



THE PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY OF SPAIN

SPAIN'S INLAND LANDFORMS

Spain is one of the most mountainous countries in Europe.

The **Meseta Central** covers a large part of Spain.

Mountain ranges

- **On the Meseta Central:** the Sistema Central and the Montes de Toledo.
- **Surrounding the Meseta Central:** the Montes de León, the Cordillera Cantábrica, the Sistema Ibérico and the Sierra Morena.
- **Outside the Meseta Central:** the Pyrenees, the Sistemas Béticos, the Cordillera Costero-Catalana and the Macizo Galaico-Leonés.
- **Archipelagos:** the Sierra de Tramontana (Mallorca) and the Teide (Tenerife).



Highest peaks

- **Mulhacén** (3 479 m, Sistemas Béticos)
- **Teide** (3 715 m, Tenerife)

Depressions

- the Depresión del Ebro
- the Depresión del Guadalquivir



SPAIN'S MAIN RIVERS

We classify Spain's rivers by **watershed**: the sea or ocean that they **flow** into.

WATERSHEDS



The Cantabrian watershed

short, fast-flowing rivers with regular and abundant flow; includes the Nalón.



The Mediterranean watershed

short rivers, except for the Ebro (the longest river in Spain); irregular flow.

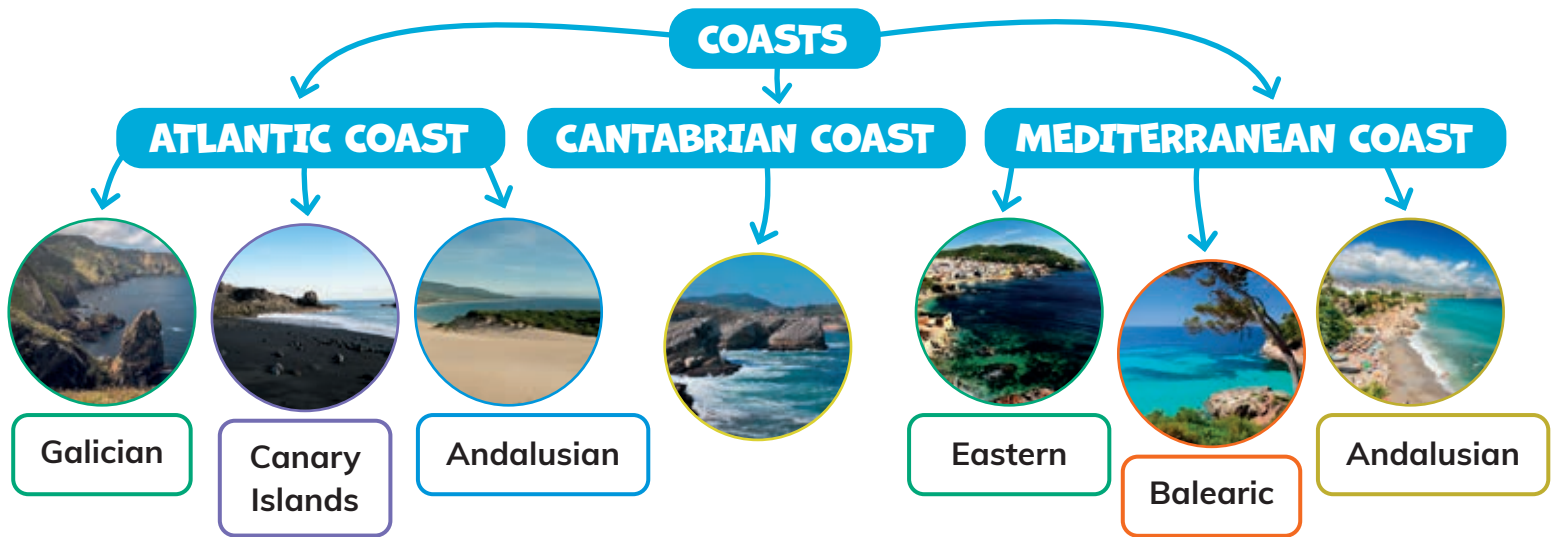


The Atlantic watershed

long rivers with irregular flow; includes the Tajo and Guadalquivir.

SPAIN'S COASTS

Spain's **coast** is one of the longest and most varied in Europe.



SPAIN'S CLIMATES AND LANDSCAPES

Climates

- **Oceanic:** mild; a lot of precipitation.
- **Mountain:** cold in winter, mild in summer; a lot of precipitation.
- **Subtropical:** Canary Islands; hot in summer, mild in winter; little precipitation.

Mediterranean sub-climates

- **Coastal:** hot in summer, mild in winter; little precipitation.
- **Inland:** hot in summer, cold in winter; little precipitation.
- **Semi-desert:** similar to coastal, but less precipitation.

Landscapes

- Mediterranean
- oceanic
- subtropical
- mountain

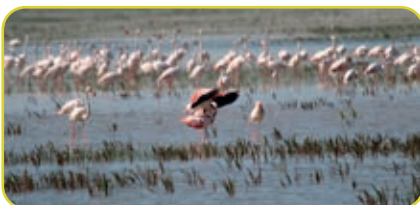


SPAIN'S NATURAL HERITAGE

In Spain, there are **national parks**, **natural parks** and **nature reserves**.

There are **16 national parks**. These include:

Doñana
(Andalucía)



Monfragüe
(Extremadura)



Cabañeros
(Castilla-La Mancha)

