

Illinois



Illinois is located in the north-central United States. It is bordered by Wisconsin to the north, Iowa and Missouri to the west, Kentucky to the south and Indiana to the east, and the Wabash and Ohio Rivers on the southeast and south.

The landscape of the country can be divided into three major regions : the Central Plains, The Shawnee Hills and the Gulf Coastal Plain.

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Brief history

The **history of [Illinois](#)** may be defined by several broad historical periods, namely, the pre-Columbian period, the era of European exploration and colonization, its development as part of the [American frontier](#), and finally, its growth into one of the most populous and economically powerful states of the [United States](#).



Geographical features

•Lakes

Lake Michigan accounts for most of the water present in the state. It is one of the five Great Lakes of North America and is the second-largest of the Great Lakes by volume. Other notable lakes in Illinois are: Anderson Lake

Rend Lake

Lake Catherine

•Rivers

Important rivers of Illinois state are Mississippi River

Ohio River

Mississippi

Vermillion

Lakes

Rend Lake



Anderson Lake



Catherine Lake



Cities



- Chicago
- Springfield
- Rockford
- Aurora



Chicago

The biggest city in Illinois and third largest in America is Chicago. With a population of over 2.8 million, it is considered the "heart of the Midwest."

Chicago has professional athletics teams in every sport, multiples colleges and educational institutions, and a lot of green spaces.



Springfield



The state capital of Illinois, Springfield, is located in the very middle of the state.

It is also a tourist attraction for Abraham Lincoln fans. Lincoln's Tomb and former home are in Springfield.

In this town was inspired the cartoon "Simpson"

Rockford

The largest city in Illinois that is outside of Chicagoland is Rockford in northern Illinois. The most recognizable landmark in the city is the mighty Rock River.



Aurora



The city is located in the outer region of Chicagoland. It is a suburb of Chicago. It is the second most populous city in the state.

In 1908 Aurora officially adopted the nickname "city of lights".

Festival

- Popeye picnic
- International horseradish
- Superman celebration
- Heavenly chocolate fest
- Darn hot pepper fest



Popeye picnic

Sept. 11-13,

Illinois' Green Party comes together for a "can of spinach in every cabinet." The festival includes a 5K run, characters, food, games, a pet show and the Olive.



International horseradish

June 5-7,

Held in the horseradish capital of the world,
*the festival also offers hot air balloon rides,
a 5k race, live music, Bloody Mary contests.*



Superman celebration

June 11-14,

Superman festival goers can attend a film festival, meet celebrity guests and enjoy musical and comedic performances. The town is home to a Superman statue and Lois Lane statue



Heavenly chocolate fest

March 28,

This festival is sponsored by the Congregational Church of Algonquin. Admission is free, and the festival includes a chocolate fountain and a raffle drawing.



Darn hot pepper fest

Sept. 5

Festival attendees not only get to eat some “darn hot” peppers, they also get to see fields of peppers still growing at Rancho Bella Vista.



curiosities

The name "Illinois" comes from a Native American word meaning "tribe of superior men."

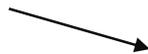
The first aquarium opened in Chicago in 1893.



Illinois' state snack food is popcorn.



The Chicago River is dyed green on Saint Patrick's Day.



flag and seal

Tyndale's seal features a bald eagle pitched on a rock carrying a shield in its talons and a banner with the state motto in its beak. Thirteen stars and thirteen stripes on the shield represent the original thirteen states of the Union.



The date August 26, 1818, when Illinois's first constitution was adopted appears along the bottom arc of the circle.

The flag became the official state banner on July 6, 1915.



Illinois is a fantastic state and we hope that you'll visit it one day!!.

