CS Project Data

Travel Hotspots:

1. United Kingdom (36.3 Million visitors)

On 1 May 1707, the Kingdom of Great Britain was formed, the result of Acts of Union being passed by the parliaments of England and Scotland to ratify the 1706 Treaty of Union and so unite the two kingdoms. Now made up of four countries (England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland) that all speak English, the UK has long been a beloved destination among international travelers. Though it slipped slightly between 2017 and 2018, moving from No. 7 to No. 10 on the most-visited-countries list, Visit Britain estimates a rebound this year, with tourism growing another 6 percent.

1.1. London

London is the capital and largest city of England and the United Kingdom. The city stands on the River Thames in the south-east of England, at the head of its 50-mile (80 km) estuary leading to the North Sea. London has been a major settlement for two millennia. More than half of those who arrive to the UK head to London, famous for its seamless blend of history and modern urbanity (not to mention its exemplary, scot-free museums). Londinium was founded by the Romans. The City of London, London's ancient core and financial center − an area of just 1.12 square miles (2.9 km2) and colloquially known as the Square Mile − retains boundaries that closely follow its medieval limits. The adjacent City of Westminster is an Inner London borough and has for centuries been the location of much of the national government.

1.2. Northern Ireland

Located in the northeast of the island of Ireland, Northern Ireland is variously described as a country, province, or region, which is part of the United Kingdom. Northern Ireland was created in 1921, when Ireland was partitioned between Northern Ireland and Southern Ireland by the Government of Ireland Act 1920.The centerpiece of Northern Ireland's geography is Lough Neagh, at 151 square miles (391 km2) the largest freshwater lake both on the island of Ireland and in the British Isles. A second extensive lake system is centered on Lower and Upper Lough Erne in Fermanagh. The largest island of Northern Ireland is Rathlin, off the north Antrim coast. Strang ford Lough is the largest inlet in the British Isles, covering 150 km2 (58 sq mi). The vast majority of Northern Ireland has a temperate maritime climate, rather wetter in the west than the east, although cloud cover is very common across the region. The weather is unpredictable at all times of the year even though the seasons are distinct.

1.3. Scotland

Covering the northern third of the island of Great Britain, mainland Scotland has a 96-mile (154 km) border with England to the southeast and is otherwise surrounded by the Atlantic Ocean to the north and west, the North Sea to the northeast and the Irish Sea to the south. In addition, Scotland includes more than 790 islands; principally within the Northern Isles and the Hebrides archipelagos. The Kingdom of Scotland emerged as an independent sovereign state in the European Early Middle Ages and continued to exist until 1707, at which point it merged with England to form the United Kingdom. The climate of most of Scotland is temperate and oceanic, and tends to be very changeable. As it is warmed by the Gulf Stream from the Atlantic, it has much milder winters (but cooler, wetter summers) than areas on similar latitudes.

1.4. Wales

Wales is the least visited of the countries — just 2 percent of travelers make it here. It is bordered by England to the east, the Irish Sea to the north and west, and the Bristol Channel to the south. Wales has over 1,680 miles (2,700 km) of coastline and is largely mountainous with its higher peaks in the north and central areas, including Snowdon (Yr Wyddfa), its highest summit. The country lies within the north temperate zone and has a changeable, maritime climate.

1.5 Edinburgh

Recognized as the capital of Scotland since at least the 15th century, Edinburgh is the seat of the [Scottish Government](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scottish_Government), the [Scottish Parliament](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scottish_Parliament) and the [supreme courts of Scotland](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Courts_of_Scotland). The city's [Palace of Holyrood house](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holyrood_Palace) is the [official residence](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Official_residence) of the [monarch](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monarchy_of_the_United_Kingdom) in Scotland. The city has long been a center of education, particularly in the fields of medicine, [Scots law](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scots_law), literature, philosophy, the sciences and engineering. It is the second largest financial center in the United Kingdom (after London)and the city's historical and cultural attractions have made it the United Kingdom's second most visited tourist destination attracting 4.9 million visits including 2.4 million from overseas in 2018.  Historic sites in Edinburgh include [Edinburgh Castle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edinburgh_Castle), the Palace of Holyrood house, the churches of [St. Giles](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St_Giles_Cathedral), [Greyfriars](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greyfriars_Kirk) and the [Canongate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canongate_Kirk), and the extensive Georgian New Town built in the 18th/19th centuries. Edinburgh's [Old Town](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_Town,_Edinburgh) and [New Town](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Town,_Edinburgh) together are listed as a [UNESCO](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UNESCO) [World Heritage site](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Heritage_site), which has been managed by [Edinburgh World Heritage](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edinburgh_World_Heritage) since 1999.

