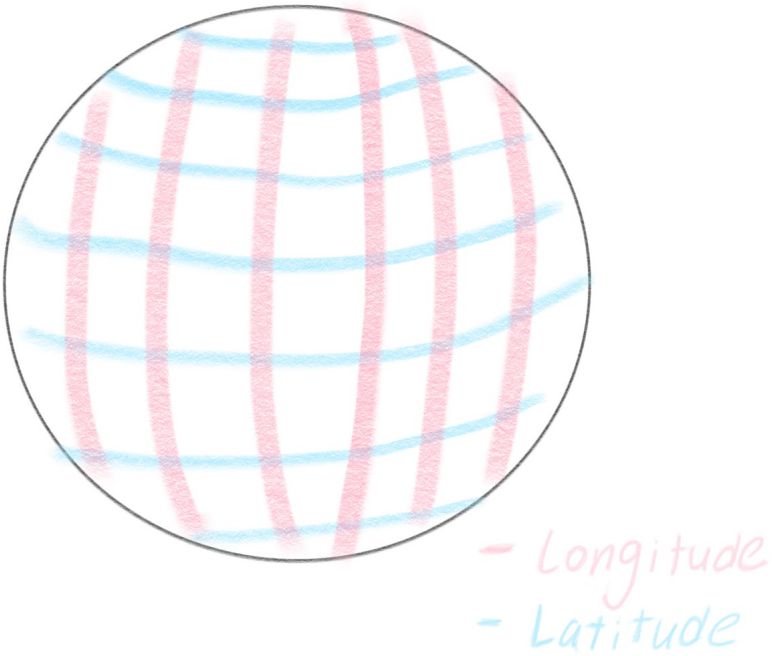
Longitude and Latitude

Latitude are lines that run west to east and can measure how north or south something is. These lines are horizontal.

Longitude are lines that run north to south and measure how east or west something is. These lines are vertical. The Prime Meridian is the central line, which is at 0°. The International Date Line is at 180°.

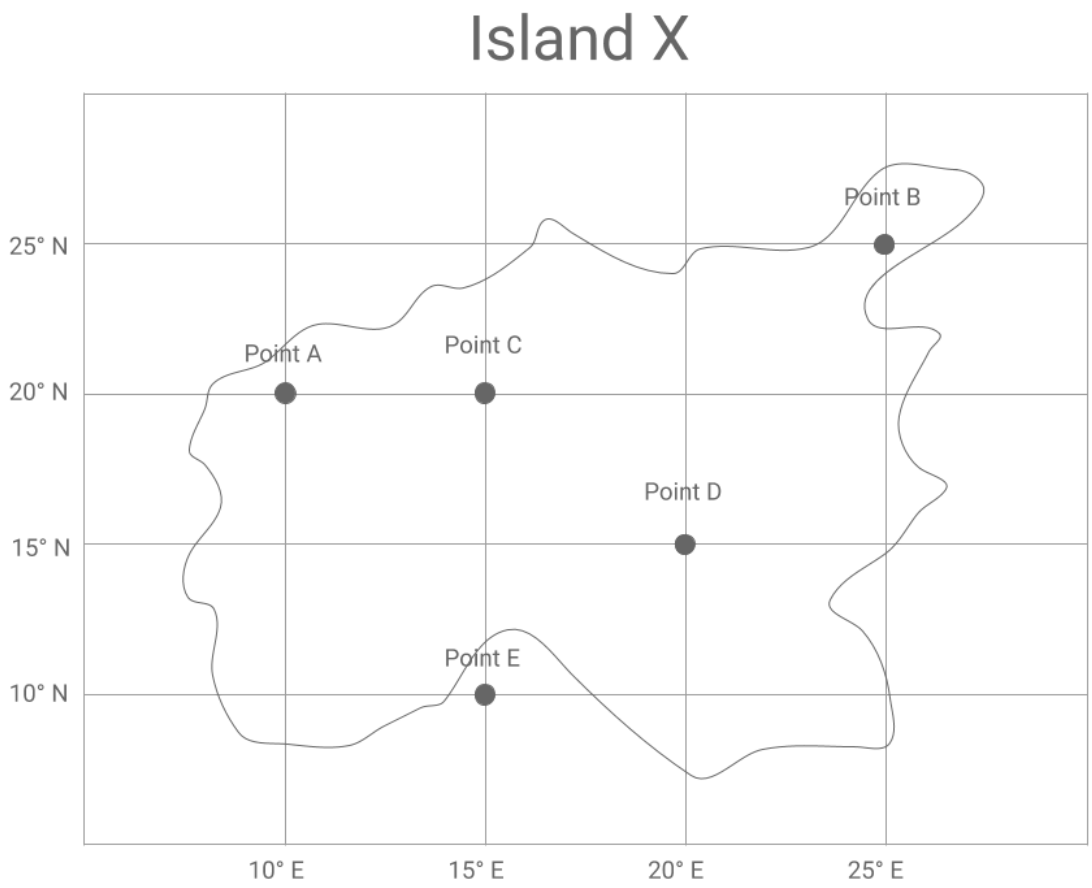


Longitude and latitude are written out as 40°N, 115°E and 60°S, 100°W etc. For full coordinates, they are written out as 75° 2’ 3” N, 36° 27’ 31” E etc. Here, 1° is read as 60 minutes. The number with one apostrophe means minutes, and the number with two apostrophes means seconds.

In a graph, latitude is on the x-axis and longitude is on the y-axis. The maximum latitude is at the poles, 90°N or S.

Examples in a Graph

This is an example of how to graph simple coordinates using latitude and longitude.



This is a graph of Island X. Let's try to graph Point A, the docks. Let's start with the x-axis, the latitude, first. The latitude is 10 degrees east, which is written as 10° E. Now let's do the longitude, which is on the y-axis. It is 20 degrees north, which is written as 20° N. Writing it is similar to writing coordinates on the table. The x-axis comes first, then the y-axis, which is separated by a comma. So, let's take the latitude and longitude and plug it into our 'formula'. The answer to Point A is 10° E, 20° N.

So, according to our steps, these are the answers:

Point B - 25° E, 25° N

Point C - 15° E, 20° N

Point D - 20° E, 15° N

Point E - 15° E, 10