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## MERICA Today

## 今日美国

Richard Easby (美) 编

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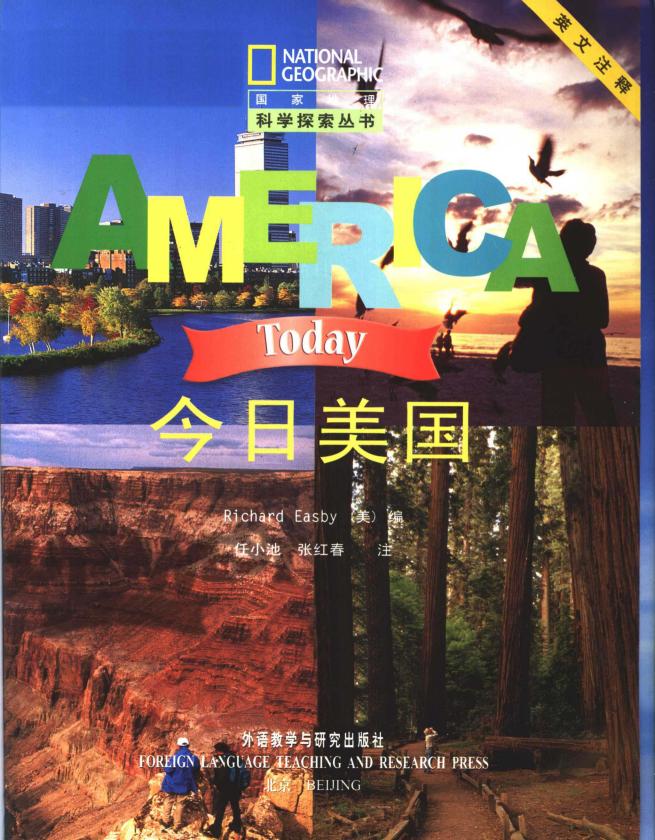
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# The Today Today

今日东北部



## overview

## THE NORTHEAST

## 东北部概况

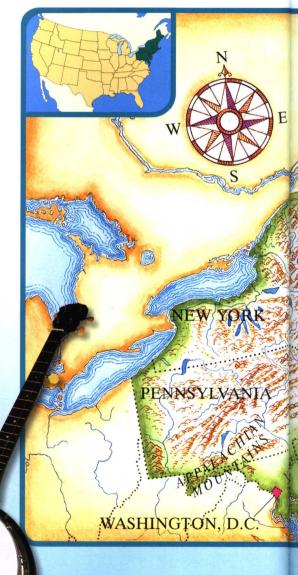
The Northeast has the Atlantic coast<sup>1</sup> and the Appalachian Mountains<sup>2</sup>. It has some of America's greatest cities, including Washington, D.C.<sup>3</sup>, the nation's capital. Important events<sup>4</sup> in American history took place here too. To learn the answers to the following questions—and other interesting things about the Northeast—keep reading.

1. Atlantic coast		大西洋海岸
2. Appalachian Mountains		阿巴拉契亚山脉
3. Washington, D.C.		华盛顿
4. event	n.	活动;事件
5. average	adj.	平常的
6. mummer	n.	化装游玩的人

How much chocolate does the average<sup>5</sup>

American eat each year?

Find out on page 26.

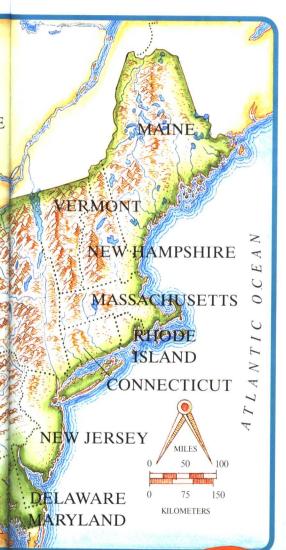


What's a mummer<sup>6</sup>?

Find out on page 30.

What sport was called "snurfing" by its inventor?

Find out on page 22.





## What kind of restaurant serves "birdseed2" with "cow juice3"?

Find out on page 14.

1. snurfing	n.	冲雪运动
2. birdseed	n.	鸟食
3. cow juice		牛奶



How did the "Headless Horseman" lose his head?

Find out on page 18.



