



# Year Three: The Mediterranean Knowledge Organiser



## The Big Idea

The Mediterranean region is characterised by a range of breathtaking landscapes: rugged mountains and volcanoes; forests and grasslands; coastal wetlands, rocky shores, golden beaches and a myriad of islands. Coastlines around the Mediterranean extend for in excess of 46,000 kilometres, with 220 million tourists visiting the region yearly. The Mediterranean has a long and rich culture and history, influenced by the great, ancient civilisations of Egypt, Greece and Rome, who sailed across the sea to trade with other peoples. Italy, with its passionate people and stunning vistas, is a microcosm of all the Mediterranean has to offer!

## The Mediterranean and Italy



Italy

Mediterranean countries are those that surround the Mediterranean Sea or located within the Mediterranean Basin. Italy is one of these countries.

## Human and Physical Features

Human features are things made by humans, like buildings or bridges.



Physical features, like rivers, would be here even if there were no people around.

## Volcanoes



A volcano is an opening in the earth's crust through which lava, volcanic ash, and gases escape. Volcanic eruptions are partly driven by pressure from dissolved gas.

## Volcanic Eruptions

Volcanic eruptions have negative effects such as:

- They can kill people and damage property.
- Economic activity can suffer as it is hard for businesses to operate after an eruption.
- Habitats and landscapes are damaged by lava flows.

Volcanic eruptions have positive effects such as:

- Geothermal energy can be generated in areas where magma lies close to the surface.
- Ash ejected by the volcano acts as a good fertiliser for soils.
- Volcanoes attract many tourists.

## Vocabulary

Mediterranean volcano eruption lava magma  
pyroclastic flow Mount Vesuvius Pompeii