

South America-What would it be like to live there?

Key Vocabulary

continent	A vast area of land made up of different countries.
ocean	A large expanse of water
equator	The imaginary line that separates the southern hemisphere from the northern hemisphere,
climate	The type of weather that a region has
population	How many people live in an area
temperate	A climate that is never extremely hot or cold.
Tropical	A hot humid climate
Sub tropical	Hot humid summer and mild, cool winters
Sub arctic	An area with long, cold winters and short, warm summers.
tundra	The climate experienced in places between the sub arctic and ice cap climates
terrain	The type of ground
arid	Very dry
oasis	An area in a desert where water is found
Physical feature	A feature of the landscape made by nature
Human Feature	A feature of the landscape made by people
indigenous	People who were the original people to live in a place
colonise	To take over somewhere and put it under your rule
export	To see lot other places outside of the country
industry	Business and factories that produce things
topographical	Detailing the landscape
Favela	A slum made up of makeshift houses where poor people live.
altitude	How high somewhere is
tributary	A smaller river running into a large river
Basin	The area taken up by a river and its tributaries.
precipitation	rainfall



Location

- South America is one of the 7 continents in the world.
- It is surrounded by 3 oceans - the Atlantic and the Pacific and the Southern Ocean.
- It is made up of 12 countries and 2 independent territories.
- The 2 independent territories are French Guiana- governed by France and The Falkland islands governed by England
- The equator runs through South America

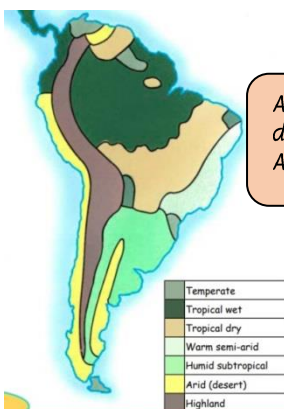


Countries and Capital cities

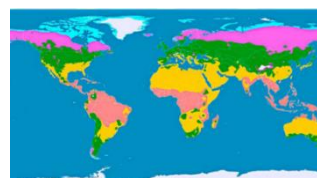
■ Colombia	■ Bogota
■ Venezuela	■ Caracas
■ Ecuador	■ Quito
■ Brazil	■ Brasilia
■ Peru	■ Lima
■ Bolivia	■ La Paz
■ Paraguay	■ Asuncion
■ Argentina	■ Buenos Aires
■ Uruguay	■ Montevideo
■ Chile	■ Santiago

Main climates throughout the world.

- Tropical climate= Warm or hot and humid.
- Subtropical - hot humid summers and mild, cool winters.
- Ice-cap climate - the most extreme climate on earth- permanently covered in ice.
- Sub arctic- an area with long very cold winters and short, warm summers.
- Temperate = a climate that is never extremely hot or cold
- Tundra climate - an area between the sub-arctic and ice cap climates



A more detailed map of the different climates found in South America.



Ice cap climate
Tundra climate
Subarctic climate
Warm temperate climate
Subtropical climate
Tropical climate

Physical Features:

- The **Amazon Rainforest** is the largest tropical rainforest in the world.
- The **Amazon river** is the 2nd largest river in the world. It is 4000 miles long. Its source is in the Andes Mountains. No bridges cross the river at any point.
- The **Atacama desert** is the driest desert in the world, It is 600 miles long.
- The **Andes** is the world's longest mountain range.
- **Cape horn** is the most southern part of South America. The waters around it are very dangerous because of icebergs and strong winds.
- **Angel falls**- the highest waterfall in the world is found in South America

This map shows the **main physical Features of South America**



Human Features

- The **Incas** were indigenous people of South America who had a vast Empire which started in the Andes in the 15th Century.
- **Machu Pichu** is an abandoned stone city built by the Incas
- There are several different languages spoken in South America. This is mainly because South America was colonised in the 15th century by people the **Spanish, Portuguese, Dutch, French and Spanish**
- Some of the languages are indigenous languages. **Quecha** is the most common indigenous language. It is still spoken by some people who live in the Andes
- **Brazil** is the most populated country in South America.
- **Sao Paulo** is the most populated city in South America
- Other big cities are **lima, Rio De Jeniero and Bogota**
- The majority of the population are **Roman Catholics**.
- Each of the countries has its own currency

Size

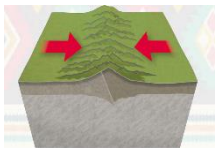
- South America has an area of **17.8 million square km**
- South America is the **4th biggest continent**.
- South America is around **73 times bigger than the UK** which has an area of 243,000 square km
- Because of its size, there are **5 time zones in South America**.

