# Flag of EnglandEngland

### Introduction

England comprises most of the central and southern two-thirds of the island of Great Britain, in addition to a number of small islands of which the largest is the Isle of Wight. England is bordered to the north by Scotland and to the west by Wales.

### Topography

* East Anglia – lowest area of England, no hills or mountains
* Fens – former marshes, low-lying agricultural region supported by a system of drainage channels and man-made rivers
* Cumbrian Mountains – the highest mountains in England, containing Scafell Pike (highest mountain of England).
* The Cheviots – some refer to these as an extension of the Southern Uplands in Scotland.
* The Pennines which characterise much of Northern England and are often dubbed "the backbone of England".
* The Peak District – an upland area of the southern Pennines in central and northern England.
* Yorkshire Dales – an upland area of the northern Pennines.
* North York Moors – an area of hills and moorlands beside the North Sea.
* Exmoor – uplands beside the Bristol Channel.
* Dartmoor – an area of uplands in the heart of Devon.
* The Cotswolds – a quintessentially and stereotypical English rural area.
* Chilterns – a collection of low hills.
* South Downs – low hills close to the English Channel which form the white cliffs of the English South Coast.
* Shropshire Hills – uplands near Wales.

### Climate

England has a temperate climate, with plentiful rainfall all year round. The seasons are quite variable in temperature, however temperatures rarely fall below −5 °C (23 °F) or rise above 30 °C (86 °F). The prevailing wind is from the south-west, bringing mild and wet weather to England regularly from the Atlantic Ocean. It is driest in the east and warmest in the south, which is closest to the European mainland. Snowfall can occur in winter and early spring, although it is not very common away from high ground.

### Rivers

The longest river in England is the River Severn which has its source in Wales, enters England at its confluence with the River Vyrnwy and flows into the Bristol Channel. The longest river entirely within England is the River Thames which flows through the English and British capital, London. The Vale of York and The Fens host many of England's larger rivers.

### Coastline

* North Sea – mainly flat and sandy and many dunes, similar to the Netherlands
* Along the English Channel, South Coast – steep, white cliffs at Dover
* Jurassic Coast of Dorset – fossils
* Devon and Cornwall – rocky and steep, cliffs
* Bristol Channel – important shipping and docking area
* North West – similar to the North Sea, but with some cliffs
* Irish Sea – estuaries, bird life

Bordering seas: North Sea, English Channel, Celtic Sea, Bristol Channel, Irish Sea

### Largest lakes and reservoirs

Lake District - Cumbria

Windermere (Lake District), Kielder Reservoir (Northumberland), Ullswater (Lake District)

### Cities

* London, Birmingham, Leeds, Sheffield, Bradford, Manchester, Liverpool, Bristol

# Flag of ScotlandScotland

### Introduction

The geography of Scotland is varied, from rural lowlands to unspoilt uplands, and from large cities to sparsely inhabited islands. Located in Northern Europe, Scotland comprises the northern one third of the island of Great Britain as well as 790 surrounding islands encompassing the major archipelagoes of the Shetland Islands, Orkney Islands and the Inner and Outer Hebrides.

### Topography

* Northwest Highlands, Grampian ranges – highest uplands
* Cuillin (Isle of Skye) – major mountain range not on the mainland
* Ben Nevis (Grampian Mountains) – highest mountain in Scotland and GB.
* Other tallest peaks: Ben Macdui, Braeriach (Cairngorms)
* Southern Uplands – vast, rolling mountain chain, less rugged and more forested (mountain: Merrick)
* Ochil Hills (near Stirling), Campsie Fells (near Glasgow), Lomond Hills (near Fife) – hills

### Coastline

* West – heavily indented, fjordlike sea lochs
* East – firths, long sandy beaches (e.g. Aberdeen)

### Islands

* Northern and western:
  + Northern Isles
    - Shetland
    - Orkney
    - Fair Isle, Stroma
  + Hebrides (Inner, Outer)
    - Isle of Skye (largest of inner Hebrides)
  + Lewis and Harris: (one Island) largest Island in Scotland, third in GB

### Rivers & Lochs

* Rivers
  + River Tay
  + River Spey
  + River Clyde
* Lochs – freshwater bodies
  + Loch Lomond
  + Loch Ness
  + Loch Awe

### Climate

The climate of Scotland is temperate and very changeable, but rarely extreme. Scotland is warmed by the North Atlantic Drift and given the northerly location of the country, experiences much milder conditions than areas on similar latitudes, such as Labrador in Canada—where icebergs are a common feature in winter.

### Cities

* Glasgow
* Edinburgh -> capital
* Aberdeen
* Dundee

# Flag of WalesWales

### Introduction

Wales (Welsh: Cymru) is a country that is part of the United Kingdom and is part of the island of Great Britain and offshore islands. It is bordered by England to its east, the Irish Sea to its north and west, and the Bristol Channel to its south.

Wales has a complex geological history which has left it a largely mountainous country. The coastal plain is narrow in the north and west of the country but wider in the south, where the Vale of Glamorgan has some of the best agricultural land. Exploitation of the South Wales Coalfield during the Industrial Revolution resulted in the development of an urban economy in the South Wales Valleys, and the expansion of the port cities of Newport, Cardiff and Swansea for the export of coal. The smaller North Wales Coalfield was also developed at this time, but elsewhere in the country, the landscape is rural and communities are small, the economy being largely dependent on agriculture and tourism. The climate is influenced by the proximity of the country to the Atlantic Ocean and the prevailing westerly winds; thus it tends to be mild, cloudy, wet and windy.

10 million sheep  
 3 million people

### Cities

* Cardiff -> capital
* Swansea
* Newport
* Merthyr Tydfil
* Wrexham