

Alaska Peninsula

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About Alaska Peninsula

Location:

- It is a **long, narrow strip of land** located in the **southwestern part of the U.S. state of Alaska**.
- It extends about **800 kilometers (500 miles)** in a **southwest direction** from the mainland of Alaska.
- It **separates the Pacific Ocean from Bristol Bay, an arm of the Bering Sea**.
- **Physiography:** The peninsula is **largely mountainous**, with **numerous active and dormant volcanoes**, **rugged coastlines**, **deep fjords**, and vast expanses of wilderness.

Volcanism:

- The **volcanic Aleutian Range runs along its entire length.**
- The **Pavlof Volcano**, near the peninsula's southwestern edge, rises to more than **8,260 feet (2,518 metres)** and **is the most active volcano** in the Aleutian volcanic arc.

Population:

- It has **been inhabited for thousands of years by indigenous peoples**, primarily **the Aleut and Alutiiq (Sugpiaq) communities.**
- It is **sparsely populated**, with small **communities scattered along its coastline.**

Biodiversity:

- It is home to diverse wildlife, including **brown bears, caribou, moose, wolves**, bald eagles, and various marine mammals.
- The famous **Katmai National Park and Preserve, known for its brown bear population** and the **Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes**, is located on the northeastern part of the peninsula.

What is a Peninsula?

- A peninsula is a **piece of land** that is **almost entirely surrounded by water but is connected to the mainland on one side.**
- It is an **extension of land** that juts **out into a body of water**, such as an ocean, sea, lake, or river.
- Peninsulas are **typically narrow and elongated** in shape, although their **size can vary significantly.**

Q1) What is an Isthmus?

An isthmus is a narrow strip of land connecting two larger land masses which is bounded by water on two sides. The word has its origins from the Greek word isthmós which means "neck."

Two notable isthmuses are the Isthmus of Panama which separates the continents of North America and South America and the Isthmus of Suez which divides Africa from Asia.

Source: [Magnitude 7.4 quake hits Alaska Peninsula, tsunami warning issued](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/alaska-peninsula/>

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