

# Geography Knowledge Organiser

Spain (comparison study)

Yrs5/6

Main Foci: Place Knowledge / Human and Physical Geography

## What should I already know?

- The village I go to school in is called Collingtree and the surrounding areas are: Collingtree Park, Hunsbury, Grange Park and our neighbouring village is called Milton Malsor. We are in Northamptonshire.
- Northamptonshire is in England, which is a country. England, which is in the United Kingdom, is in the continent of Europe.
- There are seven continents (including Europe) and five oceans.
- The characteristics of countries that can be found in Europe, such as Germany and France.



## Important Facts

Spain is a country in south-western Europe.  
 -It is bordered by France, Andorra and Portugal.  
 -It also has a large coastline on the Mediterranean Sea.  
 -Spain covers an area of 505,990 sq. km. It is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest European country.  
 -About 46.6 million people live in Spain. The capital city is Madrid.  
 -Spain also includes several islands, including the Balearics and Canary Islands.  
 -Spain is broken up into 17 autonomous regions. Each region has its own government. Some people in certain regions would like to be independent from Spain.

## Physical Features

- Spain is the largest country on the Iberian Peninsula, a part of south-western Europe.
- Spain is relatively flat compared to many countries, but has the mountainous Pyrenees on the border with France.
- Spain also includes the Balearic Islands in the Mediterranean and Canary Islands in the Atlantic.
- Spain has a warm and sunny climate. The temperature is warmer in the centre, with some areas of semi-desert inland.
- Rainfall is heaviest in the areas of Spain that border Portugal.
- The longest river entirely in Spain is the Ebro, which is 930km long.
- Spain is very close to Africa! At the strait of Gibraltar, Spain and Morocco are separated by only 9 miles!

## Human Geography

<b>Population</b>		The population of Spain is around 46.6 million people. This makes it the seventh most populous country in Europe. The population density is 92 people per square kilometre. This is the 25 <sup>th</sup> highest population density in Europe.
<b>Settlements</b>		The most populous and capital city of Spain is Madrid. It has a population of over 5.2 million people. Other large settlements include Barcelona, Valencia, Seville and Bilbao. Many settlements are found around the coast, however Spain also has large inland cities.
<b>Economic Activity</b>		Spain is a part of the European Union and its currency is the Euro. Spain has suffered some financial problems in recent years as a part of the worldwide recession, however the country is now recovering from this.
<b>Resources/ Trade</b>		Spain are large worldwide exporters of clothes and footwear, food and drink, metals and chemicals. Spanish is spoken in many countries around the world, and so Spain have strong trade links with many other countries.

## Comparison with the UK

- Both countries are in Europe: the UK is in northern Europe & Spain in southern Europe.
- Due to its more southerly position (closer to the Equator) Spain is warmer than the UK. On average, Athens is 7°C hotter than London.
- Spain is larger than the UK – 505,990 sq. km compared to 243,610sq km.
- However, more people live in the UK – 66 million compared to 46.6 million in Spain.
- London has a larger population than Athens: 8.4 million compared to 5.2 million.
- Spain has higher mountains than the UK. Mt. Teide is 3,718m high. The highest in the UK is Ben Nevis, at 1,345m.
- The UK has much more rainfall than Spain, on average.



## Key Vocabulary

Spain  
 Europe  
 Mediterranean  
 Iberian Peninsula  
 Madrid  
 Canary Islands  
 Balearic  
 Bay of Biscay  
 Pyrenees  
 Euro  
 Tourism  
 Coastline  
 Tourism  
 Region  
 Barcelona  
 Atlantic Ocean  
 Autonomous regions

## Geographical Skills

- Use aerial photographs to compare places in the UK and Spain in Europe. What is the same? What is different?
- Describe locations in the UK and Spain in Europe using the eight **compass points**.
- Identify and describe how the **physical** features affect the human activity within a location.
- Study physical maps of Spain and label them to show the different regions. Use this knowledge to explain the land-use patterns.
- Explain how the **human geography** of Coastal regions in Spain has changed over the years.
- Study **tourism** and **migration** patterns of Spain. Research which parts of Spain generate the most **tourism** and explain the reasons why.
- Create charts, graphs and diagrams to compare similarities and differences with the two locations and reasons for these.

