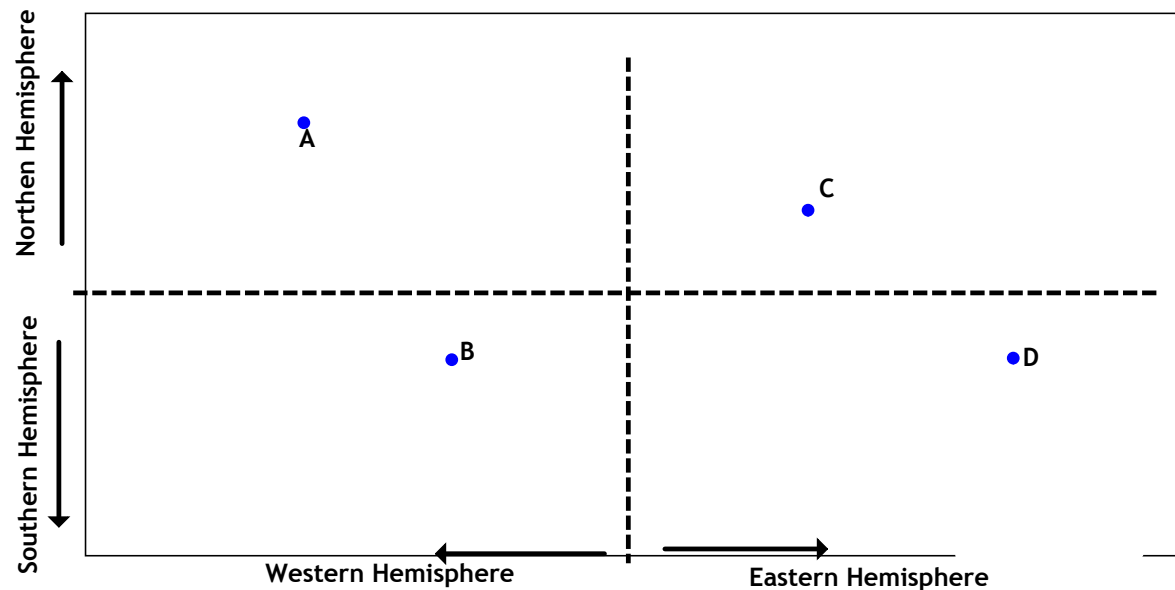


Latitude and Longitude

Latitude (shown as a horizontal line) is the angular distance, in degrees, minutes, and seconds of a point north or south of the Equator. Lines of latitude are often referred to as parallels.

Longitude (shown as a vertical line) is the angular distance, in degrees, minutes, and seconds, of a point east or west of the Prime (Greenwich) Meridian. Lines of longitude are often referred to as meridians.

Minutes and Seconds For precision purposes, degrees of longitude and latitude have been divided into minutes (') and seconds ("). There are 60 minutes in each degree. Each minute is divided into 60 seconds.



To work out latitude and Longitude, use the degrees written along side the map. Anything North of the Equator, is North; South of the Equator is South; East of the Prime (Greenwich) Meridian is East; West of the Prime (Greenwich) Meridian is West. When reading and recording, do latitude first (north or south).