1.6 Glasgow

Glasgow is situated on the [River Clyde](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/River_Clyde) in the country's [West Central Lowlands](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scottish_Lowlands). It is the fifth most visited city in the UK. Glasgow was the "Second City of the British Empire" for much of the [Victorian era](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victorian_era) and [Edwardian period](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edwardian_era), having taken the mantle from pre-independence [Dublin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dublin), which was largely recognized the second city during the [Georgian era](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Georgian_era) although [many other cities argue the title was theirs, not Glasgow's](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_city_of_the_United_Kingdom). Despite its northerly latitude, similar to that of [Moscow](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moscow), Glasgow's climate is classified as [oceanic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oceanic_climate)

1.7 Tourist Attractions

Stonehenge, Tower of London, The British Museum, Chester Zoo, Eden Project, Warwick Castle

2. Thailand (38.2 Million Visitors)

Thailand, officially the Kingdom of Thailand and formerly known as Siam, is a country in Southeast Asia. Located at the center of the Indochinese Peninsula, it is composed of 76 provinces, and covers an area of 513,120 square kilometers (198,120 sq mi), and a population of over 66 million people Thailand is the world's 50th-largest country by land area, and the 22nd-most-populous country in the world. The country welcomed nearly 3 million more tourists in 2018 than 2017 and witnessed $6 billion in spending!

2.1 Bangkok

Bangkok is the capital and most populous city of Thailand. It is known in Thai as Krung Thep Maha Nakhon or simply Krung Thep. The city occupies 1,568.7 square kilometers (605.7 sq mi) in the Chao Phraya River delta in central Thailand. Bangkok traces its roots to a small trading post during the Ayutthaya Kingdom in the 15th century, which eventually grew and became the site of two capital cities: Thonburi in 1768 and Rattanakosin in 1782. Bangkok was at the heart of the modernization of Siam, later renamed Thailand, during the late-19th century. Like most of Thailand, Bangkok has a tropical savanna climate and is under the influence of the South Asian monsoon system. It experiences three seasons: hot, rainy, and cool, although temperatures are fairly hot year-round,

2.2 Phuket

Phuket is one of the southern provinces (changwat) of Thailand. It consists of the island of Phuket, the country's largest island, and another 32 smaller islands off its coast. It lies off the west coast of Thailand in the Andaman Sea. Phuket Island is connected by the Sarasin Bridge to Phang Nga Province to the north. The next nearest province is Krabi, to the east across Phang Nga Bay. Phuket Province has an area of 576 km2.Phuket features a tropical monsoon climate. Due to its proximity to the equator, in the year, there is a little variation in temperatures.

2.3 Krabi

Krabi is the main town in the province of Krabi (thesaban mueang) on the west coast of southern Thailand at the mouth of the Krabi River where it empties in Phang Nga Bay. Krabi is 783 km south of Bangkok by road. Facing the Andaman Sea, like Phuket, Krabi has a tropical monsoon climate, and is subject to a ten-month rainy season between March and December, often with sustained heavy rains for days at a time during the monsoons.

2.4 Koh Hong Koh

Hong (Room Island) is a limestone island, completely surrounded by cliff walls so that it looks like a huge hall with one entrance and open to the sky. There are many Hong Islands in the Bay of Phang Nga. Access to these islands is only by a narrow cave channel. Due to the low cave roof, only kayaks can get through at the suitable water level. Entering the sunlit hall from the dark cave will instill an immense feeling of the creative power of nature. When entering this natural wonder in solitude this unique experience will remain in your soul for the rest of your life.

2.5 Chiang Mai

**Chiangmai**, is the largest city in [northern Thailand](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern_Thailand) and the capital of [Chiang Mai Province](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chiang_Mai_Province). It is 700 km (435 mi) north of [Bangkok](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bangkok) near most of the highest mountains in the country (because it is located near the Himalayas). Chiang Mai has a [tropical savanna climate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tropical_savanna_climate) tempered by the low latitude and moderate elevation, with warm to hot weather year-round, though nighttime conditions during the dry season can be cool and much lower than daytime highs.

