



THE UNITED KINGDOM KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER



Map and Overview



- The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, also known as the UK, is a country in north-eastern Europe.
- It is made up of the countries of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- The UK also has 14 overseas territories e.g. Bermuda, Gibraltar.
- The capital city of England (and the whole UK) is London, Scotland is Edinburgh, Wales is Cardiff and Northern Ireland is Belfast.

Places in the United Kingdom

Most Populous UK counties (people)

1. Greater London – 8.8 million
2. West Midlands – 2.9 million
3. Greater Manchester – 2.8 million
4. West Yorkshire – 2.3 million
5. Essex – 1.8 million

The UK is current split into 100 counties – 48 in England, 33 in Scotland, 13 in Wales and 6 in Northern Ireland.

Most populated UK cities (people)

1. London – 9.75 million
2. Birmingham – 2.5 million
3. Manchester – 1.9 million
4. Glasgow – 1.1 million
5. Newcastle – 837,500



London

London is the capital and largest city of England and the United Kingdom. London stands on the south-east coast of England on the River Thames. Famous landmarks include Big Ben and Buckingham Palace.



Cardiff

Cardiff is the capital and largest city of Wales, and the 11th-largest city in the UK. It is where Wales' National Assembly is based, and is Wales' most visited city. The Principality Stadium is one of its most famous landmarks.



Edinburgh

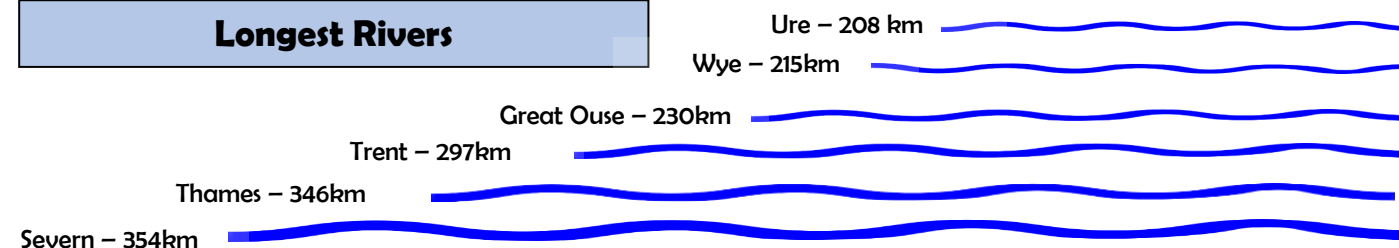
Edinburgh is the capital city of Scotland. The Scottish Government and Parliament is based here. It is often thought to be an extremely beautiful city. Famous landmarks include Edinburgh Zoo and Edinburgh Castle.



Belfast

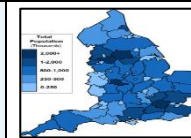
Belfast is the capital and largest city of Northern Ireland. Belfast is a major port it was the place where *The Titanic* was built. Belfast was the scene of violence in 'The Troubles' of the 1980s/ 1990s, however it is now one of the UK's safest cities.

Longest Rivers



Human Geography Features

Population



The United Kingdom is quite a crowded place compared to other countries – there are 259 people per square kilometre. England has the most people.

Ethnic Groups



For centuries, people have migrated to Britain from different parts of the world. This means that there is a mix of different cultures and traditions.

The Monarchy



Britain has a Royal Family, but they do not make most of the decisions for the country (it is a democracy). The current monarch is Queen Elizabeth II, who has been the queen of the country since 1952.

Sports/ Recreation



Several sports were started in the UK, e.g. football, rugby, cricket, netball and tennis. Football is the most-watched sport in the UK. It is the home of the Premier League.

Overseas Territories



Britain has 14 overseas territories, each with their own government. Most remain from the time of the British Empire.

Key Vocabulary

City

Town

Village

Settlement

Farm

Population

House

Monarchy

Physical Geography Features

Natural Resources



About 75% of land in the UK is suitable for farming. Farmers across the country grow crops and rear animals.

National Parks



There are 15 National Parks across England, Scotland and Wales, which have all been created since 1950. National Parks protect areas of beautiful countryside.

Climate and Weather



The UK has a temperate climate – cool, wet winters and warm, wet summers. It is milder than other places at the same latitude, because of warm air arriving at the country through the Gulf Stream.

Loch Ness



Loch Ness is a large, deep freshwater lake in the Scottish Highlands. For years, there was thought to be a monster ('Nessie') living in the lake, but it was a hoax!

Topography



The North and West of the UK are higher ground (including Ben Nevis and Mount Snowdon) whilst the south and east is low lying (including the Fens).

Key Vocabulary

Mountain/ Hill

River

Coast

Forest

National Park

Lake

Terrain

Climate/ Weather

Highest Mountains

