

Greece





Where is Greece?

- Greece is a country in south-eastern Europe.
- It borders a number of countries, including Albania, Turkey, Bulgaria and Macedonia.
- It also has a large coastline on the Mediterranean Sea.
- Greece covers an area of 131,957 sq. km. It is the 15th largest European country by area.
- About 10.8 million people live in Greece. The capital city is Athens.
- Greece has around 6,000 islands, although only around 227 of these are populated.

Comparison with the UK

- Both countries are in Europe. The UK is in northern Europe, and Greece is in southern Europe.
- Due to its more southerly position (closer to the Equator,) Greece is warmer than the UK. On average, Athens is 9°C hotter than London.
- Greece is smaller than the UK. Greece has an area of 131,957km², whereas the UK's area is 243,610km².
- Significantly more people live in the UK. The UK's population is 66 million, compared with Greece's population of 10.8 million.
- London has a much larger population than Athens: 8.4 million compared to 3.1 million.
- Greece has higher mountains than the UK. Mt. Olympus is 2,917m high. The highest in the UK is Ben Nevis, at 1,345m.
- Greece is made up of many more islands than the UK. It has a much longer coastline.

Human geography

Population		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Population of around 10.8 million people •Fourteenth most populous country in Europe
Settlements		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Most populous and capital city of Greece is Athens •Athens has a population of over 3 million people •Other large settlements include Thessaloniki, Patra, Piraeus and Larisa.
Economic activity		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Greece is a part of the European Union and its currency is the Euro. •Greece has suffered many financial problems in recent years, and has had to be helped by other countries. •Tourism is a large source of income for Greece.
Resources and trade		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Many natural resources •Large trader of petroleum products •Greece exports high quantities of fresh fish, olive oil, tomato-based products and wine.



Physical geography

- Greece is one of the most mountainous countries in Europe. The northern mainland region is the most mountainous. The highest peak is Mt Olympus, which is 2,917m high.
- Greece also contains thousands of islands in the Aegan, Ionian and Mediterranean Seas. The largest island is Crete.
- Greece has a warm and sunny climate. The temperature averages around 33°C in summer and 14°C in winter.
- The longest river entirely in Greece is Haliakmon, which is about 185 miles long.
- There are many volcanoes. The most famous are those of Santorini, Kos, Milos and Nisyros.