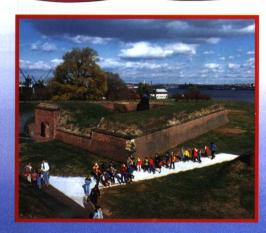
## Zouring the San NORTHEAST

### By Lisa Moran

Here are two places you might enjoy visiting in the Northeast. The first is the lively¹ waterfront² area of Baltimore³, Maryland's⁴ largest city. The second is Acadia National Park⁵ on the coast of Maine⁶.

1. lively aa	/j. 充满活力的
2. waterfront n.	城市中的码头区
3. Baltimore	巴尔的摩
4. Maryland	马里兰州
5. Acadia National Park	(阿卡迪亚国家公园
6. Maine	VIII S
7 Fort Mol Jones	*********

**承北部**)旅



Fort McHenry<sup>7</sup>

#### Baltimore's Waterfront

Baltimore is Maryland's largest city. It is located near the top of Chesapeake Bay<sup>1</sup>, a huge arm of the Atlantic Ocean. Baltimore's waterfront has a wide variety<sup>2</sup> of things to see.

If you like history, you can visit Fort McHenry National Monument<sup>3</sup>. Think of the words to "The Star Spangled Banner<sup>4</sup>." The "bombs bursting in air" were over Fort McHenry. The old fort once guarded Baltimore's harbor.

One September night in 1814, Francis Scott Key watched American forces<sup>5</sup> bravely defend Fort McHenry from a British attack. The sight of the American flag still flying the next morning inspired<sup>6</sup> him to write the national anthem<sup>7</sup> of America. Baltimore's waterfront is a great place to eat fish. It's also an interesting place to learn about them. The waterfront is the site of the National Aquarium<sup>8</sup> in Baltimore. The Aquarium is home to more than 5,000 fish, birds, and mammals<sup>9</sup>.

Baltimore's skyline<sup>16</sup> and harbor

The Aquarium is built in a series of levels. You walk up a spiral ramp<sup>10</sup>. At each level, you can see different freshwater and saltwater environments. On one of the lower levels, for example, you can see the different animals that live in Maryland's ponds<sup>11</sup>, streams<sup>12</sup>, and salt marshes<sup>13</sup>. Higher up, you can view an Amazon rain forest<sup>14</sup> environment and an Atlantic coral reef<sup>15</sup>.

1. Chesapeake Ba	ау	切萨皮克湾
2. variety	n.	种类: 多样性
3. monument	n.	历史遗址
4. The Star Spang	led Banner	《星条旗永不落》
		(美国国歌)
5. force	n.	[~s]军队
6. inspire	ν.	鼓舞;激励
7. national anthem	1	国歌
8. aquarium	n.	水族馆
9. mammal	n.	哺乳动物
10. spiral ramp		螺旋形的坡道
11. pond	n.	池塘
12. stream	n.	溪流:河流
13. salt marsh		盐沼
14. Amazon rain for	est	亚马孙雨林
15. coral reef		珊瑚礁
16. skyline	n.	空中轮廓线
		e constitu

#### **Acadia National Park**

A long way up the Atlantic coast from Baltimore is Maine's beautiful Acadia National Park. The forests are thick and go right up to the rocky coastline. Offshore, the park includes Mount Desert Island<sup>1</sup>.

Visitors can do all sorts of activities here. There are many paths for hiking<sup>2</sup> through the woods or along the shore. If you're feeling brave, you can even try the Precipice Trail<sup>3</sup>. *Precipice* means "steep cliff<sup>4</sup>"—so watch your step! There's biking, fishing, and canoeing<sup>5</sup>. You can swim in summer and ice skate in winter.

Many people walk or drive to the top of Cadillac Mountain<sup>6</sup>. It is the highest point on the Atlantic coast. From October 7 to March 6, Cadillac Mountain is the first place in the United States from which you can see the sun rise.

Some visitors go on a peregrine falcon<sup>7</sup> watch. The peregrine falcon used to be an endangered species<sup>8</sup>, but Acadia National Park created a special breeding<sup>9</sup> program to help these birds survive<sup>10</sup>.

