



THE UK



MINISTERSTVO ŠKOLSTVÍ,
MLÁDEŽE A TĚLOVÝCHOVY



OP Vzdělávání
pro konkurenceschopnost

INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

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GENERAL FACTS



Flags of the United Kingdom



The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

- **Great Britain:**
England (London)
Scotland (Edinburgh)
Wales (Cardiff)
- **Northern Ireland (Belfast)**

GEOGRAPHY



- GB lies off the north-west coast of Europe across the English Channel, between the North Sea and the Atlantic Ocean
- Its neighbours are Ireland to the west and France to the south-east.
- The main mountain regions in Great Britain are the Cornish Heights (south-west), the Cambrian (Wales), the Pennines (in the central Britain) and the Cumbrian Mountains.
- The highest mountain is in the Highlands of Scotland - Ben Nevis 1 343 m.
- The longest rivers are the Severn and the Thames.
- There are beautiful lake areas, for example the Lake District (in Cumbria) and in the Highlands of Scotland, where they are called lochs.
- Loch Lomond is the largest lake in GB, but Loch Ness is more famous.

CLIMATE

- British Isles have a *mild, humid* climate.
- There are mild winters, not very hot summers and no extremes of temperature, but frequent changes of the weather.
- It often rains because of the south-west wind blowing from the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf Stream.

PEOPLE, LANGUAGES

- The population is about 60 million.
- The density is one of the highest in the world – 246 people per square kilometre.
- We can find the following ethnic groups: English, Scottish, Irish, Welsh, Ulster, Indian, Pakistan and others.
- The main language is English, but we can find minority languages - Welsh, Scottish and Irish Gaelic.



SCOTTISH AND IRISH GAELIC SIGNS

GOVERNMENT

- The United Kingdom is a constitutional monarchy.
- The official head of the country is the monarch (from February 1952 Elizabeth the Second), but she is only a formal head of State and Commonwealth and her powers are limited by the constitution.
- The supreme legislative authority in the U.K. is the British Parliament, which consists of the House of Lords and the House of Commons.
- The two Houses share the same building, the Palace of Westminster in London.



QUEEN ELIZABETH II



BUCKINGHAM PALACE



THE PALACE OF WESTMINSTER

ECONOMY, INDUSTRY



- Britain has lot of minerals and raw materials, e.g. coal, iron ore, zinc, lead, gold, salt, clay and many kinds of stone.
- U.K. has the greatest energy resources of the EU, and is a significant world producer of oil and natural gas.
- The main industries are steel, metal, vehicles, shipping, banking and insurance, textiles and electronics.
- The main agricultural products are grains, sugar beet, fruit and vegetables.
- Lots of money is earned by cattle and sheep breeding.
- The currency is 1 pound which equals 100 pennies.
- Britain's main trading partners are Germany, the USA and France.

SPORTS

- Sports play an important part and are a popular leisure activity.
- Many of the world's famous sports began in Britain, including cricket, football, lawn tennis, golf (Scotland) and rugby.
- England's national sport is cricket although for many people football is their national sport.
- Some of England's football teams are world famous
 - Manchester United, Arsenal, Chelsea and Liverpool.



NATIONAL FLAG, ANTHEM



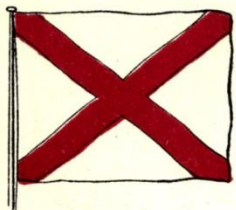
ST GEORGE'S CROSS.



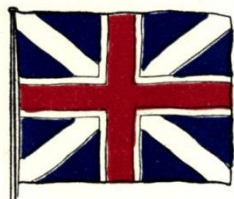
ST ANDREW'S CROSS.



THE UNION JACK.



ST PATRICK'S CROSS.



UNION FLAG OF
ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND.

- British national flag is called the Union Jack.
- It consists of Cross of St Andrew, Cross of saint Patrick and Cross of Saint George.
- National anthem is "GOD SAVE THE QUEEN"



BEN NEVIS





LOCH LOMOND



LOCH NESS



URQUARTH CASTLE

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