

Is the geography of Russia a curse or a benefit?

What Continent is Russia in?

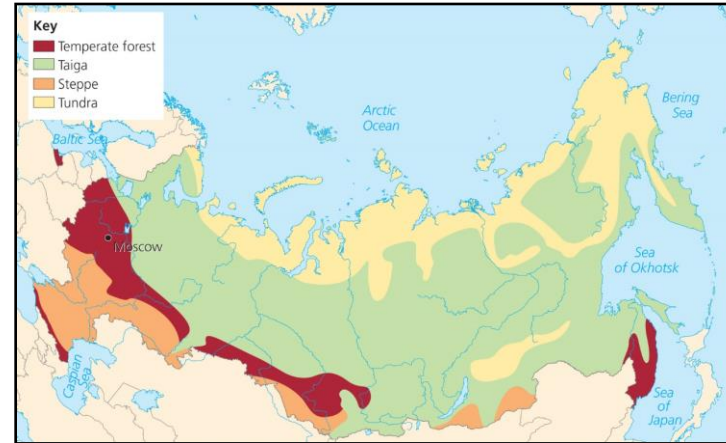
Russia is within the continents Europe and Asia. Eurasia is the combined continental landmass of Europe and Asia.



77% of the total landmass of Russia is in Asia while the rest is in Europe. The Ural Mountains are a particularly important physical feature. The mountain range forms the traditional separation between Europe and Asia.

Biomes in Russia:

The biomes (areas of distinctive plant and animal groups, which are adapted to that particular environment) are very diverse in Russia.



Ecosystem = an interconnected community of all of the living things - biotic (e.g. plants and animals) and all of the non-living parts - abiotic (e.g. soil, water and air) that they require to survive.

Tundra: There is very little rainfall in the tundra. There are shrubs and animals will include reindeer and Muscox.

Taiga: The taiga is characterized by a cold, harsh climate, low rate of precipitation, and short growing season. There are coniferous trees and animals include the Siberian Tiger .

Steppe: Warm summers and really cold winters. Animals include rabbits and foxes. Grass is the main form of vegetation..

Temperate Forest: The deciduous forest regions are exposed to warm and cold air which cause this area to have four seasons

Climate Change

Changes in Earth's climate system result in new weather patterns that last for at least a few decades.

- The warming in Russia was 1.29°C for the last 100 years
- Rain increased (7.2 mm/10 years) for the period 1976–200
- Permafrost thawing
- 2010/ 2015 and 2017 Wildfire destruction has increased.

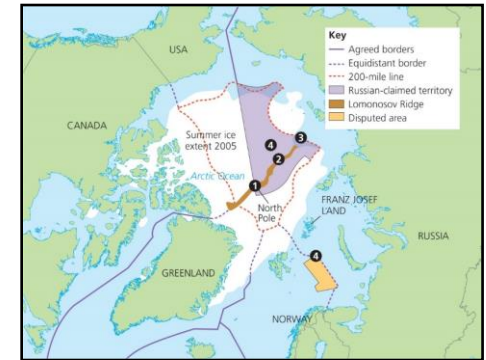


Where do people live in Russia?

- Population density greatest in cities such as Moscow and St Petersburg
- Majority of people live in the West of Russia in the European side
- Sparse population in the north east

Russia in the Arctic: Who owns the Arctic?

Arctic countries must have 200 nautical miles (miles in the sea) from the coastline or 350 miles from their continental shelf within the Arctic circle.



Why does Russia want to own Arctic?

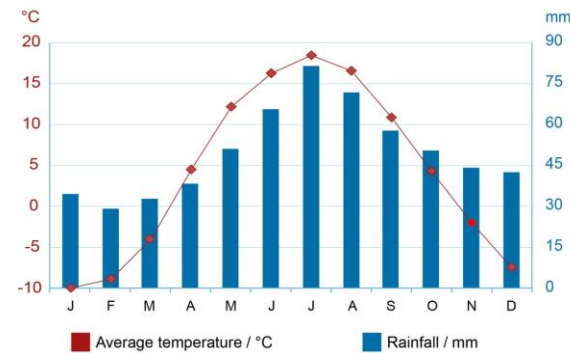
- 30% of worlds unexploited gas reserves
- 13% of worlds oil

What has Russia done?

In 2007 Russia planted its flag on the Arctic floor as it claimed the Lomonosov Ridge is directly connected to its continental shelf. This caused conflict as this passes through the Central Arctic Trade Route and has implications on the environment and the local people.

Russia's Climate:

Russia experiences a continental climate. It has long, cold, harsh winters and short, dry, hot summers. This can be represented on a climate graph:



Temperature = LINE GRAPH

Rainfall = BAR CHART

Weather	Climate
The state of the atmosphere at a particular place	The atmospheric conditions prevailing in an area in general or over a long period

Urban	Rural
<p>A geographic area that is located outside towns and cities. Generally it has low population and lots of farming.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The most remote areas of Russia, some homes lack gas, plumbing, running water, and electricity. • When Russia was part of the Soviet Union, most rural people worked on huge farms run by the government. After the Soviet Union collapsed, Russia began to break up these farms. • People of Russia are avid nature lovers, and they enjoy spending time in the countryside. • Rural homes generally are larger than those in the city and have private garden plots 	<p>A town or city. Generally a built up area with a large population density (lots of people living in a small space).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Russian cities are crowded. • The scarcity of housing forces some families to share kitchen and toilet facilities. • The quality of education, health care, and cultural life is better • Education or technical training that is available only in cities <p>Russia is mostly an urban country; according to the census results, 74% of Russians live in urban areas -- either towns or cities.</p> <p>Rural to Urban Migration – The movement of people from the countryside to the city</p>

Here is a glossary of key terms for you to revise for the end of topic test

Biome = a large geographical area of distinctive plant and animal groups, which are adapted to that particular environment.

Climate Change – Occurs when changes in Earth's climate system result in new weather patterns that last for at least a few decades.

Commodity - Any product that can be used, bought, sold or traded especially in a world market

Continental climate = This is characterised by two main seasons: long, dark cold winters with brief, often warm, summers.

Development - The degree of wealth and material comfort available to a person or community.

Distribution - The way in which something is shared out among a group or spread over an area

Economy - The wealth of a country – sometimes measured in GDP (Gross domestic product) per capita – the value of all of the goods and services of a country, divided by the number of people.

Ecosystem - an interconnected community of all of the living things - biotic (e.g. plants and animals) and all of the non-living parts - abiotic of the environment (e.g. soil, water and air) that they require to survive.

Exclusive economic zone (EEZ) - International law states that Arctic countries are allowed an exclusive economic zone (EEZ) of 200 nautical miles bordering their coastline. Each country can also increase its claim up to 350 nautical miles from its shoreline for areas that can be proven to be an extension of that country's continental shelf

Hard power - The use of a country's military or economic power to persuade other countries to do something.

Human features – structures that have been built by man
Permafrost – Ice that stores carbon

Natural resources - Materials or substances occurring in nature which can be exploited for economic gain

Permafrost - A thick subsurface layer of soil that remains below freezing point throughout the year.

Physical features – structures that occur naturally. Plain = a landmass that is flat or gently rolling that covers many kilometres.

Population Density - the amount of people that live in a certain space.

Population distribution - How the people are spread out

Primary sector - These are jobs involving raw materials (natural resources) that are extracted from the land and sea. The jobs in this sector include farmers, miners, those who work in the fishing industry, forestry workers.

Rostow's Modernization theory - Rostow's model shows economic development in 5 stages. It assumes that countries will progress through these stages as they develop.

Rural to Urban Migration - The movement of people from the countryside to the city.

Secondary sector - These are jobs involving the manufacturing (making of things) from the raw materials. Jobs include factory workers, steelworkers, builders of houses, roads and railways.

Soft power - The use of a country's cultural and economic influence to persuade other countries to do something.

Superpower - A nation with the ability to project its influence anywhere in the world to be a dominant global force.

Tertiary sector - These are jobs providing a service to others. Jobs include teachers, doctors, refuse collectors, shop assistants.