

## GREECE - Geography

### Geographical Features

#### Human Geography

##### Population

Population = around 10.8 million people. It's the 14th most populous country in Europe. The population density is 82 people per square km. It's the 30th highest population density in Europe.

##### Settlements

The most populous and capital city of Greece is Athens. Other large settlements include Thessaloniki, Patra, Piraeus and Larisa. Most settlements were founded around the coast.

##### Economic Activity



Greece is a part of the European Union and its currency is the Euro. Greece has suffered many financial problems in recent years, and have had to be helped by other countries. **Tourism is a large source of income for Greece.**

##### Resources/ Trade

Greece exports high quantities of **fresh fish, olive oil, tomato-based products and wine.**

#### Physical Geography

**Greece has a mediterranean climate:** mild winters and long, hot and dry summers.

**Greece is located near 4 tectonic plates, meaning it is prone to experiencing tectonic earthquakes.**

Greece is one of the most mountainous countries in Europe. **The highest peak is Mt Olympus,** which is 2,917m high.

### Where is Greece?

Greece is a country in south-eastern Europe. It borders a number of countries, including **Albania, Turkey, Bulgaria and Macedonia.** The capital city is Athens. It has a large coastline and consists of a mainland, one large **peninsula** and two smaller peninsulas, surrounded by the **Aegean, Ionian and 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. Greece is made up of 14 regions. **Greece has an archipelago consisting of around 6,000 islands,** although only around 227 of these are habited.

### Overview

#### Capital:

Athens

#### Official EU language(s):

Greek

#### EU member country:

Since 1st January 1981

#### Currency:

Euro €

#### Population:

10.8 million

#### Climate:

Mediterranean

#### Flag:



### Glossary

**archipelago** - an extensive group of islands.

**caldera** - a large volcanic crater, especially one formed by a major eruption leading to the collapse of the mouth of the volcano.

**cenote** - a natural pit, or sinkhole, resulting when a collapse of limestone bedrock exposes groundwater.

**economy** -

**export** - send (goods or services) to another country for sale.

**import** - bring (goods or services) into a country from abroad for sale.

**peninsula** - a piece of land almost surrounded by water or projecting out into a body of water.

**seismic** - relating to earthquakes or other vibrations of the earth and its crust.

**tectonic earthquake** - an earthquake cause by tectonic plates moving and scraping against each other.

**The Ring of Fire** - a string of volcanoes and sites of seismic activity, or earthquakes, around the edges of the Pacific Ocean.