

World Box



Spain

Spain is a country in Southern Europe. It is in the Iberian Peninsula, near Portugal and Gibraltar. France and the country of Andorra are on its northeast side, where the Pyrenees mountains are. The Canary Islands are part of Spain.

Since 1975, Spain has had a King who only does what the constitution allows him to. For example, the king can declare a war, but only if the Government asks him to do so. The parliament is called *Las Cortes Generales*, and has two bodies: "El Congreso" (The Congress) and "El Senado" (The Senate) and it is chosen by the Spanish people by voting. This kind of government is called a constitutional monarchy. The King of Spain is Felipe VI.



The middle of Spain is a high, dry, flat land called La Meseta. In La Meseta it can be very hot in the summer and cold or very cold in the winter. Spain also has many mountain ranges. The Mount Teide (Tenerife, Canary Islands), the highest mountain of Spain and the islands of the Atlantic (it is the third largest volcano in the world from its base). In the north there is a range of mountains called *Los Picos de Europa* (The European Peaks). Here it is very cold in winter with a lot of snow but with gentle warm summers.



In the south-east of the country is a range of mountains called *La Sierra Nevada* (The Snowy Mountains). This range of mountains contains the highest mountain in mainland Spain, Mulacen, at 2952 metres. La Sierra Nevada is very popular in winter for winter sports, especially skiing.

Snow remains on its peaks throughout the year. The south coast, has a warm and temperate climate, not very hot or very cold. Since Spain is in the south of Europe, it is very sunny. Many people from Northern Europe take their vacations in Spain, enjoying its beaches and cities.



Groups from BSO which operate in Spain are

1st Fuengirola (The Ark)

1st Madrid

1st Majadahonda

1st Tenerife

Watch this short film clip about Spain - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BpBtaNL-oWs>