



CYPRUS

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Overview

- Cyprus is a small island nation located in the Mediterranean Sea.
- Cyprus is sometimes considered a European nation (it is in the EU), but is also often thought of as an Asian 'Middle Eastern' country.
- With an area of 9,251km² and a population of 1.2 million, Cyprus is the third-largest and third most populous nation in the Mediterranean Sea.
- It is located south of Turkey; west of Syria; northwest of Lebanon, Israel and the Gaza Strip; north of Egypt; and southeast of Greece.
- Cyprus is a nation divided, with the territory of Northern Cyprus (populated by Turkish Cypriots) recognized as a separate state only by Turkey.



Human Geography

The island of Cyprus has been occupied by numerous powerful civilisations throughout its long history. It became an independent nation in 1959, but different parties have attempted to divide the island since.

Population		-With around 1.2 million people, Cyprus is the 158 th most populous country in the world. It has around 131 people per square kilometre, which is relatively sparsely populated for an island. Most people live around the cities of Nicosia and Limassol.
Settlements		-The capital and most populous city of Cyprus is Nicosia, with around 390,000 people. The city straddles the border between northern and southern Cyprus. The next most populous cities are Limassol, with around 200,000 people and Larnaca with around 75,000 people.
Economic Activity		-The Euro is the national currency of Cyprus. Cyprus' economy is described as a high-income economy as classified by the World Bank. A financial crisis in 2012-13 severely damaged the economy. It is still recovering now.
Resources/Trade		-The top exports of Cyprus are passenger and cargo ships, petroleum, medicines and cheese. The main export partners are India, Greece, Libya, the United Kingdom and Italy. Petroleum is also the largest import in the country, arriving mainly from Turkey and Russia.

Key Vocabulary

- Cyprus
- Europe
- Beirut
- Mediterranean
- Asia
- Kyrenia
- Buffer Zone
- Troodos Mountains
- Middle East
- Nicosia
- Limassol
- Northern Cyprus

Physical Geography

- Cyprus is the third largest island in the Mediterranean Sea, after Sicily and Sardinia.
- Cyprus measures 240km long and 100 km wide at its longest points. It is 75km from the coast of Turkey, 105km from Syria and 108km from Lebanon.
- There are two main mountain ranges on the island – the Troodos Mountains in the southern portion of the country, and the smaller Kyrenia Range in the north. The highest point is Mount Olympus in the Troodos Mountains: its summit is 1,952 above sea level.
- Cyprus has a subtropical Mediterranean climate, with very mild winters and hot summers.
- Rain occurs mainly in the winter. Summers are normally dry. Snow only ever occurs on the peaks of the Troodos Mountains. The average annual temperature on the coasts is around 24°C.
- Due to the low rainfall, Cyprus suffers from a chronic shortage of water. Dams are the main source of water.



Comparison with the UK

- The UK is in Europe. Cyprus is sometimes considered a part of Europe, sometimes a part of Asia. Both are in the northern hemisphere.
- The UK has a temperate climate, whilst Cyprus' climate is a Mediterranean Climate. Cyprus is far warmer and drier than the UK.
- Cyprus is much smaller than the UK – 9,251sq km compared to 243,610sq km.
- Far fewer people live in Cyprus than the UK: 1.2 million people compared to 66 million in the UK. London, the capital of the UK, has more people than the whole of Cyprus
- The UK and Cyprus are both island countries. However, Cyprus is by the Mediterranean Sea, whilst the UK is by the North Sea.



Cyprus Timeline

10000 BCE Earliest confirmed human activity on Cyprus.	1400 BCE The Ancient Greeks begin to trade and settle on the island.	1200 CE Kushmeshusha becomes the first king of Cyprus.	570 BCE Cyprus was conquered by the Egyptians under Amasis II.	58 BCE Cyprus becomes a Roman province.	45 CE Christianity introduced to Cyprus.	395 CE Cyprus a part of the Byzantine Empire.	649 CE Arabs invade and occupy Cyprus.	1570 CE Ottoman Turks invade and occupy Cyprus.	1821 CE Cypriots side with Greece in revolt against Turks.	2004 CE Cyprus joins the European Union.
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