



Visit the Mediterranean



Where the world comes to life

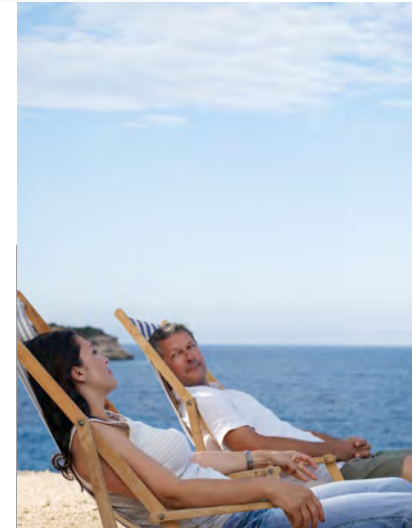
Dip your toes into the Mediterranean!

Sparkling seas and sunshine, sport and sightseeing: why not dip *your* toes into the Mediterranean this year?

Many holidaymakers call it 'the Med' for short!

What's the Mediterranean?

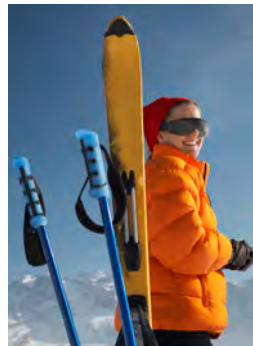
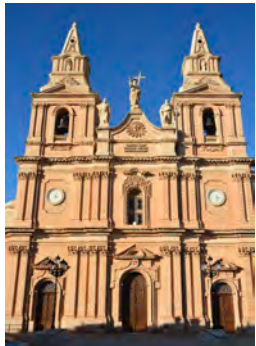
The Mediterranean is the name of the sea that stretches from Europe in the north to Africa in the south – with Asia to the east. It's also the name of the group of countries surrounding that sea. Altogether, there are 22 countries within the Mediterranean region. Have you ever been to Greece or Spain, Malta or Italy? These Mediterranean countries in Europe are really popular with tourists – and that's because the climate is just perfect for holidays! In summer, there are hours and hours of warm sunshine, with almost no rain at all.



Relax, you're on holiday



Splash! Dive right in!



SUN, SEA AND SAND

The water's lovely!

The Mediterranean Sea is linked to the Atlantic Ocean, but it's not cold. In summer, holidaymakers love paddling and swimming in the warm waters of the Med. The sea is clear, with turquoise depths sparkling in the sun. Why not snap on a snorkel and be wowed by the brilliantly coloured fish?

Sand between your toes

If you're by the sea in the Mediterranean, then you're never far from a beach – and you'll be spoilt for choice! There are golden dunes in the South of France, dazzling white sands in Italy, red volcanic rocks on Greek islands and pebbly coves in Croatia.



Rocks of many colours on a Greek beach

HIGHLIGHTS : Where to stay?

Many holidaymakers stay in resorts on the coast, with:

- 3, 4 and 5 star hotels
- beautiful beaches
- lots of restaurants and discos

People who work in these holiday towns can often speak your language and will serve you your usual food, if you wish.

Some visitors choose instead to go inland. You can rent holiday-homes by the week – the best houses to rent include an outdoor pool.

You can holiday in the Mediterranean in winter too. And in mountainous areas, like the Apennines of Italy and the Pindus of northern Greece, you can even ski!

Time to make your mind up

There are so many places to explore in and around the Mediterranean – it's so well connected. On the Greek island of Lesbos, there are quaint villages and pine forests to visit – then why not take a trip across the sea to nearby Turkey? Venture across to North Africa and, as well as sunbathing and snorkel, you can visit an ancient wonder of the world, the Pyramids of Egypt.

KEY WORDS:

civilization climate cruise
Europe historic Mediterranean
region resort tourist

MAD ABOUT THE MED!



A natural wonderland

Rosemary and heather scent the air in summer in the countries that surround the Mediterranean. And beautiful sprays of pink and purple flowers add colour to white-washed villages.

Green turtles soak up the sun's rays in the shallows of the Mediterranean Sea. Alonissos Marine Park, in Greece, was set up to protect some of the Med's most important wildlife, including dolphins and monk seals. It's well worth a visit!

Mediterranean food

Try something exciting and new! Have you ever eaten prawns, lobster or squid? Dishes like calamari (fried squid) or grilled sardines are very popular. You might be served huge, sun-ripened tomatoes, olives, juicy fruit or herbs to go with them.

Sports and sightseeing

When you've had enough of sunbathing, why not get sporty? The sheltered, warm waters of the Ionian Sea, off northern Greece, are a good place to learn to sail.

Or check out some of the historic sites. The Mediterranean Sea has lapped the shores of many of the great ancient civilizations. You can visit the remains of the ancient city of Knossos in Crete, or the towns destroyed by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius, in Italy. Heard of Pompeii and Herculaneum?

