km Population 13,228,000
Capital Quito Languages Spanish, Quechua

- FALKLAND ISLANDS**
Area 12,173 sq km Population 3,000
Capital Stanley Language English
- FRENCH GUIANA**
Area 91,000 sq km Pop. 187,000 Capital Cayenne
Languages French, Creole
- GUYANA**
Area 214,969 sq km Population 751,000
Capital Georgetown L
anguages English, Hindi, Urdu
- PARAGUAY**
Area 406,752 sq km Population 6,158,000 Capital Asunción Languages Spanish, Guaraní

- PERU**
Area 1,285,216 sq km Pop. 27,968,000 Capital Lima
Languages Spanish, Quechua, Aymara
- SURINAME**
Area 163,265 sq km Pop. 449,000
Capital Paramaribo
Languages Dutch, Hindi, Javanese
- URUGUAY**
Area 176,215 sq km Population 3,463,000
Capital Montevideo Language Spanish
- VENEZUELA**
Area 912,050 sq km Population 26,749,000
Capital Caracas Language Spanish

SOUTH AMERICA

SOUTH AMERICA reaches from the tropical coast of the Caribbean to the icy seas of the Southern Ocean. It is joined to North America by a thin neck of land, known as the Isthmus of Panama. Most of South America's population lives in the east of the continent. Apart from the Guianas and Brazil (where Portuguese is spoken) Spanish is the main language. The people themselves are descended from the native Indians, Spanish and Portuguese settlers, later immigrants from other parts of Europe and Africa.



▲ Amazon Indian girl ①



RAINFOREST
The Amazon rainforest is the largest in the world. Many trees are being felled to make way for farms, roads and quarries. The survival of its wildlife and peoples is threatened. Scientists think the world's climate may be affected, too.



BRAZIL AND ITS NEIGHBOURS

LYING across the centre of this map is a huge river basin. It looks as if an enormous green blanket has been laid across it. This is the Amazon rainforest. Hundreds of different kinds of birds and animals live here. Around the rim of the basin are highlands. Many great rivers start

out as tiny streams in these highlands. They all snake through the forest to meet the mighty Amazon. This vast river carries a fifth of all the world's fresh water into the Atlantic Ocean. Few people inhabit the Amazon region. Most Brazilians live in the crowded cities of the southeast.



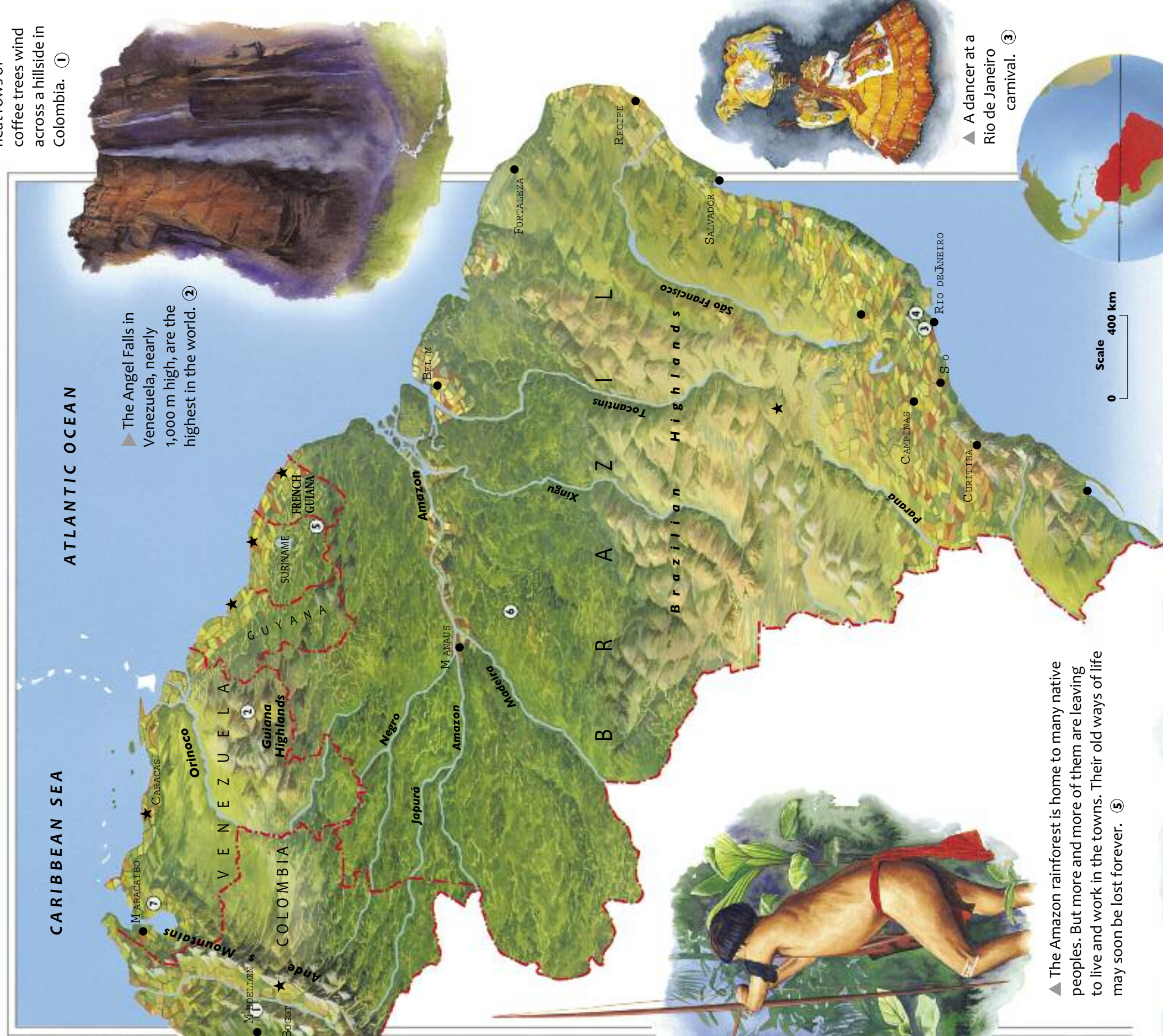
▲ Hundreds of neat rows of coffee trees wind across a hillside in Colombia. ①



