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| **Key vocabulary** |
| Continent | A continuous expanse of land, sometimes called a land mass. |
| Equator | An imaginary line drawn around the middle of the earth an equal distance from the North Pole and theSouth Pole. |
| Mountain | A large landform that stretches above the surrounding land in a limited area, usually in the form of apeak. |
| Volcano | A volcano is a vent, or opening, in Earth’s surface through which molten rock, gases and ash erupt. |
| Climate | The weather conditions prevailing in an area in general or over a long period. |

Knowledge Organiser for Year 3 Geography Topic: Italy

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| **Key Features and landmarks** |
| Mountain ranges | Italy has two major mountain ranges: the Alps and Apennines. The Apennines range runs north to south down the centre of the country. The Alps stretch from Austria and Slovenia in the east all the way throughItaly, Switzerland and Germany to France in the west. |
| Mount Vesuvius  |  On August 24 79AD, after centuries of dormancy, Mount Vesuvius erupts in southern Italy, devastating the prosperous Roman cities of [Pompeii](https://www.history.com/topics/ancient-history/pompeii) and Herculaneum and killing thousands.  |
| Colosseum | The Colosseum is an amphitheatre built during thetime of Roman Empire in Rome, Italy. |
| The ruins of Pompeii | A Roman town which was destroyed from theeruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD. |



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| **Key facts and figures of Italy** |
| Continent | Europe | Volcanoes | Italy has three active volcanoes: Vesuvius, Stromboli and Etna |
| Capital | Rome | Longest river | River Po, 405 miles |
| Population | 59,801,004 (2016) | Largest lake | Lake Garda, 370 km² |
| Highest mountain | Mont Blanc, 4,810 m (the highest mountain in the Alps) | Seas | Mediterranean, Ligurian, Adriatic, and Ionian seas. |
| Currency | Euro |  |  |