

Sicily is an island off the coast of Italy.

## Population

The population of Sicily is 5.1 million.

## Area

Sicily covers an area of 25,711 km<sup>2</sup>.

## Language

The native language spoken is Sicilian which is a type of Italian. Italian is Sicily's official language.

## Religion

The main religion in Sicily is Roman Catholicism.

## Natural resources

The main natural resources of Sicily are sulfur, salt, natural gas and petroleum.

## Exports

Sicily exports fruits and vegetables, sulfur, wine, salt, oil and fish.

## Land Mark

Sicily has many famous castles, temples and cathedrals. The Valle dei Templi (Valley of the Temples) has many surviving ancient Greek temples, including the Temple of Concordia.



## Rivers

The three largest rivers in Sicily are the Salso (144km), The Simeto (113km) and the Belice (107km).

## Relief

Sicily is mostly hilly with many mountain ranges. The highest point is Mount Etna (3,329m) which is the largest active volcano in Europe!



## Climate

Sicily has a Mediterranean climate with mild wet winters and dry hot summers.

### Temperature

Average Temperatures are 15°C in January and 30°C in July.

### Rainfall

Sicily gets 61.5 cm of rain in one year. There is very little rain in summer.

### Snow

Snow is rare apart from the summit of Mount Etna, which is usually snow-capped from October to May.

## Biome

Sicily has a Mediterranean biome. This means that most of the plants are small bushes and shrubs that can survive the hot, dry summers.

## Beaches

Sicily is an island and has many beautiful beaches including Mondello Beach and Calamosche.



## Natural Hazards

Sicily has earthquakes. Some are very powerful and can cause quite a lot of damage!

Volcanoes – Mount Etna is the highest volcano in Europe. It is one of the most active volcanoes in the world.