Hikers in Acadia National Park





#### ▲ Peregrine falcon

1. National Marbles Tournament

全国弹子游戏锦标赛
2. compete v. 比赛
3. New Jersy 新泽西州
4. title n. 头衔
5. scholarship n. 奖学金



#### <sup>1</sup> National Marbles Tournament<sup>1</sup>

Got a sharp eye and a steady hand? Try competing<sup>2</sup> in the National Marbles Tournament. For four days each June, the tournament is held at Ringer Stadium on the beach at Wildwood, New Jersey<sup>3</sup>. ("Ringer" is a kind of marbles game.) Anybody ages 8 to 14 can compete. A boy and a girl win the titles<sup>4</sup> of King and Queen, and there are scholarships<sup>5</sup> and other prizes too.



Environment

## Lobsters

By Callie Booth

n amazing variety of animals live in the Atlantic Ocean off the Northeast coast. Some are crustaceans<sup>1</sup>, animals with hard shells and jointed<sup>2</sup> bodies. Shrimps<sup>3</sup> and crabs are crustaceans. The largest is the lobster.

Many lobsters live off the coast of Maine. Lobsters can live near almost any part of the Atlantic coast, but they like colder water. The coldest waters are off the coast of Maine.

Each lobster begins life with thousands of brothers and sisters. A female can carry 20,000 eggs. When these hatch, the swimming babies start gobbling up<sup>4</sup> everything they can. Lobsters are cannibals<sup>5</sup>. Their diet includes other lobsters.

Most of the tiny babies die, but 10 or 12 survive. Those that reach adulthood<sup>6</sup> are fierce<sup>7</sup> fighters. They often fight over territory<sup>8</sup>. The winner often eats the loser!

For protection, lobsters usually lurk<sup>9</sup> in an underwater burrow<sup>10</sup>, a hole or tunnel<sup>11</sup>. They also hide when they shed<sup>12</sup> their shells. Young lobsters grow quickly, but their shells don't. So the lobster must molt<sup>13</sup>,

A lobsterman's shed 14

or shed its old shell. Then it grows a new one. Young lobsters molt 10 or 12 times a year.

Only big, old lobsters are really safe from other lobsters. The older they are, the bigger they are! One lobster weighed about 20 kiograms. It was about 0.9 meter long and about 50 years old. It must have won a lot of fights!

1. crustacean	n.	甲壳类
2. jointed	adj.	有(关)节的
3. shrimp	n	小虾
4. gobble up		狼吞虎咽
5. cannibal	n.	同类相食的动物
6. adulthood	17	成年期
7. fierce	adj.	凶猛的
8. territory	n.	领土
9. lurk	ν.	潜伏: 潜藏
10. burrow	n.	洞穴
11. tunnel	п.	地道
12. shed	ν.	蜕下
13. molt	ν.	脱皮
14. shed	n.	小屋





## Lobstering

t is 5 o'clock in the morning on the coast of Maine. A stiff<sup>1</sup>, cold wind is blowing. Still asleep? Not if you're a lobsterman! You're at work early when you go lobstering.

Lobstermen catch lobsters in traps<sup>2</sup>. Laying lobster traps is a big job. The traps are connected to each other by a line. Lobstermen throw the first trap off the back of their boats into the ocean. This trap's weight pulls the next one in. Lobstermen can lay between 400 and 1,200 traps at a time.

Lobstermen want to be sure they're pulling up their own traps. So they put different colors on them. Lobstermen find their traps in the water by looking for a buoy<sup>3</sup>, or float. Buoys bob<sup>4</sup> right above the traps.

Deep down below, hungry lobsters are entering the traps, lured<sup>5</sup> by tasty pieces of fish. Lobsters crawl<sup>6</sup> past a net to get into the trap. The net lets them in—but not out.

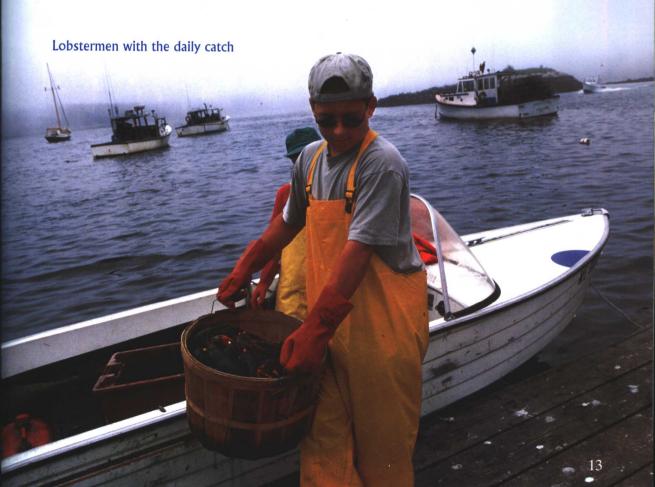
adj.	(风等) 强烈的
n.	陷阱网
n.	浮标
ν.	上下快速移动
V.	引诱
v.	爬行
n.	入口
	n. n. v. v.

