

Key Facts about Kerch Strait

December 16, 2024 • vajiramandravi.com



About Kerch Strait:

- The Kerch Strait is in **Eastern Europe** and is the only water body that **connects the Black Sea with the Sea of Azov**.
- The Romans called it the Strait of Cimmerian Bosphorus. In Greek, it was known as the Cimmerian strait.
- It **separates the Kerch Peninsula (part of the Russian-occupied Crimean Peninsula)** towards the west **from the Taman Peninsula (Russia)**, lying in the east.
- It is about 3 km long, 15 km broad, and 18 metres deep.
- At its narrowest point, which lies at the northern end of the **Chushka Landspit**, it is only three to five kilometres wide.
- The **city of Kerch** lies near the **middle of the strait, on the Crimean side**.
- It is an **important global shipping route**, providing passage from the Sea of Azov to the Black Sea.
- It has also been a **key point of conflict between Russia and Ukraine after Mosco wannexed the peninsula from Ukraine in 2014**.
- **Kerch Strait Bridge:**
 - Also known as the **Crimean Bridge**, this infrastructure **links mainland Russia with Crimea**.
 - **Completed in 2018**, it includes a **road and rail** connection and is the **longest bridge in Europe at 19 km**.
 - It is a symbol of Russia's annexation of Crimea in 2014.

Q1: What is a Strait?

A strait is a narrow waterway between two pieces of land that connects two large bodies of water. Well-known straits include the Bering Strait, which links the Arctic Ocean with the Bering Sea and separates the continents of Asia and North America at their closest point.

News: Oil Spills Into Kerch Strait As Russian Tanker Splits Apart In Storm, 1 dead

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