

WORLD HERITAGE

2006-07



From the vast plains of the Serengeti to historic cities such as Vienna, Lima and Kyoto; from the prehistoric rock art on the Iberian Peninsula to the Statue of Liberty; from the Kasbah of Algiers to the Imperial Palace in Beijing — all of these places, as varied as they are, have one thing in common. All are World Heritage sites of outstanding cultural or natural value to humanity and are worthy of protection for future generations to know and enjoy.



Key

- Cultural property
- Natural property
- Mixed property (cultural and natural)
- Transnational property
- Property currently inscribed on the List of World Heritage in Danger

Number indicates site order by year of inscription within each country.

See country index on back side of map for site listings. Only States Parties to the World Heritage Convention are labeled on this map.

United Nations (UN) country boundaries shown as of October 2006.

<http://whc.unesco.org>

[www.hp.com](http://hp.com)

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Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

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The first property to be listed as a cultural landscape in 1993, Tongariro National Park in New Zealand exerts a powerful fascination over human imagination. This volcanic landscape, with Mount Ngauruhoe (above), plays a central role in the Maori people's founding myth.

The photo: Photo:NewZealand / Geoff Marshall

The World Heritage emblem symbolizes the interdependence of the world's natural and cultural diversity. The central square represents the achievements of human skill and inspiration, and the circle celebrates the gifts of nature. The emblem is round, like the world, a symbol of global protection for the heritage of all humankind.

The Earthen Architecture Conservation Programme works toward conserving and revitalizing earthen architecture, which is threatened by natural disasters and industrialization. Currently, some one hundred properties on the World Heritage List are partially or totally built with earth.

World Heritage sites are inscribed on the List on the basis of their merits as forming a significant contribution to the cultural and natural heritage of the world. Their outstanding universal value is considered to go beyond national boundaries and to be of importance for future generations.

Conserving the diversity of life on Earth is critical to global human welfare. With the support of the World Heritage Convention, the most important biodiversity sites receive international recognition as well as technical and financial assistance to deal with threats such as agricultural encroachment, alien species and poaching.

Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, adopted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, at its General Conference, Paris, 16 November 1972

EXTRACTS

... parts of the cultural or natural heritage are of outstanding interest and therefore need to be preserved as part of the world heritage of humankind as a whole.

... [with] the magnitude and gravity of the new dangers threatening... [the world's heritage], it is incumbent on the international community as a whole to participate in the protection of the cultural and natural heritage of outstanding universal value...

An Intergovernmental Committee for the Protection of the Cultural and Natural Heritage of Outstanding Universal Value, called "the World Heritage Committee", is... established within UNESCO.

... the Committee shall establish... under the title of "World Heritage List", a list of the properties forming part of the cultural heritage and natural heritage... which it considers as having outstanding universal value...



An ornamental archway reflects the artistic and religious sensibilities that created Germany's Cologne Cathedral over the course of 600 years, from 1248 to 1880, a Gothic masterpiece and a testament to the spirit of faith in Europe. It was removed from the List of World Heritage in Danger in 2006 when city planners limited nearby construction.

The World Heritage Cities Programme seeks to protect living historic city centres and their cultural and architectural heritage from threats such as uncontrolled development or inappropriate construction.

Cultural heritage refers to monuments, buildings and sites with historical, aesthetic, archaeological, scientific, ethnological or anthropological value. Natural heritage refers to outstanding physical, biological or geological features and includes habitats of threatened species, as well as areas with scientific, environmental or aesthetic value. Mixed sites have both cultural and natural values.

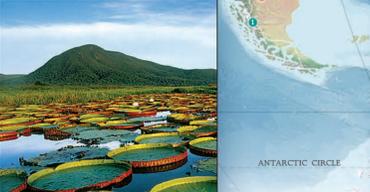
Worldwide, 91 World Heritage forests protect more than 73 million hectares of woodland. This accounts for 1.9 percent of the global forest cover and about 13 percent of the surface area of all protected forests on the planet.

The World Heritage Marine Programme helps countries nominate marine sites and manage them effectively to ensure that they will thrive for future generations. There are currently 32 marine sites on the World Heritage List.

The Victoria Regia, known as the great water lily of America, grows the Pantanal Conservation Area in Brazil, an enclave of rich diverse flora and fauna within one of the world's largest freshwater wetlands — a 140,000-sq-km alluvial plain.



Hammerhead sharks gather in large numbers in the deep waters of Malpelo Fauna and Flora Sanctuary, some 500 km off the coast of Colombia, the largest no-fishing zone in the Eastern Tropical Pacific where colossal schools of sharks, grouper, tuna and other marine species mingle.



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Stone pillars weighing up to seven tons, quarried with iron tools, mark a sacred landscape created between 300 B.C. and 1500 A.D. known as the Stone Circles of Senegambia (Gambia and Senegal), a 350-km-long transnational site honoring the world's largest aggregation of funerary circles.



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Sheep graze among the ruins of an empire's outpost, as Deugga / Thugga, Tunisia evokes the everyday life of a prosperous town in North Africa when Roman civilization held sway over a large part of the known world.



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Robinson Projection

0 m 500 m 1000 m

The official scale of the map and the cartographic projections have resulted in approximate locations of some properties.

Land cover data: The Robinson US National Park Service Text: Cynthia Barry Design and production by National Geographic Maps Printed by HP Indigo

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