▲ These oil rigs are standing in Lake Maracaibo, Venezuela. ⑦



▲ A scarlet macaw, a rainforest bird. ⑥



▲ The Angel Falls in Venezuela, nearly 1,000 m high, are the highest in the world. ②

ATLANTIC OCEAN

CARIBBEAN SEA

▲ The Amazon rainforest is home to many native peoples. But more and more of them are leaving to live and work in the towns. Their old ways of life may soon be lost forever. ⑤



▲ A dancer at a Rio de Janeiro carnival. ③



Scale 400 km



▲ In January 1503 a Portuguese explorer called Goncalo Coelho sailed his ship into a Brazilian bay. He mistakenly thought he had found the mouth of a great river, so he called it the January River—or, in his own language, Rio de Janeiro.

A great city has since grown up around the shores of that beautiful bay. The Sugar Loaf mountain, shaped like a rounded cone, overlooks its harbour. Rich people live in luxury apartments with wonderful views. Poor people live in shabby slums on the edge of the city. Their shantytowns are known as the *favelas*. ④

THE ANDES

THE ANDES mountains run from top to bottom of this map. In Ecuador, Peru and parts of Bolivia, tropical rainforests cling to their eastern slopes. Over on the western side, where the mountains rise behind the Pacific coast, there are not even any trees—just desert.

Until the Spanish conquerors first arrived in Peru 1524, the mighty Inca emperor reigned supreme over this land. Today, the Indians still speak Quechua, the language of the Incas. Some Indians still farm the steep hillsides of the Andes and graze their llamas and alpacas on the high plains.



7
GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS (Ecuador)



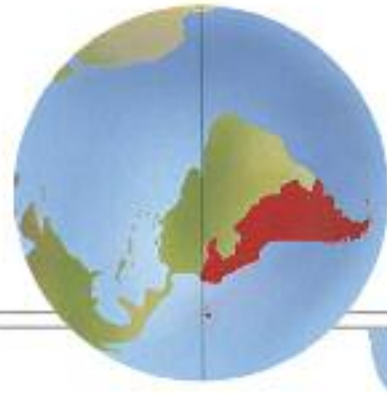
▲ The Galápagos Islands are famous for their wildlife, like this giant tortoise. ⑦



(above, left) For hundreds of years, people have crossed the deep gorges in the Andes by rope bridges. ①



▲ An Indian woman steers a reed boat across Lake Titicaca, the highest lake in the world. ⑥



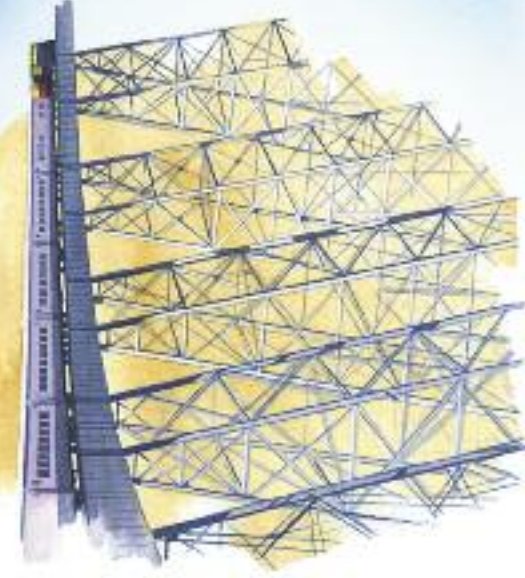
▲ The Spanish invaders never found Machu Picchu. This Inca city was built high in the mountains. It was “lost” to the rest of the world until 1911. ②



PACIFIC OCEAN

ATLANTIC OCEAN

Scale 400 km



▲ The “Train of the Clouds” crosses a high viaduct in the Andes. ⑤



▼ Few gauchos herd cattle on the Argentinian pampas on horseback nowadays. ③

FALKLAND ISLANDS (Br.)