2.6 Pattaya City

Pattaya City is on the east coast of the [Gulf of Thailand](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gulf_of_Thailand), about 100 kilometers (62 mi) southeast of [Bangkok](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bangkok), within, but not part of, [Bang Lamung District](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bang_Lamung_District) in the province of [Chonburi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chonburi_Province). Pattaya has a [tropical wet and dry climate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tropical_wet_and_dry_climate), which is divided into the following seasons: hot and dry (December to February), hot and humid (March and April), and *hot and rainy* (May to November).

2.7 Tourist Attractions

Railay Beach, Koh Phi Phi, The Grand Palace, Pai, Khao Yai National Park, Historic City of Ayutthaya

3. Germany (38.8 Million Visitors)

Germany's visitor count has been steadily climbing for nine consecutive years. In 2017 and 2018, Germany even ranked 1st in the world on the Nation Brands Index for its popularity. The country is most beloved among other Europeans, particularly the Dutch. Travelers from the United States are the largest market from overseas. Both Europeans and Americans rave about the country's thought-provoking historic attractions, spirited cities, vast forests (they cover one-third of the nation!) and — most importantly — excellent beer.

3.1 Berlin

Berlin is the capital and largest city of Germany by both area and population. Berlin is in northeastern Germany, in an area of low-lying marshy woodlands with a mainly flat topography, part of the vast Northern European Plain which stretches all the way from northern France to western Russia. Berlin has an oceanic climate the eastern part of the city has a slight continental influence, especially in the 0 °C isotherm, one of the changes being the annual rainfall according to the air masses and the greater abundance during a period of the year. This type of climate features moderate summer temperatures but sometimes hot (for being semi continental) and cold winters but not rigorous most of the time.

3.2 Bavaria

Bavaria is a landlocked state of Germany, occupying its southeastern corner. With an area of 70,550.19 square kilometers (27,239.58 sq mi), Bavaria is the largest German state by land area comprising roughly a fifth of the total land area of Germany. The history of Bavaria includes its earliest settlement by Iron Age Celtic tribes, followed by the conquests of the Roman Empire in the 1st century BC, when the territory was incorporated into the provinces of Raetia and Noricum. It became a stem duchy in the 6th century AD following the collapse of the Western Roman Empire. It was later incorporated into the Holy Roman Empire, became an independent kingdom, joined the Prussian-led German Empire in 1871 while retaining its title of kingdom, and finally became a state of the Federal Republic of Germany in 1949.Bavaria has a unique culture, largely because of the state's large Catholic plurality and conservative traditions.

3.3 Ruhr

The Ruhr also referred to as Ruhr area, Ruhr district, Ruhr region, or Ruhr valley, is a polycentric urban area in North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany. With a population density of 2,800/km2 and a population of over 5 million (2017),[3] it is the largest urban area in Germany. It consists of several large cities bordered by the rivers Ruhr to the south, Rhine to the west, and Lippe to the north. In the southwest it borders the Bergisches Land. It is considered part of the larger Rhine-Ruhr metropolitan region of more than 10 million people, which is among the largest in Europe. The Ruhr has an oceanic climate in spite of its inland position, with mildening winds from the Atlantic travelling over the lowlands to moderate temperature extremes, in spite of its relatively northerly latitude that sees significant variety in daylight hours.

3.4 Northern Germany

The five coastal states (Schleswig-Holstein, Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Lower Saxony and the two city-states Hamburg and Bremen) are regularly referred to as Northern Germany. The key terrain feature of Northern Germany is the North German Plain including the marshes along the coastline of the North and Baltic Seas, as well as the geest and heaths inland. Also prominent are the low hills of the Baltic Uplands, the ground moraines, end moraines, sandur, glacial valleys, and bogs.

3.5 Munich

Munich it is the [third-largest city in Germany](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_cities_in_Germany_by_population), after [Berlin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Berlin) and [Hamburg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hamburg), and thus the largest which does not constitute its own state. Munich lies on the elevated plains of [Upper Bavaria](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Upper_Bavaria), about 50 km (31 miles) north of the northern edge of the [Alps](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alps), at an altitude of about 520 m (1,706 ft) . The local rivers are the [Isar](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isar) and the [Würm](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/W%C3%BCrm). Munich is situated in the Northern [Alpine Foreland](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Foothills). the climate is [oceanic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oceanic_climate) independent of the isotherm but with some [humid continental](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humid_continental_climate)  features like warm to hot summers and cold winters, but without permanent snow cover.

