

The United Kingdom



The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK) is made up of four countries. England and Wales united in 1284. Scotland became part of the union in 1707 and Northern Ireland in 1921. England, Wales and Scotland are known as Great Britain. Northern Ireland is part of the island of Ireland. The flag of the United Kingdom is called the Union Flag and is red, white and blue.

Quick summary



Location



The UK is part of the British Isles – an archipelago in the North Atlantic Ocean made up of Great Britain and over six thousand smaller islands.



Physical features

England - There are many physical features including rivers, lakes, caves and valleys. The Pennines is a range of hills that runs roughly north to south and The Lake District is in the north west of England. **Capital city – London.**

Scotland has lowlands, uplands, highlands and islands. The highest peak is Ben Nevis and there are 283 munros. Scotland has a number of large lochs, the most well-known being Loch Ness. The highlands and islands are very remote and have very few inhabitants. **Capital city – Edinburgh.**

Wales is known for its mountains and valleys. The highest mountain is Snowdon. It has three national parks: Snowdonia, the Pembrokeshire Coast and the Brecon Beacons. **Capital city – Cardiff.**

Northern Ireland has a number of notable physical features: Lough (lake) Neagh is the largest freshwater lake in the UK. The Giant's Causeway – a walkway of hexagonal columns formed as the result of ancient volcanic activity. **Capital city – Belfast.**



Diversity

1960s to the 1990s **Northern Ireland** suffered during the Troubles – a conflict.

England is home to people born in the country, migrated from others, travel for tourism or are refugees.



Human features

England has many cities. Scotland has only seven cities. Wales has only six cities. Northern Ireland has only five cities. They all have a range of roads and transport networks linking them together.



Vocabulary

archipelago: a group of islands
united: joined together
remote: far away and hard to get to
migrated: moved from one place to another
tourism: providing services for people on holiday
rural: relating to the countryside
causeway: a pathway
munros: mountains over 3000 feet (914 metres)
refugees: people forced to leave their country because it is not safe to stay there



Location



Physical features



Human features



Diversity



Physical processes



Human processes



Techniques