Magellan's Strait

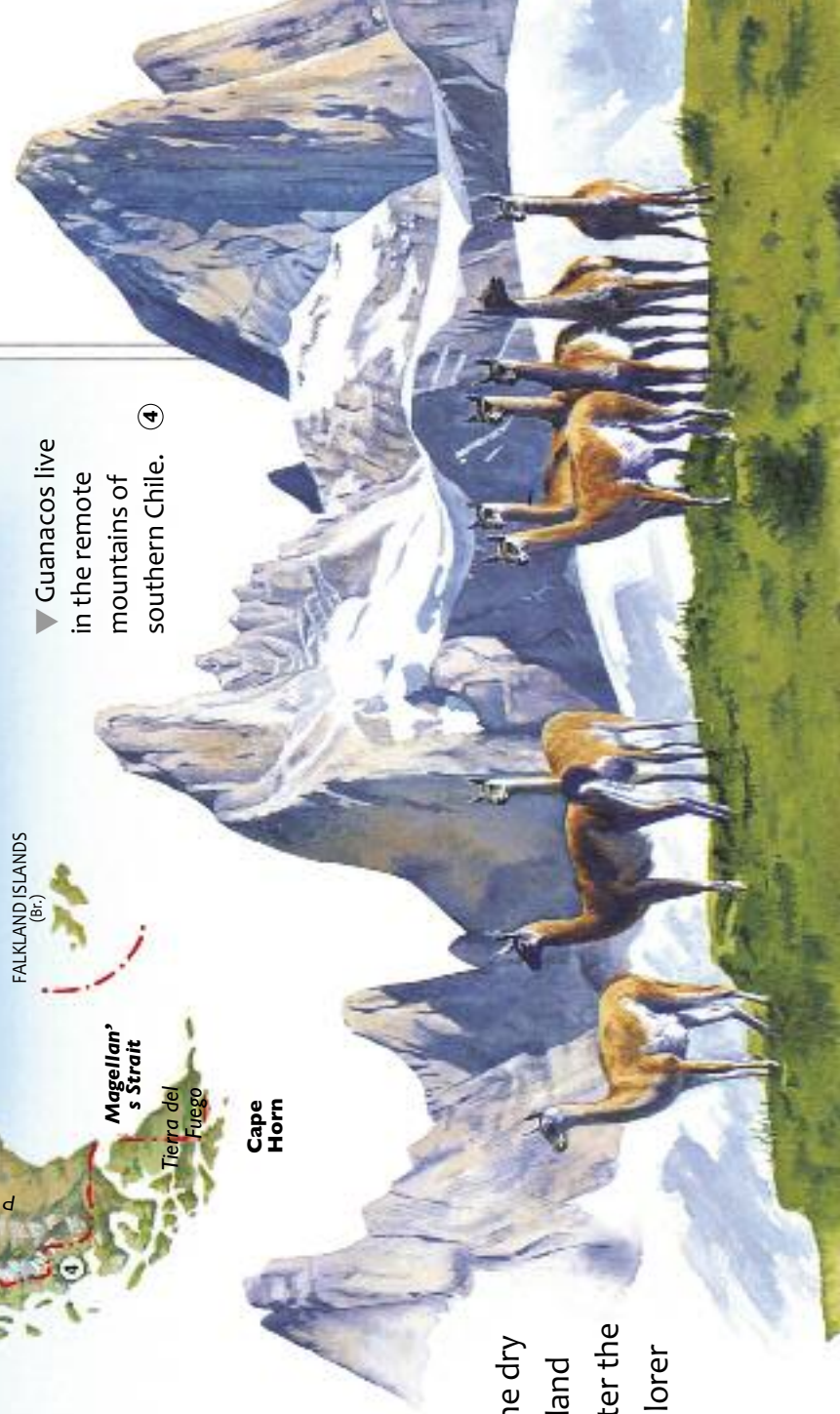
Tierra del Fuego

Cape Horn

CHILE AND ARGENTINA

ABORDER threads its way from peak to peak in the southern Andes. To the west lies Chile, a long, thin country, 25 times longer than it is wide. To the east lies Argentina, its fertile, grassy plains turning into the dry and dusty Patagonian desert in the south. The island of Tierra del Fuego (the “land of fire,” named after the Indian camp fires sighted by the Portuguese explorer Magellan) lies at South America’s southern tip.

▼ Guanacos live in the remote mountains of southern Chile. ④



THE POLES

BOTH the North Pole in the Arctic and the South Pole in the Antarctic are bitterly cold places, covered with ice and snow all year round. The Arctic is quite different from the Antarctic in one important way. It is not land at all, but an ocean covered by a vast, frozen cap of thick ice. Antarctica is a continent, like Asia or Africa. Beneath the ice, more than 3500 m deep in places, there is land.



