

The south-west region of England is made up of the counties of Gloucestershire, Bristol, Wiltshire, Somerset, Dorset, Devon and Cornwall, as well as the Isles of Scilly.

### Population

The population of the south-west of England is 5.5 million.

### Area

The south-west covers an area of 23,800 km<sup>2</sup>.

### Language

97% of people in the south-west have English as their main language. Other languages include Polish, Urdu and Bengali.

### Religion

The main religion in the south-west is Christianity (60.4%). 1% are Muslim. 0.3% are Hindu and 29.3% are of no religion.

### Natural Resources

The most important natural resources are oil, coal, copper and natural gas.



### Cities

The largest city in the south-west is Bristol, with a population of 536,000. Other large cities include Plymouth, Swindon and Gloucester.



### Exports

The south-west's biggest exports are meat and dairy products, such as cheddar cheese and eggs.

### Landmarks

One of the most famous landmarks in the south-west is Stonehenge. Stonehenge is a ring of standing stones that was built over 4000 years ago.

## Rivers

One of the largest rivers in the south-west is the River Avon. It is 121km long. Other large rivers are the River Exe and River Tamar.

## Relief

The south-west is mostly hilly. The highest point is High Willhays in Dartmoor in Devon at 621 metres.



## Climate

The south-west has a temperate climate. This means it has cool winters and warmer summers with rainfall all year.

Average temperatures are 4°C in January and 20°C in July.

Rainfall - The south-west gets 100cm of rain in one year. There is less rain in the summer.

Snow can fall in winter, especially on the hills.

## Natural Hazards

The south-west has had some small earthquakes but they are very rare and do not cause much damage.

There are no volcanoes in England.

## Biome

The south-west has a temperate deciduous biome. This means that there are many areas of woodland and forest. Many of the trees lose their leaves in autumn.

## Beaches

The south-west has many beaches. The Jurassic Coast of Dorset and East Devon is renowned for its beauty, with spots such as Durdle Door getting many visitors every year. Cornwall also has numerous beaches, including at St Ives and Bude.