3.6 Hamburg

One of Germany's 16 [federal states](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/States_of_Germany), Hamburg is surrounded by [Schleswig-Holstein](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Schleswig-Holstein) to the north and [Lower Saxony](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lower_Saxony) to the south. Hamburg lies on the [River Elbe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/River_Elbe) and two of its [tributaries](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tributaries), the [River Alster](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/River_Alster) and the [River Bille](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bille_(Elbe)). Hamburg is at a sheltered natural harbor on the southern fanning-out of the [Jutland Peninsula](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jutland_Peninsula), between [Continental Europe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Continental_Europe) to the south and [Scandinavia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scandinavia) to the north, with the [North Sea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_Sea) to the west and the [Baltic Sea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baltic_Sea) to the northeast. It is on the [River Elbe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elbe) at its confluence with the [Alster](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alster) and [Bille](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bille_(Elbe)). Hamburg has an [oceanic climate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oceanic_climate), influenced by its proximity to the coast and maritime influences that originate over the [Atlantic Ocean](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atlantic_Ocean).

3.7 Tourist Attractions

Brandenburg Gate, Cologne Cathedral, The Black Forest, Neuschwanstein Castle, The Rhine Valley, King’s Island.

4. Mexico (41.4 Million)

Mexico broke its tourism record in 2018 and took in more than $20.3 billion doing so. Postcard-perfect beaches remain a major draw here, but the country's tourism board has also successfully highlighted its ancient history, cultural institutions, diverse cuisine and natural features beyond the shoreline, including butterfly sanctuaries, canyons and waterfalls.

4.1. Mexico City

Mexico City is one of the most important cultural and financial centers in the world. It is located in the Valley of Mexico (Valle de México), a large valley in the high plateaus in the center of Mexico, at an altitude of 2,240 meters (7,350 ft). The city has 16 subdivisions, formerly known as boroughs. The oldest signs of human occupation in the area of Mexico City are those of the "Peñon woman" and others found in San Bartolo Atepehuacan (Gustavo A. Madero). They were believed to correspond to the lower Xenolithic period (9500–7000 BC). Mexico City is located in the Valley of Mexico, sometimes called the Basin of Mexico. This valley is located in the Trans-Mexican Volcanic Belt in the high plateaus of south-central Mexico. It has a minimum altitude of 2,200 meters (7,200 feet) above sea level and is surrounded by mountains and volcanoes that reach elevations of over 5,000 meters (16,000 feet). Mexico City has a subtropical highland climate, due to its tropical location but high elevation. The lower region of the valley receives less rainfall than the upper regions of the south; the lower boroughs of Iztapalapa, Iztacalco, Venustiano Carranza and the east portion of Gustavo A. Madero are usually drier and warmer than the upper southern boroughs of Tlalpan and Milpa Alta, a mountainous region of pine and oak trees known as the range of Ajusco.

4.2. Cancún

Cancún is a city in southeast Mexico on the northeast coast of the Yucatán Peninsula in the Mexican state of Quintana Roo. It is a significant tourist destination in Mexico and the seat of the municipality of Benito Juárez. The city is on the Caribbean Sea and is one of Mexico's easternmost points. As documented in the earliest colonial sources, Cancún was originally known to its Maya inhabitants as Nizuc (Yucatec Maya) meaning either "promontory" or "point of grass". The name Cancún, Cancum or Cankun first appears on 18th-century maps.[9] The meaning of Cancún is unknown, and it is also unknown whether the name is of Maya origin. If it is of Maya origin, possible translations include "Place/Seat/Throne of the Snake" or "Enchanted Snake". Snake iconography was prevalent at the pre-Columbian site of Nizuc. Cancún has a tropical climate, specifically a tropical wet and dry climate, with little difference between seasons, but pronounced rainy and dry seasons. The city is hot year-round, and moderated by onshore trade winds.

