

The UK – Basic facts

The United Kingdom is _____ north-west of mainland Europe, on the islands of Great _____ and the northern part of Ireland. It consists of 4 parts: England (capital: _____), Scotland (capital: Edinburgh), _____ (capital: Cardiff) and the Northern Ireland (capital: Belfast). The head of the state is _____ Charles III.



05

Oxford

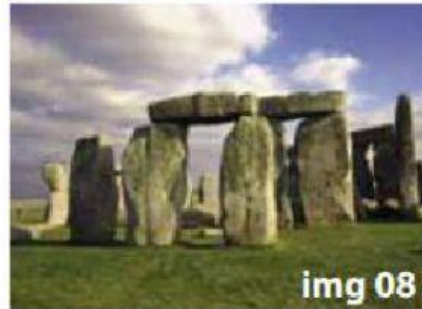


England _____

many other famous places, such as Liverpool, where the Beatles started; Manchester, home to the Manchester _____ football team; Oxford and Cambridge where one of the oldest world _____ were established; or a mysterious stone formation _____ near Salisbury.

06

Cambridge



img 08

Scotland was an independent state until 1707 and in 1999 the Scottish Parliament reopened. It is quite mountainous and Britain's highest _____, Ben Nevis (1,345) is there. There are also _____, the best known is probably Loch Ness with its monster. The _____ city is not Edinburgh, but Glasgow, which has around 1.9 million inhabitants. Bagpipes is a traditional Scottish musical _____.



In Wales, the official _____ are Welsh and English. Cardiff is the _____ city, and rugby is a popular sport. Northern _____ remained part of the United Kingdom, when Ireland gained independence. It also has its own parliament now.

The _____ of Britain is mostly hilly and green. In Scotland there are Highlands. The longest _____ are the Severn and the Thames.

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In London, the UK capital, you will find Westminster, which has the _____ of Parliament; Buckingham _____, where the king lives, Hyde _____, one of the largest parks in London; London _____ - the biggest ferris wheel in Europe; Madame Tussaud's _____ Figures museum; National Gallery, British Museum and many more. The Tower _____ next the the Tower of London opens twice a day to let the large ships go along the Thames.

Famous people from the UK include for example William _____, a playwright and poet from the 16-17 century; Isaac _____, who developed the theory of gravity; the Beatles, who are one of the most popular pop _____ of all time; Monty Python, a very influential comedy group. There are famous fictional _____, like Sherlock _____, a detective, James _____, a spy, and Harry _____, a boy wizard. Queen _____ II, who died in September 2022, ruled the monarchy for 70 years.



British people _____ playing and watching football, cricket or rugby. Polo is associated with rich people, while going for a pint of beer or a game of darts to the local _____ is popular with all classes.

Have you been to the United Kingdom? What do you remember from your trip? Would you like to visit or live there? Why/Why not?