

Greece

Fact Cards



Facts About Greece

Greek Food

- Feta: a cheese that is made from sheep and goat's milk.
- Baklava: a rich, sweet treat made from layers of filo pastry with chopped nuts and held together with honey.
- Moussaka: a hearty dish of minced lamb, aubergine and tomato.



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Facts About Greece

Physical Features of Greece

- Greece has around 2000 islands located within the Aegean, Mediterranean and Ionian Seas. 170 islands are inhabited with Crete being the largest.
- Greece is one of the most mountainous country in Europe with 80% of the country being mountainous. The highest peak, rising to 9754 feet high, is Mount Olympus.



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Facts About Greece

Greek Flag

- The official name for Greece is the **Hellenic Republic**, or **Hellas**.
- The white cross on the Greek flag represents the Greek Orthodox Church. The white and blue represent the sea and waves that surround the country on all sides except the north.



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Facts About Greece

Where Is Greece?

- Greece is a country in south-eastern Europe. It is the most southerly country in the European Union.
- Greece shares borders with Macedonia, Bulgaria, Turkey and Albania.



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Facts About Greece

Capital City: Athens

- Athens is one of the oldest cities in Europe. It has been continuously inhabited for over 7000 years.
- Athens is the birthplace of democracy, a system whereby people vote to elect their government.
- Around 40% of the Greek population live in Athens.



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Facts About Greece

Where Is Greece?

- The Ancient Greeks were one of the first civilisations to write an alphabet. Their writing spread around Europe, influencing how we write and speak today. In fact, the Greek word 'gramma' means 'writing' in English.



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Facts About Greece

Greek Climate

- Greece has a warm, sunny climate and enjoys more than 250 days of sunshine a year. It has a typically Mediterranean climate with hot, dry summers and mild, rainy winters. Most people consider Greece to be a summer holiday destination, although there are also popular ski resorts in the mountainous regions to the north of Athens.



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Facts About Greece

Greek Culture

- Greece is home to 18 UNESCO World Heritage sites, making it rich in culture and history.
- The Acropolis in Athens is one of the world's most recognisable buildings. It is located on a rocky outcrop above the city of Athens and is home to many ancient monuments, including the Parthenon.



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Facts About Greece

Greek Culture

- The Parthenon is a former temple, dedicated to the goddess Athena who is said to be the patron of Athens.
- Greek legend tells how Poseidon and Athena both wanted to be patron of the city. They offered a gift to the city. Poseidon gave water; Athena gave an olive tree. The citizens chose Athena's gift, so they named Athens in her honour.



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Facts About Greece

The Olympic Games

- The Olympic Games has its origins in Ancient Greece. The first games were held in 776BC as a tribute to the king of the gods, Zeus, at Olympia.
- The first modern Olympic Games took place in Athens in 1896 and now takes place every four years in different countries across the world.



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