▲ Ships sail through Arctic waters every day. Icebreakers carve a passage for them through the rafts of floating ice, called pack ice. ⑦

▼ Emperor penguins gather together on an Antarctic shore. Floating out to sea is an iceberg, a block of ice that has broken away from the ice shelf. ⑥



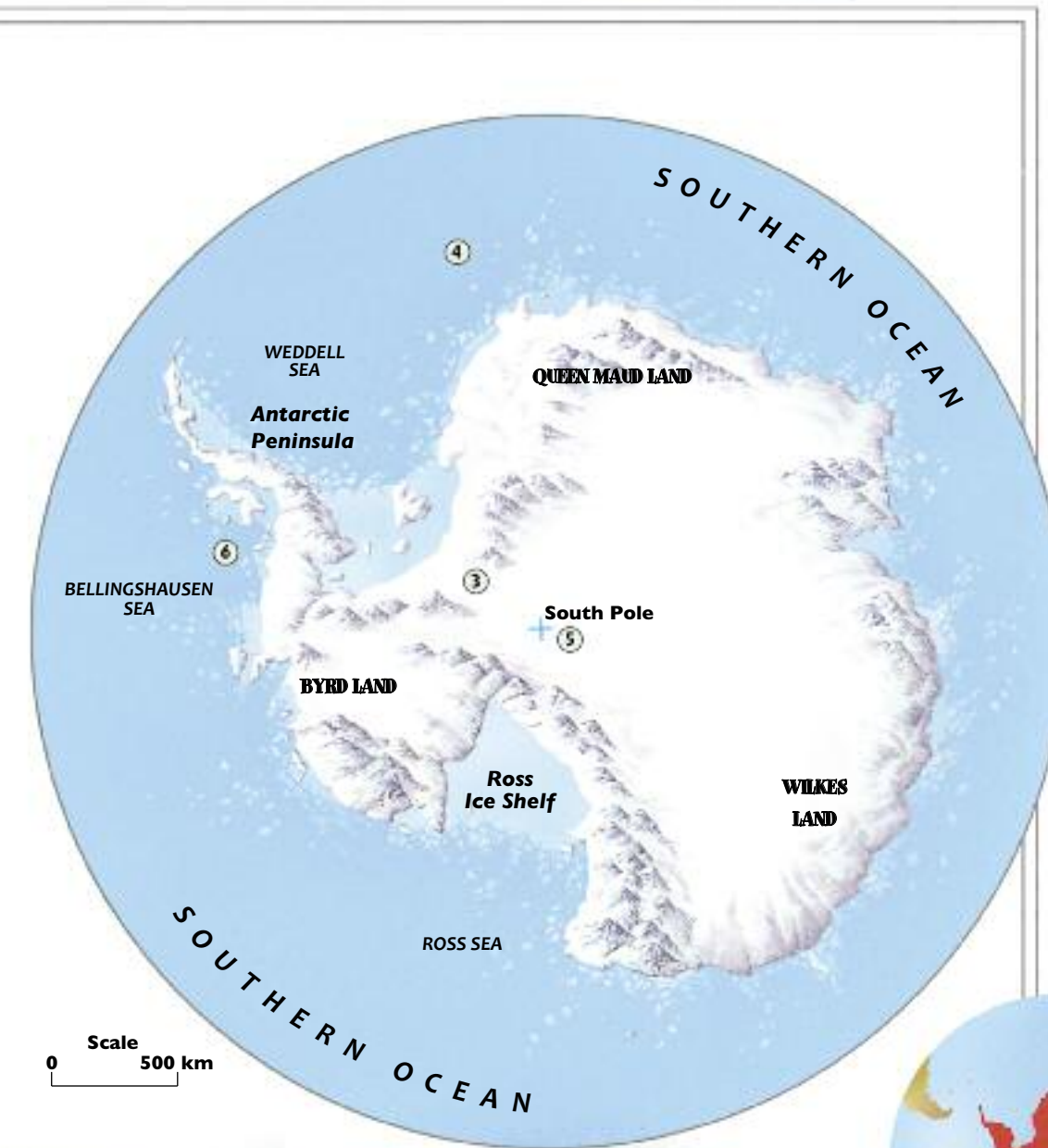
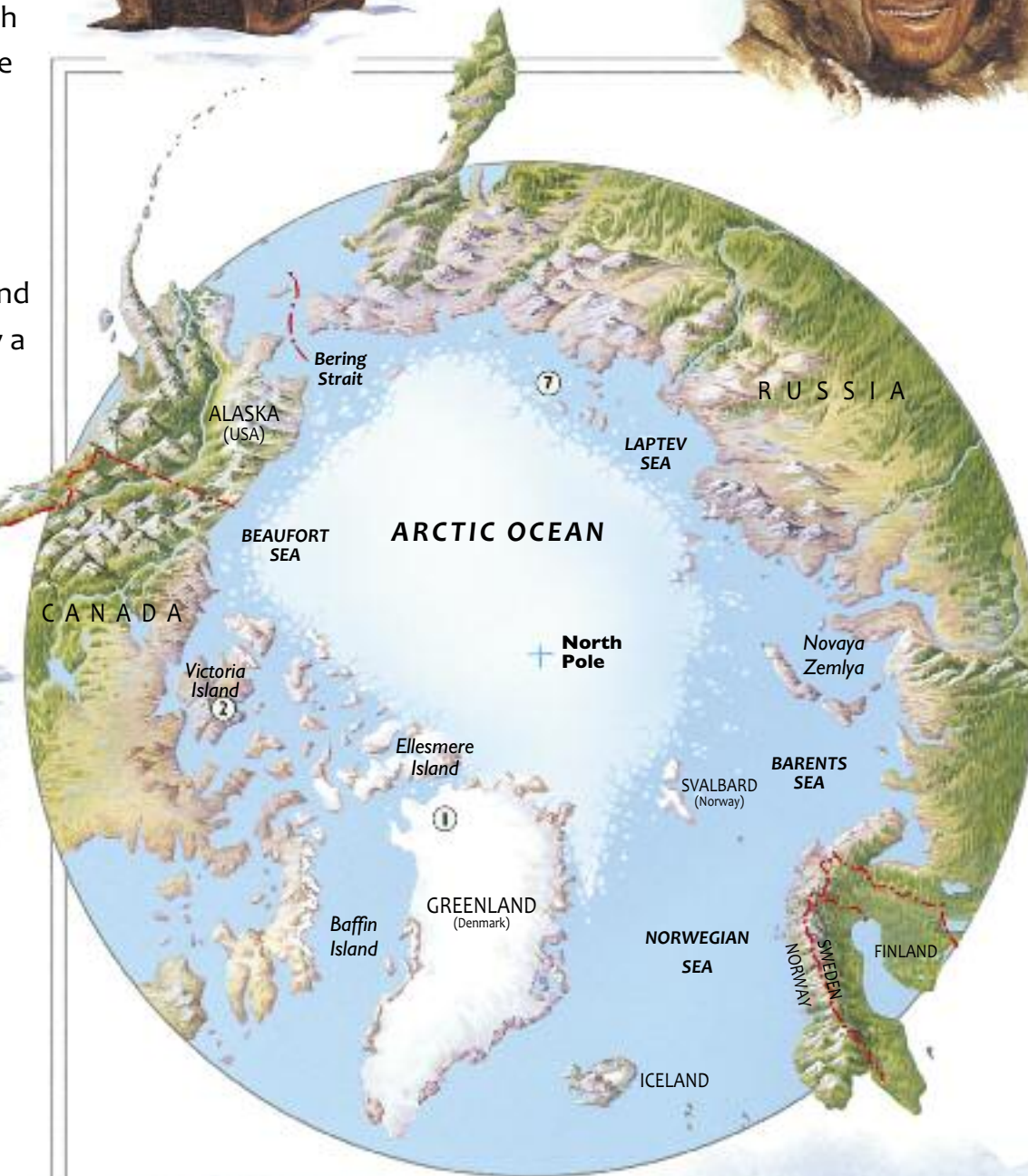
◀ This is a walrus, an Arctic seal with tusks. When out of the water, walruses huddle together in their hundreds. ①



