



IRC page

July 2011

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Independence Day 4th of July



The Empire State Building is dwarfed by a burst of fireworks along New York's East River.

The United States celebrates its Independence Day on July 4, a day of patriotic celebration and family events throughout the country. In the words of Founding Father John Adams, the holiday should be "the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance... It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more."

The Fourth of July holiday is a major civic occasion, with roots deep in the Anglo-American tradition of political freedom.



Friends and relatives gather for a picnic lunch at the McClellanville Fourth of July celebration in McClellanville, South Carolina.

Like all outdoor meals, Independence Day picnics are relaxed, informal affairs, and they typically feature popular summer dishes such as barbecued meat, potato salad and corn-on-the-cob.



Music always has played a prominent role in U.S. Independence Day celebrations.

Each year, members of the U.S. Army Field Band play with the Boston Pops Orchestra at an outdoor Fourth of July show along the Charles River in Boston. The annual show, watched by concertgoers as well as television audiences, includes a fireworks display.

The United States of America - Focus On: San Francisco

San Francisco is a city defined by its metropolitan paradise. Golden Gate on the ever-dinging cable cars or rich artistic and culinary culture, and Park, with its walking trails, lounging schedule architectural tours, shaped by the breezes blowing in off beaches and views of the iconic especially those including "The the Pacific Ocean. Live music, Golden Gate Bridge, attracts Painted Ladies," the oft-vibrant art galleries, exciting visitors, especially when the sun is photographed and filmed Victorian nightlife, and world-class shining. On foggy summer days, one and Edwardian houses lining the restaurants await visitors to this might venture inland to catch a ride city's steep hills.



The Golden Gate Bridge-- A lovely way to cross an bay



"Painted ladies" is a term used for these six Victorian houses.



The Beach in San Francisco



When did the US Congress declare Independence Day as a legal federal holiday?

A. In 1870

B. On July 4, 1776

C. On the Memorial Day in 1971

The correct answer is:

Email your answer to wfr@state.gov.
The first person who finds the correct answer will win a prize from us!

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