The United Kingdom is located in northwestern Europe and it comprises an area of 242,900. There's an important thing you need to know about UK at the beginning. Technically, the full name of the country is The United Kingdom of Britain and Northern Ireland, but it's commonly referred to as the United Kingdom. Its population exceeds 63 million, with London, its capital, counting for over 8 million of them. Other big UK cities include Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Glasgow, Portsmouth, Liverpool, Newcastle, Nottingham, Sheffield, Bristol, Belfast, Leicester, etc. The official spoken language is English and their currency is the sterling pound. Its political definition is that of a parliamentary monarchy. The United Kingdom is one of the greatest countries in the world, playing a major and a central role in global politics and economy.