



European Holiday Destinations

Written to support Edexcel BTEC First

Introduction

Having an appreciation of European destinations and understanding their appeal for holidaymakers is an essential requirement in many areas of work in the travel and tourism sector.

Taking a holiday in Europe is very attractive for many people in the UK. The unit introduces learners to the location and appeal of holiday destinations in Europe. Options are extensive, providing opportunities to investigate diverse destinations that cater for a range of tastes and customer needs, from fun holidays in the sun to fashionable ski resorts, informal camping holidays to exciting city breaks. Learners will locate European holiday destinations that are well known for specific types of holidays, such as summer sun and winter sports. They will examine access, natural features, local attractions and climate, alongside other features that influence the appeal of different types of destinations.

This module will appeal to those learners who wish to work in retail travel or tour operations and will broaden the knowledge of those who aspire to work overseas, perhaps as holiday representatives.



The South of France

Côte d'Azur: The famous Mediterranean coast in the south of France is known as the Côte d'Azur or French Riviera. The jagged coastline has beautiful beaches, wide bays and excellent natural harbours.

Important resorts include:

Antibes: the town, famous for its June Jazz Festival, lies opposite Nice on the other side of the Bay of Angels. The old streets are full of restaurants, cafés and antique shops.

Cannes: a splendid natural harbour with fine sandy beaches, this prestigious resort hosts the International Film Festival each May. The famous promenade, Boulevard de la Croisette, has gardens, palm trees, luxury hotels and exclusive boutiques.

Nice: has a charming setting on the Bay of Angels, sheltered by the hills behind. Highlights are the seafront Promenade des Anglais and the old town.

St Tropez: this little port is one of the most attractive resorts on the French Riviera.

Corsica: The French island of Corsica is located in the Mediterranean to the southeast of France and north of Sardinia. It has dramatic scenery and much of the countryside is a national park. Corsica has a jagged coastline with rocky areas and some fine beaches, forests and many mountain peaks. Key coastal locations are Ajaccio, the capital, with its old town and Renaissance cathedral, Bonifacio which is perched on a rocky headland, and the ports of Bastia and Calvi.



Exercise 8.3

1. Write a few lines describing the following regions in Germany:

The Black Forest:

Harz Mountains:

The Mosel Valley:

The Rhine Valley:

Liechtenstein is an independent country which is only 62 square miles in area. The population is German speaking and Swiss Francs are used as the currency

Answer the following questions concerning the country:

2. What countries border Liechtenstein?

3. What is the capital?

Moscow

Moscow is a huge city on the banks of the River Moskva. It has long avenues, grand squares, modern skyscrapers and historic buildings.

The Kremlin: this red-walled complex overlooks the river and forms the heart of the city. It includes: the Cathedral of the Twelve Apostles with its five domes; the Ivan the Great Bell Tower; the Cathedral of the Assumption; Cathedral Square; the Kremlin Great Palace (the former residence of the Tsars and now the home of the President) and the Armour Palace with its priceless collection of jewellery, arms and carriages.

Red Square: this vast square used for military parades flanks the east wall of the Kremlin. It is the location of the Lenin Mausoleum, a monument where the Lenin and other major Soviet figures are buried and the GUM department store, the largest store in Russia. Red Square is also home to the distinctive, brightly-coloured 'onion domes' of St. Basil's Cathedral built by Ivan 'The Terrible' between 1555 and 1561.

Other major attractions include: the Tretyakov Art Gallery, The Pushkin Museum of Fine Arts, the Novodevichy Convent, a splendid group of monastic buildings surrounded by red brick walls and 12 towers, Gorky Park and the shops of Arbat Street.

The Moscow subway claims to be the world's fastest and deepest system and has stations with lavish decorations including chandeliers, mosaics and stained glass windows. Celebrated across Russia, the Russian Orthodox Christmas takes place 13 days after the western Christmas



7. Where is Alicante located in Spain?
- a Costa del Sol
 - b Costa Blanca
 - c Costa del Azahar
 - d Costa Brava
8. Which of these islands is NOT in the Mediterranean Sea?
- a Sardinia
 - b Malta
 - c Ibiza
 - d Madeira
9. The Azores belongs to which European Country?
- a Spain
 - b Portugal
 - c Italy
 - d Greece
10. Naxos is in which group of islands?
- a Azores
 - b Ionian
 - c Balearics
 - d Cyclades
11. Visitors to Barcelona with an interest in football are most likely to visit
- a Camp Nou
 - b Las Rambalas
 - c Parc Guell
 - d La Sagrada Familia
12. Lake Bled is in:
- a Austria
 - b Italy
 - c Croatia
 - d Slovenia