

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## California Unveiled: Discovering the Golden State's Surprises

Welcome to the Golden State, California! Beyond its stunning coastline, palm trees, and movie stars, this diverse and captivating state has some fun and unusual facts that may surprise you.

### **Swaying in the Breeze**

While the famous Hollywood sign in Los Angeles is iconic, did you know it originally read "Hollywoodland" and was a temporary real estate advertisement in the 1920s? Over time, it became a symbol of the entertainment industry and was restored to its current form.

### **Gold Rush Magic**

California's nickname, the "Golden State," was earned during the Gold Rush of the 1800s when gold was discovered at Sutter's Mill. Prospectors from all over the world flocked to California in search of their fortunes.

### **Home to the World's Tallest Trees**

Redwood National and State Parks, located in Northern California, are home to the tallest trees on Earth: the coast redwoods. Some of these giants reach heights of over 370 feet, taller than a 30-story building!

### **The Salty Superlative**

Badwater Basin in Death Valley National Park boasts the lowest point in North America, sitting 282 feet below sea level. It's a surreal and super-salty landscape, but also one of the hottest places on Earth!

### **Surf's Up, Dude!**

Santa Cruz, California, is known as the birthplace of mainland surfing in the United States. Surfing was introduced here by Hawaiian princes in the late 1800s, and it's been a surfers' paradise ever since.

