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国家地理
科学探索丛书

英文注释

WORLD REGIONS & CULTURES

世界人文地理

Europe & Russia

欧洲与俄罗斯

Sherilin Chanek (美) 著

外语教学与研究出版社

FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH PRESS



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Touring Europe and Russia

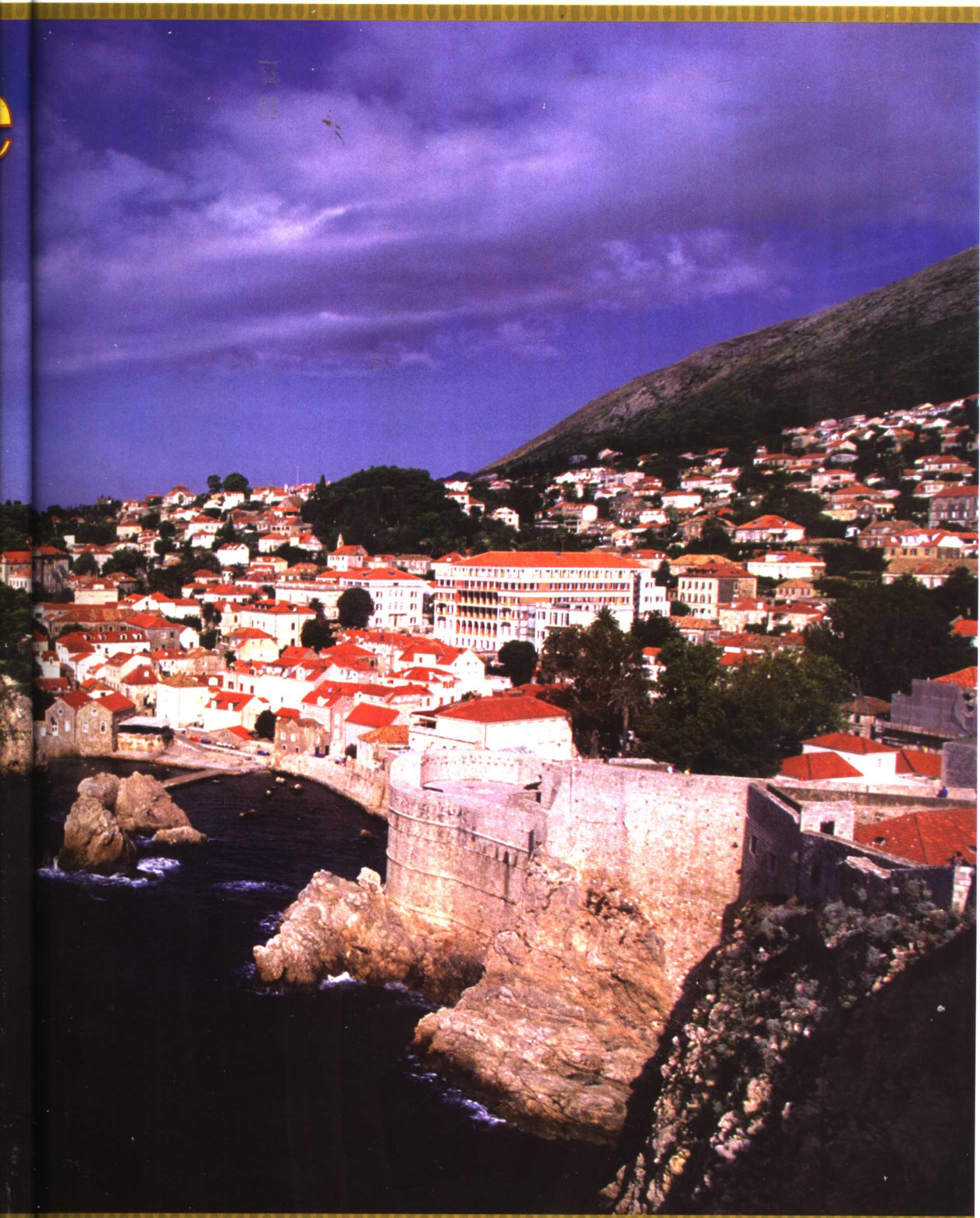
欧洲和俄罗斯之旅



Where can you go to see towering¹ mountains, vast² plains, warm islands, and cold, treeless landscapes³? The answer is Europe and Russia, a huge region of great geographic diversity⁵. In fact, Russia is the world's largest country in land area, extending⁶ across parts of two continents⁷—Europe and Asia. How do people live in the cities and towns of this diverse region? How is their way of life influenced by their environment⁸? Think about these ideas as you read about Europe and Russia.

