Geography of Russia and Its Neighbors: Second Edition



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A Geography of Russia and Its Neighbors

Aikhail S. Blinnik

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Russia is the largest country in the world, spanning over 17 million square kilometers. It is also one of the most diverse countries, with a wide range of landscapes, climates, and natural resources. Russia is bordered by 14 countries, each with its own unique geography.

This e-book provides a comprehensive overview of the geography of Russia and its neighbors. It includes detailed descriptions of the physical geography, climate, and natural resources of each country. The book also discusses the political and economic geography of the region.

Physical Geography of Russia and Its Neighbors

The physical geography of Russia and its neighbors is extremely diverse. The region includes everything from vast plains to towering mountains, from frozen tundra to subtropical forests. The climate is also varied, with some areas experiencing extreme cold and others enjoying warm, temperate summers.

The Ural Mountains form a natural boundary between Europe and Asia. The mountains stretch for over 2,500 kilometers from the Arctic Ocean to the Caspian Sea. The Ural Mountains are relatively low, with an average elevation of about 1,000 meters.

The Caucasus Mountains are another major mountain range in the region. The Caucasus Mountains are located in the southern part of Russia, near the Black Sea. The mountains are much higher than the Ural Mountains, with some peaks reaching over 5,000 meters.

The Caspian Sea is the largest inland sea in the world. The sea is located between Russia and Iran. The Caspian Sea is a salt lake, and its water is about three times saltier than the ocean.

The Volga River is the longest river in Europe. The river flows through Russia from its source in the Valdai Hills to its mouth in the Caspian Sea. The Volga River is a major transportation route, and it is also used for irrigation and fishing.

Climate of Russia and Its Neighbors

The climate of Russia and its neighbors is also extremely diverse. The region experiences a wide range of climates, from cold, temperate, and subtropical.

The northern part of Russia is covered by tundra. The tundra is a treeless plain that is frozen for most of the year. The climate is very cold, with average temperatures below freezing for most of the year.

The central part of Russia is covered by forests. The forests are mostly coniferous, with some deciduous trees. The climate is temperate, with warm summers and cold winters.

The southern part of Russia is covered by steppes. The steppes are a grassland that is used for grazing livestock. The climate is subtropical, with hot summers and mild winters.

Natural Resources of Russia and Its Neighbors

Russia and its neighbors are rich in natural resources. The region has large reserves of oil, gas, coal, and minerals. Russia is also a major producer of timber and fish.

Oil and gas are the most important natural resources in the region. Russia is the world's second-largest producer of oil and the world's largest producer of natural gas.

Coal is another important natural resource in the region. Russia is the thirdlargest producer of coal in the world.

Russia is also a major producer of minerals. The country has large reserves of iron ore, copper, nickel, and zinc.

Timber is another important natural resource in the region. Russia is the world's largest producer of timber.

Fish is another important natural resource in the region. Russia is the world's second-largest producer of fish.

Political and Economic Geography of Russia and Its Neighbors

The political geography of Russia and its neighbors is complex. The region includes a number of different countries, each with its own unique political system.

Russia is a federal republic. The country is divided into 83 federal subjects, including 21 republics, 46 oblasts, 9 krais, 4 autonomous okrugs, and 2 federal cities.

Ukraine is a unitary republic. The country is divided into 24 oblasts, 1 autonomous republic, and 2 cities with special status.

Belarus is a unitary republic. The country is divided into 6 oblasts and 1 city with special status.

Kazakhstan is a unitary republic. The country is divided into 14 oblasts, 3 cities with special status, and 1 autonomous region.

Mongolia is a unitary republic. The country is divided into 21 aimags and 1 capital city.

China is a unitary republic. The country is divided into 22 provinces, 5 autonomous regions, 4 municipalities, and 2 special administrative regions.

North Korea is a unitary republic. The country is divided into 9 provinces, 3 special cities, and 1 autonomous region.

Poland is a unitary republic. The country is divided into 16 voivodeships.

Finland is a unitary republic. The country is divided into 19 regions.

Estonia is a unitary republic. The country is divided into 15 counties.

Latvia is a unitary republic. The country is divided into 110 municipalities.

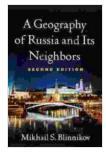
Lithuania is a unitary republic. The country is divided into 10 counties.

The economic geography of Russia and its neighbors is also complex. The region includes a number of different economic systems, from market economies to centrally planned economies.

Russia is a market economy. The country has a large and diverse economy. Russia is the world's largest producer of oil and gas. The country also has large reserves of other natural resources, such as coal, minerals, and timber.

Ukraine is a market economy. The country has a large and diverse economy. Ukraine is a major producer of agricultural products, such as wheat, corn, and sunflower seeds.

Belarus is a centrally planned economy. The country has a small and underdeveloped economy. Belarus is a major producer of agricultural products, such as potatoes, wheat, and rye.



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