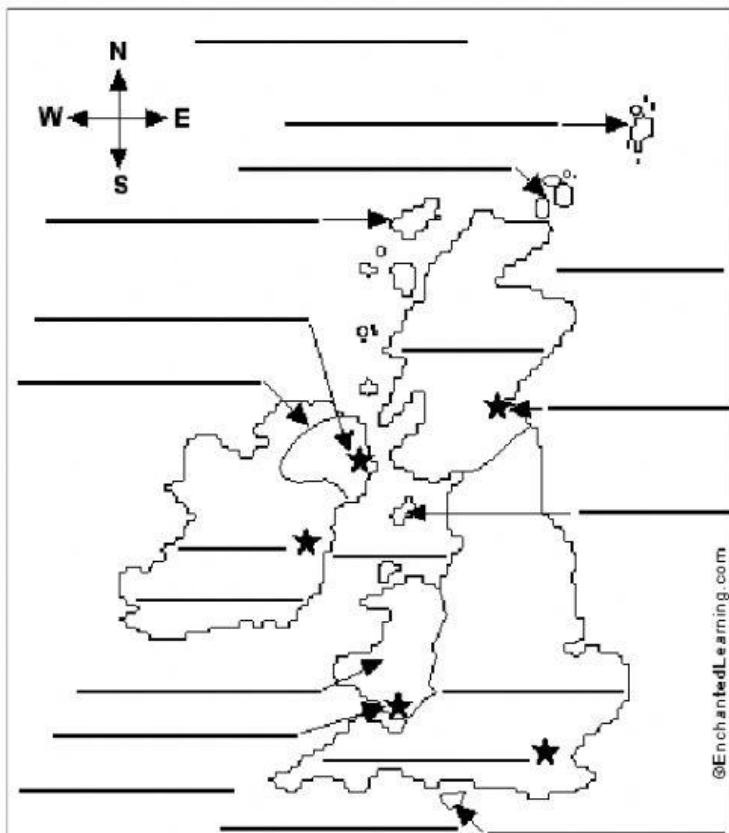


## The British Isles



**Atlantic Ocean** - the body of water in which the British Isles are located

**Belfast** - the capital of Northern Ireland

**Cardiff** - the capital of Wales

**Celtic Sea** - the sea south of Ireland

**Dublin** - the capital of Ireland

**England** - the largest area in the United Kingdom; it is attached to Scotland and Wales

**Edinburgh** - the capital of Scotland

**English Channel** - the body of water off southern England which separates it from France

**Hebrides** - islands off the northwest coast of Scotland

**Ireland** - (the Republic of Ireland) - a country west of England across the Irish Sea (not part of the United Kingdom)

**Irish Sea** - the body of water that separates England and Ireland

**Isle of Man** - an island in the Irish Sea

**Isle of Wight** - an island off the southern coast of England

**London** - the capital of England (and the capital of the United Kingdom)

**North Sea** - the body of water northeast of the British Isles separating it from northwestern Europe

**Northern Ireland** - a part of the United Kingdom bordering the Republic of Ireland on the northeast

**Orkney Islands** - islands off the northeast coast of Scotland

**Scotland** - a part of the United Kingdom bordering England on the north

**Shetland Islands** - islands far off the northeast coast of Scotland

**Wales** - a part of the United Kingdom bordering England on the southwest

## What is the British Isles?

The **British Isles** is a geographical term which includes two large islands, **Great Britain** and **Ireland**, and **5,000 small islands**, most notably the [Isle of Man](#) which has its own parliament and laws.

*"A group of islands in W Europe, consisting of Great Britain, Ireland, the Isle of Man, Orkney, the Shetland Islands, the Channel Islands belonging to Great Britain, and the islands adjacent to these"*  
Collins Dictionary 2014

## What is the largest British Isles island?

The largest island in the British Isles is Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland).

### The British Isles are occupied by two nations:

#### 1. United Kingdom - a union of:

- [England](#)
- [Scotland](#)
- [Wales](#)
- [Northern Ireland](#)
- 

#### 2. Republic of Ireland

The Irish Sea separates Britain and Ireland.

### The British Isles consists of the following islands:

- **Great Britain** (England, Scotland and Wales)
- **Ireland** (the Republic of Ireland)  
A country west of England across the Irish Sea (not part of the United Kingdom)  
[Northern Ireland](#) (part of the United Kingdom)
- **The Orkney and Shetland Islands**  
Islands off the northeast coast of Scotland
- **The Isle of Man**  
An island in the Irish Sea
- **Hebrides** (including the Inner Hebrides, Outer Hebrides and Small Isles) All are islands off the northwest coast of Scotland
- **The Isle of Wight**  
An island off the southern coast of England
- **Isles of Scilly**  
An island off the southwest coast of England
- **Lundy Island**  
An island off the southwest coast of England
- **The Channel Islands**  
A group of small islands in the English Channel, off the coast of Normandy, France. The principal islands of the group include **Jersey**, **Guernsey**, **Alderney** and **Sark**.
- Plus many other offshore islands

