

**Great Britain is made up of: England, Scotland and Wales.**

**United Kingdom = Great Britain + Northern Ireland**

The UK's full and official name is the "**United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**".

The flag of UK is called **the Union Jack**. The capital of the UK is **London**.

**Political system of the UK:** constitutional monarchy (monarchia konstytucyjna)

**The Royal Family :** Queen Elisabeth II, her son Prince Charles, her grandson William

Country	Symbol	Patron	Capital
England	Rose (róża)	Saint George	London
Wales	Daffodil (żonkil)	Saint David	Cardiff
Scotland	Thistle (oset)	Saint Andrew	Edinburgh
Northern Ireland	Shamrock (koniczyna)	Saint Patrick	Belfast



England



Scotland



Wales



Great Britain



UK



British Isles

### History of the making of the UK

**1536** - Act of Union joins England and Wales

**1707** - Act of Union unites Scotland and England, together with Wales to form the **Kingdom of Great Britain**.

**1801** - The Irish Parliament voted to join the Union. The then Kingdom of Great Britain becomes the **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland**.

**1922** - Name changed to **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**, when most of the Southern counties in Ireland choose independence.

### **British Isles**

**The British Isles** - made up of several islands: Great Britain, Ireland, The Orkney and Shetland Islands, The Isle of Man, Hebrides, The Isle of Wight, Lundy Island, The Channel Islands

**The Weather:** warm summers and cool winters.

The British currency is the pound sterling. The sign for the pound is **£**

The most popular attractions in LONDON are:

1. **London Eye** - The big wheel which gives you a panoramic view of London
2. **Changing of the guard** - Buckingham Palace and Whitehall.
3. **Tower of London and Tower Bridge** - Home to the Crown Jewels
4. **Hamleys** - The worlds biggest toy store
5. **Picadilly Circus**
6. **Covent Garden** - Street entertainment, shopping and nightlife
7. **Museums and Art Galleries**
  - British Museum** - Best museum for history
  - Madam Tussauds** - Wax models of the famous people
8. **Buckingham Palace** - Home of the Royal Family
9. **Trafalgar Square**
10. **St. James Park**
11. **Westminster Abbey**
12. **Houses of Parliament**
13. **Canary Wharf Tower**
14. **St Paul's Cathedral**
15. **Hyde Park**
16. **Globe Theatre**

## Symbols of England

Big Ben  
Policeman  
Tower of London  
Black Taxi  
Foot Guard  
Buckingham Palace  
Life Guard  
Double Decker Bus  
London Eye  
Royal Coat of Arms  
St Paul's Cathedral  
Pint of Beer  
Tower Bridge  
Union Flag

## Important dates in the Calendar

January 1st <u>New Year's Day</u>	June Wimbledon Tennis Tournament
February 14th <u>Valentine's Day</u>	August Notting Hill Carnival
March 1st <u>St David's Day</u> 17th <u>St. Patrick's Day</u>	September <u>Harvest Festival</u>
March/April Shrove Wednesday <u>Lent</u> <u>Maundy Thursday</u> Good Friday <u>Easter</u>	October 31st <u>Halloween</u>
April 1st <u>April Fool's Day</u> 23rd <u>St George's Day</u> May 1st <u>May Day</u>	November 5th <u>Bonfire Night</u> 30th <u>St Andrew's Day</u>
	December <u>Advent</u> 24th Christmas Eve 25th <u>Christmas</u> 26th <u>Boxing Day</u>

	UK	USA
<b>Full Name</b>	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	United States of America
<b>Continent</b>	Europe	North America
	Constitutional monarchy	Constitution-based federal republic
	<p><b>Head of State</b> Queen Elizabeth II</p> <p><b>Head of Government</b> Theresa May</p>	<p><b>President</b> Donald Trump</p>
<b>Government</b>	<u>Parliament</u>	Congress
<b>Flag</b>		
<b>Currency</b>	<u>Sterling pound</u> (£ 1 pound = 100 pence)	USA Dollar (USD) ( \$ 1 dollar = 100 cents)
<b>National Anthem</b>	God Save the Queen	The Star Spangled Banner
<b>Language</b>	British English	American English
<b>Capital City</b>	<u>London</u>	Washington D.C.
<b>Land</b>		
<b>Total land area (sq.km)</b>	244,110 sq km	9,826,630 sq km
<b>Highest mountain</b>	Ben Nevis 1343m	Mount McKinley (Denali) 6,194m
<b>lowest point</b>	The Fens, 4.6 metres below sea level	Death Valley, in California 86 m below sea level
<b>Longest river</b>	Severn 354 km	Mississippi, 3765km
<b>Largest lake</b>	Lough Neagh 396 sq.km	Lake Michigan 57,800 sq. km.
<b>People</b>		
<b>Total population</b>	60,270,708	293,027,570
<b>Population density per sq.km</b>	250 people per sq km	32 persons per sq km
<b>Top 5 populous cities:</b>	London 7,285,000 Birmingham 1,018,000 Leeds 725,000 Glasgow 611,000 Sheffield 529,000	New York City 8,085,742 Los Angeles, 3,819,951 Chicago 2,869,121 Houston 2,009,690 Philadelphia 1,479,339

