

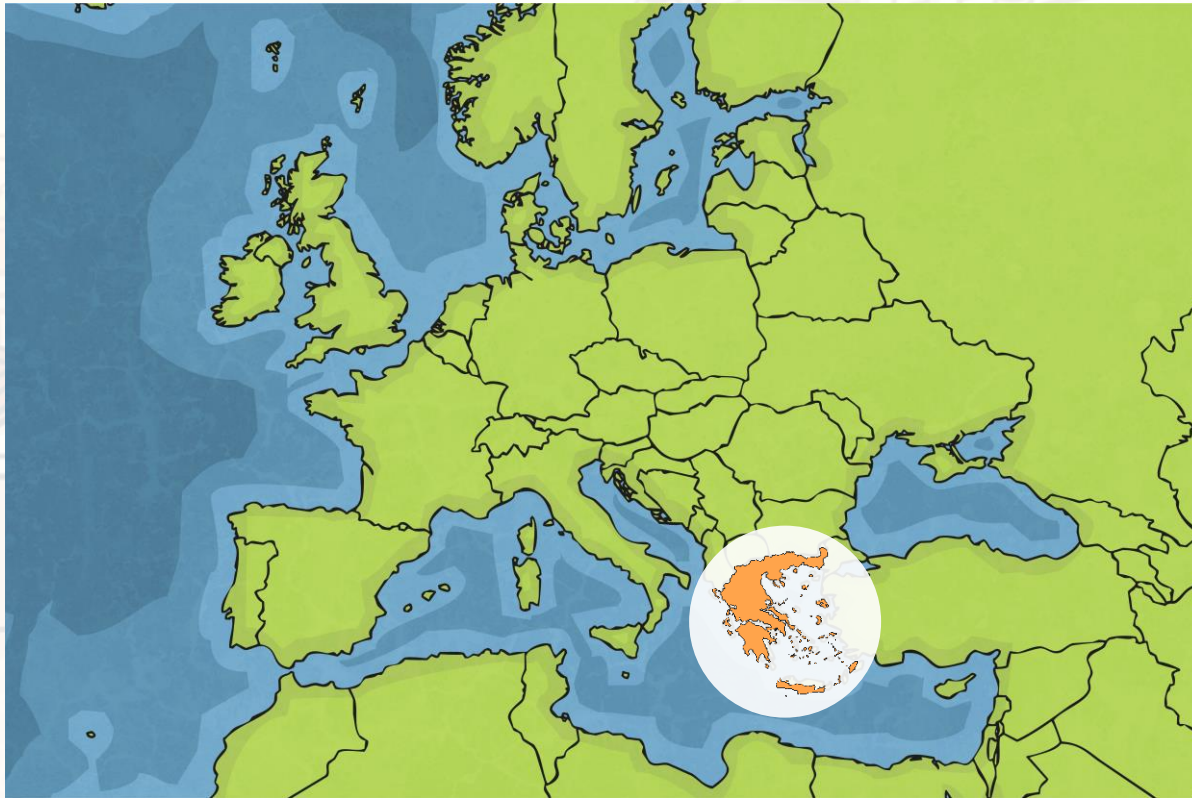
Greece



twinkl

Where in the World Is Greece?

Greece is a country in Europe. It shares borders with Albania, Turkey, Macedonia and Bulgaria.



Greece: The Facts

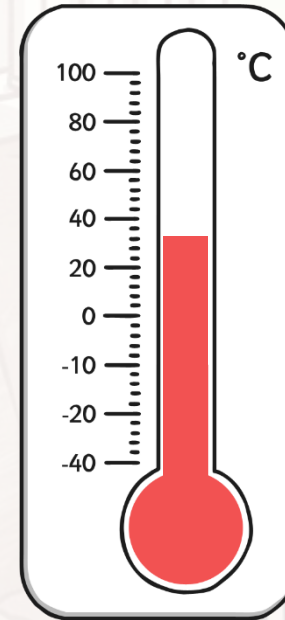
Name:	Greece
Capital city:	Athens
Currency:	Euro (€)
Population:	11 million
Language:	Greek
Average rainfall:	50 – 121cm in the north 38 – 81cm in the south



Flag of Greece
(Hellenic Republic)

Greece: The Facts

Greece is in southern Europe. It has a warmer climate than the UK.



