

Italy

Would you rather live in the UK or Italy?

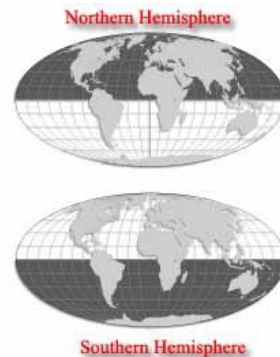
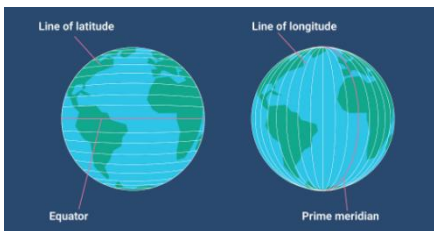


WINDHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

LKS2 - Spring



Italy is a Northern Hemisphere country in the south-east of Europe. It has borders with four other countries: France, Switzerland, Austria and Slovenia. Italy is easy to spot on a map because it is shaped like a high-heeled boot. The boot looks like it is kicking a ball which is actually one of Italy's 350 islands, Sicily.



Human Geography

Italy has a long and rich history, and a culture steeped in the arts, family, architecture, music and food. Its natural beauty and warm climate also make it a popular holiday destination for people from across the world.

Population



-The population of Italy is around 60 million people. This makes it the fifth most populous country in Europe. The population density is 207 people per square kilometre. This is the 11th highest population density in Europe.

Settlements



-The most populous cities in Italy are Rome, Milan and Naples. Other large settlements include Turin, Palermo and Verona. Many people visit Rome each year to see its Roman history, including the famous Colosseum.

Economic activity



-Italy is a part of the European Union and its currency is the Euro. Italy has a strong tourism trade – cities like Venice and Rome are amongst the most-visited in the world, and it also has a number of holiday locations.

Resources/ trade



-Automobiles and machinery dominate Italian trade. It is also a strong world power in manufacturing. Italian wine, grains, and olive oil are exported across the world.

Physical Geography

- The northern region of Italy is the most mountainous. Its Dolomites region is a part of the Alps, and is popular for alpine skiing.
- The highest peak is Monte Bianco (Mount Blanc), which is 4,807m high.
- The Apennines is another mountain range, which separates east Italy from west Italy.
- The north of the country contains large lakes, for example Lakes Garda and Como.
- The longest river in Italy is the Po River, which is about 405 miles long.
- Aside from the mainland, Italy contains two large islands: Sicily and Sardinia, and many smaller islands.
- There are three active volcanoes – Vesuvius near Naples, Etna on Sicily and Stromboli, on an island near the southern tip of Italy. Etna is the most active volcano in Europe.



Comparison with the UK

-Both countries are in Europe: the UK is in northern Europe & Italy in southern Europe.

-Due to its more southerly position (closer to the Equator) Italy is warmer than the UK. On average, Rome is 7°C hotter than London.

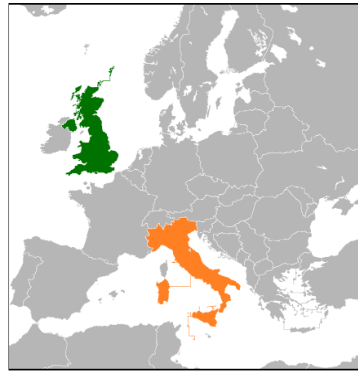
-Italy is slightly larger than the UK – 301,340sq km compared to 243,610sq km.

-Slightly more people live in the UK – 66 million compared to 60 million.

-London has a much larger population than Rome. 8.4 million compared to 2.9 million.

-Italy has higher mountains than the UK. Mt. Blanc is 4,807m high. The highest in the UK is Ben Nevis, at 1,345m.

-The UK has no active volcanoes, whereas Italy has three (Vesuvius, Etna, Stromboli).



Map Reading

We can use maps to help us to find the human and physical features of countries.



Maps use symbols to identify the different features. These symbols are explained in a key. We also use grid references to find particular points on a map.

Key Vocabulary

Hemisphere	The earth, is divided into northern and southern halves at the Equator. Each half is called a hemisphere.
Climate	The average measurements of temperature, wind, humidity, snow, and rain in a place over the course of years. Climate is like the weather, but over a long time.
Mediterranean	The Mediterranean Sea or to the lands or peoples surrounding it
Population	The whole number of people living in a country, city, or area
Trade/economic activity	Trade is the buying and selling of goods and services.
Settlements	Settlements are places where people live. They are basically any form of human dwelling.
Tourism	Tourism means people traveling for fun. It includes activities such as sightseeing and camping.
Land use	Land use is when an area is used for a specific purpose to meet the wants and needs of people.
Mountains	A mountain is a landform that rises high above the surrounding terrain in a limited area.
Lakes	Lakes are large bodies of water that are surrounded by land and are not part of an ocean.
Map Key	A map key is sometimes also called a legend. Map keys use symbols, colours, or lines to represent important places or landmarks on a map.
Grid references	Giving a grid reference is a method of describing a location using intersecting vertical and horizontal grid lines, indicated by numbers and/or letters



Where will you choose? Italy or the UK?