◀ The Inuit, from Greenland and northern Canada, are one of many Arctic peoples who inhabit the shores of the Arctic Ocean. Some still live by hunting walruses, seals and whales. ②



◀ The Poles were first reached by people less than 100 years ago. An American, Robert Peary, was first to the North Pole in 1909. Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen beat a British expedition led by Robert F. Scott to the South Pole in 1911. This picture shows a modern polar explorer. His team of husky dogs pulls his sled laden with provisions. ③



▲ The humpback whale can flip right out of the water, a leap known as “breaching”. The humpback is famous for its underwater singing. ④



▲ At the South Pole today there is a research station. Scientists live and work here all year round. ⑤



80

Miami, USA 65, 67
Michigan, USA 65, 67
Michigan, Lake, USA 65
Middlesbrough, England 14
Milan, Italy 24
Milwaukee, USA 65, 67
Mindanao, Philippines 41
Minneapolis, USA 65, 67
Minnesota, USA 65, 67
Minsk, Belarus 27
Mississippi, USA 65, 67
Mississippi, River, USA 65, 67
Missouri, USA 65, 67
Missouri, River, USA 64-65
Mobile, USA 67
Mogadishu, Somalia 55
Moldova 10, 28
Moluccas, Indonesia 41
Mombasa, Kenya 56
Monaco, 10, 17
Mongolia 33, 42-43
Monrovia, Liberia 54
Mons, Belgium 19
Montana, USA 64, 66
Montenegro 9, 10, 28
Monterrey, Mexico 68
Montevideo, Uruguay 75
Montgomery, USA 67
Montpelier, USA 67
Montpellier, France 17
Montréal, Canada 63
Montserrat 69
Morocco 52, 54
Moscow, Russia 34
Mosul, Iraq 36
Mozambique 53, 56-57
Mulhouse, France 17
Mull, Scotland 14
Multan, Pakistan 38
Mumbai (Bombay), India, 38
Munich, Germany 23
Murcia, Spain 21
Murmansk, Russia 34
Murray, River, Australia 48-49
Muscat, Oman 37

