

# WORLD HERITAGE 2006



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.



Emblematic of the Inca culture, Machu Picchu in Peru stands 2,430 meters above sea level in the midst of a tropical mountain forest. Its giant walls, terraced ramps carved from rock outcroppings. The photo: Greg Probst / Panoramic Images

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]... 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...

Magpies (exposed nests) make their home in Venezuela's Guaira National Park, known for its table mountains (top) and the world's tallest waterfall, Angel Falls (1,002 meters).

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, 89 World Heritage forests protect more than 70 million hectares of woodland. This accounts for 1.8 percent of the global forest cover and about 18 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 31 marine sites on the World Heritage List.

The World Heritage Sustainable Tourism Programme helps visitors discover World Heritage sites while encouraging respect of the environment and local cultures and enhancing community livelihoods.

The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UNESCO and National Geographic Society concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. 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.

The Small Islands Programme focuses on preserving heritage on the islands of the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian oceans.



Rich in prairie, forest, alpine and glacial scenery, Watkins Glacier International Peace Park — the world's first such entity — straddles the border between Canada and the United States of America.



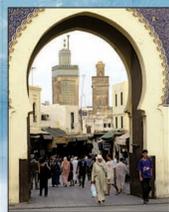
On a tributary of the Rio Grande in New Mexico, U.S.A., well-preserved living and ceremonial chambers of Pueblo de las Animas preserve ancient traditions and represent present-day Pueblo Indian culture.



ANTARCTICA



The village of Manarola is one of the towns on Italy's Ligure coast between Cinque Terre and Portofino that reflect a millennium of human effort to meet a living between cliff and sea.



The Medina of Fez — a labyrinth crisscrossed with alleys, palaces, mosques and fountains — is the heart of the Moroccan city founded in the 9th century and home of the world's oldest university.



On the island of Praslin in the Seychelles is the Vallée de Mai Nature Reserve, protecting the vestiges of a natural palm forest, including the coco de mer, largest seed in the plant kingdom.



Mali's Cliff of Bandiagara, or Land of the Dogons, is recognized for its landscape of sandy plateaus, as well as for its architecture of houses, granaries, altars and pagodas, or communal meeting places.



The last substantial expanse of monsoon forest in Thailand, the Dong Phrayayen-Khao Yai Forest Complex shelters more than 800 animal species, many of them endangered or threatened, including the Great Pied Hornbill (Buceros bicornis).



The remarkable Dazhi Rock Carvings of China, dating from the 9th to 13th centuries, provide evidence of a harmonious synthesis of Buddhism, Daoism and Confucianism.

Robinson Projection  
SCALE 1:43,720,000  
1 cm = 100 km  
1 inch = 1600 miles

The reduced scale of the map and the cartographic projections have resulted in approximate locations of some properties.  
Land cover data:  
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