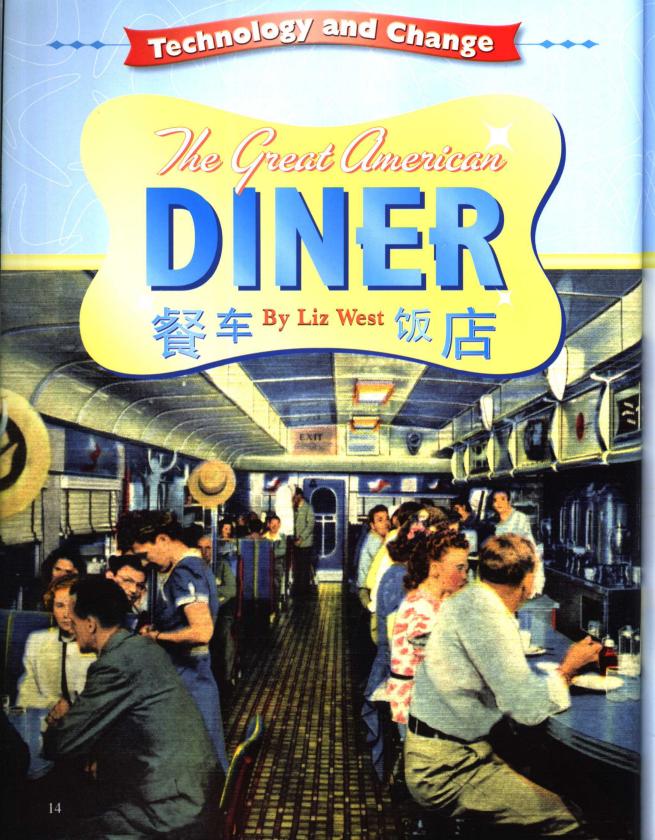


Lobstermen must measure<sup>1</sup> each lobster they catch. If the lobster is less than about 8.26 centimeters from its eyes to the beginning of its tail, it gets tossed<sup>2</sup> back. Doing this makes sure that young lobsters get a chance to grow up and have babies.

The lobsters are kept in a water-filled tank<sup>3</sup> on the boat. Late in the day, the lobstermen head back to the dock<sup>4</sup>. At the dock, they sell their lobsters. The more the lobsters weigh, the more money the lobstermen earn<sup>5</sup>.

1. measure	V.	测量
2. toss	ν.	投掷
3. tank	n.	桶;箱
4. dock	n.	码头
5. earn	V.	挣得





You may have seen them in movies. You may have seen them in ads. Have you ever been in a real diner? Did you know that they started in the Northeast?



### A One-of-a-Kind<sup>1</sup> Restaurant

nlike fast-food restaurants, each diner is one-of-a-kind. Perhaps that's why so many people like them.

Diners are an American invention that began in Providence<sup>2</sup>, Rhode Island<sup>3</sup>. In 1872, young Walter Scott had a bright idea. He would sell food to latenight workers. He sold it from a horsedrawn wagon<sup>4</sup>.

These wagons became very popular. They soon clogged<sup>5</sup> New England streets. Laws were passed to limit their business hours. Owners found a way around the laws. They bought a spot and

For just a quarter<sup>7</sup>, a diner juke box<sup>8</sup> will play your favorite song.

left the wagon there. Then they could sell food all day.

The public liked this idea as much as the owners did. Soon, many such places began sprouting up<sup>6</sup>. The wagons were called *diners* because they looked like railroad dining cars.

1. one-of-a-kind	adj.	独一无二的
2. Providence	普罗维	登斯 (罗得岛州首府)
3. Rhode Island		罗得岛州
4. wagon	n.	四轮马车
5. clog	ν.	阻塞
6. sprout up		迅速出现
7. quarter	n.	二角五分硬币
8. juke box		自动唱机