You can even climb Mount Vesuvius itself. Stay in nearby Naples and follow one of the well-trodden paths to the top. A trip up Mount Etna, on the island of Sicily, is another challenge for walkers. The view from the top is spectacular!

Why not hop on a ten-day Mediterranean cruise, a wonderful guided tour of lots of different Mediterranean countries? To find out more, go to: www.medcruise.com



Flowers bloom in the Mediterranean



Delicious seafood from the Med



Learn to sail in the Med



Pompeii is a must-see destination



1. Draw yourself in the circle to become a detective!
2. Answer the questions below to complete your mission.

A. Tick 'true' or 'false' for the statements below.

Statements	True	False
1. The Mediterranean is found between North and South America.		
2. In the summer, the weather is warm and sunny in the Mediterranean.		
3. The Mediterranean is a popular region for tourists.		

B. Circle the correct answer.

4. What is the short name for the Mediterranean?

- a. the Med
- b. the Medi
- c. the terrain

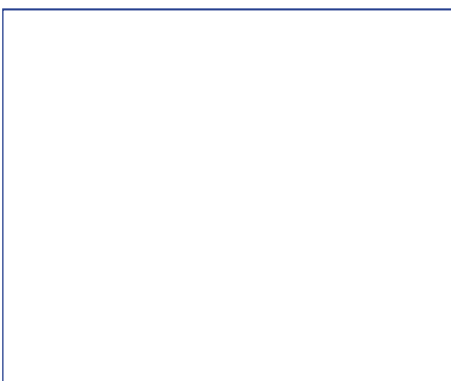
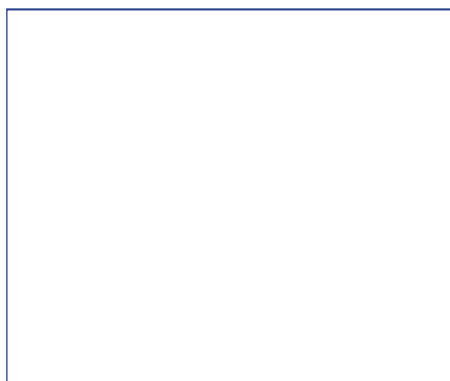
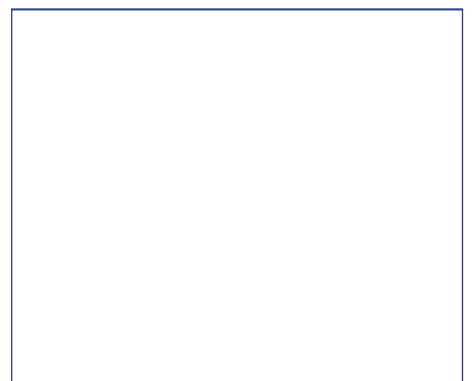
5. How many countries are found in this region in total?

- a. 11
- b. 22
- c. 33

6. What is calamari?

- a. Fried squid
- b. Sardines
- c. A type of Mediterranean flower

C. Draw three outdoor activities popular with holiday-makers in the region.

D. Give two reasons to explain why the Mediterranean is popular with holiday-makers from across Northern Europe.



Observer Odd needs your help!

His mission is to write a report on the facts presented in *Visit the Mediterranean!*

Answer the questions below in full sentences so that he can use the information in his report.

1. Which three continents surround the Mediterranean Sea?

2. What sorts of activities are popular with holiday-makers who travel to the Mediterranean?

3. Can you quote a descriptive sentence from the text? Why do you think it is descriptive?

4. Name a good place to learn to sail in the Med.

5. In your own words, describe the Mediterranean to someone who knows nothing about it.

GO ONLINE:

Log on to www.oddizzi.com and investigate two different countries in Europe with a Mediterranean coastline. You'll find country spotlights about European countries in Places - Europe. Compare these countries in terms of size, population and other features.


Inspector Izzi has a new job and needs a hand!

Her task is to write a detailed analysis of *Visit the Mediterranean!* She needs you to help her read 'between the lines' and answer the questions below in full sentences.

6. What type of text is this? (For example, 'descriptive' and 'narrative' are types of texts.) Explain your answer.

7. Who do you think this text is written for? How do you know?

The intended audience is...

I know this because...

8. Can you have a holiday in the Med at any time of year? Explain your answer.

9. If you were to visit the Med, what would you like to do? Why?

EXTRA MISSIONS:

- Using the information in this brochure, write the script for a 30-second radio advert for 'holidays in the Med'.
- Create an artwork that shows at least three physical or human features of the Mediterranean region.
- Compare countries located north and south of the Mediterranean Sea – how are these places similar or different?