



# How do volcanoes affect the lives of people on Hiemaey?

## Vocabulary

**Volcano** – A volcano is a rupture in the crust of the Earth, that allows hot lava, volcanic ash, and gases to escape from a magma chamber below the surface.

**Pacific Ring of Fire**- is a ring of volcanoes around the Pacific Ocean

**Capital City**- primary city usually with government buildings.

**Island** – is any piece of land that is surrounded by water

**Eruption**- an explosion of steam and lava from a volcano

**Magma**- the molten or semi-molten natural material from which all igneous rocks are formed.

**Tectonic plates** - are pieces of Earth's crust around 100 km (62 mi) thick.

**Climate**- the average weather conditions, particularly temperature and precipitation (any form of moisture that falls to Earth from the atmosphere), experienced in a place month by month.

**Yield** - an amount produced of an agricultural or industrial product

## FACT FILE

There are 51 European capital cities. Can you locate them?

The island of Hiemaey (pronounced Hay – my and meaning Home Island) is the largest and only inhabited (population 4500) island of the Westman Islands, Iceland (Vestmannaeyjar pronounced Vestman – a, ei – jar in Icelandic). The islands are very active volcanically.

Volcanoes are grouped into four types: cinder cones, composite volcanoes, shield volcanoes and lava volcanoes.

Pompeii was an ancient Roman city in Italy. Pompeii was buried under 4 to 6 m of volcanic ash in the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD 79.

People live near volcanoes because the soil is rich in minerals. Areas of old lavas can produce high crop yields and act as a fertilizer.