Summer
Temperature

Winter
Temperature

Click to change between summer
and winter temperatures.

Coastline

Greece has 8479 miles of coastline. In fact, no point is more than 85 kilometres from the coast. Use an atlas to find the location of these seas:

Aegean Sea

Mediterranean Sea

Ionian Sea



Hide Answers

Islands

There are over 2000 islands that make up the Greek nation. Around 170 of these islands are populated. If you counted every rocky outcrop, however, the number of islands would total more than 3000. Islands account for around 20% of the country's land area.

Crete is the largest of the Greek islands.
Can you locate it?

Have you been on holiday to Greece?
Did you stay on one of the islands?



Mainland Greece

Greece is one of the most mountainous countries in Europe. In fact, there are no navigable rivers because it is so mountainous.

In Greek mythology, Mount Olympus is said to be the seat of the Gods.

Mount Olympus is the highest mountain in Greece. It measures 9754 feet high (3 kms).

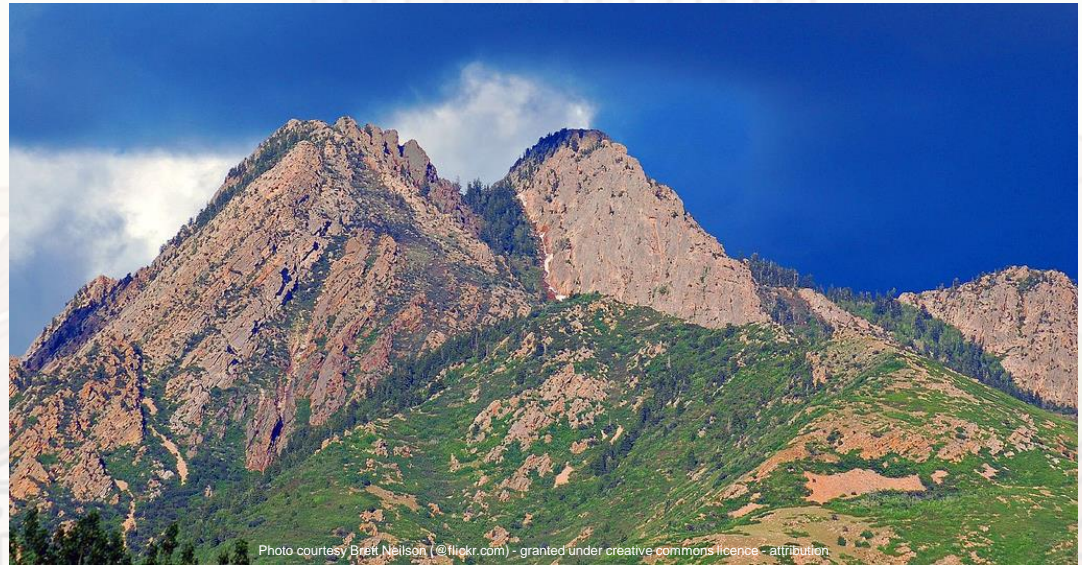


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According to Greek legend, when God created the world, He sifted the earth through a strainer. After giving each country good soil, he threw the stones that were left over his shoulder and created Greece.

Mainland Greece

Greece has a warm, sunny climate and enjoys more than 250 days of sunshine a year. It has a typically Mediterranean climate with hot, dry summers and mild, rainy winters. Most people consider Greece to be a summer holiday destination, although there are also popular ski resorts in the mountainous regions to the north of Athens.

What is appealing about this image?

Why might people choose to go on holiday to Greece?



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Average summer temperature:	33°C	Average winter temperature:	10°C
Average summer rainfall:	6mm	Average winter rainfall:	65mm

Tourism

Because of its warm weather and beautiful scenery, Greece is a popular destination for tourists. It is one of the most visited countries in the world, largely due to its Mediterranean climate and extensive coastline. With 18 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, Greece is rich in culture and history.

