

## Map of Greece

Greece's position next to the sea (there are over 1400 islands) meant Ancient Greeks were a seafaring people. Trade between the islands led to the creation of 'city-states'. Greece is a warm country, but winds from the Mediterranean, and rains from the north, kept temperatures livable and created fertile farming conditions.



## Greece

### Knowledge Organiser

#### UK compared to Greece

- Both countries are in Europe. The UK is in Northern Europe and Greece is in southern Europe.
- As it is closer to the equator, Greece is warmer than the UK.
- Greece is smaller than the UK.
- 67 million people live in the UK compared to 10 million in Greece.
- Greece has higher mountains than the UK. Mount Olympus in Greece is 2,917 m high compared to Ben Nevis in the UK at 1,345 m.
- Greece is made up of many more islands than the UK.

#### Greek Gods

The ancient Greeks believed in many different gods and goddesses. Each one represented a certain aspect of humanity and each was responsible for certain parts of life too. Festivals were held to celebrate the gods and goddesses. Animal sacrifice was an important part of ancient Greek worship. It is believed that the 12 most powerful gods lived on Mount Olympus. The ancient Greek gods and goddesses were included in many of the myths that the ancient Greeks told one another. Zeus was the most powerful of all the gods. He was god of the sky and the king of Mount Olympus.



#### What was Ancient Greece famous for?

Ancient Greece is important historically because many things in culture today, especially in modern Europe, have been influenced by the ideas of the ancient Greek civilisation. The sculptures, architecture, philosophy, arts, politics and the scientific and mathematical ideas of ancient Greece are just some of the things that have had a significant impact on culture today. These things can be referred to as 'legacies' of ancient Greece.

#### Latitude and Longitude

Latitude and longitude are a system of lines used to describe the location of any place on Earth. Lines of latitude run in an east-west direction across Earth. Lines of longitude run in a north-south direction. Although these are only imaginary lines, they appear on maps and globes as if they actually existed.

#### 776 BC

The first Olympic games are held.

#### 508 BC

Male citizens of Athens are given the vote to change.

#### 500 BC

The 'classical' period begins.

#### 472 BC

Greek theatres become popular in Athens.

#### 460 BC

Hippocrates (known as the father of modern medicine) is born in Kos.

#### 432 BC

The Parthenon is finished in Athens.

#### 359 BC

King Philip II of Macedonia takes control of Greece.

#### 338 BC

Alexander the great takes over the rule of Greece.

#### 146 BC

Greece falls under the rule of the Roman Empire.

# Key Vocabulary

<b>Amphitheatre</b>	An open circular building with a central space surrounded by tiers of seats.
<b>Democracy</b>	A system of government where citizens can vote for representations.
<b>Empire</b>	A group of states or countries ruled over by a single monarch.
<b>Government</b>	The group of people with the authority to govern a country or state
<b>Hoplite</b>	A heavily armed foot soldier of ancient Greece.
<b>Marathon</b>	A long-lasting or difficult task or activity.
<b>Mt. Olympus</b>	A mountain in northern Greece.
<b>Olympics</b>	A sports competition held once every four years.
<b>Philosophy</b>	The study of knowledge, reality and existence.

## Greeks gave us the Olympic Games

The Olympic Games began over 2,700 years ago in Olympia, Greece. Every four years, around 50,000 people came from all over the land to watch and take part. The ancient games were also a religious festival, held in honour of Zeus. Winners were given



a wreath of leaves and a hero's welcome back home.

## Architecture

The Greeks have influenced architecture greatly. There are many striking buildings still existing in Greece and evidence of Greek architecture can be seen around the world today.

The most common example of this is a Greek column.



## Athens vs. Sparta

The Peloponnesian War was fought between 431 and 404 BC. It was a struggle for power between the ancient Greek city-states of Athens and Sparta. The war is named for the Peloponnesus, the peninsula on which Sparta is located. At the time of the Peloponnesian War, Greece was divided into many city-states. These were cities that ruled themselves. Athens and Sparta were the two most powerful.



### Stone Age

15000 BC to 3,000BC

### Ancient Egypt

3100 BC to 30BC

### Ancient Greece

776BC to 146BC

### Romans

AD 43 to AD 410

### Anglo Saxons

AD 410 to AD 1066

### Vikings

AD 793 to AD 1066

### Victorians

AD 1837 to AD 1901

### World Wars

AD 1914 to 1918  
1939 to 1945