N
Nagasaki, Japan 45
Nagoya, Japan 45
Nagpur, India 38
Nairobi, Kenya 56
Namib Desert 57
Namibia 53, 57
Namur, Belgium 19
Nancy, France 17
Nanjing, China 43
Nantes, France 16
Naples, Italy 25
Narvik, Norway 12
Nashville, USA 67
Nasser, Lake 55
Nauru 7
Naxos, Greece 28
N'Djamena, Chad 54
Nebraska, USA 64-65, 66-67
Negro, River 72
Nepal 32-33, 38-39
Ness, Loch, Scotland 14
Netherlands 10, 18
Netherlands Antilles 61, 69
Nevada, USA 64, 66
New Brunswick, Canada 60, 63
New Caledonia 7, 46, 49
New Delhi, India 38
New Guinea 41
New Hampshire, USA 65, 67
New Jersey, USA 65, 67
New Mexico, USA 64, 66
New Orleans, USA 65 67
New South Wales, Australia 46, 48-49
New York, USA 65, 67
New Zealand 46-47, 49
Newark, USA 67
Newcastle, Australia 49
Newcastle, England 14
Newfoundland, Canada 60, 63
Niamey, Niger 54
Nicaragua 61, 69
Nice, France 17
Nicosia, Cyprus 29
Niger 52, 54
Niger, River 54
Nigeria 52, 54
Niigata, Japan 44
Nijmegen, Netherlands 18
Nile, River 7, 52, 55
Nîmes, France 17
Nipigon, Lake, Canada 63
Niš, Yugoslavia 28
Nizhny Novgorod, Russia 34
Norfolk, USA 67
Normandy, France 16
Norrköping, Sweden 13
North Carolina, USA 65, 67
North Dakota, USA 64, 66
Northern Ireland 14
Northern Mariana Islands 7
Northern Territory, Australia 46, 48
Northwest Territories, Canada 60, 62-63
Norvik, Russia 35
Norway 10, 12-13
Norwich, England 15
Nottingham, England 15
Nouakchott, Mauritania 54
Nova Scotia, Canada 60, 63
Novaya Zemlya, Russia 34
Novosibirsk, Russia 34
Nunavut, Canada 60, 62-63
Nürnberg, Germany 23

O
Ob, River, Russia 34
Odense, Denmark 13
Oder, River 22, 26
Odessa, Ukraine 27
Ohio, USA 65, 67
Ohio, River, USA 65
Okayama, Japan 45
Okhotsk, Sea of 7, 33, 35
Okinawa, Japan 45
Oklahoma, USA 64-65, 66-67
Oklahoma City, USA 66
Olympia, USA 66
Omaha, USA 65, 67
Oman 32, 36-37
Omsk, Russia 34
Onega, Lake 11, 34
Ontario, Canada 60-61, 63
Ontario, Lake 62, 65
Oostende, Belgium 19
Orange, River, South Africa 57
Oregon, USA 64, 66
Orinoco, River, 72
Orkney Islands 14
Orléans, France 16
Osaka, Japan 45
Oslo, Norway 13
Ostersund, Sweden 12
Ottawa, Canada 63
Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso 54
Oulu, Finland 12
Oxford, England 15

P
Pakistan 32, 38
Palau 7
Palawan, Philippines 40
Palembang, Indonesia 40
Palermo, Italy 25
Palma, Spain 21
Pampas, Argentina 75
Panama 61, 69
Papua New Guinea 41
Paraguay 71, 74
Paramaribo, Suriname 72
Parana, River 73, 75
Paris, France 16
Parma, Italy 24
Patagonia, Argentina 75
Patna, India 39
Patrai, Greece 28
Pécs, Hungary 26
Peipus, Lake 13
Pennsylvania, USA 65, 67
Perpignan, France 17
Persian Gulf 32, 36
Perth, Australia 48
Peru 71, 74
Perugia, Italy 24
Pescara, Italy 24
Philadelphia, USA 65, 67
Philippines 33, 40-41
Phnom Penh, Cambodia 40
Phoenix, USA 64, 66
Pierre, USA 66
Pitcairn Island 6
Pittsburgh, USA 65, 67
Plovdiv, Bulgaria 28
Plymouth, England 15
Po, River, Italy 24
Podgorica, Montenegro 28
Poitiers, France 16
Poland 11, 28
Port-au-Prince, Haiti 69
Port Elizabeth, South Africa 57
Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea 41
Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago 61
Port Vila, Vanuatu 46
Portland (Maine), USA 64, 67
Portland (Oregon), USA 66
Porto, Portugal 20
Porto Alegre, Brazil 73
Portugal 10, 20
Poznan, Poland 26
Prague, Czech Republic 26
Pretoria, South Africa 57
Prince Edward Island, Canada 60, 63
Pripet, River 26-27
Provence, France 17
Providence, USA 67
Pueblo, USA 66
Puerto Rico 61, 69
Pune, India 38
Pusan, South Korea 43
Pyongyang, North Korea 43
Pyrenees, Mountains 16, 21

Q
Qandahar, Afghanistan 38
Qatar 32, 36
Qattara, Depression 50
Qingdao, China 43
Québec, Canada 63
Queen Charlotte Islands, Canada 62
Queensland, Australia 46, 48-49
Quito, Ecuador 74

R
Rabat, Morocco 54
Raleigh, USA 67
Rangoon (Yangon), Burma 39
Rawalpindi, Pakistan 38
Reading, England 15
Recife, Brazil 72
Red, River, USA 64-65
Red Sea 32, 52, 54
Regensburg, Germany 23
Reggio di Calabria, Italy 25
Regina, Canada 62
Reims, France 17
Reindeer, Lake, Canada 62
Rennes, France 16

