



# Geography – Italy



## Key knowledge

- Italy is a country in southern Europe.
- It borders a number of countries, including France, Switzerland, Austria, Slovenia, the Vatican City and San Marino.
- Italy is surrounded by three seas
- the Tyrrhenian Sea, the Adriatic Sea and the Ionian Sea (which forms part of the Mediterranean)
- The capital city of Italy is Rome.
- Italy covers an area of 301,340 sq.km
- 62 million people live in Italy.
- Italy has a Mediterranean climate.



## Vocabulary

Human Geography	Features created or impacted by humans.
Population	How many people live in a place.
Landmark	An object or feature that is easily seen and recognised.
Culture	The ideas, customs, traditions and social behaviour of a group of people.
Climate	Weather conditions in an area over a period of time.
Continent	A large solid area of land.
Country	A nation with its own government.
City	An inhabited place of greater size, population, or importance than a town or village.
Mountain range	A series of mountains that are close together.
Volcano	An opening in the Earth's crust that allows magma, ash and gases to escape

## Physical Geography - Features that have naturally developed.

- The northern region of Italy is the most mountainous. Its Dolomites region is a part of the Alps, and is popular for alpine skiing.
- The highest peak is Monte Bianco (Mount Blanc), which is 4,807m high.
- The Apennines is another mountain range, which separates east Italy from west Italy.
- The north of the country contains large lakes, including Lakes Garda and Como.
- The longest river in Italy is the Po River, which is about 405 miles long.
- Italy is made up of the Italian mainland as well as a number of islands. The largest of these islands are Sardinia and Sicily.
- There are three active volcanoes – Vesuvius near Naples, Etna on Sicily and Stromboli, on an island near the southern tip of Italy. Etna is the most active volcano in Europe.

