

Geography Knowledge Organiser

Year 6

Spring (i)

What are the main physical and human features of (Ancient) Greece?

Substantive Knowledge – How Ancient and Modern Greeks live in Greece

Greece has the longest coastline in Europe, beaches, volcanoes, rugged mountains, forests and lakes. It is made up of a mainland and thousands of islands.

Greece is a key European tourist destination. The islands are the main characteristic of Greece and an integral part of the country's culture across the ages. The country includes 6,000 islands and islets scattered in the Greek Seas, of which only 227 islands are inhabited.



The Volcano of Santorini is the most famous volcano in Greece. It has the largest caldera (crater) in the world with a height of 300m and a diameter of 11km. The special thing about this caldera is that it is actually sunken and filled with sea water.

The Volcano of Santorini is an active volcano and last erupted in 1928 – there are 8 recorded eruptions since 46 C.E.

Did you know?

There is evidence of Ancient Greek life still today.

Greek beaches and resorts attract tourists



The Volcano of Santorini is filled with seawater but that will not stop it from erupting in the future

Rugged Mountains

Greece is a very mountainous country, with the vast majority of the country containing hilly or rugged terrain. In fact, there are a number of major mountain ranges in Greece, including the Pindus Mountains, the Rhodope Mountains, the White Mountains and the Dikti Mountains.

The Pindus Mountain Range runs north to south along most of mainland Greece. Streams and rivers flowing down from the mountains also provided much needed fresh water. There are many villages in the Pindus, one of them being Samarina which has one of the highest elevations in Greece. The area had a traditional farming economy in which sheep were raised by shepherds. In the last decades, a number of villages, such as Metsovo, developed into tourist resorts with ski facilities.



Samarina



Metsovo



Ski lift in Metsovo

Human Features



The Parthenon



The Acropolis



Modern Greek Architecture

Greece has some very poor communities. They rely on tourism which was greatly affected by the pandemic.

Portable Knowledge – What we need to remember

The key physical features of Greece are: longest coastline in Europe, beaches, volcanoes, rugged mountains, the Imbros Gorge, forests and lakes. It is made up of a mainland and thousands of islands.

The Key human features of Greece are: The Acropolis and Parthenon

Core Vocabulary

island– A piece of land surrounded by water

rugged– Difficult to navigate or live in

caldera – A volcanic crater