Réunion 7
Reykjavik, Iceland 12
Rhine, River 22-23
Rhode Island, USA 65, 67
Rhodes, Greece 28
Rhône, River 17
Richmond, USA 67
Riga, Latvia 13
Rijeka, Croatia 28
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil 73
Rio de la Plata, River 75
Rio Grande, River 64, 68
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia 37
Roanoke, USA 67
Rochester, USA 67
Rockhampton, Australia 49
Rocky Mountains 6, 62, 64
Romania 10, 28
Rome, Italy 24
Rosario, Argentina 75
Ross Sea 77
Rostock, Germany 22
Rostov, Russia 34
Rotterdam, Netherlands 18
Rouen, France 16
Rub al Khali, Saudi Arabia 37
Ruhr, River, Germany 22
Russia 11, 32-33, 34-35
Rwanda 53, 56
Ryukyu Islands, Japan 33, 45

S
Saarbrücken, Germany 23
Sacramento, USA 66
Sahara Desert 7, 54-55
St. George's Channel 15
St. Helena 7
Saint John, Canada 63
St. John's, Canada 63
St. Kitts and Nevis 61, 69
St. Lawrence Island, Alaska, USA 66
St. Lawrence, River 63
St. Louis, USA 65, 67
St. Lucia 61, 69
St. Martin 61, 69
St. Paul, USA 67
St. Petersburg, Russia 34
St. Petersburg, USA 67
St. Pierre and Miquelon 60, 63
St. Vincent and the Grenadines 61, 69
Sakhalin, Russia 35
Salado, River 75
Salamanca, Spain 20
Salem, USA 66
Salerno, Italy 25
Salinas Chicas, Argentina 71
Salt Lake City, USA 64, 66
Salvador, Brazil 73
Salween, River 39
Salzburg, Austria 23
Samara, Russia 34
Samar kand, Uzbekistan 34
Sambre, River, Belgium 19
Samoa 6
Samsun, Turkey 29
San Antonio, USA 64, 66
San Diego, USA 64, 66
San Francisco, USA 64, 66
San José, Costa Rica 69
San Juan, Puerto Rico 69
San Marino 10, 24
San Salvador, El Salvador 68
Sani'a, Yemen 93
Santa Cruz, Bolivia 74
Santa Fe, Argentina 75
Santa Fe, USA 66
Santander, Spain 20
Santiago, Chile 75
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic 69
São Francisco, River 72-73
São Paulo, Brazil 73
São Tomé and Príncipe 54
Saône, River, France 17
Sapporo, Japan 44
Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina 28
Sarawak, Malaysia 40
Sardinia, Italy 10, 25
Saskatchewan, Canada 60, 62
Saskatoon, Canada 62
Sassari, Italy 25
Saudi Arabia 32, 36-37
Sava, River 28
Scheldt, River, Belgium 19
Scotland 14
Seattle, USA 64, 66
Seine, River, France 16-17
Sendai, Japan 44
Senegal 52, 54
Seoul, South Korea 43
Serbia, 9, 10, 28
Severn, River 15
Severnaya Zemlya, Russia 35
Sevilla, Spain 20
Seychelles 7
Shanghai, China 43
Shannon, River, Ireland 15
Sheffield, England 15
Shenyang, China 43
Shetland Islands 14
Shikoku, Japan 45
Shiraz, Iran 36
Shreveport, USA 67
Siberia, Russia 33, 35
Sierra Leone 52, 54
Sierra Nevada, Mts., Spain 20
Sierra Nevada, Mts., USA 64
Simferopol, Ukraine 27
Singapore 33, 40
Sioux Falls, USA 66
Skagerrak 13

Skopje, Macedonia 28
Skye, Scotland 14
Slovakia 10-11, 26
Slovenia 10, 28
Snake, River, USA 64
Sochi, Russia 11
Socotra, Island 32
Sofia, Bulgaria 28
Solomon Islands 7, 46, 49
Somalia 52, 55
South Africa 53, 57
South Australia 46, 48
South Carolina, USA 65, 67
South Dakota, USA 64, 66
South Georgia 6
Southampton, England 15
Southern Alps, Mts., New Zealand 49
Spain 10, 20-21
Split, Croatia 28
Spokane, USA 66
Springfield (Illinois), USA 67
Springfield (Missouri), USA 67
Sri Lanka 32, 38
Stavanger, Norway 13
Stewart Island, New Zealand 49
Stockholm, Sweden 13
Stoke-on-Trent, England 15
Strasbourg, France 17
Stromboli 25
Stuttgart, Germany 23
Sucre, Bolivia 74
Sudan 52, 55
Sudbury, Canada 63
Suez, Egypt 55
Sulawesi, Indonesia 40
Sumatra, Indonesia 40
Sumbawa, Indonesia 40
Superior, Lake 62 65
Surabaya, Indonesia 40
Suriname 71, 72
Suva, Fiji 49
Svalbard, Norway 76
Swaziland 53, 57
Sweden 10-11, 12-13
Switzerland 10, 23
Sydney, Australia 49
Syria 32, 36
Szczecin, Poland 26
Szeged, Hungary 26

