

Lesson 1 - What is a port?

What is a port?

Use a dictionary or Swiggle search engine and the information in these slides.

Have a look at the link below

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/port/>

Are there different types of ports?

Can you find some examples of these ports in the UK and around the world?

Activity

- Write a definition of a port using examples
- Draw a spider diagram with key facts about the different types of ports with some examples eg a sea port Southampton, Portsmouth or an inland port eg Duisburg in Germany

Ports



A port is a place where boats can come and go to load and unload their supplies/people. Ports are usually found in a city or town that has access to a harbour. In ancient civilisations, ports were the main mode of long-distance travel and trade.

The word port comes from the Latin word “portus” which meant “entrance”.

Dry Port

These are inland terminals that are connected to a road by the sea. They are used to transfer cargo to ships and store the cargo containers before shipping.

Fishing Port

These ports are for distributing fish. These are usually commercial ports that rely on the sale of fish to continue running.

Inland Port

An inland port is located along a river, lake, or canal that has access to the sea or ocean.

Seaports

This is an umbrella term that covers ports that are connected to the sea or ocean.

Subtypes of this kind of port include:

Cargo port

- A port where cargo and shipping containers are on and offloaded.
These ports usually have cargo containers in storage and large machines and trucks that are used to transfer the cargo containers to the trucks

Cruise home port

- This is where cruise ship passengers will board and disembark cruise ships.
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Smart port

- These are automated ports that use artificial intelligence and cloud-based software to handle goods. This type of port increases the efficiency of delivering and moving products, while also decreasing any work-based injuries by using robots and automated machines.

Port of call

- These types of ports are quick stops for ships to pick up supplies, such as food or fuel. This is also where cruise ships will stop to let their passengers off for a few hours.

Warm Water Port

- Warm water ports don't freeze over in the wintertime and are available year-long. Some of these include Vostochny Port in China, and Odessa in Ukraine.



Types of ports

- **Sea Ports**

Commercial shipping activities most commonly take place at large sea ports. As you might have guessed, sea ports are situated along a coastline and can be used for cargo or for passenger/cruise travel.

- **Inland Ports**

Smaller bodies of water such as lakes or rivers are home to inland ports. They are typically used for cargo, but many are still used for passengers. They operate in much the same way as sea ports, but they cannot accommodate deep-dock ship traffic. Many inland ports serve as docks for ferry traffic.

- **Warm Water Ports**

As the name suggests, these ports do not freeze in the winter and operate year-round. These are valuable ports that they can significantly boost local economies as they can accept supplies without any temporary shutdown during winter months. Alaska's Valdez Port and Russia's Vostochny Port are two examples of well-known warm water ports.

- **Dry Ports**

Inland terminals that connect to a larger sea port by road or rail facilities are considered dry ports. They are designed to improve the efficiency of importing and exporting cargo by relieving congestion at the sea port.