

## The United Kingdom, Great Britain or British Isles?

The United Kingdom (UK) is made up of: Northern Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales.

Great Britain (GB) is made up of: Scotland, England and Wales.

The British Isles are made up of: Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales.

Queen Elizabeth II is the Monarch of the United Kingdom

## Union Flag

Officially known as the Union Flag, the flag of the United Kingdom is popularly known as the Union Jack.



The flag combines the symbols of England's patron saint St George, Scotland's patron saint, St Andrew, and Ireland's patron saint, St Patrick. Wales is not shown because when the first version was created in 1606, Wales was part of England.

## United Kingdom

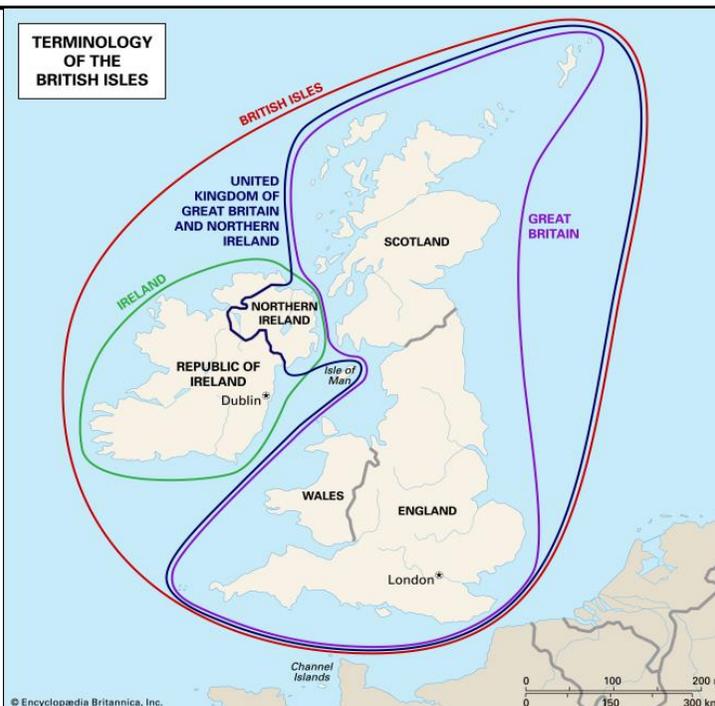
The UK is in the continent of Europe.

London is the capital city of the UK and also the capital city of England too. It is south east of Bolton.

Edinburgh is the capital city of Scotland.

Belfast is the capital city of Northern Ireland.

Cardiff is the capital city of Wales.



Queen Elizabeth II is the Monarch of the United Kingdom.

## Key Vocab

<b>Monarch</b>	A person who reigns over a kingdom or empire
<b>Island</b>	A piece of land surrounded by water.
<b>Capital city</b>	The city is where the government sits.
<b>Glacier</b>	A large area of thick ice that remains frozen from one year to the next.
<b>Erosion</b>	Water, wind, and other natural forces cause rocks and earth to wear away. These forces also move bits of rock and earth to new places. This movement changes the shape of the land.
<b>Valley</b>	A long depression, or ditch, in Earth's surface.
<b>Tarn</b>	A mountain pool that forms in a hollow scooped out by a glacier.
<b>National Park</b>	A large area of land which is protected by the government because of its natural beauty, plants, or animals.
<b>World Heritage Site</b>	Places in the world which are very important from the cultural or natural point of view.

## The Lake District National Park

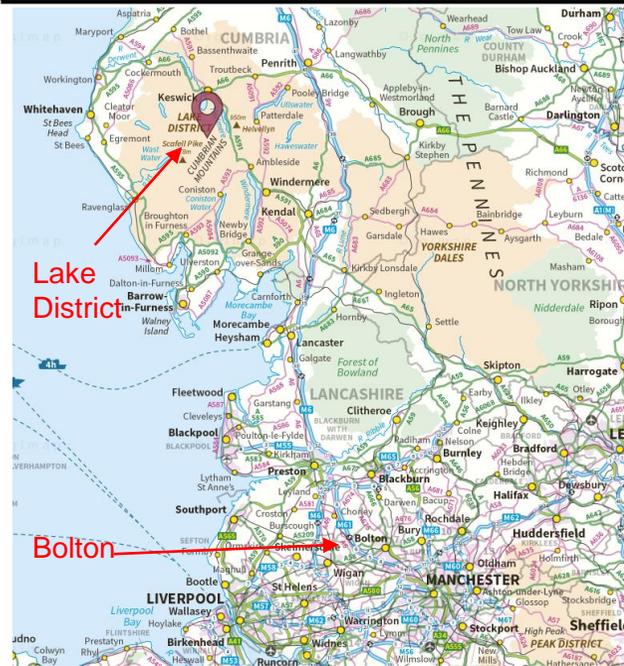
The Lake District is a **National Park** and **World Heritage Site** in North West England. It is home to the **highest mountain** in England - Scafell Pike, and the **deepest lake** - Wastwater. It is popular with both day visitors and holidaymakers because of its beautiful mountains and lakes.

The landscapes of the Lake District have been created over millions and millions of years. Rocks such as **sandstone, limestone and granite** gradually formed in layers. Next, tectonic plates created volcanoes and also pushed the rock up to create high mountains.

Two million years ago, icy **glaciers** covered the mountains and as the glaciers slowly crept down the mountains, they picked up pieces of rock, which **eroded** the mountains and created **valleys**. When the ice melted, these valleys filled up with the melted water and created deep lakes. Small crevices made by the ice at the tops of mountains filled with water to create **tarns**.

The Lake District is home to lots of plants and animals and also people, who live in towns such as Keswick and Windermere.

**Tourism** is an important industry here, with over 12 million visitors every year who come to walk, cycle, run, boat or just to look at the amazing scenery.



## Climate change and other Challenges

Our planet is warming up, leading to hotter and drier summers, more extreme weather and warmer winters. The Lake District has recently faced some extreme weather.

Further impacts include:

- damage to woodland during stormy weather, affecting woodland habitats;
- certain species of plants may not survive due to the changing weather.



Footpath erosion



Red squirrel

## Impact of tourism in the Lake District

Tourism has positive and negative aspects for National Parks, including the Lake District.

### Good points

- Tourists spend money which supports local shops and businesses.
- The improved transport services for the tourists also benefit the locals.
- Some of the money made from tourism can go back into conserving the National Park.
- Jobs are created for local people.

### Bad points

- Increased litter and pollution can occur.
- Traffic congestion is common at holiday time.
- Footpath erosion is caused by high numbers of tourists
- Work within the tourist industry is seasonal.



Blea tarn



Buttermere

## Other Challenges

Those who live in the Lake District National Park, and call it their permanent home, face challenges too. During the busier summer months, parking can become an issue for many local people. As the Lake District National Park is such a beautiful place, people want to buy holiday homes here. However, this pushes the house prices up in the area, making it very difficult for local people to own their own property.