

Spain's Relief

- **Landscape**

- Most of Spain is located on the **Iberian Peninsula** (Península Ibérica).
- Spain shares the Iberian Peninsula with Portugal.
- Spain is located in the southwestern part of Europe.
 - The **Balearic Islands** are located in the Mediterranean Sea.
 - The **Canary Islands** are located in the Atlantic Sea
 - **Ceuta** and **Melilla** are port cities located in northern Africa.
- Madrid is the highest capital in Europe.
- Spain's geography is varied.
- Many mountains together are called **mountain range (sierras)**.
- Many **mountain ranges** together are called a **mountain chain** (cordilleras o sistemas).
- A **plain** (llanura) is a large flat area of land.
- A **natural depression, or basin**, is a low plain between two high mountains.
- A **plateau** (meseta) is a very large, raised flat piece of land located high above sea level. A plateau is higher than the land around it. It's like a mountain with the top cut off.
- A **valley** (valle) is a low, flat area between mountains or hills.
- **Coasts** are land near the ocean or sea.

- **Island relief**
 - The Meseta Central covers most of the interior Peninsula.
 - **On** the Meseta Central we can find the following **mountain chains:**
 - Sistema Central
 - Montes de Toledo
 - **Around** the Meseta Central we can find the following **mountain chains:**
 - Montes de León
 - Cordillera Cantábrica
 - Sistema Ibérico
 - Sierra Morena
 - **Outside** the Meseta Central we can find the following **mountain chains:**
 - Macizo Galaico
 - Montes Vascos
 - Pirineos
 - Cordilleras Costero-Catalanas
 - Sistemas Béticos:
 - Cordillera Penibética
 - Cordillera Bética

- The **highest mountain peak in Spain** is Teide (Canary Islands).
- The **highest mountain peak on the Iberian Peninsula** is Mulhacén (Sierra Nevada).
- Natural depressions (or basins) **on** the Iberian Peninsula are:
 - Depresión del Ebro
 - Depresión del Guadalquivir