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The longest river in the british isles

Image copyright David BaileyBBC Newsimage Image captionThe mighty River Thames begins its journey to London and the Thames Estuary somewhere in Gloucestershire. But where exactly? What is the UK's longest river? It's a question that regularly pops up in pub quizzes and trivia books, but the answer can't be clearly cut. Textbooks tell us that the River Severn is the longest - at 220 miles (354 km), and the River Thames slightly shorter at 215 miles (346 km) long. But what if the source of the mighty Thames, making its way from Gloucestershire, through south-east England, to London and the Thames Estuary, was in the wrong place on the map? The precise length of a river is not easy to calculate and depends on correctly identifying the source. The Ordnance Survey (OS) map shows the official source of the Thames to be on Thames Head, near the village of Kemble in the Cotswolds, about 5 miles (8 km) southwest of Cirencester.However there is a popular belief among locals that Seven Springs near Cheltenham is the real source of the Thames.image captionAn inscription on Seven Springs translates as Here, O Father Thames, is your sevenfold source If this were the case it would add another 14 miles (22 km) to the Thames, making it nine miles (14 km) longer than the Severn.Locals point out that Seven Springs is the source of the River Churn, which flows into the Thames at Cricklade , and Seven Springs is further from the mouth of the Thames than Thames Head. The Churn/Thames River can therefore be considered the longest natural river flow in the UK, beating its nearest rival, the River Severn, by about nine miles, said Duncan McGaw, vice-president of Coberley Parish Council, in whose parish Seven Springs is located. There are even two stone plaques in the walls above the springs in Seven Springs, both with the Latin inscription, which is translated as Here, O Father Thames, is your sevenfold source. But there is also a plaque at Thames Head, which reads: This stone was placed here to mark the source of the River Thames. And the debate is not new. More than a century ago, scholars wrote about the rival claims, and in February 1937 two local MPs, Walter Perkins and William Morrison, debated the issue in Parliament.Since then, the source seems to have been put firmly on the map at Thames Head.So what is right? Who officially decides where the source of a river is? And can the official source be moved to Seven Springs? In theory, the answer seems to be yes. A spokeswoman for the Environment Agency said: As far as we know, there is no legally appropriate source of a river, including the River Thames. The Environment Agency and the National Rivers Authority for us have used the source identified on OS Maps, the historical location at Thames Head. Dick Mayon-White, a member of the River Thames Society, a charity that aims to protect and preserve the river, says his organisation is going along with the official Thames Thames view.image captionSomeen locals say Seven Springs should be considered the official source of the Thames I'm not really sure if there's a huge amount to gain in trying to designate Seven Springs as the source unless or until people can organise some sort of path that runs the entire length of the River Churn to Seven Springs, he said. I have no objection in principle, but it would upset many people who have worked on describing the Thames Path and writing guides to the Thames Path. From our point of view, it is very useful to have something that has been officially decided, because otherwise it makes it very difficult for us to decide what we are interested in and what we are responsible for. Is the River Thames actually the longest river in the UK? Or should we go with the flow and continue to say that the Severn holds the record? The debate continues. To continue to enjoy our site, we ask you to confirm your identity as a human being. Thank you very much for your cooperation. www.environment-agency.gov.uk British ISLESLongest River - River Shannon, Republic of Ireland - 240 miles. Largest Lake - Lough Neagh, Northern Ireland - Area of 147.87 square miles. Largest Reservoir - Silent Valley Reservoir, Northern Ireland - (pictured above) Area of 13.9 square miles. Largest Bay - Moray Firth, Scotland - Area of 12,000 square miles. Largest natural harbour - Scapa Flow, Orkney Islands, Scotland - 120 square miles. Longest Channel - Leeds / Liverpool Canal, England - 142.6 miles. Highest Waterfall - Eas