

Alaska: A State of Extremes

It's Bigger

Alaska is not like any other state in the United States. It is the largest state in the country by far. It is more than twice as big as Texas, the second largest state!

It's Higher

Alaska has Mt. McKinley, the highest mountain in North America. Mt. McKinley is over 20,000 feet high. Mt. McKinley is so high that it makes its own weather. It can be freezing cold and windy at the peak, and sunny and warm in the valley below.



Mt. McKinley

It's Darker and Lighter

In the winter, the villages in northernmost Alaska have weeks of total darkness. The sun doesn't rise in these areas during this time. In the summer, these same villages have weeks of total sunlight. These villages are north of the Arctic Circle, and the northernmost part of the United States.

Its People

Although Alaska is the biggest state, its population is one of the smallest. Alaska has a little more than 600,000 people in the whole state. The only states with fewer people are Vermont, North Dakota, and Wyoming. Almost half of the people living in Alaska live in one city, Anchorage.

Its Capital

The capital of Alaska is a small city named Juneau. Juneau is located in a rain forest. There are only about 30,000 people who live in Juneau. There are no roads to Juneau, so people have to take an airplane or a ferry to get there.

Would you like to visit Alaska?

