



**Otázka:** Washington, D.C.

**Jazyk:** Angličtina

**Přidal(a):** VariusMartin

### Washington, D.C.

- The **capital** of the USA
- Located on the East coast, south of the NYC
- Centre of American political power (**The White House** – president, **The U.S. Capitol** – Congress)
- Washington D.C. is one of America's **most visited** It is not just seat of the Federal Government, Supreme Court and the President of the United States; there are also **memorials** to commemorate important **figures** and **events** in American history
- The whole district is divided into four parts – Southeast, Southwest, Northeast and Northwest; centre of the division lines is the U.S. Capitol building
- **Population:** 650 000
- **No taller buildings** than Capitol (law)

### **History:**

- American **natives' settlement** in the pre-colonial era on the Potomac River
- Became the capital after the Compromise of 1790 when Jefferson, Hamilton and Madison agreed on **moving the capital from Philadelphia** to the Southern United States (about 8000 inhabitants)
- **First city** in the world to be **designed** and newly built **as the capital** (Pierre L'Enfant)
- Former area of district was **100 sq. miles** (as designed by George Washington)
- Huge economic decline prior to the outbreak of American Civil War in 1861 (first slaves freed on command of Abraham Lincoln) (about 100 000 inhabitants)

- **Huge historical importance** (Dr. Martin Luther King's speech, signing place of The North Atlantic Treaty = The Washington Treaty) and many more

### Transportation:

- Most of the transportation is public (Interstate 95 - the biggest highway on the East Coast runs around the district)
- Second-busiest subway and sixth-largest bus system
- Main train station = Union Station (over 70 000 people serviced every day)
- Three major airports: Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, **Washington Dulles International Airport**, Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport

### Places to visit:

- **The White House** - was not always white, painted white after the War with British of 1812
- **The Capitol** - centre of the US government
- **The Lincoln Memorial** - American National monument (form of Greek temple) - site for Martin Luther King's „I have a dream“ speech
- **The Washington Monument** - 170 metres tall obelisk (world's tallest stone structure), honour of George Washington

### Comparison - New York City:

- **Height of the buildings**
  - Washington, D.C.- small buildings that are not taller than the Capitol
  - New York City- tall skyscrapers
- **Rivers**
  - Washington, D.C.- no river
  - New York City- the Hudson river (border between Manhattan and New Jersey) and the East river
- **Numbers of streets**



- **Population**

- Washington, D.C.- 650 000
- New York City- 8 500 000