

Facts about South America

-South America is a continent.

-It has 12 countries plus 2 regions that belong to European countries: (1) The Falkland Islands, which is a British territory, and (2) French Guiana, which is owned by France.

-The equator runs through the north of the continent.

-The country Ecuador literally means equator in Spanish.

-Most of the continent is in the southern hemisphere.

-All countries in South America speak Spanish apart from Brazil, where they speak Portuguese.



Environmental regions

Fertile lowland - Pampas

Mountains – The Andes

Rainforest - Amazon Basin

desert in the world)

Desert – Atacama Desert (driest

Brazil is the **largest country in South America** and the 5th largest in the world. It covers nearly half the entire continent.

Over half the population of South America live in Brazil.

Brazil shares a **border** with every country in South America apart from Chile and Ecuador.

The **capital city is Brasilia**, but the cities of Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro are more famous.

Human Geography: The study of the interrelationships between people, place, and environment, and how these vary between locations.

E.g., The Christ the Redeemer statue overlooks Rio de Janeiro. This city is also home to the world's largest carnival, celebrated at the beginning of Lent. The main religion is Christianity.

Physical Geography: The study of the processes that shape the Earth's surface, the animals and plants that inhabit it, and the spatial patterns they exhibit. E.g., Northern Brazil is dominated by the Amazon River and the jungles that surround it. The Amazon is not one river but a network of many hundreds of waterways. Its total length stretches 6,840km. Thousands of species live in the river, including the infamous piranha and the boto, or pink river dolphin.

Brazil was **colonised by the Portuguese** in 1530. It regained **independence** in 1822.

Before we learn our topic:

• How many countries are there in South America? (Circle one).

15 24 12 9 38 10

- Which country do over half the population of South America live in?
- Name three major tourist attractions in South America.

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