

Florida

Sunshine State



Flag:

On a white field emblazoned with a red X and the state seal, Florida's flag represents the land of sunshine, flowers, palm trees, rivers and lakes. The seal features a brilliant sun, a cabbage palmetto tree, a steamboat sailing and a Native American Seminole woman scattering flowers. Flag adopted 1899.



Florida (The Sunshine State — 1970)

At one time, back in the 1860s, Florida was known as The Peninsula State, for obvious reasons. Later in the 19th century, it also became known as **The Everglades State**. Florida is a large producer of oranges which led the state to be known as **The Orange State** (and in one reference, **The Citrus State**), the meaning of the state's name ("flowery") led to **The Flower State** and its location on the east of the Gulf of Mexico led to **The Gulf State**. For many years, Florida appears as **The Sunshine State** on its licence plates, but this name was only given official status in 1970 when it was officially adopted by the legislature. The nickname is also unofficially claimed by New Mexico and (until 1980) South Dakota.

Economy:

Agriculture: Citrus, vegetables, nursery stock, cattle, sugarcane, dairy products.

Industry: Tourism, electric equipment, food processing, printing and publishing, transportation equipment, machinery.