4.3. Chichén Itzá

Chichen Itza was a large pre-Columbian city built by the Maya people of the Terminal Classic period. The archaeological site is located in Tinúm Municipality, Yucatán State, Mexico. The site exhibits a multitude of architectural styles, reminiscent of styles seen in central Mexico and of the Puuc and Chenes styles of the Northern Maya lowlands. The presence of central Mexican styles was once thought to have been representative of direct migration or even conquest from central Mexico, but most contemporary interpretations view the presence of these non-Maya styles more as the result of cultural diffusion.

4.4. Tulum

Tulum is the site of a pre-Columbian Mayan walled city which served as a major port for trade, in the Mexican state of Quintana Roo. The ruins are situated on 12-meter (39 ft) tall cliffs along the east coast of the Yucatán Peninsula on the Caribbean Sea in the state of Quintana Roo, Mexico. Tulum was one of the last cities built and inhabited by the Maya; it was at its height between the 13th and 15th centuries and managed to survive about 70 years after the Spanish began occupying Mexico. Tulum a tropical savanna climate typically with a pronounced dry season.

4.5 Rosarito

 Often mistakenly called **Rosarito Beach** because of the well-known Rosarito Beach Hotel, the town of Rosarito is one part of the municipality named Playas de Rosarito ("Beaches of Rosarito"). Its beaches and dance clubs are a popular destination for young people from the United States during the [Memorial Day](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Memorial_Day) and [Labor Day](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Labor_Day) weekends. Rosarito Beaches has a [semi-arid climate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Semi-arid_climate) with Mediterranean-like precipitation patterns.

4.6 Cuernavaca

Cuernavaca is the capital and largest city of the [state](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mexican_state) of [Morelos](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morelos) in [Mexico](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mexico). The city is located around a 90 min drive south of [Mexico City](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mexico_City) using the [Federal Highway 95D](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mexican_Federal_Highway_95D). The coat-of-arms of the municipality is based on the pre-Columbian pictograph emblem of the city which depicts a tree trunk (*cuahuitl*) with three branches, with foliage, and four roots colored red. There is a cut in the trunk in the form of a mouth, from which emerges a [speech scroll](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Speech_scroll), probably representing the language Nahuatl and by extension the locative suffix "-nāhuac", meaning "near". Cuernavaca has long been a favorite escape for Mexico City and foreign visitors because of its warm, stable climate and abundant vegetation. The city was nicknamed the "City of Eternal Spring" by [Alexander von Humboldt](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexander_von_Humboldt) in the 19th century

4.7 Tourist Attractions

Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve, Great Pyramid of Cholula, Uxmal, Zipolite, El Tajin, Isla Mujeres

5. Turkey (45.7 Million Visitors)

Turkey is a transcontinental country located mainly on the Anatolian Peninsula in Western Asia, with a smaller portion on the Balkan Peninsula in Southeastern Europe. One of the earliest permanently settled regions, present-day Turkey was home to important Neolithic sites such as Göbekli Tepe, the world's oldest known temple founded in the 10th millennium BC, and Çatalhöyük, which has evidence of early agriculture and cattle and sheep domestication. The territory of Turkey is more than 1,600 kilometers (990 miles) long and 800 kilometers (500 miles) wide, with a roughly rectangular shape. The coastal areas of Turkey bordering the Aegean and Mediterranean Seas have a temperate Mediterranean climate, with hot, dry summers and mild to cool, wet winters. The coastal areas bordering the Black Sea have a temperate oceanic climate with warm, wet summers and cool to cold, wet winters.

5.1. Istanbul

Formerly known as Byzantium and Constantinople, Istanbul is the most populous city in Turkey and the country's economic, cultural and historic center. Istanbul is a transcontinental city in Eurasia, straddling the Bosporus strait (which separates Europe and Asia) between the Sea of Marmara and the Black Sea. Founded under the name of Byzantion on the site of an earlier Thracian settlement around 660 BCE, the city grew in size and influence, becoming one of the most important cities in history. After its reestablishment as Constantinople in 330 CE, it served as an imperial capital for almost sixteen centuries, during the Roman/Byzantine (330–1204), Latin (1204–1261), Byzantine (1261–1453) and Ottoman (1453–1922) empires. Istanbul is in north-western Turkey within the Marmara Region on a total area of 5,343 square kilometers (2,063 sq mi). Istanbul has a borderline Mediterranean climate, humid subtropical climate and oceanic climate, due to its location in a transitional climatic zone.

