

An aerial photograph of Niagara Falls, showing the water cascading over the edge and creating a large plume of mist. The surrounding landscape is lush green, and a city skyline is visible in the distance under a clear blue sky. The text 'Niagara Falls' is written in a large, white, sans-serif font across the middle of the image, and the word 'Facts' is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font below it.

Niagara Falls

Facts

Niagara Falls is composed of three adjacent waterfalls on the Niagara River; Horseshoe, American and Bridal Veil Falls.





90% of the water of the Niagara River flows over Horseshoe Falls.

Water always flows down to the sea, and the land slopes downward through the Great Lakes Basin from west to east - but the Niagara River actually flows north.






The brown foam below Niagara Falls is a natural result of tons of water plummeting into the depths below. The brown color is clay, which contains suspended particles of decayed vegetative matter.



The beautiful green color of the Niagara River comes from the dissolved salts and very finely ground rock.

An aerial photograph of a massive waterfall cascading over a rocky ledge. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, and the base of the falls is a thick, white foam. A small boat is visible in the turquoise water to the left of the falls. The surrounding landscape is lush and green.

The Falls make a tremendous sound as the water goes over and lands at the bottom.

A wide-angle photograph of the Horseshoe Falls of Niagara Falls. The water is a vibrant turquoise color and is cascading over a dark rock ledge. In the foreground, a white and blue tour boat is filled with people, navigating the turbulent waters. The background shows a clear blue sky with a few wispy clouds and distant buildings on the horizon.

Where all the water that goes over Niagara Falls comes from?

The water drains from four of the five great lakes – Superior, Michigan, Huron and Erie – and plunges over the Horseshoe Falls at approximately 675,000 gallons per second during peak periods.

It is 16 stories tall.



Do the Falls freeze over in the Winter?

The flow of water was stopped completely over both falls on March 29th 1848 due to an ice jam in the upper river for several hours. This is the only known time to have occurred.



In the evenings, intense spotlights bathe the falls with different shades of color.