

Prior Learning

We have learnt about our locality and the U.K. and we know we are part of a continent called Europe. We have begun to understand geographical similarities and differences of a non-European country and we can use maps, atlases and globes.

France is located across the English Channel. It is in the continent called Europe. It is the largest country in the European Union—it's about 1,700 miles long. Can you compare this to England? How long is our country?

France shares a border with 8 countries: Andorra, Belgium, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Monaco, Spain and Switzerland. France's capital city is Paris. Some of the top tourist attractions include the Eiffel Tower, Louvre museum, Montmartre and the Palace of Versailles.

The main rivers in France are called Rhone, Seine, Loire, Garonne, Dordogne and Rhine. Where do you think they start? Many large towns are based near to the rivers. Why might this be?

Tourism in France, like anywhere, has both negative and positive effects. It can bring money to an area, create jobs and can promote a place—allowing it to raise its profile. On the other hand, tourism can cause environmental problems and can undermine local traditions and cultural heritage.

An interesting city in southern France is Carcassonne. It is located in L'Occitane region. It is renowned for its well-preserved medieval fortress, which is an UNESCO World Heritage site.



Enquiry questions

How might you get to France?

How many regions does France have?

What currency do they use?

France is filled with many wonderful and unique towns, such as Carcassonne. Can you find out why it has castles?



The capital city is Paris. The population of Paris is 2.2 million. Paris has many popular tourist attractions such as the Eiffel Tower.



Vocabulary Dozen

Population	The total number of persons inhabiting a country, city, or any district or area.
Region	A part, or division, of the earth's surface.
Architecture	The job of designing buildings, open areas or communities.
Landscape	A section or expanse of rural scenery.
Rural	In the countryside.
Urban	In cities or towns.
Delta	A nearly flat plain between two branches of the mouth of a river.
Location	Where something is.
Continent	One of the earth's seven major areas of land. The continents are Africa, Antarctica, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America, and South America.
Physical geography	Geography concerned with the earth's surface e.g. climates, soils and vegetation.
Tourism	When people visit a place, especially for pleasure.
Culture	The things which humans in a particular area or time do, make and achieve.

Did you know?

The colours of the flag were used to represent a good relation between the King and the city of Paris. The colour white represents the royalty; blue for Saint Martin; red for Saint Denis, who is the patron saint of Paris.