

Barents Sea

July 28, 2025 • vajiramandravi.com



Barents Sea Latest News

Russia recently rolled its Bastion coastal defence missile launchers onto the bleak shoreline of the Barents Sea, a dramatic opening move in the navy-wide exercise codenamed “July Storm.”

About Barents Sea

- It is a **marginal sea** of the **Arctic Ocean** located along the **northern coasts of Norway and Russia**.
- It covers an area of 1.4 million sq.km.
- It was named for Willem Barents, a 16th-century Dutch navigator who explored it while searching for a northeast passage to Asia.
- The sea was **known to Vikings** and medieval Russians as the **Murmean Sea**.
- **Boundaries:**
 - It is bounded by the **Svalbard archipelago** in the northwest, the **Franz Josef Land islands** in the northeast, the **Novaya Zemlya archipelago** in the east, the **Norwegian Sea** and the **Greenland Sea** in the west, and by the **Kola Peninsula** in the south.

- It is **separated from** the **Kara Sea by the Kara Strait** and the **Novaya Zemlya archipelago**.
- The **White Sea** and the **Pechora Sea** are **two parts of the Barents Sea**.
- The White Sea is a southern arm of the Barents Sea, which separates the Kola Peninsula from the Russian mainland.
- The Pechora Sea is situated in the southeastern part of the Barents Sea.
- The maximum width of the Barents Sea is 1,050 km, and it is about 1,300 km in length.
- It covers a **relatively shallow continental shelf** fringing the Eurasian landmass.
- It has an estimated average depth of 230 m.
- The **climate** of the sea is **subarctic**.
- The waters of the Barents Sea have a **high salinity** of 34 parts per 1,000.
- The **Gulf Stream keeps the Barents Sea** and its adjoining coasts **significantly warmer than other sub-Arctic regions**.
- It has a **rich biological diversity**, including some of the **world's most numerous colonies of seabirds** such as puffins and guillemots, rich seafloor communities with kelp forests, numerous **deepwater coral reefs**, and a unique variety of marine mammals such as walrus, bowhead whales, and polar bears.

Source: ET

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/barents-sea/>

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