

American SKYLINES



VOICE OF AMERICA®

A Free Press Matters

2021 Calendar



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NEWS AND INFORMATION IN 47 LANGUAGES

Afan Oromo	Indonesian	Sango
Albanian	Khmer	Serbian
Amharic	Kinyarwanda	Shona
Armenian	Kirundi	Somali
Azerbaijani	Korean	Spanish
Bambara	Kurdish	Swahili
Bangla	Lao	Thai
Bosnian	Lingala	Tibetan
Burmese	Macedonian	Tigrigna
Cantonese	Mandarin	Turkish
Creole	Ndebele	Ukrainian
Dari	Pashto	Urdu
English	Persian	Uzbek
French	Portuguese	Vietnamese
Georgian	Rohingya	Wolof
Hausa	Russian	

Cover Photo:

Known as the home of the Star-Spangled Banner, the national anthem of the United States, and nicknamed "Charm City", **Baltimore** is a colorful and thriving place, often called "the city of neighborhoods." As the largest municipality in the state of Maryland, Baltimore boasts a beautiful natural harbor that contributed to its role as an important shipping and manufacturing center and continues to be a major industrial, trade and tourist hub. The city's largest diasporas hail from Mexico, El Salvador and the Caribbean with sizable populations from Nigeria, China and Korea. *Photo: DenisTangneyJr/ E+/ Getty Images*

VOA CHARTER

President Gerald Ford signed the VOA Charter into law in 1976. It protects the independence and integrity of VOA programming.

1. VOA will serve as a consistently reliable and authoritative source of news. VOA news will be accurate, objective, and comprehensive.

2. VOA will represent America, not any single segment of American society, and will therefore present a balanced and comprehensive projection of significant American thought and institutions.

3. VOA will present the policies of the United States clearly and effectively, and will also present responsible discussions and opinion on these policies.

Dear Friends,

This year the VOA calendar offers you a coast-to-coast tour of some of the most striking American city skylines. Along with a list of major sights for each featured city, we mention some of the largest diaspora communities in each metropolitan area. The diversity in our cities is about the same as at VOA with the programming we offer in 47 languages. As our charter requires, VOA strives to tell America's story to our international audiences – which means covering the entire American experience and not just one segment or region of the country.

New in 2019 was VOA's updated logo and tagline: "A Free Press Matters." More than just words, this message is at the heart of who we are in many parts of the world. We recognize that VOA isn't just the only unbiased news outlet available in certain regions, we also represent the very idea that a free press can exist. Now our logo includes that commitment front and center.

Diversity in our coverage and in our newsrooms is also a core belief at VOA. Recognizing the underrepresentation of women in global media, we are making a serious effort to change that reality across our entire organization. Our audiences and our workforce are already noticing this positive change in our coverage, as well as in the faces in front of and behind the VOA cameras and microphones.

Since 1942, VOA's primary mission has been to provide truthful news and information for those with little or no access to a free press. With that in mind, we are expanding our programming for refugees and migrants, some of the most underserved populations in the world. As the number of refugees and displaced persons continues to grow globally, VOA broadcasts will reach them where they are and in their languages with comprehensive coverage of current events and critical issues important to them.

Wishing you all a happy, healthy, and productive 2021!

Sincerely,

VOA Staff



Minneapolis and nearby state capital St. Paul make up the "Twin Cities." Located in Minnesota, the city is surrounded by freshwater lakes and rivers contributing to its role as an economic and cultural center in the northern United States. Due to its harsh winter climate, they have developed the largest pedestrian skywalk system in the world, made up of 11 miles of enclosed pedestrian footbridges that connect city buildings. Minneapolis is a popular location for immigrants from Scandinavia, Southeast Asia, and the Horn of Africa, including the largest Somali diaspora community in the U.S.

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Houston is considered one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse cities in the United States. In addition to having the third-largest Hispanic population in the country, Texas' largest city is home to many Asian, specifically Vietnamese and Chinese, and African immigrants. Ranked number one in total park acreage among major U.S. cities, Houston contains hundreds of acres of green space and miles of bike trails amidst its gleaming skyscrapers. The city has a world-famous Museum District, the nation's astronaut training center and dozens of renowned educational and medical centers.

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With nicknames like “The Windy City”, “The City of Big Shoulders” and “The Second City”, **Chicago** is the third-largest city in the country. A major transportation and industrial center, Chicago is home to the country’s first skyscraper and the second tallest skyscraper in the Western Hemisphere today, the Willis Tower. Chicago has a long history of immigration starting with the many European immigrants who arrived in the 1800s. Today the largest diaspora populations in Chicago are Serbian, Irish, Polish, German, Italian and Chinese. Chicago’s many ethnic neighborhoods reflect the huge diversity in its population.

