

EUROPE

Alexander the Great was one of History's most famous rulers. Do you know that he never lost a battle! He was born in July 356 B.C. Alexander the Great ruled from Greece to Egypt and into Pakistan. He was known as a relentless ruler and commander by all who knew him. Alexander overthrew the Persian King Darius III and became the ruler of the First Persian Empire.



Europe is the sixth largest continent in size and the third largest in population. It is bordered by the Mediterranean Sea to the south, Asia to the east, and the Atlantic Ocean to the West. Europe is a wealthy continent and is the center of the West and Western Democracy.

Europe has been the home to some of the Earth's greatest civilizations from Ancient Greece to the Roman Empire. It is also the home to the birth of democracy. Europe has been the central point of two of the biggest wars in modern history: World War I and World War II. Recently Europe has united under the common union called the European Union. This union allows independent European countries to have a single currency and to combine their economic and military power.

Population: 738,199,000

Area: 3,930,000 square miles

Ranking: It is the sixth largest and third most populous continent

Major cities:

- Moscow, Russia
- London, United Kingdom
- Berlin, Germany
- Madrid, Spain
- Rome, Italy
- Paris, France

Bordering Bodies of Water: Atlantic Ocean, Mediterranean Sea, Bay of Biscay, North Sea, Baltic Sea, Black Sea

Major Rivers and Lakes: Danube River, Elbe River, Loire River, Po River, Rhine River, Volga River, Ladoga Lake, Onega Lake, Lake Geneva, Lake Como

Major Geographical Features: Alps, Ural Mountains, Pyrenees, Carpathian Mountains, Apennines, Massif Central plateau, North European Plain, the islands of Great Britain and Ireland, Iberian Peninsula

Fun Facts about Europe:

Europe is filled with 50 countries. Russia, located on over 6.3 million square miles of land, is the largest country by land mass in Europe (and in the world) but it extends across northern Asia as well as northern Europe. If you counted overseas regions, the largest European country would be France, comprising over 247 thousand square miles.

Europe is home to the smallest country in the world, the Holy See or the Vatican. It is the smallest country both in size and population.

The tallest mountain in Europe is Mount Elbrus in Russia.

Europe is home to the birthplace of democracy and Western culture in the ancient civilizations of Ancient Greece and Ancient Rome.

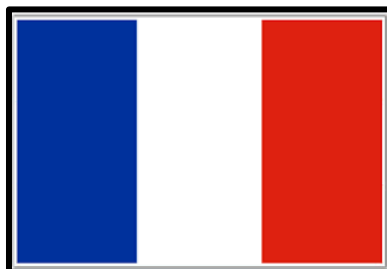
Most of Europe now uses the same currency called the Euro.

The area of Russia that is west of the Ural Mountains is usually considered part of Europe. The area to the east of the Urals is considered part of Asia.

The Industrial Revolution began in Europe in Great Britain.



Flag of Russia



Flag of France



Flag of The Vatican