

THE WORLD AROUND US — GEOGRAPHY · P4–P7

# Tíreolaíocht Uladh — Geography of Ulster

Knowledge Organiser — P4–P7

## Ulster's 9 counties

1

### In Northern Ireland (6)

Antrim, Armagh, Down, Fermanagh, Londonderry (Derry), Tyrone — these form Northern Ireland, part of the United Kingdom.

2

### In the Republic (3)

Cavan, Donegal, Monaghan — these are Ulster counties that became part of the Irish Free State in 1922.

3

### Belfast (Béal Feirste)

Capital and largest city of Northern Ireland. Population: approximately 340,000 city, 670,000 greater area. The Titanic was built here (Harland & Wolff shipyard).

4

### Derry / Londonderry

Second-largest city. Has two official names — 'Londonderry' (official UK/Unionist), 'Derry' (from the Irish 'Doire' meaning oak grove, preferred by Nationalists). The city walls (built 1613–1619) are intact — the last complete walled city in Britain or Ireland.

5

### Lough Neagh

The largest lake in the British Isles — 392 km<sup>2</sup>, straddling five of NI's six counties. Important for eel fishing and tourism.

6

### Giant's Causeway

A UNESCO World Heritage Site in Co. Antrim. Around 40,000 interlocking basalt columns formed by a volcanic eruption 60 million years ago. Steeped in mythology — said to be the work of the giant Fionn Mac Cumhaill.



# Ireland — key facts

Geography, industry, and cu

- AREA: 14,130 km<sup>2</sup> (about 16% of the island of Ireland). One-third the size of the Republic.
- POPULATION: approximately 1.9 million (2021 census)
- MOUNTAINS OF MOURNE: mountain range in Co. Down. Slieve Donard (850m) is the highest peak in NI. Inspired CS Lewis's description of Narnia.
- CAUSEWAY COAST: Co. Antrim coastline — Giant's Causeway, Carrick-a-Rede rope bridge, Dunluce Castle. Northern Ireland's most visited natural landscape.
- BELFAST'S HISTORY: shipbuilding capital of the world in the early 20th century. The Titanic was built and launched here in 1911.
- FARMING: dairy farming dominant in the east. Beef cattle in Fermanagh. Lough Neagh eel fishing (European eels).
- TOURISM: the Game of Thrones TV series was filmed largely in NI — the Dark Hedges, Castle Ward, Cushendun Caves. Massive boost to tourism.

