

# Geography - South America



## Physical Features

### Amazon Rainforest



- World's largest rainforest, taking up 5.5 million km<sup>2</sup>
- Covers most of north-western Brazil, extending into Colombia, Peru and other countries.
- It is famous for its biodiversity.

### The Andes



- Longest mountain range in the world
- Passes through 7 countries from Venezuela in the north to Chile and Argentina in the south.

### Lake Titicaca



- A large, deep lake in the Andes on the border of Peru and Bolivia.
- Once inhabited by the Incas between 1200 A.D. and 1400 A.D.

## Human Features

### Deforestation



- Industrial-scale cattle ranching, soybean production and logging for wood means the Amazon has lost 20% of its trees in the last 40 years at a rate of 20,000 km<sup>2</sup> per year.

### Machu Picchu



- Located in southern Peru, on a 2430m high mountain ridge,
- Archaeologists believe it was constructed as an estate for an Inca emperor.
- Built around 1450 A.D.
- It could hold up to 750 people, mostly working as servants to the emperor and keeping llamas and alpacas.

## Climate

There are 4 main climate zones which include tropical, cold, dry and temperate. The countries which are on the Earth's equator (Brazil, Ecuador and Colombia) are humid and wet. Summers are very hot and winters are mild/warm.

## Key Vocabulary

archipelago	sea or stretch of water having many islands
biodiversity	the variety of plant and animal life
landlocked	Countries surrounded by only land (e.g. Paraguay)
mining	Chile has the largest open pit and underground mines in the world, for mining copper and iron
native	original inhabitants of an area
temperate	non-extreme temperatures, neither too hot or cold
tropical	wet and dry seasons, frost-free with high temperatures

## Longest Rivers



Amazon (Brazil) – 6400km

Paraná (Brazil/Paraguay) – 4880km

Madeira (Brazil) – 3380km

## Tallest Mountains



Aconcagua  
(Argentina)  
6962m

Ojos del Salado  
(Chile)  
6893m

Monte Pissis  
(Argentina)  
6793m

## Fact Box

Spanish is the main language in South American countries, only in Brazil do people speak Portuguese. 90% are Catholic.



## Largest Populations

### Brazil

(204 million people)



### Colombia

(48 million people)



### Argentina

(43 million people)





### Largest Populations

Brazil  
(204 million people)



Colombia  
(48 million people)



Argentina  
(43 million people)



# Geography - South America

## Physical Features

### Amazon Rainforest



- World's largest rainforest, taking up 5.5million km<sup>2</sup>
- Covers most of north-western Brazil, extending into Colombia, Peru and other countries.
- It is famous for its biodiversity.

### The Andes



- Longest mountain range in the world
- Passes through 7 countries from Venezuela in the north to Chile and Argentina in the south.

### Lake Titicaca



- A large, deep lake in the Andes on the border of Peru and Bolivia.
- Once inhabited by the Incas between 1200A.D. and 1400A.D.

## Human Features

### Deforestation



- Industrial-scale cattle ranching, soybean production and logging for wood means the Amazon has lost 20% off its trees in the last 40 years at a rate of 20,000km<sup>2</sup> per year.

### Machu Picchu



- Located in southern Peru, on a 2430m high mountain ridge,
- Archaeologists believe it was constructed as an estate for an Inca emperor.
- Built around 1450A.D.
- It could home up to 750 people, mostly working as servants to the emperor and keeping llamas and alpacas.

## Climate

There are 4 main climate zones which include tropical, cold, dry and temperate. The countries which are on the Earth's equator (Brazil, Ecuador and Colombia) are humid and wet. Summers are very hot and winters are mild/warm.

## Key Vocabulary

archipelago	sea or stretch of water having many islands
biodiversity	the variety of plant and animal life
landlocked	Countries surrounded by only land (e.g. Paraguay)
mining	Chile has the largest open pit and underground mines in the world, for mining copper and iron
native	original inhabitants of an area
temperate	non-extreme temperatures, neither too hot or cold
tropical	wet and dry seasons, frost-free with high temperatures

## Longest Rivers



Amazon (Brazil) – 6400km

Paraná (Brazil/Paraguay) – 4880km

Madeira (Brazil) – 3380km

## Tallest Mountains



Aconcagua  
(Argentina)  
6962m

Ojos del Salado  
(Chile)  
6893m

Monte Pissis  
(Argentina)  
6793m

## Fact Box

Spanish is the main language in South American countries, only in Brazil people speak Portuguese. 90% are Catholic.