Trade and industry

- South America's biggest industry is **Agriculture**. A lot of product are produced on farms that are exported all over the world
- Some of the main exports are **bananas, cacao beans for chocolate , coffee, meat, wine ,avocados, citrus fruits, peppers and maize (sweetcorn)**
- **Timber** is also a huge export from the large areas of forest
- South America also produces a lot of **metal including gold**.

The Andes

- The Andes is 4500 miles long and goes through 7 South American Countries: Venezuela, Columbia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile and Argentina.
- Mountain ranges like the Andes are formed when Tectonic plates rub together.
- There are many volcanoes in the Andes, some are Active.
- Lower down the mountains, people live in towns cities such as Bogota and higher up the mountains, people live in small villages.
- People who farm in the Andes, grow crops to feed themselves. Not many of the crops are grown to be exported.
- Farming in the Andes is hard because of the rough terrain, cold temperatures on high ground and poor soil.
- Farmers have made terraces to make it easier to grow crops. The main crops grown are potatoes and maize (sweetcorn)
- Because the settlements in the mountains are hard to reach donkeys, alpacas and horses are used to carry goods between villages and to markets.
- Tourism is a massive part of the economy. People come to see traditional people wearing traditional costumes, eat traditional foods and visit the bustling markets.
- There are lots of mines in the Andes. The largest gold mine in the world is in Peru.



The Atacama Desert

- Stretches for 1000km along the Pacific coast.
- Some parts are so dry no plants or animals can survive.
- The driest parts have less than an inch of rain every ten years.
- Spans across four Andean countries: Peru, Bolivia, Argentina and Northern Chile.
- A surprising 1 million people live there, mainly in coastal villages, mining towns and oasis villages.
- The desert is rich in copper, gold, silver and Iron and small towns have been built near mines.
- Some people grow Olives ,tomatoes, cucumbers and herb Alpacas to make a living.
- Other people make a living as miners.
- Only a few plant and animal species survive in the dry climate.



The Amazon River

- Runs 4000 miles, from its source in Peru in the Andes, where it is fed by glaciers, all the way to its Mouth in Brazil.
- Runs through the Amazon Rainforest
- Manaus is a large city along the river with a population of 2.1 million.
- Flows out into the Atlantic ocean.
- Is the second longest river (2nd to the Nile) but largest in terms of the number of Tributaries in its basin (over 200) and the amount of water that goes into the sea.
- Dams have been built by humans along the river to provide hydro-electricity
- The river is used to transport good between the towns and cities of South America.

Macha Pichu

- Name means "Old Mountain"
- Macha Pichu is a *human Feature* that was *built by the Inca population in the 15th Century* 8000feet above sea level in Southern Peru.
- It is thought that the noble Incas and their servants lived there - about 1000 people.
- The Incas left after 100 years - it is not known why- maybe because of disease famine or disaster.
- When the Spanish conquerors arrived, they did not find Maccha Pichu- this is why it is called the lost city.
- It was rediscovered in 1911.
- The terraces may have been built to *strengthen the sides of the mountain and prevent flooding into their farm lands.*



Sao Paulo

- São Paulo is the largest city in the continent and the fourth largest city in the world.
- It has a population of approx. 11 million.
- It is very overcrowded
- There are places where really wealthy people live and also very poor people.
- Very poor people who can not afford proper houses live in slums called favelas.
- Many children from the favelas don't finish school as their parents send them out to work even though it is illegal.
- São Paulo is 760m above sea level. Because of the altitude, the subtropical climate is not as hot as it is in the lower regions near the coast.
- The main language is Portuguese