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ba·teau also **bat·teau**  (bă-tō)

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n. pl. ba·teaux also *bat·teaux* (-tōz)

1. *Canada & New England* A long, light, flatbottom boat with a sharply pointed bow and stern.
2. *South Atlantic & Gulf States* A small, light, flatbottom rowboat.

[Canadian and Louisiana French, from French, boat, from Old French *batel*, from Old English *bāt*; see **bheid-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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