1. towering *adj.* 高耸的
2. vast *adj.* 广阔的
3. landscape *n.* 风景; 地形
4. geographic *adj.* 地理的

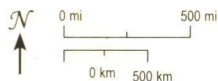
5. diversity *n.* 多样性
6. extend *v.* 延伸; 展开
7. continent *n.* 洲; 大洲
8. environment *n.* 环境; 自然环境



You'll visit four different environments of Europe and Russia as you read, so locate¹ each one on the map first.

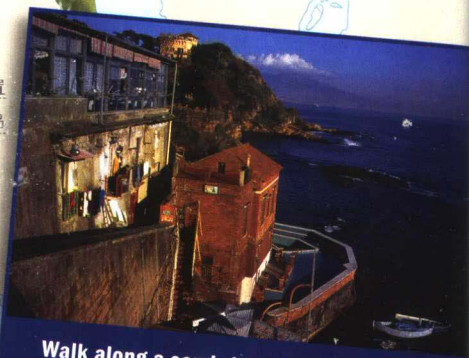


EUROPE




NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

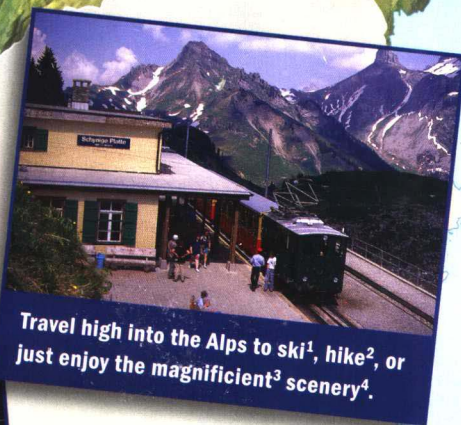
1. locate v. 找出……的位置
2. peninsula n. 半岛



Walk along a sandy beach on one of the many islands and peninsulas² of the Mediterranean Sea.



Explore the cold tundra and taiga environments in the far north of Europe and Russia.



- | | | |
|----------------|------|-----|
| 1. ski | v. | 滑雪 |
| 2. hike | v. | 远足 |
| 3. magnificent | adj. | 壮丽的 |
| 4. scenery | n. | 风景 |

THE ALPS

阿尔卑斯山脉

Picture a village beside a cold blue lake. Towering in the background is a snowcapped¹ mountain. Widen your view, and you see a high, rugged² mountain range³, cut by steep⁴ narrow valleys. These are the European Alps.

For those who live in this region, almost every part of life is affected by the Alps. The mountains divide northern Europe from southern Europe, creating barriers⁵ to trade and transportation. Still, tourists come from around the world to ski and to hike here, or simply to admire the dramatic⁶ scenery. It is a landscape sculpted⁷ by the movements of ice.

- | | | |
|---------------|------|------|
| 1. snowcapped | adj. | 有雪冠的 |
| 2. rugged | adj. | 起伏的 |
| 3. range | n. | 山脉 |

- | | | |
|-------------|------|--------|
| 4. steep | adj. | 陡峭的 |
| 5. barrier | n. | 障碍 |
| 6. dramatic | adj. | 激动人心的 |
| 7. sculpt | v. | 刻蚀; 侵蚀 |