5.2. Adana

Adana is a Cilician city in southern Turkey. The city is situated on the Seyhan river, 35 km (22 mi) inland from the north-eastern coast of the Mediterranean Sea. Adana lies in the heart of Cilicia, a distinct geo-cultural region, at a time, was one of the most important regions of the classical world by being crossroads for religions and civilizations. Adana is located on the 37th parallel north at the northeastern edge of the Mediterranean, where it serves as the gateway to the Cilicia plain. This large stretch of flat, fertile land lies southeast of the Taurus Mountains. Winters in Adana are mild and wet. Frost does occasionally occur at night almost every winter, but snow is a very rare phenomenon. Summers are long, hot, humid and dry.

5.3. Antalya

Located on Anatolia's southwest coast bordered by the Taurus Mountains, Antalya is the largest Turkish city on the Mediterranean coast outside the Aegean region with over one million people in its metropolitan area. The city that is now Antalya was first settled around 200 BC by the Attalid dynasty of Pergamon, which was soon subdued by the Romans. Roman rule saw Antalya thrive, including the construction of several new monuments, such as Hadrian's Gate, and the proliferation of neighboring cities. The area is shielded from the northerly winds by the Taurus Mountains. Antalya has a hot-summer Mediterranean climate with hot and dry summers and mild and rainy winters.

5.4. Burdur

Burdur is a small city with 250.000 inhabitants, 80.000 of whom live in the city center. It is one of the oldest settlements in the world, dating back to 7000 BC. The origin of the name Burdur has several rumors. In Greek mythology, Ulis, escaping from the gods heard Ezostas ("stop here" in Latin) and located here. The translation of the Ezostas (Burada Dur) transforms into Burdur. Another rumor is that the name comes from the Tumulus near the train station, Polydorion. One rumor is that the name is transformed from the word "Limobrama", old name of the region meaning "the land of the lakes". There are at least ten other rumors. Burdur is in the "lakes district" of Turkey and is an important habitat for birds and bird migration routes. Burdur has a hot summer Mediterranean climate with continental influences, with cold, wet and often snowy winters and very hot, long and dry summers.

5.5 Ankara

Ankara is the [capital](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_national_capitals) of [Turkey](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turkey). Located in the [central part](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Central_Anatolia_Region) of [Anatolia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anatolia), the city has a population of 4.5 million in its urban center and over 5.6 million in [Ankara Province](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ankara_Province), making it Turkey's [second-largest city](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_cities_in_Turkey) after Istabnbul. The city is very old with various [Hattian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hattians), [Hittite](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hittites), [Lydian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lydia), [Phrygian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phrygia), [Galatian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Galatians_(people)), [Greek](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hellenistic_civilization), [Persian](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Achaemenid_Empire), [Roman](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ancient_Rome), [Byzantine](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Byzantine_Empire), and [Ottoman](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ottoman_Empire) [archaeological sites](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Archaeological_site).  The historical center of Ankara is a rocky hill rising 150 m (500 ft) over the left bank of the [Ankara River](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ankara_River), a tributary of the [Sakarya River](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sakarya_River). The hill remains crowned by the ruins of [Ankara Castle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ankara_Castle).

5.6 Dalyan

**Dalyan** is a town in  [Muğla Province](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mu%C4%9Fla_Province) located between the well-known district of [Marmaris](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marmaris) and [Fethiye](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fethiye) on the south-west coast of [Turkey](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Turkey). Life in Dalyan revolves around the Dalyan Çayı River which flows past the town. The boats that ply up and down the river, navigating the maze of reeds, are the preferred means of transport to all the local sites. Dalyan achieved international fame in 1987 when developers wanted to build a luxury hotel on the nearby [İztuzu Beach](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C4%B0ztuzu_Beach), a breeding ground for the endangered [loggerhead sea turtle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loggerhead_sea_turtle) species.

5.7 Tourist Attractions

Ephesus, Cappadocia, Topkapi Palace, Pamukkale, Sumela Monastery, Mount Nemrut

6. Poland

Travelers seeking European panache without the crowds of stalwarts like Spain, France, Germany and Italy are [increasingly turning](https://www.thefirstnews.com/article/poland-sees-boom-in-tourist-numbers-822) to Poland, thanks to its illustrious history (including a rich Jewish heritage), collection of medieval castles, untouched nature and delightful cuisine (if you havent tried pierogis, you havent lived life).Oh, and it's Central-Eastern Europes home to the most UNESCO World Heritage sites — 15 cultural and one natural.

