

The UK

The **UK** is made up of the **island** of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. It is surrounded by the English Channel, the North Sea, the Irish Sea and the North Atlantic Ocean.

Countries in the United Kingdom

England: England is the largest **country** in the **UK**. London is the **capital city**. Many parts of England are flat but there is also lots of rural **countryside** with rolling hills and valleys in the north.

Scotland: Scotland is a **country** in the north of the **UK**. Edinburgh is the **capital city**. Scotland has large mountains including Ben Nevis, which is the largest in the **UK**.

Northern Ireland: Northern Ireland is the smallest **country** in the **UK**. Belfast is the **capital city**. One of the most famous **landmarks** is Giant's Causeway (natural rock steps mostly hexagonal in shape).

Wales: Wales is a mountainous **country** in the west of the **UK**. Cardiff is the **capital city**. Wales has its own language (Welsh). Not everyone there speaks it though.

Key Vocabulary

Country	An area of land with its own government, rules and borders.
UK	The United Kingdom. It is made up of four countries: England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
Island	An area of land surrounded by water.
Capital city	A town or city where the government sits.
Landmark	A feature of a landscape or place that is easily recognised. It could be something that is a human feature or a physical feature. Big Ben is a landmark in London.
Population	How many people live in one particular place.

The United Kingdom