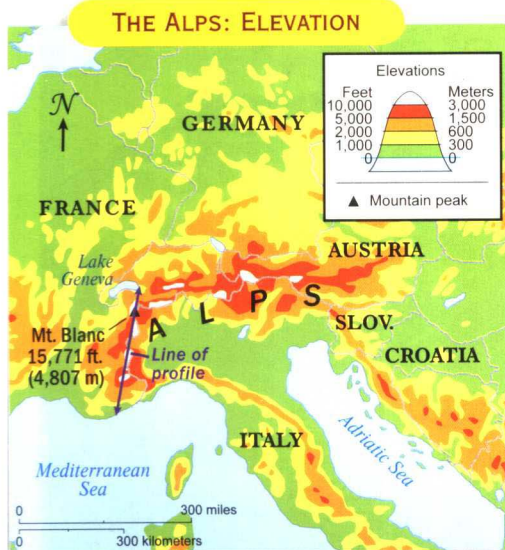
How have people and natural forces shaped Europe's Alpine environments?





THE SPINE¹ OF CENTRAL EUROPE

The height of the land along the line of profile⁵ on the map is illustrated⁶ in the elevation⁷ profile below.

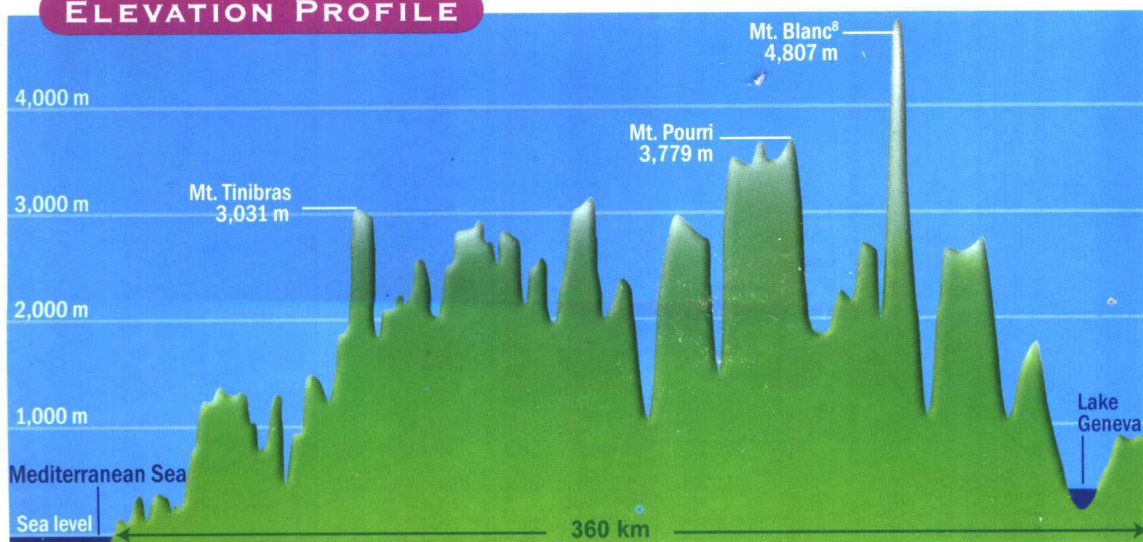


Curving² across south-central Europe, the Alps are Europe's highest mountain range. They form a giant mountain spine, extending over 1,200 kilometers in length. This rugged range divides northern Europe from southern Europe, and has affected the development of countries in this region. As the map shows, the Alps extend into parts of several different countries.

In Italian, it's *Buon giorno*. In French, it's *Bonjour*. And in German, *Guten Tag*. These are just a few of the ways people might greet you if you traveled across the Alps. Why are there so many different languages? The mountainous terrain³ is part of the answer. In the past, the high, rugged mountains formed natural barriers to travel. These resulted in communities⁴ developing separate languages and cultures.

(注释见第11页)

ELEVATION PROFILE





Farmers in the Alps bring their herds down from the mountains in the fall to keep them safe from the harsh²⁴, cold winter.

Living in the Alps

Where would you choose to build a home if you lived in the Alps? Perhaps, like most Alpine residents⁹, you would settle in a mountain valley, where the terrain is less rugged and the weather is milder¹⁰ than on mountain peaks¹¹.

