

Locality study of Rome/ Italy- Geography

Overview

- Italy is a country a country in southern Europe.
- It borders a number of countries, including France, Switzerland, Austria, Slovenia, the Vatican City and San Marino.
- It also has a large coastline on the Mediterranean Sea.
- Italy covers an area of 301,340 sq.km
- 62 million people live in Italy.
- It is easy to recognise Italy on any map, as it looks like a high-heeled boot kicking a ball. The 'ball' is the island of Sicily.



Key Vocabulary

Italy, Europe, Mediterranean, Rome, Roman, Vatican City, Sicily

Sardinia, Etna, Vesuvius, Mt. Blanc., Lake Garda, Catholic

Euro, Tourism

Physical Geography

- 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, for example Lakes 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, and 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 Europe.



Human Geography

Italy has a long and rich history, and a culture steeped in the arts, family, architecture, music and food. Its natural beauty and warm climate also make it a popular holiday destination for people from across the world.

Population



-The population of Italy is around 60 million people. This makes it the fifth most populous country in Europe. The population density is 207 people per square kilometre. This is the 11th highest population density in Europe.

Settlements



-The most populous cities in Italy are Rome, Milan and Naples. Other large settlements include Turin, Palermo and Verona. Many people visit Rome each year to see its Roman history, including the famous Colosseum.

Economic Activity



-Italy is a part of the European Union and its currency is the Euro. Italy has a strong tourism trade - cities like Venice and Rome are amongst the most-visited in the world, and it also has a number of holiday locations.

Resources/ Trade



-Automobiles and machinery dominate Italian trade. It is also a strong world power in manufacturing. Italian wine grains, and olive oil are exported across the world.