T
T'aipei, Taiwan 43
Tabriz, Iran 36
Tagus, River 20-21
Taiwan 33, 43
Taiyuan, China 43
Tallahassee, USA 67
Tallinn, Estonia 13
Tampa, USA 65, 67
Tampere, Finland 13
Tanganyika, Lake 56
Tanzania 53, 56
Taranto, Italy 25
Tashkent, Uzbekistan 34
Tasmania, Australia 46, 49
Tbilisi, Georgia 34
Tegucigalpa, Honduras 68
Tehran, Iran 36
Tel Aviv-Yafo, Israel 36
Tennessee, USA 65, 67
Texas, USA 64-65, 66-67
Thailand 33, 40
Thames, River, England 15
Thar Desert 38
Thessaloniki, Greece 28
Thunder Bay, Canada 63
Tianjin, China 43
Tiber, River, Italy 24
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic 54
Tibet, China 33, 42
Tierra del Fuego 75
Tigris, River 36
Tilburg, Netherlands 18
Timișoara, Romania 28
Timor, Indonesia 33, 41
Tiranë, Albania 28
Titicaca, Lake 74
Togo 52, 54
Tokyo, Japan 45
Toledo, Spain 20
Toledo, USA 67
Tombouctou, Mali 54
Tonga 6
Tonle Sap, Cambodia 40
Topeka, USA 67
Toronto, Canada 63
Toulon, France 17
Toulouse, France 16
Tours, France 16
Trent, River, England 15
Trenton, USA 67
Trieeste, Italy 24
Trinidad and Tobago 61, 69
Tripoli, Libya 54
Tristan da Cunha 6
Tromsø, Norway 12
Trondheim, Norway 12
Trujillo, Peru 74
Tucson, USA 66
Tucumán, Argentina 74
Tula, Russia 34
Tunguska (Lower), River, Russia 35
Tunis, Tunisia 54
Tunisia 52, 54
Turin, Italy 24
Turkana, Lake 56
Turkey 10, 28-29
Turkmenistan 32, 34
Turku, Finland 13
Tuvalu 7
Tuz, Lake, Turkey 29

U

Ubangi, River 56
Ucayali, River 74
Uganda 52, 56
Ujungpandang, Indonesia 40
Ukraine 11, 26-27
Ulan Bator, Mongolia 43
Ulan Ude, Russia 35
Umeå, Sweden 12
Ungava Peninsula, Canada 63
United Arab Emirates 32, 36-37
United Kingdom 10, 14-15
United States of America 60-61, 64-65, 66-67
Uppsala, Sweden 13
Ural Mountains, Russia 34
Urmia, Lake, Iran 36
Uruguay 71, 75
Urumqi, China 42
Utah, USA 64, 66
Utrecht, Netherlands 18
Uzbekistan 32, 34

V

Vaasa, Finland 12
Valencia, Spain 21
Valladolid, Spain 20
Valletta, Malta 25
Valparaiso, Chile 75
Van, Lake, Turkey 29
Vancouver, Canada 62
Vänern, Lake, Sweden 13
Vanuatu 7, 46, 49
Varanasi, India 38
Varna, Bulgaria 28
Vatican City 24
Vättern, Lake, Sweden 13
Venezuela 71, 72
Venice, Italy 24
Veracruz, Mexico 68
Vermont, USA 65, 67
Verona, Italy 24
Vesuvius, Mount, Italy 25
Viangchan, Laos 40
Victoria Island, Canada 62, 76
Victoria, Australia 46, 48-49
Victoria, Lake 53, 56
Vienna, Austria 23
Vienne, River, France 16
Vietnam 33, 40
Vilnius, Lithuania 13
Vinnytsia, Ukraine 27
Virgin Islands 61, 69
Virginia, USA 65, 67
Visby, Sweden 13
Vishakhapatnam, India 38
Vistula, River, Poland 26
Vitsyebsk, Belarus 27
Vladivostok, Russia 35
Volga, River, Russia 34
Volgograd, Russia 34
Volta, Lake 54
Voronezh, Russia 34
Vosges, Hills, France 17

W

Wadden Sea, Netherlands 18
Wakayama, Japan 45
Wales 15
Warsaw, Poland 26
Washington (State), USA 64, 66
Washington, D.C., USA 65, 67
Waterford, Ireland 15
Weddell Sea 77
Wellington, New Zealand 49
Weser, River, Germany 22
West Virginia, USA 65, 67
Western Australia 46, 48
Western Sahara 52, 54
White Sea, Russia 11, 34
Whitehorse, Canada 60
Wichita, USA 66
Wight, Isle of, England 15
Wilkes Land, Antarctica 77
Windhoek, Namibia 57
Winnipeg, Canada 62
Wisconsin, USA 65, 67
Wrangel Island 6
Wrath, Cape, Scotland 14
Wroclaw, Poland 26
Wuhan, China 43
Wyoming, USA 64, 66

X

Xi'an, China 43

Y

Yakutsk, Russia 35
Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire 54
Yangtse, River, China 33, 42-43
Yaoundé, Cameroon 54
Yekaterinburg, Russia 34
Yellowknife, Canada 62
Yemen 32, 37
Yenisey, River, Russia 34
Yerevan, Armenia 34
Yogyakarta, Indonesia 40
Yokohama, Japan 45
Yucatán Peninsula, Mexico 68
Yumen, China 42

Z

Zagreb, Croatia 28
Zambezi, River 52-53 57
Zambia 53, 56-57
Zaragoza, Spain 21
Zhengzhou, China 43
Zimbabwe 53, 57
Zürich, Switzerland 23