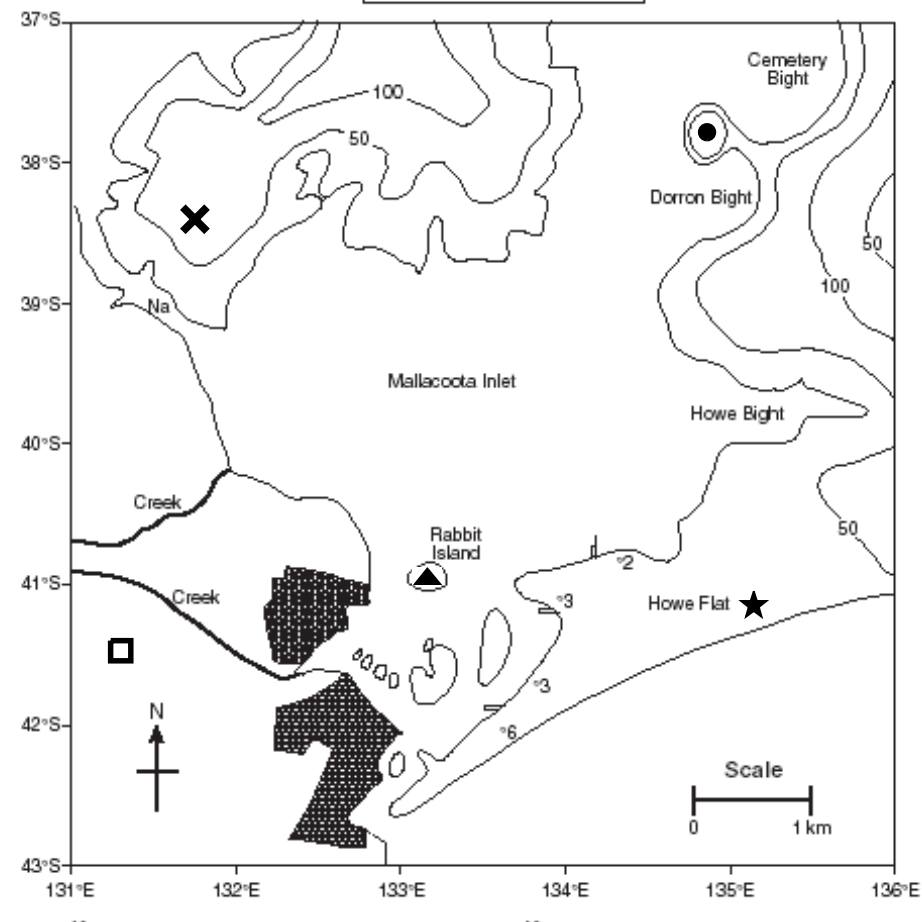
Activity 1 - work out the latitude and longitude of points A, B, C and D on the map above. The answers are on the next page.

Answers to Activity 1

A - 60° N, 110° W
 B - 20° S, 60° W
 C - 30° N, 60° E
 D - 20° S, 130° E

Latitude and longitude is more than just degrees. They can also be divided up into minutes and seconds. There are 60 minutes (') in a degree, and 60 seconds (") in a minute.
 E.g. Wellingtons reference is 41°20' 10"S, 174°50' 20"E

Map of Mollacoota Inlet



Here is an example of using degrees and minutes.

● 37°15' S, 134°10' E

Activity 2 - Work out the latitude and longitude (using degrees and minutes, for the following symbols. Answers are on the following page.

- ▲
-
- ★
- ×

Here is an example using degrees, minutes and seconds:

Serravalle: 43° 58' 30" N, 12° 28' 59" E

Activity 3: Find out the latitude and longitude of the following.

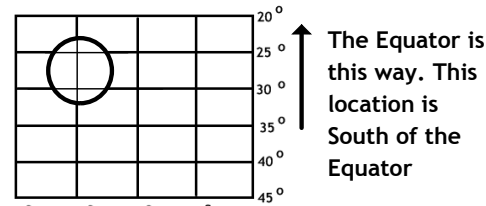
San Marino: _____

Bogana: _____

Domagnano: _____

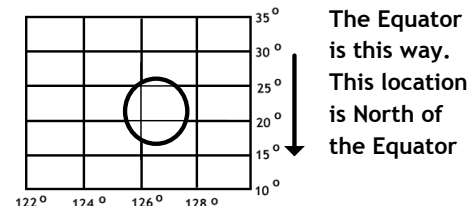


Latitude and Longitude can also be used to work out if a location is in the Northern/Southern Hemisphere and Eastern/Western Hemisphere. When you look at the latitude and longitude, think where Prime Meridian is to work out if it is east or west. Think of where the equator is to find out if it is north or south.



The Equator is this way. This location is South of the Equator

Prime Meridian is this way →
This location is West of Prime Meridian



The Equator is this way. This location is North of the Equator

Prime Meridian is this way ←
This location is East of Prime Meridian

Use an atlas to look at the many different maps, and see if you can work out which hemispheres the places are located in.

38° 25' S, 131° 45' E ✕

41° 5' S, 135° 5' E ★

41° 30' S, 131° 20' E ◻

41° 5' S, 133° 10' E ▼

Answers to Activity 2:

Domagnano: 43° 57' 5" N, 12° 28' 10" E

Bogana: 43° 59' 15" N, 12° 29' 30" E

San Marino: 43° 56' 20" N, 12° 25' 25" E

Answers to Activity 3: