

# Italy Knowledge Organiser

## What should I already know?

- There are seven continents (including Europe) and five oceans.
- Italy is in the continent of Europe.
- Across the globe there are different types of weather and temperatures.

## Climate zones

Tropical - around the Equator these hot and humid climates are usually where rainforests are found.

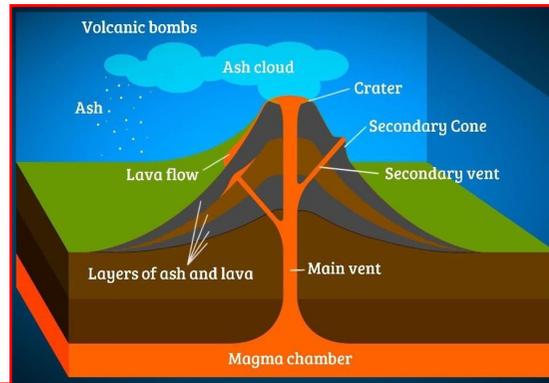
Arid - dry climate such as deserts.

Mediterranean - hot, dry summers. Cooler and wetter winters.

Temperate - the UK climate, where summers are mild and winters aren't too cold.

Continental - long cold winters and short, hot summers.

Polar - long periods of extreme cold.



## Key facts

- \*Mount Etna is Europe's most active volcano. Mount Vesuvius, in southern Italy, is the only active volcano on European mainland.
- \*Rome is the capital city of Italy and also the most populated.
- \* Milan, Naples and Turin are also large cities in Italy.
- \* In Italy each region has one city or town that acts as the capital of that region. This is known as 'capoluogo'.

## Volcanoes

A volcano is an opening in the Earth's **crust** where hot liquid rock from deep within the Earth, called **magma**, **erupts** to the surface. Once at the surface, this magma is then known as **lava**. The ash cloud **emitted** from volcanos can be harmful to breathe in or for planes to fly through. **Tephra** and gas are also emitted from the volcano.

## Vocabulary

**Climate** - the weather conditions prevailing in an area over a long period of time.

**Global warming** - a gradual increase in the overall temperature of the Earth's atmosphere generally attributed to the greenhouse effect caused by increased levels of carbon dioxide.

**Physical features** - natural objects that are not man-made such as rivers and volcanoes.

**Human features** - things that are built by humans such as roads and bridges.

**Region** - a part of a country sometimes having fixed boundaries.

**Volcano** - a mountain or hill, typically conical, having a vent which lava, rock fragments and gas are erupted from the Earth's crust.

**Magma** - hot liquid rock from deep within the Earth, once at the Earth's surface is known as lava.

**Tephra** - rock fragments ejected by a volcanic eruption.