a Chual Alluinn, Scotland - 200 metres drop. ENGLANDLongest River - River Thames - 215 miles. Largest Lake - Lake Windermere - Area of 5.69 square miles Largest Reservoir - Kielder Water - Surface of 10.86 square miles. Largest Bay - Wax - Area of 100 square miles. Largest natural harbour - Poole Harbour, Dorset - 14 square miles. Longest Channel - Leeds / Liverpool Canal - 142.6 miles. Highest Waterfall - Cautley Spout - 175 meters drop. UKLongest River - River Severn, England/ Wales - 220 miles. Largest Lake - Loch Lomond, Scotland - Area of 27.45 square miles. Largest Reservoir - Kielder Water, England - Surface of 10.86 square miles. Largest Bay - Moray Firth, Scotland - Area of 12,000 square miles. Largest natural harbour - Scapa Flow, Orkney Islands - 120 square miles. Longest Channel - Leeds / Liverpool Canal, England - 142.6 miles. Highest Waterfall - Eas a Chuall Alluinn, Scotland - 200 metre drop. ISLE OF MANLongest River - River Sulby - 11 miles. Largest Lake - Mooragh Park Lake - Area of 40 square hectares. Largest Reservoir - Sulby Reservoir - Area of 128 square acres. Largest Bay - Ramsey Bay - Area of 216 square miles. Largest natural port - Douglas - 3 square miles. Highest Waterfall - In a Vooar - 40 meters drop. NORTHERN IRELAND's Long River - River Bann - 42 miles. Largest Lake - Lough Neagh - Area of 147.87 square miles. Largest Largest - Silent Valley Reservoir - Area of 13.9 square miles. Largest Bay - Lough Foyle - Area of 2,204 hectares. Longest channel - Ulster Channel - 46 miles. Highest waterfall - Ness Wood Falls - 9 meters fall. REPUBLIC OF IRELANDLongest river - River Shannon - 240 miles. Largest Lake - Lake Corrib - Area of 110 square milesLargest Reservoir - Poulaphouca Reservoir - Area of 7 square miles. Largest Bay - Donegal Bay - Area of 616 square miles. Largest natural harbour - Cork Harbour - 27 square miles. Longest canal - Grand Canal - 82 miles. Highest Waterfall - Power's Court Waterfall - 121 meters fall. SCOTLANDLongest River - River Tay - 120 miles. Largest Lake - Loch Lomond - Area of 27.45 square miles. Largest Reservoir - Carron Valley Reservoir - Area of 1.51 square miles. Largest Bay - Moray Firth - Area of 12,000 square miles. Largest natural harbor - Scapa Flow - 120 square miles. Longest canal - Caledonian Canal - 62 miles. Highest Waterfall - Eas a Chuall Alluinn - 200 meters drop. WALESLongest River - River Towy - 75 miles. Largest Lake - Bala Lake - Area of 1.69 square miles. Largest Reservoir - Lake Vyrnwy Reservoir - Area of 3.18 square miles. Largest Bay - Cardigan Bay - Area of 1,600 square miles. Largest natural port - Port of Milford Haven - 8 square miles. Longest canal - Llangollen Canal - 46.3 miles. Highest Waterfall - Devil's Appendix - 93 meters drop. SOME UK WATERWAYS WEBSITES The Severn Bridges cross near the mouth of the River Severn. The Thames in London. The River Tay in Perth, by measured current the largest in Great Britain. There seems to be little consensus on the length of rivers in published sources, nor much agreement on what is a river. For example, the River Ure/ River Ouse can be counted as a river system or two rivers. If it is counted as one, the River Aire/Yorkshire Ouse/Humber system would come fourth in the list, with a combined length of 161 miles (259 km) and indeed, the River Trent/Humber system would top the list with their combined length of 222 mi (357 km). Also, the Thames tributary, the River Churn, originating from Seven Springs adds 14 miles to the length of the Thames (from the traditional source on Thames head). The churn/Thames' length at 229 mi (369 km) is thus larger than the length of the Severn - 220 mi (354 km). Thus, the combined Churn/Thames River would be at the top of the list. Sue Owen et al. in their book about Rivers generally limit the length to the parts that bear the correct name. Thus the Nene River is quoted at 100 miles (160 km), but would be around 8.0 km more if various sources mentioned were included. Many of the above lengths are significantly different from Sue Owen's list, some longer and some shorter. When a river ends in an estuary conventional British approach has been to use the end of the administrative zone. Thus Severn ends at the mouth of Bristol Avon and the to the Yantlet Line. The currently accepted end of the Severn Estuary is almost about 18.5 miles (29.8 km) away and the PLA's authority now extends to Margate, 30 miles (48 km) away. Other countries have different conventions, making comparisons of limited value.es:Anexo:Ríos del Reino Unido he:یییییی