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The city of **Detroit**, nicknamed “The Motor City,” is known worldwide as the home of the American automobile industry. Home to many diverse cultures, Detroit has a rich musical history across a broad range of styles including soul, jazz, hip-hop, rock, punk, and blues. Joining large numbers of Polish and Greek immigrants who arrived in the city more than a hundred years ago, the Arab American community in Detroit is the largest in the country along with robust Mexican and Lithuanian populations. Detroit also has one of the nation’s largest concentrations of Hmong Americans.

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The iconic Gateway Arch, that graces the [St. Louis](#) skyline and sits on the Mississippi River, honors the explorations of the western United States and is the tallest arch in the world. St. Louis was the first American city to host the modern Olympics and is home to Forest Park, one of the largest urban parks in the world and the site of the famed 1904 World's Fair. The city of St. Louis is not only a large Midwestern trading port, but also home to many Asian Americans, specifically Vietnamese and Chinese, and a large population of Kurdish immigrants. The St. Louis metro area is home to more than 70,000 Bosnians, the largest Bosnian diaspora population in the world.

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The city of **Seattle** is tucked away in the northwest corner of the United States, home to the futuristic Space Needle on its skyline, Seattle's most iconic building. Seattle is the headquarters of many technology companies and hundreds of acres of public parks. Seattle is also home to large populations of Native Americans. It has large diaspora communities of people of Chinese, Vietnamese, Somali, Cambodian, and Samoan as well as Scandinavian descent. It is a hub for international trade and investment and one of the fastest-growing cities in the U.S.

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Photo: Lady-Photo / Stock / Getty Images Plus

Miami has the highest proportion of foreign-born residents of any major metropolitan area in the United States, including large Cuban and Haitian populations. The city's beautiful weather and stunning beaches bring in tourists from around the world to experience the vibrant mixture of cultures coming together through communities and food. Little Havana is one of the most well-known ethnic neighborhoods, a destination for Cuban migrants to celebrate their heritage in a warm and welcoming atmosphere.

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One of the most iconic cities in the world, **New York City** is also known as "The Big Apple." It is comprised of five boroughs with Manhattan at its center. The most populous city in the United States, New York is home to Central Park, the Empire State Building, the Chrysler Building, Broadway, the Statue of Liberty and Times Square. There is no one dominant diaspora community in NYC, however, the fastest growing is from Bangladesh. With its incredibly diverse communities from virtually every nation, experts estimate that New York City residents collectively speak more than 800 languages.

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Located in the southern state of Tennessee, **Nashville** is also called "Music City USA" for its diverse music scene that includes not only country, but also blues, gospel, pop, and rock. Historical country music landmarks in Nashville include the Country Music Hall of Fame and live music venues like the Grand Ole Opry House and the Ryman Auditorium. With one of the fastest-growing immigrant populations in the nation, Nashville is home to large Mexican, Kurdish, Vietnamese, Laotian, Arab, and Somali populations.

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One of the oldest cities in the United States and the largest city in New England, **Boston** played a major role in the American Revolution. The famous Freedom Trail is a 2.5-mile redbrick trail through Boston's historic neighborhoods to numerous Revolutionary era landmarks. The iconic baseball stadium Fenway Park is a popular landmark. Home to a large Irish population since the 1800s, Boston also has one of the largest Armenian diaspora communities in the country and growing Indian and Chinese diasporas.

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The second largest city in the United States, **Los Angeles** is located in southern California and is home to Hollywood, the center of the U.S. entertainment industry. Also known as L.A. or the "City of Angels" from the Spanish translation, the city is crisscrossed by freeways, with the Pacific Ocean in the west and the Santa Monica Mountains and the San Gabriel Mountains on its northern and eastern boundaries. From the prehistoric La Brea tar pits with Ice Age fossils to the Art Deco-era observatory in Griffith Park and the world famous Hollywood sign, Los Angeles encompasses natural and cultural history icons. The city is a true melting pot with large Latin, Asian and African populations, including the largest Persian diaspora in the country.

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Nicknamed the “Steel City,” **Pittsburgh** was the center of the American steel industry and the industrial trade through most of the 1900s. When many of the manufacturing factories closed in the 1980s, the city transformed itself into a global innovation hub with a focus on education, medical, and technology innovation. Pittsburgh is connected by more than 400 bridges across the city’s three rivers — the Monongahela, Allegheny, and Ohio — and surrounded by miles of bike and walking trails. Pittsburgh is home to many Central and Eastern European immigrants, including the largest Croatian population in the nation and the fifth-largest Ukrainian population.

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