

**ELEMENTARY UNIT 10**

**1** What do you know about California? Think about the topics in the box.

weather cities sports famous places  
famous people food

**2** Read a short tourist leaflet about California. Which topics from Exercise 1 does it talk about?

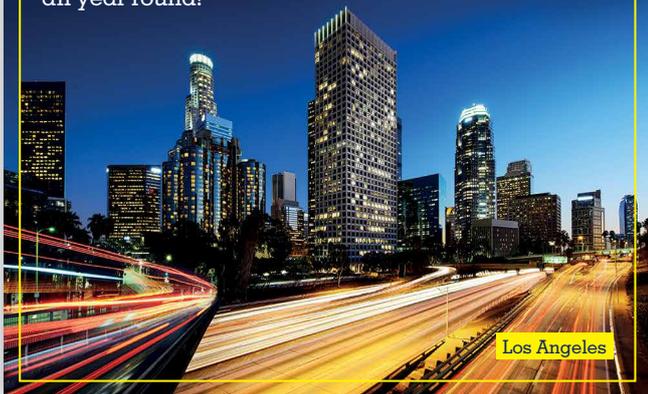
**Welcome to California!**

California is a big state. Its coast covers 900 miles (1,400km) from the border with Mexico in the south to the border with Oregon in the north. It has so many different places to see and visit. There are the famous cities of Los Angeles and San Francisco of course, but there's also a lot more.

In the south you have the beautiful sandy beaches in San Diego. Travel up the coast and you can see spectacular cliffs and visit the world-famous redwood forests, with some of the tallest trees in the world. In the interior you can find Central Valley, famous for its wines, the Mojave Desert and the mountains of the Sierra Nevada.

The climate is really different, too. It's hot and dry in the desert, warm and sunny on the beaches and cold and snowy in the mountains. You only need to travel a short distance and the weather changes completely. In winter, it's warm and sunny in LA. But just an hour and a half away by car, it's snowing in the mountains. If you want, you can swim in the sea in LA in the morning and ski in Snow Valley in the afternoon.

California, it really has something for everyone – all year round!



**3** Read the leaflet again. Match the places 1–4 with the things a)–h).

- |                   |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1 San Diego       | a) sandy beaches  |
| 2 up the coast    | b) desert         |
| 3 Sierra Nevada   | c) high cliffs    |
| 4 in the interior | d) hot and dry    |
|                   | e) skiing         |
|                   | f) snow           |
|                   | g) tall trees     |
|                   | h) warm and sunny |

**4** Which part or parts of California would you like to visit? Why?

**5** **10.1** Listen to a weather forecast for California in January and complete the table for today.

	temperature	conditions
Los Angeles (LA)	20°	warm, cloudy, rain later in the day
San Diego		
San Francisco		
Sacramento		
Snow Valley		

**6** Listen again and complete the sentences.

- It's a pretty typical \_\_\_\_\_ day here in California.
- It's dry and sunny in San Diego, perfect weather for a \_\_\_\_\_ picnic.
- In the north, it's \_\_\_\_\_ with a maximum temperature of 14 degrees.
- It's going to keep raining for the next \_\_\_\_\_ days.
- In San Francisco it's cloudy, but there's no \_\_\_\_\_ at the moment.
- Skiing conditions are perfect in the \_\_\_\_\_.
- It'll \_\_\_\_\_ at night on both Saturday and \_\_\_\_\_.

**7** What's the weather like in your country in January?

**8** Work in pairs. Answer the questions about your home state or country.

- What kind of geography is typical? Are there a lot of different places?
- What places do tourists usually visit? Do you like going there, too?
- What is the weather like in summer? Is it very different from winter?
- What is the best time of year to visit?