People have lived in the Alps for thousands of years. They have found all kinds of ways to deal with the cold winters and steep slopes¹². For example, Swiss¹³ farmers living high in the Alps practice a kind of herding¹⁴ called transhumance¹⁵. This is the seasonal movement of livestock¹⁶. Farmers lead animals uphill to graze¹⁷ in high mountain meadows¹⁸ during the warm summer months. Then, when fall comes, they bring their animals back down to protected valley settlements.

Vegetation¹⁹ in the Alps varies²⁰ by elevation, or height above sea level. Fertile²¹ valleys rise to mountain meadows and forested slopes. The forest gives way to scattered²² trees and finally to a treeless zone²³ near the mountaintops.

1. spine	<i>n.</i>	脊柱; 隆起地带
2. curve	<i>v.</i>	弯曲
3. terrain	<i>n.</i>	地形; 地势
4. community	<i>n.</i>	社会; 社区
5. profile	<i>n.</i>	轮廓; 数据图表
6. illustrate	<i>v.</i>	(用图) 说明
7. elevation	<i>n.</i>	海拔
8. Mt. Blanc		勃朗峰
9. resident	<i>n.</i>	居民
10. mild	<i>adj.</i>	温暖的
11. peak	<i>n.</i>	山顶
12. slope	<i>n.</i>	[~s] 山丘
13. Swiss	<i>adj.</i>	瑞士的
14. herd	<i>v.</i>	放牧
15. transhumance	<i>n.</i>	季节性牲畜迁移
16. livestock	<i>n.</i>	牲畜
17. graze	<i>v.</i>	吃草
18. meadow	<i>n.</i>	草地; 牧场
19. vegetation	<i>n.</i>	植被
20. vary	<i>v.</i>	改变
21. fertile	<i>adj.</i>	肥沃的
22. scattered	<i>adj.</i>	稀疏的
23. zone	<i>n.</i>	(植物) 分布带
24. harsh	<i>adj.</i>	严酷的



A Swiss forest worker plants new trees on the slopes of the Alps.

Trains allow tourists to travel easily through the Alps.



People Change the Environment

In the past, there were much more trees on the Alpine slopes and in the valleys. People, however, have cut down mountain forests for timber¹ and farmland. In recent decades², some Europeans have taken steps to protect remaining forests. For example, the Swiss have been reforesting some areas, planting new trees to try to reverse³ forest loss.

Although farming is still important in the Alps, the emphasis of the economy has changed. This began at the end of the 1800s with the introduction of hydroelectricity⁴, electricity produced by water power. Alpine rivers and waterfalls provided excellent and inexpensive sources of hydroelectric power, which allowed industry to grow. The region became known for light manufacturing⁵ activities, such as clock-making. Then, as new systems of transportation, including road, rail, and air travel, made it easier for people to reach the Alps, the economy expanded to include tourism. Today vacationers⁶ come for the thrill⁷ of climbing or skiing snow-covered mountains, others for resting in cozy⁸ village inns. The tourist industry has brought many jobs—as well as other changes you will read about—to the Alpine region.

1. timber	<i>n.</i>	木材
2. decade	<i>n.</i>	十年
3. reverse	<i>v.</i>	从反面抵消
4. hydroelectricity	<i>n.</i>	水力发电
5. light manufacturing		轻工业
6. vacationer	<i>n.</i>	度假者
7. thrill	<i>n.</i>	兴奋感
8. cozy	<i>adj.</i>	温暖舒适的
9. Austria		奥地利
10. assume	<i>v.</i>	假定; 假设
11. rescuer	<i>n.</i>	救援人员
12. cape	<i>n.</i>	披肩; 斗篷
13. celebrity	<i>n.</i>	名人
14. hint	<i>n.</i>	提示; 线索
15. calfskin	<i>n.</i>	小牛皮
16. legging	<i>n.</i>	[~s]绑腿
17. determine	<i>v.</i>	确定; 测定
18. ibex	<i>n.</i>	北山羊
19. wander	<i>v.</i>	漫步

Meet the Iceman

In September 1991, hikers in the Alps near the border between Austria⁹ and Italy came across a body frozen in the snow. They assumed¹⁰ it was a hiker who had died in a sudden storm or an accident. When rescuers¹¹ dug the hiker's body out of the ice, they were shocked to find some unusual things he had with him. These included a copper axe and a cape¹² of woven grass. Tests soon showed this "Iceman" was over 5,300 years old!

