

Geography Terminology

bay	inlet of the sea, larger than a cove but smaller than a gulf, sometimes surrounded by hills
beach	a strip of land sloping gently towards the sea
canal	an artificial waterway, usually connecting existing rivers, lakes or oceans
cliff	a steep rockface between land and sea
cove	a small recess in the shoreline of a sea, lake or river
dune	a mound or ridge of drifted sand, occurring on the sea coast and in deserts
estuary	the part of the mouth of the river where the river's current meets the sea's tide
gulf	a portion of an ocean or sea, partly enclosed by land, larger than a bay
headland	a piece of land jutting out into the sea, sometimes called a point
island	a piece of land completely surrounded by water
lake	a body of water, usually surrounded by land, sometimes called a lough
lower reaches	the part of a river which is nearest to the sea
peninsula	a piece of land surrounded on three sides by water
port	a harbour or town with a harbour, sometimes where ships load and unload
river	a large natural stream of fresh water, which usually flows into the sea
river's course	the route taken by a river from its source to the sea
river mouth	where a river flows into the sea
shoreline	the place where the shore and the sea meet
source	the place where a river or stream rises/starts
tides	the alternate rise and fall of the surface of the sea, usually occurring twice daily
tributary	A small river which flows into a larger river
upper reaches	the part of a river which is farthest away from the sea