



What should I already know?

- Know that Europe is a continent in the northern hemisphere
- Know the countries and major cities within Europe
- Know the location of Italy within and England within Europe



What about Italy?

- Italy is a country in southern Europe.
- It borders a number of countries including France, Switzerland, Austria, Slovenia, the Vatican City and San Marino.
- It has a large coastline on the Mediterranean Sea
- Italy covers an area of 301,340 sq.km
- 62 million people live in Italy

Physical Geography

- The northern region of Italy is the most mountainous. Its Dolomites region is a part of the Alps and is popular for mountain skiing.
- The highest peaks which 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, for example Lake Garda and Como.
- The longest river in Italy is the Po River, which is about 405 miles long.
- Aside from the mainland, Italy contains two large islands, Sicily and Sardinia as well as many smaller islands.
- 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 Italy.



Comparison with the UK

- Both countries are in Europe the UK is in northern Europe and Italy in southern Europe.
- Due to its more southerly position (closer to the Equator) Italy is warmer than the UK. On average, Rome is 7 degrees Celsius hotter than London.
- Italy is slightly larger than the UK - 301,340sq km compared to 243,610sq km.
- Slightly more people live in the UK - 66 million compared to 60 million.
- London has a much larger population than Rome 8.4 million compared to 2.9 million.
- Italy has higher mountains than the UK. Mount Blanc is 4,807 high. The highest in the UK is Ben Nevis at 1,345m.
- The UK has no active volcanoes, whereas Italy has three (Vesuvius, Etna and Stromboli)