The Iceman became a celebrity¹³. His *clothes were studied*. *So were his tools*. Everything found with him gave a hint¹⁴ of what life was like long ago. His copper axe made scientists change their ideas about when people in the region started making tools with copper. His clothes were made of different kinds of animal skins. They included a bearskin cap, calfskin¹⁵ belt, and goatskin leggings¹⁶. These, along with his tools made of different kinds of wood and stone, suggested that people of the Alps



These tools were found with the Iceman.

long ago knew how to work well with the materials of their environment.

Even the contents of the Iceman's stomach were studied to determine¹⁷ what people ate at the time. His last meal, it turns out, was *ibex¹⁸ meat*. *ibex is a kind of mountain goat* found in the Alps.

There were also many mysteries about the Iceman. Why did he wander¹⁹ high into the mountains alone? How did he die? A knife wound was found on the Iceman's hand, and an arrowhead was found in his shoulder. Therefore, experts came to believe that he died after a violent fight. Still, who he fought with, and why, remain a mystery.

(注释见第12页)



SCULPTED BY SNOW AND ICE

The Alpine landscape began to form about 65 million years ago, when movements of Earth's crust¹ pushed up rock, eventually² forming mountains. Then these mountains continued to be shaped by a force as gentle as . . . falling snow. Only snow isn't always gentle.

Over tens of thousands of years, snow fell layer³ upon layer onto the Alps. Low temperatures kept this snow from melting. Instead it hardened into ice, hundreds of feet thick. When the ice grew thick enough, it began to move under its own weight, pulled by gravity⁴. Huge masses of slowly moving ice are called glaciers⁵. Glaciers can be thought of as slow moving rivers of ice. As glaciers move, they put huge amounts of pressure on the land, gradually making many changes to the landscape.

1. crust	<i>n.</i>	地壳
2. eventually	<i>adv.</i>	最后
3. layer	<i>n.</i>	层
4. gravity	<i>n.</i>	重力
5. glacier	<i>n.</i>	冰川; 冰河
6. erosion	<i>n.</i>	侵蚀
7. arête	<i>n.</i>	刃岭
8. jagged	<i>adj.</i>	锯齿状的
9. ridge	<i>n.</i>	山脊
10. cirque	<i>n.</i>	冰斗
11. horn	<i>n.</i>	角峰
12. rock formation		岩层
13. hollow	<i>n.</i>	盆地; 山谷
14. surface	<i>n.</i>	表面

GLACIAL EROSION⁶





This glacier, known as *La Mer de Glace*, or “The Sea of Ice,” is the second largest in the Alps.

Glaciers Change the Land

How do glaciers change the landscape? One way is by picking up things as they move. Rocks, boulders¹, rubble², and soil all get caught in the ice and move along with the glacier. Then they are deposited³ in another area. The material the glacier leaves behind is called moraine⁴.

Glaciers have also changed the landscape through erosion. In the Alps, glaciers wore away, or eroded, some high areas, carving out valleys. They left lakes where before there were none. They widened V-shaped valleys into U-shaped ones. This process⁵ happened over thousands of years, but it still continues today. The glaciers are still at work⁶, shaping the Alpine landscape.

Many Alpine mountains show the jagged edges and sharp angles of rock sculpted by ice. The diagram⁷ on page 14 shows different shapes created by glaciers wearing away rock.

1. boulder	<i>n.</i>	巨砾：卵石
2. rubble	<i>n.</i>	碎石
3. deposit	<i>v.</i>	沉淀：沉积
4. moraine	<i>n.</i>	冰碛
5. process	<i>n.</i>	过程
6. at work		在起作用
7. diagram	<i>n.</i>	示意图