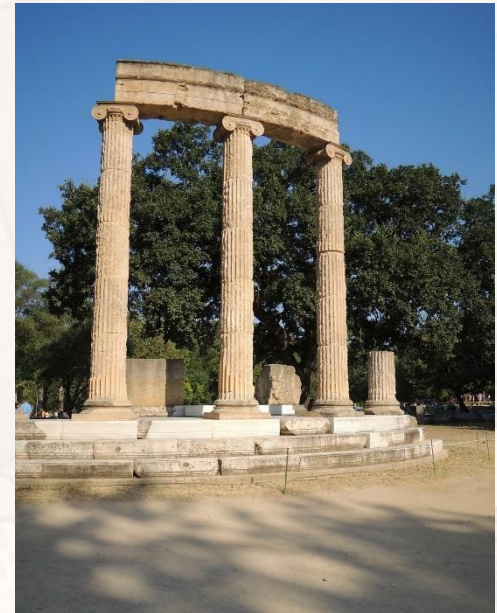


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26.5 million tourists visited Greece in 2015. That's more than the Greek population!

This Ancient Greek site was the birthplace of a sporting event still celebrated today. Do you know what it is?

This is Olympia, the site of the very first Olympic Games held in 776BC.



Greek Food

The most recognisable Greek food is the olive. Greek legend tells how the Greek Gods Athena and Poseidon both wanted to be guardian over the city of Athens. To decide the matter, whoever gave the city the best gift would become guardian. Athena's gift of an olive tree was thought to be more valuable than Poseidon's gift of water.

An olive wreath was presented to the winner at the Ancient Olympic Games.

Did you know that olive trees can live for hundreds of years?



Photo: sinea/Alamy.com, iStock.com, iStock.com, iStock.com, iStock.com, iStock.com

Greek Food

Small cafes, called Tavernas, serve delicious Greek food.



Feta cheese

(Made with sheep and goat milk)



Moussaka

(Minced lamb, aubergine and tomato)



Baklava

(Filo pastry, nuts and honey)



Spinach and Cheese Pie

(Filo pastry filled with spinach and cheese)

Athens

Athens is the birthplace of democracy, the system of electing a government, and is one of the oldest European cities. It has been continuously inhabited for more than 7000 years. Around 40% of the Greek population live here.



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Ancient Greece

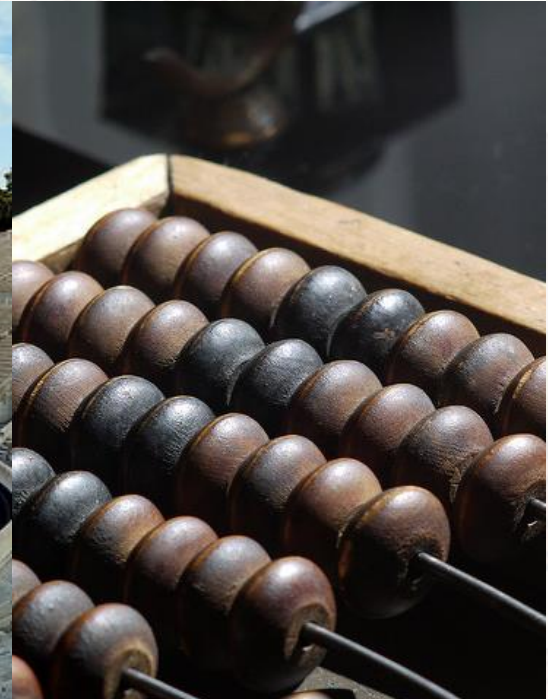
Ancient Greece inspired many things we still enjoy today. Can you guess what they are?



Theatres



Olympic Games



Mathematics

Ancient Greek Wonders



The Colossus of Rhodes, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, was destroyed by an earthquake around 2000 years ago.



The Parthenon is a former temple, dedicated to the Goddess Athena who is said to be the patron of Athens.



The Acropolis is an ancient citadel, located on a rocky outcrop above the city of Athens.

Greek Traditions



Click to watch a clip of traditional Greek Dancing

Greek Dancing

Traditional dances are about expressing emotions and telling stories. The 'Kalamatiano' is a celebratory dance performed by men and women, dancing in a circle.



Greek Homes

Many Greek houses are painted white to reflect the sun. Blue and white also reflect the colours of the Greek flag- white and blue to symbolise the Greek sea and sky.



Greek Orthodox Church

Religion is an important aspect of Greek culture. Around 98% of the population are Christian Orthodox.

Ancient Greece

Traditional Greek dress is multi-layered and varies slightly between regions of Greece. For example, woollen stockings would be worn in the mountains to protect against thorny bushes. Men would wear a '*foustanella*' or skirt, while women would wear colourful layers and a head scarf.



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