

Y4: Modern Greece

What should I already know?

The names of the continents and oceans of the world.
Greece is a country in the **continent** of Europe
The climate of Greece is slightly different to that of the UK



Where is Greece?

Greece is a country in south-eastern Europe that 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 habited.

Comparison with the UK

- Both countries are in Europe: the UK is in northern Europe & Greece 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 (131,957 sq. km compared to 243,610sq Km).
- More people live in the UK – 66 million compared to 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.

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.