The Polish Tourism Agency notes that 85 percent of visitors surveyed during their exit from the country would recommend and return to it.

6.1 Warsaw

Warsaw is the capital and [largest city](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_cities_and_towns_in_Poland) of [Poland](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poland). The metropolis stands on the [Vistula](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vistula) River in east-central Poland. Warsaw is an [alpha- global city](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_city), a major international tourist destination, and a significant cultural, political and [economic hub](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Financial_centre). Its historical [Old Town](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Warsaw_Old_Town) was designated a [UNESCO World Heritage Site](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/UNESCO_World_Heritage_Site).

6.2 Gdańsk

Gdańsk is a city on the [Baltic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baltic_Sea) coast of northern [Poland](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poland). It is the capital and largest city of the [Pomeranian Voivodeship](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pomeranian_Voivodeship) and one of the most prominent cities within the cultural and geographical region of [Kashubia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kashubia). It is Poland's principal [seaport](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Port) and the centre of the country's fourth-largest [metropolitan area](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metropolitan_area). Gdańsk lies at the mouth of the [Motława](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mot%C5%82awa) River, connected to the [Leniwka](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leniwka), a branch in the delta of the nearby [Vistula](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vistula) River, which drains 60 percent of Poland and connects Gdańsk with the Polish capital, [Warsaw](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Warsaw). Together with the nearby port of [Gdynia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gdynia), Gdańsk is also a notable industrial centre.

6.3 Gdynia

Gdynia is a relatively modern city. Its architecture includes the 13th century St. Michael the Archangels Church in [Oksywie](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oksywie), the oldest building in Gdynia, and the 17th century [neo-Gothic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neo-Gothic) [manor house](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manor_house) located on Folwarczna Street in Orłowo. The city also holds many examples of early 20th-century architecture, especially monumentalism and early [functionalism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Functionalism_(architecture)), and [modernism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Modernism). The climate is cool throughout the year and there is a somewhat uniform precipitation throughout the year. Typical of Northern Europe, there is little sunshine during the year.

6.4 Katowice

Katowice is a city in southern [Poland](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poland), the capital city of the [Silesian Region](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Silesian_Voivodeship), and a center of the [Upper Silesia and Dąbrowa Basin Metropolis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Upper_Silesia_and_D%C4%85browa_Basin_Metropolis). It has a temperate, ocean-moderated [humid continental climate](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Humid_continental_climate).

6.5 Malbork

Malbork is a [town](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Town) in northern [Poland](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poland), within the historical region of [Pomerelia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pomerelia). It lies on the Nogat River, the easternmost distributary of the [Vistula River](https://www.britannica.com/place/Vistula-River) delta. The town is noted for its medieval [Malbork Castle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malbork_Castle), built in the 13th Century as the Order's headquarters, which was also the seat of the [early modern](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Early_modern_period) Polish province of [Royal Prussia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Prussia). Malbork is now a transportation centre located on major rail and highway routes. The large Gothic fortress, a major tourist attraction, was named a [UNESCO](https://www.britannica.com/topic/UNESCO) [World Heritage site](https://www.britannica.com/topic/World-Heritage-site) in 1997.

6.6 Lublin

Lublin is the largest Polish city east of the [Vistula](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vistula) River and is about 170 km (106 mi) to the southeast of [Warsaw](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Warsaw) by road. The frescos at the [Holy Trinity Chapel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chapel_of_the_Holy_Trinity,_Lublin_Castle) in [Lublin Castle](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lublin_Castle) are a mixture of Roman Catholic motifs with eastern Byzantine styles, reinforcing how the city connects the west with the east. The premier museum in the city is the [National Museum of Lublin](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Museum,_Lublin), one of the oldest and largest museums of Eastern Poland, as well as the [Majdanek State Museum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Majdanek_State_Museum) with 121,404 visitors in 2011.

6.7 Tourist Attractions

Warsaw Royal Castle, Wawel Cathedral, The Cloth Hall, St. Mary Basilica, Market Square, Morskie Oko