

Europe – Physical Geography Video Notes

1. Europe was explored and settled early. Spanning _____ of years, Europe's recorded history reaches back through the Industrial Revolution, The Enlightenment, The Reformation, The Renaissance, The Middle Ages, The Classical Period of Rome and Greece, and beyond.
2. More than any other continent, Europe has been altered by _____ activity.
3. Europe occupies the western end of Eurasia, the _____ land mass in the world.
4. Europe is surrounded by _____ on three sides.
5. Iceland is the western-most country in Europe. *The country's land is still growing.* About a third of all _____ produced on the Earth's surface in the last 400 years has come from here.
6. In the central Mediterranean Sea lies the island of Sicily. It has Europe's tallest active _____ called Mt. Etna. It may not be erupting, but it releases sulfurous gases.
7. The Alps are one of Europe's _____ mountain chains. They rise to more than 4,800 meters (15,750 feet) at their highest point.
8. At the higher elevations, The Alps are covered in _____ and _____ year-round.
9. The Alps reach into 8 different countries, and are a winter playground for snow sports. All of this tourism contributes to a growing _____ problem.
10. In places like Norway, there are _____, slow moving rivers of ice that move from higher elevations to lower.
11. In the north and west coasts of _____, steep mountains abruptly meet the sea. Especially in Norway, fjords are common.
12. The ocean current known as the North Atlantic Drift is an extension of the Gulf Stream which brings warm water from _____ as far north as Norway, making the climate relatively mild even in the very north latitudes.
13. Nowhere in the World have people affected the land as in Europe. The Alps may be polluted, but other parts of Europe are all but _____.
14. The once fertile soil of Spain's Meseta Plateau was laid bare to *erosion* because humans took all the trees for farmland and lumber. Today little is able to _____ here. The grazing of animals further ruins the soil.

15. A vast network of rivers and tributaries crisscrosses Europe. Most of these rivers rise in Europe's _____.
16. The Great European Plain is vast and _____.
17. Lake Balaton in Hungary is Central Europe's largest lake. It is also very _____, measuring only about 3-4 meters (9-12 feet) in depth.
18. The Dutch have made use of what nature has provided. But they have gone one giant step farther to **create** land for their country. Begun centuries ago, they have built _____ to push back the North Sea.
19. There is little _____ left in Europe. The reason is because there are many people and relatively little land.
20. Most Europeans live in cities, many of them large. They all have basic needs that must be met. To meet these needs, the Europeans need _____. The result is often a crowded feeling.
21. Itself a peninsula, Europe's coastline is made up of several _____.
22. Europe is surrounded by seas, penetrated by bays, and crisscrossed by rivers. These waterways have long served as _____ to move people and goods.
23. All of Europe's navigable waterways carry significant amounts of _____.
24. The Danube River flows west to east into The Black Sea, over by Asia. It touches 8 European countries and past _____ capitals: Vienna (Austria), Budapest (Hungary), and Belgrade (Serbia).
25. Above all, Europe is a place. A place of mountains and valleys; of seas and rivers. A place of varied climate. A place where the destructive forces of erosion sway in the balance with the constructive forces of creation. But for almost 300,000 years, Europe has also been a place of _____.

Final Questions:

How has erosion played a part in Europe's changing landscape? Where, and what has happened?

Where is Europe's landscape continuing to be created? What is happening?