

# Facts About Greece

Greece is a country in the south-east of Europe. Mainland Greece shares its borders with Albania, Turkey, North Macedonia and Bulgaria. It is often referred to as a crossroads between Europe, Asia and Africa.

Greece enjoys 8,479 miles of coastline with a vast number of islands dotted throughout the Aegean, Ionian and Mediterranean Seas. The largest island is Crete, which is a popular holiday destination for tourists.

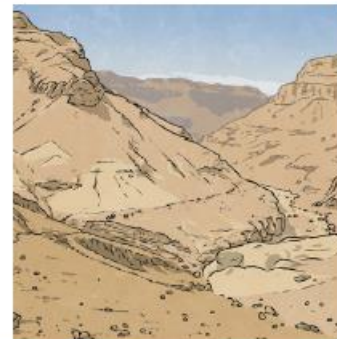


<b>Average summer temperature:</b>	<b>33°C</b>	<b>Average winter temperature:</b>	<b>10°C</b>
<b>Average summer rainfall:</b>	<b>6mm</b>	<b>Average winter rainfall:</b>	<b>65mm</b>



Greece has a warm, sunny climate and enjoys more than 250 days of sunshine a year on average. 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.

Eighty percent of Greece consists of mountains or hills, making it one of the most mountainous areas in Europe. Mount Olympus is the highest peak in Greece, measuring 9754 feet high. 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.



## Facts About Greece



The capital city of Greece is Athens. Athens is one of the oldest cities in Europe, having been inhabited continuously for more than 7000 years. Around 40% of the entire population of Greece live here.

Greece is known as the 'cradle of Western civilisation', introducing democracy, maths, science and

language ideas that still influence us today. The Parthenon is situated on the Acropolis of Athens, an ancient citadel on a rocky outcrop above the city of Athens, and is one of the most recognised symbols of classical Greece. Athens is said to be named after the Greek Goddess Athena, who presented a gift of an olive tree to the citizens. The Parthenon is a temple dedicated to Athena.



# Questions

1. On which continent can you find Greece?  
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2. How many countries border Greece? Write them in alphabetical order.  
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3. Which seas flow around Greece and its many islands?  
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4. Which is the largest Greek island?  
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5. Give two reasons why Greece is popular with tourists.  
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6. Explain what is meant by a 'Mediterranean climate'.  
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7. What is the capital city of Greece?  
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8. Why is Greece known as the 'cradle of Western civilisation'?  
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9. Use a dictionary to define the term 'democracy'.  
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10. Why is the Parthenon dedicated to Athena?  
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# Answers

1. On which continent can you find Greece?  
**You can find Greece in the continent of Europe.**
2. How many countries border Greece? Write then in alphabetical order.  
**There 4 countries that border Greece: Albania, Bulgaria, North Macedonia and Turkey.**
3. Which seas flow around Greece and its many islands?  
**The Aegean Sea, Ionian Sea and Mediterranean Sea flow around Greece.**
4. Which is the largest Greek island?  
**Crete is the largest Greek island.**
5. Give two reasons why Greece is popular with tourists.  
**Answers may vary. The main ideas could include ideas such as a warm, sunny climate, 250 days of sunshine a year, a mild winter, skiing or a long coastline.**
6. Explain what is meant by a Mediterranean climate.  
**A Mediterranean climate has hot, dry summers and mild, rainy winters.**
7. What is the capital city of Greece?  
**Athens is the capital city of Greece.**
8. Why is Greece known as the 'cradle of Western civilisation'?  
**Greece is known as the 'cradle of Western civilisation' because it is the place where ideas about democracy, maths, science and language began and these ideas still influence us today.**
9. Use a dictionary to define the term 'democracy'.  
**Answers should refer to the following key phrase: 'the system of the people electing a government'.**
10. Why is the Parthenon dedicated to Athena?  
**The Parthenon is dedicated to Athena because she presented a gift of an olive tree to the citizens so they named the city after her and dedicated the Parthenon to her.**