

# United Kingdom

**Continent:** Europe

**Languages Spoken:** English

**Population:** 67,000,000

**Currency:** Pound Sterling (GBP)

**Area:** 242,495

## Main Landmarks:

- {'name': 'Big Ben', 'writeup': 'Iconic clock tower located at the north end of the Palace of Westminster in London.'}
- {'name': 'Stonehenge', 'writeup': 'Prehistoric monument of standing stones in Wiltshire, England, dating back to around 3000 BC.'}
- {'name': 'Tower of London', 'writeup': 'Historic castle on the north bank of the River Thames, known for its role in British history and housing the Crown Jewels.'}
- {'name': 'Edinburgh Castle', 'writeup': 'Historic fortress dominating the skyline of Edinburgh, Scotland, with origins dating back to the 12th century.'}
- {'name': 'Buckingham Palace', 'writeup': 'Official London residence of the British monarch and a symbol of the British monarchy.'}

## Head of State / Government:

King Charles III

## Main Cultural Events:

- {'name': 'Notting Hill Carnival', 'writeup': 'Annual Caribbean festival held in London celebrating Caribbean culture and traditions.'}
- {'name': 'Glastonbury Festival', 'writeup': "One of the world's largest music and performing arts festivals held in Somerset, England."}
- {'name': 'Edinburgh Festival Fringe', 'writeup': 'Largest arts festival in the world, featuring theatre, comedy, dance, and music in Edinburgh.'}
- {'name': 'Trooping the Colour', 'writeup': 'Annual ceremony marking the official birthday of the British sovereign.'}
- {'name': 'Bonfire Night', 'writeup': 'Commemorates the foiling of the Gunpowder Plot of 1605 with fireworks and bonfires across the UK.'}

## Food & Cuisine:

British cuisine includes traditional dishes such as fish and chips, roast dinners, full English breakfast, and afternoon tea. It reflects a mix of historical influences and regional specialties.

## Brief History:

The United Kingdom was formed in 1707 by the union of England and Scotland, later including Ireland and Wales. It was a major global empire during the 19th and early 20th centuries. The UK played key roles in both World Wars and has a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary democracy.

## Important People:

- Winston Churchill - Prime Minister during WWII
- Queen Elizabeth II - Longest-reigning British monarch
- William Shakespeare - Renowned playwright and poet
- Isaac Newton - Influential scientist and mathematician
- Margaret Thatcher - First female Prime Minister

**Current Conflicts:**

The UK faces internal political challenges including debates over Scottish independence and the implications of Brexit. There are no active military conflicts involving the UK on its own soil.

**Youtube Links:**

- United Kingdom Travel Guide - Top Things to Do & See
- History of the United Kingdom Explained
- British Culture and Traditions
- Famous Landmarks of the UK
- UK Food and Cuisine Overview