## Name in Italian: Aosta Region located in: Valle d'Aosta Population: 130,000



Aosta is located mountain range in Europe. Aosta is surrounded by some of the most beautiful in the North-West part of Italy, near to the border with France and Switzerland. It is in the Alps, the largest and the tallest mountains in Europe, including Mont Blanc and the Matterhorn.

The local economy is based on tourism: skiing in the winter and hiking in the summer. Peoplecome from all over Europe to experience the thrill of whizzing down the mountains on their skis. Aosta even has a cable car which leads up to the top of the montain.

Aosta was founded by the Romans in 25BC, when the army wanted a base in the mountains. Because of this, there are lots of Roman Artefacts in Aosta. These include two Roman gates, a forum, a Roman bridge and a theatre. In fact, Aosta has the second most Roman artefacts after the city of Rome itself.

Due to being close to France, signs and street names are also written in French, which is a unique element to the city. Aosta is a bilingual city (both Italian and French is spoken) and the local dialect is very similar to the French language.