

Sea

Word	Definition	Translation
accretion	a layer of a substance that gradually forms on a rock or area of land, making it bigger.	
anchor	a heavy object that is dropped into the water to prevent a boat from moving.	
backwash	the movement of waves as they leave the land.	
barrier reef	a large long mass of coral in the sea, not far from land.	
bay	an area of the coast where the land curves inwards.	
beach	an area of sand or small stones beside the sea or a lake.	
blowhole	a hole at the inland end of a sea cave through which waves funnel up and out.	
bluff	a steep cliff by the sea or by a river.	
breakwater	a strong wall that protects a beach from the force of the waves.	
channel	a narrow area of water joining two seas.	
coast	an area of land beside a sea.	
coastline	the land along a coast, especially when seen from the sea or the air.	
corrasion	the eroding of a surface by pieces of rock carried by water, wind, or ice.	
crag	a very steep rough part of a cliff or mountain.	
crest	the white top of a wave.	
decrease	to become less.	
drainage	a system of pipes and passages that take away water or waste liquid from an area.	
dune	a hill of sand that has been formed by the wind or sea (=sand dune).	
dyke	a wall that prevents a river, lake, or sea from flooding the land.	
fjord (fiord)	a narrow section of sea that continues into the land between high rocks.	
groyne	a wall built out into the sea to protect the beach from being destroyed by the water.	
harbour	an area of water near the land where it is safe for boats to stay. A port is a harbour where passengers and goods can be taken on and off.	
hillock	a small hill.	
lagoon	an area of sea water that is separated from the sea by sand or rocks.	
landlock	a landlocked country is surrounded by land.	
landward	the landward side of something is the side that faces towards the land and away from the sea.	
longshore drifts	a process in which loose stones, sand, dirt etc are moved along the coast by the action of the waves.	
mainland	a large mass of land that forms the main part of a country but does not include any islands.	
man-made	something that is man-made has been made by people and does not exist naturally. Some people avoid using this word because they think it is offensive to women, and they use manufactured instead.	

marine	1 living in or happening in the sea.	
marsh	an area of soft wet land.	
mussel	a small shellfish with a soft body inside a hard black or green shell, often cooked and eaten as food.	
ocean current	a movement of the water on the surface of an ocean, caused by wind, the temperature, or the salt in the water.	
oceanic ridge	a section of a range of mountains under the sea.	
offshore	in the sea, not on the land	
onshore	on land rather than on the sea.	
oyster	a type of shellfish that has a rough shell and is eaten as food, often raw. Some types of oyster contain pearls (=small white jewels).	
pebble	a small stone, especially one that has been made smooth by water.	
peninsula	a long piece of land that is mostly surrounded by water but is joined at one end to a larger area of land.	
pillar	a tall thin piece of rock that stretches from the ground to the ceiling of a cave or to a higher rock structure. It is formed by erosion, for example by the sea.	
reclaim	to improve an area of land so that it can be used.	
reef	a long line of rock or coral in the sea, with its top just below or just above the surface.	
rough	used about the surface of a lake, river, or sea that has a lot of waves, often because the weather is bad.	
sailing	the sport or activity of travelling across water in a sailing boat.	
salmon	a silver fish with pink flesh that lives in the sea but swims up rivers to produce its eggs.	
salt marsh	a flat area of land that is frequently covered with salt water.	
sandy	covered with sand, or consisting mostly of sand.	
sea breeze	a gentle wind that blows from the sea onto the land.	
sea level	the average level of the sea. It is used for measuring the height of parts of the land.	
seal	a large sea animal that eats fish and lives mainly in cold parts of the world. Seals are amphibious (=they can live both in water and on land). A young seal is called a pup.	
seaside	an area that is near the sea, especially one where people go for a holiday.	
shelf	a narrow piece of rock or ice that sticks out from a mountain or under water.	
shellfish	sea creatures with a hard shell around them, for example crabs, mussels, and oysters.	
shingle	small stones on a beach.	
shore	the land that is on the edge of a lake, river, or sea.	
stack	a tall steep piece of rock that rises out of the sea. It is formed as a result of being separated from a cliff by waves eroding the rock in between.	
supertanker	a very large ship used for carrying oil or other liquids.	
swamp	an area of land that is covered by water.	

