

GEOGRAPHY IN GERMANY

- ❖ Germany has a land area of 137,858 square miles. It is divided into 16 states and 439 districts.
- ❖ Largest state in Germany is Bavaria with a population of over 12 million.
- ❖ Germany is slightly smaller than the state of Montana.
- ❖ The territory of Germany stretches from the high mountains of the Alps (highest point: the *Zugspitze* at 9,718 ft) in the south to the shores of the North Sea in the north-west and the Baltic Sea in the north-east. In between are the forested uplands of central Germany and the low-lying lands of northern Germany (lowest point: *Neuendorfer/Wilstermarsch* at 11.6 ft below sea level), traversed by some of Europe's major rivers such as the Rhine, Danube and Elbe.
- ❖ Germany shares its borders with more European countries than any other country in Europe. Its borders are:
 - Denmark in the North.
 - Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg and France in the West.
 - Austria and Switzerland in the South.
 - Poland and the Czech Republic in the East.
 - The North Sea and the Baltic Sea represent additional National Borders in the North.

TERRAIN –

Lowlands in north, uplands in center, Bavarian Alps in south.

CLIMATE –

- ❖ The greater part of Germany lies in the cool/temperate climate zone in which humid westerly winds predominate.
- ❖ In the north and north-west the climate is oceanic and rain falls all year round. Winters there are relatively mild and summers are comparatively cool. Average temperatures: Hamburg: January 33 °F/July 63°F; Essen: January 35 °F/July 64 °F.
- ❖ In the east the climate shows clear continental features; winters can be very cold for long periods, and summers can become very warm. Here, too, long dry periods are often recorded. Average temperatures: Berlin: January 30 °F/July 65 °F.
- ❖ In the central part and the south there is a transitional climate which varies from moderately oceanic to continental, depending on the location. Hot summers with temperatures about 86 °F are possible. Average temperatures: Munich: January 28 °F/July 64 °F; Freiberg: January 34 °F/July 67 °F.