

Greece's Geography

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33. Continent _____

Greece's Geography

is a country located in Southern _____ Continent on the southern end of the Balkan Peninsula. _____ First _____ country used is surrounded on the north by _____ Country the _____ Noun of _____ Country and _____ Country; to the west by the _____ Sea _____ Noun; to the south by the _____ Sea _____ Noun and to the east by the _____ Sea _____ Noun and _____ Country. The country ranges approximately in latitude from 35°00'N to 42°00'N and in longitude from 19°00'E to 28°30'E. As a result, it has considerable climatic variation, as discussed below. The country consists of a large mainland; the Peloponnese, a peninsula connected to the southern tip of the mainland by the Isthmus of Corinth; and around 3,000 islands, including Crete, Rhodes, Corfu, the Dodecanese and the Cyclades. _____ First country used has 15,000 kilometres (9,300 miles) of coastline.[citation needed]

80% of _____ First country used is mountainous, and the country is one of the most mountainous countries of _____ Continent. The Pindus, a chain of mountains lies across the center of the country in a northwest-to-southeast direction, with a maximum elevation of 2637 m. Extensions of the same mountain range stretch across the Peloponnese and underwater across the Aegean, forming many of the Aegean Islands including Crete, and joining with the Taurus Mountains of southern _____ Country. Central and Western _____ First country used contain high and steep peaks dissected by many canyons and other karstic landscapes, including the Meteora and the

Vikos Gorges - the latter being one of the largest of the world and the second deepest after the Grand Canyon in

the Country plunging vertically for more than 1,100 metres. Mount Olympus is the highest point of

First country used and the fourth highest in relative topographical prominence in Continent needed],

rising to 2,919 m above sea level. The Rhodope Mountains form the border between First country used and

Country; that area is covered with vast and thick forests. Plains also are found in eastern Thessaly, in

central Macedonia and in Thrace. Western First country used contains lakes and wetlands.

Mainland First country used forms the southernmost part of the Balkan peninsula, in the north including

parts of the historical regions of Country and Thrace, further to the south narrowing into a "Greek

peninsula"; in its own right, including historical Epirus, Thessaly, Achaea, Boeotia and Attica, and concluding in

the separate peninsula of Peloponnese, comprising the historical territories Sparta, Corinth and Argos, all

surrounding the peninsula's heartland of Arcadia.

The major mountain range of First country used is Olympus, separating Thessaly from Country. Its

highest peak rises to 2,919 m above sea level, making it the second highest of the entire Balkan peninsula after

peak Musala in the Rila Mountain.

Crete,

with a population of 650,000 in year 2005, is one of the 13 regions into which _____ First country used _____ is divided.

It forms the largest island in _____ First country used _____ and the second largest (after _____ Country _____) in the eastern _____ Continent _____. The island has an elongated shape: it spans 260 km (160 mi) from east to west, is 60 km (37 mi) at its widest point, and narrows to as little as 12 km (7.5 mi) (close to Ierapetra). Crete covers an area of 8,336 km² (3,219 sq mi), with a coastline of 1,046 km (650 mi); to the north, it broaches the Sea of Crete (Greek: Ιανικό Πέλαγος); to the south, the Libyan Sea (Greek: Λιβυκό Πέλαγος); in the west, the Myrtoan Sea, and toward the east the Karpathion Sea. It lies approximately 160 km (99 mi) south of the Greek mainland.

Crete is extremely mountainous, and its character is defined by a high mountain range crossing from west to east, formed by three different groups of mountains. These are:

the White Mountains or Lefka Ori (2,452 m (8,045 ft));

the Idi Range (Psiloritis (35°11'N 24°49'E; / 35.18°N 24.82°E; / 35.18; 24.82) 2,456 m (8,

ft));

the Dikti Mountains (2,148 m (7,047 ft));

Kedros (1,777 m (5,830 ft));

Thripti (1,489 m (4,885 ft))

These mountains gifted Crete with fertile plateaux, such as Lasithi, Omalos and Nidha; caves, such as Diktaion and Idaion; and gorges, such as the famous gorge of Samaria. The protected area of the Samaria Gorge is the home of kri-kri, while Cretan mountains and gorges are refuges for the endangered vulture Lammergeier (*Gypaetus barbatus*).

There are a number of rivers on Crete, including the Ieropotamos River on the southern part of the island.

Like most of the Greek islands, Euboea was originally known under other names in ancient times, such as Macris and Doliche from its shape, Ellopia and Abantis from the tribes inhabiting it.

Euboea was believed to have originally formed part of the mainland, and to have been separated from it by an earthquake. This is fairly probable, because it lies in the neighbourhood of a fault line, and both Thucydides and Strabo write that the northern part of the island had been shaken at different periods. In the neighbourhood of Chalcis, both to the north and the south, the bays are so confined as to make plausible the story of Agamemnon's fleet having been detained there by contrary winds. At Chalcis itself, where the strait is narrowest at only 40 m, it is called the Euripus Strait. The extraordinary changes of tide which take place in this passage have been a subject of note since classical times. At one moment the current runs like a river in one direction, and shortly afterwards with equal velocity in the other. A bridge was first constructed here in the twenty-first year of the Peloponnesian War (410 BC). The name Euripus developed during the Middle Ages into Evripo and Egripo, and in this latter form transferred to the whole island. Later the Venetians, when they occupied the district, altered it to Negroponte, referring to the bridge which connected it with the mainland.

The main mountains include Dirphys (1,745 m), Pyxaria (1,341 m) in the northeast and Ochi (1,394). The neighboring

gulfs are the Pagasetic Gulf in the north, Maliakos Gulf, North Euboean Gulf in the west, the Euboic Sea and the Petalion Gulf. At the 2001 census the island had a population of 198,130, and a total land area of 3,684.848 km².

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