California is a state, which is located in the United States. The United States is a country, which is located in North America. North America is a continent, which is located in the Northern Hemisphere. In the Northern Hemisphere, California is located about halfway between the equator and the Arctic Circle.

California stretches 800 miles along the western edge of North America, from the Oregon border (42° north latitude) to Mexico (between 32° and 33° north latitude). The Pacific Ocean lies to the west, the nation of Mexico lies to the south, the state of Oregon lies to the north, and the states of Nevada and Arizona make up the eastern border. A hole straight through Earth from the center of California would emerge in the Indian Ocean.